

Head of Gold
Babylonian Empire
606BC to 536BC

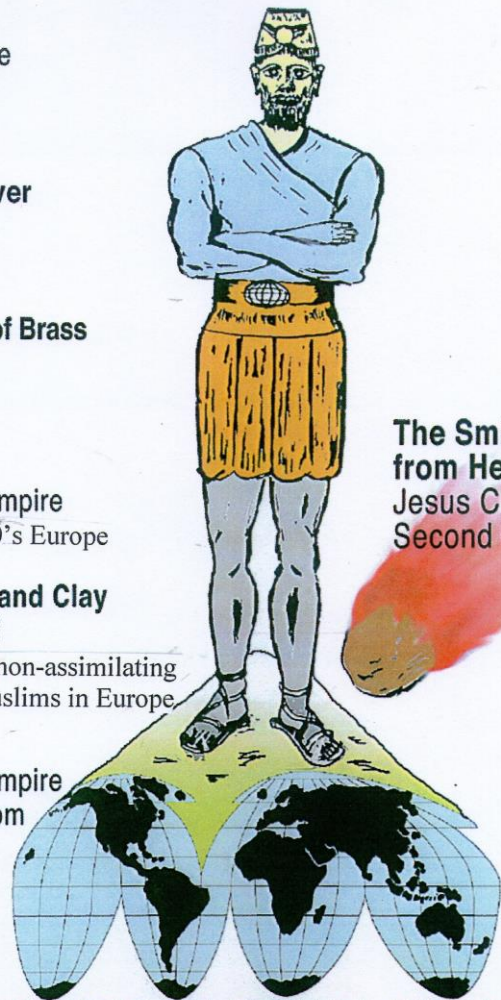
Shoulders of Silver
Persian Empire
536BC to 332BC

Belly and Thighs of Brass
Grecian Empire
332BC to 63BC

Legs of Iron
Imperial Roman Empire
63BC to post-1970's Europe

Feet of Part Iron and Clay
Weakened form of
Roman Empire of non-assimilating
Muslims in Europe

Ten Toes
Revived Roman Empire
Antichrist's Kingdom
in the Tribulation



**The Smiting Stone
from Heaven**
Jesus Christ at His
Second Coming

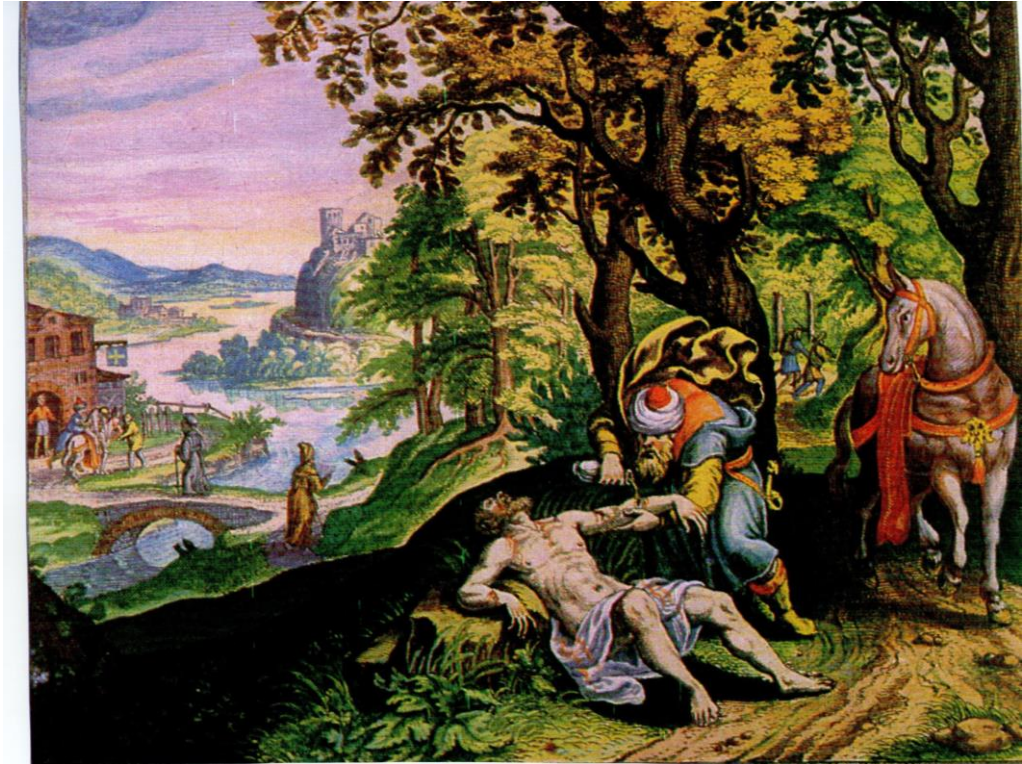
CHRIST'S MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

“There is a **God in heaven** that **reveals secrets**, and **makes known** to the king Nebuchadnezzar **what shall be** in the **latter days**.” Daniel 2:28

“They shall **minge** themselves with the **seed of men**: but they **shall not cleave**” 2:43

“Then was the **iron**, the **clay**, the **brass**, the **silver**, and the **gold**, **broken to pieces together**, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the **wind carried them away**, that **no place was found for them**: and the **stone that smote the image became a great mountain**, and **filled the whole earth**.” Daniel 2:35.

TAKE CARE of HIM



**and whatsoever you spend more,
when I come again, I will **REPAY** you.**

Luke 10:35

Most people have been **wounded by sins** and **false ideas**. After they receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour from sin, Jesus tells us to **take care of them**. **HOW** can we do this? By **teaching** them the **happy, encouraging, treasures of truth** in the **Bible** that are explained in these **120 lessons**.

Which of these subjects interest you and your friends?

“In whom (Christ) are hid **all the treasures** of **wisdom** and **knowledge**.” Colossians 2:3

“A **good man** out of the **good treasure** of the **heart** brings forth **good things**.” Matthew 12:35

“**Lay up** for yourselves **treasures in heaven**.” Matthew 6:20

by Keith Piper (0414.106-279), www.keithpiper.org

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GOD: 1. How God CARES for Us.

Bible Reading: Psalm 142; 145. Memory Verses: “No Man Cared For My Soul .“ (Psalm 142:4).

Aim: To know that **God always cares for us** and that **we should care for others** by our actions.

Introduction: Have you ever said or thought that no one cares about you? David said this when he was fleeing from Saul and hiding in a cave. If we have felt the pain of nobody caring for us, then we should show others that we really **care** for them, **love** them and **make sacrifices** to help solve their problems.

Question: How much do you really care for others? Do you ask others how you can help them?

I. Who in the Bible really cared for others and helped others?

1. **Nehemiah.** ‘When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the **welfare** of the children of Israel.’ Nehemiah 2:10.
2. **Timothy.** ‘For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally **care** for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ’s.’ Philippians 2:19-21.
3. **The Good Samaritan.** Luke 10:30-37.
4. **Jesus Christ.** ‘who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil’ Acts 10:38
5. **God** as shown by His many great character qualities. These are examples for us to follow.

II. Who did Jesus Christ Show Care For?

Nicodemus, Woman at well, Woman taken in adultery, thief on cross, bleeding woman, children, nations.

III. How Does God Show His CARE for US? Do we show these qualities to others? God is:

1. **Gentle.** ‘thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy **gentleness** hath made me great.’ Psalm 18:35.
2. Our **Keeper** and **Preserver.** ‘The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand. The LORD shall **preserve** thy going out & thy coming in from this time forth, & even for evermore.’ Ps 121:5,8
3. **Around us.** ‘the LORD is **round about his people** from henceforth even for ever.’ Psalm 125:2.
4. **Builds our house.** ‘Except the LORD **build the house**, they labour in vain that build it.’ Psalm 127:2.
5. **Perfects** that which concerns me. ‘The LORD will **perfect** that which concerneth me.’ Psalm 138:8.
6. **Knows all about me.** ‘Thou **knows** my downsitting & my uprising, art **acquainted** with all my ways.’ 139:2,3
7. Shows **Bounty** (treat well, repay toil, reward, ripen). ‘thou shalt **deal bountifully** with me.’ Psalm 142:7
8. My **goodness, deliverer.** ‘My **goodness**, my fortress; my high tower, my **deliverer**; my shield.’ Ps.144:2
9. Full of **compassion** (deep feeling of pity for the suffering of another, help, support, show mercy).
10. **Slow to anger.** ‘The LORD is gracious, **full of compassion**; **slow to anger**, & of great mercy’ Ps 145:8
11. **Tender mercy.** ‘The LORD is **good to all**; and **his tender mercies** are over all his works.’ Psalm 145:9
12. **Upholds** the fallen. ‘The LORD **upholdeth all that fall**, & **raiseth up** all those that be bowed down.’ 14
13. **Satisfies** us. ‘Thou openest thine hand, and **satisfies the desire** of every living thing.’ Psalm 145:16.
14. **Righteous** and **holy.** ‘The LORD is **righteous** in all his ways, and **holy** in all his works.’ Psalm 145:17
15. **Near** us. ‘The LORD is **nigh unto all them that call upon him**, to all that call upon him in truth.’ 145:18
16. **Fulfills our desires.** ‘He will **fulfil the desire** of them that fear him:’ Psalm 145:19
17. **Hears our cry** and **saves us.** ‘he also will hear their cry, and will **save** them.’ Psalm 145:19.
18. **Preserves** us. ‘The LORD **preserveth** all them that love him:’ Ps 145:20. ‘**preserveth strangers**’ 146:9
19. **Frees prisoners.** ‘The LORD **looseth** the prisoners.’ 146:7
20. **Loves the righteous.** ‘the LORD **loveth** the righteous.’ Psalm 146:8.
21. **Heals the brokenhearted.** ‘He **healeth** the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.’ Psalm 147:3
22. **Lifts up the meek.** ‘The LORD **lifteth up** the meek:’ Psalm 147:6.
23. **Makes peace.** ‘He **maketh peace** in thy borders, & filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.’ Ps 147:14
24. **Rewards us.** ‘He is a **rewarder** of them that diligently seek him.’ Hebrews 11:6.

IV. How can we Show Care for Others?

1. **Learn how to lead them to Christ.** ‘Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.’ Matthew 4:19.
2. **Come to church.** ‘let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **Not forsaking** the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.’ Hebrews 10:24,25.
3. **Learn how to speak encouraging words.** ‘The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to **speak a word in season** to him that is weary:’ Isaiah 50:4.
4. **Help solve problems.** ‘Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.’ Galatians 6:2.
5. **Giving** to Church and missions. ‘On the first day of the week let **every one of you lay by him in store**’

Conclusion: Let us show others that we and Jesus Christ care for their soul.

2. Hearing the VOICE of God. Which Voice are you Listening to? 6 Oct2019

Bible Read: Matt 4:1-11; Rev 3:1-22. **Aim:** To hear & obey the **voice of God** over the **voice of the world**.

Mem Verse: ‘Behold, I stand at the door& knock: if any man **hear my voice**, and open the door, **I will come in to him**, and **will sup with him**, and **he with me**.’ Revelation 3:20

Introduction: So many people spend so much time **listening to the voices of this world**, that they rarely **hear the voice of God speaking to them**. This leads them to make many mistakes, wrong decisions and miss God’s plans for their life. **Which voices are you listening to and following?**

1. Voice of the **World** to follow its fashions, philosophies and foolish ideas?
2. Voice of the **Flesh** to satisfy its many lusts for **pleasure, power, money, pride**.
3. Voice of the **Devil** who seeks to **steal our time, money, opportunities, health, life, friends and ministry**.
4. Voice of **God** Who seeks to **help us, bless us, use us for good, make us great, strengthen us, educate us**.

I. Which verses Teach that we should Listen to God’s Voice? What is God Telling Us?

1. **Voice inviting us to SALVATION & fellowship.** Behold, I stand at the door& knock: if any man **hear my voice**, and open the door, **I will come in to him**, and **will sup with him**, and **he with me**. Rev 3:20.
2. **Voice of God to FOLLOW Jesus in our life’s work and purpose.** ‘My sheep **hear my voice**, and **I know them**, and **they follow me**.’ John 10:27. ‘Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and **they shall hear my voice**; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.’ John 10:16.
3. **Voice of God’s TRUTH.** ‘Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. **Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice**.’ John 18:37.
4. **Voice of God’s GUIDANCE.** ‘**Thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it**, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.’ Isaiah 30:21.
5. **Voice of God to GO and EXPLAIN the GOSPEL or give a tract to some person.** ‘Then the Spirit **said** unto Philip, **Go near**, and join thyself to this chariot.’ Acts 8:29. ‘**I heard the voice of the Lord**, saying, Whom shall I send, and who shall go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me.’ Isaiah 6:8.
6. **Voice of God to LISTEN to People’s Requests for Salvation.** ‘While Peter thought on the vision, **the Spirit said unto him**, Behold, **three men seek thee**.’ Acts 10:19.
7. **Voice of God to TRAVEL to some place to preach the gospel, teach the Bible or to help Christians.** ‘A vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, **Come over into Macedonia, and help us**’ Act 16:9. To day if ye will hear his **voice, harden not your hearts**. Hb4:2
8. **Voice of SUFFERING people.** **They** cried with a **loud voice**, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? Rev 6:10.
He said, What hast thou done? **the voice of thy brother’s blood cries unto me from the ground**. Gen 4:10
9. **Voice of GODLY CHRISTIANS.** ‘Nevertheless the people refused to obey the **voice of Samuel**; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;’ 1 Samuel 8:19.
10. **Gospel in the STARS.** There is no speech nor language, where **their voice** is not heard. Psalm 19:3.
11. **WISDOM and Understanding.** Doth not **wisdom** cry? & **understanding** put forth her **voice**? Prov 8:1
12. **God’s WAYS.** This thing commanded I them, saying, **Obey my voice, & I will be your God** & ye shall be my people: **walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you**, that it may be **well** unto you. Jer 7:23
13. **Voice of Michael at the RAPTURE.** 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 4:16.
14. **Leave Catholic church.** I heard another **voice** from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**. R18:4

II. How Can we Hear God’s Voice?

1. **Study the Bible Daily or Listen to it being Read. Pray.** ‘**Open thou mine eyes**, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.’ Psalm 119:18.
2. **Ask God.** ‘Lord, **what wilt thou have me to do**?’ Acts 9:6.
3. **Listen to God’s voice in preaching, in opportunities, in ideas or to His “still small voice”.** ‘After the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: & after the fire a **still small voice**.’ I Kings 19:12
4. **Tell God: “Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth.”** I Samuel 3:10.
5. **Don’t Listen to the voice of the world, flesh, devil, or ungodly people.** Matthew 4:1-11
6. **Obey God in what He tells you to do today.** ‘But my people would not hearken to **my voice**; and Israel would none of me.’ Psalm 81:11.

3. God BLESS You, How to Attract the Blessings of God

25 Sep 2016

Bible Read: Deuteronomy 28:1-20; Matthew 5:1-16.

Aim: To know how to attract the blessings of God so that we, our families and those we meet are blessed.

Memory Verse: “Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.” Luke 11:28

“The **blessing** of the LORD, **it maketh rich**, and **he addeth no sorrow with it.**” Proverbs 10:22.

Introduction: Have you noticed that **some people are blessed** and others always have trouble, problems, conflicts and failures. This applies to nations, states, cities, individuals, religions. Why? Deut 28:1,2

“All these **blessings** shall come on thee & overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.’ Some people **search** the Bible to learn and do what God commands, while others don’t do God’s ways. Those who **DO** what God commands prevent trouble and bring blessings. Those who **DON’T DO** what God commands, do things that create problems, trouble and conflict. They miss the blessings by foolish decisions. They bring troubles and curses on themselves and others by their actions.

I. Which Bible Characters did God Bless who blessed others?

1. **Noah.** “God blessed Noah & his sons, & said unto them, Be fruitful, multiply, replenish the earth.” Gen 9:1

2. **Abraham.** “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And **I will make of thee a great nation**, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And **I will bless them that bless thee**, and **curse him that curseth thee**: and in thee shall all families of the earth be **blessed.**” Gen 12:1-3. Abraham was old, well stricken in age: and **JHVH had blessed Abraham in all things.** Genesis 24:1.

“That the **blessing of Abraham** might **come on the Gentiles** through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.” Galatians 3:14.

3. **Ishmael.** “As for **Ishmael**, I have heard thee: Behold, **I have blessed him**, & will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly.” Gen 17:20.

4. **Isaac.** “after the death of Abraham, that **God blessed his son Isaac;**” Gen 25:11,

5. **Joseph.** “It came to pass from the **time** that he had made him **overseer** in his house, and **over all that he had**, that the **LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake**; and **the blessing of the LORD** was upon **all that he had in the house**, and in the **field.**” Genesis 39:5. Blessings came when Joseph had control.

6. **Jacob.** God appeared unto **Jacob** again, when he came out of Padanaram, and **blessed him.** Gen 35:9),

7. **Potiphar** “the **LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake**; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.” Gen 39:5. God’s blessings can pass onto others.

8. **Job.** “the **LORD blessed the latter end of Job** more than his beginning: for he had....”. Job 42:12.

II. What Can we do to Attract GOD’S BLESSINGS on our Life?

1. **Learn and Do God’s Commandments.** “All these **blessings** shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt **hearken** unto the voice of the LORD thy God.” Deut 28:2.

A **blessing**, if ye **obey the commandments** of JHVH your God, which I command you this day: Deut 11:26,27

2. **Reject ungodly advice.** Psalm 1:1 **Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly**, nor **stands in the way of sinners**, nor **sits in the seat of the scornful.**

3. **Nations that worship JHVH.** Psalm 33:12 **Blessed** is the **nation whose God is the LORD:**

4. **Trust in JHVH.** Ps 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: **blessed is the man that trusts in him**

5. **Undefiled.** Psalm 119:1 **Blessed are the undefiled in the way**, who **walk in the law of the LORD.**

6. **Be United in Bible Doctrine.** “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in **unity!** (1). As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the **blessing**, even life for evermore.” Psalm 133:1,3.

7. **Be Just, honest and fair in dealing with people.** “**Blessings** are upon the head of the **just**: but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.” Proverbs 10:6.
Proverbs 20:7 The **just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.**

8. **Be Truthful, honest, upright.** “By the **blessing** of the **upright** the city is exalted: but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.” Proverbs 11:11.

9. **Be Generous in giving people a good deal,** a good product at a good price. “He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but **blessing** shall be upon the head of him that **selleth** it.” Proverbs 11:26.

10. **Be Faithful, careful, diligent & excellent in all we do.** “A **faithful man** shall abound with **blessings**: but he that **maketh haste to be rich** shall not be innocent.” Proverbs 28:20.

11. **Sow.** Isaiah 32:20 **Blessed** are ye that **sow beside all waters**, that send forth the feet of the ox & the ass

12. **Be Generous in Giving to grow God’s Work.** “Bring ye all the **tithes** into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, & prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, & pour you out a **blessing**, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” Mal 3:10

13. **Poor in spirit.** Matthew 5:3 **Blessed** are the **poor in spirit**: for **theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

14. **Mourn about evil.** Matthew 5:4 **Blessed** are they that **mourn**: for they shall be **comforted.**

15. **Meek.** Matthew 5:5 **Blessed** are the **meek**: for they shall **inherit the earth.**

16. **Righteous.** Matt 5:6 **Blessed** are they which **hunger & thirst after righteousness**: for **they shall be filled**
Psalm 106:3 **Blessed** are they that keep judgment, and he that **do righteousness at all times.**

Psalm 112:2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the **generation of the upright** shall be **blessed.**

17. **Merciful.** Matthew 5:7 **Blessed** are the **merciful**: for **they shall obtain mercy.**

Be merciful and lend. Psalm 37:26 He is ever **merciful**, and **lendeth**; and **his seed is blessed.**

18. **Morally pure.** Matthew 5:8 **Blessed** are the **pure in heart**: for **they shall see God.**

19. **Peacemakers.** Matt 5:9 **Blessed** are the **peacemakers**: for **they shall be called the children of God.**

20. **Persecuted.** Matt 5:10-12 **Blessed** are they which are **persecuted for righteousness' sake**: for theirs is the **kingdom of heaven.** **Blessed** are ye, when **men shall revile you, persecute you** & shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. **Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven**

Luke 6:22 **Blessed** are ye, when **men shall hate you**, and when they shall **separate you from their company**, and shall **reproach** you, and **cast out your name as evil**, for the Son of man's sake.

21. **Avoid being easily offended.** Matthew 11:6 **Blessed** is he, **whosoever shall not be offended in me.**

22. **Understand and teach Jesus is the Huios (Gk: same nature) of God and the Trinity.** Matt 16:16,17
Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the **Son** of the living God. Jesus said to him,

Blessed are thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh & blood has not revealed it to thee, but my Father in heaven

23. **Explain the Gospel plan of Salvation to many people** and **they will be blessed.** “I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall **come** in the fulness of the **blessing** of the **gospel of Christ.**” Rom 15:29

24. **Hear the Word of God and Keep it.** “But he said, Yea rather, **blessed** are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.” Luke 11:28. Many hear it but don’t keep it.

Continue to Do the Word of God. “Whoso looks into the perfect law of liberty, & continues therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a **doer** of the work, this man shall be **blessed** in his deed.” James 1:25.

25. **Help poor.** Ps 41:1 **Blessed** is he that **considers the poor**: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble
Help people who cannot repay you. “When thou makest a feast, **call the poor**, maimed, lame, blind,

And thou shalt be **blessed**; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.” Luke 14:12-14.

26. **Support the Weak.** I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to **support the weak**, & to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more **blessed** to give than to receive. A20:35

27. **Rapture.** Tit 2:13 Look for that **blessed hope**+glorious appearing of the great God + our Saviour Jesus Christ
Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find **watching**: Luke 12:37.

28. **Endure Temptation.** “**Blessed** is the man that **endureth temptation**: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that **love him.**” James 1:12.

29. **Blessed is he that reads & they that hear the words of this prophecy, & keep those things.** Rev1:3
Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keeps the savings of the prophecy of this book. Rev 22:7

30. **Jesus’ Millennial rule.** Dan 12:12 **Blessed** is he that waits, and **comes to the 1335 days.**

Conclusion: If you do these things that please God, then God will bless you. Many blessings will pass on to others. Then you will be happier and you will grow God’s kingdom.

4. Worship The LORD because the LORD is.....

Bible Reading: Psalm 18:1-3,19,20.

Memory Verse: “Thou shalt **worship** the Lord thy God, and **him only** shalt thou **serve**.” Matthew 4:10.

Aim: To **love God more**. To **understand** God better. To **worship** God more. To **tell others** about Him.

Introduction: Worship involves telling God **why we appreciate Him**, meditating on **His good character**, **doing** what He wants us to do, considering **His attributes** and **what He does for us** and **loving Him**.

What should prompt us to worship God? How does God show His Love to Us?

1. **God**. 1Ki8:60 That all the people of the earth may know that the **LORD is God**, & that there is none else. **True God**. Jer 10:10 But the **LORD is the true God, he is the living God**, and an **everlasting king**;
2. **King**. Is 33:22 The LORD is our **judge**, the LORD is our **lawgiver**, **LORD is our king**; he will save us.
3. **Here**. Gen 28:16 Jacob awoke out of his sleep & said, Surely the **LORD is in this place**; & I knew it not. Psa 145:18 The **LORD is near unto all them that call upon him**, to all that call upon him in truth. Ps 34:18 The **LORD is near them that are of a broken heart**; and saves such as be of a contrite spirit.
4. **Righteous**. Psalm 145:17 The **LORD is righteous in all his ways**, and **holy** in all his works.
5. **Holy**. Psa 99:9 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the **LORD our God is holy**.
6. **Power, Understanding**. Ps 147:5 **Great** is our Lord, and of **great power**: his **understanding** is infinite.
7. **Slow to Anger**. Ps 103:8 The **LORD is merciful** and **gracious, slow to anger**, and plenteous in mercy.
8. **Gracious**. Ps 145:8 The **LORD is gracious, full of compassion; slow to anger**, and of **great mercy**.
9. **Very Pitiful**. Jam 5:11 Ye have seen the end of the Lord; that the **Lord is very pitiful**, of tender **mercy**
10. **Good**. Psa34:8 O taste and see that the **LORD is good**: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
11. **Mercy**. Num 14:18 The **LORD is longsuffering, of great mercy, forgiving iniquity transgression**,
12. **Love**. 1John 4:8,16 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love**.
13. **Faithful**. 2Thes 3:3 The **Lord is faithful**, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.
14. **Giver**. 2 Chron 25:9. The **LORD is able to give thee much more than this**.
15. **On my Side**. Psalm 118:6 The **LORD is on my side**; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?
16. **Knowledge**. 1Sam 2:3 the **LORD is a God of knowledge**, and by him actions are weighed.
17. **Truth**. Psalm 138:2 **I will worship** ..and **praise** thy name for thy **lovingkindness** & for thy **truth**: 31:5
18. **My Creator**. Ecc 12:1 Remember now **thy Creator** in the **days of thy youth**, while the evil days come not
19. **My Rock**. Ps 92:15 To shew that the **LORD is upright: my rock**, there is no unrighteousness in him.
20. **My Strength and Song**. Ps 118:14 The **LORD is my strength and song**, and is become **my salvation**.
21. **My Salvation**. Psa 18:2 The **LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength**, in whom I will trust; **my buckler**, and the horn of **my salvation**, and **my high tower**.
22. **My Saviour**. Isa 43:3 I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, **thy Saviour**. I, even I, am the LORD; beside me there is **no saviour** (11). This is indeed the **Christ**, the **Saviour of the world**. John 4:42
23. **My Shepherd**. Ps 23:1 The **LORD is my shepherd**; I shall not want. John 10:11,14 I am the good she
24. **My Friend**. John 15:14 Ye are **my friends**, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Luke12:4 my friends
25. **My Shield**. Psalm 28:7 The **LORD is my strength and my shield**; my heart trusted in him, I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.
26. **My Defence**. Psa 89:18 The **LORD is our defence**; and the Holy One of Israel is our king. Ps 59:9
27. **My Refuge**. Psa 94:22 But the **LORD is my defence**; and **my God is the rock of my refuge**.
28. **My Helper**. Hb13:6 We may boldly say, The **Lord is my helper**, I will not fear what man shall do to me
29. **My Keeper & Shade**. Ps 121:5 The **LORD is thy keeper**: the **LORD is thy shade** on thy right hand.
30. **My Light**. Psalm 27:1 The **LORD is my light and my salvation**; whom shall I fear? the **LORD is the strength of my life**; of whom shall I be afraid? I John 1:5 God is light, and in him is no darkness at all
31. **My Rewarder**.Hb11:6.he that comes to God must believe that he is+ he is a **rewarder** of them who diligently se
32. **My Comforter**. Ps 71:21 Thou shalt increase **my greatness**, and **comfort me** on every side. John 16:7
33. **My Coming Redeemer**.Job 19:25 I know **my redeemer** lives, **he shall stand at the latter day on earth**;
34. **My Hiding Place**. Ps 119:114. Thou art **my hiding place** and **my shield**: I hope in **thy word**. Ps 32:7.
35. **My Deliverer**. Ps 70:5 I am poor & needy: make haste to me, **O God**: thou art **my help & my deliverer**;
36. **My Strong Habitation**. Ps 71:3 Be thou **my strong habitation**, whereunto I may continually resort:
37. **My Glory and Uplifter**. Ps3:3 Thou, O LORD, are a **shield** for me; **my glory**, the **lifter up of my head**
38. **My Father**. Jeremiah 3:19. I said, Thou shalt call me, **My father**; & shalt not turn away from me. 5

► God is....

Psalms 56:9 When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is **FOR ME**.

Psalms 75:7 But God is the **JUDGE**: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

Psalms 84:11 For the LORD God is a **SUN** and **SHIELD**: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Luke 6:35 he is **KIND** unto the unthankful and to the evil.

Luke 24:34 Saying, The Lord is **RISEN indeed**, and hath appeared to Simon.

John 4:24 God is a **SPIRIT**: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Romans 11:23 God is **ABLE to graff them in again**.

2 Corinthians 1:18 But as God is **TRUE**, our word toward you was not yea and nay.

2 Corinthians 9:8 God is **ABLE to make all grace abound toward you**; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Philippians 4:5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is **AT HAND**.

1 Thessalonians 4:6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the **AVENGER of all such**, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

Hebrews 13:16 To do good & to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is **well PLEASSED**

► God is NOT: Matthew 22:32 God is **not the God of the dead, but of the living**.

Acts 10:34 Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is **no respecter of persons**;

1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is **not the author of confusion**, but of **peace**, as in all churches of the saints.

Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is **not mocked**: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Hebrews 6:10 For God is **not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love**, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Hebrews 11:16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is **not ashamed to be called their God**: for he hath prepared for them a city.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is **not slack concerning his promise**, as some men count slackness; but is **longsuffering** to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, but that all should come to repentance.

5. 7 TRINITY Passages

1. **2 Samuel 23:2** The **Spirit of the LORD** spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. The **God of Israel** said, the **Rock of Israel** spake to me, He that rules over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God. 1Cor 10:4 They drank of that **spiritual Rock that followed them**: and **that Rock was Christ**.

2. **Isaiah 48:12,13,16** “Hearken unto **me**...**Mine** hand also has laid the foundation of the earth, and **my** right hand has spanned the heavens...Come ye near unto **me**...the **Lord GOD, & his Spirit** has sent **me**.”] **Me, mine, my, me** is **God the Son** describing his **two works** of **creation** and of **incarnation** to save man.

3. **Isaiah 63:7** I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the **LORD**, and the praises of the **LORD**, according to all that the **LORD** hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. **Isaiah 63:9** In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the **angel of his presence** saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. **Isaiah 63:10** But they rebelled, and vexed **his holy Spirit**: therefore he was turned to be their enemy,...

4. **Matthew 28:17-20** “they worshipped him”, “**All power** is given to me”, “I am **with you always**” and “baptizing them in the **name** (*one God*) of the **Father**, and of the **Son**, and of the **Holy Ghost**” = **Trinity**

5. **Mark 1:9-11** It came to pass in those days, that **Jesus** came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan (9). And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the **Spirit** like a dove descending upon him (10): And there came a **voice from heaven** (the Father), saying, Thou art **my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased (11).

6. **II Corinthians 13:14** is the **Apostolic Benediction**: “The grace of the **Lord Jesus Christ**, and the love of **God**, and the communion of the **Holy Ghost**, be with you all. Amen.” (II Corinthians 13:14).

Why is there a **change in the order** of the persons of the **Trinity**, compared to Matthew 28:19, if not to show that in this Trinity none is before or after the other, and none is better than another?

7. **I John 5:7** “There are **three** that bear record in **heaven**, the **Father**, the **Word**, and the **Holy Ghost**: & **these three are one**.” The heavenly & earthly witnesses in v.7,8 are confirmed in v.9 by God and men.

The masculine article (oi) for “that” in v.7 is derived from the masculine nouns “Father and Word” in v.7.

6. How Great is our God. The LORD is a **great God** & a **great King** above all gods. Ps 95:3

1. **Rewarder.** After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: **I am thy shield**, and **thy exceeding great reward**. Gen 15:1. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for **great is your reward in heaven**: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Matth 5:12.
2. **Kindness.** Thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious, merciful, slow to anger, of **great kindness**, and forsook them not. Neh 9:17. I will mention the **lovingkindnesses of the LORD**, and the praises of the LORD, **according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us**, and the **great goodness** toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his **mercies**, and his **lovingkindnesses**. Isaiah 63:7.
3. **Goodness.** How **great is thy goodness**, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee. Ps 31:19.
4. **Mercy.** As the heaven is high above the earth, so **great is his mercy** to them that fear him. Ps 103:11
5. **Peace. Great peace** have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. Psalm 119:165
6. **Thoughts.** How precious are **thy thoughts to me**, O God! **how great is the sum of them!** Psa 139:17
7. **Counsel. Great in counsel**, and mighty in **work**: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings: Jeremiah 32:19.
8. **Faithfulness.** They are new every morning: **great is thy faithfulness**. Lam 3:23.
9. **Signs. How great are his signs!** how mighty are his **wonders!** his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation. Daniel 4:3.
10. **Day of the Lord.** The LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for **his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great & very terrible;** & who can abide it? (11). The sun shall be turned into darkness & the moon into blood, before the **great & the terrible day of the LORD come**. Joel 2:11,31. I will execute **great vengeance** on them with furious rebukes; Ezek 25:17
11. Then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. Matt 24:21. God thunders... **great things doeth he**, which we cannot comprehend. Job 37:5
12. **Power.** Then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with **great power & glory**. Mark 13:26
13. **Joy.** The angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you **good tidings of great joy**, which shall be **to all people**. Luke 2:10. They departed quickly from the **sepulchre** with fear and **great joy**; and did run to bring his disciples word. Matt 28:8. There was **great joy** in that city. Acts 8:8. (Mark 5:19)
14. **Compassion.** Tell them how **great things the Lord has done for thee** & has had **compassion** on thee.
15. **Harvest.** The **harvest truly is great**, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Luke 10:2.
16. **Door.** A **great door and effectual is opened unto me**, and there are many adversaries. I Cor 16:9.
17. **Love.** God, who is rich in mercy, for his **great love** wherewith he loved us, Eph 2:4.
18. **Our Saviour.** Looking for that **blessed hope**, and the **glorious appearing** of the **great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ**; Titus 2:13. **My name** shall be **great among the Gentiles**. Malachi 1:11.
19. **Salvation.** How shall we escape, if we neglect **so great salvation**; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; Heb 2:3
20. **Shepherd.** The God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that **great shepherd of the sheep**, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Hebrews 13:20.
21. **Promises.** Whereby are given unto us exceeding **great and precious promises**: that by these ye might be partakers of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2Peter 1:4
22. **Works.** They sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, **Great and marvellous are thy works**, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Rev 15:3
23. **Battle.** They are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the **battle of that great day of God Almighty**. Rev 16:14.
24. **White Throne.** I saw a **great white throne**,+ im that sat on it, from whose face the earth+ the heaven fled away; there was found no place for them. Rev 20:11. Heavens declare the **glory** of God. Ps 19:1. 7

7. How Can We TRUST God More? Why Can We Trust God?

Bible Reading: Psalm 23; 46

Aim: To learn how to trust God in all situations of life because of His trustworthy qualities.

Introduction: Many people have trouble trusting God with their lives and problems. When everything is going well, they don't see much need to trust God. Rich people have trouble trusting God because they trust in their riches to meet their needs instead. The poor of this world are more rich in faith. **Trusting God** means that we have confidence that **God will show us a way to solve our problems**. The Bible is full of people that God showed them a solution to their problems, such as Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, Daniel, Peter. What problem situations do you need to trust God in? **What do we understand about God's character qualities that help us to trust Him to solve our problems?**

1. **Gentle.** "thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy **gentleness** hath made me great." Psalm 18:35.
2. **Answers prayers.** "the LORD fulfil all thy petitions." Psalm 20:5.
3. **Restores my soul.** "He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness." Psalms 23:3
4. **Peace giver.** "the LORD will bless his people with **peace**." Psalm 29:11.
5. **Considers my trouble.** "I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;" Psalms 31:7.
6. **Great goodness.** "Oh how **great is thy goodness**, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that **trust** in thee before the sons of men!" Psalms 31:19; 85:12.
7. **Teacher.** "I will instruct thee and **teach** thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will **guide** thee with mine eye." Psalms 32:8.
8. **Deliverer.** "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all" 34:19
9. **Prosper.** "Let the LORD be magnified, which has pleasure in the **prosperity** of his servant." Ps 35:27
10. **Lovingkindness.** "How excellent is thy **lovingkindness**, O God! therefore the children of men put their **trust** under the shadow of thy wings." Psalm 36:7.
11. **Upholds.** "Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD **upholdeth** him with his hand." Psalms 37:24.
12. Our **Refuge** and **Strength**. "God is our **refuge** and **strength**, a very present help in trouble." Ps 46:1.
13. **Call on.** "**Call upon me** in the day of trouble: I will **deliver** thee, and thou shalt glorify me." 50:15.
14. **Sustainer.** "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall **sustain** thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." Psalms 55:22.
15. **Rewarder.** "So that a man shall say, Verily there is a **reward** for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth." Psalms 58:11.
16. **Blesser.** "God shall **bless** us" Ps 67:7; 'Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with **benefits**' 68:19
17. **My Hope.** "Thou art **my hope**." Psalm 71:5. "that they might set their **hope in God**." Psalm 78:7.
18. **Holds my Hand.** "thou hast holden me by **my right hand**." Psalm 73:23.
19. **Feed** and **Guide.** "So he **fed** them according to the integrity of his heart; and **guided** them by the skilfulness of his hands." Psalms 78:72.
20. **Shepherd.** "Give ear, O **Shepherd** of Israel." Psalm 80:1. **Ready to Forgive.** Psalm 86:5.
21. **Satisfies.** "He should have **fed** them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have **satisfied** thee." Ps 81:16. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; 36:8
22. **Mercy.** "But thou, O Lord, art a God full of **compassion**, and **gracious, longsuffering**, and plenteous in **mercy** and truth." Psalms 86:15.
23. **Comforter.** "thou, LORD, has **holpen** me, and **comforted** me." Psalm 86:17.
24. **Wonderful Works.** "Oh that men would praise the LORD for his **goodness**, and for his **wonderful works** to the children of men!" Psalms 107:8.
25. **Kindness.** "For his **merciful kindness** is great toward us:" Psalms 117:2. "he is **kind** unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:35.
26. **Full of Compassion.** "The LORD is gracious, and **full of compassion**; slow to anger, and of great mercy." Psalms 145:8.
27. **Pitiful.** "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is **very pitiful**, and of **tender mercy**." James 5:11.
28. **Opens Doors.** "I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an **open door**:" Revel. 3:8. 8

JESUS CHRIST: 8. Jesus Christ is the Greatest....

Bible Reading: Matthew 8:23-34; Mark 8:22-38.

Aim: To help us understand how great Jesus Christ really is in many areas. **Memory Verse:** “The men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!” Matt 8:27.

Introduction: Let us consider how great Jesus Christ is as a comfort and an example to live by.

1. Jesus is the **Greatest Creator and Architect**. “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they *be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.” Colossians 1:16; John 1:3; Psalm 139:14.
2. **Artist**. “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.” Psalm 19:1
3. **Writer**. He inspired the New Testament and many books, novels, movies. “What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia.” Rev 1:11.
4. **Doctor and Healer**. He healed in an instant without drugs, operations, hospitalization or side-effects. “When the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.” Luke 4:40.
5. **Servant**. “But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.” Matthew 23:11.
6. **Supplier of needs**. ‘From whence can a man satisfy these with bread here in the wilderness?’ Mark 8:4.
7. **Preacher**. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives... Luke 4:18,19.
8. **Speaker**. “The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.” John 7:46.
9. **Teacher**. “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.” John 3:2.
10. **Friend**. “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” John 15:13.
11. **Giver**. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Luke 12:32.
12. **Comforter**. “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.” John 15:26. “Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.” Matt 9:2. “Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.” Matt 14:27. “In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33. “Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.” Acts 23:11.
13. **Scientist**. “In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” Colossians 2:3.
14. **Psychiatrist**. “They...came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind; and they were afraid.” Luke 8:35.
15. **Eye Surgeon**. “After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.” Mark 8:25.
16. **Businessman**. “lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first comes up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money.” Matt 17:27.
17. **Chemist**. He turned water into wine. “thou has kept the good wine until now.” John 2:10.
18. **Astronomer**. “In my Father’s house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you.” John 14:2.
19. **Restorer** of guilty, condemned, depressed. ‘Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.’ John 8:11
20. **Lover**. Behold how he loved him. John 11:36. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. John 15:9
21. **Prophet, Fulfiler of Prophecy**. I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am. John 13:19. “he expounded to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.” Lk 24:27
22. **Lawyer**. “If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” 1 John 2:1.
23. **Judge**. ‘The Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment unto the Son.’ John 5:22; Ps 96:13
24. **Builder**. ‘Upon this rock I will build my church; & the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Mt 16:18
25. **Rewarder**. my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. Rv 22:12; Mt 16:27
26. **Example**, role model. I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. John 13:15
27. **Forgiver**. “Man thy sins be forgiven thee.” “Father, forgive them.” Luke 23:34.
28. **Detective**. HS tracks down any sinner, finds out his sin, convicts him of sin, righteousness & J. Jn 16:8
29. **Soldier**. He endured the hardness of the cross. “endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” 2 Tim 2:3. He conquered with love and truth, Others conquered for a time with war, hatred and killing.
30. **Politician**. He opens doors that none can open. I have set before thee an open door, no man can shut it. R3:8
31. **King** at His return. “King of kings, and Lord of lords;” 1 Timothy 6:15; Rev 17:14; 19:16

9. Eleven Old Testament Prophets teach that Jesus Christ is Jehovah God in 16 Verses

1. **Moses**: The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob Who appeared to Moses at the burning bush revealed His Name as “I AM” (Exodus 3:14,15). Jesus revealed that He was the true God by stating that “Before Abraham was, I AM”, and “If ye believe not that I am, ye shall die in your sins.” (John 8:58,24).
2. **David**: God told David that David’s son would be David’s God. “The LORD (Jehovah) said unto my Lord (Adonai), Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.” (Psalm 110:1). Jesus applied this to Himself in Matthew 22:41-45 as a question: “If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?” (45). This shows that Jesus Christ would be both a man descended from David and David’s God.
3. **Solomon**: God has a son. “What is his name, and what is his son’s name?” (Proverbs 30:4).
4. **Isaiah: a)** The Mighty God would be both man and God the Son. “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: ..And his name shall be called .. the Mighty God...” Isaiah 9:6.
b) God the Son who created the heavens and the earth (13), would be sent to earth by Jehovah the Father and by God the Holy Spirit to save man (16). “Lord God and his Spirit has sent me.” (Isaiah 48:12,13,16).
- c) Isaiah saw the King, Jehovah of hosts on the throne in heaven, who asked Isaiah “who will go for us?” (Isaiah 6:1-8,5). (“us”=trinity). In John 12:37-41, John said of Jesus, “These things said Esaias when he saw his (Jesus) glory, and spake of him (Jesus).” Jesus was the King, Jehovah of hosts that Isaiah saw.
5. **Jeremiah**: “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch (Jesus’ humanity), and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD (Jehovah) OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS (Jesus’ Deity).” (Jeremiah 23:5,6).
6. **Ezekiel**: Ezekiel prophesied that the east gate of Jerusalem will be shut, as it is today, “because the LORD (Jehovah), the God of Israel, has entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut.” (Ezekiel 44:1,2).
Question: When did Jehovah, the God of Israel enter the east gate of Jerusalem? It was when Jesus Christ entered it on Palm Sunday before His crucifixion in Luke 19:28-48. He rode a donkey from the Mount of Olives through the east gate into the temple situated just behind it. This proves that Jesus is God.
7. **Daniel: a)** When King Nebuchadnezzar threw the 3 Hebrew men into the furnace, he saw a fourth person walking in the furnace and protecting them, who was identified as the Son of God (Daniel 3:25).
b) The Son of man (Christ) came to the Ancient of days (God the Father) to receive the kingdom (7:9-14).
8. **Hosea**: Jehovah will return to “my place” (*heaven*), till the Jews admit their offence of killing Jesus. “Hear the word of the LORD (Jehovah) (4:1), I will go and return to my place (*heaven*), till they (*Jews*) acknowledge their offence (*of killing Jesus*), and seek my face: in their affliction (*7 year tribulation*) they (*Jews*) will seek me early.” Jehovah the Son came from heaven to be born of Mary as a man, he was rejected and crucified by the Jews. The resurrected Lord Jesus returned to heaven. Jesus will only return when the Jews acknowledge their offence of killing Jesus. This occurs after the 7 year tribulation.
9. **Micah**: Micah prophesied that the eternal second member of the trinity would be born as a human baby in Bethlehem in Micah 5:2, “But thou, Bethlehem Ephrath, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he (Jesus Christ, God the Son) come forth unto me (God the Father) that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting”.
10. **Zechariah: a)** “Thus saith the LORD (Jehovah) my God; (v.4). If ye think good, give me my price; So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver (v.12). ...I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD” (Zechariah 11:4,12,13).
These three prophecies were fulfilled in Judas betraying Jesus Christ in Matthew 26:14-16 and 27:3-10.
b) When Jesus Christ returns to earth, He is identified as Jehovah God whom Israel pierced on the cross. “I (Jehovah) will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem,...they (*Israel*) shall look upon me (Jehovah) whom they have pierced” (Zechariah 12:9-10). Jesus fulfilled this in John 19:37.
c) When Jesus Christ returns to earth on the Mount of Olives, He is identified as Jehovah God (Zech 14). “Then shall the LORD (Jehovah) go forth and fight against those nations,... And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives (v.3-4)...the LORD (Jehovah) my God shall come, and all the saints with thee (v.5)...the LORD (Jehovah) shall be king over all the earth ...” (Zechariah 14:3,4,5,9). When Jesus ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives, two angels told those witnesses present that “this same Jesus shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:10-11).
11. **Malachi**: Malachi wrote of “the Lord (Adonai, God) whom you seek shall suddenly come to his temple (*in Jerusalem*).” (Malachi 3:1). Jesus fulfilled this at the start of His ministry. John 2:13-21. **p.10**

10. Appearances of Jehovah in the Old Testament as the Son of God. John 6:46

1. To **Adam** in the Garden of Eden. Genesis 3:8. ‘They heard the voice of the LORD God walking in...’
 2. To the **Tower of Babel**. Genesis 11:5,7. ‘The LORD came down to see the city and the tower..’
 3. To **Abram**. Genesis 12:7. ‘The LORD appeared unto Abram & said, Unto thy seed will I give this land’
 4. To **Abram** to **make a covenant** with him. Genesis 15:17. ‘a smoking furnace & a burning lamp passed’
 5. To **Hagar** as the **Angel of Jehovah**. Genesis 16:7,9,10,11,13. ‘JHVH that spake to her” (13).
 6. To **Abraham** and **Sarah** to **announce the conception of Isaac**. Genesis 17:1. ‘LORD appeared to Abr”
 7. To **Abraham** to discuss the destruction of **Sodom and Gomorrah**. Genesis 18:1,2,21,33 and 19:24.
 8. To **Sarah** to conceive Isaac. Genesis 21:1-4. ‘The LORD visited Sarah as he had said...’
 9. To **Hagar and Ishmael** when cast out by Sarah in the desert. Genesis 21:9-21,17.
 10. To **Abraham** when **sacrificing Isaac**. Genesis 22:10-18,11,15,16. ‘By myself have I sworn, says JHVH”
 11. To **Abraham’s servant** getting a wife for Isaac at Haran. Genesis 24:40
 12. To **Isaac** forbidding him going to Egypt. Genesis 26:1-6. ‘JHVH appeared unto him and said..”
 13. To **Isaac** at Beersheba **after digging wells**. Genesis 26:24. ‘JHVH appeared unto him, and said..”
 14. To **Jacob** at the **top of a ladder from earth to heaven**. Genesis 28:13. ‘JHVH stood above it and said.”
 15. To **wrestle with Jacob** and **change his name to Israel**. Genesis 32:24-30. ‘I have seen God face to face
 16. To **Jacob** to **change his name to Israel**. Genesis 35:9. ‘God appeared to Jacob again...”
- Jacob recounts to Joseph how God Almighty appeared to him at Luz (Gen 35:6) to bless him. Gen 48:3
17. To **Moses** at the **burning bush** as the angel of Jehovah, as **Jehovah God**, to go to Pharaoh (Ex. 3:1-18)
 18. To **Moses** to give him signs to prove to Israel that God has appeared to him. (Exodus 4:1-5)
 19. To **kill Moses in the inn**, because Moses neglected to circumcise his son. (Exodus 4:24-26).
 20. Recounted to Moses how He appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty. (Ex. 6:3)
 21. To **Israel** leaving Egypt in a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night. (Exodus 13:21,22).
 22. To **Israel** at the **Red Sea** as the angel of God to separate them from Pharaoh’s armies (Exod 14:19,20)
 23. To **Pharaoh’s armies** pursuing Israel in the Red Sea to take off their chariot wheels. (Exod 14:24,25)
 24. To **Israel, standing on the rock in Horeb**, when Moses smote the rock to give water. (Exodus 17:5-7)
 25. To **Israel** at **Mount Sinai**, to **give Moses the ten commandments**. (Exodus 19:11,17-20).
 26. To **Israel in the wilderness** as an Angel to **lead Israel into Canaan**. (Exodus 23:20,21,23).
 27. To **Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, 70 elders** at Mt Sinai to **give the 10 Commandments**. (24:10,11,17)
 28. To **Moses** in the cliff of a rock to see God’s back parts. (‘Thou shalt see my back parts’ Exodus 33:23)
 29. To **Moses** at Mt Sinai to **get the 10 Commandments**. (‘LORD descended in a cloud & stood’ Ex. 34:5)
 30. To **Moses & Israel** in the **tabernacle**. ‘the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.’ (Exodus 40:34,38).
 31. To **Moses** from the **tabernacle** to **instruct on offerings**. (LORD called unto Moses and spake’ Lev.1:1)
 32. To **all Israel**. (‘the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people. There came a fire out..’ Lev 9:23)
 33. To **Moses** after the death of Nadab and Abihu. (I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat. Lev 16:2)
 34. To **Moses** in the tabernacle to **number Israel**. (LORD spake unto Moses..in the tabernacle. Numbers 1:1)
 35. To **Moses** in the **tabernacle**. ‘he heard the voice of **one speaking to him** from off the mercy seat. Num7:89
 36. To **Israel** in the **wilderness**. So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, & the appearance of fire by night.9:16
 37. To **put Moses spirit on 70 elders**. ‘The LORD came down in a cloud and spake unto him..’ Num 11:25
 38. To **rebuke Miriam** for criticizing Moses. ‘The LORD **came down** in the **pillar of the cloud**, and **stood** in the door of the tabernacle, and **called** Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.’ Numbers 12:5
 39. To **all the congregation** when **Korah** led a rebellion against Moses. Numbers 16:19,42
 40. To **Balaam** as the angel of the LORD **when visiting Balak to curse Israel**. Numbers 22:9,20-35.
 41. To **Moses** before **His death in the door of the tabernacle**. Deut. 31:14,15. ‘the LORD appeared in tab’
 42. To **Joshua** as the **Captain of the host of the LORD**. Joshua 5:13-15.
 43. To **Joshua** and **Israel** at **Bochim**. Judges 2:1-4. (‘the similitude of the LORD shall he behold’ Num 12:8
 44. To **Gideon** to **deliver Israel from Midian**. Judges 6:12,14,16,20,21.
 45. To **Manoah** and **his wife** to **declare the birth of Samson**. Judges 13:3,9,13,16-18,20,22.
 46. To **Samuel** as a boy. ‘The LORD came and **stood** and called as at other times, Samuel.’ 1 Sam. 3:9-14
 47. To **Solomon** and **Israel** at Temple dedication in 1004BC. 1 Kings 8:10,11. ‘glory of the LORD filled.’
 48. To **destroy 185,000 Assyrian soldiers surrounding Jerusalem in 710 BC**. 2 Kings 19:35; Isaiah 37:36.
 49. To **Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-nego** in a fire. ‘form of the fourth is like the Son of God’ Daniel 3:25. **p11**

11. The ANGEL of Jehovah. Who is He? What Did He Do?

Bible Reading: Exodus 14:1-31; Judges 13:1-22. (Ps 34:7)

18 March 2018

Memory Verse: “In all their affliction **he** was afflicted, & the **angel of his presence** saved them” Isa 63:9

Aim: To understand why the **Angel** of the LORD is Jehovah God the **Son**. To know how He relates to us.

Introduction: One of the most important characters in the OT is “the Angel of the LORD”, also known as “the Angel of God”. “Angel” in Hebrew is “**Malak**” (4397) meaning “**messenger, despatch as a deputy**”. The main question is “**Who is He?**” Is he a created angel or is He the **Son of God**, the second person of the Trinity visiting people on earth before He was incarnated into Mary as a man? Why did He visit people? Does this give us a better understanding of Who Jesus Christ is? Consider OT verses showing Who He is:

I. Who is the “Angel of the LORD”? Who did He appear to? Why did He Visit them?

1. To **Hagar** before she bore Ishmael at the Beer-lahai-roi wilderness fountain near Shur (Genesis 16:6-16). He is “the angel of the LORD” in v.7,9,10,11. Hagar calls Him “Jehovah & God” (13). Abram is 86. “She called the name of the **LORD** (Jehovah) that spake unto her, Thou **God** seest me.” (16:13). He visited Hagar to tell her to **return to Sara** (9), to tell her the child’s name “Ishmael” (11) and to comfort her that **God has heard her affliction** (11). So God instructs and comforts us in our troubles. In Genesis 21:14-21 “**God** heard the voice of the lad; and the **angel of God** called to Hagar out of heaven, & said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? **fear not**; for **God hath heard the voice of the lad** where he is.”17
2. To **Abraham sacrificing Isaac** at Mt Moriah (Genesis 22:9-14). Abraham names the place “Jehovah-jireh” after the **angel of the LORD** stopped him killing Isaac (11,14). The **angel** of the LORD (22:15) calls Himself **Jehovah**, saying “**By myself have I sworn**, saith the **LORD**” (16). He **blesses** Abraham (17,18).
3. To **Jacob** at Haran to **tell him to return to Israel** (Genesis 31:1-4,11-13). Jacob tells Rachel and Leah that **Jehovah** who spoke to him in v.3, is the “**angel of God**” in v.11 and is “the **God of Bethel**” in v.13. Here He guided, directed, instructed (13), protected (7) & comforted Jacob (12) in his conflict with Laban.
4. To **Moses** at the **burning bush** at **Mt Horeb** to **instruct him to lead Israel out of Egypt** (Exodus 3:1-18) The “**angel of Jehovah**” who appeared in the burning bush (3:2) is shown to be **Jehovah God** (4), “**God**” (6), “**I AM**” (14) who **Jesus Christ** tells us was Himself (John 8:58 and 8:24) and “**The LORD God** of the Hebrews hath met with us.” (18). God gave Moses a **job to do** and the **instructions on how to do it**.
5. To the **Israelites** as a **pillar of cloud and fire** to **separate** and **protect them** from Pharaoh’s **army** (Exodus 14:19,20 “the **angel of God**, which went **before the camp of Israel**, removed and **went behind them**; and the **pillar of the cloud** went from before their face, and **stood behind them**.”).

The **angel of Jehovah** in the pillar of cloud in v.19 is the same as “**Jehovah** who looked unto the host of the Egyptians through **the pillar of fire** and **of the cloud**, and troubled the host of the Egyptians.” (24,25). God **protects** His obedient people, **giving us light** & punishes our enemies with **darkness & death** (25-28).

6. To **oppose Balaam** on his way to curse Israel (Numbers 22:35 “the **angel of the LORD** said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but **only the word that I shall speak unto thee**, that thou shalt speak”). Balaam told Balak that the **word of the angel of the LORD** in v.35 is the **same as the word of God** in v.38 “the **word that God putteth in my mouth**, that shall I speak.” God opposes us if we do sinful things. 22-35.
7. To **rebuke Israel** at **Bochim** for not destroying pagan altars (Judges 2:1-5). The angel of the LORD is Jehovah Himself because He said “**I made you to go up out of Egypt**, and have brought you unto the land **which I swear** unto your fathers; and I said, **I will never break my covenant with you**.” (2:1). **Judges 5:23**.
8. To **Gideon in Ophrah** to **send him to smite the Midianites** (Judges 6:11-16). The **angel of the LORD** in v.12 is Jehovah in v.14,16 “the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go. Surely **I will be with thee**”16.20-21
9. To **Manoah** to **announce the birth of Samson** (Judges 13:1-8,12-22). The **angel of the LORD** in v.3,6,9,13,15,16,17,18,20,21 is **Jehovah** because Manoah said in v.22 “We have seen **God**”. **Gave a child**.
10. To **answer Hezekiah’s prayer** by **destroying 185,000 Assyrian soldiers** seeking to take Jerusalem “Then the **angel of the LORD** went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore & five thousand:& when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.”Isaiah 37:36 The **angel of the LORD** in v.36 is **Jehovah** because Jehovah said in v.35 “I will defend this city.” **Defends**

Conclusion: “In all their affliction **he** was afflicted, and the **angel of his presence** saved them: **in his love** and **in his pity** he redeemed them; and **he bare them**, and **carried them all the days of old**.” Isaiah 63:9. The **messenger of Jehovah** is the **Son of God**, “whose **goings forth** have been from **everlasting**” Micah 5:2. He was **conceived into Mary** to become the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, God, Defender, Friend. **12**

12. 3 HOURS DARKNESS (12 noon to 3pm) when Jesus was on the Cross

What caused the **sun to black out for 3 hours** from 12 noon - 3 pm when Jesus Christ was on the cross?

- i) This was **prophesied** in **Amos 8:9** (787 BC), "it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the **sun to go down at noon**, and I will **darken the earth in the clear day**:"
- ii) **Matthew 27:45-52** "Now from the **sixth hour** there was **darkness over all the land** unto the **ninth hour**. (v 45). Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. (v 51). And, behold the **veil of the temple** was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; & the **earth did quake**, and the rocks rent." (52)
- Mark 15:25-33** "And it was the third hour, and they crucified him (v 25).
When the **sixth hour** was come, there was **darkness** over the whole land until the **ninth hour**." (v 33).
Luke 23:44-46 "And it was about the **sixth hour**, and there was a **darkness over all the earth** until the **ninth hour**. And the **sun was darkened**, and the **veil of the temple** was **rent** in the midst."

This **3 hours darkness** could not have been a normal solar eclipse. A **solar eclipse** is impossible at a full moon, when the moon is on the other side of the earth from the sun, as it always is at Passover.

iii) **Secular historians** record this **3 hours of darkness when Jesus was crucified**:

Thallus experienced it in 33AD and writes in 52 AD in "Histories",
"On the whole world there pressed a most fearful darkness; and the rocks were rent by an earthquake, and many places in Judea and other districts were thrown down."

Phlegon (80AD), a first Century Greek historian and astronomer wrote two books entitled *Chronicles and Olympiads*. Phlegon records the 3 hours darkness at Jesus' death and is quoted by:

- a) **Julius Africanus**: "Phlegon records that, in the time of Tiberius Caesar, at full moon, there was a **full eclipse of the sun from the sixth hour to the ninth** manifestly that one of which we speak. But what has an **eclipse** in common with an **earthquake**, the **rending** rocks, and the **resurrection of the dead**, and so great a perturbation throughout the universe? Surely no such event as this is recorded for a long period. But **it was darkness induced by God**, because the **Lord happened then to suffer**" *Extant Writings of Julius Africanus* XVIII.I
- b) **Origen** quotes Phlegon: "Phlegon mentioned the **eclipse** which took place during the **crucifixion** of the Lord Jesus... and this is shown by the historical account of Tiberius Caesar". (*De opif.mund*, II.21).
- c) **Eusebius** (260-340) "Now, in the fourth year of the 202nd Olympiad (AD 32-33), a **great eclipse of the sun occurred at the sixth hour** (noon) that excelled every other before it, **turning the day into such darkness of the night that the stars could be seen in heaven**, and the **earth moved in Bithynia**, **toppling many buildings** in the city of Nicaea."
- d) **Tertullian** (160-220) "In the same hour, too, the **light of day was withdrawn**, when the sun at the very time was in his meridian blaze. Those who were not aware that this had been predicted about Christ, no doubt thought it an eclipse. **You yourselves have the account of the world portent still in your archives**."
- e) **Justin Martyr** (110-165 AD) quoted the **Acts of Pilate**, in *I Apology* 35, 48, mentioning this 3 hours darkness in his defense before the Roman Emperor who would have been able to check the *Acts of Pilate* himself. "At the time he was crucified, there was **darkness** over all the world, the **sun being darkened at midday**, and the **stars appearing**, and the **moon**, as it turned into blood, failed in her light... the fear of the **earthquake** remained from the sixth hour of the preparation until the ninth hour."
- f) **Philopon** (520 AD) wrote "Phlegon mentioned the **eclipse** which took place during the crucifixion of the Lord Christ... this is shown by the historical account itself of Tiberius Caesar". (*De Opif. Mund. II.21*)
- g) **Cassiodorus**, a Roman statesman (490-585 AD): "Our Lord Jesus Christ suffered... and an **eclipse** of the sun occurred, such as never was before or since". (*Cassiodorus Chronican, Patrologia Latina*, V.69)

13. The Greatest Statement Ever Made: John 3:16

- 1) **God** – The Greatest Lover. 2) **So loved** – The Greatest Degree. I John 4:19-21; I Peter 1:8.
- 3) **The world** – The Greatest Company. I John 2:2; 4:14. See definition of "world" p.649.
- 4) **That He gave** – The Greatest Act. John 4:10; Romans 6:23; II Cor. 9:15.
- 5) **His only begotten Son** – The Greatest Gift. John 1:14,18; 3:16,18; I John 4:9.
- 6) **That whosoever** – The Greatest Opportunity. See p. 905, 654.
- 7) **Believeth** – The Greatest Simplicity. See p. 455. 8) **In Him** – The Greatest Attraction.
- 9) **Should not perish** – The Greatest Promise. John 10:28; II Peter 3:9.
- 10) **But** – The Greatest Difference.
- 11) **Have** – The Greatest Certainty. 12) **Everlasting life** – The Greatest Possession..

p.13

14. Why the Son of God Came into the World to be born as Jesus Christ

Bible Reading: Luke 1:26-38; John 1:1-18. **Youtube**: The Star of Bethlehem REVEALED! eternalrhythmlflow

Memory Verse: Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall **save his people from their sins**. Matt 1:21

Aim: To understand why the Son of God came into the world.

Introduction: Jehovah God the Son appeared in the OT. It promised He would enter the human race.

I. **Why did the Son of God come into the world?**

1. **To fulfil Micah 5:2** prophecy of Jesus birth place, return to rule, goings out, trinity, eternity. "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall **he** come forth unto **me** that is to be **ruler in Israel**; whose **goings forth** have been from of old, from **everlasting**."
2. **For God to live with man**. She shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall **save his people from their sins**. Matthew 1:21. "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us**." Matthew 1:23.
3. **To be King of Israel**. "Where is he that is born **King of the Jews?** for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to **worship him**." Matthew 2:2.
4. But when the fullness of the time was come, **God sent forth his Son**, made of a woman, made under the law, **To redeem them that were under the law**, that **we might receive the adoption of sons**." Gal 4:4,5.
5. **To reveal God to man, showing our value**. "**God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, **preached unto the Gentiles**, believed on in the world, received up into glory." I Timothy 3:16.
6. **To set up an everlasting Kingdom**. "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: **he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever**; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." Luke 1:32,33.
7. **Fulfil Gen 3:15**. **The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee** & the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the **Son of God**." Luke 1:35.
8. "Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby **the dayspring from on high hath visited us**, To give **light to them that sit in darkness** & in the shadow of death, **to guide our feet into the way of peace**. 1:78,79
9. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a **Saviour**, which is **Christ the Lord**." Luke 2:11.
10. **Show Goodwill**. "Glory to God in the highest, and **on earth peace, good will toward men**" Luke 2:14
11. A **light to lighten the Gentiles**, & the **glory of thy people Israel**. Luke 2:32. Jesus lights up darkness.
12. The **child grew** & waxed **strong in spirit, filled with wisdom**: & the **grace of God was upon him**. L2:40
13. **To show how to live by grace and truth**. "**The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us**, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) **full of grace and truth**." John 1:14.
14. "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, **which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him**." John 1:18. Behold the **Lamb of God**, which **taketh away the sin of the world**. 1:29
15. **To save mankind from sin, suffering and hell**. "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be **saved**." John 3:17.
16. "He that cometh from above is **above all**: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is **above all**." John 3:31.
17. "**I came down from heaven**, not to do mine own will, but the **will of him that sent me**." John 6:38.
18. Martha, 'I believe that thou art the **Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world**' J11:27
19. "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, & took upon him the **form of a servant**, and was made in the likeness of men: being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, & became obedient unto death**, even the death of the cross.Ph2:6,7
20. **To speak to us directly**. **God** "Hath in these last days **spoken unto us by his Son**, whom he hath **appointed heir of all things**, by whom also he made the worlds;" Hebrews 1:2.
21. To show that He is **God** to be **worshipped**. "When **he bringeth in the firstbegotten** (Gk: prototokon = ruler, first rank) into the world, he saith, **let all the angels of God worship him**." Hebrews 1:6.
22. "For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the **seed of Abraham**. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be **made like unto his brethren**, that he might be a **merciful** and **faithful high priest** in things pertaining to God, **to make reconciliation for the sins of the people**. H2:16,17
23. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might **destroy** the works of the devil. I Jo 3:8
24. "She brought forth a man child, who was **to rule all nations with a rod of iron**: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne." Revelation 12:5.

14

15. Who is Jesus Christ?

Bible Reading: Matthew 16:13-20; Colossians 1:15-29

6 August 2017.

Aim: To understand Jesus Christ and to love Him more. See Understanding Chapter 400.

Mem Verse: "I am the way, the truth, & the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6.

Introduction: Who is Jesus described as being in the Bible to us?

1. **Mediator** (Reconciler of conflicting parties). "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" I Tim 2:25. "To Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant" Heb 12:24.
2. **Bridegroom** (Loves us, seeks us, returns for us). "While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Mt25:5,6
3. **Image** of the Invisible God. Col 1:15. **The image** of God. 2 Cor 4:4. **Express Image of the Father** (exact representation of God). "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power." Heb 1:3; Christ has all the attributes, excellencies and perfections of the Father. Both are from everlasting, creator, upholder, object of worship, omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, holy, good, loving, just, righteous.
4. **Physician** (Heal the body, so Jesus heals our souls and sins). "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." Matthew 9:12. As Physicians heal the body, so Jesus heals our souls and sins.
5. **Testator** (one who gives a store of riches and blessings to those in a will after a death). "For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth." Hebrews 9:16,17.
6. **Door** (the entry to the riches in a house). "I am the door." John 10:9. Jesus is the legal entrance into the kingdom of God.
7. **Lion** (Jesus is majestic, strong, courageous, powerful, watchful, loves and defends his own). "Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof." Rev 5:5.
8. **Bread from Heaven**. Manna was strange & mysterious, a free, nourishing gift, hated by complainers. "I am that bread of life." John 6:48. "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever." John 6:51.
9. **King** (Jesus has great power, many subjects, right laws, ambassadors, rewards, punishes). "These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings:" Rev 17:14. "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." Rev 19:16; I Timothy 6:15.
10. **Great High Priest** (reconciles us to God, intercedes for us). "that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." Heb 2:17. "We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens" Heb 8:1
11. **Prophet** (speaking the mind and word of God). "A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear." Acts 7:37.
12. **Shepherd** knows, cares, loves, feeds, rescues his sheep. He separates His sheep from the goats. "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine." John 10:14.
13. **Branch** refers to Jesus' human nature descended from David. "I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth." Jer 23:5.
14. **The Way**, the access to God and heaven. "Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. Ways lead from one place to another. Jesus is the:
i) Only way to the Father and to eternal life. ii) New and Living way. God speaks to us. Heb 10:20.
iii) Sure, certain way. iv) Safe way of protection & guidance. v) Easy way with easy commands. Mt 11:30.
vi) Comfortable way with kind friends, peace, love, joy. vii) Holy way with holy persons, not filthy way.
15. **The Rock**. "The Rock of Israel spake to me" 2 Sam23:3; "Upon this rock will I build my church." Matt 16:18. "That spiritual Rock that followed them was Christ." I Cor 10:4. Christ is our strong, lasting foundation to build our life on. Rocks may be stumbled on. "a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient:" I Peter 2:8.
16. **A Fountain** giving fresh water and blessings. "they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters. Jer 17:13; "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." Rev 21:6.
17. **Saviour** "this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world." John 4:42. "Prince & a Saviour" A5:31
18. **God manifest in the flesh**. "God was manifest in the flesh." I Timothy 3:16. 15

19. **The Head**. "Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body." Eph 5:23; "the head of all principality and power:" Col 2:10; "unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner" I Peter 2:7. The Head is the highest part of the body, the seat of the senses, the command centre that cares for the body.

20. **The Lamb** of God which takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). "Redeemed .. with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Peter 1:19. Christ is innocent, harmless, gentle, patient, contented, not revengeful, profitable, sacrificial, suffered willingly.

21. **Christian's Friend**. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." John 15:13-15. Enmity is removed, full access to God, love, valued, build honour & reputation, share secrets, helper, knows their condition, rescues from trouble, advises, rejoices in their prosperity, never forsakes, always available, visits, trusts, thankful.

22. **Advocate**. "if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: I Jon 2:1.

23. **Apostle**. "consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;" Heb 3:1.

24. **Sun of Righteousness**. "For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." Psalm 84:11. "But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;" Malachi 4:2.

25. **True Vine**. "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman." John 15:1. He is our nourishment.

26. **Faithful Witness**. "from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness" Rev 1:5; "These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness" Rev 3:14. He entered the world to show the Father's will. He is just & impartial.

27. **Messenger of the New Covenant is God Himself**. "the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in:" Malachi 3:1. He offers peace with God, the offended party, Who seeks reconciliation with mankind. We must break our league with Satan and fight against him.

28. **Heir (Inheritor) of all things**. "Whom he hath appointed heir of all things." Heb 1:2. "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, & things in earth, & things under the earth" Phil 2:10.

29. **Only Foundation**. "other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. I Cor 3:11 The chief thing that everything depends on. The church, our life, our nation must be built on Jesus' words.

30. **Chief Corner-Stone**. "are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" Eph 2:20. "Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious" IPet2:6 A cornerstone is the visible support on which a building relies for strength & stability. So we trust in Jesus

31. "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

32. **Captain of our Salvation**. "To make the captain of our salvation perfect through sufferings." Heb 2:10 Captain (leader) enlists spiritual soldiers to fight wars over the souls of men and against Satan's kingdom.

33. **Refiner**. "He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver." Malachi 3:2,3. Christ separates false from true in our minds. He melts and softens people as silver by the Word of God, HS and by afflictions.

34. **Eagle**. "I bare you on eagle's wings & brought you unto myself." Exodus 19:4; Deut 32:11,12; Is40:31 This shows Christ's vision, speedy rescue, protection, care and loving support of his people from Egypt.

35. **Bright and Morning Star** ("I am the ..." Rev 22:16). (John 8:12)

36. I am the light of the world: he that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life

37. **Creator**. "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, & the world knew him not" John 1:10

38. **Deliverer**. There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer & shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: Rm11:26

39. **Desire of Nations**. "I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come." Haggai 2:7.

40. **Emmanuel**. "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, & shall bring forth a son, & they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Matthew 1:23. "call his name Immanuel" Isaiah 7:14

41. **King of Israel**. "Nathaniel said, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel." John 1:49

42. **Lord of Hosts**. "mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." Isaiah 6:5; his glory. John 12:41

43. **Upholding** all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins," Heb 1:3

44. **Shiloh** (tranquil, successful, happy, prosperous). "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; & unto him shall the gathering of the people be. Gen 49:10.

45. **Dayspring** (morning light, rising sun). "Dayspring from on high has visited us." Luke 1:78. 16

16. Jesus Christ the ENCOURAGER

Bible Reading: Luke 5:1-11

Aim: To encourage us and to give us hope in every situation of life.

Memory Verse: “The Lord GOD hath given me the **tongue of the learned**, that I should **know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary**.” Isaiah 50:4.

Introduction: We all experience difficult situations in life. We may fear what the future holds. We may worry about the present. We may worry about others. Jesus shows Himself as the greatest encourager of people in need or in distress. He shows that God knows our needs and wants to supply our needs and to bless us. Do you have some needs that you want God to supply? Do you have some fears or problems that you want God to solve? Look to Jesus. Ask Jesus to grant your requests and to encourage you and He will.

I. How Did Jesus Christ Encourage Needy People?

- By **showing His watching care on Nathanael** (and on us).
“Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.” John 1:48.
- By **supplying the wedding supper needs of grape juice**. John 2:7-11.
- By **showing enquiring Nicodemus how to be saved**. John 3:3,14-18.
“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” (3).
- By **showing a socially outcast woman of Samaria how to have eternal life**. “Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.” John 4:10.
- By **paving Peter for using his boat to preach from**. Luke 5:1-11 “Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.” Luke 5:4.
- By **giving Peter and Andrew an inspiring job** of fishing for men. Matthew 4:18-20.
“And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Matthew 4:19.
- By **forgiving a paralysed man’s sins and healing him**. Luke 5:20-26.
“But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.” (24)
- By **setting people free from useless man made rules**. Luke 6:1-5.
- By **healing multitudes of sick people**. “And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.” Luke 6:17-19.
- By **promising that God will supply our needs**. Matthew 6:25-34. “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” (33)
- By **promising rewards on earth and in heaven** for what we do for God and others.
“whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.” Matthew 10:42.
- By **commending the Roman centurion’s wise words**. Matthew 8:5-13.
“When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.” (10).
- By **raising three dead people to life**. The widow of Nain’s son (Luke 7:11-16), Jairus’ daughter and Lazarus. “he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.” (Luke 7:14,15).
- By **encouraging John the Baptist in prison**. “Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.” Luke 7:22.
- By **stilling the storms**. Matthew 8:23-27. “he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!” (26,27).
- By **granting people (such as two blind men) their requests**. Matthew 20:29-34.
“Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.”
- By **granting Peter’s request** to walk on the water to Him. Matt 14:22-26. To do difficult things. 17

- By **sending out 12 disciples (Luke 9:1-6) and 70 disciples to teach and to heal**. Luke 10:1-16.
“After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.”
- By **showing where to find the tax money in a fish’s mouth**. “lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.” Matt 17:27
- By **teaching that we all have good angels watching over us**. Matthew 18:10.
“Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.”
- By showing how **God loves us & seeks us** as we seek a **lost sheep**, lost coin or lost son. Matt18:11-14
- By **commending Peter’s correct answer** about Jesus’ identity. Matthew 16:13-20.
- By **showing Himself as the Good Samaritan** helping the outcasts rejected by society. Luke 10:29-37.
- By **noticing and visiting needy people** (Zacchaeus the chief tax collector). Luke 19:1-10.
- By **commending the poor widow’s sacrificial giving of 2 mites**. Mark 12:41-44.
- By **washing the disciple’s feet** setting us an example of **service to others**. John 13:1-20.
- By **promising us mansions** and **rewards in heaven** and His coming again to take us to heaven.
“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.” (John 14:2,3).
- By **teaching that we can be sure of having eternal life**. Matthew 11:28-30.
- By **showing Jews how to escape Jerusalem’s destruction**.
“When ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto.” Luke 21:20,21
- By **giving dying believers assurance of paradise**.
“he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:42,43.
- By **showing His servants where to catch fish**. John 21:6-11
- By **restoring embarrassed Peter** who denied knowing Jesus. John 21:15-19.

II. How can you encourage those you meet?

- By **speaking kind, encouraging words** to them. 2 Chronicles 10:7.
- By **helping them solve their problems**.
- By **spending time with them**.
- By **inviting them to church**. Hebrews 10:24,25.
- By **taking them places**.
- By **giving them a Bible** or an Answers book.
- By **giving them a job to do in church**.
- By **taking them out to share the gospel**.
- By **inviting them for a meal**.
- By **speaking with lonely people at church**.

Conclusion: Will you promise God that you will notice needy people and help them?

17. People Christ Commended

Aim: Will Christ commend you? Jesus Christ commended people for doing certain things. These were:

- The **unjust steward** for planning and providing for the future. Luke 16:8.
- The **poor widow** for generously giving to God’s house. Luke 21:3.
- The **persistent widow** for her continual pleading. Luke 18:3-7.
- The **Samaritan leper** for his thankfulness for healing and salvation. Luke 17:18.
- The **Good Samaritan**, for his unselfish kindness. Luke 10:36.
- Mary of Bethany**, for sitting at Jesus’ feet, making learning God’s Word a priority. Luke 10:42.
- Peter** for his confession of faith as to who Jesus is. Who do you say that Jesus Christ is? Matt. 16:17.
- The **Syrophenician woman**, for her great faith. Matthew 15:28.

18. What is Important to Jesus that Must be Important to us? “My”

Bible Reading: Luke 14:16-35; Luke 19:11-48.

Aim: To value what Jesus values. “All seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ’s.” Phil 2:21

Memory Verse: “Ye are **my friends**, if ye do whatsoever I command you. John 15:14

Introduction: Often we say “That is mine”. We hold strongly to what is mine. We value it. We have invested much time and effort into getting what is mine. We identify ourselves with what is mine.

In the same way we see much about Jesus from what He declares is **His property**. **Jesus declares these things to be of great value to Him**. If Jesus values them highly, then **so should we**. **Do you value these?**

1. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for **my sake** shall find it. Matt 10:39
2. Take **my yoke** upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For **my yoke** is easy, and **my burden** is light. Matthew 11:29,30.
3. Thou art Peter, upon this rock I will build **my church**; the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 16:18
4. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but **my words** shall not pass away. Mark 13:31
For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of **my words**, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels. Luke 9:26
Whosoever comes to me, hears **my sayings**, & does them, I will shew you to whom he is like: Luke 6:47
5. As they did eat, Jesus took bread, blessed, brake it, gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is **my body**. (22). He said unto them, This is **my blood** of the new testament, which is shed for many. Mark 14:24
6. How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about **my Father’s business**? Luke 2:49
7. He said to them, **My mother** and **my brethren** are these which hear the word of God, & do it. Luke 8:21
8. I say unto you **my friends**. Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. Luke 12:4 Ye are **my friends**, if ye do whatsoever I command you. John 15:14
9. The lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that **my house** may be filled. Luke 14:23
It is written, **My house** is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves. Luke 19:46
10. If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be **my disciple**. (26) And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be **my disciple**. Luke 14:27.
11. Wherefore then gavest not thou **my money** into the bank, that at **my coming** I might have required **mine own** with usury? Luke 19:23
12. Ye are they which have continued with me in **my temptations**. Luke 22:28
13. That ye may eat & drink at my table in **my kingdom**, & sit on thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel. Luk 22:30 **My kingdom** is not of this world: if **my kingdom** were of this world, then would **my servants** fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is **my kingdom** not from hence. John 18:36
14. Behold **my hands** and **my feet**, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. Luke 24:39
15. Jesus saith unto them, **My meat** is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. John 4:34
16. Jesus answered them, and said, **My doctrine** is not mine, but his that sent me. John 7:16
17. Yet if I judge, **my judgment** is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. John 8:16
18. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in **my word**, then are ye **my disciples** indeed; John 8:31
By this shall all men know that ye are **my disciples**, if ye have **love one to another**. John 13:35
Herein is my Father glorified, that ye **bear much fruit**; so shall ye be **my disciples**. John 15:8
19. I am the good shepherd, and know **my sheep**, and am known of mine. John 10:14
20. Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear **my voice**; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. John 10:16.

My sheep hear **my voice**, and I know them, and they follow me: (27) And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of **my hand**. John 10:28.

21. I and **my Father** are one. John 10:30

22. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also **my servant** be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. John 12:26

23. If ye shall ask any thing in **my name**, I will do it. John 14:14. “None other name...” Acts 4:12.
But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear **my name** before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: Acts 9:15

24. If ye love me, keep **my commandments**. (15). He that hath **my commandments**, and keepeth them, **he it is that loveth me**; and he that loveth me shall be **loved of my Father**, and **I will love him**, and will **manifest myself to him**. John 14:21

25. Peace I leave with you, **my peace** I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27

26. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in **my love**. John 15:9
If ye keep **my commandments**, ye shall abide in **my love**; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love. John 15:10

This is **my commandment**, That ye **love** one another, as I have loved you. John 15:12

27. These things have I spoken unto you, that **my joy** might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. John 15:11 Now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have **my joy** fulfilled in themselves. John 17:13

28. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold **my glory**, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. John 17:24

29. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth **my voice**. John 18:37

30. When they had dined, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He said to him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs**. John 21:15

31. When he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, & said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, which shall fulfil all **my will**. Acts 13:22

19. What are Christians? “We Are..”

1. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are **unprofitable servants**: we have done that which was our duty to do. Luke 17:10
2. Therefore, brethren, we are **debtors**, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. Romans 8:12
3. The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the **children of God**: Romans 8:16
4. Nay, in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through him that loved us. Romans 8:37
5. For we are **labourers together with God**: ye are God’s **husbandry**, ye are God’s **building**. 1 Cor. 3:9
6. As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that **we are your rejoicing**, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus. 2 Corinthians 1:14
7. We are unto God a **sweet savour of Christ**, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 2 Cor 2:15
8. Now then we are **ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20
9. For we are **his workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10
10. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are **members one of another**. Ephesians 4:25
11. They shall be mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my **jewels**.” Malachi 3:17
12. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good **soldier** of Jesus Christ.” 2 Timothy 2:3.
13. Whatsoever a man **soweth**, that shall he also reap. Galatians 6:7,8.
14. Follow me, and I will make you **fishers of men**. Matthew 4:19

20. What are the Works “Of Christ”?

Bible Reading: Matthew 11:1-19.

Memory Verse: ‘Unto you therefore which believe he is precious’ I Peter 2:7.

Aim: To value the works of Jesus Christ and be committed to doing them.

Introduction: What is Jesus Christ interested in doing? What are His valuable possessions? Do you have any really valuable possessions that you never want to lose? How can we work with Jesus in being, doing and valuing what He wants of us? The phrase “of Christ” describes these things. The first mention of this phrase is in Matthew 11:2 when John in prison heard of the works of Christ.

Are you interested in Jesus Christ’s works that He is interested in? What are the works of Christ?

1. The Resurrection of Christ. “He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.” Acts 2:31. Do you look forward to your resurrection?
2. The Gospel of Christ. “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” Romans 1:16. Are you a SW
3. The Love of Christ. “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?” Romans 8:35; “the love of Christ constraineth us;” 2 Cor 5:14; “to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge,” Ephesians 3:19.
4. The Judgment Seat of Christ. “we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.” Romans 14:10. “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” 2 Cor 5:10.
5. The Churches of Christ. “The churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16. Do you love Church?
6. The Testimony of Christ. “Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:” I Cor 1:16.
7. The Cross of Christ. “For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.” I Cor 1:17.
8. The Mind of Christ. “But we have the mind of Christ.” I Cor 2:16. Do you think like Christ?
9. The Ministers of Christ. “Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.” I Cor. 4:1; “Are they ministers of Christ?” 2 Cor 11:23.
10. The Members of Christ. “Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.” I Cor 6:15.
11. The Blood and Body of Christ. “The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?” I Cor 10:16
12. The Body of Christ (Christians). “Ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.” I Cor 12:27
13. The Sufferings of Christ. “as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.” 2 Cor 1:5. “a witness of the sufferings of Christ” I Peter 5:1.
14. The Sweet Savour of Christ. “For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ,” 2 Cor 2:15.
15. The Letter of Christ. “ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us” 2Cor 3:3
16. The Glory of Christ. “they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.” 2 Cor 8:23.
17. The Meekness and Gentleness of Christ. “I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ,” 2 Cor 10:1. Are you meek and gentle with people as Christ is?
18. The Power of Christ. “My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly...will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” 2 Cor 12:9
19. The Grace of Christ. “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel.” Galatians 1:6.
20. The Faith of Christ. “man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ 2:16
21. The Law of Christ. “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2.
22. The Unsearchable Riches of Christ. “Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,” Ephesians 3:8.
23. The Kingdom of Christ. “no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.” Eph 5:5.
24. The Day of Christ (Rapture). “that ye may be sincere & without offence till the day of Christ” Phil 1:10
25. The Work of Christ. “Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.” Phil 2:30. Are you doing the work of Christ daily?
26. The Knowledge of Christ. “I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:” Phil 3:8. Are you growing in your knowledge of Christ?

27. The Faithful Minister of Christ. “Epaphras... who is for you a faithful minister of Christ.” Col 1:17.
28. The Word of Christ. “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom:” Col 3:16.
29. The Mystery of Christ. “to speak the mystery of Christ” Col 4:3 (Ans 382, pt 3, Jew and Gentile).
30. The Name of Christ. “Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” 2 Tim 2:19
31. The Doctrine of Christ. “leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on to perfection” Heb6:1
32. The Reproach of Christ. “Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.” Hebrews 11:26.
33. The Spirit of Christ. “the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.” I Peter 1:11.
34. The Priests of Christ. “they shall be priests of God and of Christ,” Revelation 20:6.
35. The Martyrs of Christ. “I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.” Revelation 17:6.

Conclusion: Do you appreciate and value these works of Christ? Are you investing your life in them?

21. The Route of the EXODUS, the Red Sea Crossing at Nuweiba to Mount Sinai



Archaeology Proof of Israel journey from Egypt to Mt Sinai, Youtube: Mount Sinai- Proof of supernatural Israel cross the Red Sea Gulf of Aqaba from Nuweiba to Baal Zephon. 3 days they lack water (Ex 15:22).

1. At Marah, they find bitter, salty water. Moses prays. God tells him to cast a tree in the water (15:23-26)
2. At Elim, they find **12 wells** and **70 palm trees** (15:27).. They leave Elim on **15th day 2nd month** (16:1)...
3. In Desert of Sin they complain of hunger (16:3). God promised meat & manna bread (16:8-36) sabbath
4. At Rephidim (Massah, Meribah), they lack water. God stands on a rock. Moses strikes it, water (17:1-7)
5. At Rephidim, Amalekites of Medina attack Israel. Moses prays, Israel wins (17:8-16). Egypt's swords.
6. At Rephidim in Midian, Moses meets Jethro (18:1-27). Jethro tells Moses: delegate to able men 21,22
7. Israel goes to east of Mount Sinai (Mt Horeb) after 2 months trip from Egypt, to worship God (19:1,2).
 - a) God promises if Israel obeys and keeps God's covenant, Israel will be a peculiar treasure (19:5). 19:8
 - b) God tells Moses to set bounds “that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it.” (19:12).
 - c) Moses built an altar at the foot of Horeb (20:24) with **12 stone pillars** (24:4). We see 10 pillars today.
 - d) We see **1 acre plateau** on Mt Horeb where JHVH met Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, 70 elders.24:9-18
 - e) Mt Horeb is black from fire (19:18). f) Israel built a Golden calf altar (32:1-35). The altar remains.22

22. Lessons from PALM SUNDAY: Take God's Gifts

23

Bible Reading: Daniel 9:24-27; Luke 19:28-48.

28 March 2021

Memory Verse: "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore & to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be 7 weeks + 62 weeks." Daniel 9:25.

Aim: To understand the events and time of Palm Sunday and Monday and their significance.

Introduction: Palm Sunday, Monday, Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday are very important days. Daniel 9:25 and Nehemiah 2:1,5,8 predict the exact year, month, day and hour of Jesus entering Jerusalem to offer God's kingdom to Israel as 173,880 days after 10pm 4 March 444BC = 3pm 29 March 33AD (PS) This mathematically proves the existence of God, Bible, Jesus as the Messiah. What are Palm S events?

1. Jesus fulfilled Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." See Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:12-19.

Jesus coming into Jerusalem on a donkey showed the value of humble government.

2. Jesus fulfilled Daniel 9:25 "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore & to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be 7 weeks + 62 weeks"

3. Jesus offered Israel the 1000 years Kingdom of peace. "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things *which belong* unto thy peace!" Luke 19:42.

Israel's right response should have been Mark 11:9,10 "Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord"

4. We must study and know the signs and times of Messiah's first coming and second coming.

"If thou had known ... this thy day." Luke 19:42 and "knew not the time of thy visitation" Luke 19:44.

5. If we reject God's gifts, we lose blessings and we experience trouble, problems, difficulties. L19:43,44 Israel lost their temple, city, freedom, 1 million killed, 100,000 taken captive, 2000 years of trouble.

6. Israel became blind, stubborn, ignorant, angry "Blindness in part is happened to Israel until" Rom11:25 Jesus cursed the fig tree picturing God cursing Israel (Matthew 21:18-21; Mark 11:12-21)

7. Jesus fulfilled Isaiah 11:10 "to it shall the Gentiles seek" by the gospel going to nations in church age.

8. Jesus makes some people happy and other people angry. (Matthew 21:15).

9. Jesus foretold the day of His betrayal to be crucified as being "AFTER 2 days" (Matt 26:2):

Q: Which day did Jesus die? "In the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered" (Matt 21:18) is Monday 30 March 33AD, the day after Palm Sunday 29 March 33AD.

This Monday is "the same day came to him the Sadducees" (Matthew 22:23).

On this Monday, Jesus said "after 2 days is the feast of Passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified." (Matt 26:2). **Question: When is "after 2 days" from Monday 30 March 33AD?**

Answer: Tuesday 31 March is day 1, Wed 1 April is day 2, Thursday 2 April is "after 2 days" Jesus was betrayed by Judas after the feast of passover, arrested, tried & crucified the next day at 9am Friday 3 April.

10. Jesus' authority was questioned. "By what authority do these things?" (Matthew 21:23-27).

11. Parable of the 2 sons. Matt 21:28-32. This is the first of 7 parables Jesus told on Monday 30 March.

12. Parable of the rented Vineyard (Matt 21:33-46).

13. Parable of the Marriage Feast (Matt 22:1-14).

14. Jesus answers Herodians and Sadducees (Matt 22:15-40) the same day (Monday 30 March) (22:23)

15. Jesus questions the Pharisees "What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? (Matthew 22:41-46).

Q: "If David call him Lord, how is he his son?" (45). **Answer:** Because Jesus is both God and man.

16. Jesus pronounces 8 woes on the Pharisees (Matthew 23:1-36).

17. Jesus laments over Jerusalem: "How often would I have gathered thy children" (Matthew 23:37-39).

18. Jesus' Olivet Discourse: i) Jesus foretells the Temple's destruction (Matthew 24:1,2).

ii) Jesus answers disciples 3 questions: a) When shall these things be? Luke 21:20-24. b) What shall be the sign of thy coming? c) What shall be the sign of the end of the world system (end of age)?(Mat24:3)

iii) Jesus answers question 2: "What shall be the sign of thy coming?" Deception, wars (Matt 24:4-8-14)

iv) The Great tribulation (Mat 24:15-26). v) The return of Christ in glory after the tribulation (24:27-31)

•Parable of the Fig tree (24:32-33-44). •Parable of the Faithful and wise servant (Matt 24:45-51).

vi) Parable of the wise and foolish virgins: The church raptured to the marriage in heaven (Mat 25:1-13)

vii) Parable of the 5,2,1 talents: rewards for Christians at the Judgment Seat of Christ in heaven (25:14-30)

viii) Jesus judges the sheep & goat nations on how they treated believers in the tribulation (Mat 25:31-46)

23. 8 Parables Jesus Told on Tuesday and Wednesday before His Death

Bible Reading: Matthew 21:33-46; Matthew 25:1-30

7 April 2019

Memory Verse: "Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:11.

Aim: To apply the lessons Jesus taught in these parables.

Introduction: Jesus taught important truths about His Church Age Kingdom and His 1000 year Kingdom by parables. Israel's religious leaders had just rejected Jesus' offer of Himself as Messiah on Palm Sunday 29 March 33AD. Jesus was about to reveal great truths about future events through 8 parables. These were Jesus' response to Israel rejecting His offer of the 1000 year kingdom. **What does Jesus teach in these?**

1. The 2 Sons (Matthew 21:28-32). Obedience is evidence of salvation. A man asked his 2 sons to "Go work today in my vineyard". The first son refused, but later on obeyed (picturing tax collectors and prostitutes). The second son agreed to work, but never showed up (picturing the Pharisees). Which son did the Father's will? The first. Despised people were entering the kingdom ahead of unbelieving Pharisees.

2. The Wicked Vine Growers (Matthew 21:33-46; Mark 12:1-12; Luke 20:9-18). The servants (OT prophets) who were beaten, stoned and killed by Israel when they were sent to collect the harvest (spiritual fruit). The landowner then sent His Son (Jesus) to collect the harvest, but the tenants (Israel) killed Him. This tells of Israel rejecting Christ's Kingdom, crucifying Christ and Jerusalem's destruction.

3. The Wedding Feast (Matthew 22:1-14). The guests (Israel) were offered the Kingdom but rejected it being busy with their personal pursuits. This angered the King who sent forth His armies (Rome in 70AD), destroyed those murderers and burned up their city (7). He sent other servants into the highways to invite "as many as ye shall find to the marriage" (9). This is gospel preaching in the Church age (10).

4. The Budding Fig Tree (Matthew 24:32,33; Mark 13:28,29; Luke 21:29-31) picturing Israel's return to their land and nationhood in 1948 warns us of the nearness of Christ's return and 1000 year Kingdom.

5. A Faithful, Wise Servant (Matthew 24:34-51; Mark 13:30-37; Luke 21:32-36) teaches Christians to be faithful and wise in our Bible teaching ministry in view of Christ's return and His rewards of rule in the Kingdom. A faithful and wise servant will fulfil his Bible teaching work, but a foolish and evil servant will neglect his Bible teaching work and will live for himself and his fleshly lusts. Jesus will severely rebuke him at His return & deprive him of the joys of His Kingdom. Watch & be ready for Christ's return.

6. The 10 Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13). After Christ returns to earth (24:30), angels gather Israelites from all over the earth (31) back to Israel. Israelites living at the time of Christ's return will be judged to see who are prepared to enter the Kingdom by possessing the Holy Spirit (oil) and who are not prepared to enter the Kingdom by being unsaved. The virgins are the guests at the wedding. The Bride is the Church (Rev 19:7,8; 21:9) who appears on earth with the Bridegroom, Christ. 5 wise virgins enter, 5 foolish exit.

7. The 5,2,1 Talents (Matthew 25:14-30). Judgment to reward Believers' Faithfulness. A master travelling to a far country delivered his goods to his servants, and in his absence required them to trade these goods for a profitable return. When the master returned, these servants were called to give account of their success in trading. Those found faithful were allowed to enter the joy of their Lord and were made ruler over many things (v.21,23). On the other hand, the one servant who through fear, hid his master's talent in the earth, returned the talent with a nil profit. Because he was unfaithful he was excluded from the Kingdom, lost the talent, and was denied rule in the millennium. Those who are faithful and prepared will enter the Kingdom and will be made ruler over many things, with great authority. Christ predicted this judgment to occur just before the millennium in Matthew 24:40,41 when he said:

"Then shall two be in the field: the one shall be taken (away in judgment), and the other left (to enter Christ's millennial Kingdom). Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken (away in judgment), and the other left (to enter Christ's Kingdom)".

8. The Grain of Wheat (John 12:23,24). The picture of a grain of wheat "dying" in the ground and producing many seeds and much fruit teaches that Jesus' willingness to die for our sins (Isaiah 53:10,12) brought a great harvest of salvation to many people. If we die to self (Gal 2:20) and are so committed to Christ that we have no self-centredness, then we will bear much fruit of people saved.

Conclusion: Are you ready for Jesus' second coming? Will He reward you for being a faithful and wise servant? Will you die to self and live for Jesus so that you bear much fruit? Don't reject God's plans for your life. Lose your life for Jesus and you will find fulfilment, joy, happiness and blessings.

24. Did Jesus Christ Die on Good Friday, the day before the Sabbath? Yes

Mark 15:42 “When the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath”
 Luke 23:54,56 “that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on (54) and rested the sabbath day (56)
 John 19:31 “The Jews, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken..”

Consider the timeline of events:

1. **Palm SUNDAY** when Jesus entered Jerusalem to offer Himself as King. Matthew 21:1-17.

2. **MONDAY:** “in the morning as he returned into the city he hungered.” Matthew 21:18.

“the same day came to him the Sadducees..” Matthew 22:23. Matthew 26:2 says:

“Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, & the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.”

Monday→**Tuesday (day 1), Wednesday (2)**→**Thursday betrayed by Judas**

3. **THURSDAY:** “the first day of the feast of unleavened bread..eat Passover?” Matthew 26:17.

“when even was come, he sat down with the twelve.” Matthew 26:20.

“all ye shall be offended because of me this night.” Matthew 26:31.

4. **FRIDAY:** “When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death.” Matthew 27:1. “they crucified him” Matthew 27:35.

“When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph..” Matthew 27:57.

5. **SATURDAY:** “The next day that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and

Pharisees came together unto Pilate saying, Sir, we remember...” Matthew 27:62.

“Command that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day...” Matthew 27:64.

6. **SUNDAY:** “In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.” Matthew 28:1.

“When Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene” Mark 16:9

“today is the third day since these things were done” Luk24:21. “him God raised up the third day” A10:40

Question: If Jesus died Friday, how can He have been dead 3 days & 3 nights if He rose Sunday? Mt12:40

Answer: Part of a day is a day. Part of a night is a night. eg: If I fly into USA at 9pm Friday night, then Friday night was my first night in US, even though I was only there for 9 out of 12 hours.

Night 1 (Jesus died near the end of the 3 hours darkness Friday at 2.52pm)

Day 1 (3pm daylight Friday--6pm sunset Friday).

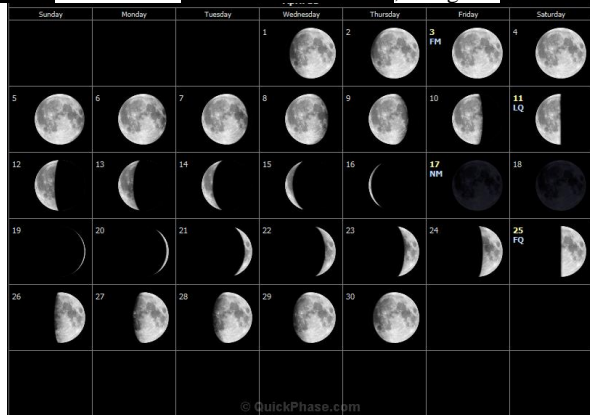
Night 2 (6pm Friday sunset – 6am Saturday sunrise)

Day 2 (6am Saturday sunrise – 6pm sunset Saturday)

Night 3 (6pm sunset Saturday—6am sunrise Sunday)

Day 3 (6am sunrise Sunday—6pm sunset Sunday). “Jesus was risen early the first day of week” Mk16:9

► Notice the full moon occurred on **Friday 3 April 33AD**, being the exact day that Jesus died. I Cor5:7



Year **New Moon** First Quarter **Full Moon** Last Quarter
0033 Mar 19 10:39 T Mar 26 10:34 **Apr 3 14:52 p** Apr 11 03:46

25. The Benefits of Jesus Christ's Resurrection to the World

Bible Reading: Matthew 28; Luke 24:1-45.

Aim: To appreciate the benefits of Jesus Christ's resurrection to the world.

Introduction: In what ways has Jesus Christ's resurrection changed the thinking of the world?

How has His resurrection made the world a better place? What hopes and joys has it brought to grieving and suffering mankind that paganism and false religions have never been able to offer?

How better off are we because of Jesus Christ's resurrection?

1. It introduced a **new idea** that because Jesus Christ raised others and Himself, He will raise all people from the dead, some to eternal life and others to judgment. “strange gods...some mocked.” Acts 17:18,32.

2. Jesus' resurrection is **fatal to idolatry** and **pagan religions**. It is a proven historical event that idols and pagans cannot improve on. Idols have nothing to offer mankind. It destroyed idolatry in Europe.

3. Good works that Christians do will be **rewarded** at the resurrection of the just. “Thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just” Luke 14:14

4. It is a **problem** to **atheists, unbelievers, criminals** and **dictators** because they will be raised and judged.

5. It proves that Jesus Christ is the **Son of God** as He claimed. “Declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:” Romans 1:4.

6. It introduced the **Old Testament to the world** as **prophecies fulfilled by Jesus**. “Beginning at Moses & all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.” Luke 24:27.

7. It gave the world **confidence** and **victory over death**. It removes the sting of death. “And deliver them who through **fear of death** were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” Hebrews 2:15.

8. It introduced the **New Testament** to the world. NT theme is **salvation** by Jesus' death and resurrection.

9. It introduced Jesus Christ's **high moral standards** to the world. It gave the world a new social conscience of **loving your neighbour as yourself**. This greatly raised Christian nations' living standards.

10. It added a **new institution, the church**, to the world. Bible believing churches are the greatest force for good in the world. “I will build my church” Mat.16:18. “The pillar and ground of the truth” I Tim 3:15

11. It **motivated universal education** so that children can learn about **Jesus Christ, morals & eternal life**. “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15.

12. It led to millions of **great books** being written.

“There are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the **books** that should be written. Amen.” John 21:25.

13. It **destroyed slavery** wherever the Bible was accepted. “he that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death.” Exodus 21:16.

14. It brought **love, joy and peace** between individuals and nations. “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,” Galatians 5:22.

15. It led to **personal forgiveness** for offences and to **love for your enemies**. “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” Luke 23:34. “Love your enemies” Matthew 5:44. (I Thess. 4:13

16. It gives **comfort** to us when we lose our loved ones. “sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.”

17. It guarantees that **we will rise from the dead** and **get a resurrection body like Jesus Christ**. “Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto **his glorious body**,” Philippians 3:21.

18. It gives us **new joys** of salvation, eternal life, baptism, etc. “He went on his way **rejoicing**” Acts 8:39.

19. It gives us **power to live life to the fullest** and to **serve God** and **others** in Christ's resurrection power. “That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection,” Philippians 3:10.

20. It proves that **Jesus Christ is always with us**.

“I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” Matthew 28:20.

Conclusion: Let us thank Jesus Christ for conquering death and giving us eternal life with a resurrection body. Let us be more confident to tell people about Jesus Christ being available to be their Saviour. **26**

SECOND COMING: 26. The Joys of Heaven Awaiting Us

Bible Reading: Acts 7:54-60; Hebrews 12:22-24; Revelation 4:1-5.

Memory verse: "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth". Colossians 3:2.

Aim: a) To see what great things await us in heaven. **b)** To comfort us about those who have gone there.

c) To tell people how to get to heaven. **Youtube:** Glimpse of Eternity movie- the reality of heaven & hell

Introduction: As we consider the wickedness of people and governments in SSM, abortion, bio-weapons, false religions, atheism, terrorism, drugs, alcohol, violence, CCP corrupting nations, we get a strong desire for Christ's righteous rule on earth and to be with God in heaven. Loving heaven makes us happy on earth. "To be absent from the body, & to be present with the Lord" 2 Cor 5:8. "much people in heaven" Rev19:1

I. What will Heaven be Like? So an entrance shall be ministered to you abundantly into ev kingdom 2Pe1:11

1. We will see Jesus Christ and the **Father on His Throne**. "Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off." Isaiah 33:17. There shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him." Revelation 22:3.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit reside there. "They shall see his face." Revelation 22:4.

2. We will be in a sinless, holy, happy place. "He will hear him from his holy heaven" Rev 21:27; Ps 20:6

3. Place of Joy and happiness. "Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" Mat 25:21; Everlasting joy. Isa35:10

4. Rewards for service on earth. "Rejoice & be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven" Mt5:12 Judgment Seat of Christ that every one may receive the things done in his body whether it be good or bad.

5. Angels who helped us. "The voice of many angels about the throne in heaven." Rev 5:11. Matt 18:10.

6. Believers reside there. "the heavenly Jerusalem...to the sprits of just men made perfect." Heb 12:22,23.

7. We return to the days of youth in resurrected, young, immortal bodies. "His flesh shall be fresher than a child's: he shall return to the days of his youth." Job 33:25."This mortal must put on immortality" 1Cor15:53

8. We get a glorified body like Christ. "We shall be like him" 1John3:2. No ageing, sorrow, pain. Rev21:4

9. Saved people from every kindred, tongue, people and nation will be there (Rev 5:9). We will be reunited with saved friends, relatives, children who died, Jesus Christ & with good angels. Rev19:1 Much p

10. Memory. Will we know one another in heaven? Yes, David will meet his son. 2 Samuel 12:22,23.

We shall sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 8:11. Philemon 15.

11. Satisfaction of all our needs. "They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more.." Rev 7:16,17.

12. Many mansions, dwelling places. "In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare" John14:2

13. Separation from wicked people and evil govt. Rev 22:14,15. No Basij, no Ayatollah, no lying religion

14. Beautiful and clean. "The street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Rev 21:21.

15. River of Life and **Tree of Life** with 12 manner of fruits. Rev 22:1,2. No more curse (3).

16. God's Word. "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" Ps 119:89. Scripture of truth. Dan10:21

17. Treasures for wise, SW, BT Christians. "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heave." Mat6:20; Dan12:3

The permanence of our heavenly possessions comforts us when we lose earthly possessions. Heb 10:34

18. Understanding things that were mysteries on earth. "mysteries of the kingdom of heaven" Mat 13:11

19. Giving account of our life. kingdom of heaven like a king, which would take account of his servants. Mat18:23

20. Confidence (or shame at not doing more for God) and not be ashamed before him at his coming. 1J 2:28

21. New Universe. "I saw a new heaven & a new earth" Rev21:1; Behold, I make all things new. Rev21:5

22. New Jerusalem. "that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." Rev 21:10.

23. Love, Charity never fails. 1Cor13:13. Love his appearing. 2Tim 4:8. Let brotherly love continue. Heb13:1

II. What Will We Do in Heaven?

1. Close fellowship with God forever. "They shall see his face" Rev22:4; Where I am there ye may be. Jon14:3

2. Rest from hard work. "They may rest from their labours." Rev. 14:13. No more curse of sweat and toil.

3. Exciting service. "His servants shall serve him" Rev22:3. He that is faithful in least, is f in much L16:10

4. Ruling. "We shall reign on the earth" Rev5:10; they shall reign for ever & ever. Rev22:5. 10 cities. L19:17

5. Singing. "They sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy" Rev 5:9.

6. Eating. "To him that overcomes will I give to eat of the hidden manna" Rev2:17; Marriage supper. R19:9

7. Worship. "The 24 elders . . . worship him that liveth forever and ever." Revelation 4:9,10,11.

We will be so amazed with the greatness of God, heaven and eternity that we will respond in worship.

III. What will NOT be in heaven? No more hunger, thirst (Rev 7:16), tears, death, sorrow, crying, pain, sin, fear (21:4), sickness (22:2), deceiving (20:3), curse (22:3), night (22:5) insecurity (gates not shut 21:25)

27. HEAVEN is Wonderful Because....

Bible Reading: Revelation 21,22.

Aim: To be encouraged by considering the great things to look forward to in heaven.

Introduction: One of the greatest remedies to stress, worry, trouble, fear and depression in earthly life is to consider how wonderful heaven will be for each one who is saved. What happens when believers die?

1. We will meet our "guardian angels" who watched over us and ministered to us in our earthly life. They will be waiting to carry us into heaven. "their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 18:10. "the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom" Luke 16:22. "Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" Hebrews 1:14.

2. An awareness that we have left behind our weak, limited, suffering body and having a spiritual form that is healthy and well fitted to dwell in heaven. "to the spirits of just men made perfect," Hebrews 12:23.

3. Next, we experience travelling swiftly through space into a beautiful land that is brighter than the sun. "Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off." Isaiah 33:17.

4. We then enter a new world that is full of love, joy, peace and holiness, with no sin, fear or conflict.

5. We will see Jesus Christ face to face. "Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty:" Isaiah 33:17. "having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:" Phil 1:23. Which would you prefer?

6. Meeting our saved loved ones and Bible characters. "shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 8:11. Can they see us on earth?

"seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses" Hebrews 12:1. David said of his dead 7 day old baby son, "I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." 2 Samuel 12:23.

7. It will be a state of rest from pain, weariness, worry, sorrow, trouble and spiritual warfare. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord... that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13.

8. It will be a state of joy and blessedness. "Lazarus is comforted." Luke 16:25. "To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43. Paradise is a garden or enclosed place of beauty. Paradise is a waiting place until we get the redemption of our body at the rapture. "we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." Romans 8:23.

9. Our works will follow us. Heaven will be better and more enjoyable for soul winners and disciple makers who taught many God's word. Rev. 14:13. Our works will be one kind of reward in heaven, meeting those you have led to Christ, worked with on earth and knew in church.

10. Heaven is a prepared place for us (John 14:1-3). Jesus Christ is preparing a place for us in heaven based on the works and materials we send on. It is prepared to make us satisfied, happy and fulfilled.

11. Heaven is a beautiful place "Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty:" Isaiah 33:17.

12. No wicked people there. "For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." Revelation 22:15.

13. Singing. "they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;" Revelation 5:9.

14. Greater Love than we have ever experienced on earth, for God and each other. "Love never fails." 1 Cor 13:8. This means that love is the only quality of 6 in 1 Cor 13:8-13 that continue into heaven.

15. Exciting service with no boredom. "his servants shall serve him:" Revelation 22:3.

16. Laughter. "Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh." Luke 6:21.

17. Learning. "ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints," Ephesians 1:18.

18. Eating. "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna." Revelation 2:17.

19. Fellowship with God. "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people," Revelation 21:3.

20. Nothing bad. "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." Rev 21:4

21. Wonderful beyond our imagination. "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." 1 Corinthians 2:9. **28**

28. What Will People be Like in the Last Days?

25 Oct 2020

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 3:1-17; 2 Thess 2:1-12.

Memory Verse: “This know also, that in the **last days perilous times** shall come.” 2 Timothy 3:1.

Aim: To understand how today’s social conditions have been prophesied in the Bible.

Introduction: Lately, we have seen many crazy, evil ideas come on the world, eg: abortion, euthanasia, transgender, same sex marriage, LGB, evolution, climate change, COVID fear, big govt in Victoria, ISIS, atheism, false religions. We wonder if these conditions were prophesied in the Bible to happen just before Jesus’ second coming. Did God warn us of today’s social problems? What are they?

I. 2 Peter 3:1-17.

1. **Scoffers.** 2 Peter 3:3,4 believe evolutionary uniformitarianism “all things continue as they were”
2. **Willingly ignorant** of creation and Noah’s flood destroying the world that then was. 2 Peter 3:5-6.
3. **Ignorant of God judging ungodly men** and “**1 day is with the Lord as 1000 years**”. 2 Peter 3:7,8.
4. **Unlearned, unstable twist scripture to their destruction** include JW, RC, Mormon, Islam. 2Peter 3:16
5. **Fall from steadfastness.** 2 Peter 3:17. Many people drop out of church and quit serving God.

II. 2 Timothy 3:1-13

1. **Lovers of their own selves** (self-centred, selfish) **v.2.** Communists, scammers, pedophiles, criminals.
2. **Covetous (lovers of money). Greek: lovers of silver.**
3. **Boasters,** proclaiming his merits to others.
4. **Proud** of one’s superior talents, wealth, achievements, not humble (arrogant).
5. **Blasphemers.** Atheists insult God, eg: Charlie Hebdo newspaper blasphemies.
6. Disobedient to parents. No honour, respect or recompense favours to parents. Euthenasia.
7. **Unthankful** (not acknowledging God as the giver of all good things).
8. **Unholy. Caring nothing about their duty to God or man.**
9. **Without natural affection** (abortion) **v.3.** Romans 1:31; Psalm 106:37,38. Pagans kill babies.
10. **Trucebreakers.** False to their contracts, unwilling to be reconciled. Many divorces. Islam oaths Q66:1,2
11. **False accusers.** Politicians look to slander, accuse and discredit their opponents. Collusion delusion.
12. **Incontinent.** Without strength to resist temptation, readily yield to sexual sins.
13. **Fierce** (terrorists), harsh, not gentle.
14. **Despisers of those that are good** (greenies and atheists hate Christians).
15. **Traitors v.4.** One who betrays friends or country. People you help, later attack you. Bribed politicians.
16. **Heady** (alcoholic, drug addicts). Ready to do anything without concern for the consequences, rash.
17. **Highminded** (climate change alarmists, gay pride). Inflated with pride.
18. **Lovers of pleasures** more than lovers of God. Live for pleasures, with no serious pursuits, Godless.
19. **Having a form of godliness,** but denying the power thereof (denying gospel) **v.5.** False religions.
20. **Leading vulnerable, immature, gullible people captive into errors** (JW, Mormon, Islam, RC) **v.6.**
21. **Ever learning** and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. **7**
22. **Corrupt minds,** wicked hearts. **8**
23. **Reprobate** (not knowing right from wrong, disapproved) concerning the faith, of no judgment. **8**
24. **Deceived seducers,** leading people into errors that have deluded themselves. **13**

III. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12.

1. **Anti-Christian governments** oppose God. **3,4** “man of sin opposes God”..
2. **Receive not the truth** to be saved. **10.** Many reject the Bible and get deceived to believe lies.
3. **Strongly deluded** believing lies. **11.**
4. **Pleasure in unrighteousness.** **12.** Sounds like Gay Mardi Gras.

IV. Luke 21:26. Fearful. “Men’s hearts failing them for **fear**; and for looking for those things coming..” People are afraid of Covid, Communist China’s aggression, terrorists, nuclear war, Iran’s aggression.

V. Rev 9:21 “Neither repented they of their **murders** (abortions), **sorceries** (drugs), **fornication, thefts**”

Conclusion: Let us be the kind of people who **please God** and **bring truth** to those deceived by Satan.

Heb 10:24,25 “Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves, but exhorting..as ye see the day approaching”
2Peter 3:9-18 all repent, holy conversation & godliness, look for new heavens & new earth, grow in grace

29. 5 Prophecies of Modern IRAN

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 49:34-39

Aim: To be encouraged by God’s love for Iranian people by what He prophesies of Iran’s future.

Memory Verse: “I will set my throne in Elam, and will destroy from thence the king and the princes, saith the LORD.” Jeremiah 49:38.

Introduction: In 1979, Ayatollah Khomeini took control of Iran from the Shah and implemented a terrorist government that has arrested, imprisoned, tortured, raped and killed millions of innocent Iranian people such as dissident protesters, Christians, Bahai, Zoroastrian and anyone who disagreed with their extreme Islamic ideas. As a result of this, millions of Iranian people have fled Iran as refugees to every country on earth, seeking peace, freedom, prosperity and truth about God. Many Iranians ask the question, “How long will this evil terrorist Islamic rulers remain in power in Iran? They threaten “Death to Israel, Death to America.” They are supported by Russia and allied with Russia. They support terrorist organizations all over the world, such as Hamas, Hezbollah. Boko Haram. Is there any nation on earth who has the military strength and the willpower to destroy this evil Islamic regime? USA has the ability to remove them, but not the will. Their brutal rule appears to continue without any end in sight. Many Iranians have been praying to God to remove this evil regime. Does the Bible answer this question? Yes!

Consider 5 Amazing Bible Prophecies in Jeremiah 49:34-39 written in 600 BC.

Jehovah God gave Jeremiah this prophecy “**against Elam**”. **Who is “Elam”?** In Genesis 10:22, Elam was the eldest son of Shem, and a grandson of Noah. “The children of Shem: **Elam**, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud and Aram.” (Asshur’s descendants were Assyria, and Arphaxad’s descendants were Abraham and Israel of today). Today, ILAM is a county in the province of ILAM in western Iran. It is most likely that after Noah’s flood, Elam colonized this area in western Iran so named after him.

Prophecy 1: Iranians will Flee Elam. This has happened since 1979 because so many Iranian refugees are fleeing Iran to escape the persecution of the evil Islamic regime. God says: “upon **Elam** will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and **will scatter them** toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come.” Jeremiah 49:36. God permits events that will result in many Iranian people fleeing Iran to every nation on earth. This has already been fulfilled since 1979. If you are an Iranian refugee, you are a fulfilment of this prophecy. God knows how you feel having to leave your family, work and assets in Iran. God loves and cares for you so much. **Jesus was a refugee from murderous king Herod as a baby, from Israel to Egypt.** Matthew 2:13-15.

Prophecy 2: Iran will be allied with Russia. “The land of Magog (Russia) Ezek 38:2, Persia (Ez38:5)”

Prophecy 3: Military Defeat of Elam (Iran). “I will cause **Elam** to be **dismayed before their enemies**, and before them that seek their life: and **I will bring evil upon them**, even my fierce anger, saith the LORD; and **I will send the sword after them**, till I have consumed them:” Jeremiah 49:37.

Ezekiel 36:24 and 37:11-14 prophesy how Israel will return to their land in the latter years (Ezekiel 38:8,16) and **will be invaded by a group of nations headed by Russia** (Ez 38:1-7 “a guard”), **Iran** (Persia), Libya (38:5), and **Turkey** (Togarmah of the north quarters. 38:6). These nations will be destroyed on the mountains of Israel (Ezekiel 38:8,21; 39:2,4,17). It is interesting to note that Russia and Iran’s armies are already building up military bases in south Syria in the Golan Heights which are part of the “mountains of Israel” in their effort to support Assad of Syria. Revelation 6:1-8 explain some results of their defeat.

Prophecy 4: Jesus Christ will destroy the king and the princes of Elam. “I will set my throne in **Elam**, and will **destroy** from thence the **king** and the **princes**, saith the LORD.” Jeremiah 49:38.

When Jesus Christ returns to earth, **He lands at the Mount of Olives** which is east of Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:1-5), **destroys the world’s armies** that are seeking to destroy Israel (Rev 19:11-21), then **sets up His Kingdom on earth with Jerusalem as His Capital** (Isaiah 2:1-5). Then **Jesus travels on His throne to Iran** with His angels and **destroys the King** (Ayatollah) of Iran and the **princes of Iran**. Princes includes the Mullahs, Basij, Sephar, Edalat and their entire Islamic regime. This will be the end of Shia Islam on earth. Does this make Iranian refugees happy? Many Iranians ask ‘When will this take place?’ (Hosea 5:15-6:2).

Prophecy 5: People of Elam will Return to Iran in Peace after this. “But it shall come to pass in the latter days, that **I will bring again the captivity (refugees) of Elam**, saith the LORD.” Jeremiah 49:39.

Jesus will establish peace, freedom and prosperity in Iran & all over the earth. Iranians will be very happy to return to their own homeland under Jesus Christ’s perfect rule. This means no Islamic persecution. **30**

30. God's Test if a Book is a Divine Revelation. Does it rightly predict the future?

Deut 18:21,22 "If thou say in thine heart, **How shall we know the word which JHVH has not spoken?** When a prophet speaks in the name of JHVH, if the thing **follow not, nor come to pass**, that is the thing which JHVH has not spoken, but the prophet has spoken it presumptuously: you shalt not be afraid of him"
Isaiah 41:22,23 "Shew us what shall happen. . . . **Shew the things that are to come hereafter**, that **we may know that ye are gods:**" **Isaiah 42:9** "Before they spring forth I tell you of them."
John 13:19 "I tell you before it come, that, **when it is come to pass**, ye may believe that **I am**." (Exodus 3:14 "Say to the children of Israel, **I AM** has sent me unto you." John 8:24 "If ye believe not that **I AM**").
Key: We prove the Bible is Divinely inspired from Prophecy, Maths, Science, Archaeology.

► 12 Technology Prophecies in the Bible being Fulfilled Now

- 1. Telephone Communication.** "Can you send **lightnings**, that they may **go & say** to thee, **here we are?**" (Job 38:35). When we dial a phone number, an electric current (lightnings or electricity as we know it) move through a wire to ring our friend's phone. He answers it. We have a long distance conversation.
 - 2. Military Drones** with **iron breastplates, wings, faces, stinging tails** torment men 5 months. Rev9:3-10
 - 3. Artificial Intelligence.** "He had power to give **life** to the **image of the beast** that it should **speak**." Rv13:15
 - 4. Big Tech Surveillance, Big Government Dictatorship:** "cause that as many as would not worship the **image of the beast** should be **killed**." Rev 13:15. How does antichrist know who won't worship his image? If everyone is connected to the internet by a microchip, then big government knows **where we go & when**.
 - 5. World government:** "he **causes ALL**, to receive a **mark in their right hand** or **in their foreheads**, that no man might **buy or sell** save he that had the **mark**, name or number of the beast. His number is 666" Rev13:16-18 World government can take over by scaring people into giving up our freedoms to save us from Covid.
 - 6. World Economy:** "that **NO MAN** might **BUY** or **SELL**." Rev 13:17. **He controls all money transfers.** Why would big governments want to control money transfers? To **raise more taxes**. To **see where we go**.
 - 7. World internet** to transfer **money** and **sender's ID** by electronic fund transfer.
 - 8. Biochip implanted in the right hand or forehead** by a syringe connects people to the internet. Rev 13:16 **Walletmor** is a microchip put in the right hand that allows people to pay for goods and services. **Neuralink** is an 8mm chip put in the skull for BMI (Brain-machine interface) and for internet connection. See Youtube: "**Walletmor- The Wallet of Tomorrow**" (2.17 min). "**How Neuralink Works**." (4.46min)
 - 9. Vaccine Adverse Reactions** come on those who **take** the **mark of the beast**. "there fell a **noisome** and grievous **sore** on the **men which had the mark of the beast**, and on them which **worshipped his image**." 16:2 Covid vaccine adverse reactions are: headache, dizzy, lethargy, vomit, pain in back, neck, chest, shoulder.
 - 10. Jerusalem lies on the intersection of 3 tectonic plates** (Eurasian, Arabian, African). "there was a great earthquake, & the great city (Jerusalem) was divided into **3 parts**, & the cities of the nations fell" Rev16:19
 - 11. PLEIADES Constellation is a Bound cluster that is not breaking up.** "Can you **bind** the **sweet influences** (cluster) of **Pleiades**?" (**Job 38:31**). About 1800 BC, God said that the Pleiades star cluster is **bound together in a highly stable group**. Using high powered telescopes, this is shown to be true. It is a bound cluster of about 500 stars, 50 light years across, **410** light years from earth. The stars cannot overcome the "chains" of gravity and allow them to break away from the cluster.
 - 12. ORION's Bands are loosed.** "Can you **loose** the bands of **Orion**?" (Job 38:31). The constellation of Orion is a star system that is steadily expanding outwards. www.coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu/cosmic_classroom
- **11 Prophecies fulfilled During and After TITUS Destroyed Jerusalem in 70AD. Jesus gave 6.**
- Jerusalem **seiged by armies:** "When see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, **destruction near**" **Luke 21:20**
 - The **only escape** was to **flee Jerusalem** when armies surround it. "then let them **depart out**" **Luke 21:21**
 - In siege hunger, **women ate their children:** "Thou shalt eat flesh of thy sons & daughters." Deut28:52-57
 - Jerusalem & temple destroyed** (70AD) after Messiah killed. "destroy city and sanctuary." Daniel 9:26
 - Many Jews would be killed:** "They shall **fall by the edge of sword**" **Lk21:24**. Nations believe. Rm15:12
 - Israel be **scattered** among nations (70AD) "shall be led **captive into all nations**" **Luk21:24**; Deut28:64
 - Jerusalem be under Gentile control** until Christ returns: "Jer be trodden down of Gentiles" **Luk21:24**
 - Rome destroyed Herod's temple:** "There shall **not be left here one stone upon another**" **Matt 24:1,2**
 - 1451BC:** Israel be **persecuted** among nations (70-2022AD). "Thou shall **fear** day and night" Deut28:66
 - "Zion shall be **plowed as a field**" Micah 3:12. Jews rebelled in **135AD**. Hadrian killed 580,000 plowed
 - 780BC:** Israel will **not acknowledge their offence** of killing Jesus **till He returns**. Hosea5:15; Zec12:10

31. Judgment of the Sheep and Goat Nations. "I was a stranger, and ye took me in."

- Bible Reading:** Matthew 25:31-46; Joel 3:1-21. **Memory verse:** "I was a stranger, and ye took me in" 35
Aim: When we help Christians and Jews, we help Jesus Christ.
Introduction: This judgment takes place immediately after the 7 year tribulation and just after Jesus Christ returns to take over earth and set up His kingdom. The basis of this judgment is the goats' failure to extend mercy to persecuted Jewish believers in the tribulation. Their lack of righteous works will prove their unconcern and lack of true saving faith in Christ. "I wil shew thee my faith by my works." (James 2:18). The **goats** will **sympathize with the antichrist and support his evil cause**. They will be removed from earth and cast into everlasting fire (41) to undergo everlasting punishment (46). These goats who either hate or don't care about Jews sound like radical Muslims and anti-Israel western nations of today.
- #### I. Who are the Main Characters in this Judgment?
- 1. Jesus Christ** Who is the **Son of man** (31), the **King of earth** (34) and the **Judge**.
 - 2. All the holy angels** (31) who are the **reapers**. See Matthew 13:36-43.
 - The **Sheep** of the nations are those who treat Jews and Christians well in the 7 year tribulation (32).
 - The **Goats** of the nations treat Jews and Christians badly or neglect to help them in the tribulation (32).
 - These my brethren** (Matthew 24:15-21) are **saved Jews** (Rev. 12:17) and **Christians** (Rev. 13:15) being persecuted in the tribulation (40). **6 categories of suffering people are:** hungry, thirsty, strangers fleeing persecution (eg: people fleeing Iran government today), naked, sick, those imprisoned unjustly.
 - The **persecutors**, such as antichrist, his supporters and Islamic anti-semites. (35,36).
- #### II. What Will Jesus Christ Do at this Judgment?
- Jesus Christ will **return** in great glory with all the holy angels to take over the earth. (25:31). See Matthew 24:27-31; Daniel 2:31-35; Zechariah 14:3,4,5b,9,16; Revelation 19:11-21.
 - Jesus Christ will **sit on the throne of His glory** (31). This will be a **throne of judgment**. Today it is a **throne of mercy** to all who receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the **throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16.
 - Jesus Christ will **gather** all nations for judgment to see who will enter His 1000 year kingdom. (32). Joel 3:1,2,12,14,17,19. "I will gather all nations' Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision:" (14)
 - Jesus Christ will **separate** all nations as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. (32). God believes in separation of godly from ungodly. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye **separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing;" 2 Corinthians 6:17.
 - Jesus Christ will **set** the sheep on His right (place of honour) & set the goats on His left (judgment) (33)
 - Jesus Christ will **say to** and **invite** the sheep on His right hand to enter the 1000 year kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world. (34).
 - Jesus Christ will **remind** these sheep that their actions in helping the **least of these my brethren** were **done to Jesus Christ Himself** (25:35-40). Our actions in helping Jews and Christians are done to Jesus, **Who so closely identifies Himself with His people**. When Saul persecuted early Christians, Jesus asked him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou **me**?" (Acts 9:4).
 - Jesus Christ will **rebuke** the goats on His left hand (place of judgment) for NOT helping these my brethren when they were being persecuted. (25:41-45).
 - Jesus Christ will **condemn** the goats to everlasting fire (41) and to everlasting punishment (46). The church age is the **acceptable year of the Lord**. The tribulation is the **day of vengeance of our God**. Is61:2
 - Jesus Christ will **destroy** the king and the princes of Elam (Iran) at this judgment. Jeremiah 49:34-39,38
 - Jesus Christ will **regather** the captivity of **Elam** (Persia) back to Iran (Jeremiah 49:39) and will **regather** the captivity of **Judah** to the land of Israel. (Joel 3:1; Isaiah 60:8,9).
- #### III. Lessons.
- We must show **mercy** to those suffering and in need.
 - When we treat Jews and Christians **well**, we are **treating Jesus Christ Himself well**.
 - When we treat Jews and Christians **badly**, we are **treating Jesus Christ Himself badly**.
 - Jesus Christ **watches all that we do**, approving or disapproving.
 - Everlasting fire** and punishment are real and literal. Rescue people from it.
 - God punishes wicked, uncaring people**. These people's sin was the sin of **neglect** to help those in need.
- Conclusion:** Let us help those in need with the gospel and with physical needs. "Thou shalt neither vex a **stranger**, nor oppress him: for **ye were strangers** in the land of Egypt." Exodus 22:21 (23:9). **32**

32. 5 CROWNS to Win

Bible Reading: I Corinthians 9:24-27; I Peter 5:1-14

Mem Verse: Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Rev3:11

Aim: To motivate us to serve God by the 5 crowns we can win.

Introduction: So many Christians do not take the things of God seriously. If they knew the value of the crowns and rewards awaiting them in heaven, they would live much more dedicated lives for God.

We cannot imagine what amazing, wonderful rewards God has for us in heaven. (I Cor 2:9; 2 Cor 4:18).

So many Christians will have regrets in heaven that they did not do more for God on earth (I John 2:28).

God informs us of **5 Crowns** that we may win in heaven for our service to Christ now on earth. These are:

1. INCORRUPTIBLE Crown, for those who **discipline** our **body**, as an athlete to do great things for God **I Corinthians 9:24-27.** We are running a **race** to obtain a prize (24). **This race involves:**

i) **striving** to overcome obstacles, opposition, difficulties, rejection, Satan's attacks, bad govt. (25).

ii) **mastery.** We must study to master soul-winning, right doctrine, Bible teaching, distractions, fears, lazy

iii) **temperate** in **all things**, self-controlled, not breaking good friendships, not deceived by the world.

iv) **learn from the example of athletes** who strive hard to obtain a corruptible crown of fading glory.

We should strive harder to obtain an incorruptible crown of everlasting glory. You can be a bigger hero.

v) **certainty** means we have a **clear goal of winning many to Christ and teaching many God's Word, thus gaining God's approval.** We set our eyes on the finishing **goal** and **prize.**

vi) We **fight** our **spiritual enemies** of evil spirits as a **boxer** not beating the air, but **hitting the enemies** (26)

vii) We **discipline our body** as a **soldier** in a **war**, bringing it into subjection (27).

viii) We must **not** be a **castaway**, **disqualified** or **disapproved** in service as athletes may miss the crown.

ix) **preaching the gospel** and **Bible truths** to others is the **work God calls us to do.**

2. Crown of REJOICING, for those who **win people to Christ.** I Thess 2:19,20. Philippians 4:1.

"For what is our hope, or joy, or **crown of rejoicing**? Are not even **ye** in the **presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming**? For **ye are our glory and joy.**" I Thess 2:19,20. "my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, **my joy** and **crown**, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved." Philippians 4:1.

Q: Why is this called a crown of rejoicing? Because we will meet many people in heaven that we have led to Christ on earth. They will greatly appreciate and love us for leading them to Christ. **Their love** for us and **God's approval** for our gospel preaching and Bible teaching will make us very **joyful** and **happy.** Being **reunited** with people we have not seen for a long time will give us **great joy.** We will value our SW.

3. Crown of LIFE, for those who **love Christ** enough to **endure temptations.** James 1:12; Rev 2:10.

Q: Why is this called a crown of life? If we endure temptations, trials, difficulties, problems and still keep coming to church and serving God, **we have a better quality of life,** knowing that "all things work together for good to them that love God" (Romans 8:28) and that **God brings good out of troubles.**

If we **quit serving God in trials,** this shows that **we don't love God much.** **Faithfulness** proves **we love God.**

4 causes of no fruit: offended by **troubles**, **persecution**, **cares of the world**, **deceitfulness of riches** Mt13:21,22 "Be thou **faithful unto death** and **I will give thee a crown of life.**" Rev 2:10. **Lesson:** Don't quit church.

4. Crown of RIGHTEOUSNESS, if we **love, study, teach and are ready for Christ's Second Coming.**

"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.**" 2 Timothy 4:8.

So many churches and Christians do not like to talk about Jesus' second coming or its signs. They don't think Israel's return to the land is significant. They allegorize it away. Jesus warned that many will be unaware of Jesus' return: "**Take heed to yourselves**, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and **cares of this life**, and so **that day come upon you unawares.**" Luke 21:34.

5. Crown of GLORY, for **Pastors** and **Bible teachers** who faithfully **feed the flock of God.** I Peter 5:1-4

"when the **chief Shepherd shall appear**, ye shall receive a **crown of glory** that **fades not away.**" I Peter 5:4

Pastoring a church is not easy, but involves much **study**, **care**, **sacrifice**, **doing the work of an evangelist**, **teaching the Bible**, **solving people's problems**, **refuting false doctrines**, **not being a dictator** but an **example.**

Many pastors quit pastoring due to problems. God encourages pastors to continue by offering a crown of glory at Christ's return, partaking of the glory. Jesus is the True, Good, Great, Chief Shepherd. **33**

33. Our Wonderful Future

Bible Reading: Romans 8:18-39; 2 Thess 1:1-12.

2 Feb 2020

Memory Verse: "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the **glory which shall be revealed in us.**" Romans 8:18

Aim: To be encouraged to serve God by God's promises of our glorious, happy, blessed future.

Introduction: Because of the difficulties and sins of this life, we may sometimes feel discouraged.

A solution to this is to **think about the many great things** that "**shall be**" **ours** in the future, both in this life and in the next life. One day, all the problems of this life will be gone & we will forever be with the Lord.

What Encouraging Promises does God Give us about our Wonderful Future in this life & the Next?

1. Job 33:25 His flesh shall be fresher than a child's: he shall return to the days of his youth:

2. Romans 8:18 I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the **glory which shall be revealed in us.**

3. Romans 8:21 Because the creature itself also **shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption** into the **glorious liberty of the children of God.**

4. Rom 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **shall be able to separate us** from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **5. I Cor 2:9 Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,** neither have entered into the **heart of man**, the **things** which **God has prepared for them that love him.**

6. 1Cor 3:13 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 of what sort it is.

7. 1Cor 6:2 Do ye not know that the **saints shall judge the world?** if **the world shall be judged by you**, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? **8. 1Cor 15:26** The last enemy that **shall be destroyed is death**

9. 1Cor 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the **dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**

10. 1Cor 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, **then shall be** brought to pass the saying that is written, **Death is swallowed up in victory.**

11. 1Thess 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.

12. 2Thess 1:7 To you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus **shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,**

13. James 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man **shall be blessed in his deed.**

14. 1 Peter 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, **when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.**

15. 1 Peter 5:1 The elders ..and also a **partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:**

16. 2 Peter 1:11 So **an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly** into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

17. 1John 3:2 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.

18. Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same **shall be clothed in white raiment;** and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but **I will confess his name before my Father,** and **before his angels.**

19. Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no power, but they **shall be priests of God and of Christ,** and **shall reign with him a thousand years.**

20. Rev 21:3 I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, & **they shall be his people,** & **God himself shall be with them,** & be their God.

21. Rev 21:4 God shall **wipe away all tears from their eyes;** and there **shall be no more death,** neither **sorrow,** nor **craving,** neither shall there be any more **pain:** for the former things are passed away.

22. Rev 21:25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there **shall be no night there.**

23. Rev 22:3 There **shall be no more curse:** but the **throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it;** and **his servants shall serve him:**

24. Rev 22:5 And there **shall be no night there;** and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and **they shall reign for ever and ever.**

Conclusion: Let us live for Christ, be encouraged, bring others to Christ & share our happy future. **34**

VALUABLE Things 34. What Valuable Things does a Good Church Produce?

Bible Reading: Matthew 16:13-19; Hebrews 10:24,25; Acts 2:37-47; Ephesians 4:7-16.

Aim: To appreciate, value and build up our local church. See **Established book p.5.**

Introduction: Many Christians and unsaved people do not understand the value of a good church. This may be because there are so few good churches and there are so many false churches with false doctrines.

Question: What valuable things does a Good Church Produce?

1. **People saved;** peace and joy of going to **heaven.** ("your names are written in heaven" Luke 10:20).
2. **Soul winners** produced. ("Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19).
3. **Preachers** trained and sent out to pastor and plant churches. (Acts 8:4-8).
4. **New churches** started in Australia and overseas.
5. **Thousands of lives rescued** from sin, confusion, loneliness, fear and false doctrines. (II Cor 5:17).
6. **Bible Truths** and **convictions** taught and established in many people's minds. (I Peter 2:9).
7. **Godly marriage partners** are trained and found in church. (Ephesians 5:21-25).
8. **Tools developed** to help win souls and train disciples, such as STOP tracts, Answers book, Established.
9. It helps us **avoid shipwrecking our faith** on the rocks of false doctrines. It rightly divides God's Word so we clearly know what God wants of us in all issues of life. ("Study..." II Timothy 2:15).
10. It **connects us with many Godly Christians** in Sydney, Australia and overseas to share ideas.
11. It is a **refuge** from the evils of the world.
12. It provides **Godly role models** for young people. "Be an example of believers in word..." I Tim 4:12.
13. It sets **high moral standards** of love, self-sacrifice and Bible truths that we seek to achieve.
14. It provides a **happy, peaceful, spiritual environment** where Godly Christians comfort, strengthen, encourage and train each other. (James 3:17,18).
15. It **encourages** other Christians to keep on serving God. It gives **answers** to life's problems.
16. **Many other institutions** in society depend on Bible truths taught by local churches, such as our legal system; democratic government (Romans 13:1-6); missionary activity; good literature; Bible Colleges; Christian school system; soul winning; Sunday schools, welfare, art, health, science, military, commerce.
17. Church keeps us **disciplined to do right.** People who leave church, cast off some of their boundaries and take more chances with sin. They are more likely to get into trouble and make bad decisions.
18. Church teaches us to tell the **difference between right and wrong, truth and error, good and evil.**
19. Church gives us **love, joy, peace** as we grow to understand more of God's thinking in His Word.
20. Church teaches us about **God's nature, thinking and what God expects of us.**
21. Church teaches us how to have a **good marriage with happy, stable children.**
22. Church promotes a **peaceful society** compared to the violence of Islamic Quran based societies.
23. Church teaches us to be **humble, patient, self sacrificing and considerate of others.** It teaches us to serve others. It makes our nation a better place to live.
24. Church is the best force to **stop Islam** as we train soul winners and Bible teachers to refute Islam.
25. **God** and **good angels** are present at a good church. "Where 2 or 3 are gathered..." Matthew 18:20.
26. Church gives us opportunities to **teach newer Christians in God's ways.** It develops our teaching, studying, thinking, communicating and writing skills.
27. Church gives us a job to do with eternal benefits of **winning, baptizing and teaching people.**
28. We meet many **good role models** at church.
29. We are challenged to be **better people** by hearing good Bible preaching. It forces us to **consider** our sins, failings and wrong behaviour.
30. We are **exposed to many new and useful ideas** that we would never consider on our own.
31. We are **forced to get on with other Christians.** We develop relationship skills.
32. We **hear God speak to us about many things** that He wants us to do.
33. Church **trains the next generation in God's ways.**
34. Church **holds back and limits evil,** errors and Satan's work in a nation.
35. Church is an **opportunity to meet** many kind, loving people who are willing to help you in many ways.
36. We **get wisdom** and **guidance** to help us prevent problems and make right decisions.

35. The Value of Helping Poor People: They Cannot Recompense Thee

Bible Reading: Luke 14:1-24. **Mem Verse:** "When thou make a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: **thou shalt be blessed;** for **they cannot recompense thee;** for **thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.**" Luke 14:13,14. **Aim:** To help poor people. Jesus rewards you when He comes.

Introduction: The work of soul winning, follow up and Bible teaching involves spending much time with people who have little or no money and who are unable to repay you. From a business point of view this seems a waste of time. But from an eternal point of view, you receive **many rewards** and **benefits**, such as:

1. **We gain a clear conscience** that we are obeying Jesus Christ's Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20
2. **People get saved from hell, learn Bible truths, trained to be SW, BT, CP.** God will increase fruits of R.
3. **We make friends now and for eternity.** "take upon us the fellowship of ministering to saints." 2 Cor. 8:4
4. **We get rewarded on earth.** We get all grace, so we always have all sufficiency in all things. 2 Cor.9:6-8
5. **We get rewarded in heaven.** 'His righteousness remains forever.' 2 Cor.9:9. Luke 14:13,14 When thou
6. **We get a greater welcome into heaven** at death. Luke 16:9 "Make to yourselves..they may receive you"
7. **We learn interesting things** about people, countries, cultures, their problems and how blessed we are.
8. **It proves our love for God & others.** "to prove the sincerity of your love" 2 Cor.8:8; 'proof of love' 8:24
9. **It increases our spiritual growth** as we give to God & others. 'Grace of God bestowed on churches' 8:5,1
10. **It provokes other Christians and churches to show more zeal** to send the gospel worldwide."Your zeal has provoked very many." 2 Cor.9:2. It recruits more people with more skills to do God's work.
11. **It makes God love us more** if we are cheerful givers. "God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Cor.9:7.
12. **It supplies many people's wants on the mission field,** causing many to thank God for us. 2 Cor 9:12.
13. **The receivers of our gifts pray for us.** "for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; and by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you." 2 Cor. 9:13,14
14. **It hinders and reduces the spread of false religions & Satan's works** as more people get saved & do SW
15. **It blesses countries,** lifting them out of sin, evil, poverty, ignorance, superstition. "R exalts..." Pr 14:34

If you think working with poor people is a waste of time, remember these 15 rewards of gospel preaching.

36. The Value of being a Good Husband or a Good Wife. I Peter 3:1-13

1. **Kindness in a marriage prevents fights, separation and divorce.**
 2. A happy marriage **empowers you to do more in life,** without being distracted by conflicts.
 3. A happy marriage **creates a happy atmosphere in the home.** 4. **It avoids depression**
 5. It creates **happier, more stable children** who are likely to have a happy marriage.
 6. It **passes God's blessings onto your grandchildren** as your children marry Godly Christians.
 7. **You avoid losing your hard earned savings and assets by divorce.**
 8. It gives you a **good testimony to others.** 9. It allows both of you to have **successful ministries.**
- Rules for a Happy Marriage:** Marriages fail if people live by their rules rather than by God's rules.
1. **Don't offend each other.** Don't take offence easily.
 2. Always **speak kind words** to each other. 2 Chrom 10:7
 3. **Encourage** the other person, especially when they have a bad day.
 4. **The quality of your marriage will affect your children.** 5. **Pray Lord's Prayer with your children.** **Pray with your spouse and children** each day. "that your prayers be not hindered." I Peter 3:7.
 6. **Maintain close friendships with your families and friends** who love you so dearly and who are your support group. "Thine own friend and thy father's friend forsake not. " Proverbs 27:10.
 7. **Marriage is not 50:50, but 100:100% giving to meet the needs of each other.** Please each other. "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of the Lord." Eph 5:21. Build goodwill.
 8. **Let the love of Christ fill your lives for each other.** Try to give your spouse what they want. "see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." I Peter 1:22.
 9. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it," Eph 5:25.
 9. **Love is a decision, but feelings may change.** 10. **Keep courting each other.** Have a weekly date.
 11. **Meet each other's expectations and needs.** **Avoid irritations.** Don't annoy each other.
 12. **Serve God together in a good Bible teaching church,** telling people the gospel and teach God's Word. Work together for God and people to grow God's kingdom. **Church** is your **support group.**
 13. **If you disagree, try to calm down the conflict to make peace.** "Blessed are the peacemakers." **Don't get angry.** "The wrath of man works not the righteousness of God." James 1:20. **36**

37. The Value of a Child. Mother's Day.

Bible Reading: Matthew 18:1-14; Luke 2:36-52;

Memory Verse: 'Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: the fruit of the womb is his reward.' Ps 127:3

Aim: To understand the value of a child. To train our children to be great servants of God and others.

Introduction: This Mother's Day, we should focus on the value of having children and raising Godly children. We live in a time of great ungodliness and immorality, where people don't value children as seen in a declining birthrate in most nations. People prefer money, a career and pleasures more than raising Godly children. Many are "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." 2 Timothy 3:2. People in the last days will be "without natural affection" (2 Tim 3:3), meaning that many will lack the natural affection of a mother for her children by widespread abortion of infants. If people want pleasure, children are seen as a hindrance to pleasure, because children are seen as too expensive & too much work. **David** was one of 8 sons of Jesse (I Samuel 16:10). **Hannah** had 7 children (I Samuel 2:5).

Job had 7 sons and 3 daughters (Job 42:13). **Mary** had at least 7 children (Matthew 13:55,56).

I. Josiah the Great Child King (II Kings 22:1-23:30).

1. **Josiah** was 8 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned 31 years in Jerusalem (2 Kings 22:1).
2. He had excuses to ignore God. He had an evil father Amon (21:23) and grandfather Manasseh (21:16).
3. He repaired the House of God (2 Kings 22:3-7). He gave attention to the Word of God (22:8-20). He taught the Word of God to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem (23:1,2). He cleaned up the Nation of God, morally by removing sodomites (23:7) and spiritually (23:12-16,24).
4. He was better than any king before him or after him (23:25). He died by a foolish decision (23:28-30).

II. The Value of a Child. What Does God Teach us through Children?

1. **I Samuel 1:27.** Children are an answer to prayer. "For this child I prayed."
2. **Job 33:25.** Children picture our resurrection body. "his flesh shall be fresher than a child's."
3. **Psalm 78:4-6.** Children are an opportunity to teach God's truth to future generations, who can help teach God's Word to the nations. "We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done." Psalm 78:4.
4. **Psalm 103:13.** Children teach us God's pity and mercy on those that fear Him. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him."
5. **Psalm 127:3-5.** **i) A blessing.** "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: the fruit of the womb is his reward." (3). **ii) A strength.** 'As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.' (4) **iii) A source of happiness.** "Happy is the man that has his quiver full of them." (5). **iv) A defense** (5).
6. **Proverbs 17:6. A glory.** Children's children are the crown of old men; the glory of children are their fathers
7. **Proverbs 23:24. Wise children bring joy.** "he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him." John the Baptist: "thou shalt have joy and gladness; many shall rejoice at his birth." Luke 1:14; John 16:21
8. **Proverbs 31:28.** Children bless their parents. "Her children arise up, and call her blessed;"
9. **Isaiah 11:6,8.** Children teach us of peace and safety in the Millennium. 'a little child shall lead them.'
10. **Isaiah 49:15.** Children teach us God's great love for us & that God won't forget us. 'Can a woman.'
11. **Matthew 18:4** Children are an example of humility. 'humble himself as this little child, is greatest in'
12. **Matthew 18:10** Children have guardian angels. 'their angels do always behold the face of my Father
13. **Matthew 18:14.** Children teach us that God wants all to be saved. "It is not the will of your Father in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." "Suffer little children .. to come unto me.." **19:14.**
14. **Matthew 19:13. God wants to bless children.** "little children that he should put his hands on them."
15. **Luke 2:40** The child grew, waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: the grace of God was upon him.
16. **Luke 2:41-52.** Jesus in the temple at age 12 teaches us to love church and get Bible understanding.
17. **Roman 9:11,12** God has a purpose for each child. "purpose of God..the elder shall serve the younger"
18. **Ephesians 5:1.** As children imitate and follow what their parents do, so we should imitate and follow what God does. "Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children."
19. **I Thes 2:7,11.** Children teach us how to train Christians. "we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children."(11); 'we exhorted and comforted and charged ..you, as a father doth his children'
20. **2 Timothy 3:15. Teach children the scriptures from an early age.** "from a child thou has known.."
21. **Hebrews 11:11.** Children picture God's faithfulness, blessing and miracle power in Isaac's birth.
22. **3 J 4. Christian's greatest joy.** I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. **37**

38. The Value of Encouraging One Another

Bible Reading: Joshua 1:1-9; Hebrews 10:19-39.

31 Jan 2021

Memory Verse: "exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." Hebrews 3:13.

Aim: To encourage each other by coming to church.

Introduction: Life is full of many challenging, difficult, discouraging situations that sometimes we feel overwhelmed. What is God's answer to these problems? Come to church and Bible study so you can receive comfort, encouragement, love, friendship and solutions from Godly, wise, loyal, loving Christian friends. If we don't come to church, we are on our own and we are more likely to get depressed and attacked by Satan. Satan tells us to not come to church so he can destroy us. We attend church to:
a) Thank God for His blessings. **b) Learn** the Bible & how to think. **c) Encourage** others & be encouraged. If we don't encourage others by dropping out of church, then they can't encourage us. Then we suffer.

I. WHY Should we Encourage each other?

1. Jesus commands it.
2. You may need the help of other Christians.
3. To have a useful purpose in life.
4. It gets your mind off your problems.
5. You are happier when you meet Christian friends.
6. To avoid making bad friends.
7. You need their experience to help solve your problems.
8. Both of you achieve more.

II. HOW Can we Encourage each other?

1. Show Christ's love for each other. "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." John 13:34 Say: "Jesus loves you and we love you." "See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." I Peter 1:22.
2. Be Soberminded, sensible, alert. "Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded." Titus 2:6.
3. Share Bible Doctrine. "Preach..reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." 2 Tim 4:2
4. Don't let Sin deceive and harden you. "Exhort one another daily; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." Heb 3:13.
5. Help others do good works "Let us consider one another to provoke to love & to good works:" H10:24
6. Come to church. Study the events and Signs of Jesus' coming. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:24,25. "God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;" 2 Cor 7:6.
7. Comfort others with seeing Jesus. "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." I Thess 4:18.
8. Edify, help others to grow spiritually. "edify one another, even as also ye do." I Thess 5:11.
9. Serve one another. "Use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another" Gal 5:13.
10. Lift, solve others burdens. "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." Gal 6:2
11. Thank others for their help. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, giving of thanks, be made for all men;" I Timothy 2:1.
12. Rebuke errors, teach truth. "it was needful for me to exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Jude 3.
13. Continue in the faith. "Confirming the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." Act 14:22. "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom 8:28
14. "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another" Rom 12:10
15. Forgive each other, don't hold grudges. "Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32.
16. Don't get easily Offended, don't hate each other. "Then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another." Matthew 24:10.
17. Ask each other about your welfare. "Moses went out to meet his father in law, and did obeisance, and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare; and they came into the tent." Exodus 18:7.
18. Strengthen each other. "Charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see." Deut 3:28.
19. Greet each other. "I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Peace be to thee. Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name." 3 John 14. **38**

BIBLE CHARACTERS: 39. NOAH Walked with God:

How was the Pre-Flood world (2418 BC) like Today's world? Bible Reading: Genesis 6:1-22; 7:1-24

Memory verse: "Thus did Noah: according to all that God commanded him, so did he." Gen 6:22

Aim: As God judged the wicked pre-Flood world, so God will judge today's wicked world. Live for God.

Introduction: Luke 17:26,27 "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all."

Q1: How is Noah Described? 1. "Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." Gen 6:8

2. "Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations, Noah walked with God." Gen 6:9.

"Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him." Gen 5:24. Levi walked with God. Mal 2:6

3. "Come thou+ all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation"7:1

4. By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark. Heb11:7

5. "Spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;" 2 Peter 2:5.

6. Tho these 3 men, Noah, Daniel, Job were in it, they should deliver their own souls by their righteousness. Ez14:14

Q2: What do we learn from the Events before and after the Flood?

1. People were fully attentive to the affairs of this life & ignored Noah's warnings of the Flood. Lk17:26,27

2. They rejected God's way out by mocking Noah and his Ark.

3. Men began to multiply on the face of the earth (Gen 6:1). Large population then and now.

4. The sons of God (alien, fallen angels) came to earth and married women to produce hybrid giants (5303 Nephil meaning bully, giant). (6:2,4). Evil angels will come to earth in mid-tribulation. Rev 12:7-9

5. God gave Noah 120 years to build the Ark (Gen 6:3).

6. The wickedness of man was great. (Gen 6:5). 7. Continuous evil imaginations, like Hollywood.

8. God was grieved by man's evil. (Gen 6:6). God is grieved by today's evil. "Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart; they have not known my ways" Heb3:10

9. God determined to destroy man for their evil. (Gen 6:7). Today's evils are drugs, abortion, sodomy, SSM, transgender, alcohol, killing Christians, false religions, atheism, lies, evolution, climate lies.

10. Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. (Gen 6:8). Noah was just, perfect and walked with God. (Gen 6:9). Noah begat 3 sons, Japheth, Shem, and Ham. Some Christians live right.

11. The earth was corrupt before God and filled with violence. (Gen 6:11).

12. As God gave Noah & others a way of escape by boarding the ark, 300x50x30 cubits (6:14-16), so God gives us a way of escape in the rapture. He took 2 of all animal species+food into the ark. (6:19-22).

13. Noah did ALL that God commanded him (6:22 and 7:5). So should we.

14. God said "Come into the Ark and all thy house (7:1). God was with him in the ark.

15. After 7 days in the ark, on 17th day of 2nd month of Noah's 600th year, the deep fountains were broken up and the windows of heaven were opened (7:10-12). All the hills were covered 15 cubits (7:17-20) and all flesh died (7:17-23). Waters prevailed on earth 150 days (7:24).

16. Ark rested on mountains of Ararat on 17th day of 7th month. (8:4) 5 months later. On 1st day of 10th month were the tops of mountains seen. On the 27th day of the 2nd month of 601 year was the earth dried (8:14). God told Noah to leave the ark (8:16-19).

17. Noah sacrificed to JHVH (8:20). God promised never to kill every living thing again (8:21). God promised that seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease (8:22). Climate hysteria is false and an excuse for a world government to control us..

18. God made an everlasting covenant with Noah (9:1-19) with the sign of a rainbow (9:13).

19. Noah drank wine, became drunk and naked in his tent (9:20-23). Many alcohol problems today.

20. Noah lived 350 years after the Flood, totalling 950 years (9:28,29).

JAPHETH

SHEM

↓
Gomer Magog Madai Javan Tubal Meshech Tiras Elam Asshur Arphaxad Lud Aram
(Russia) (Medes) (Greece)(Tobolsk) (Moscow) (Tyre) (Iran) (Assyria) ↓ (Armenia)

▶ Grandsons of Noah in Genesis 10 match Persian place names. Salah→Eber (Hebrews)

These prove Noah's Flood, a young earth and refute evolution.

39

40. Jesus Christ's CREDENTIALS and PROPHECIES

Bible Reading: Matthew 9:1-8; Matthew 24:1-14; Matthew 24:15-51

Memory Verse: "that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins" Matt 9:6

Aim: To understand and teach Jesus Christ's unique credentials.

Intro: Jesus spoke of His many powers proving He is God, I. Jesus Christ's CREDENTIALS are:

1. Power to Forgive sins. "That ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house." Matt 9:6

2. Power to Resist Satan's temptations and be sinless. "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." Mt4:7

3. Power to Raise the dead. "He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth." John 11:43,44

4. Power to Heal all sickness. "he cast out the spirits with his word,+ healed all that were sick" Matt 8:16

5. Power to Cast out demons. 6. He is David's God. If David call him Lord, how is he his son? Mt22:45

7. Power to Black out the sun. "From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land to ninth hour"

8. Power to Fulfil 49 Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah. Luke 18:31-34 (Matt 27:45

9. Power to Enter Jerusalem at the right time (3pm 29 March 33AD), fulfilling Daniel 9:25.

10. Power of Witnesses to His Death & Resurrection. "He was seen of over 500 brethren at once" IC15:16

11. Power to Prophesy future events. "I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I AM." John 13:19 (deity 18:6). 12. Virgin born. "The virgin's name was Mary" Luk1:27,35

II. Jesus Christ's PROPHECIES:

1. Peter's denial. "Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, *even* in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice." Mark 14:30

2. Judas' betrayal. "The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born. Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said." Matt 26:24,25.

3. Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and resurrection. "From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day." Matthew 16:21.

4. His death on Fri 3April 33AD. "after 2 days is feast of passover, the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified. M26:2

5. Jerusalem seized by armies: "When see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, destruction near" Luke 21:20

6. The only escape was to flee Jerusalem when armies surround it. "then let them depart out" Luke 21:21

7. Rome destroyed Herod's temple: "There shall not be left here one stone upon another" Matt 24:1,2

8. Many Jews would be killed: "They shall fall by the edge of sword" Lk21:24. Nations believe. Rm15:12

9. Israel be scattered among nations (70AD) "shall be led captive into all nations" Luk21:24; Deut28:64

10. Jerusalem be under Gentile control till Christ returns: "Jer be trodden down of Gentiles" Luk21:24

11. Much deception and false religions. "what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? Jesus said to them, Take heed that no man deceive you. "Many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many" Mat 24:3-5. "Many false prophets shall arise and deceive many" 24:11

12. Wars, rumours of wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes. Matt 24:6,7.

13. More persecution and hatred of Christians. "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake." Matt 24:9.

14. Many people will get offended, betray and hate one another. Matt 24:10.

15. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14. Preaching the gospel on the internet fulfils this prophecy.

16. Israel will have a holy place (temple) built by the middle of the 7 year tribulation. "When ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place" Matt 24:15.

17. Jews will return to their land to form the state of Israel (1948). "Now learn a parable of the fig tree: When his branch is yet tender, and puts forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:" Matt 24:32.

18. Worldwide ignorance of Jesus' return. "And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matt 24:39.

19. "Then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Matt 24:21,22. p.40

20. "they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" Matt24:30

41. Lessons From Bible Women

Bible Reading: Ruth 1; Acts 5:1-11.

Aim: To understand and apply lessons that Bible women were famous for.

www.youtube.com Value of Women in the Life of Jesus Christ Lee Dean. Value of woman. John Meyer.

Introduction: What does God teach us through the lives of women in the Bible?

1. **Abigail** means “father rejoices” (I Samuel 25). She was the wise wife of a foolish farmer named Nabal living 1000 BC. When Nabal insulted David, David determined to kill him, but Abigail made peace with David, showing herself to be a tactful, wise, kind, problem solver and relationship repairer. Shortly afterwards, Nabal died of a stroke and David married Abigail.
2. **Anna** means “grace” (Luke 2:36-38) is a NT prophetess who served God in the temple. She looked for the Messiah. God led her to Mary and Joseph when they brought baby Jesus to the temple to dedicate Him to God. **Lesson:** Dedicate ourselves to God and church, love Jesus Christ, and tell others about Jesus.
3. **Bathsheba** means “daughter of an oath” (2 Samuel 11,12) was the wife of Uriah. She was taking a bath in her yard next to David’s palace. This led to adultery and the death of her son. David later married her and bore Solomon who became a famous, wise king of Israel. **Lesson:** Her thoughtlessness and immodesty led to David’s adultery, the death of four of David’s sons and many problems for years to come.
4. **Deborah** means “honey bee” (Judges 4,5). She was a judge, which was a political, military and spiritual leader between Joshua and Saul. She led Israel to victory over an oppressor when men did not have the courage to lead Israel. **Lesson:** She did a job that men would not do. Men should have courage to lead.
5. **Dorcas** means “gazelle” (Acts 9:36-43). She was respected in Joppa for helping widows and needy people. When she died, God answered Peter’s prayer to restore her to life. **Lesson:** By showing kindness, you will be loved, respected and remembered.
6. **Elizabeth** means “God is my oath” (Luke 1:39-45). She was the wife of Zacharias the priest, mother of John the Baptist and cousin of Mary (Luke 1:36). She was childless for many years, but gave birth in her old age (1:18). **Lesson:** God answers our prayers for children. God can do great things for us in old age.
7. **Esther** means “star”. She became queen of Persia in 475BC. God used her to save the Jewish nation. **Lesson:** Great blessings come to godly, wise, cooperative women who are in the right place at the right time. “Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” Esther 4:14.
8. **Eunice** means “good victory” (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15). She was a Jewish lady married to a Greek man, with a son named Timothy, who became a church leader. She and her mother Lois led Timothy to Christ when he was a child and trained him in the Bible. **Lesson:** Lead your children to Christ. Love your mum.
9. **Euodia** means “prosperous journey” (Philippians 4:2). She was a Christian lady in the Philippian church who had a conflict with another lady named Syntyche. Euodia was unforgiving and unwilling to reconcile with Syntyche. **Lesson:** Are you in a conflict with someone? Are you unwilling to forgive them?
10. **Eve** means “life giver”. She was deceived by Satan to eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge. She led Adam to sin and to the fall of mankind. **Lesson:** Don’t be deceived. Don’t believe Satan. Consult God.
11. **Gomer** was the wife of Hosea the prophet in 750 BC. She left her husband and children to become a prostitute. Hosea’s commitment to Gomer became a metaphor for God’s faithfulness to Israel who had abandoned Jehovah to serve idols. **Lesson:** Appreciate your spouse. Try to maintain your marriage.
12. **Hannah** means “grace” (I Samuel 2). In 1125 BC, Hannah prayed for a son, whom she promised to dedicate to God. God gave her Samuel who served as Israel’s last judge. He anointed Saul and David as kings. **Lesson:** Dedicate our children to God. Train them in God’s ways to know, love and serve God.
13. **Jehoshabeath** means “Jehovah is abundance” (II Chronicles 22:11), was daughter of king Jehoram and wife of Jehoida the priest. She hid Joash the son of Ahaziah, for 6 years in the temple, to protect him being killed by wicked Queen Athaliah. She saved the Messianic, kingly line from extinction by seeing a need and acting quickly. **Lesson:** We must identify needs and dangerous situations, then act quickly to avert trouble. She protected the child Joash from evil. He later became a good king who reigned 40 years. Do you protect your children from evil?
14. **Lydia** in Philippi (Acts 16:14,15,40). She was Paul’s first gentile convert in Europe. She worshipped God. The Lord opened her heart because she was open to God’s word. She attended to what Paul said. She was baptized. She invited Paul and his team to her house. **Lesson:** She was open, loving and dedicated to God, His word and His workers. Are you?

15. **Martha** (Luke 10:38-42) preferred kitchen duties than hearing Jesus preaching. She represents women who are satisfied with their work or social role, so they neglect learning from Jesus and neglect serving Jesus. **Lesson:** Do you neglect learning from Jesus, in favour of worldly duties?

16. **Mary** means “loved by Jehovah”. Mary is the Greek form of Miriam. There are 5 **Marys in the NT**: i) Mary, mother of Jesus said to Gabriel, “be it unto me according to thy word.” (Luke 1:38).

Mary immediately submitted to God’s will. Do you?

ii) Mary, sister of Martha (Luke 10:39-42), violated custom by sitting at Jesus’ feet as a learner, rather than staying in the kitchen. Jesus defended her action by saying she had chosen the better part.

iii) Mary Magdalene (Luke 8:2), was the first witness of Jesus’ resurrection.

She was noted for her love for Jesus, who had cast seven devils out of her (Mark 16:9).

iv) Mary wife of Cleophas (John 19:25) and mother of James the less and Joses (Matthew 27:61; 28:1; Mark 15:40,47) brought spices to anoint Jesus on the resurrection morning (Mark 16:1).

v) Mary, mother of John Mark, where Peter “came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.” (Acts 12:12).

After Jesus Christ resurrection, Jesus’ followers met in her home.

17. **Miriam** (sister of Moses and Aaron) means “loved by Jehovah” (Exodus 15:20). She later joined Aaron in rebelling against Moses and was briefly struck with leprosy. **Lesson:** God punishes rebellion.

18. **Naomi** (mother in law of Ruth) means “pleasant” (Ruth 1-4). She returned from Moab to Judah with Ruth. **Lesson:** She returned to fellowship with God and Israel. God blessed her, taking away her bitterness.

19. **Penninah** (co-wife of Hannah) means “coral”. She ridiculed Hannah for being unable to conceive children (I Samuel 1:2-7). **Lesson:** Don’t ridicule people that you don’t like.

20. **Persis** means “a Persian woman” (Romans 16:12). She was a member of the church at Rome in 55 AD, as a dear friend who “laboured much in the Lord”. **Lesson:** Do you labour much in the Lord? Women can do a great work for God in church. Do you?

21. **Phoebe** means “radiant” (Romans 16:1,2). She was a servant of the church at Cenchrea, and a succourer (comforter) of many and of Paul. **Lesson:** Do you comfort and serve many in church?

22. **Priscilla** (Romans 16:3-5; Acts 18). She and Aquilla led a house church in Corinth. They helped Paul in tent making and church planting. (Answers 1106). **Lesson:** Do you help Christian workers?

23. **Rachel** means “ewe” (Genesis 29-35). She was the daughter of Laban, the true love and wife of Jacob, and sister of Leah. Rachel bore Joseph and Benjamin in 1925 BC. She did not get involved in a dispute between her father Laban and her husband Jacob. **Lesson:** Avoid getting involved in fights.

24. **Rahab** means “broad” (Joshua 2; Hebrews 11:31). She was a harlot in Jericho. She sheltered 3 Israelite spies, one of whom she later married. She and her family were saved from Jericho’s destruction. **Lesson:** Be loyal and committed to God’s people, God’s work and to God’s word.

25. **Rebekah** (Genesis 22:23; 24-27). She married Isaac and was the mother of Jacob and Esau. She tricked Isaac to give the birthright and blessing to her favourite son Jacob instead of the older twin Esau. She never saw Jacob after he left home. **Lesson:** Don’t scheme, trick or plot against others. Trust God to work out His plans.

26. **Ruth** means “friendship, beauty”. She separated from pagan Moabites to join God’s people (Ruth 4:11). She became the great grandmother of David. She married Boaz. Family line: Obed, Jesse, David. **Lesson:** When we turn to God from idols and the word, God blesses us.

27. **Sapphira** means “beautiful” (Acts 5:1-11). She conspired with Ananias her husband to lie to the apostles and to God. She was punished by instant death. **Lesson:** Don’t lie to God or men.

28. **Sarah** means “princess”. She was the first wife of Abraham and bore Isaac at age 90. She gave wrong, impulsive advice to Abraham to take Hagar as concubine, who bore Ishmael.

Lesson: Trust God to work miracles all our life. Don’t panic or give wrong advice, but wait on God.

29. **Susanna** (Luke 8:3) helped support Jesus Christ financially.

30. **Zeresh** means “gold” (Esther 5:10,14; 6:13) was the wife of Haman who suggested that he build a gallows for Mordecai, which Haman was later hung on. **Lesson:** What you sow, you reap.

42. Why Was DAVID a Man After God's Own Heart?

Memory Verse: "I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will." Acts 13:22

Bible Reading: I Samuel 17:31-58; 2 Samuel 9:1-13.

Aim: To be a man or woman after God's own heart, who shall fulfil all God's will.

Introduction: "the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart." I Samuel 13:14.

"I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none." Ezekiel 22:30.

Paul told the Jews in the synagogue at Antioch in Pisidia that David was a man after God's own heart.

Question 1: Are you a man after God's own heart? Do you love and do what God loves and does?

Question 2: What did David do that showed him to be a man after God's own heart? Are you like this?

1. He was a **mighty, valiant** man who was brave and skilful in warfare. I Samuel 16:18. He knew how to confront and defeat the enemies.
2. He was **prudent** in matters. 16:18. He was wise, cautious, knowing what to say and do, and when to speak and when to be quiet. He knew the right thing to do at the right time.
3. He **cared** for his sheep as practice in caring for Israelites. He "left the sheep with a keeper." 17:20.
4. He knew there was an important **cause** worth fighting for. "Is there not a cause?" 17:29.
5. David's **confidence** to defeat Goliath came from his past defeat of lions & bears (experience). 17:32-37.
6. He **planned** for future events. Why did David take 5 stones? To kill Goliath's 4 brothers. 2 Sam 21:22.
7. He **wanted all the world** to know that the God of Israel is the true God. I Samuel 17:45-47.
8. He was **humble**. "I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed." 18:23.
9. When in trouble fleeing from Saul, he **sought the company of Godly Samuel**. 19:18.
10. He knew the **value of time**. "the king's business required haste." 21:8.
11. He **gathered men together** who were distressed, in debt and discontented and trained them to be mighty men. 22:2.
12. He **enquired of the LORD** when he did not know what to do. 23:1-4.
13. He **committed** his problems to God. "The LORD plead my cause" 24:15.
14. He **respected authority** and trusted God to judge Saul. 26:10,11.
15. David **encouraged himself** in the LORD his God. 30:6.
16. He **sought to please the people** he ruled over. 2 Samuel 3:36.
17. He knew that he was **weakened** by losing a good man (Abner). "I am this day weak." 3:38,39.
18. He sought to **magnify God's name**. "Let thy name be magnified forever." 2 Samuel 7:26.
19. He **rewarded Jonathan's friendship** by honouring his son Mephibosheth. 2 Samuel 9:6,7.
20. He **repented** of the sins of adultery and murder. 2 Samuel 12:13.
21. He **did not take revenge** on Shimei for cursing him. 2 Samuel 16:7-12.
22. He **knew God very well** personally and was able to express this understanding in **songs**. 22; Ps 18.
23. He **ruled people justly**. "He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God." 2 Sam 23:3.
24. He **honoured his mighty men** for their actions. God honours us for our work. 2 Samuel 23:8-39.
25. He had a **tender conscience** and **admitted** when he sinned by numbering the people. This was the priests' job. 2 Samuel 24:10.
26. He **gave generously** to God's work by buying the threshing floor temple site for 50 shekels. 24:24
27. He **charged Solomon to live by God's Word** so he may prosper in all that he did. I Kings 2:1-3.
28. He **loved truth**. "Thou desirest **truth** in the inward parts." Psalm 51:6.
29. He prayed "Create in me a **clean heart**, O God; and renew a **right spirit** within me." Psalm 51:10.
30. He prayed "Restore unto me the **joy of my salvation**" Psalm 51:12.
31. He vowed. "I will **teach** transgressors thy ways; & sinners shall be **converted** unto thee." Psalm 51:13
32. He **praised God**: "my mouth shall shew forth **thy praise**." Psalm 51:15.

Conclusion: Are you showing these qualities in dealing with people?

Are you a person after God's own heart?

43. Why was SOLOMON a Great King?

Memory Verse: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." James 1:5.

Bible Reading: I Kings 3:1-28; 8:22-53. **Youtube:** The Wisdom of Solomon - Moody Bible Story

Aim: To consider why Solomon was a great king and to apply his principles and practices in govt & life.

Introduction: Why did Solomon have such a great impact on his nation? What can we learn from him?

1. He had a great, Godly, **wise father in King David**, who gave him wise advice. I Kings 2:1-4.
2. He **loved, honoured and respected his mother, Bathsheba**. I Kings 2:19.
3. **Solomon loved the LORD**. I Kings 3:3.
4. When Jehovah God the Son appeared to Solomon and said "Ask what I shall give thee.", Solomon **showed important qualities in relating to God**. He showed: **i)** Thanks for David being a righteous king. **ii)** Thanks for giving him the throne (3:8). **iii)** **Humility** by comparing himself to a little child (3:7). **iv)** **Dependence** on God to rule well "I know not how to go out or come in." (3:7). **v)** He knew the great **challenges** that being king would bring "a great people" (3:8). **vi)** He asked God for an **understanding heart** to judge Israel and discern between good and bad (3:9). **vii)** His words **pleased God** (3:10).
5. **God blessed him** with a **wise** and **understanding** heart (12), riches and honour (13) and long life (14). **Lesson:** We should ask God to bless our life with wisdom and understanding to serve God and others.
6. He **knew human nature** and **how to discover who was lying** and **who was truthful** (3:16-28).
7. He had a **well organized administration**, consisting of priests, scribes, recorder, military, 12 officers to provide food for the king and his household, the king's friend, and the chief tax officer (4:1-7).
8. He **kept his people happy**, "eating, drinking and making merry" (4:20) and **safe** "Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree" (4:25).
9. He **organized his servants to provide** so that **nothing was lacking**, "they lacked nothing" (4:27).
10. He **maintained peace** and **goodwill with neighbouring countries** from Egypt to Euphrates. "he had peace on all sides round about him." (4:24). "they brought presents, and served Solomon." (4:21).
11. He was **generous**. God gave Solomon wisdom & understanding exceeding much & **largeness of heart**. (29)
12. He developed and **increased his wisdom**. "wisdom and understanding **exceeding much**" (4:29).
13. He **studied wise sayings and wrote them in a book**. "He spake 3000 proverbs." (4:32).
14. He **studied music and wrote 1005 songs** (4:32).
15. He **studied trees (botany), beasts, birds, insects and fishes (zoology)** and their uses (4:33). **Lesson:** He was committed to education, research and wisdom of doing things the right way (4:33).
16. He **purposed to build a temple for Jehovah "my God"** (5:5).
17. He got the **best timber** and **most skilled timber cutters to prepare for the temple** (5:6).
18. He **knew how to work in a team** with Hiram king of Tyre. "they two made a league together." (5:12)
19. He **organized the construction project with 30,000 workers in monthly shifts, 70,000 labourers, 80,000 timber cutters and 3300 building supervisors** (5:13-18). Total workers were 183,300.
20. He **knew the value of time and recording dates for future generations** (6:1,37,38).
21. He **built the temple to the best of his ability** (6:21,22). No expense was spared.
22. He was a **preacher to teach** and **inspire people to serve God** (8:12-21).
23. He **prayed to dedicate the temple to God** (8:22-53).
 - i) He glorified God as a merciful, promise keeping God (8:23,24).
 - ii) He prayed God's presence, protection, that thine eyes may be open toward this house night & day (8:29)
 - iii) He prayed God to forgive trespasses in personal disputes of those who pray toward this temple (31,32)
 - iv) He prayed God to forgive Israel's sins that caused drought (35,36).
 - v) He prayed God to forgive Israel's sins that caused other calamities (37-40).
 - vi) He prayed God to answer prayers of God-fearing foreigners (41-43).
 - vii) He prayed God for victory in battle (46-51).
 - viii) He prayed God for attention to every prayer of himself and all Israel (52-53).
24. He **established a navy of ships** in Eziongeber at Eloth in the Red Sea to fetch 420T of gold (9:26-28).
25. He **gave the Queen of Sheba all her desire** (10:13). Seek to give people what they ask for and want.
26. He was **highly organized** & prospered in all that he did (10:4,5,7). His servants were **happy** (8). **44**

44. Portrait of a Wise Person: Important Qualities to Cultivate in Proverbs

Bible Reading: Proverbs 3, 10, 15

Aim: To make these qualities of a wise person our way of thinking and living.

Introduction: Are these qualities true of you?

1. Man of understanding. Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, & the man that getteth understanding. 3:13; the knowledge of the holy is understanding. 9:10; a man of understanding holdeth his peace. 11:12; he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding. 12:11; He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding. 14:29; Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: 24:3

2. Righteous (35). He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: 2:7; The LORD will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: 10:3; The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: 10:11; The labour of the righteous tendeth to life: 10:16; The lips of the righteous feed many: 10:21; the desire of the righteous shall be granted. 10:24; the righteous is an everlasting foundation. 10:25; The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: 10:28; The righteous shall never be removed: 10:30; The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: 10:32; The righteous is delivered out of trouble. 11:8; The desire of the righteous is only good: 11:23; the righteous shall flourish as a branch. 11:28; The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; 11:30; Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: 11:31; The thoughts of the righteous are right: 12:5; the house of the righteous shall stand. 12:7; A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: 12:10; A righteous man hateth lying: 13:5; to the righteous good shall be repayed. 13:21; among the righteous there is favour. 14:9; In the house of the righteous is much treasure: 15:6; the way of the righteous is made plain. 15:19; The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: 15:28; he heareth the prayer of the righteous. 15:29; Righteous lips are the delight of kings; 16:13; The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe. 18:10; He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not. 21:26; The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: 23:24; the righteous are bold as a lion. 28:1; Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: 28:10; when they (*wicked*) perish, the righteous increase. 28:28; When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn. 29:2; the righteous doth sing and rejoice. 29:6; The righteous considers the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it. 29:7

3. Teacher. “have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me” 5:13

4. Friend. “A friend loveth at all times” 17:17; “A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly” 18:24 “every man is a friend to him that giveth gifts.” 19:6; Thine own friend, & thy father’s friend, forsake not: 27:10

5. Diligent. “the hand of the diligent maketh rich.” 10:4; “The hand of the diligent shall bear rule.” 12:24; “the substance of a diligent man is precious.” 12:27; “The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness” 21:5; “Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds.” 27:23

6. Rich man. “The rich man’s wealth is his strong city.” 10:15; “The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.” 10:22; “the rich hath many friends.” 14:20; “the rich answereth roughly.” 18:23; House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: 19:14; “The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.” 22:7; “The rich man is wise in his own conceit.” 28:11; “He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.” 28:22.

7. Faithful man. “he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.” 11:13; “a faithful ambassador is health.” 13:17; “A faithful witness will not lie.” 14:5; “a faithful man who can find?” 20:6; “A faithful man shall abound with blessings.” 28:20.

8. Counsellor. “to the counsellors of peace is joy” 12:20; ‘in multitude of counsellors there is safety’ 24:6

9. Merciful. “The merciful man doeth good to his own soul.” 11:17; “he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.” 14:21; “Mercy and truth preserve the king; and his throne is upholden by mercy.” 20:28.

10. Generous. “There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth”; “he that watereth shall be watered also himself.” 11:24,25; “A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it.” 17:8; “A man’s gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.” 18:16; A gift in secret pacifieth anger: 21:14. “He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.” 22:9.

11. Soul winner. “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.” 11:30; “A true witness delivereth souls.” 14:25; “If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death” 24:11

12. Prudent man. “A fool’s wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covereth shame.” 12:16; “A prudent man conceals knowledge” 12:23; “Every prudent man deals with knowledge.” 13:16; **45**

“The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way” 14:8; prudent man looketh well to his going. 14:15; “he that regardeth reproof is prudent” 15:5; The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; 18:15; a prudent wife is from the LORD. 19:14; “A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.” 22:3; 27:12.

13. Truthful man. “He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness.” 12:17; “Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.” 12:22.

14. Peaceful man. “to the counsellors of peace is joy.” 12:20; “When a man’s ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.” 16:7; “Better is a dry morsel, and quietness.” 17:1; “It is an honour for a man to cease from strife.” 20:3; “wise men turn away wrath.” 29:8.

15. Well advised. “Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.” 13:10; “Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.” 20:18.

16. Happy man, merry heart. “Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding” 3:13; “he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.” 14:21; “whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he. 16:20; Happy is the man that feareth alway 28:14; he that keepeth the law, happy is he 29:18; A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance 15:13; he that is of a merry heart has a continual feast 15:15; A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: 17:22.

17. Speaker of good words. A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. 15:1; A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it! 15:23

18. Cautious speaker. “He that hath knowledge spareth his words” 17:27; Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding. 17:28; Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles. 21:23; A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards. 29:11.

19. Kind man. “The desire of a man is his kindness” 19:22; “He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child shall have him become his son at the length.” 29:21.

20. Negotiator. It is naught, it is naught, says the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth. 20:14

21. Receiver of inheritance. “A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children’s children.” 13:22; “House and riches are the inheritance of fathers:” 19:14;

“An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.” 20:21.

22. Keeps his soul. “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.” 4:23;

“Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them.” 22:5.

23. Lender. “The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.” 22:7; “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.” 19:17.

24. Studious. “The heart of the righteous studieth to answer 15:28; Apply thine heart to instruction 23:12

25. Rebuker. Rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. 9:8; But to them that rebuke him (*wicked*) shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them. 24:25. Open rebuke is better than secret love. 27:5

26. Planner. Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house. 24:27; “The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer.” 30:25.

27. Seeker of God. “Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the LORD understand all things.” 28:5

28. Sharp man. “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.” 27:17.

29. Loyal servant. “he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.” 27:18

30. Repentant. “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.” 28:13.

31. Trusts in the Lord. “he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.” 28:25;

“The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.” 29:25;

32. Compassionate. “The righteous considereth the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it.” 29:7. “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.” 19:17.

33. Humble, lowly. “he giveth grace unto the lowly” 3:34; “with the lowly is wisdom.” 11:2;

“A man’s pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit”. 29:23.

34. Pure heart. He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend. 22:11

35. Strong man, gracious woman. “A gracious woman retaineth honour: strong men retain riches” 11:16

45. Beware of Crazy People

Bible Reading: Proverbs 3,23.

Aim: To understand and avoid wrong kinds of people.

Introduction: Most of us have some wrong qualities. It is easier to notice other's faults than to see the same faults in ourselves. Proverbs discusses many wrong kinds of people who can greatly damage our lives if we associate with them. We must avoid these crazy, foolish and evil people. Who are they?

1. **Fools.** A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself. 18:2
2. **Sinners.** My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. 1:10.
3. **Greedy.** He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live. 15:27
4. **Scorners.** A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke. 13:1
5. **Evil Men.** Their heart (*evil men*) studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief. 24:1,2.
6. **Oppressor.** The prince that wanteth understanding is also a great oppressor: 28:16.
7. **Sleeper.** He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame. 10:5; Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; 20:13.
8. **Lazy.** The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour. 21:25.
The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets. 22:13.
9. **Transgressors.** Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard. 13:15.
10. **Talebearer.** A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit conceals the matter. 11:13
Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth. 26:20.
11. **Cruel.** Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: 5:9.
12. **Froward.** Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. 4:24. Stubborn
13. **Troublemakers.** He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: 11:29.
14. **Follower of vain persons.** He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough. 28:19.
15. **Vain persons.** he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty. 28:19.
16. **Liars.** Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. 30:6.
17. **Gossips.** A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends. 16:28; 25:9,10.
18. **Bible Despisers.** Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded. 13:13.
19. **Backsliders.** The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: 14:14.
20. **Angry.** It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman. 21:19.
Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: 22:24.
21. **Overtalkers.** A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards. 29:11.; 14:23.
22. **Ungodly men.** An ungodly man diggeth up evil: and in his lips there is as a burning fire. 16:27.
23. **Violent men.** A violent man enticeth his neighbour, & leads him into the way that is not good. 16:29
24. **Ungrateful.** Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house. 17:13
25. **Guarantor.** A man void of understanding strikes hands, becomes surety in the presence of his friend. 17:18
26. **Proud.** Boast not thyself of to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. 27:1
27. **Impulsive.** The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want. 21:5. He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him. 18:13.
28. **Easily offended.** A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: 18:19.
29. **Drunkard.** Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, 23:31.
30. **Dishonest, deceitful.** Divers weights are an abomination to the LORD; a false balance is not good. 20:23
31. **Vengeful.** Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee. 20:22.
32. **Robbers.** The robbery of the wicked shall destroy them; because they refuse to do judgment. 21:7.
33. **Pleasure seekers.** He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: 21:17.
34. **Hard heart.** He that turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination. 28:9
35. **Glutton.** Put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite. 23:1-3.
36. **Evil eye.** Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats: 23:6
37. **Cold heart.** Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee. 23:7.
38. **Mischievous.** He that deviseth to do evil shall be called a mischievous person. 24:8.
39. **Quitter.** If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. 24:10.

40. **Changeable.** Meddle not with them that are given to change: 24:21.

41. **Men pleasers.** To have respect of persons is not good: 28:21.

42. **Bad joker.** As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death,
So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport? 26:18,19.

43. **Stubborn.** He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. 29:1

44. **Hateful.** Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation. 26:26.

45. **Undisciplined.** He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down. 25:28.

46. **Enemy.** If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; 25:21; 27:6.

47. **Annoving pest.** Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee. 25:17.

48. **Meddler.** He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears. 26:17. It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling. 20:3

49. **Discontented.** As a bird that wandereth from her nest, so is a man that wandereth from his place. 27:8

50. **Unjust.** An unjust man is an abomination to the just: 29:27.

51. **Misleaders.** Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: 28:10

52. **Self justifiers.** He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: 28:13.

53. **Robbers of parents.** Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, It is no transgression; the same is the companion of a destroyer. 28:24

54. **Trusters in their own heart.** He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: 28:26.

55. **Whoremonger.** he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth his substance. 29:3.

56. **Bribe taker.** he that receiveth gifts overthroweth it. 29:4.

57. **Flatterer.** A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet. 29:5.

58. **Terrorists,** murderers. A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit 28:17

59. **Odious** (hateful, repulsive) woman. For an odious woman when she is married; 30:23

60. **Strange woman.** To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. 6:24; 7:5-27; 9:13-18; 22:14; 23:27,28,33; 29:3; 30:20.

46. Twelve Strange Preachers. Notice these strange preachers in the Bible with a message.

1. **Noah's Dove** brings a message of a **new and better future**.

"the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth." Genesis 8:11

2. **Balaam's Donkey** brings a message of **rebuke** to a foolish and disobedient prophet. Numbers 22:21-33

3. **David's Sheep** bring a message of **God's love for Christians**. "The LORD is my shepherd." Ps. 23:1

4. **Solomon's Flies** in the ointment warn against **losing a good reputation by foolishness**. Eccles 10:1

5. **Elijah's Ravens** bring a message of **God's providing believer's needs**.

"I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there. And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook." I Kings 17:4,6.

6. **Jonah's Whale** brings a message of the importance of Christians **preaching the gospel**.

"Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights." Jonah 1:17.

7. **God's Sparrows** bring a message of **God's loving, watching care for us**. Matthew 10:29-31. Lk 12:6,7

8. **Peter's fish** with a coin in its mouth teach about **trusting God to supply our needs**. Matthew 17:27.

9. **The Prodigal Son's Pigs** bring a message of **returning to God** and **restoring fellowship**. Luke 15:15

10. **The Rich Man's Dogs** bring a message of **compassion** for suffering people. "desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores." Luke 16:21

11. **Peter's Rooster** brings a message of **repentance to sinning believers**. "Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew." Luke 22:60-62.

12. **Herod's Worms** bring a message of **judgment to cruel leaders**. "immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, & gave up the ghost" Acts 12:23

47. Fifty Famous Fools

Bible Reading: Matthew 7:24-29; Luke 12:1-34.

Aim: To see what kinds of fools to beware of.. To see if we have these kinds of foolish qualities.

Introduction: There is so much foolishness in the world today. Every fool thinks he is smart and right.

We have all picked up foolish ideas from school, peers, TV, sometimes from unsaved or ungodly parents and from false religions. People also tend to do foolish things due to ignorance and inexperience.

To succeed in life, we need to be wise and knowledgeable in many areas. Most people have some areas of foolishness in our thinking and in our past. It is easier to see foolishness in others than in ourselves.

Definition: A fool is a person who lacks sense or judgment, one who has been deceived into acting silly.

3 steps in becoming a fool: Simple (unlearned), Scorners (reject knowledge), Fools (hate knowledge).

Memory Verse: “How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?” Proverbs 1:22.

What Kinds of Fools Should We Beware of?

1. **Trusting Evil People Fool.** The king lamented over Abner, said, Died Abner as a fool dieth? 2Sam3:33

2. **Atheist Fool.** The fool hath said in his heart, *There is no God.* Psalm 14:1; 53:1. He knows everything!

3. **Blaspheming Fools.** Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed thy name. Psalm 74:18.

Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproacheth thee daily. Psalm 74:22

4. **Sin Afflicted Fools.** Fools because of their transgression & because of their iniquities, are afflicted. Ps107:17

5. **Prosperous Fools.** The turning away of the simple shall slay them, prosperity of fools shall destroy them. 1:32

6. **Slandering Fool.** He that hideth hatred with lying lips, & he that uttereth a slander, is a fool. Pro 10:18

7. **Joking, Mischief making Fool.** It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: Proverbs 10:23.

8. **Always Right Fool.** The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: he that hearkens unto counsel is wise. 12:15

9. **Angry Fool.** A fool's wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covereth shame. Proverbs 12:16.

A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both. Proverbs 27:3.

Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools. Ecclesiastes 7:9.

10. **Ill Informed Fool.** A prudent man conceals knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaims foolishness. 12:23.

A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing. Proverbs 9:13.

Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge. 14:7.

The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish doeth not so. Proverbs 15:7.

11. **Companion of Fools.** He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. Proverbs 13:20.

12. **House Destroying Fool.** Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands. Proverbs 14:1.

13. **Mocking Sin Fool.** Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour. Proverbs 14:9.

14. **Overconfident Fool.** A wise man fears & departs from evil: but the fool rages and is confident. 14:16

15. **Inherited Fools.** The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge. Proverb 14:18

16. **Hasty Fool.** He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding:but he that is hasty of spirit exalts folly14:29

17. **Despising Advice Fool.** A fool despises his father's instruction: he that regards reproof is prudent. 15:5
Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words. Proverbs 23:9.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. 1:7

A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother. 15:20. Why? She rebukes his sin
Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished. Ecc 4:13

18. **Careless Speaking Fool.** Excellent speech becometh not a fool: Proverbs 17:7.

A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards. Proverbs 29:11.

Unthinking Answer Fool. He that answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly & shame unto him. 18:13

19. **Slow Learning Fool.** A reproof enters more into a wise man than a hundred stripes into a fool. 17:10
Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools. Proverbs 19:29.

A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back. Proverbs 26:3.

20. **Discontented, Unfocused Fool.** Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth. Proverbs 17:24.

21. **Self Indulgent Fool.** A fool has no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself. 18:2

22. **Fight Starting Fool.** A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. Prov 18:6

23. **Uncontrolled Speech Fool.** A fool's mouth is his destruction, & his lips are the snare of his soul. 18:7

24. **Meddling Fool.** It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling. 20:3

25. **Money Wasting Fool.** There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up. Proverbs 21:20.

26. **Childish Fool.** Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child;the rod of correction shall drive it far from him 22:15

27. **Bad Habit Fool.** As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly. Proverbs 26:11.

28. **Long Term, Entrenched Fool.** Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him. Proverbs 27:22.

The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul: but it is abomination to fools to depart from evil. 13:19.

29. **Deceived Fool.** He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered. 28:26. The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit. 14:8

30. **Promise Breaking Fool.** When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Ecclesiastes 5:4.

31. **Entertained Fools.** The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools. Eccles 7:4,5.

32. **Wicked Fools.** I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness: Ecclesiastes 7:25.

33. **Mostly Wise Fool.** Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour. Ecclesiastes 10:1.

34. **Overtalking Fool.** A fool also is full of words: Ecclesiastes 10:14.

35. **Not Understanding God Fools.** My people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, they have no understanding: they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge. Jeremiah 4:22.

36. **Not Knowing God's Ways Fool.** Therefore I said, Surely these are poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the LORD, nor the judgment of their God. Jeremiah 5:4.

37. **Fact Denying Fools.** Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not: Jeremiah 5:21.

38. **Dishonest Gain Fool.** As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool. Jeremiah 17:11.

39. **Not Discovering Sin Fools.** Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; Lamentations 2:14.

40. **Neglecter of Jesus' Words Fool.** Every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: Matthew 7:26.

41. **Reversed Values Fool.** Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? Matthew 23:17.

42. **Unprepared Fools.** Five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: Matthew 25:23.

43. **God Neglecting Fool.** But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. Luke 12:20,21.

44. **Slow to Believe in Jesus Fools.** Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Luke 24:25.

45. **Unthankful, Darken Hearted Fools.** When they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, & their foolish heart was darkened. Romans 1:21.

46. **Teacher Fools.** Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools. Romans 1:22.

47. **Gospel Rejecting Fools.** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. I Corinthians 1:18.

48. **Natural Man's Foolishness.** 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. I Corinth 2:14.

49. **Caring Pastors' Folly.** Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly; 2 Corinthians 11:1.

50. **Time Wasting Fools.** See that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming time. Eph 5:15

48. The Scorner. The Path from Simple to Scorner to Fool to Destruction.

Bible Reading: Proverbs 1:1-19; 20-33. **Aim:** To avoid being a scorner. To follow Godly advice.

Mem Verse: 'Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.' Prov 9:8

Introduction: 3 main characters in Proverbs are the **simple**, **scorner** and **fool**. **Simple** is **inexperienced**. When the **simple** ignores wise Godly advice and listens to ungodly wrong advice, he becomes a **scorner**. When a **scorner** continues to reject godly people and their advice, he becomes a **fool** & makes many more foolish decisions. After a **fool** has made many foolish decisions, some of these decisions will **destroy** him. So we see a pathway from being **simple** to becoming a **scorner**, then a **fool**, then being **destroyed**. Notice:

1. We all start life as **simple** or inexperienced. The **turning point** comes when we accept or reject Godly advice. Rejecting Godly advice makes us a **scorner** & then a **fool**. Accepting godly advice makes us **wise**.
2. The **people we associate with** are the main causes as to whether we accept or reject Godly advice.
3. **Accepting Godly advice** sets us on a different path of **simple** to **learner** to **wise man** to **blessings**.

Question: What Events Happen at Each Stage?

1. **Simple Stage.** What happens at the **simple** stage of life?

1. Simple should **learn the Word of God**. "The law of the Lord...maketh wise the simple." Psalm 19:7.
2. The Word of God gives **understanding** to the simple. "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." Psalm 119:130.
3. Simple should **seek subtilty, knowledge and discretion**. "To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion." Proverbs 1:4.
4. Some **love being simple, ignorant**. "How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity?" Proverbs 1:22.
5. Simple **err by turning away from Godly advice**. "The turning away of the simple shall slay them" 1:32
6. Simple may **commit acts of immorality**. "I beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding," 7:7
7. Simple **believeth every word**. 14:15.
8. Simple **inherit folly from their foolish parents**. "The simple inherit folly:" 14:18.
9. Simple **learn by seeing scorners punished**. "When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise" 21:11
10. Simple people **can't see consequences of events**. "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished." 22:3; 27:12.
11. Simple are **easily deceived by false teachers**. "by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." Romans 16:18. 'Be wise unto that which is good, and **simple concerning evil**.' Roman 16:19.

2. **Scorner Stage.** What happens at the **scorner** stage of life?

1. Scorners **love scorning**. The scorners **delight** in their scorning. 1:22.
 2. Scorners **miss the grace of God**. Surely he scorns the scorners: but **he giveth grace unto the lowly**. 3:34
 3. Scorners **reject rebuke**. A wise son hears his father's instruction: but a scorner **hears not rebuke**. 13:1
 4. Scorners **hate rebukers**. Reprove not a scorner, lest he **hate** thee: rebuke a wise man, & he will love thee. 9:8
 5. Scorners **avoid the wise**. A scorner loves not one that reproves him: **neither will he go to the wise**. 15:12
 6. Scorners **can't find wisdom**. A scorner seeks wisdom, and **finds it not**: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth. 14:6. Scorners find it difficult to solve their problems.
 7. Scorners **slander and seek to shame rebukers**. He that reproveth a scorner **getteth to himself shame**: 9:7
 8. Scorners **get punished**. When the **scorner is punished**, the simple is made wise: 21:11.
- Judgments** are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools. 19:29.
9. Scorners **show wrath**. Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in **proud wrath**. 21:24.
 10. Scorners **create contention, strife and reproach**. Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease. 22:10. Scorners, after continually rejecting rebuke must **be cast out**.

3. **Fool Stage.** What happens at the **fool** stage of life?

1. Fools often become **atheists**. The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Psalm 14:1; 53:1.
2. Fools **fall into trouble**. A prating fool shall **fall**. 10:8,10.
3. Fools **slander others**. He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and **he that uttereth a slander**, is a fool. 10:18
4. Fools **think mischief is fun**. It is as **sport** to a fool to do mischief: 10:23.
5. Fools **serve the wise**. The fool shall be **servant to the wise of heart**. 11:29.
6. Fools **think they are always right**. The way of a fool is **right in his own eyes**: 12:15. He won't see his folly

7. Fools **show anger, wrath, shame**. A fool's **wrath** is presently known: but a prudent man covers **shame**. 12:16
8. Fools are **overconfident**. A wise man fears & departs from evil: but the fool rages & is **confident**. 14:16
9. Fools **don't think of the consequences of their words**. Excellent speech becometh not a fool: 17:7
10. Fool is a **slow learner**. A reproof enters more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool. 17:10
11. Fool will **show uncontrolled anger**. Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly. 17:12. A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a **fool's wrath** is heavier than them both. 27:3.
12. Fools **bring sorrow**. He that begets a fool does it to **his sorrow**: & the father of a fool has **no joy**. 17:12
13. Fools **live for self**. A fool has no delight in understanding, but that his heart may **discover itself**. 18:2
14. Fools **quickly fight**. A fool's lips enter into **contention**, and his mouth **calleth for strokes**. 18:6.
15. Fools **say destructive words**. A fool's mouth is his destruction, & his lips are the snare of his soul. 18:7
16. Fools **meddle**. It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but **every fool will be meddling**. 20:3.
17. Fools **hate wise words**. Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will **despise the wisdom of thy words**. 23:9
18. Fools **experience trouble**. A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a **rod for the fool's back**. 26:3.
19. God **punishes fools**. The great God that formed all, both **rewards the fool** & rewards transgressors. 26:10
20. Fools **repeat the same mistakes**. As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool **returneth to his folly**. 26:11.
21. Fools **trust their feelings**. He that **trusts in his own heart** is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely. delivered. 28:26
22. Fools **say too much too soon**. A fool **uttereth all his mind**: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards. 29:11
23. Honouring fools **causes trouble**. As he that binds a stone in a sling, so is he that gives honour to a fool. 26:8
24. Fools **cling to error**. Foolishness is difficult to cure. Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will **not** his foolishness depart from him. 27:22.
25. Fools **talk too much and listen less**. A fool's voice is known by multitude of words. Eccles 5:3. A fool also is full of words: Eccles. 10:14.
26. Fools **laugh at wrong things**. As the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool. 7:6
27. Fools **prosperity destroys them**. The **prosperity** of fools shall **destroy** them. Prov 1:32.
28. Fools **don't understand many things**. Neither doth a fool understand this. Psalm 92:6.
29. Fools **trust their enemies**. Died Abner as a fool dieth? 2 Samuel 3:33.
30. Fools **get money by dishonest means**. As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatches them not; so he that gets riches, & not by right, shall **leave them in the midst of his days**, & at his end shall be a fool. Jer. 17:11

4. Destruction Stage

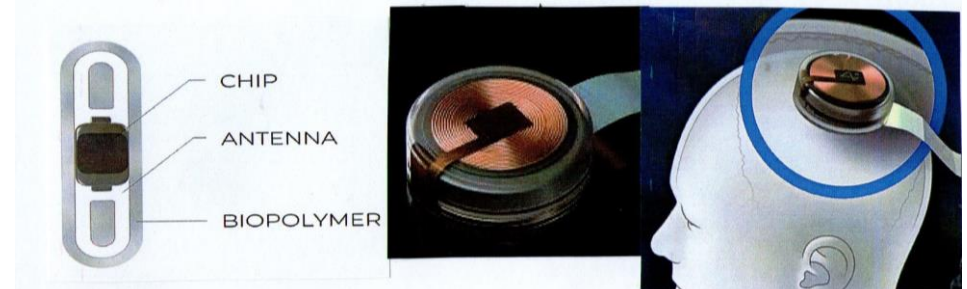
A fool's **mouth** is his **destruction**, and his lips are the snare of his soul. 18:7

The **prosperity** of fools shall **destroy them**. Prov 1:32. A prating fool shall **fall**. 10:8,10

Whoso **despises the word** shall be **destroyed**; but he that fears the commandment shall be rewarded. 13:13
He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a **companion of fools** shall be **destroyed**. 13:20
Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is **destroyed** for **want of judgment**. 13:23
He, that **being often reproved hardens his neck**, shall suddenly be **destroyed**, and that without remedy. 29:1
The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the **perverseness of transgressors** shall **destroy** them. 11:3
The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but **all the wicked** will he **destroy**. Psalm 145:20.

Conclusion: Are you on the path of **simple** to **scorner** to **fool** to **destruction**? Or, are you seeking God's **wisdom** and God's best **blessings** on your life?

► **Walletmor** and **NEURALINK Brain implant of Elon Musk fulfils Revelation 13:16-18**. Neuralink human implant 18 Jan 2024. "He causes **all**..to receive a **mark IN** their **right hand** or **forehead**"



49. Thou Shalt be Like a WATERED GARDEN.

Bible Reading: Psalm 1:1-6; Isaiah 58:1-14.

Aim: To see in what ways compassionate believers are like a watered garden.

Mem Verse: “thou shalt be like a watered garden, & like a spring of water, whose waters fail not” Is58:11

Youtube: **Beautiful Flower Garden Video.** Andre Rousseau. (Fvae8nxzVz4).

Flowers Video BC 05. VilsomBC. (NPEaTDhGA68). **75 Most Beautiful British Gardens.** World Fairy. **The Most Beautiful Gardens in the World.** World Fairy. (TeZSf_zf8Us)

Introduction: A watered garden is one of the most beautiful, peaceful, fruitful, happy places on earth. It is a place where everything goes well and nothing goes wrong. It is a place where worries and fears are removed and forgotten. It is a place where only uplifting, blessed, satisfying, interesting thoughts exist. God promises people who fulfil certain conditions that they “shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not”. (Isaiah 58:11). As a watered garden gives blessings, so may we.

I. What Conditions must we fulfil to be like a Watered Garden in Isaiah 58:9-14?

1. If thou take away from the midst of thee the **voke** (lift burdens), 2. the putting forth of the **finger**, and 3. speaking **vanity** (error); (9). 4. if thou draw out thy soul to the **hungry**, and **satisfy** the afflicted soul;

Blessings that follow: i) then shall thy **light** rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: (10) ii) the LORD shall **guide thee continually**,

iii) and **satisfy thy soul in drought**, and make fat thy bones:

iv) and **thou shalt be like a watered garden**, and **like a spring of water, whose waters fail not**. (11)

v) they that shall be of thee **shall build the old waste places:**

vii) thou shalt **raise up the foundations of many generations;** and

viii) thou shalt be called, **The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in**. (12)

5. If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from **doing thy pleasure on my holy day;** and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and 6. shalt **honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:** (13).

II. In What Ways are Caring, Soul-Winning, Bible Teaching Christians like a Watered Garden?

1. A garden is a waste ground that has been cultivated and regenerated into a place of beauty and usefulness. We were once a person of selfishness, sin, waste and uselessness to God, but now that we have been saved, we belong to our heavenly husbandman as our new owner. We are as a regenerated garden created to bring forth fruit unto God. “That we should bring forth fruit unto God.” Romans 7:4.

2. In a garden, no choice and useful plant comes up naturally of itself, but it must be sown or planted and cultivated. So, no spiritual fruit comes from the natural man, but are the results of us yielding ourselves to Jesus Christ to cultivate these graces and fruits in us, as we study the Bible and surrender ourselves to be filled with the HS and to serve God. “They that are in the flesh, cannot please God.” Romans 8:8. “What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed?” Romans 7:21.

3. A garden must first be dug up, breaking up the fallow ground and well prepared before it can be sown or planted. So must our hearts, like fallow ground be dug up with the convictions of the Word of God & the Spirit of God before we can be saved and bear fruit for God. “Break up your fallow ground and sow not among thorns.” Jeremiah 4:3. “Sow to yourselves in righteousness; reap in mercy, break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity, ye have eaten the fruit of lies.” Hosea 10:12. Have you dug up the weeds of your old sinful life, or are those weeds still growing strongly in your Christian life? Have you broken up your fallow ground and prepared your heart, mind and life to bear fruit for God?

4. A choice garden is walled or fenced about to protect it from danger and loss. So every Christian and true church must be separated from **evil worldly attitudes**, from **false doctrines** and from **false churches**. “A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse” Song 4:12; “I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about her.” Zech 2:5; “Has not thou made an **hedge about him**, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.” Job 1:10. Just as you don’t want goats, pigs and worms getting in to destroy your garden, neither does God want us to let wrong influences of the world or false religions spoil us and our thinking.

This will result in our fruit being destroyed and our convictions being damaged.

Q: Do you have a wall around your garden? Or are you open to all wrong ideas and false doctrines? **53**

5. A quality garden has many plants and flowers of great value and beauty for pleasure and profit. “the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel & the **men of Judah** his pleasant plant:” Isa. 5:7. As a garden contains many varied and different plants, so every believer is different and useful to God for different works, with many different skills to contribute. Q: Are you doing the work God has planted you to achieve, or are you wasting your time and life for God, getting sidetracked into useless activities?

6. A garden must have much cost and work applied to it to maintain its beauty and usefulness, or it will soon decay and become a wasteland. “I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. ... every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.” John 15:1,2. “afterward it (chastening) yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness” (Heb 12:11). Both Jesus Christ and ourselves must invest much time & effort to keep our spiritual life garden cultivated and maintained or we will soon backslide into uselessness and become filled with our own ways. We must stay in the Word, in prayer, in church, in soul winning, in cultivating Godly characteristics and be filled with the HS. Q: Do you daily cultivate your Christian life to keep all parts in check? God will purge displeasing things from us.

7. A garden grows weeds which must be plucked up or they will hinder our growth and fruitfulness. “He also that received seed **among the thorns** is he that heareth the word; and the **care of this world**, and the **deceitfulness of riches**, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.” Matthew 13:22.

“But while men slept, his enemy came and **sowed tares** among the wheat, and went his way.” Matt 13:25. “Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any **root of bitterness** springing up trouble you, and thereby **many be defiled;**” Hebrews 12:15. **Q:** Are you letting the root of the weed of bitterness spring up to trouble you and to defile others. **Q:** Are you regularly looking for weeds in your life and plucking them out? If you don’t, they will choke the Word of God and you will become unfruitful for Jesus Christ. **Q:** What weeds exist in your life? Thorns and weeds are competing interests that drain our spiritual strength, zeal, nourishment and love.

8. The Owner of the garden likes to walk in it to see how the plants, trees, fruit and flowers flourish.

“I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse:” Song 5:1. Jesus Christ “walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;” Rev 2:1. God walked with Adam and Eve in the garden. “they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day:” Genesis 3:8.

Question: Do you walk in sweet fellowship with God daily? “Enoch walked with God:” Genesis 5:22,24; “Noah walked with God.” (Gen 6:9); David walked with God. (I Kings 8:25).

9. As a garden produces many flowers with a sweet perfume, so our prayers, praise and love of God come up to heaven as a sweet odour. “golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.” (Rev 5:8). **Q:** Is your life like a **sweet perfume** to God? Or does it **stink** because of sin, anger, hatred, hypocrisy?

10. As different trees are planted for different purposes, so each believer has a different job, role and purpose in a local church, just like every bone in our body serves a useful purpose.

We are like **trees** because: i) We provide **shelter, protection and support** for others. ii) We produce **fruit** pleasing to God. iii) We produce a **pleasant scent** and perfume of **prayer**. “The tree that thou sawest which grew and was strong...it is thou O king (Nebuchadnezzar).” (Daniel 4:20-22).

11. As the gardener purges and prunes his plants, so God purges and prunes useless things out of our life so we can bear more fruit for Him. “every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.” John 15:2. **Q:** Are you being purged and pruned by God? It is to bear more fruit.

12. A garden must be watered daily or it will soon fade and the fruit will wither away and the flowers will die. We must be watered daily by the **Word of God** as we read, hear, study, memorize and meditate on it. “**My doctrine** shall drop as the **rain**, my speech shall distil as the **dew**, as the **small rain** upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:” Deut 32:2. “That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of **water** by the **word**” Eph 5:26; Psalm 1:1-3. We will bear fruit. Our leaf won’t wither.

13. As a garden needs good, nutritious, fertile, mineral rich soil to grow in, so we need to be in a spiritually **nourishing local church** to grow healthy to produce fruit. ‘He that received seed.’ Matth 13:23

14. As trees must sink **roots** deep into the ground, so must we be **rooted in Christ**, love, truth. Ep3:17Col 2:7

15. A garden of plants may contain many worms which attack the plants and trees from the inside, eating it away until the plant becomes sick and dies. So in a Christian or a local church, you may find hidden sins which eat away at our spiritual health and vitality until we backslide and drop out of church and from serving God. “when your **gardens** and your **vineyards** and your **fig trees** and your **olive trees** increased, the **palmerworm** devoured them.” Amos 4:9.

50. JONAH: Don't Run Away from God (862BC)

Bible Reading: Jonah 1-4.

Aim: To stay close to God. To do what He wants. To not run away from God or His plans for us.

Introduction: Jonah is like many people today who are running away from God and His plans for them.

God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and preach against it because God was going to destroy it for its wickedness. Jonah hated the Ninevites for their terror. He did not want to preach to them because he thought they might repent and God would spare them. He wanted God to destroy them. This book shows God's love for the nations and how He wants them to be saved from their sins and from hell. It motivates us to work with God to bring people to Jesus Christ. **Because God loves and pities people, so should we.** The book has 4 chapters: 1) Jonah **protesting** (God's **patience**).

2) Jonah **praying** (God's **pardon**).

3) Jonah **preaching** (God's **power**).

4) Jonah **pointing** (God's **pity**). The date of Jonah's writing is **862 BC**.

Jonah was from Gathhepher, north of Nazareth in **Galilee** (2 Kings 14:25). The Pharisees were wrong in telling Jesus "Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet." John 7:52

► **Question: What do we learn from this book about God and ourselves?**

1. **God warns** wicked nations to repent of their wickedness, before He judges them. 1:1-2.

2. **Jonah thought** he could flee in a ship from God's presence. He did not think that God could judge him. When Jonah and people flee from God, they pay a fare (1:3). It costs people to flee from God.

3. **God sent a great storm** that almost broke the ship (1:4). Our plans are easily broken if we ignore God.

4. The shipmaster's **question** 'What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God' applies to us (1:6). Many sleepy Christians know nothing of God's soul winning plans for their life or of Jesus' soon return.

5. The **sailor's 4 questions** apply to us: "What is thine occupation? (a servant of God, a soul winner and Bible teacher) and "whence comest thou?" (heading to hell and a sinful state that Jesus saved me from), "what is thy country?" (heaven) and "of what people art thou?" (Christians) (1:8).

6. **Jonah's answer** reveals his **foolishness**: "I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land." (1:9). Why flee to the sea from God Who made the sea?

7. **Our sins create problems for others**: "Why hast thou done this? (10), What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us?" (11). How can we solve the problem you have brought on us?

8. **Jonah wanted to die** rather than to preach to the Ninevites (12).

9. **Sin causes innocent people to suffer**: "let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood." (14). This is the contagious nature of sin. It harms others' life, health, wealth, happiness.

10. When the sailors threw Jonah overboard, the sea ceased from her raging (15) and they got saved. (16).

11. **God's 4 Preparations**: 1) A great fish (1:17). 2) A gourd plant (4:6). 3) A worm (4:6). 4) A wind (4:8 God prepares many things to **punish the wicked** and to **reward the righteous**. Stay close to God and church.

Question: What other things has God prepared? (lake of fire for devil). What must we prepare? (ourselves). God prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. Jesus used this as a sign of His death and resurrection.

"For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matt 12:40. Can a man survive in a whale? See Answers pg 18.

12. "Then **Jonah prayed unto the LORD** his God out of the fish's belly, And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me;" (2:1,2). **Affliction** improves our prayer life. **Suffering** causes us to take God more seriously. **Jonah's prayer** (2:4-9). Jonah died in the fish's belly and God brought him back to life because: a) "out of the belly of hell (2:2) ("sheol" underworld, place of the dead).

b) "I went down to the bottoms of the mountains" (2:6). c) "Thou has brought up my life from corruption" 'Corruption' (7845) means **underground prison**, the **grave** (Gesenius). Psalm 16:10 of **Jesus' death**, Ps49:9

13. "They that observe **lying vanities** forsake their own mercy" (2:8). If you believe lies, you miss blessing Q: How many indicators of human development do Muslim nations come low or last? No unis in top 500.

14. **Jonah's repentance** (2:9): "I will pay that that I have vowed." He **renounces** his sin, **remembers** his vow of service, and **rededicating** his life to God. **Question:** Do you need to do this?

15. **God answered his prayer**: "LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land." 10

16. **God gave Jonah a second chance to preach** to Nineveh (3:1,2). God gives many chances to serve Him.

17. **Jonah preached a harsh message** of God's judgment with **no mention of God's love** for Nineveh (3:4).

18. **Result:** 1) They believed God (5). 2) proclaimed a fast 3) Cry mightily to God. 4) Turn from evil (8,9)

19. **God repented** of the judgment when Nineveh repented of their evil ways. 'He did it not'.(3:10).

20. **Jonah's response** to Nineveh's repentance and salvation (4:1-11):

i) "But it **displeased** Jonah exceedingly, and he was **very angry**." (4:1). Why? Jonah wanted God to destroy Nineveh so they would not be a future threat to Israel. God destroyed Nineveh in 713 BC.

ii) **Jonah's second prayer** tells us 5 attributes of God: "I knew that thou art a **gracious** God, and **merciful, slow to anger**, and of **great kindness**, and **repentest thee of the evil**." (2:2).

Let us love God and show these qualities to people.

iii) **God's first question**: "**Doest thou well to be angry?**" (4:4). Ask ourselves this question.

iv) **Jonah went out of the city**, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city. (4:5).

v) 'The LORD God **prepared a gourd**, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd' (2:6). Jonah loved his plant.

vi) "But **God prepared a worm** when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that **God prepared a vehement east wind**; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and **wished in himself to die**, and said, It is better for me to die than to live." (4:7,8).

vii) **God's second question**: "**Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd?**" (4:9).

viii) **God's third question**: "Thou hast had **pity** on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night: And **should not I spare Nineveh**, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand (*children*); and also much cattle?" (4:10,11).

► **Adad-Nirari** was the Assyrian king who repented under Jonah's preaching. Under him and the three successive kings, there was a cessation in Assyrian assaults and conquests.

Lesson: So should we have love and pity on people who need to know the love of God and come to Jesus Christ for salvation. God uses imperfect men to do His will & achieve His purposes. So God can use us if we surrender to Him. Jonah is a good example of wrongly handling conflict. Jonah's conflict was with God. In marriage and human friendships, it is more rewarding to **resolve a conflict** than to **dissolve a relationship**. Mature people work things out. This is a sign of love.

► **Ten Wrong Ways to Handle Conflict**

1. **Denying** that the problem exists.

2. The **silent treatment**. Relational withdrawal.

3. **Emotional outbursts**. Temper tantrum, anger, wrath, abuse.

4. **Walking away** and refusing to work out the problem.

5. **Verbal sparring with hurtful words**. Trying to win an argument rather than resolve the problem.

6. **Bringing up past failures**. Viewing today's conflict through yesterday's pain.

7. Shifting the blame and **not admitting my own failures**.

8. **Ignoring the problem** and pretending it will go away.

9. Failing to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance through **prayer**.

10. **Refusing to say, "I was wrong**. I'm sorry. Will you forgive me?"

► **Typical teaching in this Book:**

1. **Jonah** is a type of **Israel** called by God to be a light to the nations, but disobedient. Isaiah 42:6; 49:6

2. Jonah was thrown into the sea. Israel was chastened and **scattered among the nations**.

3. When Jonah ministered to Nineveh, blessing and revival came. When Israel repents, **blessing comes**.

4. When the **sailors** threw Jonah overboard, they were saved (1:16). **Gentiles are blessed by Israel's loss**.

► **Four Repentances** in Jonah: 1. **Sailors** (1:6,14). 2. **Jonah** (2:2). 3. **Nineveh** (3:5-9). 4. **God** (3:10; 4:2).

Lessons about God: 1. **Omnipresent** (1:3,10). 2. **Omnipotent** (1:4,15; 2:10). 3. **Creator**, controls universe (1:4,9,17).

4. **Judge** (1:2; 3:2,4). 5. **Repents if man repents** (3:9,10; 4:2). 6. **Has compassion** on rebellious servant. 7. **Has compassion on unsaved nations**. 8. **Gives second chances** (3:1). 9. **Answers prayer** (2:2,7).

10. **Brings good out of evil**. 11. **Gracious, merciful, kind** (4:2). **Jonah is:** 1. Emotional (1:12; 4:1,4,6,9).

2. Disobedience brings chastening. 3. Our disobedience affects others (1:12). 4. Knew his Bible (4:2).

51. God Sees You as a PRECIOUS JEWEL

Bible Reading: Malachi 3:16-18; Revelation 6:1-8.

26 Feb 2022

Aim: To understand how beautiful, valuable and useful you are to God and to others for eternity.

Memory Verse: “Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. and they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.” Malachi 3:17.

Introduction: When I phone people in our church and have a very happy, encouraging conversation with them, I am amazed with how **valuable they are** in glorifying God, encouraging others, leading people to Christ and being my friends. I remember how many of them used to be Muslims and are now serious, dedicated Christians. God sees each of us as precious, valuable, beautiful jewels. So should we see others. The New Jerusalem’s 12 foundations of precious stones remind us of the beauty of Christians. Rv21:19,20

I. Malachi 3:16-18 teaches 7 things about what Jewel Christians do.

- i) “**Fear the Lord**” means to reverence, awe, love, understand God’s goodness, worship God.
- ii) “**spake often one to another**” at church, Bible study, fellowship to encourage, help, care for.
- iii) “**the LORD heard it**” means God is in our meetings, hearing all we say.
- iv) “**a book of remembrance was written** before him for them that feared JHVH”. God records words.
- v) “**and that thought upon His name.**” We must think of how God reveals Himself, attributes. Und1424
- vi) “**they shall be mine** says JHVH of hosts”: God loves, owns, values, cares, works with, rules with us,.
- vii) “**in that day when I make up my jewels.**” This day may be the rapture, the JSOC, the return of Christ to save Israel at Armageddon.
- viii) “**I will spare them**” means keeping the church from the tribulation or saving Israel at Armageddon.
- ix) “**Then shall we return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serves God and him that serveth him not.**” Mal 3:18. Today we may not see much difference between serving Christians and lazy Christians, but at the JSOC “every man’s work shall be made manifest” I Cor 3:13. Some will be ashamed and some will have confidence at his appearing. I John 2:28. Which will you be?

II. Why are we like Jewels? 1. As a jewel is found in the ground as a rough, unattractive stone, so we come from a rough, worldly, sin-damaged background.

2. As a rough jewel must be dug out of the ground, washed clean and had the rough edges cut off, so we must be extracted from worldly ways, washed clean from sin by the blood of Christ and had our rough edges cut off by learning Bible truths, learning from our mistakes, learning from church.

3. As a jewel sparkles beautifully, so will we have a glorified, Christlike body in heaven. I Cor 15:40-43 “It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory.”

4. As people value jewels, so God greatly values us.

5. As each jewel is different, so each of us are different, valuable and beautiful to God and others.

6. As it takes much work to cut a diamond to be the right shape, so we must spend much time and work to help Christians to reject errors and become SW, Bible-teaching, Christlike disciples.

7. As jewels are put on display for people to admire, so you will be put on display for all angels and Christians to admire your glorified body and your life’s work at the JSOC and the “son-placing”.

“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 of what sort it is.” I Cor 3:13.

“Not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body” Rom 8:23. “Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,” Eph 1:5.

8. As people take great care of their jewels, so God takes great care of us, not losing any of us. John 10:28

9. As criminals try to steal jewels, so Satan tries to steal us, our life’s work and our rewards in heaven.

“Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.” 2 John 8. “Let no man beguile you of your reward.” Col 2:18.

Conclusion: Do you see yourself and others as precious jewels that are of great value to God and others? Do you seek to win people to Christ and teach Bible to them as a “jeweller-maker” for God and eternity?

“**lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**” Matthew 6:20.

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52. Why the Rich Fool was a Fool

Bible Reading: Luke 12:16-21. **Aim:** To identify and avoid the mistakes of the rich fool.

Memory verse: “So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” Luke 12:21.

Introduction: Many people today are like the rich fool. They are rich in money but not rich toward God.

Question: What foolish thinking did this rich man exhibit? He was not rich toward God. Are you?

1. He thought **within** himself. He should have thought **outside** himself to see others. “Lift up.” John 4:35
2. What shall I do,? He should have asked God, “What wilt thou (God) have me to do?” Acts 9:6.
3. I have **no room** where to bestow my fruits? He should have **given some away** to poor, hungry people.
4. I will **pull down my barns**, and build greater. He should have extended the old barns.
5. There will I bestow all **my fruits** and **my goods**. He should not have said “my”, but “**God’s**”. (12:18).
6. I will say to **my soul**. He congratulates himself. He should have praised God and **asked God’s will**.
7. Thou hast much goods laid up for **many years**; He did not have many years to live. (12:19).
8. Take thine **ease**. He had **lack of exercise**, and no urgency to help or save others.
9. **Eat**. Maybe he ate fatty foods. His god was his belly.
10. **Drink**. He was alcohol. He was not talking about water. These three promote heart attack.
11. **Be merry**. He was a pleasure seeker. He ignored other’s needs. His joy should have been to help others.
12. **God said**. God had an opinion on his behaviour. He ignored God’s thoughts. He did not hear God. 20
13. **Thou fool**. He had wrong priorities. God saw him differently.
14. **This night**. He ignored death. Anyone can die anytime. Time of death is uncertain.
15. **Thy soul**. His soul was the only thing he possessed. He was poor. He had no treasure in heaven. 20.
16. Shall be **required**. God requires that which is past (Eccles 3:15). We must give account to God.
17. **Of thee**, or out of thee. One day, our soul and spirit will leave our body.
18. Then **whose shall those things be?** His possessions went to others on his death. He lost all at death.
19. Which **thou hast provided**. He provided things, **not souls saved**. He placed little value on people.
20. **Treasure for himself**. He should have laid up treasures for himself in heaven (Matt 6:20). He did not.

53. 15 Great Young People Will you learn their lessons? Will you make mistakes and fail?

1. **Joseph** learned to stay close to God, trust God in difficult problems, consult God, listen to God in all situations of life (Gen 37:2 and 39:1-5). He learned that God has great plans for his life and that he must trust God to bring good out of evil (50:20). If we honour God, then God will honour us (I Samuel 2:30).
2. **Samuel** learned to listen to God and to hear God’s voice (I Samuel 3:4-10). He learned to speak God’s message to people (3:18-21). He learned to value God’s words (3:19).
3. **David** learned valuable skills like sling-shooting, caring for sheep, courage to fight Goliath, love God, writing messages from God as Psalms (I Samuel 17:43-54).
4. **Solomon** learned to ask God for wisdom to rule people and to solve problems (I Kings 3:3-10).
5. **Little maid** learned to refer people to Elisha, the Godly problem solver (2 Kings 5:2-4).
6. **Josiah age 18**, repaired the temple (2 Kings 22:1-7), humbled himself to God (22:18,19), made a covenant to keep God’s commandments (23:1-3), removed idols and sodomites (23:4-7).
7. **Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego** refused junk food (Dan 1:5-8) and idol-worshipping (3:16-18) because it displeased God. They learned to reject peer pressure and to obey God rather than men.
8. **Jesus age 12**, listening to Bible teachers & asking them questions in the temple for 3 days. Luk 2:41-52 Jesus had **understanding** and **answers** to many questions (47). Jesus knew that he must **do His Father’s business** (49). Jesus increased in **wisdom, in stature, in favour with God & man** (spiritually, socially,52)
9. **Lad** who gave his 5 barley loaves and 2 small fishes to Jesus to feed a multitude (John 6:9) learned that what you give to Jesus, **He multiplies for others benefit**.
10. **John** learned that **Jesus loved him** and that he should love and please Jesus (John 13:23). Jesus rewarded John by inspiring him to write 5 NT books & to be a time traveller to record future events (Rev).
11. **Paul** who witnessed the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:58), asked two of life’s most important questions: “**Who at thou Lord?**” (who is Jesus?) and “**Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?**” (9:5,6).
12. **Timothy** (abide at Ephesus, ITim1:3), **Titus** (ordain elders 1:5), **Onesimos** (which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me: Phil 11), who **learned from Paul to pastor churches**.
13. **Eutychus** who fell asleep during Paul’s long sermon. (Acts 20:9-12). He learned not to fall asleep in good preaching and **don’t sit in dangerous places.**

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54. The GOOD SAMARITAN

Bible Reading: Luke 10:25-37. **Aim:** To show how greatly we need Jesus Christ (the Good Samaritan) to save us from our sins and as an example of showing mercy to those in need.

Introduction: Satan deceives people into thinking that sin has no consequences. When we see the terrible effects of sin, we really hate it and avoid it.

I. The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-33). This story Jesus told must be interpreted on two levels:

- i) The plain teaching. Live like the good Samaritan. Help others in need. ‘Go thou and do likewise.(v.37).
- ii) The metaphorical teaching is seen in the context of the Jews rejecting Jesus.

As the Jewish leaders were of no help to the beaten, robbed man, neither could they help lost people. As the outcast Samaritan was the only one willing to help the beaten man, so Jesus was the outcast One who was willing to seek and save lost sinners. “Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan?” (John 8:48).

II. A Deeper Meaning In This Story. “A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.” (30). Many parts of this story remind us of human history from the fall to Jesus Christ’s return.

1. A certain man reminds us of the first Adam.

2. Jerusalem (city of peace) reminds us of the happy peace and rest man enjoyed before the fall in Eden.

3. Went down from Jerusalem to Jericho reminds us of man departing from God and falling down morally in obeying the serpent. i) Jerusalem = city of peace (Shalom in Hebrew).

ii) Jericho = a city of curse and death, just as man is now living under the curse and death in this world. Joshua (Hebrew for Jesus) pronounced a curse on this city after it was destroyed (Joshua 6:26) that whoever rebuilt it would experience the death of his first born and youngest sons at the beginning and end of the construction project. This was fulfilled 520 years later when Hiel the Bethelite rebuilt Jericho by seeing his sons Abiram and Segub die as Joshua prophesied (I Kings 16:34).

4. He fell among thieves. Satan and sin remind us of the thieves, who stripped man of his clothing (man’s first righteousness before the fall), and spiritually wounded him leaving him half dead.

(Though man was alive in his body, he was dead in his spirit. Ephesians 2:1).
“In the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die.” (Genesis 2:17).

5. The Priest and Levite who had no compassion on the wounded man remind us of the Law and the Levitical priesthood which set a high standard but cannot save us. The law cannot save us, nor can our attempts at holiness by religious rituals save us.

6. The Good Samaritan reminds us of Jesus Christ Who was sinless, compassionate on man’s plight and able to restore us to our right state by paying the penalty for our sins on the cross.

7. He poured in wine. This reminds us of the blood of Jesus Christ which saves us and cleanses us from all sin. The wine in the Lord’s supper is to remind us of Christ’s saving blood (Matt 26:28).

8. He poured in oil. This reminds us of the comforting, restoring, joyful work of the Holy Spirit received by those putting faith in Christ’s blood sacrifice. “Thy God hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness.” Ps 45:7

9. He set him on his own beast (v.34) reminds us of the doctrine of Christ (Hebrews 6:1,2), Bible doctrine and the gospel of Christ. Why? As a donkey carries the body, so doctrine metaphorically carries the soul.

i) “Barnabus also was carried away with their dissimulation.” (Galatians 2:13).

ii) “Be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine.” (Ephesian 4:4)

iii) “Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.” 1Cor 12:2

iv) “Be not carried about with diverse and strange doctrines.” (Hebrews 13:9).

10. The Inn reminds us of a church, a place of spiritual recovery. True doctrine carries us to a true church.

11. The Host (v.35) in charge of the inn reminds us of a caring Pastor who is a good Bible teacher who feeds people God’s word and takes spiritual care and oversight of believers.

12. Two pence remind us of 2000 years from Christ’s first coming to his second coming. As average wages were a penny a day (Matthew 20:2), so two pennies wages were two days wages, reminding us of the time between Christ departure in 33AD and His second coming when Israel gets revived spiritually as implied in Hosea 6:2 “After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up”. 2 Peter 3:8.

13. Samaritan going away (v.35) remind us of Christ’s ascension to heaven. Christ has given believers talents to use to win the lost and to train the saints. Whatever we spend now in God’s service, when Jesus Christ returns, He will repay us and reward us at the Judgment Seat of Christ (II Corinthians 5:10). **59**

55. What PAUL Did That We Should Do

Bible Reading: I Corinthians 3; 15:35-58.

Memory Verse: “Be ye followerers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” I Corinthians 11:1.

Aim: To discover great secrets for living that we can apply to have a stronger, more useful life.

Introduction: Many people lack confidence about what is right. Paul knew God’s will and did it so well that we can have a better life by following Paul’s example about what he did. Are you doing these things?

What Paul did that we should follow.

1. I thank my God always on your behalf. 1:4

2. I beseech you, brethren,... that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 1:10

3. I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. 3:1

4. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, 3:2.

5. I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 3:6

6. I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. 3:10.

7. I warn you. For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: 4:14

8. I have begotten you through the gospel. Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. 4:15,16.

9. I sent unto you Timothy,... who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ 4:17

10. I teach every where in every church. 4:17.

11. I verily, ... have judged already, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 5:3.

12. I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. 5:11

13. I will not be brought under the power of any. 6:12.

14. I would have you without carefulness. 7:32.

15. I speak for your own profit; 7:35.

16. I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend. 8:13

17. I am an apostle. I am free. I have seen Jesus Christ our Lord. Are not ye my work in the Lord? 9:1.

18. If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? 9:11

19. If I do this thing willingly (*preach the gospel*), I have a reward: 9:17.

20. I have made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. 9:19.

21. I run, I fight. I keep my body under subjection. 9:26,27.

22. I would not that ye should be ignorant. 10:1; 12:1.

23. I follow Christ. 11:1.

24. I praise you, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. 11:2

25. I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. 11:18.

26. I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, 11:23.

27. I will set in order the rest when I come. 11:34.

28. I show unto you a more excellent way. 12:31.

29. When I became a man, I put away childish things. 13:11.

30. I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. 14:15.

31. I might teach others with understanding. 14:19.

32. The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. 14:37.

33. I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, 15:1.

34. I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 15:10

35. I die daily. 15:31.

36. Awake to righteousness & sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.34

37. I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. 15:51.

38. I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 16:1.

39. I greatly desired him (*Apollos*) to come unto you with the brethren: 16:12.

40. I beseech that ye submit yourselves unto such, & to every one that helpeth with us & laboreth.16:16

41. I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied. For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: 16:17,18. **60**

56. APOLLOS: Mighty in the Scriptures and Mighty Convincing

Bible Reading: Acts 18:24-28; 19:1-22.

9 July 2017.

Aim: To follow the example of Apollos in mightily convincing people to receive Christ. (Acts 18:28)

M Verse: ‘he mightily convinced the Jews, & publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.’

Introduction: Apollos was a great example and inspiration to us of a quality Christian worker. So many great things are said about him that we must learn from his life and ministry. He was studied, prepared, courageous, teachable, available and good with people. Today, we meet so many people who need answers to convince them of Bible truths and to reject many errors that they believe (1 Peter 3:15). Errors to refute are evolution, Islam, Calvinism, Atheism, Catholicism, Modern Bible versions, lukewarmness.

1. He was a **Jew born** at **Alexandria** of the Diaspora in pagan Egypt. He knew the OT well (Acts 18:24).
2. He was **eloquent**. He was able to clearly explain and communicate important ideas.
3. He was **mighty** in the Scriptures. He had deeply studied, understood, defended & taught the Scriptures.
4. He came to **Ephesus**. He **travelled** to teach God’s word.
5. He was **teachable**, open to learn new Bible truths. ‘He was instructed in the way of the Lord. Acts 18:25 He loved God. He wanted to follow in God’s ways. He was keen to learn.
6. He was **fervent** in the Spirit. He was a hot, zealous, on fire, serious Christian. He was not lukewarm. He knew that God’s work was very important to fulfil. He knew that he was accountable to God to spread God’s truth and to change men’s thinking.
7. He **spoke** diligently in private conversations the things of the Lord (25).
8. He **taught** diligently in public, teaching the things of the Lord.
9. His **knowledge was limited** to the teachings of John the Baptist. He needed updating on Who Jesus is and what Jesus did. He accepted this as Bible truth. He based his beliefs solely on the Bible.
10. He **spoke boldly**, courageously, convincingly in the synagogue (26).
11. He was **noticed** by Aquila and Priscilla (Paul’s helpers) as one who had great potential and great abilities to win people to Christ (26).

12. He **listened** and **learned** as they “expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.” (18:26).

So many people are like Apollos, who have partial, limited knowledge, but if someone taught them more perfectly, they would do great things for God. We must look for, find and teach such people.

13. He **travelled west** from **Ephesus** (in modern Turkey) across the Aegean Sea to **Corinth** in Achaia in modern Greece to help the church at Corinth that Paul had planted the same year (54 AD). He helped the Corinthian disciples much (18:27).

14. He **mightily convinced** the Jews publicly in the Corinthian synagogue, showing by the scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah prophesied in the Old Testament (18:28). He would have shown some of the 45 OT prophecies that Jesus fulfilled in His life, teachings, death, burial, resurrection & ascension. (Answers 12).

15. Paul **left him at Corinth** to water, grow, teach and build up the Corinthian church (19:1).

“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.” I Cor 3:6.

This allowed Paul to travel back to Ephesus to build the Ephesian church for the next 2 years (19:1-10).

Lesson: More well trained workers will allow other well trained workers to grow more churches. A great need is more well trained soul-winners, Bible teachers and church planters. Answers books train these.

16. He was a **strong soul winner**. He led many to Christ in Corinth and grew the church. He was a “minister by whom ye believed”. “Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?” I Cor 3:5. The Lord has given soul winning to us all.

17. He was such an **inspiring leader** and **Bible teacher** that some Corinthian believers put him on the same spiritual level as Paul and Peter. Many were very loyal to Apollos. “Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.” I Cor 1:12.

18. He **rejected Paul’s request** to visit the Corinthian church in 59 AD.

“As touching our brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time.” I Cor 16:12.

19. Paul requested **Titus** in 65 AD to **bring Zenas the lawyer** and **Apollos** to help defend him in his upcoming court cases in 66 AD. “Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them.” Titus 3:13. Apollos was loyal to Paul, helping him in his time of need.

Conc: Will you study to be an effective worker like Apollos? Will you cultivate these 19 qualities? **61**

57. ONESIMOS (profitable) and PHILEMON.

Bible Reading: Acts 28:16-31; Philemon 1-25. Christian friendships continue for ever (15).

Youtube: The Bible Story of Philemon and Onesimus. A light of truth.com

Aim: To know that young Christians should not be seen as unprofitable, but as having great potential.

Memory Verse: “I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me.” Philemon 10,11. Colossians 4:9.

Introduction: Paul wrote this letter from prison in Rome (Acts 28:30) to his friend Philemon in Colossae, requesting him to welcome, receive and forgive his runaway slave Onesimus, not as a slave, but as a beloved brother in Christ (16). God here declares His rejection of slavery. Galatians 3:28 “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond (slave) nor free... male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.” Paul wrote Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians and Philippians in his first Roman imprisonment (61-63AD). Paul was released, rearrested and wrote I,II Timothy and Titus. These are his “prison epistles”.

Paul sent Colossians & Philemon letters with Tychicus & Onesimus to Philemon & Colossae (Col 4:7-9). In both Philemon & Colossians, Paul mentions Archippus, Epaphras, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke. C4:10-17 **Outline:** 1) Greeting (1-7). 2) Plea (8-12,17). 3) Relationship (13-16). 4) Pledge (18-21). 5) Conc (22-25)

Theme: Christian forgiveness, reconciliation & restoration of fellowship because Christ loves, forgave us.

I. Philemon was a wealthy resident at Colossae, owning a house large enough to be a church (Philem 2). Apphia was his wife and Archippus his son (2). He had great love and faith to Jesus and all believers (5). He was poor at sharing the gospel, “that the communication of thy faith may become effectual” (6).

He refreshed (Greek: ‘anapepautai’ is ‘rest’ in Matt 11:28) the bowels (emotions, inner parts) of Paul and other Christians (7,20). He owned a slave named Onesimus, who ran away from Philemon to Rome where he met Paul who led him to Christ (11,15,16). Paul led Philemon to Christ in his 3 years at Ephesus in 56-59AD (Acts 19; 20:31). Philemon respected Paul since Paul says that “thou wilt do more than I say” (21).

II. Onesimus was a slave owned by Philemon, who happened to be a convert of Paul. Onesimus stole some money from Philemon (18,19), escaped to Rome, was brought to Paul in prison (possibly by Tychicus), where Paul led him to Christ, “my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds” (10). Philemon considered Onesimus to be “unprofitable” (useless), but Paul now assured him that Onesimus as a regenerated child of God was “profitable (useful) to thee and to me” (11). Onesimus had a new desire to please God & to live for Christ. He thus was very useful to help Paul in his ministry (13). He had a desire to be reconciled to Philemon “that thou should receive him for ever” (15). He returned to Philemon who lovingly accepted him back into fellowship, not as a slave, but as a brother beloved (16). God used him.

Ignatius (30-107AD) in his letter to the Ephesians (Vol 1, p49,50,52,101,112,114) states that Onesimus later became bishop of the church at Ephesus: “Onesimus, a man of inexpressible love, who is your bishop... whom I pray... that you would all seek to be like him... such an excellent bishop. (p.49).

Onesimus who is your bishop, in love which is unutterable,... that all of you imitate his example (p.101).”

Lesson: Jesus can change a runaway, thieving slave into a famous, loving, kind pastor of a great church.

III. Paul introduces himself as “a prisoner of Jesus Christ” for his gospel preaching (1) because this letter is one of entreaty & request, not of command as would be seen by using the term “apostle” as in 7 letters.

Timothy’s name was introduced with Paul’s in 2 Corinthians, Philippians, Colossians, I,II Thessalonians. Paul compliments Philemon as “our dearly beloved and fellowlabourer” (1), his beloved wife Apphia and fellow soldier son Archippus (2). He conveys grace and peace to them (3). Paul thanks Philemon for his love, faith (5), gospel preaching (6), refreshing joy and consolation (7). Paul introduces himself as aged and a prisoner (9). Paul’s appeal was based on Philemon’s love to all the saints (5) which should now be shown to Onesimus (9) who was a slave with no rights, but was now on a spiritual plane equal with his owner Philemon and with the leading apostle. The slave-prisoner relationship became a spiritual son-father relationship (10), as with Timothy (I Tim 1:2) & Titus (1:4). He who was useless is now useful by regeneration to thee & to me (11). Paul asks Philemon to “receive him as myself” (12,17), not as a slave, but as a brother beloved (16). Paul asked Philemon to charge Onesimus’ debt on Paul’s account (18). As we sinners are in debt to God, so Christ took on Himself our sin debt (Isaiah 53:6; John 1:29; Heb 9:28).

Onesimus typifies sinners. Paul typifies Christ. Philemon typifies God the Father. Paul legally obliges himself to pay Onesimus’ debt by ‘writing it with my own hand’ (19). We owe much to soul-winners (19).

58. **TITUS, Paul's helper, comfort, joy.** Bible Reading: Titus 3

Aim: To work with other Christians to grow God's work as Titus helped Paul.

Q1: **What Do we Know about Titus?**

1. **He greatly helped Paul.** "I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not **Titus my brother**: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia." 2 Cor 2:13.
2. **Hw comforted Paul by coming to see him.** "God, **comforted us by the coming of Titus**;" 2 Cor 7:6.
3. **He had a joyful reception. He loved the Corinthians (15).** "Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the **joy of Titus**, because **his spirit was refreshed by you all**. (13) For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so **our boasting**, which I made before **Titus**, is found a truth. (14). His **inward affection** is more abundant toward you." 2 Cor 7:13,14,15.
4. **Titus cared for the Corinthians.** God, put the **same earnest CARE** into the heart of **Titus** for you.8:16
5. **Titus was Paul's assistant and helper.** He was a **messenger of the churches and the glory of Christ.** "Whether any do enquire of **Titus**, he is **my partner** and **fellowhelper** concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the **messengers of the churches**, and the **glory of Christ**." 2 Cor 8:23.
6. **Titus was not greedy of money.** "I desired **Titus**, and with him I sent a brother. **Did Titus make a gain of you? walked we not in the same spirit? walked we not in the same steps?**" 2 Cor 12:18.
7. **Titus went with Barnabas and Paul to Jerusalem (Acts 15:12).** "Then **fourteen years after** I went up again to **Jerusalem** with **Barnabas**, and **took Titus** with me also." Galatians 2:1.
8. **Titus preached in Dalmatia.** "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, **Titus unto Dalmatia**." 2 Timothy 4:10.
9. **Paul led Titus to Christ.** To **Titus, mine own son after the common faith**: Grace, mercy, peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. Titus 1:4.

Q2: **What did Paul Tell Titus to Do?**

1. **Titus 1:5** "For this cause left I thee in **Crete**, that thou shouldest **set in order the things that are wanting**, and **ordain elders in every city**, as I had appointed thee:"
2. **Titus 1:13** This witness is true. Wherefore **rebuke them sharply**, that they may be **sound in the faith**;
3. **Titus 2:1** But **speak thou the things** which become **sound doctrine**;
4. **Titus 2:7** In all things shewing thyself a **pattern of good works**: in **doctrine shewing uncorruptness**,
5. **Titus 2:12** Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness** and **worldly lusts**, we should **live soberly, righteously**, and **godly**, in this present world;
6. **Titus 2:15** These things **speak**, and **exhort**, and **rebuke** with all authority. **Let no man despise thee**.
7. **Titus 3:1,2** Put them in mind to **be subject to principalities and powers**, to **obey magistrates**, to be **ready to every good work**. (1). To **speak evil of no man**, to be no brawlers, but **gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men**. (2)
8. **Titus 3:8** This is a faithful saying & these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be **careful to maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable to men.
9. **Tit 3:9** **Avoid foolish questions**, genealogies, contentions & strivings about the law; they are unprofitable vain
10. **Titus 3:10** A man that is an **heretick after the first and second admonition reject**;
11. **Tit 3:12** When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, **be diligent to come to me to Nicopolis**: for I have determined there to winter.
12. **Tit 3:13** **Bring Zenas the lawyer & Apollos** on their journey diligently, that **nothing be wanting** unto them.
13. **Titus 3:15** All that are with me salute thee. **Greet them that love us in the faith**. Grace be with you all. Amen. It was written to **Titus**, ordained the first bishop of the church of the Cretians, from Nicopolis of Macedonia.

Q3: **What Paul taught Titus about Jesus Christ?**

1. **Titus 2:13** Looking for that **blessed hope**, and the **glorious appearing** of the **great God** and **our Saviour Jesus Christ**;
2. **Titus 2:14** **Who gave himself for us**, that he might **redeem us from all iniquity**, and **purify unto himself** a peculiar people, **zealous of good works**.
3. **Titus 3:4** But after that the **kindness** and **love of God our Saviour** toward man appeared,
4. **Titus 3:5** Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but **according to his mercy he saved us**, by the **washing of regeneration**, and **renewing** of the Holy Ghost;
5. **Titus 3:6** Which he shed on us abundantly through **Jesus Christ our Saviour**; p.63
6. **Titus 3:7** Being **justified by his grace**, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

59. **Inspiring Lessons from EARLY Christians: Think and Act like them.**

Bible Reading: Acts 18:18-28; 28:16-31.

Memory Verse: "the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and **they will hear it**" Acts 28:28

Aim: To think & act like the early Christians who changed the world by gospel preaching, Bible teaching
Introduction: The **apostles** and **early Christians** changed the first century world from being pagan, idol-worshipping, wicked, sinful, ignorant of God into **Christian, Bible based, lovers of God** and **others**. Churches sprang up all over the ancient world within 70 years. Why did this happen? Can it happen today.

What Did the Early Christians Think, Say and Do that we Should Follow Today?

Act 1:14 These **all continued** with **one accord** in **prayer and supplication**,

Act 2:42 They **continued stedfastly** in the **apostles' doctrine, fellowship, in breaking of bread, in prayers**.

Act 4:2 Being grieved that they **taught the people, preached** through Jesus the **resurrection from the dead**

Act 4:29 Grant unto thy servants, that with **all boldness** they may **speak thy word**,

Acts 5:28 ye have **filled Jerusalem with your doctrine**, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

Act 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God** rather than **men**.

5:41 They departed from the council, **rejoicing** that they were counted worthy to **suffer shame for his name**

Act 5:42 **Daily** in the temple, and **in every house**, they ceased not to **teach** and **preach Jesus Christ**.

Act 6:4 But we will **give ourselves continually to prayer**, and to the **ministry of the word**.

Act 6:10 They were **not able to resist the wisdom** and the **spirit** by which he spake.

Act 8:4 Therefore they that were **scattered abroad** went **every where preaching the word**.

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same **scripture**, and **preached unto him Jesus**.

Act 9:20 Straightway he **preached Christ** in the synagogues, that **he is the Son (Huios) of God**.

9:22 **Saul increased the more in strength**, and **confounded the Jews** proving that this is very Christ.

Act 9:29 He **spake boldly** in the name of the Lord Jesus, and **disputed** against the Grecians.

Act 9:31 Then had the **churches rest** throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were **edified**;

and walking in the **fear of the Lord**, and in the **comfort** of the Holy Ghost, were **multiplied**.

Act 10:4 He said unto him, **Thy prayers** and **thine alms** are come up for a **memorial before God**.

10:48 He commanded them to be **baptized** in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to **tarry** days.

Act 11:29 The disciples, **every man according to his ability, determined to send relief** to the brethren

Act 13:36 David, after he had **served his own generation** by the will of God, fell on sleep,

13:47 I have set thee to be a **light of the Gentiles**, that thou should be for **salvation to the ends of the earth**

14:21 When they had **preached the gospel** to that city, & had **taught many**, they returned again to Lystra,

Act 14:23 When they had ordained them **elders in every church**, and had **prayed** with fasting, they...

15:35 Paul & Barnabas continued in Antioch, **teaching & preaching the word** of the Lord, with many others

15:36 Let us visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, see how they do

Act 16:5 So were the **churches established in the faith**, and **increased in number daily**

16:9 There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, **Come over** into Macedonia, and **help us**.

Act 16:25 At midnight Paul and Silas **prayed**, and **sang praises** unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

17:2 Paul as his manner was, went in unto them, 3 sabbath days **reasoned** with them **out of the scriptures**

Act 17:6 These that have **turned the world upside down** are come hither also;

17:11 they **received the word** with all readiness of mind, **searched the scriptures daily**, whether those

17:16 While Paul waited for them at Athens, **his spirit was stirred in him**, when he saw the city wholly

given to idolatry. Therefore **disputed** he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons.

Act 18:4 **He reasoned** in the synagogue every sabbath, and **persuaded** the Jews and the Greeks.

18:5 When Silas & Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was **pressed in the spirit**, & testified to

Act 18:11 He continued there a **year and six months, teaching the word of God** among them.

Acts 18:24-28 **Apollos**: fervent in spirit, spake & taught diligently, helped much, mightily convinced Jews

19:8-10 He went into the synagogue, spake boldly for the space of **three months, disputing, persuading**

Act 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and **called the elders of the church**.

Act 20:35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to **support the weak**

Act 26:19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, **I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision**:

Acts 28:28 Be it known to you, that the **salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles**, and **they will hear it**.

Conclusion: Which of these lessons do you need to focus on?

60. Godly People Who Did GREAT Things

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Bible Reading: Hebrews 11:1-40; Isaiah 44:28-45:7. Underlined =JHVH appeared to.

Aim: To learn how Christians solved problems, blessed others. To be encouraged by them.

Introduction: Who are the best Christians in the Bible? What did they achieve? What do we learn?

- 1. Enoch** Gen 5:24 Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him. Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. Jude 14 Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,
- 2. Noah** was a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5), prepared an ark (Heb 11:7). Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him. (Gen 7:5).
- 3. Abraham** Heard & obeyed God's voice. Blessed others. Trust God. Resolved conflicts. Train children
- 4. Isaac**. Served God with his father. Continued his work. Re-dug wells of truth. Check people.
- 5. Joseph**. Have a vision. Trust God. Prepare for famines. Reconcile. Comfort family.
- 6. Job**. Satan steals. Don't blame God. Encourage hurt people. God rewards patience. God's questions 38-7.
- 7. Moses**. Don't quit. God has a great plan for your life. Lead people to obey God. Wrote 5 books.
- 8. Joshua** (1:8,9) and Caleb told Israel to trust God. Conquered Jericho, Ai, Canaan. Tribes allocated land.
- 9. Gideon** (Judges 6:12,14,16) removed Baal worship and led Israel to expel oppressors
- 10. Samuel** prayed "Speak: for thy servant heareth" I Sam 3:9,10. Rebuked Israel wanting a king (10:19).
- 11. David** learned skills to defeat Goliath, ruled 40 yr, wrote Psalms, adultery, trained godly Solomon.
- 12. Solomon** asked God for wisdom (I K 3:5-9), built temple, made peace, wrote Proverbs, bad wives.
- 13. Elijah** rebuked evil Ahab (I K 17:1), proved JHVH is God, fled to Horeb, trained Elisha, 8 miracles.
- 14. Hezekiah's** revival, friend of Isaiah, called Jews to turn to JHVH (2 Ch 30:6), resisted Assyria (32:1).
- 15. Isaiah** (760-698BC). Jesus' rule (2:1-5; 9:6,7), death (53), return (26:19-21), saw JHVH (6:1-8), JBar
- 16. Jeremiah** (629-588BC) rebuked remnant in Judah after invasion (3:10). Elam prophecy (49:34-39).
- 17. Ezekiel** (595-574BC) encouraged Jews taken to Babylon. Sin brings pain. Israel return to land, temple
- 18. Daniel** (607-534BC) rejected junk food. Saw 6 world empires, 70 week prophecy, Tribulation (12:1).
- 19. Cyrus** (536BC). Isaiah prophesied him conquering Babylon (Is 44:28-45:7) and letting Israel return.
- 20. Ezra** (536-457BC) returned to build the temple with Haggai & Zechariah (5:1; 6:14,15). Cyrus' decree
- 21. Esther** (521-509BC) married Khashayasha (485-465BC), saved Israel from Haman (4:14). Purim feast
- 22. Nehemiah** (445-434BC) returned to build walls+city by Ardeshir decree (2:8), revival (8:5-9). 70 wk.
- 22. John the Baptist** (1BC-31AD) prepared way for Jesus (Isa40:3), led revival, rebuked Pharisees, Herod
- 23. Mary** and **Joseph** cared for Jesus. Mary at Cana (John 2:5), cross (John 19:25), upper room (Act1:14).
- 24. Jesus Christ** did Father's business (Lk2:49), finished the work (John17:4), trained disciples, died+rose
- 25. Matthew**, tax collector who left his job to follow Jesus, made Jesus a great feast, wrote Jesus' life.
- 26. Mark** left Paul+Barnabas on 1st mission trip (Act 12:25; 13:13), wrote book, profitable ministry. 2T4:11
- 27. John** loved Jesus, at cross, at empty tomb, Galilee, Beautiful gate, Patmos wrote Revelation + 4 books
- 28. Peter** ask Jesus questions, denied Jesus, asks forgiveness, led 3000 to Jesus at Pentecost, wrote 2 book
- 29. Andrew** brought Peter his brother to Jesus (John 1:41,42), a boy (John 6:8,9) and Greeks (12:20-22).
- 30. Nicodemus**, ruler, wanted to be saved, asked Jesus how to be born again (John 3), helped bury Jesus.
- 31. Stephen** full of faith, HS, power (A6:5,8), wisdom (3), light (15), Bible (7:1-50), courage (51), love60
- 32. Phillip** preached Christ at Samaria (8:5), to Ethiopian eunuch (8:26-40), had 4 teaching daughters 21:9
- 33. Paul** persecuted Christians, met Jesus, got saved, 3 mission trips, died, wrote 14 books, many disciples
- 34. Barnabas**, son of consolation (A4:36) of Cyprus, sold land & gave to church, discipled Paul & Mark.
- 35. Timothy** (Acts 16:1-5) helped Paul and Silas, my workfellow (Rom16:21), faithful (ICor4:17). 2books
- 36. Luke** wrote Luke & Acts. Paul's 2nd mission (16:10). Physician (Col 4:14). Loyal to Paul (2 Tim 4:11)
- 37. Aquila** and Priscilla (18:1-3) fled Rome, met Paul at Corinth, helpers (Rom16:3), met Apollos (24-28)
- 38. Sosthenes** (Acts 18:17) chief ruler of Corinth synagogue, got saved, helped Paul write I Cor (ICor1:1).
- 39. Apollos** (18:24-19:1) of Alexandria, eloquent, mighty in scriptures, fervent, mightily convinced Jews.
- 40. Onesimos** (profitable 11) runaway slave from Philemon, met Paul in Rome, got saved, love as brother
- 41. Titus**, a Greek, comforted Paul (2Cor7:6), earnest care (8:16), ordained elders in Crete cities (Tit1:5)
- 42. James**, brother of Jude & Jesus (Gal 1:19). Wrote James 45AD, a pillar of Jerusalem church (Gal 2:9)
- 43. Jude**, brother of James & Jesus (Jude 1; Matt 13:55), wrote Jude.66AD. Earnestly contend for faith(3)

61. Marks of a Mature and an Immature Person

Bible Reading: James 1,2 **Youtube:** BBC News 1984 - York Minster Fire. 20 November 2016

Aim: To avoid immaturity and to become a mature Christian. **M Verse:** "he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." James 5:20.

Introduction: Many who have been Christians for many years are still immature. Some new Christians show great maturity. What does **James** say about marks of immaturity and how to become mature?

I. Illustration of 2 Ungodly people. Early Monday morning July 9, 1984, York Cathedral in England caught fire. The wooden vaulted roof of the south transept was destroyed. The interior suffered extensive damage. Only the determined efforts of 150 fire fighters saved one of Europe's largest Gothic cathedrals from being consumed. The official explanation was that a freak bolt of lightning touched off the fire. But many in England are not so sure — not so much about the lightning but its being accidental. **Only three days before the blaze**, Dr **David Jenkins** was consecrated Bishop of Durham in the cathedral. Dr.Jenkins had been the centre of much controversy in the Church of England. He had made public statements that left many wondering if he really believed in some of the fundamental tenets of his faith — especially the virgin birth of Christ and his resurrection from the grave. Dr. Jenkins was entitled to his doubts, said the critics, but **he was not entitled to be a bishop**. Nevertheless, **he was ordained** in an impressive ceremony **in the cathedral** by the Archbishop of York, Dr. **John Habgood**. On the Sunday evening following the ordination, the Archbishop preached in **defense of Professor Jenkins' appointment**. **A few hours later, lightning struck the cathedral!** And that, thought some, was not just a coincidence. They saw it rather as evidence of divine displeasure. As the London Times pointed out in an editorial the next day: "A bolt from heaven the very night after the Archbishop preached in defence of his Durham appointment before the assembled synod: It is hard not to be reminded of Elijah and the priests of Baal."

II. Marks of an Immature, Ungodly Person in James

1:6,8 He wavers (6) and is double-minded (8). **James 1:13** He blames God when he is tempted.

1:14,15 His lusts and desires control him, such as alcohol, cigarettes, pornography, useless activities.

1:19,20 He is opposite of being swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

1:20 He indulges in filthiness. **1:23-25** He hears the Word of God but does not do it.

1:26 He bridles not his tongue. **2:1-4** He favours rich and famous people over poor people.

2:8 He does not love his neighbour as himself. **2:13** He does not show mercy to others in need.

3:3 He easily, needlessly offends others with his tongue.

3:14-16 He has bitterness, envying, strife and lies in his heart.

4:1-3 He lusts and fights to get what he wants. He does not ask God for his needs.

4:4 He is worldly, pleasing the worldly crowd rather than God.

4:11 He slanders and speaks evil of good Christians. **4:13-16** He boasts of his plans.

4:17 He knows what is right, but does not do it.

5:1-5 He lives only for money and pleasures. He ignores God, church and does not help the needy.

5:9 He holds grudges against others. **5:10,11** He does not endure, but quits and gives up in affliction.

III. Marks of a Mature, Godly Person in James

1:2-4 He counts it all joy when he falls into diverse testings because it produces patience and experience.

1:5 He asks God for wisdom. **James 1:9** He rejoices and praises God when he is exalted.

1:12 He endures temptation because he loves God. **1:19** He is swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

1:21 He receives, loves and studies the word of God.

1:20-25 He sees the Bible as a mirror that reflects his true character and changes his behaviour.

1:27 He visits fatherless, widows and afflicted. He keeps himself unspotted from the world.

2:14-20 His faith produces works. **3:2** He controls his tongue. **3:13** He shows meekness of wisdom.

3:17 He is pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy, good fruits, impartial, not hypocrisy

3:18 He makes peace. **4:5** He allows the Holy Spirit to control him, his words and his actions.

4:7 He submits to God. He resists the devil. **4:8** He draws near to God. He cleanses his hands by

confessing his sins to God. **4:9** He mourns over his & others sins. **4:10** He humbles himself in the sight of God. **4:11** He does not slander good Christians. **4:13-16** He consults God. He commits his plans to God.

5:7,8 He patiently bears fruit and looks for Jesus Christ's coming. **5:11** He endures troubles.

5:13 He prays effectually, fervently. He sings psalms. **5:19,20** He restores others from errors. **66**

SOUL WINNING:

62. What is a Soul-Winner?

Bible Reading: Romans 10:1-21; Luke 16:19-31.

Aim: To diagnose the heart and character of a soul winner. To think and act as a soul winner.

Memory Verse: “He that winneth souls is wise.” Proverbs 11:30.

Introduction: What is a soul winner? What qualities does a soul winner possess that other Christians do not possess? As a soul winner, do you have these qualities? Are you strengthening these qualities?

God promises special rewards for soul winners now and in eternity:

“He that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.” John 4:36.

“They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.” Daniel 12:3.

“For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Are* not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?” I Thess 2:19.

Question: What differences exist between soul-winning (SW) Christians and non-SW Christians?

1. SW’s Determination a) To win more souls for Christ. b) To endure rejection, opposition, hatred and misunderstanding. c) To please Jesus Christ. d) To study to be a better SW. ‘Follow me.’ Matthew 4:19.

2. SW’s Vision of lost souls heading to hell. Mark 9:43-48. Some Christians don’t care about hell.

3. SW’s Tears of Compassion and Love. 6 steps: “He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” Psalm 126:5,6.

SW’s care greatly about lost people. They are not willing that any should perish. II Peter 3:9.

4. SW’s Bravery, SW’s Disregard of man’s approval. SW’s motto is “We ought to obey God rather than men.” Acts 5:29. SW’s philosophy is the opposite of John 12:43, “For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.” SW’s don’t care much about what people think of them. God’s approval is all that matters. SW’s motivation is “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.” Matthew 25:21,23.

A SW shows his bravery by: a) Saying things that non-SWs won’t say. b) Going places that non-SWs won’t go. c) Doing things that non-SWs won’t do. d) Attempting things that non-SWs won’t attempt. Are you brave enough to be a SW?

5. SW’s Connections are other SWs. “I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.” Psalm 119:63. If you are a SW, you have a special love, respect and interest in other SWs worldwide. We share the same goals to win the world to Jesus Christ, teach God’s Word and refute false religions. We help each other to win more to Jesus Christ.

6. SW’s Understanding of His Own Thinking. (“Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.” Psalm 19:12) and of Unsaved People’s Thinking (“a good understanding have all they that do his commandments.” Psalm 111:10. Can you ask the right questions and give the best answers to lost?)

7. SW’s New Converts. A SW will soon lead some people to Jesus Christ. He will love his new converts in a way that non-SWs will never understand. “We were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:...because ye were dear unto us.” I Thess 2:7,8.

8. SW’s Enemies: a) Satan and evil spirits who hate and oppose him (“We wrestle against ... spiritual wickedness in high places.” Eph 6:12; “but Satan hindered us.” I Thess 2:18.). b) False brethren who are envious of his successful ministry and seek to pull him down “in perils among false brethren.” 2 Cor 11:26

c) False Religions that he refutes, debates with and exposes. “Come out of her, my people.” Rev 18:4.

9. SW’s Investments. SWs invest time, energy, money and talents in winning people to Jesus Christ and in training SWs. He will invest in: a) STOP tracts. b) Bibles. c) Answers books. d) Time in studying how to better train SWs, disciple makers, preachers and church planters. e) Missions, training SWs overseas.

10. SW’s Dependence on God to open people’s hearts. If you stay at home and never share the gospel, you don’t need to depend on God for much. “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.” John 15:5.

If you enter the battle to win souls, you must depend on God for the words to say, the spiritually hungry people to meet, and the courage and wisdom to speak to strangers.

11. SW’s Rebuke of False Doctrines. We all want people to like us.

Non-SWs don’t rebuke people’s errors too much in case they lose some friends.

SWs are willing to rebuke people’s errors and sins in order to see lost people saved, and see Christians become more Biblical. “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” II Timothy 4:2.

12. SW’s Fears. A SW fears different things to Non-SWs:

a) Non-SWs fear what men will say. SWs fear what God will say at the Judgment Seat Of Christ.

b) Non-SWs fear missing pleasures. SWs fear missing opportunities to win souls and to teach the Bible.

c) Non-SWs fear missing TV programs. SWs fear wasting their time on useless activities. Ephesians 5:16.

13. SW’s Great Love for God, the Bible and Heaven.

a) The more you love God, the more you want to please Him, and for all people to know and love God.

b) The more you love the Bible, the more you want to understand it, and for all men to know and love it.

c) The more you love heaven, the more you want all men to hear the gospel and go there.

14. SW’s Application of Bible Knowledge. Because Jesus was a SW, many Bible verses relate to SW and Bible teaching. a) Non-SWs will not understand or apply these verses. SWs will understand, love and apply these verses to win more people to Christ and to disciple more new Christians.

b) Non-SWs will wonder why they don’t get much out of Bible study or church.

SWs will get a lot of blessings out of Bible study, preaching and fellowship at church.

15. SW’s Love for the Preserved Word of God, the King James Bible.

a) Non-SW’s may not care if the Bible is preserved and without error or not.

b) SWs understand the need of an inerrant Bible to base our eternal security on. God is able to preserve it.

16. SW’s View of the Harvest. SWs see that we must sow a lot to reap a lot. 2Cor 9:6 ‘sparingly, bountifully To have a bigger harvest of souls, we must: a) Do a lot of sowing. b) Train more sowers (SWs).

c) Have good soil (good SW churches to grow SWs). d) Spray the bugs and pests (rebuke false doctrines which hinder a good harvest). e) Reap when the harvest is ready (more ready in some countries, ‘in season’ (2 Tim 4:2). f) Have a lot of sunshine (Jesus filling us with his love).

17. SW’s Sweet Spirit and Loving Heart. SWs do all to build bridges and love between people and God. SWs are peacemakers, are filled with the Holy Spirit, and show the fruit of the Spirit.

18. SW’s Clear, Effective Gospel Presentation. He asks the right questions and uses the best papers.

Use the STOP tract. Ask the 120 questions in Chapter 17. Make appointments to share the gospel.

19. SW’s Humility and Servant Heart.

20. SW’s Multiplying Network of SWs and Disciple-makers. 2 Timothy 2:2. Give people Answers books and Established books to train a multiplying network of SWs and disciple makers.

21. SW’s Joy of his children walking in Truth. 3 John 4. Keep in touch & encouraging your disciples.

22. SW’s Love for Israel (Romans 10:1) and for the Pre-Millennial Return of Christ. 2 Timothy 4:8. SWs look forward to Jesus Christ returning to take us to heaven, reward us at the JSOC and to rule with him on earth for 1000 years of righteousness. Non-SWs don’t look forward to Jesus’ return because they are occupied with the things of this world. They will be ashamed when Jesus returns. “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.” (I John 2:28).

23. SW’s Wages. “He that reapeth, receiveth wages and gathereth fruit unto life eternal.” John 4:36.

24. SW’s Results and Glory (Daniel 12:3) are: a) Many people in heaven. b) Many people living right with God and others on earth. c) Righteousness exalts a nation. d) Godly family tree. Your practical Godly SW example should be followed by your children and your disciples.

25. SW’s Love and Care for his Disciples, as a nurse cherishes her children, dear to us..

I Thess 2:7 “But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children”.

26. SW’s understanding of good and bad consequences of what we say and do. He wants to grow and protect his disciples. Some actions hurt or strengthen disciples. Shepherds care for sheep. “A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.” Proverbs 22:3.

Conclusion: Are you a SW or a non-SW? Are you learning how to lead people to Christ? Are you overcoming peoples opposition, excuses and rejection to be a better SW? Or are you a quitter of SW?

63. The PSYCHOLOGY of Gospel Preaching. Our Duty to the Gospel.

Bible Reading: I Corinthians 15:1-11; I Thessalonians 2:1-20.

Memory Verse: “For I am not ashamed of the **gospel of Christ**; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” Romans 1:16.

Aim: To fulfil our duty to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Introduction: The gospel is a very important subject in the Bible because it saves sinners from hell. What do we know about the gospel? How should it change our lives? What is our duty to it?

I. Definition of the Gospel is in I Corinthians 15:1-4 “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the **gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 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:”

II. Benefits of the Gospel

- 1. Gospel saves us.** “gospel... By which also ye are saved” I Corinthians 15:2.
- 2. Poor people appreciate it** more than the rich. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the **poor**;” Luke 4:18; “to the **poor** the gospel is preached.” 7:22.
- 3. Gospel will be preached worldwide before Jesus Christ returns.** “this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in **all the world** for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.” Matthew 24:14.
- 4. Gospel makes some people famous & well known.** “Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.” Matth 26:13.
- 5. Gospel must be believed as true.** “repent ye, and **believe the gospel**.” Mark 1:15.
- 6. Gospel calls us to lose our life for it, saving us from an empty life.** “whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and **the gospel’s**, the same shall **save it**.” Mark 8:35.
- 7. Gospel calls us to go to all the world to preach it.** “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15.
- 8. Gospel preaching leads us to teaching many people.** “when they had **preached the gospel** to that city, and had **taught many**,” Acts 14:21.
- 9. Gospel separates us from sin & separates us to God.** ‘separated unto the gospel of God.’ Romans 1:1
- 10. Gospel preaching leads us to serve with our spirit.** “God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son,” Romans 1:9.
- 11. We must be ready to preach the gospel.** “I am ready to preach the gospel to you at Rome. Rom 1:15
- 12. We must not be ashamed of it.** “I am **not ashamed** of the gospel of Christ:” Romans 1:16.
- 13. Gospel of Christ is the power of God to save sinners.** ‘it is the power of God unto salvation’ Rom 1:16
- 14. Gospel brings peace between God and man.** “How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of **peace**, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15; “your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of **peace**;” Ephesians 6:15.
- 15. Gospel must be obeyed.** It requires a response from all people. “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not** the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:” 2 Thess 1:8; “they have not all **obeyed** the gospel.” Romans 10:16.
- 16. Gospel produces enemies.** “As concerning the gospel, they are **enemies** for your sakes:” Rom.11:28.
- 17. Gospel requires us to strive** to preach it properly. ‘so have I **strived** to preach the gospel’ Rom 15:20
- 18. Gospel brings blessings** to those who **receive it** and to those who **explain it**. “I shall come in the fulness of the **blessing** of the gospel of Christ.” Romans 15:29.
- 19. Gospel establishes us in life.** “Now to him that is of power to **stablish** you according to my gospel.” Romans 16:25.
- 20. Gospel does not include baptism.** ‘Christ sent me **not to baptize**, but to preach the gospel:’ I Cor 1:17
- 21. Gospel brings people into God’s family.** There are more instructors in Christ than soul winners. “For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.” I Cor 4:15.
- 22. Gospel can be hindered.** ‘we ..suffer all things, lest we should **hinder** the gospel of Christ’ I Cor 9:12.
- 23. Full time gospel preachers should be paid.** “Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.” I Cor 9:14.

24. Failure to preach the gospel brings a curse. ‘woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!’ I Cor 9:16.

25. Gospel is hid to lost people. They can’t understand it or work it out. They need it to be explained. ‘But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost’ 2 Cor 4:3. “How can I except some man guide me?”

26. Gospel brings light to individuals and nations. “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the **light of the glorious gospel of Christ**, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.” 2 Cor 4:4.

27. Beware of false gospels. The gospel can be **perverted** or changed. This causes trouble. “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto **another gospel**: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would **pervert** the gospel of Christ.” Gal 1:6,7.

28. A curse comes on those preaching a false gospel. “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be **accursed**.” Gal 1:8,9.

29. Trusting the gospel seals us with the Holy Spirit. “gospel...after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.” Ephesians 1:13.

30. Gospel brings us into fellowship with other believers. “For your **fellowship** in the gospel from the first day until now;” Philippians 1:5.

31. Gospel may be furthered by bad events. “the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the **furtherance** of the gospel;” Phil 1:12.

32. Gospel must be defended. “I am set for the **defence** of the gospel.” Phil 1:17.

33. Gospel leads us to serve God with other believers. “as a son with the father, he hath **served** with me in the gospel.” Phil 2:22.

34. Gospel requires us to labour with others. “help those women which laboured with me in the gospel” Phil 4:3.

35. Gospel will get you into contention and conflict with others. “we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.” I Thess 2:2.

36. Gospel requires us to please God, not men. “But as we were allowed of God to be **put in trust** with the gospel, even so we speak; not as **pleasing** men, but God, which **trieth our hearts**.” I Thess 2:4.

37. God has entrusted us with the gospel. The gospel tests our hearts.

38. Gospel imparted requires us to impart our souls to others. “So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also **our own souls**, because ye were dear unto us.” I Thess 2:8. Gospel makes our disciples dear to us.

39. Gospel makes us love people more. “So being affectionately desirous of you.. ye were **dear unto us**”

40. Gospel gives us glory in heaven. “he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the **glory** of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Thess 2:14.

41. Gospel is committed to our trust as stewards. “the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my **trust**.” I Timothy 1:11.

42. Gospel brings afflictions to us. “be thou partaker of the **afflictions** of the gospel according to the power of God;” 2 Timothy 1:8.

43. Gospel brings life and immortality to people. “our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and **immortality** to light through the gospel” 2 Timothy 1:10.

44. Gospel must be mixed with faith in those who hear it. “unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being **mixed with faith** in them that heard it.” Hebrews 4:2.

45. Gospel preaching attracts the interest of angels. “them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.” I Peter 1:12.

Conclusion: We are stewards of the gospel of Christ. What will you do with it?

64. SINS of Not Soul Winning

Bible Reading: Luke 16:19-31.

Aim: To wake up lazy Christians to their sins of not sharing the gospel.

Introduction: If a Christian is unwilling to explain the gospel, what sins is he guilty of?

1. **Laziness.** ‘They learn to be idle,.....speaking things which they ought not.’ (1 Timothy 5:13).
2. **Fear of man.** ‘The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.’ (Proverbs 29:25). Non SWs become more concerned with their reputation than God’s glory.
3. **Desire to be thought well of by men.** ‘They loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.’ John 12:42,43.
4. **Disobedience** to God’s Word to GO and preach the gospel to every creature. (Mark 16:15).
5. You’ll set a **bad example** to other Christians of not soul winning and that it is unimportant. If you refuse to do soul winning and door knocking, it is better that you never become a Bible teacher or preacher, because you’ll stop others from becoming soul winners. You’ll breed a church of non-soul-winners or anti-soul-winners. You’ll never be able to preach that people should go soul winning or door knocking if you don’t do it yourself.
6. If pastors don’t win souls, the **people won’t win souls.** ‘Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.’ (Philippians 3:17).
7. You’ll **stop learning about soul winning if you don’t do it.** ‘Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.’ (Matthew 11:29).
8. **Unbelief** that God will use you to win souls. ‘He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.’ (Matthew 13:58).
9. **Turning back** in the day of battle. (Psalm 78:9,41). Non SWs are like the children of Ephraim.
10. You will **destroy your network** of multiplying disciples and soul winners by not SW (2Timothy 2:2)
11. You are more **likely to try New Evangelical methods** to grow your church, because you won’t build it by the soul winning method if you quit soul winning.
12. You **hand hungry souls to cults** like JWs, Mormons, SDA, Islam. Don’t abandon the harvest to cults.
13. You’ll **resent and criticize** soul winners and door knockers, because they’ll make you feel guilty.
14. You’ll **miss meeting many new friends** that you would have lead to Christ.
15. You will be voting for **small** Independent Baptist churches.
16. Not soul winning will **cool down your spiritual zeal**, and you will **lose your fire**. Jeremiah 20:9.
17. You will **disappoint those in heaven** and give them nothing to rejoice about. Luke 15:7,10.
18. You will **keep the devil happy** by not soul winning.
19. You’ll **never train anyone else** to be a soul winner. Acts 15:36-41.
20. You’ll be a **boring, uninspiring preacher** with no exciting illustrations from personal experience.
21. You’ll be **ashamed** before Christ at the Judgment Seat of Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:10; I John 2:28.
22. You’ll develop a habit of **putting other things** as more important than soul winning.
23. You’ll **never learn to disciple people** if you don’t practise soul winning weekly.
24. If you’re a soul-winner, you are likely to **seek the fellowship of other soul-winners.**
If you’re **not** a soul-winning, door-knocking preacher, you’ll seek the fellowship of non-soul-winning preachers who are likely to have New Evangelical tendencies. It’s hard to be a soul winner and a trendy modern preacher at the same time. Soul winning will keep you from many errors.
25. Soul winning and door knocking is the **boundary** between a fundamental church and a liberal church. If you constantly seek out and challenge sinners with the Gospel, you need:
 - i) An **inerrant Bible**, the King James Bible.
 - ii) To **hate every false way**, because sin damns people without Christ to hell.
 - iii) To **hate false religions**, because they preach a false gospel of works.
 - iv) To see the need to learn more and study more. 2 Timothy 2:15.
26. If you **ignore the Holy Spirit’s voice** on soul winning, you’ll ignore Him on other things. Heb.5:11.
27. You’re **not following Jesus.** ‘Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.’ Matthew 4:19.

Conclusion: Repent of your procrastination and laziness of not soul winning. Realize people are heading to hell. Learn how to use the STOP tract properly to share the gospel by memorizing chapter 17 of Answers book, page 93-97. Make 2 hours or more each week to share the gospel. 71

65. The Harvest is Plenteous. The Labourers are Few. The Excuses are Many.

Bible Reading: Luke 14:16-27; Matthew 9:35-38; Eccles 11:1-6.

7 January 2018

Memory Verse: “The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.” Matthew 9:37.

Aim: To become labourers in the harvest for people for Christ’s kingdom.

Introduction: The world is a field needing to be sown with salvation & God’s truths. Are you sowing it?

I. Bible Verses teaching on the Harvest.

Matthew 9:35-38; 13:18-30; 36-43; John 4:31-41; Psalm 126:5,6; Luke 14:16-27; Eccles 11:1-6;

II. Who is the Harvest? Children, teens, adults, friends, people overseas, refugees.

III. Who are the Enemies of the Harvest? Satan and Tares (poisonous weeds)

i) The **devil** who takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved (Lk 8:12).

ii) The **Tares** (poisonous weeds) are **children of the devil** (Matt 13:38) spreading poisonous, evil ideas. The tares teach offensive ideas and do iniquity (Matt 13:41,42). They will be cast into a furnace of fire.

IV. What Do we Learn about the Harvest?

1. It is **Plenteous**. Many people want to be saved, but need an explainer. “How can I, except some man?” A8:31

2. The **labourers** (SWs) are **few**. Few Christians see SW as useful, beneficial, valuable. “1 among 1000)

3. Christians make **excuses** why not to go SW and BT. Making money or relaxing seem more valuable.

“He that observeth the wind shall not sow.” Eccles 11:4. Matthew 13:18-23 give 4 results of sowing:

i) **No understanding** and no fruit. ii) **Trouble or persecution** because of the word, he is offended & no fruit.

iii) **Cares of this world & deceitfulness of riches** choke the word & no fruit (22), **pleasures of life**. Lk 8:14

iv) Hear & **understand the word in good ground** (good church) and bear fruit 30, 60, 100 fold. Matt 13:23.

4. The **Lord of the harvest is God** to whom we must all give account of how we spent our time. Mat 9:38

5. We must be **moved with compassion** at the fainting, scattered, leaderless multitudes. Matt 9:36.

6. We must **pray** for God to **send more labourers** (SWs, Bible Teachers, Church planters). Matt 9:38.

7. We must **volunteer, study** and **prepare** to be better labourers to reap the harvest of souls for heaven.

8. **Some Christians don’t think the harvest is ready now, but tend to put it off till later.**

“Say not ye, There are yet 4 months and then cometh harvest?” (John 4:35).

9. We must **lift up our eyes** and **look on the fields**; for they are **white already to harvest**. (John 4:35).

10. Many Christians have **eye problems**. ‘anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.’ Rev3:18

“their eyes **they have closed**.” Matt 13:15; their eyes were **heavy**. Matt 26:43; Having eyes, see ye not?

Mark 8:18; “To **open their eyes**, and to turn them from **darkness to light**, and from the **power of Satan**

unto **God**” Acts 26:18; “There is **no fear of God** before their eyes.” Romans 3:18; “Having eyes full of

adultery,” 2 Peter 2:14; “**darkness** hath blinded his eyes.” I John 2:11; “the **lust of the eyes**” I John 2:16.

“Be not **wise in thine own eyes**.” Prov 3:7; “who hath **redness of eyes**?” Prov 23:29. “The way of a fool is **right in his own eyes**.” Prov 12:15; “Turn away mine eyes from **beholding vanity**.” Psalm 119:37;

11. Reapers of the harvest **receive wages** in **this life** and in the **next life**. John 4:36.

12. **Two kinds of labourers** are **sowers** and **reapers** who rejoice together. John 4:36.

13. **Some reaping is very easy** because others have done the hard foundation work.

“I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed **no labour**.” John 4:38.

14. We **build on other Christians work**, ‘other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours’ J4:38

15. **We reap a greater harvest by explaining the gospel to friends of new Christians.** “many of the

Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified...” John 4:39.

16. **We reap a much greater harvest** if we **give more Bible teaching to new Christians.**

“he abode there 2 days. Many more believed because of his own word.” John 2:41. This is why we teach

from Answers book because it covers so many Bible concepts that all Christians must know and teach.

17. Some **unsaved** people **make excuses** not to be saved. ‘I have married a wife’ Lk 14:20;Evol.Rom 1:20

18. **Sowing** and **reaping** the harvest is **very satisfying, fulfilling and exciting for us**. It gives us a **purpose**

to live for and a **work** to be finished of eternal value. “I have meat to eat that ye know not of.” John 4:32.

19. What you **sow now**, you will **reap the harvest of later**. Gal 6:7-9; Eccles 11:1,2. A time to reap.

20. **Sow now** when you have the **opportunity**, because you don’t know what evil may stop you later. 11:2.

21. **Sow a lot of seed** in a **lot of places**, because you don’t know which will prosper to give a harvest. 11:6

22. Harvest is the **end of this world system** (Matt 13:39), the times of the Gentiles. Reapers are angels.

23. Sowing results in **rewards** & the **righteous shining forth** in Christ’s 1000 yr kingdom. Mat 13:43. 72

66. 24 PURPOSES of Life

Bible Reading: Acts 26:12-23.

Aim: To think about what purposes you are living for and what you want to achieve in life.

Memory Verse: “Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?” Acts 9:6. “We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28.

Introduction: One of the most important things in life is to have useful purposes and to achieve them. Many people have no purposes in life except to make money, drink alcohol, smoke, gamble, take drugs, eat. We who are saved know we will live forever, so we want to invest our life in things of eternal value. We may be discouraged by the troubles, restrictions and difficulties of life, but we must encourage ourselves to serve God knowing that Jesus’ return is near and we must prepare to give account to Him. When you wake up in the morning, do you ask yourself, “What will I do today?” Your purposes decide it. Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Plan your life

Q1: What Bible Verses Teach us to have a Useful Purpose in Life?

1King 5:5 **1 purpose** to build an house to the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spake unto David
Psalm 17:3 Thou hast proved mine heart;... I am **purposed** that **my mouth shall not transgress**.
Dan1:8 Daniel **purposed** in his heart that **he would not defile himself with the king's meat**, nor with the wine
Acts 11:23 Who... exhorted them all, that with **purpose** of heart they would **cleave unto the Lord**.
2Ti3:10Thou has fully known my doctrine, manner of life, **purpose**, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience
1John 3:8 For this **purpose** the Son of God was manifested, that he might **destroy the works of the devil**.
Acts26:16 rise, stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this **purpose**, to make thee a **minister** & a witness both of these things which thou has seen, and of those things in which I will appear unto thee;
Proverbs 20:18 Every **purpose** is established by **counsel**: and with **good advice** make war.
Eccles 3:1 To every thing there *is* a season, and a **time** to every **purpose** under the heaven:

Q2: What Purposes should we have in life?

1. To **win** people to Christ, baptize them and teach them to observe all things Jesus commands. Matt 28:19
2. To **plant** and **grow churches** all over the world. Matthew 16:18.
3. To **study the Bible** to **understand**, **teach** it and to **obey** it. 2 Timothy 2:15.
4. To **search** the **scriptures** daily to see if those things are so. Acts 17:11. Test ideas to see if they are true
5. To **turn people from darkness to light**, from the power of Satan to God. Acts 26:18.
6. To **keep ourselves unspotted from the world**. James 1:27.
7. To **please Jesus** who has chosen us to be a soldier. To win the spiritual war. 2 Timothy 2:4.
8. To **resist the devil**. To defeat Satan’s plans for our life. To destroy the works of the devil. James 4:7.
9. To **teach Bible truths** all over the world. To rebuke error. To rescue people from deception and hell.
10. To **raise Godly children** who will serve God and pass God’s blessings to their children.
11. To **give money, time, effort** to grow God’s work here and worldwide. 2Cor 9:7 Every man according as he **purposes** in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loves a cheerful giver.
12. To **have a conscience void of offence** toward God and to men. Acts 24:16.
13. To **build good will to others**. “Peace on earth, good will toward men.” Luke 2:14.
14. To **work as a team of Godly Christians** to grow God’s kingdom on earth. Paul’s friends in Rom 16.
15. To **lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven**. Matthew 6:20.
16. To **love God with all our heart**, to **love our neighbour as ourself**. To help suffering people. M22:37
17. To **help others find God’s purposes** for their life.
18. To **make our country a righteous**, Godly, peaceful, prosperous, Biblically informed nation. Pr 14:34
19. To **understand the signs of Jesus’ second coming** being fulfilled and be ready for His return. Mt16:3
20. To **not get discouraged**, to **not quit serving God**, to **not quit a good church**. Heb 10:25 Not forsake
21. To **do** and **teach Jesus’ commands** so we will be great in His Kingdom. Matthew 5:19.
22. To **prevent problems** and to **solve problems** by implementing God’s values in society. Prov 22:3 .
23. To **meet new people** and **make new friends** to help you grow God’s Kingdom. Luke 17:12. **10 lepers**
24. To **encourage each other** in our church as one member of a body helps other members. Eph 6:22;
Col 4:8 I have sent unto you for the same **purpose**, that he might know your estate, & **comfort your hearts**;

Conclusion: Are you achieving all these purposes?

67. See Ministry PROBLEMS. Find Solutions.

Bible Reading: Mark 2:1-12; Isaiah 6:1-8.

(I Cor 15:34.

“Awake to righteousness & sin not; for **some have not the knowledge of God**: I speak this to your shame

Aim: To identify problems hindering God’s work. To **pray**, **study** and **persevere** to find solutions.

Problem: Many want us to **help fix their problems**, but they won’t help **fix our problems** or **serve God**.
You help others and **do God’s work** and **God will help you**. “**Give** and **it shall be given unto you**.” Lk 6:38
“**Bear ye one another’s burdens** and so fulfil the law of Christ.” Galat. 6:2. “Whom shall I send?” Is 6:8
“Look not every man on **his own things**, but every man also on **the things of others**.” Philippians 2:4.

Introduction: Life is full of problems that **slow us down** and **hinder God’s work**. If we don’t solve problems, we do not make progress, but **get stuck in a pit**. If we solve problems, **we rescue ourselves** and others from difficult situations. Some study and work hard to solve problems and **others give up easily**. Problems test us to draw out the **best or worst in us**. If we wish to do great things for God and fulfil Jesus’ Great Commission, we must **identify the problems** and **obstacles**, then **discover how to solve them**. The world is full of **sleepy**, **lazy**, **blind**, **lukewarm** Christians who **don’t care about growing God’s work**. We must determine to be the **very best Christians**, who have the **biggest impact on the world for Christ**. As soon as we set out to serve God, we experience **obstacles**, **problems**, **hindrances** and **difficulties**. Our **response** to these determines if we will be an **achiever** or a **failure**, a **winner** or a **loser**, a **somebody** or a **nobody**. **How do you respond to obstacles in serving God? Some responses are:**

- 1) Quit and give up. 2) Make excuses. 3) Pray and study for solutions. 4) Leave church. 5) Blame others.
- Problems:** 1) Ignorance: Study Bible, get wise advice. 2) No wife: be kind. 3) No money: job. 4) Conflict
- I. Who Solved Problems in the Bible? 1) 4 friends** of a paralyzed man. Mark 2:1-12.
2) **Noah** by building an Ark to save his family and animal species. 3) **Abraham** leaving idolatrous Ur.
4) **Joseph** by staying close to God, trusting God, storing food for a famine, reconciling with his brothers.
5) **Moses** by leading Israel out of Egypt, staying close to God, being patient with angry Israelites, teaching
6) **David** killing Goliath & writing Psalms. 7) **Solomon** praying for wisdom to rule Israel, writing books.
8) **Prophets** by teaching truth and rebuking error. 9) **Jesus** solved our sin problem by paying sin’s penalty.
10) **Paul** by Bible study, missionary journeys, starting churches, writing 14 NT books, training SoulWs.
11) **John** stayed close to Jesus, wrote 5 NT books, taught who Jesus is, trained many Bible teachers.

II. What Problems Hinder God’s Work Today?

1. **False Religions** (Islam, RC, JW, SDA, Mormon) teaching many false doctrines.
2. Not understanding how **Jesus is Son of God**, Not explaining the **Trinity** correctly,
3. **Evolution**, Atheism, Secularism, Socialism, Calvinism.
4. **Lukewarm**, lazy, sleepy, blind, Biblically ignorant Christians and dead churches.
5. Most Christians don’t know **how to win souls** and **teach key Bible truths** or don’t care.
6. Many Christians are **distracted by work**, money, no goals, TV, useless activities. Matthew 13:22.
7. They **don’t notice the problems** hindering God’s work, **so they never seek solutions**, or procrastinate.
8. **Personal sins**: get **offended**, get **angry** at small offences, **leave church**, stop serving God. Matt 13:21.

III. How Can We Solve these Problems?

1. Aim and plan to **teach God’s truth** to the most people as fast as possible.
 2. Ask “**What needs to be taught?**” “**What literature** must we use for different people?”
 3. **Make friends of Faithful men** who are well connected who can teach many people God’s truths.
 4. **Print cheap literature** on a **very wide scale**.
 5. Pray and **ask God daily**. “**Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?**” Acts 9:6.
 6. Ask God “**What are the problems? What are the solutions? “What opportunities should I take?**”
 7. **Share the gospel** and you **learn what errors people believe**. Teach the Bible to learn how to do it better.
 8. Ask “**What am I doing wrong? How can I do it better? How can I reach more people for Christ?**”
- How can I inspire more workers?** (Matt 9:36-38). **Who are faithful men** that we can work with? 2T2:2
9. **Repent of a “don’t care” attitude**. Take God’s work very seriously.
 10. Ask: “**What will happen if this problem is not fixed?**” How will we fix a bigger problem? Islam?

IV. What will Happen if we Solve Problems in God’s Work?

1. More will get saved. 2. More will learn Bible truths. 3. More will teach God’s Word. 4. Less false ideas
- Conclusion:** What problems will you see & solve this year? How will you grow God’s kingdom? 74

68. So Great SALVATION

Bible Reading: Hebrews 2:1-18; John 3:1-21.

Memory Verse: “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*,” Hebrews 2:3.

Aim: To understand why Jesus Christ’s salvation is so great and so important.

Introduction: The main theme of the Bible is salvation of man by Jesus Christ’s blood sacrifice on the cross. “Salvation” means deliverance. Let us consider some blessings of salvation from sin and hell.

I. What blessings are associated with the Salvation of Christ?

1. **Light.** ‘The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?’ Psalm 27:1. Light=understanding
2. **Joy.** ‘Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation’ Ps 51:12. ‘I will joy in the God of my salvation.Hab3:18
3. **Daily benefits.** ‘Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.’
4. **Long Life.** “With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.” Psalm 91:16.
5. **Beauty and meekness.** “he will beautify the meek with salvation.” Psalm 149:4.
6. **Strength.** ‘wisdom & knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, & strength of salvation.’ Isaiah 33:6
7. **Help with problems.** ‘in a day of salvation have I helped thee.’ Isaiah 49:8.
8. **Justice** (rare in Muslim lands). ‘Keep ye judgment, do justice: for my salvation is near to come’ Is 56:1
9. **Knowledge.** ‘To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins.’ Luke 1:77.
10. **Consolation.** “whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation.” 2 Cor. 1:6.
11. **Hope.** “putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.” 1 Th 5:8

II. What Does the Bible Teach about Salvation?

Salvation must be published. ‘how beautiful are the feet of him that publisheth salvation.’ Isaiah 52:7.
Salvation protects the mind, like a helmet. ‘he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head;’ Isaiah 59:17. “take the helmet of salvation.” Eph 6:17.
Salvation comes in a day. ‘This day is salvation come to this house.’ Luke 19:9; “day of salv” 2 Cor 6:2.
Salvation is only found in Jesus Christ. ‘Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.’ Acts 4:12.
Salvation is for all people everywhere. ‘thou should be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. Ac 13:47
Salvation explained is Christian’s work. ‘These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.’ Acts 16:17.
Salvation will be welcomed by Gentile nations. ‘salvation of God ... they will hear it.’ Acts 28:28.
Salvation’s power is the gospel of Christ. ‘For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;’ Romans 1:16.
Salvation is proved true by confessing Christ. ‘with the mouth confession is made unto salvation’ Ro 10:10
Salvation brings Holy Spirit’s seal. ‘after ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise’Epi:13
Salvation is available to anyone today. “behold, now is the day of salvation” 2 Cor. 6:2.
Salvation is obtained by believing the gospel and calling on Christ to save us. Romans 10:13.
Salvation’s details and consequences must be worked out, thought through & carefully applied in our life. “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” Philippians 2:12.
Salvation results in us avoiding the wrath of God and the 7 year tribulation.
“God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ” 1 Thes 5:9; Rev6:17
People get saved if soul winners endure all kinds of difficulties to give them the gospel. “I endure all things for the elect’s sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 2Tm 2:10
Salvation and Bible must be taught to children. “from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 3:15.
Salvation has appeared to all men. ‘grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men’ Titus 2:11
Angels help people to get salvation. “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” Hebrews 1:14.
Salvation neglected brings damnation. “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation,” Heb 2:3.
Christ is the Captain of our salvation. ‘make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings’ 2:10
Salvation is eternal. “he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.” Heb 5:9.
Salvation is accompanied by many new ideas & actions in our life. ‘things that accompany salvation’ 6:9
Salvation is available by Christ bearing our sins. ‘Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many’ 9:28

69. SKILLS to Develop to Become a SMART, POWERFUL Christian

Memory verse: Luke 2:52 Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Matt 4:19 He said unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Bible Reading: Luke 2:1-24 and 2:25-52. **Introduction:** So many Christians never think that they need to develop skills to become an effective, strong, smart, powerful Christian. Would you like to be a smart, powerful Christian or a weak Christian? What skills must we develop to be a powerful Christian who grows God’s kingdom and blesses many people?

1. Get clear on your salvation by receiving Jesus Christ as your Saviour from Sin.
2. Get baptized by immersion to show your love for Jesus dying for your sins and rising again. Explain it.
3. Read your Bible each morning so that God’s thoughts fill your mind with love, joy, peace.
4. Check and TEST every idea to see if the Bible agrees with it. “Prove all things.” Acts 17:11 “they received the word with all readiness of mind, searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so”
5. Ask Jesus each morning “Lord, what will you have me to do?” Acts 9:6
6. Learn how to MAKE and keep Godly, Christian friends at church. Each person has a great future for God and others. “Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together.” Heb 10:25
7. Learn how to CALM down conflicts, prevent fights and try to give people what they want.
Matt 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
8. Learn to FORESEE the good and bad consequences of our actions.
Prov 22:3 A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.
9. Know that we are in a spiritual WAR between God and Satan, good and bad angels and bad people.
Learn to identify and reject Satan’s lies and excuses, and to fully follow God.
Eph 6:12 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.
10. Learn to start friendly conversations with people about the gospel by offering them a tract.
11. Learn how to make APPOINTMENTS with people to explain salvation. Write it in your diary.
12. Learn how to EXPLAIN the gospel as in the STOP tract by asking the right questions.
13. Learn how to CHALLENGE people to receive Christ as Saviour as on the back page of STOP.
14. Learn how to give new Christians ASSURANCE of salvation from 7 verses on back of STOP tract.
15. Record those who get saved, date saved, date baptized, their phone, who brought them
16. Invite them to church, INTRODUCE new Christians to good Christians who can encourage them
17. Learn how to FELLOWSHIP with people after church, discover their problems & help fix them
18. Learn how to build strong FRIENDSHIPS with new Christians by phoning and helping them
19. Learn how to start a Bible class with new Christians. See 3 questions at bottom of contents page.
20. Get to church and Bible class EARLY to set up and welcome all who come.
21. Learn how to TEACH the subjects in “Established” book. Ask them to read each point. You explain
22. Learn how to explain what BAPTISM means and WHY Christians should be baptized.
23. Learn how to meet FRIENDS of new Christians and lead them to Christ in appointments.
24. Learn how to convert MUSLIMS by explaining 6 lessons and asking the right questions.
Learn how to explain QURAN’s ERRORS, Allah, Satan, JHVH, Son of God, Trinity.
25. Keep your folder fully stocked with STOP tracts, Trinity and Islam sheets, Lord’s Prayer paper.
26. Learn how to NOT OFFEND others and NOT to GET OFFENDED by others. Be friendly.
27. Learn how to ENCOURAGE yourself & others, avoid depression and not to quit. 2Samuel 30:6.
28. Look for Divine APPOINTMENTS with people that God wants you to explain salvation to
Act 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.
29. Become familiar with keithpiper.org website’s books, videos, songs, audio Bible.
30. Read Answers book, Understanding book, NIV Omissions, Established, Jesus’ Life in Pictures.
31. Be LOYAL to your church, fellow Christian workers & to new Christians. Record appts in a diary
32. Organize teams of Christians to give out STOP tracts in the streets outside shops on Saturdays.
33. Work with Godly pastors here and overseas to print & distribute STOP tracts & Established books.
34. Learn, teach and be ready for the EVENTS and SIGNS of Jesus’ Second Coming.
Matt 24:44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ve think not the Son of man comes.

CHRISTIAN LIVING:

70. What is a Christian? Who Are You? Who Am I?

Bible Reading: I Chronicles 17:1-27; Romans 1:1-23 **Aim:** To be the people God wants us to be.

Introduction: One of the greatest questions to ask is “**Who am I?**” Moses, David & Solomon asked this.

1. Exodus 3:11 Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?
 2. I Chron. 17:16 David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said, Who am I, O LORD God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?
 3. 2 Chron. 2:6 Who am I then, that I should build him an house, save only to burn sacrifice before him?
- I. Knowing who we are**, helps us be the right kind of people. **It helps us relate better to God and man.**
- Psalm 100:3 We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- Psalm 126:3 The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.
- Luke 17:10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.
- Romans 7:6 But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.
- Romans 8:12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.
- Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: Gal 3:26
- Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
- I Cor. 3:9 We are labourers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry, ye are God’s building.
- I Cor. 4:9 We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.
- 2 Cor. 1:14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- 2 Cor. 2:11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.
- 2 Cor. 2:15 We are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:
- 2 Cor 5:8 We are confident, and willing rather to be absent from the body, & to be present with the Lord.
- 2 Cor. 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.
- Galatians 3:25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.
- Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
- Ephesian 4:25 Put away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.
- Ephesians 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.
- Hebrews 10:10 We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- I John 3:19 Hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.
- I John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.
- I John 5:20 we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.
- Psalm 119:63 I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.
- Matthew 8:9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me:
- Nehemiah 6:3 I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?
- Psalm 40:17 I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer;
- Psalm 73:23 Nevertheless I am continually with thee; thou hast holden me by my right hand.
- Psalm 139:14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made:
- Romans 1:14 I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.
- Romans 1:15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.
- Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
- Galat 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.
- Philippians 1:17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.
- Revelation 19:10 I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: 77

- Matt 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted?
- Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
- Matthew 23:8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.
- John 4:38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.
- John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.
- John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.
- John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abides in me & I in him, the same brings forth much fruit:
- John 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.
- John 15:19 Ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.
- I Cor 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?
- I Cor 6:11 Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, & by the Spirit.
- I Cor 6:19 Ye are not your own. Ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body & in spirit
- 2 Cor 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:
- 2 Cor 7:3 I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you.
- Eph 2:19 Ye are no more strangers & foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints & of the household of God
- 1Thess 2:20 For ye are our glory and joy.
- 1Th 5:5 Ye are all the children of light & the children of the day: we are not of the night nor of darkness
- 1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people;
- 1 Peter 4:13 Rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

71. How DANIEL Dealt with Difficult Decisions.

Bible Reading: Daniel 9:13-27; Dan 12:1-13. **Aim:** To see how God solves problems. To overview the book of Daniel.

Memory verse: “they have no hurt: and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God” 3:25

“in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed” 2:44

“the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits.” 11:32

“they that tim many to righteousness (will shine) as the stars for ever and ever.” 12:3. God Solved Daniel’s Problems.

Introduction: Daniel’s life was full of problems and God’s solutions to them. We all experience problems, but we must ask God for His best solutions and do what he says. Daniel had many bad men who tried to kill him.

He responded with love and patience. We will look at the book of Daniel from a simple level of how God solved Daniel’s problems. **9 Problem solving** chapters are 1-6,9,10,12. **8 Prophetic** chapters are 2,4,5,7,8,9,11,12.

8 Miracles chapters are 2,3,4,5,6,9,10,11

What do we learn from each chapter of Daniel?

1. **Avoiding the King’s junk food**. 1:8,11-17. Deportation, dedication, reward.
2. **Avoiding death by interpreting Nebuchadnezzar’s dream**. 2:34-48
Lessons: Pray for God to solve our problems. Understand Bible prophecies.
3. **The Son of God saves Daniel’s 3 friends from fire**. 3:23-26
Lessons: Don’t worship idols. Understand how the Son of God saves us.
4. **Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar’s tree dream politely**. 4:20-27
Lessons: Show mercy to the poor (27). God judges the proud (37).
5. **Daniel interprets the handwriting on the wall to Belshazzar**. 5:25-31
Lessons: Remember God’s works (22). God punishes evil people.
6. **Daniel saved from the Lion’s den in Persian king Darius’ rule**. 6:16-28
Lesson: God sends angels to help us (22). “my God has sent his angel, & shut lions”
7. 4 beast empires, EU, antichrist, Son of man takes the kingdom (9,10, 13,14, 21,22).
8. Ram (Medo-Persia) and He-goat (Greece) fight. 20-23.
9. **Daniel confesses Israel’s sins. Gabriel gives Daniel the 70 week prophecy**. 19-27.
Lessons: Know the maths and events of the 69 and 70 week prophecies.
10. **Daniel’s 3 weeks mourning** (1,2). Sees a great vision (8) of an angel calling him greatly beloved (11) and telling what will happen to Israel in the latter days (14). **11.** Prophecies of events from 530-164 BC.
12. **Tribulation, Resurrection**. Travel and knowledge increased (1-4), abomination of desolation (11). **Daniel raised, rewarded and rules** in Jesus’ 1000 year kingdom (13). **Lessons:** You will stand in your lot at the end of the days (13). “none of the wicked shall understand: but the wise shall understand.” 12:10

72. Causes of Relationship Failure. Why Do people Break Relationships?

Aim: To discover the causes of broken relationships. To not say or do things to break relationships.

Introduction: The Bible teaches us how to maintain happy, successful relationships with God and others. God made churches as training places for us to identify our sins that hinder us building good relationships. In church we are forced to get on with people from different backgrounds and to apply scripture to our life. When people allow sins into their lives, they set in motion a sequence of events that bring many troubles.

I. A standard pattern that happens is as follows:

1. We have ideas or expectations as to how some things should be done.
2. Other people do or say things that differ to what we think.
3. We talk to them about our differences of opinion.
4. During the discussion one person may feel offended. Anger may build up. Advice given is interpreted as unfair criticism. Insulting words are spoken. People feel hurt. Stronger, harsher, angrier words are said.
5. One party decides to punish the other person by abuse, by telling others how bad the person is to recruit support, by physical violence or by running away. Children and others may be used as weapons to hurt and attack the opponent. Instead of dealing with his sin, he looks for sins in the other person to attack him.
6. We then discover that we have lost valuable friends, broken a good marriage, created bad memories or broken good relationships that took many years to build up. Good is forgotten and the bad is magnified.
7. Because of embarrassment, loss of face or shame we can no longer face or speak to the other person. We learn that we cannot fix the relationship, so we give up and accept never seeing the person again. Both parties suffer from losing the skills, talents and abilities that the other person has to offer.
8. Other people observing the conflict take sides. Not knowing all the facts, some people may justify the guilty and punish the innocent. The problem spreads. Churches may be divided and God's work suffers.
9. People leave a marriage or church to remarry or join another church. The same problems resurface in the next marriage or church because their sins and relationship ignorance have not been corrected.
10. Children who see the screaming, insulting, punishing, anger and breakup copy the same behaviour. What you sow you reap. The sins of the fathers pass on to the children of the third and fourth generation. Many Bible principles have been violated. We comfort ourselves by self justification and blaming others.

II. Question: How should the situation have been handled? What does the Bible say about how to maintain good relationships or how to repair broken relationships. Maintenance is easier than repair.

1. Control your anger.

Proverbs 15:18 A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife.

Proverbs 16:32 He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Proverbs 19:11 The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression. Ecclesiastes 7:9 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

2. Accept advice from others knowing that they are trying to help you become a better person.

Proverbs 1:30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Proverbs 13:18 Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.

Proverbs 17:10 A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.

3. Before you say anything, think how others will react to it and consider all the consequences.

Proverbs 25:8 Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame.

4. Ask God to show you your own faults and sins. Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Ps139:23,24

Psalms 19:12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

5. Show the love of Christ to others.

Galatians 5:14 All the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

6. Be patient to others. Know that we all need time to learn, grow & overcome bad habits or blind spots. "Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considers not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye." Matt 7:3-5. Look for the beam in your own eye. **79**

7. Forgive others as you want God to forgive you. "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matthew 6:12-15.

"If he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him." (Luke 17:4). People find it hard to do 3 things here:

i) They find it difficult to rebuke others in a loving way.

ii) They find it difficult to ask for forgiveness from others. Many cannot accept rebuke.

iii) They find it difficult to forgive others fully as Christ forgives us. They find it easy to hold a grudge.

8. Be ready to confess your sins and admit your faults, rather than justify yourselves. "He said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts:" Luke 16:15

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Proverbs 28:13

9. Don't threaten people. "Ye masters,... forbearing threatening:" Ephesians 6:9.

"Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:" 1 Peter 2:23.

10. If someone has a problem with you go to him to fix it. "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." Matthew 5:23,24.

11. Remember all the good that people have done to you. It is easy to forget 100 good things people do for you and to hate them for one thing they have done wrong to you.

12. Avoid saying things that are likely to cause offence.

"Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:" 2 Cor. 6:3.

13. See personal conflict as God's way of teaching us how to be better people

14. Develop a habit and regular practice of speaking good words to others. This builds good will to others. "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" Matthew 5:44.

15. Speak soft, kind words. "A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." Pro 15:1 "And they spake unto him, saying, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants for ever." 2 Chronicles 10:7.

"Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32.

16. Identify dangerous situations where people are likely to get angry, and don't say words that may get an angry response or increase conflict. "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished." Proverbs 22:3.

17. Anything you say or write may be used against you in the future to punish or embarrass you.

18. Avoid creating bad memories. Anything you say or do wrong will be in your memory forever.

Aim to create happy memories for yourself and others by saying and doing many good things.

19. Respond slowly. Think carefully before you say anything that may be inflammatory. If in doubt, say nothing.

20. Don't bring up past grievances of others, but forgive and forget others sins. "Forgetting those things that are behind..." "cast our sins into the sea" "their sins and iniquities will I remember no more".

People are victims of their own anger.

"Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another:" Proverbs 25:9.

Conclusion: Have you broken a relationship with someone? Are you applying these principles in preserving and repairing relationships? Make these a part of your thinking.

4 Individual's Mistakes In The Book Of Job

1. Satan's – in thinking that Job served God for what he could get. Job 1:9,10.

2. Job's wife – in thinking that with the loss of the visible and human, all was lost. Job 2:9,10.

3. Job's friends – in thinking that Job's sufferings were the result of his sin. Job 22:5.

4. Job's – in thinking that God was unkind. Job 27:2.

Lesson: Don't make these mistakes in judging other's situations.

73. Causes of Fruitfulness. Causes of Unfruitfulness 11 Sept 2016

Bible Reading: Psalm 1:1-6; Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:13-20; Luke 8:4-15.

Aim: To know the causes of fruitfulness and unfruitfulness. To bear much fruit. **Mem Verse:** Matt 13:23

Introduction: Why do some Christians make great progress, but other Christians do little or nothing for God? You may share the same gospel, word for word, with 2 people, both of whom get saved, baptized and come to church. One really grows, but the other does nothing for God. Why? Jesus taught the parable of the sower to answer these questions. **Lack of fruit is due to:** 1. Not understanding the gospel and not getting saved (19). 2. Satan. 3. Troubles. 4. Persecution. 5. Getting offended (21). 6. Care of this world (worries). 7. Deceitfulness of riches (22). 8. Lusts of other things (Mark 4:19). 9. Lack of good ground, not in a soul-winning, Bible-teaching church (23). 10. Contented with lack of fruit “some thirty” (23).

I. Kinds of Fruit we should Bear. (1 Cor 14:14)

- 1. Understanding.** “if I pray in an *unknown* tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is **unfruitful**.”
- 2. Souls won to Christ.** The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; & he that winneth souls is wise. Pr 11:30
- 3. Good Works.** Learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not **unfruitful**. Titus 3:14
- 4. Good Works.** “A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth.” Prov 12:14. (Gal 5:22)
- 5. Fruit of the Spirit.** The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- 6. Praise to God.** “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.” Hebrews 13:15.
- 7. Godly Children.** “Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.” Psalm 128:3.

II. Causes of Fruitfulness

- 1. Good Ground.** SW, Bible teaching church. ‘He that received seed into good ground is he that hears the word, & understands it; which also bears fruit & brings forth, some 100fold, some 60, some 30.’ Mt 13:23
- 2. An honest and good heart, keep the Word.** “But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.” Luke 8:15.
- 3. Death to self.** “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.” John 12:24.
- 4. God purging hindrances out of our life.** “Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.” John 15:2.
- 5. Abiding in Christ.** “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.” John 15:4.
- 6. Goodness, Righteousness, Truth.** The fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, truth’ Eph 5:9
- 7. Chastening.** “No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11.
- 8. Peace.** “The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.” James 3:18. (Prov 31:16)
- 9. Work, Enterprise.** “She considers a field, & buys it: with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.”
- 10. Walking not in the Counsel of the Ungodly,** nor standing in the way of sinners, nor sitting in the seat of the scornful. Psalm 1:1.
- 11. Loving and Meditating in God’s Word.** “his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. ...that bringeth forth his fruit in his season.” Psalm 1:2,3.
- 12. Being Planted in the House of God.** “They shall still bring forth fruit in old age;” Psalm 92:13,14.
- 13. Trusting in the Lord.** ‘Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, & that spreads out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat comes, but her leaf shall be green; shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.’ Jeremiah 17:7,8.
- 14. Wisdom, Prudence, Understanding.** “I wisdom dwell with prudence (12) I am understanding (14).. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver.” Prov 8:12,14-19.
- 15. Increasing in the Knowledge of God.** “That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;” Colossians 1:10.

II. Causes of UNFruitfulness. “The Thorny Ground Hearer.”

- 1. Cares of this World.** Matthew 13:22; Mark 4:19; Luke 8:14.
- 2. Riches.** “Deceitfulness of Riches.” Matthew 13:22; Mark 4:19; Luke 8:14.
- 3. “Lusts of other things.”** Mark 4:19. **4. Pleasures.** Luke 8:14.

74. Obeying God’s Warnings Prevents Problems. “BE NOT” p.82

Bible Reading: Hebrews 13:1-17; Rev 18:1-10. 27 March 2022

Aim: To take seriously God’s warnings so we avoid trouble and problems, and to enjoy God’s blessings.

Mem Verse: “I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn you.” 1 Cor 4:14.

Introduction: God warns us to identify and avoid traps by saying “be not”. **What are 40 warnings?** Deut 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, & ye turn aside, & serve other gods, Deut 21:23 His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt bury him that day; (for he that is hanged *is* accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God gives thee... Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Judges 18:9 be not slothful to go 2Chron 30:8 Be not stiffnecked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary: and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you. Ps 32:9 Be not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held Psalm 119:80 Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed. Prov 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. Proverbs 22:26 Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. Proverbs 23:20 Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: Eccles 7:9 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Jer 10:2 Learn not the way of the heathen, be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are. Ezek 2:8 son of man; Be not rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. Matt 6:8 Be not like unto them: for your Father knows what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. Mat 24:6 Ye shall hear of wars & rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these must come to pass John 20:27 he to Thomas, reach hither thy hand, & thrust it into my side: be not faithless, but believing. Romans 12:2 Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Roman 12:16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good 1C14:20 Be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be children, but in understanding be men. 1C15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. 2Cor 6:3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: 2Cor 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Gal 5:15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. Gal 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Eph 5:17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. Eph 5:18 Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Col 3:19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. 2Thess 3:13 But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. (Gal 6:9 for in due season we shall reap if we) ITim 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 2Timothy 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Titus 3:14 Let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. Heb 6:12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith & patience inherit the promises Heb 13:2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Heb 13:9 Be not carried about with divers & strange doctrines. I Pet 3:7 your prayers be not hindered. 2P3:8 Be not ignorant of this one thing, that 1 day is with the Lord as 1000 years & 1000 years as 1 day. Rv 18:4 Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, that ye receive not of her plagues

75. BETTER Choices

Bible Reading: Eccles 4:1-16; Eccles 7:1-14; 19 February 2017.

Aim: To know how much better it is to be and live as a Christian. To know the better things that we have.

Memory Verse: "It is **better to trust in the LORD** than to put confidence in man." Psalm 118:8

Introduction: Life often asks us to choose between 2 appealing things. Our choice will bless or hurt us.

1. Samuel said, ... Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice**, and to hearken than the fat of rams. I Sam 15:22
2. **Discerning better advice.** "Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The **counsel of Hushai the Archite is better** than the counsel of Ahithophel. For the LORD had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring evil upon Absalom." 2 Samuel 17:14.
3. **Excuses to disobey God.** "Are not Abana and Parpar, rivers of Damascus, **better than all the waters of Israel?** may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage." 2 Kings 5:12.
4. **Better Friend.** "Because **thy lovingkindness is better than life**, my lips shall praise thee." Psalm 63:3.
5. **Better Places to be.** "For **a day in thy courts is better than a thousand**, I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." Psalm 84:10.
6. It is **better to trust in the LORD** than to put confidence in man. Psalm 118:8
7. **Wisdom is better than rubies:** all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. Prov8:11
8. **Better is little with the fear of the LORD** than great treasure and trouble therewith. Prov 15:16
9. **Better is a dinner of herbs where love is**, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith. Prov 15:17.
10. **Better is a little with righteousness** than great revenues without right, Prov 16:8.
11. How much **better** to get wisdom than gold! to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver! Pr 16:16
12. **Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly**, than to divide the spoil with the proud. Pr 16:19
13. **He that is slow to anger is better** than the mighty; he that rules his spirit than he that takes a city. P16:32
14. It is **better to dwell in the wilderness**, than with a contentious and an angry woman. Prov 21:19
15. **Open rebuke is better than secret love.** Prov 27:5.
16. **Better is an handful with quietness**, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit. Ec4:6
17. **Two are better than one;** because they have a good reward for their labour. Ecc 4:9.
18. **Better is a poor & a wise child** than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished. Ec4:13
19. **Better is it that thou shouldest not vow**, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. Ecc 5:5.
20. **Better** is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the desire; this is also vanity & vexation of spirit. Ec6:9
21. **A good name is better** than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth. Ec7:1
22. It is **better to go to the house of mourning**, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart. Ecc 7:2.
23. **Sorrow is better than laughter:** for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better. Ec7:3
24. It is **better to hear the rebuke of the wise**, than for a man to hear the song of fools. Ecc 7:5.
25. **Better is the end of a thing** than the beginning, the **patient in spirit is better** than the proud in spirit. E7:8
26. I will multiply upon you man & beast; they shall increase & bring fruit: I will settle you after your old estates, & **will do better unto you than at your beginnings**; & ye shall know that I am the LORD. Ez 36:11
27. I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, & to **be with Christ**; which is **far better**. Phil1:23
But now **they desire a better country**, that is, an **heavenly**: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. Hebrews 11:16.
28. Let nothing be done through strife; but **in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves**. Phil2:3
29. He is the mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established upon **better promises**. Hebrews 8:6.
30. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that **ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance**. Hebrews 10:34. **83**

76. What Should We CARE About?

30 May 2022 (I Peter 5:7)

Bible Reading: I Cor 3:1-23; Matthew 25:14-46. Casting all your care upon him; for **he cares for you**.

Aim: To **care more** for the important things of life. To **care less** for the useless, ungodly things of life.

Verse: **Take care of him**;+ whatsoever thou spend more, when I come again, I will repay thee." Lk10:35

Introduction: Many people do not care about God or others. They only care about themselves, money,

pleasure. Many Christians do not give God top priority, nor do they serve God seriously. They will get a big shock at the Judgment Seat of Christ when they have no rewards in heaven (I Cor 3:8-15). Ezekiel 39:6 "I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that **dwell carelessly in the isles**:" **Care for:**

1. **God's will for our life.** Acts 9:6. He said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?
2. **God's approval.** Matt 25:21 Well done, thou good and faithful servant.
3. **Be filled with Holy Spirit.** Eph 5:18. be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit
4. **Marry a Godly spouse.** Please them. Prov 19:14 A prudent wife is from JHVH. Stay happily married.
5. **Raise Godly children.** Deut 6:7 Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children.
6. **Come to Church each Sunday.** Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
7. **Encourage fellow Christians.** Deut 3:28 But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him.
8. **Win people to Christ.** Pro 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life;+ he that wins souls is wise.
9. **Help suffering people.** Matt 25:35 I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 2 Cor 8:16 **earnest care** into the heart of Titus for you.
10. **Read, Learn and Teach Bible.** 2Tim 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
11. **Preserve Christian society.** Matt 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: Prov 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.
12. **Righteousness.** Ps18:20 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; Isa5:20 Woe to them
13. **True Doctrine.** Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:
14. **Rescue people from false religions and Satan's lies.** 2Tim 2:26 That they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will. I Peter 5:8 your adversary the devil
15. **Rightly answer peoples questions.** 1 Peter3:15 Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:
16. **Maintain good health.** Acts 10:14 I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. 3John2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou may prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospers.
17. **Avoid being deceived by lies.** Matt 24:4 Jesus said to them, Take heed that no man deceive you.
18. **No depression.** Is26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusts in thee
19. **Be ready for Jesus' return.** Mt24:44 Be ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man comes
20. **Don't be distracted** by this world or money. Mark 4:19 The cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.
21. **Control what you say.** Ps 34:13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.
22. **Don't get bitter, hateful, revengeful.** Heb12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;
23. **Do good works.** Titus3:14 learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.
24. **Help Godly parents.** I Tim5:4 let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents:
25. **Build goodwill** with people. Eph 6:7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:
26. **Maintain a good reputation.** Prov 22:1 A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches,
27. **Prevent problems+ Solve problems.** Prov 22:3 A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself:
28. **Get wisdom.** Prov 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and get understanding.
29. **Where we go.** No pub. Pr1:15 My son, walk not in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:
30. **Seek Godly friends.** Ps1:1 Walk not in counsel of ungodly Pr22:24 Make no friendship with angry man
31. **Maintain and Restore relationships.** Prov 27:10 Thine own friend,+ thy father's friend, forsake not;
32. **Pastors.** Heb13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you,+ submit yourselves: for they **watch for your souls**, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy,+ not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you
33. **Provide for his own.** I Tim 5:8 If any provide not for his own,+ specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. **84**

77. What will be the CONSEQUENCES? Events are connected “unawares” Luke 21:34
BibleR: Ezekiel 7:1-9,15. **Aim:** To understand that most things people do have good or bad consequences
Prov 22:3 **A prudent man foresees the evil**, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.
Introduction: Most actions bring good or bad consequences. We must avoid bad & seek good consequen

I. Bible verses teaching the Good or Bad Consequences of our Actions

► **Ruth 2:12** The LORD **recompense thy work**, & a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel
► **Luke 14:14** **Thou shalt be blessed**; for they cannot **recompense** thee: for thou shalt be **recompensed** at the resurrection of the just. **Heb 10:30** Vengeance belongs unto me, I will **recompense**, saith the Lord.
► **Gal 6:7** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for **whatsoever a man soweth**, that shall he also **reap**.
► **Hosea 8:7** For they have **sown the wind**, and they shall **reap the whirlwind**:
► **Hosea 12:2** The LORD hath also a controversy with Judah, and will **punish Jacob according to his ways**; according to his doings will he **recompense** him. ► **John 4:36** He that reapeth **receiveth wages**, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.
Jer 16:18 First I will **recompense** their iniquity and their sin double; because they have **defiled my land**, **Jer 25:14** I will **recompense** them according to their deeds, & according to the **works** of their own hands.
Ezek 7:3,4,8,9 Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will **recompense** upon thee all thine abominations. (Ezek 7:3) Mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will **recompense** thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I am the LORD (7:4). Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will **recompense** thee for all thine abominations (Ez 7:8). Mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will **recompense** thee according to **thy ways** & **thine abominations** that are in the midst of thee (Ezek7:9)
► **2 Thess 1:6** Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to **recompense** tribulation to them that trouble you;

II. Bible Characters who Experienced Consequences for their Actions?

1. **Noah's evil generation** destroyed by the Flood. 2. God gave **Job** twice as much for enduring affliction
3. **Lot** lost his family by leaving Abraham & going to Sodom. 4. **Sodom** was destroyed for homosexuality
5. **Pharaoh** and Egypt was destroyed for drowning Hebrew babies in the Nile. 6. **Wilderness generation**.
7. **Israel** in the Judges time learned that disobeying God brings trouble. 8. **Haman** was hung on his gallow
9. **David** learned that committing adultery with Bathsheba led to his children following his example.
10. **Solomon** introduced idolatry leading to Israel's destruction. 11. **Rehoboam** rejecting old men's advice led to him losing 10 tribes. 12. Ungodly Hebrew **kings** were judged by Assyrian & Babylonian captivities.

III. What are Examples of Actions that bring Bad Consequences? Ignoring danger signs cause harm.

1. **Taking alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, gambling** cause loss of health, wealth, friends, addiction, violence.
2. **Leaving a good church** causes problems, loss of friends, believing errors, bad friends, bad decisions.
3. **Corona virus shutdown** causes job loss, poverty, govt debt, depression, isolation, bigger govt control, destruction of businesses, stress, loss of freedom of association, tracking apps, microchips, world govt.
4. **Covid border shutdown** causes airlines to go out of business, job loss, foreign takeover.
5. **Teaching evolution** produce atheists, immoral people, homosexuals, Nazis, Communists, bad laws, ww
6. **Churches** who **don't lead people to Christ** produce more evil, ungodly people, more crime and police.
7. **Churches** who **don't teach the Trinity** produce **false religions** of JW, Islam, Mormon, Iglesia Christo.
8. **Men who go to prostitutes** rarely ever get happily married,
9. **Abortion, legalizing SSM, homosexuality** provoke **God to anger & punishing nations**. Ez 16:21; 20:26
10. **Voting for ungodly govt** produces much higher taxation, anti-business, more waste, harmful policies.
11. **Eating salty, sugary, fizzy, junk food** causes heart attack, kidney stones, cancer, diabetes, obesity.
12. **Not getting saved** causes fear of death, lack of purpose, lack of wisdom to solve problems, mistakes
13. **Not working or not getting qualifications** causes poverty, debt, fears, divorce.
14. **Lack of good Bible colleges** (as in Iran) causes **Biblical ignorance, false religions, wrong beliefs**.
15. **Breaking friendships** with **wise, Godly people** causes loss of experience, mistakes, trouble, pain.
16. **Telling lies** causes distrust, anger, broken relationships when found out. 17. **Don't prepare** → **failure**.
18. **Wasting time** on computer games, bad movies, bad books causes missing important ideas, distraction.
19. **When a nation forgets God** (Psalm 9:17) they **commit many sins, pass evil laws, then get punished**.
20. **Living together** lasts until you **fight** or **find someone better**. Marriage is for **life** and **child raising**. **85**

78. CONSIDER

Bible Reading: Haggai 1:1-15; 2 Timothy 2:1-26.

Memory Verse: “**Consider what I say**; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.” 2 Tim 2:7.

Aim: To **consider** and **think deeply** about the important things in life.

Introduction: So many people do not consider the important things of life. They think about sport, work, pleasure, money, self, but not about God, creation, intelligent design of life, righteousness, death, eternity, the Bible, helping others, soul-winning, Jesus' second coming, accountability to God, God's approval, hell, value of time, opportunities, Christlikeness, right Bible doctrines, God's plans for our life, 1000 year kingdom, laying up for ourselves treasures in heaven, right answers to false ideas, studying and preparing ourselves to do God's work, value of church and Christians, angels, prophecies, health, Satan's devices, foreseeing consequences of actions, resisting temptation, investing in God's work, loving God and others.

What Should we Consider?

1. **God**. Know therefore this day, and **consider** it in thine heart, that the **LORD he is God in heaven** above, and upon the **earth** beneath: there is none else. Deut 4:39.
2. **God's Chastening of individuals and nations** for their sins. “Thou shalt also **consider** in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the **LORD thy God chasteneth thee**.” Deut 8:5.
3. **Lessons of History, mistakes, sins, right ways**. “Remember the days of old, **consider the years of many generations**: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.” Deut 32:7.
4. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would **consider their latter end!** Deut 32:29
5. **Great things God has done for us**. “Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for **consider how great things he hath done for you**.” I Samuel 12:24.
6. **God's Servants**. “Hast thou **considered** my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?” Job 1:8; 2:3.
7. **God's Ways**. Because they turned back from him, and would not **consider any of his ways**: Job 34:27.
8. **God's Works**. Harken unto this, O Job: stand still, **consider the wondrous works of God**. Job 37:14
9. **God's Word**. The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I will **consider thy testimonies**. Ps 119:95
10. **Our Ways**. “Thus says JHVH of hosts: **Consider your ways**” Haggai 1:7. Are they right, wrong, useful
11. **Other Christians**. Let us **consider one another** to provoke unto love and to good works: Heb 10:24.
12. **Jesus' life, teachings, death**. “Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, **consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus**.” Heb 3:1; “**Consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners** against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.” Hebrew 12:3.
13. **Ant's teamwork, organization**. Go to the **ant**, thou sluggard; **consider her ways, & be wise**: Prov 6:6.
14. When I **consider thy heavens**, the work of thy fingers, the moon, stars, which thou has ordained; Ps 8:3
15. **Respecting rulers**. When thou sit to eat with a **ruler, consider diligently what is before thee**: Pr 23:1
16. **Paul's Teachings**. **Consider what I say**; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things. 2 Tim 2:7
17. **Adversity**. In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the **day of adversity consider**: Ecclesiastes 7:14.
18. **People Oppressed and in Travail**. So I returned & **considered** all the **oppressions** that are done under the sun: and behold the **tears** of such as were **oppressed**, and they had **no comforter**; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter (4:1). Again, I **considered** all **travail**. Ecc 4:4
19. **God's judgment on wicked**. “Yet a little while, and the **wicked** shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently **consider his place** & it shall not be.” Ps 37:10. “They **consider not** that **I remember all their wickedness**” Hos 7:2
20. **God is our Owner**. “The ox knows his **owner**, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, **my people doth not consider**.” Isaiah 1:3.
21. **Birds** and **Flowers' beauty**. **God supplies their needs, life is short**. “**Consider the ravens**: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and **God feedeth them**: how much more are ye better than the fowls? (24) **Consider the lilies** how they **grow**: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” (27). Luke 12:24-28.
22. **70 Week Prophecy**. “understand the matter and **consider the vision**. **70 weeks** are...” Dan 9:23,24.
23. **Jerusalem**. “Mark well her bulwarks, **consider** her palaces; that ye may **tell** it to the generation” Ps 48:13
24. **Great men**. Now **consider how great this man was**, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. Heb 7:4. **Why** are some people great? **How** can I be a great servant? Great work?
Conc: Think deeply about these things. Act on them. Let them change our lives. See things clearly. **86**

79. Let No Man DECEIVE You.

15 Nov 2020

Bible Reading: Matthew 24:1-26; Revelation 20:1-15.

Memory Verse: “Let no man deceive you with vain words... wrath on children of disobedience.” Eph 5:6.

Aim: To identify lies. To avoid deception. To know and love truth. To rescue people from deception.

Introduction: As we draw closer to Jesus Christ’s return, we see so much more deception at every level of society. **The more that people depart from the Bible, the more of Satan’s lies they believe.** When people get saved, study the Bible and live by it, the less likely they are to be deceived. The spiritual war is a war of ideas. **Satan seeks to control people and nations by lies and false ideas.** We must know the truth, because the truth sets us free. **Lies steal our freedoms.**

Q1: What are Some False, Deceiving Ideas in the World Today? Islam, Catholic, Hinduism, Atheism, Communism, Man-made climate change, SSM, Abortion, Evolution, NIV, Trans-Gender, Alcohol, Polls, MSM, Cigarettes, Drugs, Junk food, Gambling, Big Pharma medication, Pornography, Anger, Violence, Baby sprinkling, Calvinism, SDA, JW, Mormon, Scams, mRNA Covid vaccine (Rev 14:9-11; 15:2; 16:2).
Q2: What Did Jesus Warn about Deception?

Matthew 24:4 Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that **no man deceive you** (4). For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and **shall deceive many** (5). And many false prophets shall rise, and shall **deceive many** (11). For there shall arise **false Christs**, and **false prophets**, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall **deceive the very elect** (24).

Q3: What Causes People to be Deceived? 19 Deceivers are: Deceitfulness of **riches**. Matthew 13:22.

Rev 20:10 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 for ever and ever**. **Satan**.

Rev 18:23 for by **thy sorceries** were **all nations deceived**. The **Roman Catholic church**.

Deut 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not **deceived, & serve other gods** & worship them
Job 31:9 If mine heart have been **deceived** by a **woman**, or if I have laid wait at my neighbour's door;

Prov 20:1 **Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging:** whosoever is **deceived** thereby is not wise. **Wine**.
Obadiah 3 The **pride of thine heart** has **deceived** thee, ..Who shall bring me down to the ground? **Pride**
Romans 16:18 by good words and **fair speeches** deceive the hearts of the **simple**. Being simple, **ignorant**

1 Cor 6:9 Know ye not that the **unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** **Be not deceived:** neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,
1 Cor 15:33 **Be not deceived: evil communications** corrupt good manners. **Bad words**.

Galatian 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for **whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap**
Eph 5:6 Let no man **deceive** you with **vain words**: for because of these things comes the wrath of God on
Eph 4:14 That we henceforth be **no more children**, tossed to and fro, and **carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the **sleight of men**, and **cunning craftiness**, whereby they lie in wait to **deceive**;

2 Thes 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a **falling away first (departure of the church)** & that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; **Post-trib error**
2 Thes 2:12 That they all might be damned who **believed not the truth**, but had **pleasure in unrighteousness**
2 Timothy 3:13 But **evil men** and **seducers** shall wax worse and worse, **deceiving**, and **being deceived**.

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes **foolish, disobedient, deceived**, serving divers **lusts** and pleasures, living in **malice** and **envy, hateful**, and **hating** one another.

1 John 1:8 If we **say that we have no sin**, we **deceive** ourselves, & the truth is not in us. **Self-justification**.
2 John 7 Many **deceivers** are entered into the world, **who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh**. This is a **deceiver** and an **antichrist**. **Denying the Incarnation of the Huiois & denying the Trinity**.

Q4: How Can We Avoid Being Deceived?

1. **Come to church**, ask Godly Christians advice. “Church is pillar and ground of the truth.” I Tim 3:15.
2. **Stay close to Jesus**. “I am the way, the truth and the life.” John 14:6.
3. **Prove all things**. Check all the facts. I Thes 5:21. Search the scriptures daily if things are so. Act 17:11
4. **Study the Bible**. **Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the **word of truth**. 2 Timothy 2:15.
5. **Seek the Truth**, “if ye can **find a man that executes judgment and that seeks the truth**.” Jer 5:1.
6. **Speak truth**. Wherefore putting away lying, **speak every man truth** with his neighbour: Eph 4:25
7. **Instruct those that oppose themselves**. 2 Timothy 2:25. **Rescue** people from errors. Will you? **87**

80. Are You ENCOURAGING Others?

Bible Reading: I Kings 19:1-18; Galatians 6:1-18.

Memory Verse: “The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should **know how to speak a word in season** to him that is **weary**.” Isaiah 50:4.

Aim: To understand other’s pains, troubles and difficulties so that we encourage them and help them.

Introduction: One reason that Jesus Christ created local churches is for the purpose of us encouraging (or exhorting) each other to love and to good works (Hebrews 10:24,25). Q: Have you ever been discouraged by people hurting you or disappointing you or events not working out as you had hoped? We all have. Some people continue to be **discouraged** until after some time, it leads to **depression**. So many friends take each other for granted, never thinking that they may need encouraging. Life’s difficulties require that we need others to encourage us. Some people do not know how to start or continue a conversation. We need to ask about other people’s needs, problems and difficulties, with a desire to help them.

I. Definition of Encourage. To inspire, approve, give confidence, support, help, reassure, cheer.

II. Who in the Bible was Encouraged or Discouraged?

1. **David** was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons & for his daughters: but David **encouraged** himself in the LORD his God. I Samuel 30:6.
2. **Hezekiah** “commanded the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion (pay) of the priests and the Levites, that they might be **encouraged** in the law of the LORD.” 2 Chronicles 31:4.
3. “But charge **Joshua**, and **encourage** him, & **strengthen him**: for he shall go over before this people, and **he shall cause them to inherit the land** which thou shalt see.” Deut 3:28. Encouraging leaders helps people.
4. **Wilderness generation**. ‘the soul of the people was **much discouraged** because of the way.’ Num 21:4
5. **10/12 Spies ‘discouraged** the heart of the children of Israel, that they should not go into the land which the LORD had given them.” Numbers 32:9. This caused Israel to complain and to miss the promised land.
6. **Jonah** was discouraged by Nineveh repenting and the plant dying. Jonah 4:10,11.
7. **Barnabus** was the son of consolation. Acts 4:36. He encouraged Paul, Mark and the Jerusalem church.
8. **Jesus** by **healing, forgiving, teaching, cheering, comforting and loving** people. To a **sick, paralyzed man**, “Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.” Matthew 9:2; to **disciples** “Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.” Matthew 14:27; “be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33.

III. Why Should We Encourage Others? Because 1. If we encourage others, they may **encourage us**.

2. We do it to **Jesus** ‘Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.’ Matt 25:45.
3. To make church a **happier** place & more people will be **saved & grow** as Christians. 4. To show **love**.
5. It stops **hardness** of heart. “But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.” Hebrews 3:13. 6. It stops others **giving in to sin** or **quitting**.
7. It helps Christians to be greatly used of God & reach **full potential**. ‘But Barnabas took him.’ Acts 9:27

IV. When Should We Encourage People? 1. When they need **help** with problems. 2. When they are **new Christians**. 3. When they are **heavy laden**. 4. When they **misunderstand something**. 5. When **depressed**.

6. When they are **deciding** to serve God? 7. When we see them making a **bad decision**. 8. When **children**.
- V. How Should We Encourage Others?** 1. By asking **how they are going?** 2. By **listening** to them.
3. By telling how we **appreciate** them. 4. By telling them what a **great job they are doing**, 5. Be a **friend**.
6. By telling them that **they have great potential to do great things for God**. The angel said to Gideon, ‘The LORD is with thee, **thou mighty man of valour**.’ Judges 6:12. 7. By encouraging them to be a **pastor**.
8. By telling them that **you love them**. 9. By **giving them a job to do**. God encouraged Elijah this way. “Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.” I Kings 19:16. 10. By **sharing a Bible verse**.
11. By **taking them soul-winning**. 12. By having a **meal** with them. 13. By **giving them a gift**. 14. By **leading them to Christ**. 15. By **bearing their burdens**. ‘Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.’ Gal 6:2. 16. By **remembering** the many good things they have done for you & thanking them.
17. By **phoning them**. 18. By asking **if you can do anything to help them**. 19. By **sending a friendly text**.
20. By **looking for the best in people** and **telling them**, rather than looking for the **worst**. Revelation 2,3.
21. By **marrying someone** rather than just living together. 22. By **not arguing, not complaining, not angry**.
23. By **praying with them** about their problems. 24. By **visiting them** for a Bible study. 25. By reminding them of the **many good things** God has given them & that their **problems will soon pass**. I King 19:18 **88**

81. The Way of ESCAPE

Bible Reading: Isaiah 26:1-21; Luke 21:20-38;

Memory Verse: 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.** I Cor 10:13.

Aim: To find the way of escape from temptations and problems. Many escaped from the evil govt of Iran

Introduction: Life is full of temptations and problems that we need to **escape from. How can we escape?**

1. **Pray to escape.** “**Deliver** me in thy righteousness, **cause me to escape;** incline thine ear to me, save me. Ps71:2

2. **Avoid wicked people.** Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that **I withal escape.** Ps 141:10. I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart *is* snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whose pleaseth God shall **escape from her;** but the **sinner** shall be taken by her. Eccles 7:26.

Through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and **escaped his hands.** 2 Cor 11:33.

3. **Speak truth.** A false witness shall not be unpunished, he that **speakech lies shall not escape.** Prov 19:5

4. **Get saved.** Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, **how can ye escape the damnation of hell?** Matt 23:33

5. **Avoid sin.** Thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and **doest the same,** that thou shalt **escape the judgment of God?** Romans 2:3.

6. **Claim Bible promises.** given unto us exceeding great and precious **promises;** that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having **escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.** 2 Pet1:4

7. **Know Jesus.** If after they have **escaped the pollutions of the world** thru the **knowledge** of the Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, & overcome, the latter end is worse with them than beg. 2Pet2:20

8. **Understand Second Coming events and get saved.** When they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and **they shall not escape.** I Thess 5:3

► **11 RAPTURE VERSES: Luke 21:35,36** “As a **snare** shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to **escape all these things** that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

John 14:3 “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.”

Romans 8:23 “Not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting for the adoption,** to wit, the redemption of our body.”

1Cor 15:51-53 “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed,**

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this **corruptible** must put on **incorruption,** and this mortal must put on **immortality.**”

Philippians 3:20,21 “For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also **we look for the Saviour,** the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be **fashioned like unto his glorious body,** according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”

1Thess 4:16-18 “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. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

1Thess 5:9 “For God hath **not appointed us to wrath,** but to **obtain salvation** by our Lord Jesus Christ”

2Th2:1 We beseech you, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by **our gathering together unto him**

Rev 3:10 “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, **I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation,** which shall come upon **all the world,** to try them that dwell upon the earth.”

Rev 4:1,2 “After this... a **door** was **opened in heaven;** and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, **Come up hither,** & I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. And **immediately** I was in the spirit: and, behold, a **throne was set in heaven,** and one sat on the throne.”

Isaiah 26:19,20 “**Thy dead men shall live,** together with **my dead body shall they arise.** Awake and sing, **ye that dwell in dust;** for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, the **earth shall cast out the dead.** Come, my people, **enter thou into thy chambers,** and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a

little moment, until the **indignation** be overpast.”

82. Seven Stages of Physical Growth Describe Seven Stages of Spiritual Growth.

Bible Reading: Acts 18:24-28; I John 2:12-29. **Aim:** To grow spiritually as we grow physically. Apollos.

1. **Newborn Babies.** “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:” I Peter 2:2.

2. **Little Children.** “I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name”’s sake.” I John 2:12. Little children need assurance of their parent’s love. Eternal security must be taught.

3. **Obedient Children.** Children need victory over lusts and false ideas. “As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the **former lusts** in your ignorance:” I Peter 1:14.

“That we henceforth be no more **children, tossed to and fro,** and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;” Eph.4:14.

4. **Young Men.** Three goals of young men are: “I have written unto you, young men, because ye are **strong,** and the **word of God abideth in you,** and ye have **overcome the wicked one.**” I John 2:14.

5. **Fathers.** “I write unto you, fathers, because ye have **known him** that is from the beginning.”

Fathers beget children. Fathers are soul winners. Fathers are leaders because they know God well.

6. **Elders.** “The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder,.... **Feed the flock of God** which is among you,” I Peter 5:1-3. Elders feed, pastor and teach others the word of God, as examples.

7. **Aged Men** speak sound doctrine. “But speak thou the things which become **sound doctrine:** That the **aged men** be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.” Titus 2:1,2.

“The **aged women** likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh **holiness,** not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may **teach the young women** to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.” Titus 2:3-5. Good teachers train Bible teachers. 1361

83. Jesus Christ DIED for ALL People’s Sins. Limited Atonement is False

► **Isaiah 53:6 ALL** we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; the LORD has **laid on him** the **iniquity of us ALL.** (ALL=he shall sprinkle **many nations**) Is 52:15, **not just Israel**

► **Luke 2:10** I bring you **good tidings** of great joy, **which shall be to ALL people.** (He died for all our sins)

► **Luke 2:30,31** My eyes have seen **thy salvation,** which thou has prepared before the face of **ALL people**

John 1:7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that **ALL men through him might believe**

Romans 5:18 As by the offence of one **judgment came upon all men** to condemnation; even so by the **righteousness of one the free gift came upon ALL men** unto justification of life.

Romans 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but **delivered him up for us ALL,** how shall he not with

► **2Cor 5:14,15** we thus judge, that if **one died for ALL,** then were **all** dead: and that **he died for ALL**

► **1Timothy 2:6** Who gave himself a **ransom for ALL,** to be testified in due time.

► **1Tim 4:10** we trust in the living God, who is the **Saviour of ALL MEN, specially of those that believe.**

► **Hebrews 2:9** We see Jesus, ..that he by the grace of God should **taste death for EVERY man,**

► **2Peter 2:1** There were **false prophets** also among the people, **denying the Lord that bought THEM,**

► **1John2:2** He is the **propitiation for our sins: not for ours only,** but also for **sins of the WHOLE world.**

► **1John 4:14** We have seen & do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the **Saviour of the WORLD.**

God WANTS ALL People to be Saved. “Unconditional Election of some” is Wrong

1Timothy 2:4 Who **will** have **ALL men to be saved,** and to come unto the knowledge of the truth

2Peter 3:9 The Lord is...**not willing that any should perish,** but that **ALL should come to repentance**

Matt 11:28 Come unto me, **ALL ye that labour** and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest.**

John 12:32 I, if I be lifted up from the earth, **will draw ALL men unto me.**

1Thess 2:16 Forbidding us to speak to the **Gentiles** that **they MIGHT be saved.**

Act 10:34 Peter said, Of a truth I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:** (No election to be saved)

Act 17:30 The times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commands **ALL men every where to repent:**

Act 17:31 **he has given assurance to ALL men,** in that he has **raised him from the dead.**

Act 22:15 Thou shalt be his **witness unto ALL men** of what thou has seen and heard.

Rom 11:32 God has concluded them **all** in unbelief, that he might **have mercy upon ALL**

Eph 3:9 To make **ALL men see what is the fellowship of the mystery,** which from the beginning

2Tim 4:17 That by me the preaching might be fully known, and that **ALL the Gentiles might hear:**

Titus 2:11 The **grace of God that bringeth salvation** hath appeared to **ALL men,**

84. Overcome FEAR with Knowledge and Courage. “Be of good courage” Ps 27:14.

Bible Reading: Joshua 1:1-18; 2 Chr 32:1-8,20 **Aim:** To use right knowledge & courage to solve problems

Introduction: Life is full of fearful situations that seem difficult to solve. Many people respond by quitting and running. Covid is a classic example of a fear that we must overcome with courage and correct knowledge. Covid raises many ideas on how to correctly respond to difficult, fearful situations. So many problems can be correctly solved by getting right knowledge & by taking courage to do what God wants. Knowledge without courage will stop you acting. Courage without knowledge will cause mistakes.

Definition of Courage: The quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain without fear. Bravery. Do you first get knowledge of all the facts, then take the right action with courage?

I. Who Overcame Fear with Knowledge and Courage?

1. **Israel** feared to enter the Promised land, not knowing how to defeat giants.

Joshua and Caleb knew that God would keep His promises of giving victory. Numbers 13:26-33

2. **Israel** feared to fight **Goliath**, but **David** did not. He had knowledge of slings and courage that God would help him do it. 3. **Hezekiah** encouraged Judah against Sennacherib (2 Chron 32:6-8)

4. **Daniel** encouraged his 3 friends not to eat the king’s junk food. He knew it was unhealthy.

He knew he had to offer a polite alternative as a 10 day test to his boss. (Daniel 1:8-17).

5. **Esther** feared asking Ahasuerus to save the Jews. She knew he liked parties, so she gave him two parties first, then had courage to ask her request. (Esther 4:16).

6. **Disciples** feared drowning in a storm because they had no knowledge of Jesus’ ability to still storms.

7. **11 Disciples** feared being arrested with Jesus so they fled. **John** had courage to come to the cross to encourage Jesus, comfort Mary and be an eyewitness of fulfilled Bible prophecies.

8. **Paul** took courage to go to Rome. Act 28:15. 9. **Tribulation saints** who refuse the mark of the beast will know that so many Bible prophecies have been fulfilled and will have the courage to refuse the mark.

II. How to Overcome Fear with Knowledge? 1. Get all the relevant facts before you decide.

2. Know the dangers and avoid them. 3. Don’t exaggerate the dangers. 4. Don’t minimize the dangers.

5. Accurately measure & assess dangers. 6. Avoid people’s advice who wrongly measure the dangers.

7. Get **Bible** and **Godly experts advice**. 8. Plan a way of escape if something unexpectedly bad happens.

9. Ask if someone is lying or giving you wrong information. Don’t believe all you hear

10. What better alternatives exist that may give better solutions?

III. How to Overcome Fear with Courage. 1. Get right advice from best Christians. 2 Chron 32:20

2. **God gives benefits if we have courage to attempt things**. “Be strong & of a good courage: for to this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear to thy fathers to give them.” Joshua 1:6

3. **We need courage to do God’s law so we prosper**. “Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.” Joshua 1:7.

4. **Meditate on Bible truths day and night**. “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.” Joshua 1:8.

5. **Do Not be Dismayed**. “Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” Joshua 1:9.

6. **God is with us to help us**. “He gave Joshua a charge, & said, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I swear unto them: I will be with thee.” Deut 31:23.

7. **Do Not get Distracted from God’s work**. “Be very courageous to keep & to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left.” Joshua 23:6.

8. **Many people want to help you**. “Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him.” 2 Chron 32:7.

IV. What Do We Need Courage to Do? 1. Give someone a tract and share the gospel with them.

2. Show people with false doctrines why they are wrong and what is right.

3. **Keep coming to church when people there offend you**. 4. To calm down a fight and not get angry.

5. To reject foolish, wrong advice telling us to quit serving God. 6. Start a church. Go on a mission trip.

7. To admit when we are wrong and to ask forgiveness. 8. To come to church in Covid season. 91

85. What Should We LEARN?

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 3:1-17; Isaiah 2:1-6.

Aim: To learn important life skills so we have a fruitful life of blessing to God and others. (Prov 9:9. “Give instruction to a wise man, & he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, & he will increase in learning.”

Introduction: Life is all about learning what works and what does not work, what is right, what is wrong. Some people are slow learners, repeating the same sins and mistakes and continue to reap the same bad results. Others learn quickly and have less problems. Some people stubbornly hold on to wrong ideas and false religions because they are slow learners and cannot admit where they are wrong. They don’t want to objectively weigh the evidence. “Their eyes they have closed.” (Matt 13:15). They miss learning so much. People in the last days are “Ever learning, & never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.” 2 Tim 3:7

I. What Important things should we LEARN?

1. **Godly people bless others**. “Laban said unto him.. I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.” Genesis 30:27.

2. **How to speak encouraging words**. “The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary.” Isaiah 50:4.

3. **Come to Jesus** to be saved.”Every man that has heard & learned of the Father, comes unto me, John6:45

4. **Obedience**. “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered” Heb 5:8

5. **Contentment**. “I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” Philippians 4:11.

6. **Who Jesus is** and **His teachings**. “ye have not so learned Christ” Eph 4:20. “Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” Matt 11:29.

7. **Have mercy** on people. “Go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” Matthew 9:13.

8. **Fig Tree parable** that Israel back in their land shows **Jesus’ near return**. “Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and puts forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh.” Matt 24:32

9. Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Is 1:17

10. **Bible gives us patience, comfort, hope**. “whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” Romans 15:4.

11. **Doctrine**. “They shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine.” Isa.29:24

12. **Identify and Avoid False Teachers**. “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.” Romans 16:17.

13. **Good works**. “learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. Titus 3:14

14. Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, & was mighty in words and in deeds. Acts 7:22

15. **God’s Ways**. “It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.” Ps 119:71

16. **Paul’s Writings**. “Those things, which ye have both learned, received, heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.” Philippians 4:9.

17. **Children learn to be Godly**. “But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.” I Timothy 5:4.

18. **Fear the Lord**. “that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.” Deut 4:10.

19. **Righteousness**. “With my soul have I desired thee in the night...when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.” Isaiah 26:9.

II. What Should We NOT LEARN?

1. **Not to be Idle**. “withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.” I Timothy 5:13.

2. **Not learn to do the Abominations of Nations**. “When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.” Deut 18:9.

3. **Not to befriend angry people**. “Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.” Prov 22:24,25.

4. **Not to learn the Ways of the heathen**. “Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.” Jeremiah 10:2.

5. **Not to learn War any more**. “He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” Isaiah 2:4. 92

86. 19 Essential Things We MUST Do

Bible Reading: John 3:1-21; Luke 19:1-10.

Aim: To implement what “Must” happen in our life.

Memory Verse: ‘**I must be about my Father's business?**’ Luke 2:49.

Introduction: A problem we all have is failing to see the difference between important and unimportant things. Important things in the Bible are prefixed by the word “**MUST**”. Things of less importance must be recognized and put in their right place. What important things “**must**” we do in our life?

1. Our Walk and Our Work. “Thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.” Exodus 18:20.

2. Our Justice. “The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.” 2 Samuel 23:3

3. Our Friendliness. “A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18:24

4. Our Gospel Preaching. “The gospel must first be published among all nations.” Mark 13:10. This is a priority in God’s plan for each generation to do all in their power to win their generation to Christ. This means **i)** Doing SW through our local church. **ii)** Printing tracts, Established books, Answers books. **iii)** Supporting foreign pastors and workers. **iv)** Praying for gospel outreach. **v)** Training our children in SW and follow up. **vi)** Giving to fund gospel outreach. **vii)** Doing door-knocking and open-air SW.

5. Our Business is God’s Business. “He said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that **I must be about my Father's business?**” Luke 2:49. Jesus at age 12 knew what His mission in life must be, and so should we know this at age 12. Sadly, his parents did not know this. Jesus first had to study and learn God’s word & will to prepare Himself to do God’s work later on. Are you preparing for a ministry?

6. Our Close Relationship with Christ. “When Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.” Luke 19:5. Jesus wants to come and abide in your house today. He wants to be in control of all that is said and done in your house. Have you asked Jesus to be in charge of your home? Do you honour Him in prayer and Bible reading with your spouse & children? This was a great honour for Z and us. Z received Him gladly.

7. Our Need to be Born Again & Saved. “Marvel not that I said to thee, **Ye must be born again**.” John 3:7. “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” Acts 4:12. To be born again is to be spiritually transformed when we RCAS (John 1:12), when we are taken out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God (realm of God’s authority and blessings). Only God’s HS can regenerate a human spirit. Being BA is absolutely necessary.

8. Our Need to Decrease. “**He must increase, but I must decrease.**” John 3:30. Jesus must be greater in our lives and we must become less. John joyfully and willingly accepted Jesus’ growing popularity and his less popularity. Our work is to point men to Jesus Christ as our Saviour, God, example, teacher, friend.

9. Our Worship. “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” John 4:24. Before we can serve God, we must worship God. This means that we must offer God our heart, soul, mind and spirit, rather than the ritual worship of paganism and false, hypocritical words. “This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.” (Matthew 15:8). We worship God in spirit and truth when we: **i)** Love God with all of our heart. **ii)** Present our body as a living sacrifice to do God’s will. **iii)** Love our neighbour as ourself. **iv)** Are filled with the HS. **v)** Let Jesus increase His control of us. **vi)** Read, study and live by the Bible, which is the sword of the Spirit and truth. **vii)** Fellowship with the Father and Son (I John 1:3). **viii)** Keep ourselves unspotted from the world (James 1:27).

10. Our Work. “**I must work the works of him that sent me**, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.” John 9:4. We must ask Jesus what He wants us to do each day (Acts 9:6).

11. Our Tribulation. “Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.” Acts 14:22

12. Our Approval by Refuting Heresies. “There must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.” I Corinthians 11:19. Answers book shows how to do this.

13. Our Future Immortality. “For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.” I Cor 15:53.

14. Our Appearance at the Judgment seat of Christ. “We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” 2 Cor 5:10. Will you be ashamed at missed opportunities or confident? I John 2:28.

15. Our Blameless, Good Report. “A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; (2) Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.” I Timothy 3:7.

16. Our Conflict Resolution, Gentleness, Teaching and Patience. “The servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient” 2 Timothy 2:24. Do you create conflict or stop it?

17. Our Belief in God’s Rewards. “Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” Hebrews 11:6 Do you know the proofs of God’s existence? Can you explain them convincingly to atheists and evolutionists? Do you believe that God will reward you for serving him?

18. Our Co-operation with our Pastor. “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17. What does this mean? At the JSOC, your pastor must give account to God for you and your involvement in serving Christ. If you were a difficult, lazy or “drop out” church member, you will lose rewards.

19. Our Response to the Word of God. “Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, As thou has said, so must we do.” Ezra 10:12.

Conclusion: Are you practising these “must” truths? You must!

87a. 20 Right MOTIVES for Serving God

1. Love for God as Creator & Love for Jesus Christ as our Saviour. ‘Love of Christ constrains.’ 2Cor5:14

2. Love for the unsaved that they might understand the gospel and have eternal life.

3. Love for Christians to help them become successful soul winners & lead many to Christ. Philemon 6.

4. Love for Australia to be a Christian nation & stay free. ‘my prayer for Israel is to be saved.’ Rom 10:1.

5. Love for Iran, Iranians and people in Muslim countries to be saved and know Bible truths. Mat 4:16

6. Hatred for false religions and false doctrines such as Islam, Catholicism, evolution, Watchtower.

7. Hatred for Satan to stop his influence. “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:” I Peter 5:8.

8. Desire to bring God’s blessings on our family tree. “His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.” Psalm 112:2.

9. Desire to grow our church. “I will build my church.” Matthew 16:18.

10. Desire to spread Bible truths to all nations. “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.” Matthew 28:19.

11. Desire to gain rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ. “We must all appear before JSOC.” 2Cor 5:10.

12. Desire to finish the race God has given us. “So run, that ye may obtain.” I Cor 9:24.

13. Desire to be a greatest and best Christian for God. “I will get me unto the great men” Jeremiah 5:5.

14. Desire to please God. “How ye ought to walk and to please God.” I Thess 4:1.

15. Desire to learn more about God, Bible and people by doing more for God. “Learn of me.” Matt 11:29

16. Desire to be more Christlike. “Be ye followers of me, as I also am of Christ.” I Cor 11:1

17. Desire to be a good example to others. “Be thou an example of the believers.” I Timothy 4:12.

18. Desire to set up a multiplying network of Christian workers. 2 Timothy 2:2.

19. Desire to cooperate with good angels to help their people get saved. Luke 15:10; Matthew 18:10.

20. Desire for Personal blessings and happiness for yourself. Matthew 6:33; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3.

87b. What MOTIVATES You? What are your Priorities?

13 June 2021

Bible Reading: Matthew 6:19-34; Revelation 3:1-22.

Aim: To understand what our priorities and motivation should be. What motivates us to serve God?

Memory Verse: “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33.

Introduction: Most things we do in life are based on our priorities, meaning what we think is important. If we think it is important, we do it. If we think it is of no value, we don't do it. The average unsaved, selfish person's priorities are making money, alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, footy, fashion, gambling, pleasures. Godly Christians have a very different set of priorities. We live for eternity. We lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven. We seek to please God, fulfil His plans for our life and help others get saved. Some people leave a good church because they think they have a higher priority to make a bit more money in a distant city. What they are saying is that making a bit more money is more important than all the benefits of serving God in a good church. When things go wrong in a distant city, they wonder why.

What Should Motivate Us in Life? What Should our Priorities be?

1. Jesus loves me and sacrificed Himself for me, so I love Jesus and sacrifice my life for Him. 1John 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
2. To receive God's approval on our life. Mat 25:21 “Well done, good and faithful servant: thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”
3. To help others get saved, live for God and fulfil God's plans for their life.
4. To avoid Satan's devices, deceit, lies and traps so we are not “taken captive by him” 2 Timothy 2:26.
5. To set others free from Satan's lies, deceit and traps, so they can know God and live forever.
6. To fulfil Jesus' commands to “Go and preach the gospel to every creature” Mark 16:15.
7. To “Go and teach all nations, baptize them & teach them to observe all Jesus' commands” Matt 28:19
8. To rescue people from hell and bring them to heaven. “Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.” Mark 9:44,46,48. “Who delivered us from so great a death” 2 Cor 1:10.
9. To rescue nations from evil, ungodly, oppressive, anti-Christian governments, like Iran, China, NKorea. Prov 14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people. Prov 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked bear rule, the people mourn.
10. To refute and remove false ideas and false religions by teaching God's truth. Rev 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
11. To be ready for Jesus' return, to use our time to do God's work, so we have no regrets in heaven.
12. To make and maintain good, Godly Christian friendships so we can do more for God. When Abner was killed, David said: “I am this day weak, though anointed king;” 2 Samuel 3:39.
13. To work with Godly Christians worldwide, to build a network of millions of SW, BT Christians. 2Tim 2:2
14. To see the happiness of people when they get saved, learn God's word and do great things for God.
15. To have a strong church support group to help solve each others problems & bless us. Matt 16:18
16. To have a strong family tree of Godly, Soul Winning, Bible Teaching children and grandchildren.
17. To be spiritually intelligent. To prevent problems. To learn from other's mistakes. To be happy. Prov 22:3 A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.
18. To not waste our life, time and money on useless things. Prov 18:9 He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.
19. To have a good reputation as a faithful Christian so you encourage others. Pr28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that makes haste to be rich shall not be innocent. Luke 16:12 If ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own? 1Cor 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
20. To enjoy an abundant entrance into heaven. 2 Peter 1:11 “For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”
21. All my works for Christ will be made manifest (on display, 1Cor3:13). I don't want to be ashamed 1Jn2:28 abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence & not be ashamed before him at his coming
22. To have eternal values. Col 3:2 “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”
23. Coming to church & serving God prevents problems, mistakes, depression, bad habits, bad people.
24. To fulfil Jesus' prophecy of internet preaching. “this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.” Matthew 24:14.

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88. 28 OPPORTUNITIES of Young People. Avoid Devil's Distractions.

Bible Reading: Luke 2:40-52; John 6:1-14.

Memory Verse: “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.” Luke 2:52. “the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men.” 1 Samuel 2:26.

Aim: To learn important lessons that other young people learned in the Bible. Avoid Devil's Distractions.

Introduction: Being a young person aged 8-50 is an exciting time of life that has many opportunities and advantages, but many useless distractions of the world, the flesh and the devil. Everything we do, we should ask ourselves “What is the use and value of this?” “Is this an opportunity from God or is it a useless distraction from the devil?” Most people waste their lives studying & doing useless things that are of no value to growing God's kingdom, leading people to Christ, teaching God's word or refuting error. “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Psalm 90:12.

Do you recognize and take opportunities, or do you miss them by being distracted with useless activities? We can choose to be intelligent and productive or we can choose to be stupid and useless. God has many great plans and projects for your life and mine. Coming to church & Bible class finds them. The Bible describes many people who took opportunities to do great things (Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon, Isaiah, Hezekiah, Daniel, Cyrus, Jesus, John, Paul, Barnabas, Apollos) and many who missed opportunities (Saul, Rehoboam, Manasseh, Judah in captivity, Pharisees, Judas, Demas). Young people have many opportunities to lay the foundations for a very happy, successful, useful life. Satan and ungodly people seek to distract young people from finding and fulfilling God's best plans for their life. Young people must draw closer to God in order to see and take God's opportunities. If we take opportunities, we are led to see and take other opportunities which bring greater success.

What opportunities should young people take and develop?

1. Many great opportunities exist to learn, prepare & achieve much for God & others. Rev 3:8 “OpenD”
2. It is a time where we establish life-long habits for good or evil. “overcome ..in bondage” 2 Peter 2:19
3. It is a time to get saved, know God, learn the Bible, SW, BT & prepare to do God's work. Eccles 12:1.
4. It is a time to learn and build convictions of what is right & what is wrong. “discern good” Heb 5:14
5. It is a time to build a network of Godly friends and to avoid ungodly friends. Psalm 1:1-3.
6. It is a time to seek, listen to, value, take Godly people's advice. “great men..way of the Lord” Jer 5:5
7. It is a time to prioritize important, valuable, useful, beneficial things, not useless, waste things.P28:9
8. It is time to think deeply on all issues of life. “Meditate on these things that thy profiting” 1 Tim 4:15
9. It is a time to get right Bible doctrines, defend them and teach them. Titus 2:1 “Speak sound doctrine
10. It is a time where we must learn to debate false teachers and refute wrong ideas. Act 18:4; Ps 127:5
11. It is time to get the best education and learn the most useful skills possible. “Study to” 2 Tim 2:15
12. It is time to learn to resist the devil & sav “No” to worldly temptations that distract & hurt us. Jm4:7
13. It is time to learn how to earn money, grow money & not waste money. Prov 21:20 “foolish spends
14. It is a time to learn how to solve problems, to see the good & bad consequences of actions. Prov22:3
15. It is time to decide to marry a Godly spouse to serve God together & grow a Godly family tree.Pr5:18
16. It is a time to hear the voice of God and obey Him. “Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth.” 1 Sam 3:9
17. It is time to lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest. John 4:35
18. It is a time to get eternal values, and live for eternity.. “I must be about my Father's business.”Lk2:49
19. It is time to understand and help win the spiritual war for people's souls/minds. Ephesians 6:11-18
20. It is a time to learn how to start gospel conversations and lead people to Christ. Matthew 4:19.
21. It is a time to write what you learn so you can remember it, improve it, print it, and teach it. Ps 45:1
22. It is a time to encourage, help, bless, develop and train others as a team to do God's work. Luke 6:13
23. It is a time to control your anger, hatred, revenge, youthful lusts, temptation to break fellowship.
24. It is a time to build goodwill. “With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men.” Eph 6:7.
25. It is a time to travel outside Sydney and overseas to discover opportunities to serve God.
26. It is a time to make many new Christian friends to serve God together & learn from them.Ac18:24-28
27. It is a time to identify and solve problems.
28. It is a time to ask the right questions and test all ideas to see if they are right or wrong. 1 Thess 5:21

Conclusion: Will you take these opportunities to grow God's kingdom and bless others?

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89. A PRUDENT Man Foresees the Evil and Hides himself. Prevent Trouble.

Bible Reading: I Kings 12:1-33; 2 Peter 1:1-21;

Proverbs 22:3; 27:12.

Aim: To foresee the consequences of good and bad actions and events..

MV: A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself; but the simple pass on, & are punished. Pro22:3

Introduction: Life is full of good opportunities that bring good consequences, and dangerous events and decisions that bring bad outcomes. Dangerous events often appear like beneficial opportunities to an inexperienced person, but a prudent person will see the true consequences of good and bad actions.

Satan tempts us with sinful things that seem beneficial, but in reality are dangerous traps with harmful, long term bad consequences. Things are not always what they appear to be. One of the most difficult things to do in life is to foresee the short-term and long-term consequences of our actions.

Humans cannot see into the future, but we can see that some good actions bring benefits and bad actions bring bad consequences. As we get older and more experienced, we see how true this is. Some people are slow to learn this, while others learn how widespread this truth is. Most prisoners did not know this, but now have plenty of time to consider this. People ask, "Why did this happen?"

Because they did not foresee the consequences of their actions, and did not prepare for a better outcome.

I. What Bible Verses Teach Us to Foresee the Consequences of our Actions?

Prov 25:8 Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour has put thee to shame. **2 Peter 1:9** He that lacks these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and has forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. **Numbers 32:23** Be sure your sin will find you out

Gal 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

3. "Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives." Acts 27:10. 4. Foolish virgins did not take enough oil. Matthew 25:1-13.

II. Who in the Bible FAILED to see the Dangerous Consequences of their Sinful, Foolish Actions?

Adam when he took Eve's advice and ate the fruit. **Israel** complaining against God led to 40 wasted years. **Joseph's** brothers selling him into Egypt. They did not think that one day they may need him.

David committing adultery led to his son's rebellion. **Solomon** marrying pagan wives introduced idols.

Rehoboam rejecting good advice & raising taxes lost 10 tribes. **Assyrian** siege of Jerusalem lost 185,000.

Manasseh killing his children and worshipping idols led to an Assyrian jail. **Ahithophel** betraying David **Judah's sins** led to loss of temple and Babylonian captivity. **Judas** betraying Jesus led to his suicide.

Israel failed to see 29 March 33AD as the end of the 69 weeks & rejecting Jesus led to destroying temple, dispersion for 1941 years, and 1 million Jews being killed in 70AD. Luke **19:41-44**; **21:20-24**.

III. WHO in the Bible FORESAW the Good Consequences of their Good Actions?

Abram's obedience led to all nations being blessed. **Joseph's** dream showed his brothers bowing to him.

Jesus knew his death would pay for our sins & save many. **Paul** knew his mission trips will start churches

IV. What are Some EXAMPLES of Foreseeing the evil?

1. Cigarette smoking, drugs and alcohol produce many health problems. Lesson: Don't start smoking.

2. Mixing with ungodly friends leads you to adopt their evil, foolish behaviour. Then trouble hits you.

3. False religions lead to adopting their unbiblical, dangerous ideas and practices.

4. Not reading your Bible each day leads to depression, confusion, fear, uncertainty.

5. Not studying for exams leads to failure, missing skills, missing a good job, habits of laziness.

6. Ungodly political parties implement evil, dangerous policies, which loses our freedoms. Eg: Iran govt

7. Starting a project and not being able to finish it. Starting an orphanage & not planting trees to feed them

8. SSM and homosexuality leads to not having children, destroying your family tree and God's judgment.

V. HOW Can We FORESEE the Consequences of Ours and Others Actions?

Q1: Is someone offended by what I have done? Are they likely to take revenge? What might they do?

Q2: Is there an opportunity that I am not taking? Am I wasting my time & money on useless actions?

Q3: What may I lose by breaking a friendship or by leaving a good church or by not sharing gospel?

Q4: Are bad people opposing us? Is it worth fighting them or should I look for another option?

Q5: What happened to other people who did this action? Cig, drugs, alcohol, gambling, harlots, homo

Q6: If I eat junk food, take big Pharma drugs or gamble, how will it damage my health?

Gamble→lose money→get depressed→drink alcohol→speed→lose licence→lose job→divorced→drugs.

Go to Bible college→start a church→share gospel→many saved→many taught→many churches started.

Q7: What is the level of risk? What may I lose? What may I gain from this action?

Q8: What are the consequences of sexual immorality, homosexuality, adultery, prostitution? No marriage

Q9: How many people will be saved, taught Bible and blessed by books that you write? Rev 1:11.

VI. HOW Can We IMPROVE our Ability to Foresee the Evil?

1. Seek advice of Godly Christians. "I will get me unto the great men" Jer 5:5.

2. Study the Bible to learn and do God's ways. "blessed are they that keep my ways." Prov 8:32.(Lk17:26

3. Study Bible prophecies. "as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man"

4. Learn from others mistakes.

5. Stay Humble and teachable. "let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." I Cor 10:12.

6. Ask "What is the worst that can happen?" "Am I allowing evil people to control me?"

7. Ask: "Is the devil in this situation, seeking to steal, kill or destroy?" John 10:10.

8. Look for future problems and prepare to solve them or avoid them.

9. If you are not sure of the outcome, try it on a small scale first, so your loss is small if it goes wrong.

10. Are greedy, selfish, covetous, careless, incompetent people getting involved, who can stop my plans?

11. Are we teaching our children God's ways, so they will serve God? "Train up a child in the wayPr22:6

12. Develop SW and Bible teaching skills so as to turn people from Satan to God. Acts 26:18; Matt 5:13.

13. Don't be spiritually blind, but see the spiritual war that Satan seeks to destroy God's ways.Eph6:11-13

VII. What AREAS of Life Must we See the Consequences of our Actions?

1. The benefits of getting saved early in life and living for Jesus.

2. The consequences of attending a good or bad church? or of going to pub, club, and ungodly school?

3. Who we marry, how we treat them and how many children we have.

4. The consequences of giving into temptation to sin and resisting temptation.

5. The food we eat determines our long-term health. The drugs we take destroy our health.

6. The friends we make and their advice we take, benefits or harms our future happiness.

7. The education and the job we get. The benefits of coming to Bible study.

8. If we explain the gospel and lead people to Christ, they become a new, happy creatures

9. If we learn the Bible and God's ways, we can teach them, bless others, and be useful for God.

10. Am I making many Christian friends→to build a big network→to multiply Bible truth to many folk?

11. Am I living for eternity→to win many to Christ→to get an abundant welcome into heaven? 2 Pet 1:1.

12. Do I have enough money saved to fund my ministry and pay my bills if I lose my job?

VIII. What KINDS of EVIL Can Happen to Us?

1. Marry an ungodly person, then their problems become your problems.

2. Breaking fellowship with godly Christians, then you miss their good advice.

3. Voting for an ungodly government will introduce evil, harmful laws.

4. Eating salty, sugary, fizzy, junk food will give you health problems, like heart attack, cancer, diabetes

Conclusion: Everything we do in life, ask "What are the consequences of doing it or not doing it?"

Ask: "Where will this action lead? Will it bring good or bad results?" What evil can you see?

90. 10 Visions Of Christ

1. **Job's** vision. Result: Book of Job written, and double blessings. Job 42:1-17.

2. **Isaiah's** vision. Result: "Here am I; send me." (Isaiah 6:1-9).

3. **Ezekiel's** vision. (Ezekiel 1; 10:8-22 v.20).

4. **Moses' vision**. Result: Delivering Israel from Egypt. (Exodus 3:1-15).

5. **Joshua's vision**. Result: Worshipping Jesus as Captain and victories in Canaan (Joshua 5:13-15).

6. **Manoah's** vision. Result: Samson born. Judges 13:1-25.

7. **Daniel's** vision. Result Daniel 10:4-6.

8. **Stephen's** vision. Result: Martyrdom, Saul saved, many churches started. Acts 7:54-60.

9. **Paul's** vision: Result: Saul saved. Acts 9:1-7; 26:12-18.

10. **John's** vision. Result: Book of Revelation given as Scripture. Revelation 1:4-18.

91. Five Wise QUESTIONS to Ask

Bible Reading: Psa 1:2. **Aim:** To ask important questions to prevent problems and produce right results.

Introduction: Life is full of difficult situations where it is easy to make mistakes and get into trouble.

“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” Jam 1:19
“He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding; but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.” Prov 14:29

If we obey the 3 rules in James 1:19, this gives us time to ask and think about 5 great questions that we must apply to every decision and action in life. Not only must we ask these 5 questions, but we must get the correct answers to each question. If we don’t know the correct answers, then we should wait until we get the right answers before we take action. Foolish, inexperienced, ungodly, Biblically ignorant people rarely ask these 5 questions, so they make many wrong decisions that create big problems for themselves.

Q1: CAUSE: WHY did this situation happen? WHAT is the Cause of a good or bad situation?

Why are some people blessed? Why do some have troubles? Why are some countries free & prosperous? Why do some people have good health and others have bad health, sickness. Why do some succeed and why do some fail? Why was Solomon wise & successful? (Rehoboam should have asked this question). Because he asked God for understanding and wisdom. Why did God destroy Sodom & Gomorrah? Why were Paul and John great Christians? Why do some have a good marriage? Why did a church get started? Why do people fail? Why do people believe foolish things? Why do terrorists kill innocent people? Why do some politicians deny that Islam is a cause of terror, when the terrorist admits that Islamic thinking is the cause? Why do some people take and sell drugs. Why do some people, such as all US Democrat senators & Labour party hate tax cuts & want to pay more tax? Why did Obama always implement anti-US & anti-Israel policies? Why should I pay more for a product than I need to? Why should I read the Bible daily? Why come to this church? Why go SW? Why resist temptations? Why go to Bible college? Why start a Bible study? Why did Jesus die? Why should I seek this job? Why did WWI & WWII start? Why are Jews hated by evil people & loved by Bible-believing Christians? Why do Jews get persecuted? “Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and sought diligently” I Peter 1:10.

Q2: CONSEQUENCES: What are the results of an action or NOT doing an action? What is the effect? What are the short term consequences and long term consequences of a decision & action? If you don’t know what the consequences are, then ask people who have done this action. This is the law of cause and effect. This allows us to see into the future. “A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.” Proverbs 22:3. **What are Bible examples of this?**

- i) God told Adam and Eve not to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge or they would die. Gen 2:16-17.
- ii) God told Abram to leave Ur and I will make of thee a great nation. (Genesis 12:1-3).
- iii) God told Israel that if they obeyed God, they’d be blessed (Deut 28:1-12). Disobedience brings curses
- iv) “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.” Proverbs 14:34.
- v) If we receive Christ as Saviour and live by the Bible, we will think and act differently to unbelievers.

What are the consequences of marrying a believer or an unsaved person? What are the effects of taking drugs, alcohol, smoking or eating junk food? What are the effects of door-knocking or open-air SW? What are the effects of Paul or us going on a missionary journey? Of reading a King James Bible or NIV? **Lesson:** DO things that produce good consequences. DO NOT do things that produce bad consequences.

Q3: COSTS: What are the costs of doing some things? What are the costs of NOT doing some things?

“Which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?” Luke 14:28. Am I willing to pay the price to achieve this result? Is this result worth the cost, effort, money, loss of opportunities that this action requires? Do a cost/benefit analysis. Would you risk \$1000 to make \$1 million? You must first ask another question “What is the risk/reward ratio?” If the chance of making this \$1million was 1 chance in 1 million, would you do it? No way! If 1 in 2, yes. What is the cost of serving God and SW? Will God reward me for this? Yes. “So that a man shall say, Verily there is a reward for the righteous; verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth.” Psalm 58:11. “They that turn many to righteousness (will shine) as the stars for ever and ever.” Daniel 12:3.

Q4: CHARACTERS: Am I mixing with Godly, wise characters or with ungodly, foolish characters? Whose advice am I taking? Psalm 1:1. 2 problems: a) Incompetence. b) Dishonesty.

Q5: CREATOR: Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? Act9:6. Ask God what, when, how, who, where. Ask 13 questions in “Est in Faith” page 30. **Conclusion:** Ask these 5 questions daily for a better life. **99**

92. Don’t QUIT

Bible Reading: Genesis 13:11-18; Acts 12:25- 13:13.

Aim: To quit bad, useless things. To not quit important useful things.

Introduction: The world is full of quitters. Many people start something, find it difficult, then quit and never reap the benefits. They try something else, and quit again. They develop a habit of quitting.

We must quit and forsake useless, bad things, and continue with good things.

What Good things should we never quit? God, church, soul winning, Bible study, prayer, family, friends.

I. Bible Characters who Quit. 1) John **Mark** (Acts 13:13). 2) **Demas** (2 Timothy 4:10; Col. 4:14).

3) **Judas**. 4) **Lot** quit from Abraham (Genesis 13:11-18). 5) **Jonah** quit from God. 6) **Peter** (John 21:3).

II. Bible Characters who Did Not Quit. 1) **Abraham** (Faithful Abraham. Gal.3:9). 2) **Noah** building Ark.

3) **Joseph** in jail. 4) **Moses**. 5) **David**. 6) **Solomon** building the temple. 6) **Daniel** in lion’s den for praying.

7) **Shadrach, Meshach, Abed nego** in the furnace for not worshipping an idol. 8) **Jesus**. 9) **Paul**. 10) **Job**.

III. Why Never Quit?

1. **Jesus kept going** and did not quit. (I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. John 17:4).

2. If you continue, you experience **compounding, increasing benefits over many years**. 2 Timothy 2:2.

3. **You will meet many new friends in the future** who you will help and bless. They will bless you.

4. **Struggle makes you stronger**. You will become stronger, tougher and wiser if you continue.

5. **If you quit, you will lose your support group** and **their experience** with their helpful ideas.

(Thine own friend, and thy father’s friend, forsake not; Proverbs 27:10).

6. **You’ll be remembered as a quitter**. If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. Pr 24:10

7. **If you quit in one area, it is easier to quit in other areas**. You develop a habit of quitting.

8. **The smartest and most successful people in science and business do not quit**. “I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD.” Jeremiah 5:5.

9. **If you quit, you set a bad example for others to follow**. If you continue, you set a good example for others to follow. “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12.

10. **If you quit, you will lose your rewards in heaven** and **you lose Jesus’ approval** and “well done”.

“Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.” Revelation 3:11.

“His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.” Matthew 25:21,23.

11. **Ups and downs are a part of life**. Take the good with the bad. “shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.” Job 2:10.

12. **If you quit, you will miss learning the valuable lessons that God has for you**. You learn more in difficult times. Difficulties motivate you to find a solution. “we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope:” Romans 15:3,4.

13. **When you get one victory and learn the lessons, this becomes a doorway to more victories and more lessons learnt and more skills developed**. “But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” I Corinthians 15:57.

14. **You will find enjoyment and satisfaction** in conquering difficult situations. “Better is the end” Ec7:8

15. **Victory and great blessing might be just around the corner**. If you quit now, you miss blessings.

IV. Why Do People Quit?

1. They **see no chance of success**.

2. They **magnify the problems and difficulties**, and **minimize the benefits**.

3. They **follow other quitters**.

4. They **take their eyes off Jesus Christ** and **focus on the problems**. (Peter walking on the water).

5. **Fear of failure**.

6. **Discouragement**.

7. They **forget the past blessings, good things** and **answers to prayer**.

8. They **can’t tell the difference between good, useful things** and **bad, useless things**.

9. They **quit reading the Bible daily** and **praying daily**.

10. They **see no benefits in continuing**.

Conclusion: Don’t quit !

93. Are You Running the Right RACE Well?

Bible Reading: I Cor 9:24-27; Hebrews 12:1-17.

Aim: To run the race God has for us and to finish it well.

Memory Verse: “let us run with patience the race that is set before us.” Hebrews 12:1.

Introduction: Life is like a race that we must run and seek to win against many obstacles. The prize is eternal souls, the approval of God and believers, and an eternal weight of glory. How are you running?

I. Bible Verses on Running our Race

“David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.” I Chronicles 28:20.

“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain (24). I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beatech the air.” I Cor 9:26.

“Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?” Gal 5:7.

“Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.” Phil 2:16. “David, after he had served his own generation...fell on sleep.” Acts 13:36.

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” 2 Timothy 4:7.

“Seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.” Heb 12:1

II. How the Christian Life is like a Race

1. It requires training. 2 Timothy 2:2. “commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others..”
2. It has a start. This is salvation. “Ye must be born again” John 3:7; If any man..new creature. 2 Cor 5:17
3. It has a finishing line. This is heaven.
4. It has a Judge, Jesus Christ. “We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ...” 2 Cor 5:10.
5. We may be disqualified by breaking the rules. I Cor 9:27. Do not be a castaway (disqualified).
6. There is a prize we can win. “One receives the prize? So run that ye may obtain.” I Cor 9:24.
7. We have competitors to race against. “Satan hindered us.” I Thess 2:18.
8. We have so great a cloud of witnesses watching us from heaven. Heb 12:1
9. We must not faint, quit, grow weary or drop out.
10. We must put on the uniform. This is baptism to show that we belong to Jesus Christ.
11. We must have strong determination to win the race set before us.
12. We may be hindered in the race. Heb 12:1; Gal 5:7 “who did hinder you that ye should not obey..?”
13. Glory comes on the winner. ‘works for us a far more exceeding & eternal weight of glory; 2 Cor 4:17
14. We experience different kinds of races. Some are short sprints. Others are long distance races requiring endurance. Some things need to be done quickly. Others require long term commitment.
15. Races require a strategy to beat your competitors.
16. Every athlete needs a coach to train them properly, a good, caring, competent pastor.
17. Relay runners run in a team. The better we run, the greater advantage we give our successors.

III. What Races Should we be Running?

1. To Win as many to Christ as Possible as fast as possible
2. To Train as many soul winners as possible.
3. To Train as many Bible teaching Christians as possible.
4. To Preserve our society from evil, being “the salt of the earth and the light of the world.” Matt 5:13,14
5. To Achieve 1-4 overseas and all over the world through missions, church equipping and planting.

IV. Hindrances to Running our Race.

1. Spiritual sleepiness. “While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.” Matthew 25:5.
2. Spiritual distraction.
3. Getting offended and dropping out of the race.
4. Not knowing the Bible or not practicing the Bible.
5. Not learning or doing soul-winning.
6. Not seeing and taking opportunities to serve God.
7. Fear of attempting things. Fear of failure. Fear of criticism. Excuse making. “I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.” Matthew 25:25. **101**

94. THINK

Bible Reading: Luke 12:13-34; Philippians 4:1-9.

Aim: To think deeply about God, His work, the Bible, yourself, others & solutions to problems. (Phil 4:8

M Verse: “whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, good reort, virtue, praise, think on”

Introduction: Most people do not think very deeply about the important issues of life. They think about the footy, cars, money, holidays, alcohol, drugs, junk food, fashion, pleasing ungodly people and work.

They don't think to ask the really important questions of life, such as:

Q1: When I die, where will I go? **Q2:** How can I know God? **Q3:** What does God want me to do?

Q4: How do I know the Bible is true? (Fulfilled prophecies). **Q5:** How can I win more people to Christ?

Q6: Am I wasting my time? **Q7:** Why should I do things? **Q8:** What does God think of this?

Q9: Who should I choose to be my best friends? **Q10:** What are the consequences of any action?

Q11: What are the costs and benefits of each activity? **Q12:** How can I teach God's word to more people?

Q13: How can I help more people in our church? The following poem is true of some people:

1. Youth (0-20): Too happy to think. Plenty of time left.

2. Manhood (20-40): Too busy to think. Seeking more money.

3. Prime of life (40-60): Too anxious to think. Worry has taken over.

4. Declining years (61-): Too old to think. Life is wasted. Became hard-hearted.

5. Dying years. Too ill to think. Weak now. Sufferingb alone.

6. Death. Too late to think. 7. Eternity: Forever to think. God's mercy is past. In hell, people have all the time to think of lost opportunities that would have kept them out of hell. What a waste of time and of life!

I. What are some of the important things that God says that we should THINK about?

1. Deut 32:29 O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!

2. Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Psalms 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3. 1Samuel 12:24 Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

4. Ps 8:3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon, the stars, which thou has ordained

5. Psalms 37:10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

6. Psalms 63:6 When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

7. Psalms 77:12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.

Psalms 143:5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands.

8. Proverbs 6:6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

9. Matt 22:42 Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David.

10. Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 1Cor 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

11. Ephesians 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

12. Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

13. 1Cor 13:5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeks not her own, is not easily provoked, thinks no evil;

14. 1Tim 4:15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all

15. 2 Tim 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. **102**

95. What TIME is it?

17 June 2018

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; **MVerse:** “**Redeeming the time**, because the days are evil. Eph 5:16

Aim: To recognize different times in life. To do the right things at the right time. To not waste time.

Introduction: Most mistakes are made by doing the right or wrong thing at the **wrong time**. Time is very valuable. Some things **we can only do at a certain time in life**. We must number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps 90:12). God wants us to live useful, productive lives. Do you waste time? Ye can discern the face of the sky&of the earth; but how is it that ye do not **discern this time**? Luke 12:56 “Remember how **short my time is**: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?” Psalm 89:47

“A wise man’s heart **discerneth both time and judgment.**” Eccles 8:5

“This people say, The time is not come, the **time that the LORD’S house should be built.**” Haggai 1:2

“**Redeeming the time**, because the days are evil.” Ephesians 5:16.

“What *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a **little time**, & then vanishes away.” James 4:14

He no longer should live the rest of *his time in the flesh* to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. IPet4:2

“devil is come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has but **a short time**. Rev12:12

I. What are the Important Times of Life to Recognize?

1. **Find God**. For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a **time when thou may be found**: Ps 32:6

Sow to yourselves in righteousness, break up your fallow ground: for *it is time to seek the LORD*, Hos10:12

2. **Trouble**. Blessed *is* he that considers the poor: the LORD will deliver him in **time of trouble**. Ps 41:1

Confidence in an unfaithful man in **time of trouble** *is* like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint. Pr 25:19

3. **Fear**. “What **time I am afraid**, I will trust in thee.” Psalm 56:3.

4. **Every Purpose**. To every thing there is a season& a **time to every purpose** under the heaven: Ecc 3:1-8

A time to be born, die, plant, pluck up (2); kill, heal, break down, build up (3), weep, laugh, mourn, dance

(4); cast away stones, gather stones, embrace, refrain from embracing (5); get, lose, keep, cast away (6);

rend, sew, keep silence, speak (7); love, hate, war, peace (8). Eccles 3:2-8.

5. **Favour Israel**. Thou shalt arise&have mercy upon Zion: for the **time to favour her is come**. Ps 102:13

Second time for Israel to Return. “The Lord shall set his hand again the **second time to recover the**

remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from

Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.” Isaiah 11:11.

“Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of

the sword in the **time of their calamity**, in the **time that their iniquity had an end.**” Ezek 35:5

6. That day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: even the **time of Jacob’s trouble**; but he shall be saved. Jer30:7

7. Seal the book to the **time of the end**: many shall run to & fro, knowledge shall be increased. Dan 12:4.

8. **Reckoning**. After a **long time** the lord of those servants cometh, & **reckoneth** with them. Matt 25:19

9. **Temptation**. “They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these

have no root, which for a while believe, and in **time of temptation fall away.**” Luke 8:13.

10. **Visitation**. “They shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the **time of thy visitation.**” Luke 19:44.

11. **Cares of life**. “Take heed to yourselves, lest at any **time your hearts be overcharged with superfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life**, and so that day come upon you unawares.” Luke 21:34.

12. **Quit junk food**. “nothing common or unclean has at **any time entered into my mouth.**” Acts 11:8.

13. **Awake**. “**Knowing the time**, that now it is **high time to awake out of sleep.**” Romans 13:11.

14. **Salvation**. “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a **time accepted, and in the day of salvation** have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.)” 2 Cor 6:2.

15. **Departure from sound Doctrine**. The **time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine** 2Tim4:3

16. **Death**. “I am now ready to be offered, and the **time of my departure is at hand.**” 2 Timothy 4:6.

17. **Profit**. “Which **in time past was to thee unprofitable**, but **now profitable** to thee and to me.” Phil 11

18. **Forgetfulness**. “We ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any **time we should let them slip.**” Hebrews 2:1

19. **Need**. Come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, & grace to help in **time of need.** Heb4:16

20. **Judgment of Churches**. The **time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God**: I Pet 4:17

21. **Exalt**. Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may **exalt you in due time**: I Pet 5:6

22. **Teachers**. “When for the **time ye ought to be teachers.**” Hebrews 5:12. **103**

96. What is TRUTH? Bible Reading: John 14:1-18; John 18:28-40;

Memory Verse: “Ye shall **know the truth**, and the **truth shall make you free.**” John 8:32.

Aim: To **know, value, teach** and **love truth**. To rescue people from deception. Why are many unsaved?

Introduction: “Pilate saith unto him, **What is truth?**” John 18:38. So many people tell lies, believe lies, spread lies that cause great suffering, confusion, deception. Many **suppress** the truth (Rom 1:18), **resist** the truth (2 Tim 3:8), **turn away their ears from the truth** (2 Tim 4:4), **speak evil of truth** (2 Pet 2:2). In 785BC God said, “Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because **there is no truth**, nor **mercy**, nor **knowledge of God** in the land” Hosea 4:1.

Today, many are “Ever learning, and never able to come to the **knowledge of the truth.**” 2 Timothy 3:7.

Truth is so important for peace, success and God’s blessings. “Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, **destitute of the truth**, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.” 1 Tim 6:5.

Q1: What is TRUTH?

1. **Deut 32:4** He is the **Rock**, his work is perfect: a **God of truth** and **without iniquity, just** and **right** is he

2. **John 14:6** Jesus said, **I am the way, the truth, and the life**: no man comes unto the Father, but by me.

3. **John 15:26** When the Comforter is come, whom I will send to you from the Father, the **Spirit of truth**:

4. **John 17:17** Sanctify them through **thy truth: thy WORD is truth.** Dan 10:21 the **scripture of truth**:

5. **Gal 2:5** we gave place... , no, not for an hour; that the **truth of the GOSPEL** might continue with you.

6. **1Tim 3:15** the house of God, which is the **church** of the living God, the **pillar** and **ground of the truth**

7. **Zech 8:3** Thus saith the **LORD**: I am returned unto Zion, and **will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem**:

and **Jerusalem** shall be called a **CITY of truth**; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain

Q2: What are the BENEFITS of Truth?

1. **John 8:32** Ye shall **know the truth**, and the **truth shall make you FREE.**

2. **Ps91:4** He shall cover you with his feathers, under his wings shall you trust: **his truth shall be thy shield & buckler**

3. **Prov 20:28** **MERCY and truth preserve the king**: and his throne is upholden by **mercy.**

4. **Ex18:21** Provide out of all the people **able men**, such as **fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness**: place such over them, *to be* rulers of 1000s, rulers of 100s, rulers of 50s, rulers of 10s: (Godly leaders)

5. **Ephesians 5:9** For the **FRUIT of the Spirit** is in all **goodness and righteousness and truth**;

6. **Joh3:21** **He that does truth comes to the light**, that his deeds may be manifest, that they are wrought in God

7. **3 John 4** I have **no greater JOY** than to hear that **my children walk in truth.**

Q3: What is our Duty to Truth? Why are many unsaved? they received not the love of the truth. 2Th2:10

Ps 25:5 **Lead me in thy truth, teach me**: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

Psa 145:18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that **call** upon him, to all that **call upon him in truth.**

Prov 3:3 **Let not mercy & truth forsake thee**: bind them about thy neck; write them on the table of thine heart:

Prov 23:23 **Buy the truth**, and sell it not; also **wisdom**, and **instruction**, and **understanding.**

Jer 5:1 Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, see now, know, and seek in the broad places

thereof **if ye can find a man**, if there be any that executes judgment, **that seeks the truth**: & I will pardon it.

Jer 9:3 **They are not valiant for the truth** on the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, they know not me..

Daniel 9:13 As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and **understand thy truth.**

Zech 8:19 **love the truth** and **peace.** John 18:37 Every one that is of the **truth heareth my voice.**

John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must **worship him in spirit and in truth.**

Galatians 4:16 Am I therefore become your enemy, because **I tell you the truth?**

Eph 4:15 **Speaking the truth in love**, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

Eph4:25 Putting away lying, **speak every man truth** with his neighbour: we are members one of another.

Eph 6:14 Stand having **your loins girt about with truth**, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

1Tim 2:4 Who will have all men to be **saved**, and to come unto the **knowledge of the truth.**

2Tim 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.** **3John 8** We ought to receive such, that **we might be fellowhelpers to the truth.**

2Tim 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God may will give them repentance to the **acknowledging of the truth**; **1Cor 13:6** Rejoices not in iniquity, but **rejoices in the truth.** **104**

97. What Do UNSAVED People Lack, that Godly Christians Have? p.105

Memory Verse: “I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have **no hope**.” IThess 4:13-18 **Aim:** To value what God has given us.
Introduction: When we compare unsaved, ungodly people like Ayatollah, Basij, terrorists, Taliban, Hamas, Greenies, atheists, criminals, dictators, false religions, with Godly Christians, we see many great differences. These people think they have all the answers, but there is so much that they know nothing about that Godly Christians have. If these ungodly people become politicians, they create so many problems by passing evil laws that greatly hurt people.

I. What Do Many Unsaved people Lack that Godly Christians have?

1. **No Answer to problems.** Job 32:5 When Elihu saw there was **no answer** in the mouth of 3 men, his wrath
2. **No Helper.** Ps 72:12 He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, & him that has **no helper**.
3. **No Carer.** Ps 142:4 there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; **no man cared for my soul**.
4. **No Wise Counsel.** Prov 11:14 Where **no counsel is**, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors safety.
5. **No Understanding.** Pr 18:2 A fool has **no delight in understanding**, but that his heart may discover itself.
6. **No Self-control.** Pr 25:28 He that has **no rule over his own spirit** is like a city that is broken down..
7. **No Vision.** Pr 29:18 Where there is **no vision**, the people perish: but he that keeps the law, happy is he.
8. **No Comforter.** Eccles 4:1. I beheld.. the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had **no comforter**;
9. **Not admonished.** Ec4:13 Better a poor, wise child than an old, foolish king, who will **no more be admonished**
10. **No Pleasure in God.** Ecc 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have **no pleasure in them**;
11. **No Light.** Isa 8:20 If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is **no light in them**.
12. **No Peace.** Isa 48:22 There is **no peace**, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.
13. **Reject correction.** Jer 2:30 In vain have I smitten your children; they **received no correction**:
14. **Don't know God.** Jer 4:22 My people is foolish, **they have not known me**; they are sottish children, and they have **none understanding**: they are **wise to do evil**, but **to do good they have no knowledge**.
15. **No Discernment.** Ezek 22:26 Her priests have violated my law,... they have **put no difference between the holy and profane**, neither have they shewed difference between the **unclean and the clean**.
16. **No Shame.** Zep 3:5 The just LORD bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; the **unjust knows no shame**.
17. **No Truth, Mercy.** Hosea 4:1 because there is **no truth**, nor **mercy**, **nor knowledge of God** in the land.
18. **No Shepherd.** Matt 9:36 He saw the multitudes, ... scattered abroad, as sheep having **no shepherd**.
19. **No useful work.** Matt 20:7 They said, Because **no man has hired us**. He said, Go into the vineyard;
20. **No Holy Spirit oil.** Matt 25:3 They that were **foolish** took their lamps, and took **no oil** with them:
21. **No Fruit.** Mark 4:7 **Some fell among thorns**, the thorns grew up, **choked it**, and it yielded **no fruit**.
22. **No Faith.** Mark 4:40 He said unto them, Why are ye **so fearful**? how is it that ye have **no faith**?
23. **No room for Jesus.** Lk 2:7 her firstborn son, laid him in a manger; there was **no room for them** in the **inn**.
24. **No Givers.** Luke 15:16 He would have filled his belly with the husks that pigs ate: **no man gave to him**
25. **No love for Bible.** John 8:37 ye seek to kill me, because **my word has no place in you**.
26. **No fear of God.** Romans 3:18 There is **no fear of God before their eyes**.
27. **No hope of heaven.** Eph 2:12 Ye were without Christ, having **no hope, without God in the world**;
28. **No Rest.** Rev 14:11 they have **no rest day nor night**, who worship the beast & his image, receives the mark

II. What Benefits Does Jesus Christ give to Christians?

1. **Fear no evil.** Ps23:4 Tho I walk thru valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil**: for thou art with me;
2. **No wicked.** Ps101:3 I will set **no wicked thing before my eyes**: I hate the work of them that turn aside;
3. **Peace.** Is 9:7 Of the increase of his government & **peace** there shall be **no end**, on the throne of David,
4. **Strength.** Is 40:29 He gives **power** to the **faint**; and to them that have **no might he increases strength**.
5. **Forgiveness.** Jer31:34 I will **forgive** their iniquity, and **I will remember their sin no more**.
6. **No condemnation.** Rom 8:1 There is now **no condemnation** to them which are in Christ Jesus, who...
7. Ye are **no more strangers** & foreigners, but **fellowcitizens with the saints**, of the household of God; Ep2:19
8. be **no more children**, tossed to & fro, **carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by sleight of men, Eph4:14
9. Blessed and holy *is* he that has 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**. Rev 20:6.
10. God shall **wipe away all tears** from their eyes; there shall be **no more death, sorrow, crying, pain**. Rev21:4

98. Where There is No VISION, the People Perish. What Can You See?

Bible Reading: 2 Kings 6:1-23; Acts 16:6-11; 26:15-19.

Memory Verse: Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. Pr 29:18
Aim: To see clearly the important things of life and eternity. To be inspired to do something great for God. To stop being influenced by ungodly people who have no vision of serving God and of living for eternity.

Youtube: **Lead On O King Eternal - Diane Bish - Second Baptist Choir-The Joy Of Music, HARVEST JOY - CfaN Gospel Campaigns in Nigeria evangelist reinhard bonke**

Introduction: Proverbs 29:18 warns us about a major problem in life, of having poor vision, or being unable to see things clearly. Jesus spoke Matthew 5-12 clearly to Israel, but they rejected it. “Therefore speak I to them in parables: because **they seeing see not**; and **hearing they hear not**, neither do they understand...**their eyes they have closed**,” Matthew 13:13,15. Many people fail in life because they fail to see **people, situations, opportunities & dangers** clearly. They look at these things, but fail to appreciate the **value** of the right kind of **people, opportunities & situations**. They also fail to appreciate the **dangers** of the wrong kinds of people and situations. Do you have a vision of rejoicing with great Christians in heaven?

Q1: Why do some Christians **not serve God** or study the Bible? Because they don't see the **value** of it.

Q2: Why do some people **make foolish decisions** that create trouble? Because they don't see the **dangers**.

I. What are Some Bible Warnings about Spiritual BLINDNESS to the Things of God?

1. ‘A prudent man **foreseeth** the evil, & hideth himself: but the simple pass on, & are punished.’ Pro 22:3
2. Jesus rebuked the Laodicean church, ‘**anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see**.’ Rev 3:18.
3. ‘Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. Elisha prayed, & said, LORD, I pray thee, **open his eyes, that he may see**. And the **LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw**: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.’ 2 Kings 6:16,17.
4. ‘Let them alone: they be **blind leaders of the blind**. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.’ Matthew 15:14. **Spiritually blind people follow spiritually blind leaders**. Both fall into trouble.
5. ‘**Ye blind guides**, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.’ Matt 23:24. **They have wrong priorities**.
6. ‘Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that **they which see not might see**.’ John 9:39.
7. ‘He that lacketh these things is **blind, & cannot see afar off**, and has **forgotten** that he was purged from his old sins.’ 2 Peter 2:9. **Spiritual vision is ability to see afar off the long term consequences of our actions**.
8. ‘**Open thou mine eyes**, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.’ Ps. 119:18. **Pray before read Bible**.

II. Why are Some People Spiritually BLIND?

1. **They listen to and follow spiritually blind people** or false religions. Matthew 15:14; Ephesians 5:11.
2. **They don't pray to God** to help them understand the Bible. Psalm 119:18. They don't think on the Bible.
3. **They don't share the gospel**, so they don't see the problems and bad conditions of the unsaved. Mt 9:36
4. They **sit in darkness** of false religions, false ideas, not in a good church, in pagan countries. Matt 4:16.
5. They **love darkness of sin**. ‘men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.’ Jo.3:19
6. They **hate good Christians**. ‘**he that hateth his brother is in darkness**, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that **darkness hath blinded his eyes**.’ I John 2:11.
7. They don't understand how **Satan blinds people's minds to the gospel and Bible truths**. 2 Cor 4:4.
8. They don't understand how **we are in a spiritual war** ‘**against the rulers of the darkness of this world**, against spiritual wickedness in high places.’ Eph 6:12. They don't fight in this spiritual war against devils.

III. What Must we have a VISION of?

1. A vision of **ourselves** (Acts 26:15-19) as the key to winning large numbers of people to Christ and starting many churches. We need a vision of Jesus saying to us “**Well Done**”. A vision of making **friends** for eternity. A vision of being **welcomed into heaven by people we have led to Christ**. A vision of creating a **multiplying network** of SWs and disciple makers. A vision of **creating a Christian country** by SW and DM. A vision of having an exponentially more effective **worldwide ministry** that will continue after my death (Heb 11:4). A vision of **destroying Islam**. A vision of **helping & blessing many**.
2. A vision of the **Judgment Seat of Christ**. II Cor. 5:9,10; Romans 14:10,12. What did you do for Jesus?
3. A vision of the **Horrors of Hell**. Psalm 9:17; Prov.15:11; Luke 16:23-28; Matt 25:41; Mark 9:43-48.
4. A vision of the **importance of Church**. Mark 16:15; Heb 10:24,25. Vision of **my children walking in truth**
5. A vision of **Jesus Christ Himself** and the **nearness of His return**. Revelation 1:9-18; Hosea 5:15-6:1,2.
6. A vision of **lost souls** praying for salvation. Acts 16:9; Matthew 9:36-39. **106**

99. How Are You WALKING?

Bible Reading: Psalm 1; Ephesians 5.

Mem Verse: “cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.” Ps.143:8

Aim: To walk daily pleasing to God.

Introduction: To “walk” describes our manner of life, what we say, think, do and avoid. As we think, so we walk. It describes how we journey through life, avoiding trouble, creating blessings, love, joy, peace. Psalm 143:8 should be our prayer, to conduct ourself wisely. Ask: “How does God want me to live?” Our walk describes how we relate to others, the decisions we make, the route or path we follow.

I. How Should we Walk?

1. “we also should walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:4.
2. “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.” Gal 5:16; Rom 8:1,4.
3. Let us walk honestly,..not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. Romans 13:13. That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without. I Thess 4:12.
4. For we walk by faith, not by sight: 2 Cor 5:7.
5. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10. Good works come after salvation.
6. I therefore..beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. Eph 4:1; Col1:10
7. Walk in love, as Christ also loved us & has given himself for us an offering & sacrifice to God. Eph5:2
8. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: Eph 5:8
9. See that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise. Eph 5:15. Exact, straight, perfect, diligently.
10. As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Colossians 2:6
11. Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Col 4:5.
12. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. I John 1:7.
13. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. I John 2:6.
14. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. 3 John 4.
15. But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me. Psalm 26:11.
16. Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Psalm 48:12.
17. The LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. Psalm 84:11.
18. I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. Psalm 101:2.
19. That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. Prov 2:20
20. Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble. Proverbs 3:22,23.
21. He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. Pro 13:20
22. they were righteous before God, walking in all the commandments & ordinances of the Lord blameless.L1:6

II. How Should We NOT Walk?

1. Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners,Ps1:1
2. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1
3. This I say.. that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Eph 4:17.
4. Many walk, of whom I have told you.. that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Phil 3:18
5. There are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. 2 Thes 3:11
6. Chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. 2 Pet 2:10
7. If we say that we have fellowship with him,& walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: I John 1:6
8. There should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. Jude 18.
9. Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment. Eccles 11:9.
10. They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you. Jer 23:17.

100. WHY?

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 6:1-19; Matthew 20:1-16.

Aim: To ask ourselves these 30 important “Why?” questions and obtain the right answers.

www.youtube.com The greatest archaeological discovery of the 20th century: Dead Sea scrolls official

- Introduction:** Do you ever ask “Why do some things happen?” Consider these occasions where “Why?” questions are asked in the Bible. How do you answer these questions? “Why” answers cause and effect.
1. **Anger.** The LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? Genesis 4:6
 2. **Trouble.** Gideon said, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? Judg 6:13
 3. **Danger.** Why went ye near the wall? 2 Samuel 11:21. Avoid dangerous areas.
 4. **Attempt something useful.** There were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die? 2 Kings 7:3.
 5. **Improve church.** Why repair ye not the breaches of the house? 2 Kings 12:7
 6. **Don't meddle.** Why shouldest thou meddle to thy hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, and Judah with thee? 2 Kings 14:10
 7. **Don't get sidetracked.** Why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you? Neh. 6:3
 8. **Consider church as very important.** Why is the house of God forsaken? Nehemiah 13:11
 9. **Control your emotions.** Why doth thine heart carry thee away? Job 15:12
 10. **Avoid national anger.** Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? Psalm 2:1
 11. **Don't get depressed.** Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: Psalm 42:5
 12. **Foolish actions shorten your life.** Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time? Ecclesiastes 7:17
 13. **Think before you act.** Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Daniel 2:15
 14. **Don't be too focused on clothes.** Why take ye thought for raiment? Matthew 6:28
 15. **Don't magnify other's faults and minimize your own faults.** Don't be too critical. Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considers not the beam that is in thine own eye? Matt 7:3
 16. **Don't be paralyzed by fear, but trust God.** Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. Matthew 8:26
 17. **Show love to all classes of people.** When the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? Matthew 9:11
 18. **Reject man made traditions that oppose the Bible.** Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? Matthew 15:3
 19. **Incompetence.** Why can I not win souls? Disciples said, Why could not we cast him out? Matt.17:19
 20. **Don't be lazy.** Find some useful work to help others. Why stand ye here all the day idle? Matt 20:6.
 21. **Believe Jesus Christ and Bible.** He will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? Matth.21:25.
 22. **Don't trouble people who are doing a good work.** Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me. Matthew 26:10
 23. **If you love Jesus, obey Him.** Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, & do not the things which I say? Luke 6:46
 24. **Don't let events trouble you, but find a solution to your problems.** Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Luke 24:38
 25. **Don't let Satan put wrong ideas in your mind.** But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Acts 5:3.
 26. **Avoid fights with good Christians.** Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another? Acts 7:26
 27. **Don't delay important things.** Why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, Acts 22:16.
 28. **Don't be proud or boast of your achievements because God gave them to you.** For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou did receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou had not received it? I Corinthians 4:7
 29. **It is better to suffer a small loss,** than to take a Christian to court and suffer a larger loss of friends, testimony, lawyers fees, time, money and worry. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded? I Corinthians 6:7
 30. **We only put up with persecution if we consider our beliefs to be important.** Why do I yet suffer persecution? Galatians 5:11.

101. WHEN? What should we Do at the Important Times in our life?

Bible Reading: Eccles 3:1-22; Esther 4:1-17. **Aim:** To use time for God. To know different times in life.

Introduction: Some people say that “Time is my most valuable possession”. Many people waste so much time doing things that are of so little value. It can be difficult to know how to best use our time. Time wasted on the good is the enemy of the best. We all need to decide what to give our life to. Things we do in time can influence how we and many people spend eternity. Multiplying our time is determined by recognizing and taking opportunities, decisiveness, wise use of money, writing important books and cooperating in a team. We can multiply our time by getting others to invest their time in our work for God. We must ask ourselves, “what is the best way to spend our time?” Could I be doing something else that is more useful? Am I wasting my time with people who will not multiply God’s word? It is better to spend your time with faithful Christians, than with unreliable, lazy, selfish Christians. Some people see the value of what our church is doing, while others don’t. Many people say “I don’t have the time to do something, such as come to church”. Make the time. Squeeze more into a day by becoming more efficient. **What does the Bible tell us about using time, from the word “when”?**

- 1. Time is worth money.** He shall pay for the loss of his time, shall cause him to be thoroughly healed. Ex 21:19
- 2. Time to teach children.** Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, & shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, when thou risest up. Dt6:7
- 3. Time to Bless God after a meal.** When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. Deuteronomy 8:10.
- 4. Time to help the poor.** Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him; because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou putteth thine hand unto. Deut 15:10. “Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.” Psalm 41:1. If we help the poor, God will help us when we are in trouble
- 5. When God blesses you, thank him and don’t backslide.** When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. Deut. 18:9.
- 6. Seek peace.** When thou comest near to a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace unto it. Deut 20:10
- 7. Right times to do right actions.** Hushai said unto Absalom, The counsel that Ahithophel hath given is not good at this time. 2 Samuel 17:7. A wise man’s heart discerneth both time and judgment. Eccles 8:5
- 8. Wise men understand right actions for the times.** Wise men, which knew the times, Esther 1:13.
- 9. Time to speak right words to the right people** can save your life and many others lives. **This may be your main purpose in life.** “If thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father’s house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” Esther 4:14
- 10. Stay close to God in trouble.** For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: Psalm 27:5.
- 11. Some times are easier to find God.** Pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: Psalm 32:6
- 12. Times of fear.** What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. Psalm 56:3.
- 13. Time of old age.** Cast me not off in time of old age; forsake me not when my strength fails. Psalm 71:9
- 14. Times of generosity.** I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart. Ps 119:32
- 15. Times with foolish people.** Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge. Proverbs 14:7.
- 16. Times spent with friends.** A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Prov. 17:17
- 17. Times when you find wisdom.** So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off. Proverbs 24:14.
- 18. Time for all purposes.** To every thing there is a season, & a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; Ec 3:2 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; Ecclesiastes 3:3 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; Ecclesiastes 3:4 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; Ec 3:5. A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; Ec 3:6 A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; Ecclesiastes 3:7 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
- 19. Times to listen at church.** Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more **109**

ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil. Ecclesiastes 5:1.

- 21. Times to seek God.** Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. Hosea 10:12.
- 22. Times to give.** When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: Matt 6:3
- 23. Times to pray.** When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. Matthew 6:6.
- 24. Times to fast.** When thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; Matthew 6:17
- 25. Time of reckoning.** After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, & reckoneth with them. Mat 25:19
- 26. Times of affliction, persecution, offence.** Have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution arise for the word’s sake, immediately they are offended. Mk 4:17
- 27. Signs of the Times.** In the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? Matthew 16:3.
- 28. Times of blindness to our faults.** How can thou say..., Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself behold not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother’s eye. Luke 6:42
- 29. Time of Temptation.** They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. Luke 8:13.
- 30. Time to be delivered from a court case.** When thou goest with thine adversary to the magistrate, as thou art in the way, give diligence that thou mayest be delivered from him; lest he hale thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and the officer cast thee into prison. Luke 12:58.
- 31. Time to be humble.** But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. Luke 14:10.
- 32. Time to help outcasts.** Luke 14:12-14 When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.
- 33. Time of visitation to bless.** Shall lay thee even with the ground, & thy children within thee; they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation. Luke 19:44.
- 34. Time of carelessness.** Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. Luke 21:34.
- 35. Time to strengthen believers.** When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. Luke 22:32.
- 36. Times of opportunity.** Jesus said, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. John 7:6.
- 37. Time of hating and killing Christians.** They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. John 16:2.
- 38. Time to eat right food and get off junk food.** But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth. Acts 11:8.
- 39. Time of Israel’s salvation.** Your house is left unto you desolate: verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Luke 13:35.
- 40. Time to speak boldly for Jesus.** Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, & granted signs & wonders to be done by their hands. Acts 14:3.
- 41. Time to teach our disciples.** There they abode long time with the disciples. Acts 14:28.
- 42. Time to be more efficient.** Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:16.
- 43. Times of peril and danger.** This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 Tim. 3:1.
- 44. Time of dislike for Bible doctrine.** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 2 Timothy 4:3.
- 45. Times of need are times to pray boldly.** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16.
- 46. Time to be a Bible teacher.** For when for the time ye ought to be teachers. Hebrews 5:12.
- 47. Our little time on earth.** Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. James 4:14.
- 48. Time for God to exalt us.** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: I Peter 5:6. **110**

102. “I WILL...” What are Your Convictions? Are You Determined?

Bible Reading: Psalm 9:1-20; 119:1-40. **Aim:** To know what important things “I will do” in life.

Memory Verse: “I will BEHAVE myself wisely in a perfect way.” Ps 101:2

Intro: So many people have no strong convictions or determination to do what is right. They just follow the ungodly crowd and do what feels good and is popular. The phrase “I will...” means that we are determined to do certain things. Because we have a Christian, Bible-based mindset, we should know what is right and pleasing to God, then we must have strong determination to do what God wants us to do.

Question 1: What does “I WILL” mean? I will push through the opposition. I will reject the excuses and Satan’s lies that seek to stop me serving God. I will do the important things and not get sidetracked to wasting my life doing useless things. I will love God and teach God’s word and ways to many. I will not get discouraged by difficulties. I will get fully involved in winning the spiritual war and rescuing many.

Question 2: What must we decide to do that is pleasing to God as seen by the expression “I WILL”?

1Sam 12:23 I will TEACH you the good+the right way: Ps34:11 I will TEACH you the fear of the LORD.

Ps4:8 I will both lay me down in PEACE and SLEEP: for thou, LORD, only makes me dwell in safety

5:7 I will COME into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: in thy fear I will worship toward thy holy temple.

56:4 In God I will PRAISE his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do to me.

69:30 I will PRAISE the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

139:14 I will PRAISE thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works;

9:1 I will PRAISE thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous WORKS

9:2 I will be GLAD and REJOICE in thee; I will SING praise to thy name, O thou most High.

31:7 I will be GLAD and REJOICE in thy mercy; for thou has considered my trouble; thou has known my soul in adversities; **9:14 I will REJOICE in thy salvation.**

13:6 I will SING unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me. **Ps 89:1 I will SING of the mercies of the LORD for ever;** with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.

16:7 I will BLESS the LORD, who has given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

18:1,2 I will LOVE thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress, my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will TRUST; my buckler, the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Isaiah 12:2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will TRUST, + not be afraid; for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength, my song; he also is become my salvation. **Ps 56:3** What time I am afraid, I will TRUST in thee.

Psalm 18:3 I will CALL upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from my enemies

55:16 As for me, I will CALL upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

86:7 In the day of my trouble I will CALL upon thee; for thou wilt answer me.

30:12 I will GIVE THANKS unto thee for ever.

32:5 I will CONFESS my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

38:18 I will DECLARE mine iniquity; I will be SORRY for my sin.

39:1 I will TAKE HEED to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue;

I will KEEP my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.

77:11 I will REMEMBER the works of the LORD; surely I will remember thy wonders of old.

77:12 I will MEDITATE also of all thy work, and TALK of thy doings.

85:8 I will HEAR what God the LORD will speak; for he will speak peace unto his people.

86:11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will WALK in thy TRUTH; unite my heart to fear thy name.

119:45 I will WALK at LIBERTY; for I seek thy precepts.

101:2 I will BEHAVE myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me?

I will WALK within my house with a perfect heart.

101:3 I will SET no wicked thing before my eyes; I hate the work of them that turn aside; *it shall not cleave to me*

116:13 I will TAKE the cup of SALVATION, and CALL upon the name of the LORD.

119:15 I will MEDITATE in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.

119:16 I will DELIGHT myself in thy statutes: I will NOT FORGET thy word.

119:69 I will KEEP thy precepts with my whole heart.

119:115 Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will KEEP the commandments of my God.

122:9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will SEEK thy good.

Proverb 8:6 Hear; for I will SPEAK of excellent things; the opening of my lips shall be right things. **111**

119:46 I will SPEAK of thy testimonies also before kings, and I will NOT BE ASHAMED.

145:6 Men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will DECLARE thy greatness.

66:16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will DECLARE what he has done for my soul.

22:22 I will DECLARE thy name to my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

Jeremiah 5:5 I will get me unto the GREAT MEN, and will SPEAK unto them; for they have known

the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God:

1Cor 6:12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but

I will NOT BE BROUGHT under the power of any.

2Cor 12:15 I will very gladly SPEND and be spent for you;

1Tim 5:14 I will therefore that the YOUNGER WOMEN MARRY, bear children, guide the house.

James 2:18 I will SHEW thee my FAITH by my works.

Conclusion: Which of these should you give more attention to and improve? Are you strong to do right?

103. How To STOP WORRYING

Bible Reading: Daniel 1:1-15; Daniel 2:1-23. **Aim:** To learn how to live and serve God without worry.

Introduction: How can we avoid and control worry? Consider these lessons:

1. If you can’t get your first choice, suggest and look for alternatives. Daniel 1:8-15.

2. Pray to Jesus to solve your problems and show you the way of escape. Daniel 2:14-23.

3. Thank God for the good things He has done for us. Daniel 2:23.

4. Develop convictions to do what God wants no matter what the cost. Daniel 3:14-25.

5. Remember Bible characters who trusted God to bring them through trials.

6. Jesus will never leave us or forsake us. Daniel 3:25.

7. Don’t panic or make foolish decisions while stressed. Daniel 3:16-18.

8. Learn to trust God with your future. Daniel 6:16-23.

“What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.” Psalms 56:3

9. Control your anger. Don’t develop bad habits.

10. Look at the long term view. Daniel 12:12,13.

11. Forget the past, but remember lessons learned from past successes and failures. “forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,” Phil. 3:13

12. Get good Godly advice to make right decisions. “Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.” Proverbs 11:14.

13. Learn patience for God to answer your prayers. Some problems take time to fix. “For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.” Hebrews 10:36.

14. Study the Bible for answers to your problems. II Timothy 2:15 “Study to show thyself approved...”

15. Live one day at a time. “Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.” Matthew 6:34

16. One door closes, another door opens. Failure leads us to change direction. “For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.” I Corinthians 16:9.

17. Learn lessons that trouble brings. Ask God what He wants you to learn in this situation.

“I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” Philippians 4:11.

18. Stay close to church and to Christian friends.

19. Get busy serving God, explaining the gospel and teaching the Bible. Take your mind off worries.

20. Get multiple income streams. Save money. Reduce expenses.

21. Be gentle with people. We are all at different stages of growth. “But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:” I Thessalonians 2:7.

22. Develop courage and determination to solve problems. Don’t quit or give up. I Cor. 15:58.

23. Avoid ungodly people and their advice. Psalm 1:1.

24. God is using this situation to train me, remove rough edges and to make me more like Christ.

“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.” Romans 8:29.

25. God is with us in all our problems. ‘he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.’ Heb. 13:5.

Conclusion: Will you apply these truths to help you stop worrying?

104. Love Not the WORLD.

Bible Reading: Acts 17:1-14; I John 2:15-29.

Memory Verse: “Love not the world.” I John 2:15, “the whole world lies in wickedness.” I John 5:19.

Aim: To overcome the world with its lusts and wrong ideas.

Introduction: One fact that we need to work out early in life is the truth of I John 5:19, “we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.” Everywhere we go in life, we see wickedness created by evil, selfish, ungodly people. The message is that the world is lying or sleeping in a chair that is totally asleep and under the intoxicating control of wickedness and Satan. When we are young, we think, “How can the world be this bad?” But as we get older, we see evil, corruption and wickedness at every level of society, except among “we are of God” meaning godly Christians who live by the Bible.

The “world” means the “ungodly world system that is controlled & deceived by Satan & his followers.” “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 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. The world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.” I John 2:15-17. Rev 12:9 describes Satan as “Deceiving the whole world”. “The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

I. What Examples of WICKEDNESS do we See in the WORLD System?

1. False religions teaching anti-Bible ideas: RC, Islam, Calvinism, JW, Mormon, Hindu, dead churches.
2. Education system teaching evolution, SSM, atheism, trans-gender fluidity.
3. Ungodly government: bad laws, high taxation, foolish policies, greed, lies, corruption, pay for play.
4. Movie industry of violence, pornography, bad ideas, false views, evil heroes.
5. Medical profession: abortion, euthanasia, addictive drugs, big pharma bribery.
6. Legal profession: corrupt lawyers who overcharge for wrong advice.
7. Business world: scam products, overcharging for useless products, greed, corruption, lies; junk food.

II. How does the Bible DESCRIBE the WORLD system? 1. Spiritually blinded by Satan. 2 Cor 4:4.

2. It can't tolerate the Spirit of truth. “the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive” John 14:17.
3. It hates Godly Christians. “If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.” 15:18
4. It gives us trouble. “In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33. It Offends people: “Woe unto the world because of offences!” Matthew 18:7.
5. It has upside down values & thinking. “These that have turned the world upside down.” Acts 17:6.
6. It has a false spirit. “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.” I Cor 2:12.
7. It seeks to stain us with wrong ideas. “to keep himself unspotted from the world.” James 1:27.
8. It aims to attach us to it. “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.” James 4:4.
9. It seeks to corrupt our thinking and actions. “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” 2 Peter 1:4.
10. It seeks to pollute our minds. “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.” 2 Peter 2:20.
11. It contains many false prophets. “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” I John 4:1,3.
12. It contains many deceivers. “many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not.” 2John 7

III. How Do We OVERCOME the WORLD?

1. “Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” I John 5:5
2. Preach the Gospel “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Matt 16:15
3. Teach Jesus “That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that comes into the world.” John 1:9
4. Reprove it. “when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin & of righteousness & of judgment” 16:8
5. “Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me & I unto the world. Gal6:14
6. “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.” Matthew 5:14. **113**

105. So Great a Cloud of WITNESSES

Bible Reading: Luke 16:19-31; Hebrews 12:1-15.

Memory Verse: “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.” Hebrews 12:1.

Aim: To consider who is watching us and how we should respond to this.

Introduction: Do you ever feel that you are being watched? Today, with computers and CCTV, we are being watched by more people than previous generations. This is especially true if you put a message on Youtube, Facebook or Twitter. Hebrews 11 discusses 20 Bible characters who obtained a good report. Hebrews 12:1 tells us that these and other Old Testament saints are watching us today from heaven.

This prompts the question, “Who is watching us in our daily life as Christians?” Consider 12 watchers:

1. Departed Christians watching us from heaven. Hebrews 12:1. They have run and finished their life’s work for God and others on earth. They are cheering us on to do great things for God as a relay runner passes the baton onto the next runner. So we pass our life’s work on to the next generation of Christians. We leave earth a better place or a worse place. We make the next generation’s work easier or harder.

2. Unsaved People in Hell have some knowledge of who is unsaved & who is a soul winner. Luke 16:27. The rich man in hell knew that his 5 brothers were heading to hell. He wanted Lazarus to warn them. We all have relatives in hell wanting us to tell family and others how to be saved. Do you do this?

3. Good Angels as ministering spirits watch us and serve us. “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” Hebrews 1:14. They are assigned to humans at birth. “Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.” Matthew 18:10. They rejoice when people get saved, “there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.” Luke 15:10.

They are called “Watchers” and punish sin. “This matter is by the decree of the watchers” Daniel 4:17.

4. Jesus Christ watches us as our Judge to see if we run well or get disqualified due to some sin. “They do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it in...” I Cor. 9:25-27.

5. Future Generations of millions of people who will look back at our life with an opinion of us doing a great job or a bad job in life. Hebrews 11. They may look at your life or writings on Facebook or Youtube. They will see how your work changed the world and helped people.

6. Unbelievers in the world today look at us and our work. They form an opinion as to the quality of our work. They may get saved by our work or be turned away from Christ by us. “we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.” I Cor. 4:9. Our work and writings might introduce some new idea to the world that was not well understood. It may stop some false idea or spread some good idea.

7. Our Conscience witnesses our behaviour as good and right or bad and wrong. “their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;” Romans 2:15.

8. Our Family Tree, children, grandchildren to many generations will look back at our lives as an inspiration for good or as an example of foolishness, waste and evil. “Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants...” Exodus 32:13. They love us or resent us.

9. Christians in the world today who look up to us as an example to follow. “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” I Cor. 1:11; 4:16. They are interested in our teachings and our answers to the big issues of life that seek to change the course of history for good or for evil. Expose evil. Promote good.

10. Our Network of Disciples that you have led to Christ. (II Timothy 2:2). You inspire them and millions for good or bad by your example, teachings, love and ways of doing things. Faithful men will teach others what we have taught them. This will have an effect on millions of people in 50 years.

11. Satan and evil angels watch us to tempt us, attack us and to destroy us. “Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?” Job 1:9; A lying spirit destroyed Ahab. I Kings 22:20-23.

12. Our Enemies who want us to fall and fail, so they look better, such as Muslims, false religions. “said, Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live.” Acts 22:22.

What should be our response to these witnesses? Hebrews 12:1-15. 13 things.

106. Results of IGNORING God in Romans 1:29-32

Bible Reading: Romans 1:18-32; II Timothy 3:1-17.

10 July 2016.

Aim: To show what happens to people when they do not like to retain God in their knowledge.

Memory Verse: ‘Even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;’ Romans 1:28.

Introduction: We live in an age of all kinds of wickedness. Why is this the case? Romans 1:28 tells us that it is because people do not like to retain God in their knowledge. This is the true source of people’s crimes. It is because they do not choose to acknowledge God. It was not because they could not acknowledge God, but because they are displeased with God. They chose to forsake God and to follow their own passions and lusts. “they did not like to retain God in their knowledge.” Romans 1:28.

‘**Retain God**’ means to think of God, to serve God, to adore and love God. This is the first step in their sin. “They did not like to retain God in their knowledge” explains why evolution has such a great appeal for natural man. The reason lies not in their intellects, but their wills. It is not that the evidence for evolution is so compelling, rather it is because they want some explanation for origins that will eliminate God completely. They know that if there is a God, then **they are morally responsible to Him**.

Lesson: This is why we must teach children from a young age of the goodness, love and salvation of God, so they love Him because He first loved us (I John 4:19).

When people **forsake God**, God gives them up to a **reprobate mind**, meaning ‘a mind destitute of judgment, morally depraved, unprincipled, rejected by God.’ eg: Some politicians vote for abortion.

As they did not approve God or choose to retain God, God gave them up to a disapproved mind.

Because of their headstrong passions and determination to forget God, God abandoned them to an evil, disapproved state of mind, which expressed itself in 23 sinful actions and attitudes in **Romans 1:29-32**.

“Being **filled** with all...” (1:29). “**Filled**” means that these sins were **so often practised** that these people were full of them, not an occasional dabbler in them. They are **trained in sins** which are not fitting.

Question: What are these 23 sins? What do they mean? Are we practising some of these sins today?

1. Unrighteousness. Any wrong thinking, speaking, acting or living contrary to justice & righteousness.

2. Fornication. Any kind of illicit sex contrary to marriage described in Genesis 2:23-25. It includes sex before marriage, adultery, homosexuality, pornography, paedophilia, bestiality.

3. Wickedness (Gk: ponia, 4189) means an evil nature, malice, delight in doing wrong, badness, wicked deeds that affect others. It seeks to injure others. Being evil and doing evil.

4. Covetousness (Gk: pleonexia, 4124) means a desire to obtain that which belongs to others. Not satisfied with what you have. Greed including love of money to hoard away. ‘Pleonexia’ is the root from which sins of **theft**, **extortion** and **fraud** grow. It is the lust of a man that has forsaken God, to fill himself with the lower objects of creation. Rome coveted other nations wealth as seen in its wars and conquest.

5. Maliciousness (Kakia, 2549). Moral wickedness in life and character. Being inherently evil (Gk: kakia) resulting in wickedness (poneria), the endeavour to hurt & do evil to others. Intentionally harmful, vicious.

6. Envy (Gk: phthonos, 5355). It is the pain felt and malignity conceived at the sight of others prosperity, success or happiness. It is a desire to depreciate or depress others who are experiencing success.

Benevolence **rejoices** at the happiness of others. Envy seeks to **depress** the happiness of others.

7. Murder (Gk: phonos, 5408). Slaughter, killing. The taking of human life with premeditated malice, by a person of a sane mind. It excludes the execution of criminals. He that hates his brother in his heart is a murderer (I John 3:15). Murder was prevalent in Rome with its assassinations, poisonings, slave murder and gladiator contests in amphitheatres to amuse the public. Murder was regarded as of little consequence.

In Rome (281AD), 700 gladiators were reserved to shed each other’s blood for the amusement of the Roman people. But ‘disdaining to shed their blood for peoples amusement, they killed their keepers, broke from their place of confinement & filled the streets of Rome with blood & confusion.’ Gibbons, Chap 12.

8. Debate (Gk: Eris, 2054). Strife or ‘love of strife’ in Romans 1:29, contention, altercation connected with anger and heated zeal. A quarrelsome disposition. It follows from malice and covetousness.

9. Deceit (Dolos, 1388). Fraud, guile, falsehood, deception. Using tricks, deceives or cunning. Titus 1:12.

10. Malignity (Gk: Katoetheia, 2550). Misinterpreting others words or actions. Putting the worst interpretation on their conduct. Taking everything with an evil connotation. Giving a malicious interpretation to others actions. It is an evil nature and makes one suspect evil in others.

11. Whisperers (Gk: psithuristeas, 5588). A **secret** slanderer. Those who secretly and in a sly manner, by hints and innuendos, detract from others or arouse suspicion of them. They give hints of evil in others. They communicate evil reports secretly, knowing that they will be divulged or broadcast. This person is dangerous to the peace and happiness of society.

12. Backbiters (Gk: katalalos, 2637). Those who slander, speak ill of those who are absent. False charges. Whisperers declare **secretly** the supposed faults of others. Backbiters proclaim others faults **publicly**.

13. Haters of God. There is no charge more serious than this. The sinner’s heart rises up against God, His law and His plan of saving men. ‘The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.’ John 7:7. ‘now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.’ J15:24. Men are by nature haters of God as seen by them taking God’s Name in vain. Jews hated God by killing J.

14. Despiteful (Gk: hubristes, 5197). Acting with insolence, abuse, arrogance or treat unkindly those who are **present**. Whisperers and backbiters slander those who are absent. ‘pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;’ Matthew 5:44.

15. Proud (Gk: huperephanos, 5244). An excessive self esteem. An unreasonable view of one’s superiority in talents, beauty, wealth or accomplishments. Arrogance, showing oneself to be above others. All blessings are God’s gifts. This attitude will produce true humility. **Key:** Heathen religions such as Islam do not reveal the wickedness of the human heart. This is why they are proud. Eg: ‘I’m proud to be a Muslim’ when they should be ashamed to be a Muslim for their murders.

16. Boasters (Gk: Alazon, 213). Glorifying in things that one does not possess. A proud, conceited person will readily proclaim his own merits to those around him. ‘By grace are ye saved...lest any boast.’ Ep 2:8,9

17. Inventors of Evil Things. Men seeking to discover new ways to practice evil, and new devices to gratify their lusts and passions. Men become dissatisfied with one vice, so they seek new vices to rekindle their dying passions. These include pornography, prostitution, drugs, alcohol, etc.

18. Disobedient (Gk: 545) **to Parents.** They did not show their parents due honour, respect, love and attention. Parents were treated with neglect and contempt. Pride and arrogance lead to rebelling against parents. Heathenism neglects parents. Children need to **communicate in love** with their parents to resolve differences in a Christlike, gentle, submissive manner so as to preserve this relationship all their life. It is a good example for grandchildren to see parents and grandparents in happy fellowship. Children should seek the **peace of God** and the **advice** and **blessing** of parents in all decisions facing them. Consult your parents on whom you wish to court, education, career, peer pressure, finances, spiritual matters, pray together, express love to each other, avoid hasty decisions. Don’t break relationships with parents.

19. Without Understanding (Gk: asunetos, 801). Ignorant of the benefits of God’s right ways, foolish, destitute of the ability to value spiritual things. In Romans 1:21,22 Paul calls unsaved man’s heart “asunetos” because of its **inability to conclude from creation** that **there must be a Creator**. Fallen man cannot figure out creation, therefore he proposes foolish theories because of: **unthankfulness**, **vain imaginations**, **darkened foolish hearts**, proudly professing themselves to be **wise**, they became fools.

20. Covenant breakers (Gk: asunthetos, 802). False to their contracts or agreements, treacherous, faithless, refusing to abide by their agreements, not keeping their word.

21. Without Natural Affection (Gk: astorge, 794). The lack of affection toward one’s children. The attachment of parents to children is one of the strongest in nature. Nothing can overcome it but the most confirmed and established wickedness. This refers to the heathen practice of killing their children. The Canaanites (Psalm 106:37,38; Leviticus 18:21) sacrificed their sons and daughters unto devils, and shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons & daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan.

22. Implacable (Gk: aspondou, 786). The absolutely **irreconcilable person**, who being at war, refuses to lay aside his hatred and enmity, or to listen to terms of reconciliation. Those who will not be reconciled where there is a quarrel. They pursue the offender with unyielding revenge. Unforgiving.

23. Unmerciful (Gk: aneleemon, 415). Not compassionate. Heathen religions made no provision for the sick or poor, but cast them out to depend on individual charity. Christianity made public provision for the poor, ignorant and afflicted.

Conclusion: Verse 32. The gentiles knew that the judgment of God (or sentiment of God) was that they deserved death. They delighted in and encouraged others to commit these sins. It greatly heightens their guilt when they seduce others from the ways of innocence. Men don’t always commit sins alone, but do so in groups. Do you meet people described above? Are you committing any of these sins? Forsake them. **116**

107. 24 DUTIES of Christians in ROMANS 12:9-21

Bible Reading: Acts 18:24-28; Romans 12:9-21.

24 July 2016.

Aim: To see how to live as a Christian. To see how Apollos practised these qualities. (Acts 18:25)

M Verse: “This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; & being fervent in spirit, he spake & taught”

Introduction: Becoming a Christian is easy by receiving Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Living as a Christian is more difficult as we seek to apply Bible qualities to our daily life. Romans 12:9-21 contains 24 commands for how we should live to “grow in favour with God and with man.” Luke 2:52.

1. **Let love be without dissimulation.** Love = benevolence, goodwill to mankind, kind feelings to others “Without dissimulation” = without hypocrisy, sincere, not pretended. Love not in words only, but in acts of kindness. “Without hypocrisy” is used of **a) Love**, “by love unfeigned” (2 Cor 6:6); “unfeigned love of the brethren” (1 Peter 1:22). **b) Faith**, “of faith unfeigned” (1 Tim 1:5; 2 Tim 1:5). **c) Wisdom**, James 3:17
2. **Abhor that which is evil;** (9). “Abhor” = hate, turn from, avoid. “Evil” = malice, unkindness. “Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” 2 Tim 2:19; “Depart from evil.” Ps 34:14. “Ye that love the LORD, hate evil.” Ps 97:10. “Abstain from all appearance of evil.” 1 Thess 5:22.
3. **Cleave to that which is good** (9). “Cleave” = act of gluing, or uniting by glue, a very firm adherence to an object. Christians should be firmly attached to that which is good. “Good” = benevolence to all men, especially to Christians. This should be regular, constant, active, decided, not occasional.
4. **Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love;** (10). “Be kindly affectioned” (1xNT) = tender affection as exists between parents and children, as if we belong to the same family, and united in the same principles and interests. “Love the brotherhood.” 2 Peter 2:17. “With brotherly love” = love the brethren as a badge of discipleship. “love one another as I have loved you.” John 13:34,35; “walk in love as Christ also hath loved us.” Ephesians 5:2; “love one another with a pure heart fervently.” 1 Peter 1:22;
5. **In honour preferring one another** (10). Show honour to each other. “Preferring one another” = set an example in striving to excel in showing honour to others. “Be clothed with humility.” 1 Peter 5:5; Eph 5:21
Children must honour and respect parents (Exodus 20:12); Parents must honour and respect children; Servants must honour & respect masters. All must strive by mutual kindness, to promote the happiness of the Christian community. The world seeks to obtain honour for themselves. If this command were obeyed, it would end all envy, selfish ambition & unreasonable demands. It would produce contentment, harmony, love and order in the community. It would stop the spread of crime. It would end strife, discord & hatred. It would give order & beauty to churches and society. It would humble the ambition of dictators. 3 John 9.
6. **Not slothful in business** (11). “Slothful” = slow, idle, destitute of mental promptness and activity. “In business” = haste, intensity, mental achievements, diligence (8), industry, labour. We should be diligently occupied in our employment. We must be faithful and industrious in our duties (Eccles 9:10). Christian truth: **a)** Promotes industry, **b)** Teaches the value of time, **c)** Presents many important things to be done, **d)** Teaches us to conscientiously use each moment of time, **e)** Takes the mind away from pleasures and pursuits which promote laziness. Jesus was constantly employed in filling His time with useful activities. The effect of Christianity has been to promote industry in nations and individuals. God has assigned us much to accomplish. God will hold us answerable for the faithful performance of it. “My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.” John 5:17; “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.” John 9:4; “study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;” 1 Thess 4:11; “if any would not work, neither should he eat. (10) we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.” 2 Thess 3:10,11. “these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me... so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Acts 20:34,35.
7. **Fervent in spirit** (11). Fervent = water or metals heated to boiling, intensity, glow with intense zeal. Apollos was “fervent in the spirit”. Acts 18:25. Spirit = our God consciousness which controls our mind. A mind filled with intense zeal in whatever it does. Christians should invest their lives with intense zeal in activities of eternal value that will build God’s kingdom on earth & pass Bible truth to the next generation
8. **Serving the Lord** (11). Regard ourselves as servants of God. Worldly distractions tend to take people’s affection from God, causing them to forget God. God has made industry essential to happiness & success. “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” 1 Cor 10:31. **117**

9. **Rejoicing in Hope** (12). This is the hope of eternal life and glory. Read Romans 5:1-5.

Hope = desire for an object and expectation of obtaining it. This sustains us in our afflictions.

Glory = splendour, magnificence, honour, dignity which will be conferred on believers when we are resurrected, freed from sin, pain and tears in heaven. Rev 21:22-24;22:5; Isaiah 60:19,20.

10. **Patient in tribulation** (12) = patiently enduring all difficulties and obstacles that we encounter. Our hope of future glory with no death or sorrows sustains us in tribulation. James 1:2-4; Romans 8:18-28.
11. **Continuing instant in prayer** (12) = persevering in prayer. Col 4:2; Luke 18:1. Stay close to God. David prayed 7 times a day (Ps 119:164), Daniel prayed 3 times a day (Dan 6:10). Morning & evening. Pray when afflicted, confused, disappointed, souls saved, lose friends, praise for provision, before meals.
12. **Distributing to the necessity of saints** (13). Regard property to supply Christian’s needs. “had all things common” (Acts 2:44). Give to spread the gospel and to teach all nations Bible truths.
13. **Given to hospitality** (13). Cheerfully entertain strangers. “Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for some have entertained angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:3. “Use hospitality without grudging” 1 Peter 4:9, “a bishop must be...a lover of hospitality” Titus 1:8. Show hospitality to pastors and travelling evangelists. “If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house.” 2 John 10.
14. **Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not** (14). Jesus (Luke 23:34) and Stephen (Acts 7:59,60) prayed for God to forgive their persecutors. “**Bless** them that curse you, **do good** to them that hate you, **pray** for them that despitefully use you and persecute you.” Matt 5:44. Don’t curse or be angry. Curse means devote to destruction, to abuse by insulting words.
15. **Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep** (15). Rejoice that fellow Christians are made happy. “Where one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it” 1Cor12:26. We divide our sorrows by pity and sympathies of friends, of the same family, not a cold, careless world.
16. **Be of the same mind one toward another** (16). Have the same goals, doctrine, morals, fellowship.
17. **Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate** (16). Not seeking worldly honours. “Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not.” Luke 12:15. Seek the interests of the lowly, needy.
18. **Be not wise in your own conceits** (16). “Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!” Isaiah 5:21. Listen to expert advice. Have a low estimate of our importance.
19. **Recompense to no man evil for evil** (17). “whoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.” Matt 5:39. “Vengeance belongs unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord.” Heb 10:30. “Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.” Proverbs 20:22.
20. **Provide things honest in the sight of all men** (17). Plan, prepare thoughtfully beforehand to do what is right to those who hurt us that others will approve & admire. “Providing for honest things.” 2 Cor 8:21. Don’t be overtaken by anger, but control our reply and temper, so none can accuse us of foolishness. Men approve a mild, kind, patient response. “Let not mercy & truth forsake thee...find favour.” Prov 3:4
21. **If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men** (18). This implies 2 things: **a)** Seek to preserve peace and appease other’s anger. **b)** Do not start or prolong a quarrel, but seek peace. “Follow peace with all men and holiness.” Heb 12:14. “**Blessed are the peacemakers**: for they shall be called the children of God.” Matt 5:9. “Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, & pursue it.” Ps 34:14 “By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.” Prov 16:6.
22. Dearly beloved, **avenge not yourselves**, but rather **give place unto wrath**: for it is written, **Vengeance is mine; I will repay**, saith the Lord (19) (Deut 32:35). Avenge is to punish an offender. Judges (13:4) and God punish evil. We can seek for justice in courts. We are not to abandon our rights. “governors are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, & for the praise of them that do well.” 1P2:14. We are not to inflict punishment ourselves, but let God and judges impose penalties. In private quarrels, we bear injury with patience, and commit our cause to God. “Give place to wrath” is to let God punish.
23. Therefore **if thine enemy hunger, feed him**; if he **thirst, give him drink**: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head (20). (Prov 25:21,22). Hunger and thirst mean supply others needs. “Do good to them that hate you.” (Matt 5:44). The effect of doing good to an enemy is to cause him pain, resulting from shame at his evil conduct, leading him to repentance. **a)** We promote peace by doing good to enemies. **b)** Bring others to repent by doing them good. “the goodness of God leads thee to repentance.” Romans 2:4. **c)** This would bring world peace. Respond with kindness to unkindness, right to wrong.
24. **Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good** (21). This never occurred to men until Jesus taught it. It promotes peace, harmony, love, how to treat our enemies. Don’t be subdued by injuries. **118**

108. How To Walk Worthy in EPHESIANS 4,5,6

Bible Reading: Ephesians 4,5,6.

Aim: To walk worthy of Jesus Christ according to Ephesians 4,5,6.

Introduction: Walking worthy involves:

1. **Lowliness, humility.** “With all lowliness, meekness, longsuffering, forbearing one another in love” 4:2.
2. **Meekness.**
3. **Longsuffering.**
4. **Forbearing** one another in love.
5. Endeavouring to **keep the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace. 4:3.
6. Develop, **use our spiritual gifts to build church:** apostles; prophets; evangelists; pastors, teachers; 4:7-11
7. **Fulfil purposes in life:** perfect saints, work ministry, edify church, unity in faith, not child, truth. 4:12-14
8. **Walk not as Gentiles walk** in vain minds, dark understanding, ignorant, blind, unclean, greed. 4:17-19
9. **Learn Christ** 4:20-24. Put off the old man (22). Be renewed in your mind (23). Put on the new man. 24
10. **Put away lying, speak truth** with each other. 4:25.
11. Be angry and **sin not. Neither give place to the devil.** 4:26,27.
12. **Steal no more,** but labour and **work** to give to others. 4:28.
13. **Let no corrupt communication** come out of your mouth. Speak good, edifying, gracious words. 4:29,30
14. **Put away** all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, evil speaking, malice. Be kind, tenderhearted, forgive. 4:31,32
15. **Be followers of God.** 5:1.
16. **Walk in love,** as **Christ also hath loved us,** and hath given himself for us... 5:2.
17. **Flee** fornication, uncleanness, covetousness, filthiness, foolish talking, jesting, but give thanks. 5:3-7.
18. **Walk as children of light.** 5:8.
19. **Bring forth the fruit of the Spirit** (Gal.5:22,23) with goodness, righteousness, truth. 5:9.
20. **Prove** what is acceptable to the Lord. 5:10.
21. **Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness,** but rather reprove them. 5:11-13.
22. **Awake** and don't be a sleepy Christian. 5:14.
23. **Walk circumspectly,** not as fools, but as wise. 5:15.
24. **Redeeming the time,** because the days are evil. 5:16.
25. **Understand** what the **will of the Lord is.** 5:17.
26. **Be not drunk with wine,** wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 5:18.
27. **Singing** and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 5:19.
28. **Giving thanks** always for all things unto God and the Father. 5:20.
29. **Submitting yourselves one to another** in the fear of God. 5:21.
 - i) **Wives,** submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 5:22.
 - ii) **Husbands,** love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 5:25.
 - iii) **Children,** obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 6:1.
 - iv) **Fathers,** provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture & admonition of the Lord
 - v) **Servants,** be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, 6:5.
 - vi) **Masters,** do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: 6:9.
30. **Be strong in the Lord,** and in the power of his might. 6:10.
31. **Put on the whole armour of God,** that ye may be able to **stand against** the **wiles of the devil.** 6:11,13.
32. **Wrestle against evil angels.** ... against spiritual wickedness in high places. 6:12.
33. **Stand** therefore, having your loins girt about with **truth,** 6:14.
34. **Put on the breastplate of righteousness;** 6:14.
35. Your feet shod with the preparation of the **gospel of peace;** 6:15.
36. Take the **shield of faith,** wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 6:16.
37. Take the **helmet of salvation.** 6:17.
38. Take the **sword of the Spirit,** which is the word of God: 6:17.
39. **Praying always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, 6:18.
40. **Watching** thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; 6:18.

109. Rules for Living in II TIMOTHY 2

Bible Reading: II Timothy 1-2

Memory verse: “Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.” II Timothy 2:1

Aim: To identify and apply rules for successful living in II Timothy.

Introduction: Many people have never considered rules for living a successful, trouble free life. They make up rules as they go. Paul wrote II Timothy just before he was martyred in Rome in about 67AD. What are important rules that we should remember to be successful for God, ourselves and others?

I. Ten Pictures of an Ideal Christian. II Timothy 2:1-26.

1. **Son** (2:1). Be strong in grace (graciousness) that is in Christ Jesus.
2. **Steward** (2:2). In the New Testament a steward was entrusted with the profitable running of his master's estate. We must pass on Bible doctrine to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also. Paul taught Timothy, who taught faithful men, who taught others.
3. **Soldier** (2:3,4). **i)** Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. **ii)** Don't get entangled with worldly affairs. **iii)** Please Christ who has chosen us to be a soldier.
4. **Athlete** (2:5). **i)** We must strive for masteries and rewards.
ii) We must strive lawfully, live by the rules, then we are crowned in heaven.
5. **Farmer** (2:6,7). **i)** We must labour hard to sow. **ii)** We will then enjoy reaping the fruits.
6. **Teacher** (2:11-14). Put people in remembrance that: **i)** To die with Christ is to live for Christ. (2:11).
ii) To suffer for Christ now is to reign with Christ later. (2:12).
7. **Student. We must Study to be a Skilled Workman** (2:15,16,17). As a student we must:
i) Study the Word of God to be an approved workman to God. **ii)** Be 'unashamed before men.'
8. **Vessel.** Vessel of gold or silver, prepared for honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, prepared for every good work. (2:20,21).
9. **Follower** (2:22,23) **i)** Follow righteousness, faith, charity and peace. **ii)** Flee youthful lusts.
iii) Avoid foolish and unlearned questions.
10. **Servants** (2:24-26). **i)** Be gentle to all men. **ii)** Apt to teach, patient. **iii)** Instruct meekly those in error.

II. Qualities we must Develop to have a Successful Life in II Timothy 2.

1. **Be strong** in grace, determined, serious, dedicated, focused and committed to please God. (v.1).
2. **Multiply disciples.** Commit Bible truths to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also (v.2).
3. **Endure hardness,** as a good soldier of Jesus Christ (v.3).
4. **Win life's war against Satan,** lies and laziness (v.4). God has chosen us to be soldiers.
5. **Strive for masteries.** Master important things. Strive lawfully to receive a crown in heaven (v.5).
6. **Labour** (work) for Jesus and you will enjoy the fruits of your labour (v.6).
7. **Consider Bible truths.** Seek to understand all important things (v.7).
8. **Remember Jesus Christ's resurrection** as a main proof of our faith (v.8).
9. **Be willing to suffer trouble,** slander and hatred for the gospel's sake (v.9).
10. **Endure all things** so people get saved (v.10).
11. **Don't fight about unimportant things** (v.14).
12. **Study** to be an approved, unashamed workman who rightly divides the Bible (v.15).
13. **Shun ungodly talk.** It will increase to more ungodliness and spread like cancer (v.16,17).
14. **Protect your thinking.** Don't let people overthrow your faith with false and foolish talk (v.18).
15. **Know your foundations and protect them** (v.19). **Four foundations** are **Jesus Christ** (I Cor. 3:11), **Apostles and prophets** in the foundation of the church (Eph. 2:20), the **Doctrine of Christ** (Heb. 6:1,2), **moral foundations** of a nation, individual and church (If the f be destroyed, what can the r do? Psalm 11:3)
16. **Be a vessel unto honour,** sanctified, suitable for God's use, prepared for every good work (v.20,21).
17. **Flee youthful lusts** (foolish behaviour) (v.22). eg: fornication, alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, pornography, gambling, false religions, foolish philosophies, ungodly friends, favouritism.
18. **Avoid foolish and unlearned questions** (v.23).
19. **Avoid fights** and **unnecessary divisions.** Be gentle to all men, apt to teach, patient (v.24).
20. **Meekly instruct those holding error** (v.25).
21. **Seek to recover those taken captive in the devil's traps** (v.26). Beware of Satan's traps!

ISLAM: 110. The Character of Mohammad

Jesus Christ said "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Matthew 22:39.

Jesus Christ is right because his followers have higher morals and better character than Mohammad.

Question: How would you like Mohammad to do to you what he did to these people?

- 1. Take your 6 year old daughter off you** in a **forced marriage** and rape her at age 9, as he did to Aisha. "He wrote the marriage (wedding) contract with Aisha when she was a girl of **six years of age**, and he consumed that marriage when she was **nine years old**." (Sahih Al Bukhari, 3896). This is paedophilia.
 - 2. Take your wife off you** to be his wife as he did to Zaid and Zainab. (Q 33:36-38).
 - 3. Take your daughters off you** and **rape them as sex slaves** as he and his fellow Muslims did to people they conquered. (slave girls whom Allah has given you as booty. 33:50). Muslims were not defending themselves. They were invading other countries. What were Arab Muslims doing in Persia, Egypt, Spain?
 - 4. Rape your wife** in front of you as he commanded (Forbidden are married women, except slaves. 4:24).
 - 5. Beat your daughter** for no reason, but for her husband's fear of her possible future disobedience. (Those wives you fear disobedience...beat them. Q 4:34).
 - 6. Cut off your head** and 800 of your family and friends heads, as he did to the Bani Qurayza tribe. 47:4 "Those of the **people of the Scripture** who backed them, Allah brought them down from their forts & cast terror into their hearts, so that a **group of them you killed**, and a **group of them you made captives**." 33:26
 - 7. Kill you for criticizing him**. (If those who spread false news...stop not, they shall be killed. 33:60-61)
 - 8. Kill you** for being a **different religion to him**. (Fight people of the Book, until they pay jizya tax. 9:29)
 - 9. Slaughter you, your family and your friends** to spread Islam. (It is not to take prisoners of war until he has made a great slaughter of enemies. 8:67)
 - 10. Force you to invade other countries** and **kill innocent men, women and children** to spread Islam. (Make war on them till idolatry shall cease, and Allah's religion reigns supreme. 8:39 (48:16; 8:39,60)
 - 11. Instal a dictator in your country who takes away all your freedoms and rights** as Mohammad, Gaddafi, Ayatollahs, Assad, Bashir, Taliban and Saddam Hussain did.
 - 12. Incite people to commit acts of terror** against you, your family and your country. "If you do not go to war, He will punish severely." Q **9:39**; 8:59,60; 3:151.
 - 13. Burn your houses and Mosques** as Mohammad and Muslims did to Christians' homes and churches.
 - 14. Steal your house and all your possessions**, only for being a different religion, as Mohammad and Muslims did. 'Enjoy what you have gotten of booty of war, lawful and good, and be afraid of Allah.' 8:69.
 - 15. Torture you** as he did to others. ("The recompense of those who wage war against Allah and his messenger and do mischief in the land is only that they shall be killed or crucified or their hands and their feet be cut off from opposite sides." Q **5:33**; 18:86). Mohammad tortured to death Kinana, a leader of Khaibar, to force him to reveal where the Jews treasure was hidden. (Life of Moh, Ibn Ishaq, p.515).
 - 16. Command you to hate and kill unbelievers** as Mohammad did. ("Strike off the heads of unbelievers in the battlefield, massacre them." Q 47:4).
 - 17. Continually lie to you** for any reason, as Mohammad approved. ("Allah has made lawful for you absolution from your oaths." Q 66:1,2).
 - 18. Stop you getting married** because so many Muslim men have **4 wives**. ("You may marry 2,3 or 4 women, and slaves you own." Q **4:3**).
 - 19. Make you and your family into slaves** as he and many Muslims have done. (slaves you possess.4:3).
 - 20. Mutilate** your daughter's genitals, as occurs in many Islamic countries. **98% of Somalia women FGM**. A discussion occurred between Mohammed and Um Habibah (or Um 'Atiyah). This woman, known as an **exciser** of **female slaves**, was one of a group of women who had immigrated with Mohammed. Having seen her, Mohammed asked her if she kept practicing her profession. She answered affirmatively adding: "unless it is forbidden and you order me to stop doing it". Mohammed replied: "Yes, it is allowed. Come closer so I can teach you: if you cut, do not overdo it." Quoted from 'The Exciser's Narration'.
 - 21. Castrate you** and your **8-12 year old sons** as Muslims did to African slaves, with a 10% survival rate. Source: "Slavery, Terrorism and Islam" Peter Hammond, p.15. (27-21-689-7478).
- Conclusion:** Muslims see this as right. Obama, knowing this, writes "**I will stand with the Muslims** should the political winds shift in an ugly direction." ('The Audacity of Hope' p.261). Obama is a Muslim.

111. How to Treat Women. Which is Better, Bible or Quran?

Bible Reading: Ephesians 5:21-33; Proverbs 31; I Peter 3:1-12

Aim: To discover and apply rules for treating women as God wants us to.

Introduction: Most men do not know how to treat women. This must be learned. The Bible answers this question well. Men complain that they can't understand women. If men treat women well they will have a happier life. We should contrast the Bible's good words and the Quran's evil words about women. Men with Islamic background need to reprogram their minds with Bible truths on how to correctly treat women.

- I. The Quran's evil words about mistreating women. Over 200 million Muslim women have FGM.**
- 1. Treat them like dirt.** "**Women are your fields**: go into your fields when you please." (2:223)
- 2. Polygamy.** "you may marry other women who seem good to you. **2, 3, or 4 of them**." (4:3).
- 3. Slavery endorsed.** "**any slave girls** you may **own**." (4:3) (23:1-6), 33:50, 52; 70:22
- 4. Unequal inheritance.** "**A male shall inherit twice as much** as a **female**." (4:11)
- 5. Easy divorce.** "If you wish to **replace a wife** with **another**," (4:20).
- 6. Beat them and withhold sex.** "As for those from whom you fear disobedience, **admonish them**, and **send them to their beds apart**, and **beat (scourge) them**." (4:34).
- 7. Doubly punish them.** "**Wives** of the Prophet! Those of you who commit a proven sin/lewdness shall be **doubly punished**." (33:37). (them)." (64:14)
- 8. Treat them as enemies.** "Believers you have an **enemy** in your **wives** and in **your children**: beware of **II. The Bible's good words about how to treat women.**
- 1. Praise them.** "Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he **praiseth** her." Prov. 31:28
- 2. Don't touch them until married.** "It is good for a man **not to touch** a woman." I Cor. 7:1
- 3. Marry one. Don't fornicate** or have sex before marriage. "Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband." I Cor. 7:2
- 4. Show her goodwill.** "Let the husband render unto the wife due **benevolence**: and likewise also the wife unto the husband." I Cor. 7:3
- 5. Don't withhold sex from your spouse.** "Defraud ye **not** one the other," I Cor. 7:4,5
- 6. Please your wife.** "But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may **please** his wife." I Cor. 7:33. (Eph 5:21)
- 7. Submit to your spouse. Meet their needs.** "**Submitting** yourselves one to another in the fear of God." 8. Husbands, **love** your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it," Eph. 5:25. "love his wife even as himself" (33). "house-band" = connecting and keeping together the whole family.
- 9. Nourish** (feed her) and **cherish** her (value her). Eph. 5:29. Give her as much as she wants as you can.
- 10. Don't trouble them.** "Why **trouble** ye the woman? she hath wrought a good work on me." Matt.26:10
- 11. Don't get angry with them.** "Make no friendship with an **angry man**; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:" Proverbs 22:24.
- 12. Rejoice, be happy.** "Let thy fountain be blessed: and **rejoice** with the wife of thy youth." Proverbs 5:18
- 13. "Be gentle** unto all men, apt to teach, patient." 2 Timothy 2:24.
- 14. "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to **knowledge**, giving **honour** unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being **heirs together of the grace of life**; that **your prayers** be not hindered." I Peter 3:7.**
- a) dwell with them according to **knowledge**:** Know their weaknesses, be patient, understanding, kind. Be considerate of their spiritual, emotional and physical needs. Protect and care for them.
- b) giving **honour** unto the wife.** Treat them with respect. They may be weaker physically and emotionally.
- c) **heirs together**,** means that men and women are equal in status, value and importance as a team.
- d) your **prayers** be not hindered. **Pray** together daily.** If you fight, you don't want to pray.
- 15. Be of one mind** (8). Agree with each other. Live peacefully. Don't argue or fight. Communicate well.
- 16. Have compassion on each other.** Pity each other and be helpful and merciful. Feel as they do.
- 17. Love as brethren.** Love your wife as we should love a wife, but also love her as a fellow Christian.
- 18. Be pitiful.** Have pity on each other in our suffering, difficulties, sorrows and trouble.
- 19. Be courteous** (8) means be friendly minded and kind.
- 20. Don't punish or insult each other** (9). "Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but blessing;"
- 21. Seek peace** (10,11). Avoid all evil and promote the happiness of all.

112. QUESTIONS for Muslims

- Q1: Can you show us 1 prophecy in Quran that came true over 30 years later? **NONE.**
The Bible has over 1000 prophecies of future events that came true with no mistakes.
Isaiah 41:22,23 “Shew us what shall happen Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods.” Isaiah 42:9 “Before they spring forth I tell you of them.”
John 13:19 “I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am” Ex3:14
- Q2: Why would a loving God approve taking slave girls?
“Slave girls whom Allah has given you as booty.” 33:50. Sex-motivated men want them
- Q3: Why would a loving God approve wife beating? “Those wives you fear disobedience ...beat them.” (4:34). Would you like your daughter to be beaten by her husband? NO!
- Q4: Would you like your daughter to be taken as a sex slave or beaten by her husband?
- Q5: Would you be happy not finding a wife because so many men have 4 wives?
- Q6: What is the gospel defined as in Quran? “We gave him the gospel” (Q5:46)
- Q7: Why would a loving God predestine some people to hell? (7:179). This violates God’s justice.
“We have created many of the jinn and mankind for hell.” Q 7:179.
- Q8: If you think Bible is changed, Who changed it? When was it changed? Which parts are changed? Why don’t you produce a correct version? Early Christian writers quote same as KJB
- Q9: If Allah is the all-knowing God, why did he NOT KNOW the correct Greek word for “Son” in Greek is HUIOS, not Teknon? Q6:101 “How can Allah have a son when he has no wife?”
- Q10: If drinking alcohol on earth is wrong, why would God create rivers of alcoholic wine in heaven? “In paradise are rivers of wine and rivers of honey” 47:15. Honey would be very sticky. Alcoholics would love this but God has better things for us in heaven than alcohol.
- Q11: Quran has 2 parts of the Trinity, with Father being the director, and Holy Spirit being sent to Mary (21:91 “We breathed unto her our spirit”). We both believe in Virgin birth of Jesus (incarnation of the HUIOS). We must understand the Greek word for Son is NOT Teknon (child), but HUIOS (same nature as) and Huios is the IMAGE of God, then we have TRINITY.
- Q12: Why was Mohommad NOT sure of going to heaven ?
“Nor do I know what will be done with me or with you.” (Q 46:9)
- Q13: Why did Mohommad NOT know the food was poisoned before he ate it and died?
- Q14: How can you reject the proofs of Jesus’ death from 5 prophets (Isaiah, David, Daniel, Zech, John Baptist), from eyewitnesses, from Jesus’ words before and after His death, and from eyewitnesses of sun blacking out for 3 hours ? What is the evidence of Jesus not dying?4:157,8
- Q15: If the Deity of Christ is stated by Justin Martyr (110-165) and Irenaeus (120-202), and the TRINITY by Clement of Alexandria (153-217) and Tertullian (200-250), is this good proof?
- Q16: Does Semen come from between backbone and ribs (Q 86:7) or from testicles?
- Q17: Is it “HALAL (lawful) to eat what you catch from the sea” (Q 5:96) when Wikipedia says there are 1200 species of poisonous fish, eg: box-jellyfish?
- Q18: Where is the SETTING PLACE of the SUN and the SPRING of water it sets in? (Q 18:86)
“He followed a way. Until, when he reached the SETTING PLACE of the SUN, he found it setting in a SPRING of black, muddy, hot WATER.” (Q 18:85,86)
- Q19: Why did nobody know that Solomon was dead until a worm ate his stick? (Q 34:14)
Why did he NOT fall down on dying as everybody else does?
- Q20: “We made the heaven a ROOF, safe and well guarded.” (21:32). How far is the roof?Made of?
- Q21: “We made the Nutfah (embryo) into a clot (piece of thick coagulated blood).” (Q 23:14).
Do you agree that this is a big mistake? A Nutfah was living, dividing cells, never a clot of blood.
- Q22: Are stars missiles to shoot at devils? (41:12). Are stars close to earth, in lowest sky? NO.
- Q23: If prophets say Jesus is God, why don’t you believe them? (p.1008). “Unto us a child is born, unto us a SON is given: ..his name shall be called...The Mighty GOD.,” Isaiah 9:6. He accepted worship. Jesus said He is GOD in John 8:24 “If ye believe not that I AM, ye shall DIE in your sins.” and in John 8:58 “Before Abraham was, I AM.” This is the name of God in Exodus 3:14 “I AM has sent” Matthew 28:19 “Baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

Questions to Ask Muslims

1. Why did you become a Muslim?

You did not know the Bible. You did not know the Quran. You did not have critical thinking. You could not resist a lying Islam salesman. You never checked the other side to see if he lied.

2. Aren’t you ashamed to be a Muslim from all the killing & wars started by Muslims? What if it was you?

3. Aren’t you ashamed that you have wasted so many years being controlled by an evil religion?

4. Are you sure of heaven? Yes. How can you be sure when Moh was not sure? (nor do I know....46:9)

5. You say Jesus did not die, but a look-alike-Jesus died on the cross and was buried in the tomb. Agree? (Yes). Do you agree that the Jews wanted to destroy Christianity? (Yes). Then why did the Jews NOT

produce the look-alike-Jesus’ dead body out of the tomb, to destroy Christianity and Jesus’ resurrection? Because there was NO look-alike-Jesus & the real Jesus rose from the dead, proving the Quran to be a lie.

6. PBUH. How many people did Moh kill? (1000+). How many people were killed by Muslims making war to obey Moh and Moh’s book the Quran in last 1400 years? (300 million+). How can you say PBUH?

7. You say the Bible was changed.

Who changed the Bible? (no idea). What’s his name? (don’t know).

When did he change it? (don’t know). Which parts did he change? (don’t know). What’s your source? (don’t know). Who protested the change? (don’t know). Why are you so sure of something you know nothing about? Only a fool believes unchecked ideas. Are you a fool? (No). Why not leave Islam today?

Proof Bible is not changed: 1. Have you heard of the early Christian writers from 33-300 AD? (Yes). Name one. (I don’t know any). How much of their writings have you read? (None).

So you never bothered to check their quotes from their first century Bibles? True?

If you had read their 86,489 quotes from their first century Bibles, what would you discover?(don’t know)

You’d find that their Bibles were the same as our King James Bibles today.

What 3 things does this prove? That the KJBible is not corrupted, you’ve been lied to and Islam is false.

Muslim objection: There are many English translations or versions of the Bible and they are different.

Answer: There are many English translations of the Quran and they are different from each other as well. Muslims reply that the Arabic is the same and not changed.

Answer: So the Hebrew OT and Greek NT from which the KJB is translated, is the same and not changed.

Other proofs the KJBible is not changed: 2. The Dead Sea scrolls contain every OT book except Esther. These are the same as the KJBible Old Testament of today. 3. Josephus confirms every event of the OT.

Question: Now that you see that Islam has lied to you, will you leave Islam today? (No). Why not?

Because you love the lies of the Quran and Islam. Your stubborn believing of Islam’s lies will keep you out of heaven. “outside are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loves and makes a lie.” Revelation 22:14,15.

8. According to www.islammonitor.org Muslims have committed more than 23333 deadly terror attacks from 9/11 up to 10 July 2014. Most victims were fellow Muslims. Do you feel any sympathy to these victims, or has Islam destroyed your conscience, sympathy and compassion for your fellow man?

Aren’t you ashamed to follow the Quran and a religion that teaches terror and killing? You ought to be!

9. Muslims worship Mohammad as “The Praised One”, “The Glorious One”, “Peace be Upon Him” which are worship expressions for God. You worship the Black Stone at Mecca by kissing or bowing to it.

10. Why do most Muslim countries have troubles, hatred, killing and wars, but Christian countries

have peace, freedom, prosperity & happiness? It is because the Bible and Quran define each countries’ thinking. Why do millions of people flee from Muslim countries to Christian, Bible based countries?

You rarely see people escaping from Christian countries to Muslim countries.

11. Who has better credentials, Jesus or Mohammad? See EST p.105. If you want to trust a religion you must look at the source. The source should be divine and pure. Compare the lives of Jesus and Muhammad. Who is more divine and pure? Jesus healed people, raised dead people to life, and taught love and peace. If you trust a religion which encourages killing and rage, you’ll surely go to hell.

12. Why do Allah and Satan have the same 12 bad beliefs? See EST chap 44. Because Allah is Satan disguising himself as God. Why did Quran get the prophets names right, but God’s Name wrong (Jehovah, not Allah) & ignore their writings? How do you feel praying to Satan 5 times a day? Don’t you think that Muslim terrorists are behaving like Satan? It is the only explanation for their devilish behaviour.

113. Why Nobody Should Become a Muslim. Why Muslims Must Leave Islam

The following things lacking from Islam, make it an unsatisfactory religion. Islam has:

- 1) No **sacrifice for our sins**. “without shedding of blood is no remission (of sins).” (Heb. 9:22).
- 2) No **sinless Founder**. “in him is no sin”. (I John 3:5).
- 3) No **Saviour from sin**. “ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins.” (I John 3:5).
- 4) No **resurrected Saviour**. “he was seen of above 500 brethren at once.” (I Cor. 15:6).
- 5) No **fulfilled prophecy** in the Koran. “shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know” Is41:23
- 6) No **certainty of a home in heaven**. “that ye may know that ye have eternal life.” (I John 5:13; 2:25)
- 7) No **equality of Muslims and Christians in law**.
- 8) No **equality of Muslim men and women in law** (Q4:34..women ye fear rebellion...scourge them)
- 9) No **consistent standard of sin**, eg: Muslim heaven has free sex and wine, which is wrong on earth.
- 10) No **genealogies** and **no dates** in the Quran.
- 11) No **freedom to leave Islam**. Grievous punishment or death to those who leave Islam (Q16:106).
- 12) No **mercy shown to a thief**, or to those of other religions. (Q5:38).
- 13) **Forced female circumcision** as part of forced conversion to Islam in Maluku Islands of Indonesia.
- 14) No one **raised from the dead** by Mohammed. Jesus raised 4 people from the dead. (inc.Himself)
- 15) No one **healed miraculously** by Mohammed. ‘As many as touched him were made whole’ Luke6:56
- 16) No **Old Testament prophecies** telling us the time, place, or events to expect Mohammed. Micah 5:2
- 17) No **democracy in Muslim countries**, but rule is by dictators.
- 18) No **agreement with the Bible** and with **Old Testament prophets**.
- 19) Allah is a **very different personality** from **Jehovah** of OT. Allah seduces 15:39,lies74:39,enslaves 33:50.
- 20) **Islam worships the wrong god**. “God spake all these words, saying, I am the LORD (JHVH) thy God...Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” (Exodus 20:1-3). **Worship Jehovah, not Allah**.
- 21) No **understanding of Greek language**. “**How can Allah have a son** when he has **no wife**?” Q6:101 Jesus is not the Teknon (boy) of God, but the **Huios** (same nature) as God. Men wrote Quran not God
- 22) Islam trusts the **wrong line** of God’s blessing. God promised the Messiah to come through **Isaac** (Genesis 17:19-21; 21:12) **not through Ishmael**. [The Bible teaches us to love our enemies.
- 23) **Quran teaches terror against non Muslims** (Q8:12,60,65,67,74; 9:39,41,111,123). (Matthew 5:44). “Christina Sagat shakes with fear...as she tells her story of brutal circumcision in a forced conversion to Islam. Her physical wounds have healed but this 32-year-old is left with the deep pain of sorrow and humiliation. She is among hundreds of Christians, including children and pregnant women, **forcibly circumcised** as part of a campaign by extremists (terrorists) to spread Islam through the war-ravaged Maluku islands in Eastern Indonesia. In the biggest city in the (Maluku) Islands (of Indonesia), Ambon, church and other groups have gathered evidence that 3,928 villagers on at least six islands have been forced to convert to Islam under the threat of death, torture or destruction of their homes. They believe that local Muslim clerics, possibly under duress from extremists, circumcised almost all the converts. Kostantinus Idi, 22,... said one of the clerics urinated on his wound, saying it would stop infection.”
The Sydney Morning Herald, page 1,2,41. Saturday, January 26,27, 2001.

114. Biblical Animation Videos. Watch these on www.keithpiper.org

1. **In the beginning God created heaven and earth** - Noah and the flood – Genesis. **Date:**
2. **Abraham and Isaac the miracle child of promise** - Sodom and Gomorrah - Chapter 2. **Date**
3. **The story of Moses - Pharaoh - The Ten Plagues of Egypt - Passover** - Chapter 3. **Date:**
4. **The Exodus - Parting The Red Sea - Mount Sinai - Ten Commandments** -Joshua – 4. **Date:**
5. **The Land of Canaan** - The Nation of Israel - King David - King Josiah - Chapter 5. **Date**
6. **Elijah & Elisha** - God Jehovah destroys baal prophets - Ahab and Jezebel - Chap 6. **Date:**
7. **The Prophecies of Jesus Christ** - Israel conquered by Babylon - Daniel - Cyrus - Ch 7. **Date:**
8. **The New Testament - The Coming of Messiah - The birth of Jesus Christ** - Chapter 8. **Date:**
9. **The early Ministry of Jesus Christ** - The Lamb of God - The Twelve Disciples - Chap 9. **Date:**
10. **Miracles and Parables of Jesus Christ** - Jesus resurrects Lazarus from the dead - Ch 10. **Date:**
11. **Passover and Suffering** - Arrest, Crucifixion and Death of Jesus Christ on the Cross - Ch 11
12. **Jesus burial** - Jesus Christ Resurrection on third day - The Early Church - Chap 12. **Date:**
13. **The Gospel of Jesus Christ** - Paul - Preach to all the world - Good news to Gentiles - Ch 13. **p125**

115. HOW Islam HARMS People.

God said to Satan “**How are thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer** (Hebrew: **Halal**)...which did **weaken the nations**.” Isaiah 14:12. Muslim food is “**Halal**” meaning it is **dedicated to Satan (Allah)**. **Islam & Quran practising Muslims are Culturally Incompatible with Western and Christian Values**.

- Both Islam and Democracy cannot peacefully co-exist. Gaza had only one election, then Hamas took over. Consider these barbaric Islamic practices commanded by the Quran that are culturally incompatible to us:
1. **Slavery**. **slave girls** whom Allah has given you as booty.’ 33:50. ‘your slave girls.’ 33:52.
 2. **Beheading**. ‘I shall cast terror into the hearts of the infidels, strike off their heads.’ 8:12; 9:33.
 3. **Terrorism**. ‘unbelievers...so that you may strike terror into the enemy of Allah.’ 8:59,12.
 4. **Wife beating**. “As for those from whom you fear disobedience, admonish them, and send them to their beds apart, and beat (scourge) them.” 4:34.
 5. **Child marriage** of 6-9 year old girls. ‘he consumed the marriage when she was a girl of 9 years’ Buk3896
 6. **Concubines**. **any slave girls** you may own.’ 4:3.
 7. **Multiple wives**. ‘you may marry other women who seem good to you, 2, 3, or 4 of them.’ 4:3.
 8. **Temporary marriage** (Mutah) and arranged marriages.
 9. Allah permits **rape** of non-Muslim women because they don’t have Hijab, as in Sweden, Europe. 4:24.
 10. **Female Genital Mutilation**. Moh to exciser of female slaves ‘Yes FGM is allowed’ Excisors narration.
% of women aged 15-49 with FGM in Somalia (99.2%), **Indonesia** (97% by age 18), **Guinea** (95%), **Egypt** (92%), **Malaysia** (93% of Muslim females), **Djibouti** (90%), **Mali** (89%), **Sudan** (87%), **Sierra Leone** (83%), **Eritrea** (83%), **Saudi Arabia** (80%), **Burkina Faso** (76%), **Gambia** (73%), **Mauritania** (67%), **Ethiopia** (65%), **Liberia** (38%), **UAE** (34%), **Kenya** (21%), **Nigeria** (19%), **Yemen** (18%), **Maldives** (13%), **Iraq** (7%). See www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9436112 and Wikipedia
 11. **Whipping fornicators**. ‘Fornicators flog with 100 stripes.’ 24:2.
 12. **Lyng** and abrogation from oaths. ‘Allah has ordained for Muslims absolution from your oaths.’ 66:2.
 13. **Pedophilia**. ‘There shall wait on them young boys of their own, as fair as virgin pearls.’ 52:24.
 14. **Burqa and Hijab**. ‘wives & daughters of true believers..draw their veils close all round them.’ 33:59.
 15. **Crucifixion**. ‘those warring against Allah and Moh and do mischief..be killed or crucified.’ 5:33.
 16. **Cutting off hands & feet**. ‘those warring against Allah & Moh...their hands & feet cut off.’ 5:33.
 17. **Inequality of men and women** in law. Inequality of Muslim and non-Muslim in law. ‘inherit’ 4:11.
 18. **Honour killing**. They are motivated to kill infidels to enter heaven. ‘Those fought, slain, gardens3:195
 19. **Stoning adulterers**. Bukhari 83:37.
 20. **Jihad**. Support for Islamic State, Hamas and terrorist groups. ‘fighters...alms you give them.’ 2:273
 21. **Islamic call to prayer over loud-speakers waking you up at 5.30am** every morning & 5 times a day
 22. **Anti-Semitism**, racism against Israel. ‘Unbelievers among the **People of the Book** & all pagans. They are the **vilest of all creatures**.’ 98:6; ‘O Muslim! There is a **Jew** hiding behind me, so kill him.’ Buk 2926
 23. **Anti-Bible**. Misleading claims of Bible corruption. **Early Christian writers** quote Bible **same as today**.
 24. **Anti-Christ** claims that Jesus did not die on cross. ‘They **did not kill him**, nor crucify him’ 4:157
 25. **Anti-Music**. Islam will destroy everything good in any culture, and replace it with everything evil.
 26. **Anti-Evidence** by denying the 500 eyewitnesses of Jesus’ death and resurrection (ICor15:6) Q4:157.
 27. **Aim of destroying our culture** and replacing it with Sharia law. Many Muslims refuse to assimilate.
 28. **Brainwashing** young people with Jihad and Quran’s brutality.
 29. **Unwilling to obey our laws, govt**. ‘Obey not the disbelievers, but fight them most strenuously.’ 25:52
 30. **Seeking to destroy all other religions**. ‘true faith to make it **triumphant over all religions**.’ 9:33.
 31. **Kill ex-Muslims**. If they desert you, seize them & put them to death wherever you find them. 4:89.
 32. **Sharia law courts** enforcing these evils. **Many refugees flee Muslim nations to Christian nations**.
 33. **Quran says all Muslims go to hell**. **Sad**. “there is not one of you who shall not pass thru hell” 19:71
 34. **Mohamads battles** of **raiding Meccan caravans**, **Badr** (624), **massacre of 800 Bani Qurayza** (627), **conquest of Mecca** (630), **Hunain** (630), **Tabuk** (630), **caused Muslims to start 116 battles up to 742**
- Conclusion: The God of the Bible disapproves of murder**. “murders...they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. The fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace...**” Galatians 5:21,22.
“No murderer has eternal life abiding in him” IJohn 3:15. “murderers...all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the **second death**” Rev21:8. “**Allah deceives**” Q74:31; 13:27

BIBLE HISTORY: 116. PERSIAN History Written in Advance.

Bible Reading: Isaiah 44:28-45:7. **Aim:** To show that God named Cyrus 176 yrs before he conquered Babylon. God refuted the religion of Zoroastrianism which Cyrus led.

Introduction: “That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built: and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.” Isaiah 44:28.

This prophecy of Isaiah was written in 712 BC. Isaiah died in 681 BC.

I. Notice these prophecies in this passage:

1. When this prophecy was given, **Jerusalem** and the **temple** were standing as they had been since 1012 BC when Solomon built the temple. They had not yet been destroyed in 712 BC. Their destruction only came in 586 BC by the Babylonians, 126 yrs after this prophecy was given (712-586 = 126 yrs). This prophecy of rebuilding Jerusalem and the temple seemed foolish as they were still standing in 712 BC.

2. Even more curious is that God gave the **name** of the person who would conquer Babylon. His name would be “**CYRUS**”. The name “Cyrus” was not Hebrew, not Chaldean, not Greek, not Persian, but a local dialect that almost nobody outside his area would have recognized. No one knew it but God.

3. This man **Cyrus** would be called God’s **shepherd**, who would **regather** God’s scattered sheep of Israel and return them to their fold in Israel. Cyrus did this (Ezra 1:1-4). Josephus, Antiquities, Book XI, Chap 1.

4. In **Isaiah 45:1-4**, God describes in detail how Cyrus would **conquer Babylon** by marching through the unlocked river gates of Babylon. God would give him the **treasures** of darkness, taken from other nations, hidden underground. 5. In **Jeremiah 25:11,12** (written in 607BC) JHVH gave the **year** Cyrus would conquer Babylon as **70 years after 606BC** when Babylon conquered Jerusalem. This is 606-70 = 536BC.

6. In **Isaiah 45:5,6,7**, God refutes Cyrus’ religion of **Zoroastrianism** in 712 BC. This religion would not be started until about 600 BC. God addresses Cyrus in verse 45, saying, “I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee (Cyrus), though thou has not known me:” (v 5). Zarathustra (later called Zoroaster) was born around 630 BC, which was 30 yrs before Cyrus was born. He was a Persian and started the religion of Zoroastrianism (dualism). He rejected the polytheism of his ancestors and the monotheism of the Jews. His religion believed in **two gods** (or forces or spirits), **good** (Ahura Mazda) and **evil** (Angra Mainyu). Earth is a battleground between these two forces. It taught that we will be judged on how well we have dedicated ourselves to fighting for good thoughts, words & deeds. Zoroaster wrote several hymns called Gathas that were collected into a sacred book known as the Avesta. The first chapter in this book relates the creation story as a duel between the good god, Ahura Mazda (our Lord wise), and the evil god, Angra Mainyu (antagonistic spirit).

Three aspects of these false gods are mentioned:

1. Ahura Mazda lived where the **sun rose** (in the east), and Angra Mainyu dwelt in the **west**.
2. Ahura Mazda created **light**, and Angra Mainyu created **darkness**.
3. Ahura Mazda created **peace**, and Angra Mainyu created **evil**.

Zarathustra’s first convert was the king of Persia. This resulted in each Persian king being the political monarch of Persia and the religious leader of Zoroastrianism.

In **Isaiah 45:5,6,7**, God speaks to Cyrus who would conquer the world and hold the three main beliefs of Zoroastrianism. God is saying to Cyrus: “I named you 176 yrs before you conquered Babylon and I refute the three main beliefs of your religion.”

1. “that they may know from the **rising of the sun**, and from the **west**, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else (v.6).
2. I form the **light**, and create **darkness**:
3. I make **peace**, and create **evil**. I the LORD do all these things” (v 7).

God not only **named Cyrus** about 130 yrs before he was born, but God **refuted Cyrus’ religion** even before it was founded. This is excellent proof of the Bible being from God. Let false religions duplicate this.

Cyrus soon believed and decreed that **Jehovah is the true God**. This decree was recorded in the Bible before the Muslims invaded Persia and burnt their libraries.

“Thus saith **Cyrus** king of Persia, The LORD (Jehovah) God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an **house** at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and **build the house of the LORD** God of Israel, (**he is the God**.) which is in Jerusalem.” Ezra 1:2,3. **127**

II. Six Persian Kings

Persian kings.	Dates of Rule.	Bible Events.	Bible Reference.	Date.
1. Cyrus (Kurosh)	559-530 BC	Cyrus’ decree for Jews return. <u>First return</u> of 49,897 Jews under Zerubbabel to build temple. <u>Temple foundation</u> laid.	Ezra 1:1-4 Ezra 2 Ezra 3:1—4:5	536 BC 534 BC 534 BC
2. Cambyses (Kambujieh)	530-522 BC	Not in Bible.		
3. Smerdis (Bardiya)	522 BC	Stops work on temple.	Ezra 4:1-23	
4. Darius I (Dariush)	522-486 BC	Orders temple work to continue. Temple completed.	Haggai, Zechariah. Ezra 5-6	520-518 BC 515 BC
5. Xerxes (Ahasuerus) (Khashayar)	485-465 BC	Esther became queen.	Esther 2:17	479 BC
6. Artaxerxes I (Ardeshir)	464-424 BC	<u>Second return</u> of 5000 exiles under Ezra to beautify the temple and reform the people. <u>Third return</u> of exiles under Nehemiah to build Jerusalem walls. Nehemiah’s second return. <u>Malachi</u> Prophesied.	Ezra 7-10 Nehemiah 1-13 Nehemiah 13:6 Malachi 1-4.	464-458 BC 444 BC 430 BC 400 BC

III. Josephus Records Jews showing Cyrus (Heb: Kurosh) his name in the Bible (Isaiah 44:28—45:7)

“How Cyrus, King of the Persians, delivered the Jews out of Babylon, and permitted them to return to their own country, and build their temple; for which he gave them money (Antiquities, p.228, Chap.11,I,1)

1. In the first year of the reign of Cyrus, which was the 70th from the day that our people were removed out of their own land into Babylon, God had compassion on the captivity and calamity of these poor people, according as He had foretold them by Jeremiah the prophet, before the destruction of the city, that after they had served Nebuchadnezzar and his posterity, and had servitude 70 years, He would restore them again to the land of their fathers, and they should build their temple, and enjoy their ancient prosperity. These things God gave them. God stirred up the mind of Cyrus, making him write this throughout Asia: “**Thus saith Cyrus the king: Since God Almighty has appointed me king over the habitable earth, I believe that He is that God which the nation of Israelites worship; for indeed He foretold my name by His prophet, and that I should build Him a house at Jerusalem, in Judea.**”

2. This was known to Cyrus by his reading the book which **Isaiah** (44:28) left behind him of his prophecies; for the prophet said that God had spoken thus to him in a secret vision: “**My will is that Cyrus, whom I have appointed to be king over many and great nations, send back my people to their own land, and build my temple.**”

This was foretold by **Isaiah 140 years before the temple was demolished** (712 BC-586 BC = 126 years). Accordingly, when **Cyrus** read this, and **admired the divine power**, an earnest desire and ambition seized upon him to **fulfil** what was so written. So he called for the most eminent Jews that were in Babylon, and said to them, that he gave them leave to go back to their own country, and to rebuild their city Jerusalem, and the temple of God, for he would be their assistant, and that he would write to the rulers and governors, that were in the neighbourhood of Judea, that they should contribute to them gold and silver for the building of the temple, and beasts for their sacrifices.”

Date of Isaiah. The Babylonian Talmud (550 AD), drawing on ancient documents records, ‘Hezekiah and his company copied Isaiah, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes’. Baba Bathra 15a. (Proverbs 25:1). **Hezekiah began to reign in 726 BC** (2 Chron 29:1). Isaiah lived with Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah (Is 1:1).

117. 8 Tabernacles. Youtube: Temple Mount, Dome of Rock, Real site over Gihon Spring

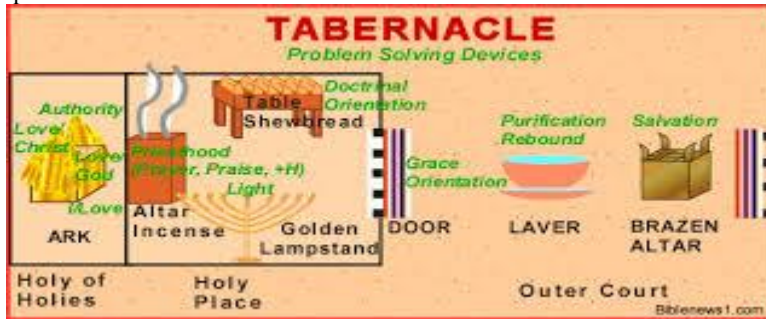
Bible Reading: 1 Kings 1:38,39; 8:1-11; Revelation 21. Youtube: The Third Temple: Chaim Clorfene.

Memory Verse: "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." Revelation 21:3.

Aim: To understand how God wants to fellowship with man now and in eternity.

Introduction: Ever since creation, God has wanted to fellowship with man. This is seen in the 8 Tabernacles or dwelling places of God with men. What are they and what do they teach? Are you seeking to have a closer fellowship with God? A Tabernacle is a dwelling place of God with men. These are:

- 1. The Garden of Eden.** God gave man a job, to dress and keep the garden (Gen. 2:15), a helpmeet wife (2:21-25), daily conversation (3:8) and a warning, not to eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge (2:16,17).
- 2. Noah's Ark** was a dwelling place of God with man. God commanded Noah to come into the ark (7:1).
- 3. The Tabernacle in the Wilderness.** "the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee." Exodus 29:42.



4. Solomon's Temple (1000BC-586BC) and **Herod's Temple** (400BC-70AD). Both destroyed same day. Matthew 4:5-7; Matthew 24:1,2; Luke 19:46 "my house"; Paul preached on Fortress steps. Acts 21:35,40.

5. Jesus Christ on earth until 33AD. "God was manifest in the flesh." 1 Timothy 3:16.

6. Jesus Christ in us. "Christ in you, the hope of glory" Colossians 1:27. "I am with you always" Mat 28:20

The Tribulation Temple. "Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein." Revelation 11:1,2; "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." 2 Thess. 2:4.

7. Jesus Christ on earth in the 1000 year Kingdom. "his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives" Zechariah 14:4; The Millennial Temple in Jerusalem. Ezekiel 47:1-12.

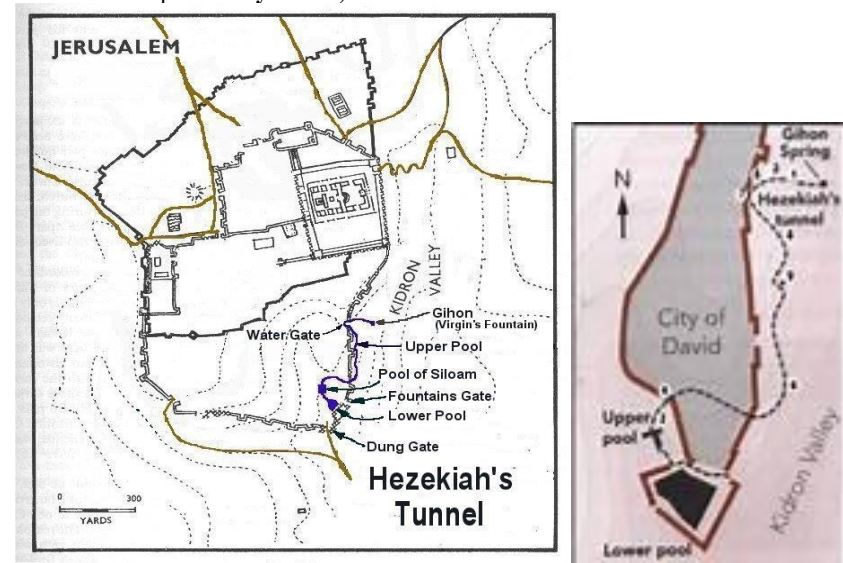
8. The New Jerusalem after the 1000 years. (Revelation 21).

118. HEZEKIAH's Tunnel. See www.youtube.com Hezekiah's Tunnel Megalim Institute.

Watch: http://www.cityofdavid.org.il/en/virtual_tour/hezekiah%E2%80%99s-tunnel-city-david

Bible Reading: "he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city," 2 Kings 20:20;

In **713 BC**, when Sennacherib, King of Assyria, was preparing to invade Judah, King Hezekiah of Judah "stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David." (2 Chronicles 32:30), by digging a 1,748 feet long tunnel to divert the Gihon spring into the city. Two teams dug the 6 foot high tunnel from opposite ends to meet in the middle, where they carved a plaque which is now exhibited in the Archaeological museum, Istanbul. Hezekiah thus denied water to the Assyrian army and guaranteed water for those in Jerusalem to last a long siege. It was discovered by Edward Robinson in 1838 & cleared in 1911. Today you can walk through it. It leads to the Pool of Siloam and the Lower pool. See youtube, **How authentic the Bible is 1-Hezekiah's tunnel.** John 9:7,11.



1. After Lachish fell, the Assyrian army marched to Hezekiah's city, Jerusalem, capital of Judea in 710BC "The king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rabshakeh from **Lachish** to king Hezekiah with a **great host against Jerusalem**. And they went up and came to Jerusalem." 2 Kings 18:17; Isaiah 36:2.

2. Hezekiah prepared for the invasion and siege by consulting with mighty men to stop the springs outside Jerusalem & to build a **533 metre** long tunnel to divert water into the city (2 Kings 20:20) p.1473 Underst.

"The rest of the acts of Hezekiah and all his might, and how he made a **pool** and a **conduit**, and **brought water into the city**, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?" 2 Kings 20:20

The **Shiloah Inscription** was carved on the **wall of the tunnel** where the two digging teams met. It reads: "The masons were swinging their axes one towards the other and they heard the voice of one man calling his fellow. And on the day of the tunnelling, the masons bore through, one man towards his fellow, axe upon axe, and the water flowed from the source to the pool for 1200 cubits."

3. He **repaired & heightened** the wall & built a **second wall outside**. He made many darts & shields (32:5)

4. Sennacherib told the Jews not to trust in Hezekiah (32:9-16). He blasphemed God (32:16-19).

5. Hezekiah and Isaiah **prayed** to God to deliver them ("for this cause Hezekiah the king, and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, prayed and cried to heaven." 32:20). "Hezekiah went up unto the house of the LORD, and **spread it before the LORD**." Isaiah 37:14-20. We should spread our problems to God to solve.

6. Jehovah God replies to Hezekiah through Isaiah in 3 parts (Isaiah 37:21-29, 30-32, 33-35):

7. God answered their prayer by sending the **Son of God** to destroy the **185,000 man Assyrian army**. v36 (He returned with **shame of face** to his own land. 2 Chron 32:21), "it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an **hundred fourscore and five thousand**;

and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were **all dead corpses**." 2 Kings 19:35; Isaiah 37:36

119. The 7 Feasts of Jehovah (Leviticus 23)

Bible Reading: Leviticus 23; Zechariah 14:8-21. See page 404 "The Jewish Calendar".

Youtube: PASSOVER - The 7 Feasts of Israel and Jesus - Amazing Revelation ppsimmons.

Memory Verse: "These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons." Leviticus 23:4. **Aim:** To understand the prophetic significance of the 7 Feasts of Jehovah.

Introduction: In Leviticus 23, God instituted 7 Feasts that Israel was to celebrate every year. These types had a New Testament fulfillment (anti-type) concerning Jesus Christ's first and second comings. Last week Israel celebrated the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh HaShanah) from Wednesday evening 24th September to Friday evening 26th September 2014. **What messages do each feast contain for us today?**

First Month:

1. **Passover** (23:4,5). God instituted the Passover Feast in Exodus 12:1-14 as the tenth plague on Egypt which resulted in Pharaoh letting Israel leave Egypt. As the blood of the lamb sprinkled on each houses doorposts and lintel saved the firstborn from death, so Passover teaches us that **redemption is by the blood of Jesus Christ**, "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29). "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us." I Corinthians 5:7.

2. **Unleavened Bread** (23:6-8) was a 7 day feast where Israelites ate bread without leaven (yeast). Leaven is a symbol of sin and false doctrine. "Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees." Matthew 16:12. Paul uses leaven as a symbol of malice and wickedness in I Cor.5:8 "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." This feast teaches that after we are saved, God wants us to have a **holly walk**. I Cor 5:6.

3. **Firstfruits** (23:9-14). Israel brought a sheaf of the firstfruits of their harvest to the priest (10). The Jewish harvest custom included the firstfruits, main harvest and the gleanings, picturing the order of resurrection of believers, being Christ and some OT saints in 33AD (Matthew 27:51-53), the rapture of OT and NT saints at the end of the church age (I Thess 4:16,17), then the resurrection of tribulation saints at the end of the 7 year tribulation (Rev 20:4-6). "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." (I Cor 15:20,23). Hence Firstfruits pictures **Christ's resurrection** from the dead.

Second Month:

Third Month: 4. Pentecost (23:15-22). **50 days after firstfruits**, Israelites brought 2 wave-loaves baked with leaven to the priest to offer to Jehovah. The **2 loaves** picture the **church** composed of **Jew and Gentile** believers. The **leaven** in these loaves pictures **sin and false doctrines in churches and in believers**. Pentecost was fulfilled in Acts 2 where the church age commenced on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:1-4).

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Months: No Feasts, picturing **2000 yr** of the church age and Israel's Dispersion.

Seventh Month:

5. **Trumpets** (23:23-25) known as "**Rosh HaShanah**" (Head of the Year). Each morning of the **30 days** of month Elul, the **trumpet**, Ram's horn or Shofar is blown to warn people to repent and return to God before Rosh HaShanah. Jewish tradition believes that the world was created on this day, because when Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning" is reversed, it reads "Aleph b'Tishrei" or "on the first day of Tishrei". In the Torah, Rosh HaShanah is "Yom Teruah" meaning the "Day of the Awakening Blast" or "shout". In Isaiah 26:19, the word "awake" is associated with the resurrection of the saved, known as the **rapture**. (I Thess 4:16-18; Rev 4:1,2). The start of the Millennium and **regathering of Israelites** will be announced by the sound of a great Shofar (Isaiah 27:13). **7 Shofar** are sounded in Rev 8,9 announcing 7 judgments.

6. **Day of Atonement** (23:26-32) known as "**Yom Kippur**" pictures the **day of Christ's return** to save Israel from Antichrist at the end of the 7 year Tribulation when Israel calls on Christ to save them (Zechariah 12:10; 13:8,9; Romans 11:26) and becomes saved as a nation.

7. **Tabernacles** (23:33-43) pictures **Israel's Millennial rest** in Christ's 1000 year Kingdom. Zechariah 14:16-21 states that this Feast will be kept each year by **all the nations in the millennium**. "it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to **keep the feast of tabernacles**" (14:16). "After this I will return & will build again the **tabernacle of David**, which is fallen down" Act 15:16; Amos 9:11. **131**

