

# **Attitudes**

**Adult Auditorium Class**

**Spring 2008**

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# Introduction

## I. Why this Study?

- A. Walk worthy.
  - 1. Eph. 4:1 – *“Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called.”*
- B. To do the Will of God, it all starts with the heart (i.e. good attitude).
  - 1. Pro 4:23 -- *"Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life."*
- C. Align our attitudes with the Word of God.
  - 1. Strengthen our resolve to follow Word of God in areas of life.
  - 2. Recognize how our attitudes on any number of areas will lead to types of action, either good or bad.
  - 3. Provide a basis to have the right attitudes toward God and His people (both brethren and world).
  - 4. Foster the right attitudes in us and help bring about changes where required.

## II. Objectives.

- A. Understand the meaning of the different terms referring to the inner parts of man.
- B. Provide motivation to us by examining the attitudes of God and key people in the Bible.
- C. Improve our attitudes in certain focus areas and thereby, improve our service to our Lord and Master.

## III. Study Approach.

- A. Study material is split into the following 3 divisions: 1) inward look at the source of our attitudes, 2) attitudes of God and key people in the Bible and 3) specific attitudes in certain focus areas.
- B. Scripture will be the source of our study.
- C. Class material has been structured by guiding the students through this study by reading Scripture and answering questions.

## IV. Course Outline..

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1. Mar. 2(Sunday)	Introduction.

2. Mar. 5	The Heart of Man.
3. Mar. 9	The Heart of Man.
4. Mar. 12	The Heart of Man.
5. Mar. 16	The Mind of Man.
6. Mar. 19	The Soul of Man.
7. Mar. 23	Inner Man & The Conscience of Man.
8. Mar. 26	Will of Man & Love God w/ <i>All Heart, Soul, Mind.</i>
9. Mar. 30 (Sunday)	In the Image of God.
10. Apr. 2	Attitudes of God.
11. Apr. 6	Attitudes of God.
12. Apr. 9	Attitudes of Key People in Bible.
13. Apr. 13	Attitudes of Key People in Bible.
14. Apr. 16	Brethren.
15. Apr. 20	Rejoicing.
16. Apr. 23	Thanksgiving.
17. Apr. 27	Thanksgiving.
18. Apr. 30 (Wednesday)	Word of God.
19. May 4	Word of God.
20. May 7	Fellow Man.
21. May 11	Fellow Man.
22. May 14	Sin.
23. May 19	Prayer.
24. May 21	Prayer.
25. May 26	Catch-Up/Review.
26. May 28 (Wednesday)	Review.

## **V. Definitions.**

A. Dictionary.com unabridged (v 1.1).

1. **at•ti•tude** = manner, disposition, feeling, position, etc., with regard to a person or thing; tendency or orientation, esp. of the mind: a negative attitude; group attitudes.

**B. American Heritage Dictionary**

1. attitude = A state of mind or a feeling; disposition: had a positive attitude about work. An arrogant or hostile state of mind or disposition.

**VI. Verses with word “attitude” – 8 with NASV. No verses in ASV, KJV, NKJV.**

- A. Genesis 31:2,5** – *“Jacob saw the attitude of Laban, and behold, it was not friendly toward him as formerly.”* ASV,KJV,NKJV=countenance, NIV=same. Vs. 5 *“and said to them, “I see your father's attitude, that it is not friendly toward me as formerly, but the God of my father has been with me.”*

ASV,KJV,NKJV=countenance, NIV=same

from [06437](#)

Reference: TWOT - 1782a

PrtSpch: noun masculine

In AV: before 1137, face 390, presence 76, because 67, sight 40, countenance 30, from 27, person 21, upon 20, of 20, ...me 18, against 17, ...him 16, open 13, for 13, toward 9, misc 195

Count: 2109

Definition: 1) face

- B. Jeremiah 12:3** – *“But You know me, O LORD;You see me;And You examine my heart's attitude toward You Drag them off like sheep for the slaughterAnd set them apart for a day of carnage!”* ASV,KJV,NKJV= triest my heart, NIV=thoughts

Pronunciation: **Labe**

Origin: a form of [03824](#)

Reference: TWOT - 1071a

PrtSpch: noun masculine

In AV: **Heart**

508, mind 12, midst 11, understanding 10, **hearted** 7, wisdom 6, comfortably 4, well 4, considered 2, friendly 2, kindly 2, stout**hearted** + [047](#) 2, care + [07760](#) 2, misc 21

Count: 0

Definition: 1) inner man, mind, will, **heart**, understanding

1a) inner part, midst

1a1) midst (of things)

1a2) **heart** (of man)

1a3) soul, **heart** (of man)

1a4) mind, knowledge, thinking, reflection, memory

1a5) inclination, resolution, determination (of will)

1a6) conscience

1a7) **heart** (of moral character)

1a8) as seat of appetites

1a9) as seat of emotions and passions

1a10) as seat of courage

- C. Luke 1:17 – *“It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”* ASV=wisdom, KJV,NKJV, NIV=wisdom
- D. Philippians 2:5 – **THEME VERVE** *“Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.”* ASV=mind, KJV,NKJV=mind , NIV=same
- E. Philippians 3:15 – *“Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you”.*  
KJV,ASV,NKJV,=minded,mind, NIV= take such a view of things.
- F. Colossians 4:2 – *“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving.”* KJV=same, ASV=therein with, NKJV = in it,
- G. James 2:1 – *“My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism.”* ASV,KJV,NKJV=no word, NIV=don't show.

## The Heart

**I. Objectives: 1) understand different conditions of heart, its functions, things can proceed from, 2) do we have hardened hearts?**

### I. What is the heart? Definitions.

A. Look up in English Dictionary and provide definition pertinent to our study.

*The American Heritage  
Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition*

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- a. The vital center and source of one's being, emotions, and sensibilities.
- b. The repository of one's deepest and sincerest feelings and beliefs: *an appeal from the **heart**; a subject dear to her **heart**.*
- c. The seat of the intellect or imagination: *the worst atrocities the human **heart** could devise.*
- d. Emotional constitution, basic disposition, or character: *a man after my own **heart**.*
- e. One's prevailing mood or current inclination: *We were light of **heart**.*
- f. Capacity for sympathy or generosity; compassion: *a leader who seems to have no **heart**.*
- g. Love; affection: *The child won my **heart**.*
- h. Courage; resolution; fortitude: *The soldiers lost **heart** and retreated.*
- i. The firmness of will or the callousness required to carry out an unpleasant task or responsibility: *hadn't the **heart** to send them away without food.*

B. Look up in Strong's. Use these verses: Gen. 9:9, Matt. 15:19.

Gen. 9:9 – Strong's 03820

- 1) inner man, mind, will, heart, understanding
- 1a) inner part, midst
- 1a1) midst (of things)
- 1a2) heart (of man)
- 1a3) soul, heart (of man)
- 1a4) mind, knowledge, thinking, reflection, memory
- 1a5) inclination, resolution, determination (of will)
- 1a6) conscience
- 1a7) heart (of moral character)
- 1a8) as seat of appetites
- 1a9) as seat of emotions and passions
- 1a10) as seat of courage

Matt. 15:19 --Strong's 2588:

- 2b) the centre and seat of spiritual life
- 2b1) the soul or mind, as it is the fountain and seat of the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavours
- 2b2) of the understanding, the faculty and seat of the intelligence
- 2b3) of the will and character

2b4) of the soul so far as it is affected and stirred in a bad way or good, or of the soul as the seat of the sensibilities, affections, emotions, desires, appetites, passions

**II. Different Conditions of the Heart.** *Read the verses for items 1-10 and describe the condition of the **heart**. It is optional to complete items 11-22.*

1. Grieved – God, Gen. 6:6, Rom. 9:2

9:6 “The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His **heart**.”

9:2 – “that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my **heart**.”

2. Evil, Gen. 6:5, Matt. 15:19

6:5 “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his **heart** was only evil continually.”

15:19 "For out of the **heart** come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.”

3. Integrity, Gen. 20:5

"Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother ' In the integrity of my **heart** and the innocence of my hands I have done this."

4. Glad, Ex. 4:14

5. Hardened, stubborn, unbelief, many Ex. 4:21, But Jesus said to them, " Because of your hardness of **heart** he wrote you this commandment. Mk 10:5, 16:14, stiff-necked, uncircumcised Acts 7:51

4:21 (7:3, 13, 14, 22, 8:15, 19, 32, 9:7 , 12,24, 35, 10:1, 20,27, 11:10 , 14:4)

”The LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in your power; but I will harden his **heart** so that he will not let the people go.”

10:5 “But Jesus said to them, " Because of your hardness of **heart** he wrote you this commandment.”

16:14 “Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of **heart**, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen.”

“Then the anger of the LORD burned against Moses, and He said, "Is there not your brother Aaron the Levite? I know that he speaks fluently. And moreover, behold, he is coming out to meet you; when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart.”

6. Pure, Matt. 5:8, good, honest, Lk. 8:15



5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

8:15 "But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance."

7. Lust, Matt. 5:28

"but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his **heart**."

8. Obedient, Rom. 6:17

"But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the **heart** to that form of teaching to which you were committed,"

9. Unrepentant, Rom. 2:5

"But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant **heart** you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,"

10. Doubts, belief, Mk. 11:23, Lk. 24:38

11:23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his **heart**, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him."

24:38 "And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your **hearts**?"

11. Lose **heart**, discouragement, Lk. 18:1

"Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose **heart**,"

12. Weighed down, worries, Lk. 21:34

"Be on guard, so that your **hearts** will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap;"

13. Rejoice, John 16:22

"Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your **heart** will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you."

14. Sorrow, John 16:6

"But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your **heart**."

15. deceived Rom. 16:18

“For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the **hearts** of the unsuspecting.”

16. Foolish, Rom. 1:21

“For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish **heart** was darkened.”

17. Broken, Acts 21:13

“Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my **heart**? For I am ready not only to be bound, but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

18. Burning, Lk. 24:32

“They said to one another, “Were not our **hearts** burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?”

19. Slow to believe, Lk. 24:25

“And He said to them, “O foolish men and slow of **heart** to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!”

20. United in purpose Acts 4:32

“And the congregation of those who believed were of one **heart** and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.”

21. Resolute Acts 11:23

“Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute **heart** to remain true to the Lord;”

**III. Different Functions of the Heart.** *Read the verses for items 1-10 and describe the function of the **heart**. It is optional to complete the remaining items.*

1. Where treasure is, Matt. 6:21

“for where your treasure is, there your **heart** will be also.”

2. Guides the mouth, Matt. 12:34

“You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the **heart**.”

2. Be dull, not listen, will, can understand and do, Matt. 13:15 Gentle & humble, JC, Matt. 11:29

13:15 “FOR THE **HEART** OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BECOME DULL, WITH THEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR, AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES, OTHERWISE THEY WOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES, HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR **HEART** AND RETURN, AND I WOULD HEAL THEM.”

11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in **heart**, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.”

4. Belief, Matt. 15:8, Mark 7:6, THEIR **HEART** IS FAR AWAY FROM ME, pierced Acts 2:37

15:8 “THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR **HEART** IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.”

7:6 “And He said to them, 'Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR **HEART** IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.'”

2:37 “Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the **heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"”

5. Inner most feelings, Matt. 18:35

" My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your **heart**."

6. Reasoning, Mark 2:6

“But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their **hearts**,”

7. Thoughts, Lk. 1:51, ponder Lk. 2:19, 3:15

1:51 " He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their **heart**.”

2:19 “But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her **heart**.”

3:15 “Now while the people were in a state of expectation and all were wondering in their **hearts** about John, as to whether he was the Christ,”

8. Written in their **hearts**, Rom. 2:15

“in that they show the work of the Law written in their **hearts**, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,”

9. Purpose, 2 Cor 9:7

“Each one must do just as he has purposed in his **heart**, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

10. God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our **hearts**, Gal 4:6

“Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our **hearts**, crying, " Abba! Father!"”

11. Laughed & said, Abraham about promise of Isacc, Gen 17:17

“Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his **heart**, "Will a child be born to a man one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"

12. Speaking in, Gen. 24:45

"Before I had finished speaking in my **heart**, behold, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder, and went down to the spring and drew, and I said to her, 'Please let me drink.'"

13. Understanding, Matt. 13:19

"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in **heart**, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS."

14. Opened, Acts 16:14

“A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her **heart** to respond to the things spoken by Paul.”

15. TO TURN THE **HEARTS** OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, Lk. 1:17

"It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE **HEARTS** OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

16. Put into the **heart** of Judas, John 13:2, Satan filled your **heart** Acts 5:3

13:2 “During supper, the devil having already put into the **heart** of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him,”

5:3 “But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your **heart** to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land?"

17. Repudiated him and in their **heart**, Acts 7:39

"Our fathers were unwilling to be obedient to him, but repudiated him and in their **hearts** turned back to Egypt,"

18. **Heart** not right before God, Acts 8:21, intentions 8:22

18:21 "You have no part or portion in this matter, for your **heart** is not right before God."

18:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your **heart** may be forgiven you."

## 19. Cleansed by faith, Acts 15:9

"and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their **hearts** by faith."

## V. How Can the Heart Be Changed?

### A. What do these verses (Lk. 16:15, Acts 1:24) state about our **hearts**? God knows our **hearts**.

Lk. 16:15 "And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your **hearts**; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God."

Acts 1:24 "And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the **hearts** of all men, show which one of these two You have chosen."

### B. God's & Satan's influence on our **hearts**.

#### 1. Lydia, read Acts 16:6-15.

Q1. Did God have an influence in the life of Lydia relative to salvation?

Yes. vs. 15: The Lord opened, vs. 10 the Lord had called (Paul & Silas), vs. 6 the Holy Spirit forbade them, vs. 7 Spirit of Jesus did not permit them.

Q2. Did God have an influence upon the **heart** of Lydia?

Yes the Lord opened her **heart**

Q3. How did God have an influence on her **heart**? Provide scriptural text from this event.

Brought the Paul the preacher to her and provided direct inspiration to Paul to know what to preach. Vs. 14 heard us, she attended (KJV), to respond (NASV) unto the things spoken by Paul, Vs. 13 we spake unto the women. Test the proposal "The Lord opened her **heart** means that the Lord caused her to believe".

#### 2. God & Pharoah, Read Ex. 4:21, 7:3, 13, 14, 22, 8:15, 19, 32, 9:7,12, 35, 10:1, 20,27, 11:10, 14:4

Q1. Did God have an influence in the life of Pharoah?

Yes. 4:21: I (Lord) will harden his **heart**.

Q2. Did God have an influence upon Pharoah's **heart**?

Yes.

Q3. How did God have an influence on his **heart**? Provide scriptural text from this event.

Provide the power to Moses and Aaron to work miracles. God knew the **heart** of Pharaoh and how he would be stubborn in letting the people go.

8:15 “ ... he hardened his **heart** and did not listen to them ...”

7:13-14 – “Pharaoh’s **heart** is stubborn; he refuses to let the people go.”

4:21 “...you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in your power...”

7:1 God tests??? his pride “See, I make you (Moses) as God to Pharaoh,”

8:32 – “But Pharaoh hardened his **heart** this time also”

3. Satan & Judas. Read John 13:2,21,27. 13:2 “During supper, the devil having already put into the **heart** of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him,”

Q1. Did Satan have an influence on the **heart** of Judas in the betrayal of Jesus?

Yes. V2: Devil having already ... to betray Him.

Q2. How did the devil have an influence on his **heart**. Provide scriptural text from this event. See John 12:1-6,6:64, Luke 6:16, 22:1-6, Mk 14:8-10, Matt. 26:14-16.

Not a direct operation – Judas consented, Luke 22:6. Provided the temptation (Judas already a thief, temptation to get more money) and the opportunity (Chief Priest, Lk. 22:2).

## VI. Do we have hardened hearts?

A. Do we listen (heed and obey) to what the Holy Spirit says?

B. Luke 1:17 -- "It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE **HEARTS** OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

## The Mind of Man

### I. Objective: Understand what this term means and its wide variety of meanings.

### II. What is the mind of man? Definitions.

A. Look up in English Dictionary and provide definition pertinent to our study.

B. Look up in Strongs. Use these verses: Deut. 30:1, Matt. 16:23. Any similarities with definitions for “heart”?

Strongs = 03824

Count: 252

Definition: 1) inner man, mind, will, heart, soul, understanding

1a) inner part, midst

1a1) midst (of things)

1a2) heart (of man)

1a3) soul, heart (of man)

1a4) mind, knowledge, thinking, reflection, memory

1a5) inclination, resolution, determination (of will)

1a6) conscience

1a7) heart (of moral character)

1a8) as seat of appetites

1a9) as seat of emotions and passions

1a10) as seat of courage

Strong word for heart, this word “mind” taken from it  
a form of [03824](#)

### III. Verses. Read the following verses and supply a synonym for how the word “mind” is being used.

1. Genesis 37:11 -- *“His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in **mind**.”* {thoughts}
2. Genesis 40:14 -- *“Only keep me in mind when it goes well with you, and please do me a kindness by mentioning me to Pharaoh and get me out of this house.”* {remembrance}
3. Exodus 10:10 – *“Then he said to them, ‘Thus may the LORD be with you, if ever I let you and your little ones go! Take heed, for evil is in your **mind**.’”* {heart – note: same Hebrew word for countenance}
4. 1 Kings 4:29 – *“Now God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment and breadth of **mind** {intellect}, like the sand that is on the seashore.”*
5. 1 Chronicles 28:9 -- *“As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart {desire complete} and a willing **mind** {desire free will, dedicated}; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.”*

6. Matthew 16:23 – “*But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your **mind** {will/desire} on God's interests, but man's."*
7. Mark 5:15 – “*They came to Jesus and observed the man who had been **demon-possessed** sitting down, clothed and in his right **mind**{senses}, the very man who had had the " legion"; and they became frightened.”  
Mark 5:14-16 (in Context) Mark 5 (Whole Chapter)*
8. Acts 1:14 – “*These all with one **mind** {purpose} were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.*”
9. Acts 10:17 – “*Now while Peter was greatly perplexed in **mind**{intellect} as to what the vision which he had seen might be, behold, the men who had been sent by Cornelius, having asked directions for Simon's house, appeared at the gate;”*
10. Romans 1:28 – “*And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved **mind** {desire}, to do those things which are not proper,”*
11. **Others:** Mark 8:33 {will}, Luke 1:66 {remembrance}, Luke 8:35 {senses}, Luke 21:14 {will}, Luke 24:45 {intellect}, Acts 2:46 {purpose}, Acts 7:23 {intent/remembrance/desire}, Acts 12:15 {senses}, Acts 17:11 {intention}, Romans 8:27 {purpose/desires}, Exodus 32:12 {will}, Exodus 32:14 {will}, Deuteronomy 30:1 {remembrance}, 1 Samuel 9:19 {thoughts}, 1 Samuel 9:20 {thoughts}, 1 Samuel 15:29 {will} {will}, 2 Samuel 7:3 {will/desire}, 2 Kings 9:15 {desire}, 1 Chronicles 12:38 {will}.




## The Soul of Man

### I. Objectives: Understand what this term means and its wide variety of meanings.

### II. What is the soul of man? Definitions.

A. Look up in English Dictionary and provide definition pertinent to our study.

*American Heritage Dictionary* - [Cite This Source](#) - [Share This](#)

**soul**  (sōl) [Pronunciation Key](#)

n.

1. The animating and vital principle in humans, credited with the faculties of thought, action, and emotion and often conceived as an immaterial entity.
2. The spiritual nature of humans, regarded as immortal, separable from the body at death, and susceptible to happiness or misery in a future state.
3. The disembodied spirit of a dead human.
4. A human: *"the homes of some nine hundred souls"* (Garrison Keillor).
5. The central or integral part; the vital core: *"It saddens me that this network ... may lose its soul, which is after all the quest for news"* (Marvin Kalb).
6. A person considered as the perfect embodiment of an intangible quality; a personification: *I am the very soul of discretion.*
7. A person's emotional or moral nature: *"An actor is ... often a soul which wishes to reveal itself to the world but dare not"* (Alec Guinness).
8. A sense of ethnic pride among Black people and especially African Americans, expressed in areas such as language, social customs, religion, and music.
9. A strong, deeply

B. Look up in Strong's. Use these verses: Gen. 35:18, Deut. 4:9, Matt. 16:26.

**Gen. 35:18, Deut. 4:9 = nephesh <05315>.**

In AV: soul 475, life 117, person 29, mind 15, heart 15, creature 9, body 8, himself 8, yourselves 6, dead 5, will 4, desire 4, man 3, themselves 3, any 3, appetite 2, misc 47

Count: 753

Definition: 1) soul, self, life, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being, desire, emotion, passion  
1a) that which breathes, the breathing substance or being, soul, the inner being of man  
1b) living being  
1c) living being (with life in the blood)  
1d) the man himself, self, person or individual  
1e) seat of the appetites

- 1f) seat of emotions and passions
- 1g) activity of mind
- 1g1) dubious
- 1h) activity of the will
- 1h1) dubious
- 1i) activity of the character
- 1i1) dubious

**Mat. 16:26 = psuche <5590>**

In AV: soul 58, life 40, mind 3, heart 1, heartily + [1537](#) 1, soul 58, life 40, mind 3, heart 1, heartily + [1537](#) 1, not tr 2

Count: 105

Definition: 1) breath

1a) the breath of life

1a1) the vital force which animates the body and shows itself in breathing

1a1a) of animals

1a1b) of men

1b) life

1c) that in which there is life

1c1) a living being, a living soul

2) the soul

2a) the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, soul etc.)

2b) the (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life

2c) the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)

**III. Verses. Read the following verses and supply a synonym for how the word “soul” is being used. (289 occurrences).**

1. Genesis 2:7 (KJV) – “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living **soul**.” {life } What is the Strong's number for word “**soul**” = 5315.
2. Gen. 2:19 – “Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, {life } that was its name.” What is the Strong's number for word “creature” 5315?
3. Gen. 34:8 – “But Hamor spoke with them, saying, “The **soul** {heart, emotions, desires} of my son Shechem longs for your daughter; please give her to him in marriage.”
4. Gen. 35:18 – “It came about as her **soul** {eternal spirit} was departing (for she died), that she named him Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin.”
5. Lev. 26:11 – “ Moreover, I will make My dwelling among you, and My **soul**{will???} will not reject you.”
6. Matt. 10:28 – “Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the **soul** {eternal spirit}; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both **soul** and body in hell.”
7. Matt. 11:29 -- “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR **SOULS**{eternal spirit}.”

8. *Mark 14:34* – “And He said to them, “ My **soul** {center of emotions/passions}is deeply grieved to the point of death; remain here and keep watch.””
9. *Lk. 1:46* – “ And Mary said:” My **soul**{inner being} exalts the Lord,”
10. *Acts 2:41* – “So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand **souls**{eternal spirit}.”
11. Others: *Gen. 27:4* {seat of desires }, *Gen. 42:21* { seat of feelings }, *Gen. 49:6* { heart }, *Lev. 26:15* { desires/ heart }, *Lev. 26:16* {seat of feelings }, *Lev. 26:30* {seat of feelings }, *Lev. 26:43* { desires/heart }, *Deut. 4:9* , *Deut. 4:29* , *Deut. 6:5* , }*Deut. 10:12* { desires }, *Deut. 11:13* , *Deut. 11:18* , *Deut. 13:3* , *Deut. 13:6* ,*Deut. 26:16* , *Deut. 28:65* ,*Deut. 30:2* , *Deut. 30:6* ,*Deut. 30:10* ,*Josh. 22:5* , *Jud. 5:21* {seat of feelings}, *Matt. 12:18* { desires },*Matt. 16:26* { eternal spirit}, *Matt. 22:37* { desires },*Matt. 26:38* {seat of feelings }, *Mark 8:36* { eternal spirit}, *Mark 8:37* { eternal spirit}, *Mark 12:30* { desires }, *Lk. 2:35* {seat of feelings }, *Lk. 10:27* { desires }, *Lk. 12:19* { heart }, *Lk. 12:20* { eternal spirit}, *John 12:27* { seat of feelings }, *Acts 2:27* {eternal spirit}, *Acts 3:23* {desires}, *Acts 4:32* { desires }, *Acts 14:22* { heart }, *Acts 15:24* {seat of feelings}, *Rom. 2:9* {eternal spirit}, *1 Cor. 15:45* {life }, *2 Cor. 1:23* { seat of feelings }, *2 Cor. 12:15* {eternal spirit}, *1 Thess. 5:23* { desires }, *Heb. 4:12* { desires, } ,*Heb. 6:19* { desires/ heart }, *Heb. 10:38* { seat of feelings }.

## The Inner Man

### I. Objective: Understand what is the Inner Man.

### II. Verses ( Only NASV 3x, others 1x eph 3:16, asv = none). Read the following verses and list attributes of inner man based on context of passages.

- A. Rom. 7:22,25 – “*For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the **inner man***”. Characteristics = involves the mind in understanding i.e. concur, see vs 25 with my mind serving law of God, it involves the will to accept those things rationalize in the mind.
- B. 2 Cor. 4:16 -- “*Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our **inner man** is being renewed day by day.*” Characteristics = involves the spiritual i.e. not physical due to contrast with outer man, mental and involving will; being renewed how?? By the word of God, understand and accept, inner man going to be around eternally, vs 13 we believe, we speak, , things we know JC raise us up and faithful we will be with him, eternal vs. temporary.
- C. Eph. 3:16 – “*that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the **inner man***”. Characteristics = note similarities with 2 cor 4:16 we do not loose heart, internal involves the spirit of man, grant you riches -- not material but spiritual, strengthened thru HS ie. Word, again mind and will, and heart, Christ dwells there in the inner man, how? by faith, results being rooted and ground in love, able to comprehend to know, filled up with knowledge, His power works in us.

### III. What is it? Based on above, define the “inner man”.

- A. It is the part of man within. It includes the will of man, the heart of man, the mind of man, the soul of man.

## The Conscience

### I. Objectives: Understand what is the Conscience and how it can be affected.

### II. Definition.

- A. Read Rom. 2:14-15, 9:1 and in your own words provide a definition. Rom. 2:14- 15 – “*For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their **conscience** bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,*”. Rom. 9:1 “*I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my **conscience** testifies with me in the Holy Spirit,*”. A part of the inner man (created by God) declares or makes a statement that something is ok ( defending) or something is not ok (accusing).
1. Notes: Work = **Conscience** very focused, rom 2:15 good definition, Greek words very narrow not a lot of variation like other words studied so far, interesting no words in OT, in NT usage centered our liberties in Cor. and Pauls letters to timothy.
  2. Notes Rom. 2:14-15 -- Notes: Suggest not 2 things but 1 (heart, **conscience**) but an explanation of how the law written in their hearts, ie. The **conscience**. Key verse show the function accuses or defends. Note word instinctly – put their by God,

### III. Characteristics of the Conscience. Read the following verses and provide characteristics of the conscience.

- A. Acts 23:1 – “Paul, looking intently at the Council, said, “ Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good **conscience** before God up to this day.” Shows a **conscience** can be good == does not accuse one of wrong. In the case of Paul, show the **conscience** can be wrong i.e. persecuted the Christians.
- B. Acts 24:16 – “In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless **conscience** both before God and before men.” Blameless. See comments above. **Conscience** is concerned about interactions between God and man.
- C. Rom.13:5 – “Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for **conscience**’ sake.” Our **conscience** should tell us to obey civil authorities.
- D. 1 Cor. 8:7,10,12 -- vs. 7 “However not all men have this knowledge; but some, being accustomed to the idol until now, eat food as if it were sacrificed to an idol; and their **conscience** being weak is defiled.” vs. 10 “For if someone sees you, who have knowledge, dining in an idol’s temple, will not his **conscience**, if he is weak, be strengthened to eat things sacrificed to idols?” vs. 12 “And so, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their **conscience** when it is weak, you sin against Christ.” **Conscience** can be weak? How?? Knowledge – food comes from God, food not commend us to God eating food has nothing to do with pleasing him in regard to subject at hand, note overlain principle knowledge makes arrogant but love edifies. These verses show that our **conscience** can be wrong because of lack of knowledge i.e. scriptural truth. So it is important to have our **conscience** grounded in truth
- E. 1 Cor. 10:25,27-29 --vs. 25 “Eat anything that is sold in the meat market without asking questions for **conscience**’ sake”. Vs. 27-29 “If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that is set before you without asking questions for **conscience**’ sake.” But if anyone says to you, “This is meat sacrificed to idols,” do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for **conscience**’ sake;” “I mean not your own **conscience**, but the other man’s; for why is my freedom judged by another’s **conscience**?”” Subject flee idolatry, vs 14 eat meat ok if doesn’t bother you. However, if a persons does bother, do not eat. v29 my freedom is judged by another’s **conscience**, why? Go end of chapter, because JC died for that man. **Conscience** could say ok for a given matter, on same matter may not be ok if offends another
- F. 2 Cor. 1:12 “For our proud confidence is this: the testimony of our **conscience**, that in holiness and godly sincerity, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you.” **conscience** testifies – we have conducted ourselves in holiness & godly sincerity.
- G. 2 Cor. 4:2 – “but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man’s **conscience** in the sight of God.” asking brethren to look at Pauls work in preaching gospel that they have done in accordance with Word of God, asking them to look at their **conscience** to judge them.
- H. 1 Tim. 1:5 -- “But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good **conscience** and a sincere faith.” have good and bad **conscience**.
- I. 1 Tim. 1:19 – “keeping faith and a good **conscience**, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.” bad **conscience** can lead to ruin.
- J. 1 Tim.3:9 – “but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear **conscience**.” see its function, clear = not impugning guilt or wrong doing.
- K. 1 Tim.4:2 – “by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own **conscience** as with a branding iron,”. **conscience** can be ruined
- L. 2 Tim.1:3 “I thank God, whom I serve with a clear **conscience** the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day,” clear **conscience**

- M. Tit. 1:15 – *“To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their **conscience** are defiled.”* can be defiled, 2 things mind & **conscience** (specific func), mind rationalize, reason, think through
- N. Heb. 9:9 – *“which is a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in **conscience**.”* can change ie from OT to NT understanding the foreshadowing of the tabernacle.
- O. Heb. 9:14 -- *“how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your **conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?”* **conscience** can be cleansed -- not done directly by God but through new information
- P. Heb. 10:22 – *“let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil **conscience** and our bodies washed with pure water.”* can be evil

Q.

## The Will of Man

### I. What is does the word “will” mean in context of our study?

- A. Look up in a dictionary. AHD = 1. The mental faculty by which one deliberately chooses or decides upon a course of action: championed freedom of will against a doctrine of predetermination. 2. The act of exercising the will. 3. Diligent purposefulness; determination: an athlete with the will to win. 4. Self-control; self-discipline: lacked the will to overcome the addiction.
- B. Read Ezra 10:11. According to this verse, how would you define **will**. *"Now therefore, make confession to the LORD God of your fathers and do His will; and separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the foreign wives."* Purpose, His commandments, KJV = his pleasure.
- C. Read John 7:17. According to this verse, how would you define **willing**. *"If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself."* Purpose, desire, intention. If you have available a Strong's Concordance, what does willing mean?  
2309= Definition: 1) to will, have in mind, intend, 1a) to be resolved or determined, to purpose, 1b) to desire, to wish, 1c) to love, c1) to like to do a thing, be fond of doing, 1d) to take delight in, have pleasure

## Love God with All Heart, Soul & Mind

### I. Objectives: Understand what this phrase means?

### II. Read the following verses: Matt. 22:37, Mk. 12:30, Lk. 10:27, Deut. 6:5. Compare difference versions and determine context of passages.

- A. Matt. 22:37 – “*And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**.' ”* NASV. Other versions same words.
- B. Mk. 12:30 – “*AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **STRENGTH**.”* NASV. Other versions same words.
- C. Lk. 10:27 – “*”And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **STRENGTH**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”*” NASV. Other versions same words.
- D. Deut. 6:5 – “*You shall love the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **might**.”* NASV. Other versions same words.
- E. Compare NASV.
  - 1. Matt: H S Mind
  - 2. Mk: H S Mind Strength
  - 3. Lk: H S Strength Mind
  - 4. Deut: H S Might.
- F. Context.
  - 1. Matt. & Mk. : 35 One of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him. 36“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” JC Being Tested (vs 15,35). Just before parable of Marriage Feast, also parable of vinegrowers in Mk 12. 12(F)And they were seeking to seize Him, and yet they feared the people, for they understood that He spoke the parable against them And so (G)they left Him and went away.
  - 2. Lk.: In Luke a different occasion, 25And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 26And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?"
  - 3. Deut.: : chap 5 restatement of 10 commandments, chap 6 commandments God teach you, ye might do them, keep all of them,teach them to your children.

### III. What do the words (Heart, Soul and Mind) or phrase mean?

- A. Considering our previous study of these words, what are possible meanings of each word?



1. Heart=seat of emotions, feelings, desire, trust, integrity, penitent or impenitent.
  2. Soul = heart, emotions, desires, (not eternal spirit), will, inner being.
  3. Mind=intellect, thoughts, rational, will.
- B. From the context of these passages and how these words are used in the Bible, can we distinguish differences? Very gray, some words overlap in meaning. Difficult to get clear distinctions.
- C. Read the following passages: Eph. 5:19 and Acts 2:22. Are these similarities to our particular study. 5:19 psalms, hymns, spiritual songs – shades of difference the point is songs of praise and thanksgiving from being filled with the Spirit, vs. 18. 2:22 signs, miracles and wonders. All supernatural events. A little more distinction: signs => pointers, miracles => supernatural events, wonders => awe.
- D. Is it possible, a figure of speech is being employed here? Is so, what would be its meaning?
- Bullinger, Fig of S., p. 331, has Mk 12:30 listed under “synonymia.” Def. = In rhetoric, Synonymia (Greek: syn, "alike" + onoma, "name") is the use of several synonyms together to amplify or explain a given subject or term.

## **In the Image of God**

### **I. Objectives: Understand how mankind is created in the Image of God and the Resultant Implications.**

#### **II. Introduction.**

A. Who is created in God's image? What about evil men? All mankind created "in His Image".

1. Use illustration: children, Christians, non-Christians, evil men.
2. Gen. 1:27: *"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."*

B. What does the words image or likeness mean? The Words: Image and likeness.

1. Image = Strong's 06754: 2. image, likeness ( of resemblance).
2. Likeness = Strong's 01819: 1. likeness, similitude adv, 2. in the likeness of, like as.
3. The words in and of themselves do not provide any additional information. Other passages must to be used to ascertain.
4. There is no single scripture that provides the answer.

C. Logical Approach to determine meaning.

1. Ways Not Created in His Image.
2. Note remaining inherent characteristics.
3. If God possesses these characteristics, then these were obtained from Him when we were created.

D. Outline

1. Ways not Created in God's Image.
2. Ways we are created in His Image.
3. Implications.

### **III. Ways not Created in His Image.**

A. Read verses John 4:24, Lk. 24:39, Heb. 10:5, Rom. 1:22-23. What do these verses tell us about how our image is different from God's? Not Physical.

1. God is a Spirit and does not have human physical attributes
  - a. John 4:24: *"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*
  - b. Luke 24:39: *"See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."*

- c. Hebrews 10:5: *"Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says," SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME".*
- d. Romans 1:22-23: *"Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.*
- e. Other verses (do not cover)
  - 1) Philippians 2:7: *"but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men."*
  - 2) Deuteronomy 4:15: *"So watch yourselves carefully, since you did not see any form on the day the LORD spoke to you at Horeb from the midst of the fire,".*

B. Read verses Rom. 3:23, Gen. 9:6, Jam. 3:9. What do these verses tell us about how our image is different from God's? Not in Character.

- 1. Men are free moral agents and have the capability to not sin. However, as Rom. 3:23 states *"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"*. So our character is not pure but that is our choice. Whereas God is pure and without sin.
- 2. In Gen. 9:6, we are not to murder another person because we are made in the image of God. Sinners character is certainly not in the image of God's character. Genesis 9:6: *"Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man."*
- 3. Similarly, the same point can be made in Jas. 3:9. We are not to curse because we are made in the image of God. James 3:9: *"With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God;"*

C. Read verse Gen. 1:26. What do this verse tell us about how our image is different from God's? Not in Dominion and Power.

- 1. God has given man dominion over the earth. In Genesis 1:26: *"...rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."* Here the dominion has been given to man from God. Whereas God's dominion is over the entire universe. It is not delegated but inherent.
- 2. It is obvious mankind has limited power whereas God's power is omnipotent.

#### **IV. Ways Are Created in His Image. (Spiritual).**

A. Read versus Zech. 12:1, Ecl. 12:7, Lk. 20:34-36, 2 Cor. 4:16-18. What do these verses tell us about how our image is the same as God's? Eternal Spirit.

- 1. Man has a dual nature. He has a body of flesh. He has a spirit in the body.

2. Zechariah 12:1: *“The burden of the word of the LORD concerning Israel. Thus declares the LORD who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him,”.*
3. Ecclesiastes 12:7: *“then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.”*
4. Luke 20:34-36: *“Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; for they cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.”*
5. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18: *“Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”*
6. Other passages. Do not cover.
  - a. Acts 17:29: *“not to think ...divine nature like an image formed by man.”*
  - b. Heb. 12:9: *“Father of our spirits”.*
  - c. I Cor. 2:11: *” know the thoughts of man”.*
  - d. Jam. 2:26: *” body with the spirit is dead”.*
  - e. John 6:63: *” it is the spirit who give life”.*
  - f. Gen. 35:18: *“ her should was departing”.*
  - g. I Ki. 17:21-22: *“let this child's soul come into him again.”*
  - h. Lk. 8:55: *” and her spirit returned”.*
  - i. Matt. 27:50: *” Jesus ... yielded up His spirit”.*
  - j. Lk. 23:46: *“Father ... I commit my spirit”.*
  - k. Acts. 7:59: *“Father ... I commit my spirit”..*
  - l. Matt. 10:28: *“Fear him who is able to destroy soul and body”.*
  - m. II Cor. 4:16-5:9: *“ inner man is being renewed.”*
  - n. II Pet. 1:13-15: *“I am ... laying aside my earthly dwelling”.*
  - o. II Cor. 12:2-4: *“whether in the body or out of the body”.*
  - p. I Pet. 3:3-4: *“gentle and quiet spirit”.*
  - q. Matt. 22:23-33: *“I am God of Abraham.”*
  - r. Rom. 14:9: *“ Lord of dead and living.”*
  - s. II Cor. 5:1: *“we have a building .. eternal”.*
  - t. Phil. 1:21-24: *“ desire to depart and be with Christ.”*
  - u. Lk. 16:19-31, Rev. 6:9-10, Matt. 17:1-6.

B. Read verses Rom. 2:14-15. What do these verses tell us about how our image is the same as God's? Moral Sense of Right.

1. God has placed in each human a law or moral sense of right.

2. Romans 2:14-15: *“For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,”*.
  3. Other versions: instinctively NASV, by nature KJV, NIV.
  4. Our consciousness accuses or defends our actions. We receive this from God. God has a moral sense of right. There is no sin or evil thoughts in God.
  5. Our conscious can be lead astray by our actions or influenced by others.
- C. Read verses Matt. 15:32, Lk. 7:13. What do these verses tell us about how our image is the same as God’s? Compassion for our fellow man.
1. We see this attribute in mankind. Give examples: a child hurt outside, Sept 11 incident.
  2. Examples of God’s compassion.
    - a. Matt. 15:32: *“ And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, I feel compassion for the people, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.”*
    - b. Lk. 7:13: *“When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her, and said to her, “Do not weep.””*
    - c. Others (do not cover): Matt. 14:14, 20:34, Mk. 1:41, Lk. 10:33.
    - d. Consider Gods instruction throughout the Bible about remembering/ assisting the widows and orphans.
- D. List some attributes of man that are different from the animal kingdom. Where did these attributes come from? Capacity of Rational Thought vs. Animal Kingdom.
1. Conceive of God.
  2. Accumulate knowledge.
  3. Read the Bible and understand God’s will.
  4. Build machines.
  5. Free will to choose.

## V. Implications.

- A. Since we have an Eternal Spirit, what are the implications?
1. Spend time and energy to place JC first in order that our spirit may dwell in happiness and enjoyment for eternity.
  2. Solomon best described our earthly pursuits: “Vanity of vanities”.
- B. Since we have a Moral Sense, what should do with this attribute. Read verses I Tim. 2:3-4, I Cor. 15:58, Eph. 4:11-14.

1. Should direct us to God's Word to have our conscious grounded in truth. That is God's desire. 1 Timothy 2:3-4: *"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."*
  2. Be faithful always abounding in the work of the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58: *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."*
  3. Be Thankful for Bible, local churches, evangelists, elders, teachers. Ephesians 4:11-14: *"And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming".*
- C. Since we have compassion for our fellow man, what should we do? Read Ex. 22:22, Jam. 1:27.
1. Love our Neighbor. Seek their welfare both physical and spiritual.
  2. Assist the needy: orphans + widows. Duty grows out of relationship on being a neighbor.
    - a. Exodus 22:22: *" You shall not afflict any widow or orphan."*
    - b. James 1:27: *"Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world".*
- D. Since we have Mental Capacity, what should we do with it? Read 2 Pet. 3:18.
1. Grow in knowledge. 2 Peter 3:18: *" but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."* Notice how the Bible was written. Not like a cookbook. Written for us to study, meditate and make logical conclusions.
  2. Study our Bible. God could have zapped us with knowledge. He could have had the HS give us direct revelation and understanding. But He did not. In fact, to study is commanded and necessary for our faithfulness.

## **Attitudes of God**

### **I. Objectives -- Understand and Appreciate the Attitudes of Our God Whom We Serve.**

### **II. Attitudes.**

- A. Read Phil. 2:5 in NASV, check other versions. What is setting of verse? What kind of attitude did Christ have? Is this commanded? Our Theme Verse = Phil, 2:5 -- “Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.” ASV=mind, KJV,NKJV=mind , NIV=same. Background of verse. Chap 1:27 conduct yourselves in manner worthy of gospel. Going to suffer for JC sake because of opposition. Therefore in 2:1 have same love, mind, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Answer of what kind of attitude = lookout for interests of others. Use Christ as example to show this explicitly in that (vs. 6-7) became man, suffered and died.
- B. In the Creation Account as recorded in Gen. 1, there are several statements (1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21,25,31) of “it was good” “it was very good”. Please read and answer these questions. Good for who? For God? Does God need to create a sun for himself? No it was good for man. Why did God do this for man? It was because of his love for man.
- C. List physical things that God has provided man through the Creation? What kind of attitude does this display about God different from Question B? God has provided so many things for man (physical only). Our existence, our image, our purpose, way to sustain ourselves, bodies and all the processes that go on – sleep, defense, digestion, our minds, blood, breath, family, sexual, companionship, our nation, infants, oxygen, water, planets/stars in order.. Show Gods providential attitude. Sinful things that man does generally results in physical problems – so may not do them.
- D. List the spiritual things God has provided for man? redemption, Christ, prayer, brethren, Word of God, does not allow us to be tempted beyond what we are capable. Read Eph.chap. 1, esp. look at 1:3. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”. Also read 1:20, 2:6, 3:10, 6:12. Blessed us with all spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. What does “heavenly places” mean? Highly exalted state. Note places added by translators. Can’t be heaven since we have these blessings on earth. Also 6:12 show it is not heaven.
- E. Examine the table below on the five sacrifices/offerings that the Israelites were required to offer as discussed in Deut. 1-7. What does tells about how God’s attitude toward sin? Very serious and required a tremendous burden on the Israelites for redemption.

Yet all this still could not remit sins – it was a foreshadow of Christ sacrifice. Read Heb. 9-10 ??? showing what was required for true redemption? Again what does this show us about God's attitude toward sin.

<u>Offering</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Summary of Offering</u>
Burnt	Ch. 1	atonement for sin (v4)	Cattle, herd or flock: male w/o defect.
Grain	Ch. 2	memorial of "soothing aroma to Lord" (v9)	Fine Flour or unleavened cake.
Peace	Ch. 3	peace between God & Man--"for soothing aroma to Lord" (v5)	Male or female from cattle, herd or flock: w/o defect.
Sin	Ch. 4	atonement for unintentional sins & sins committed by the priests (2-3)	Bull w/o defect.
Guilt	5:1-6:7	atonement for sins of guilt (v1)	Female from herd or flock.

- F. Read Ex. 25:21, 26:34, Deut. 13:17 about the mercy seat in Holy of Holies. What was the purpose of the mercy seat? Shows God has mercy and compassion in order to turn from His burning anger of judgment as High Priest made intercession for the people. Read the following verses: Josh. 11:20, Ps. 6, Rom. 9:15-16, Eph. 2:4, Heb. 4:16, 9:5, I Pet 1:3, 2:10. What attitude does God display from these verses? Mercy/compassion.
- G. Read Gen. 6:6-7 and I Chron 21:15???. What attitude does God display from these verses? Sorrow.
- H. Pick 4 verses from the following list and read. What attitude does God display from these verses? Deut. 13:17, 9:7, 2 Ki. 22:17, 2 Chron. 24:18, 34:25, Ezra 5:12, Isa. 51:20, Jer. 7:20, John 3:36, Rom. 1:18, 3:5, 5:9, Eph. 5:6, I Thes. 5:9, Rev. 16:19, Heb. 10:24-31. Some of these verses in the Old Testament deal with what issue that is addressed in the first 3 of the 10 Commandments. What is that issue? Wrath/Judgement. Serve God only – no idols.
- I. Read Ex. 15:24, 16:2,7,8, 17:3. What attitude does God display from these verses? Forbearance/patience.
- J. Read Rev. 3:14-16, 2 Pet. 3:17-18, Heb. 5:12-14, Eph. 4:12-13. What attitude does God display from these verses toward His people? High expectations. Laodocia -- luke warm -- unacceptable. Grow in grace of knowledge, Just babes by this time ought to be teachers. Grow up to the stature of JC, Eph 4.
- K. Read Luke 15:10-32, Heb. 12:2. What attitude does God display from these verses? Joy/happiness -- sinner restored, prodigal son, JC had joy when going to the cross recognizing the redemption brought to mankind.



## Attitudes of Key People in Bible

### I. Objectives -- Understand the Attitudes of Key People in Bible to Motivate Us to Greater Service.

#### II. Noah

A. Read the following verses about Noah and answer the following questions. Gen. 6:8-9, 22, 7:1, 5, Heb. 11:7, 2 Pet. 2:5.

1.

2.

3. Verses.

- a. Gen. 6:8-9, 22 -- “But **Noah** found favor in the eyes of the LORD. These are the records of the generations of **Noah**. **Noah** was a righteous man, blameless in his time; **Noah** walked with God.” Vs. 22 “Thus **Noah** did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.”
- b. Gen. 7:1,5 -- “Then the LORD said to **Noah**, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time.” “**Noah** did according to all that the LORD had commanded him.”
- c. Heb. 11:7 -- “By faith **Noah**, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”
- d. 2 Pet. 2:5 -- “and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved **Noah**, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly.”

B. Questions.

- a. Why did Noah find favor with the Lord? He was righteous, blameless in his time.
- b. What does it mean when it says “Noah walked with God”? He lived his life following God’s precepts.
- c. How long did it take Noah to build the Ark? 100 yrs. What was he doing during this time beside building the ark? Blameless, preaching to the people about the impending flood.

- d. Who condemned the world in Heb. 11:7? Noah.
- e. List the attitudes that Noah possessed. Blameless-- righteous, reverent toward God, patient, steadfast, love for fellow man.

### III. Abraham

- A. Read the following verses about Abraham and answer the following questions: a. Gen. 17:2, b. Gen. 18:22-23, 27, d. Gen. 21:22, e. Gen. 22:1, 3, 6-11, f. Gen. 22:14, g. Gen. 25:8, h. i. Ex. 3:6, j. Matt. 22:32, k. Rom. 4:3, l. Gal. 3:7-9, m. Heb. 11:8, 17, n. Jam. 2:21, 23.

#### 1. Verses.

- a. Gen. 17:2 – *“Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, ‘I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.’”*
- b. Gen. 18:22-23, 27 – *“Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, while **Abraham** was still standing before the LORD. Abraham came near and said, ‘Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Vs. 27 “And **Abraham** replied, ‘Now behold, I have ventured to speak to the Lord, although I am but dust and ashes.’”*
- c. Gen. 21:22 – *“Now it came about at that time that Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, spoke to **Abraham**, saying, ‘God is with you in all that you do;’”*
- d. Gen. 22:1, 3, 6-11 – *“Now it came about after these things, that God tested **Abraham**, and said to him, ‘**Abraham!**’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ Vs. 3 So **Abraham** rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Vs. 6-11 “Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac spoke to **Abraham** his father and said, ‘My father!’ And he said, ‘Here I am, my son.’ And he said, ‘Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?’ Abraham said, ‘God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.’ So the two of them walked on together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and **Abraham** built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to*

*slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."*

- e. Gen. 22:14 – *“Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "In the mount of the LORD it will be provided."*
- f. Gen. 25:8 – *“Abraham breathed his last and died in a ripe old age, an old man and satisfied with life; and he was gathered to his people.”*
- g. Ex. 3:6 -- *“He said also, " I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob " Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.”*
- h. Matt. 22:32 – *“' I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”*
- i. Rom. 4:3 – *“For what does the Scripture say? " ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.”*
- j. Gal. 3:7-9 – *“Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham.  
The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, " ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU."  
So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.”*
- k. Heb. 11:8, 17 – *“By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. Vs. 17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son;”*
- l. Jam. 2:21, 23 – *“Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? Vs. 23 “and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, " AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called the friend of God.”*

#### B. Questions.

- a. In Gen. 17:2, why should Abram in living his life continue to be blameless? God Almighty. Also, Abram was righteous before this – admonition to continue.

- b. In Gen. 18:22-23, 27, what are at least 2 attitudes that Abraham displays in these verses? Concerned for the righteous. Recognizes God position relative to his -- "I am dust & ashes".
- c. According to Gen. 21:22, what kind of influence did Abraham have on others? Since he walked with God, Abimelech and Phicol recognized God's backing of Abraham.
- d. In Gen. 22:1, 3, 6-11, Abraham said several times, "*Here I am.*" What is the significance of this statement and what kind of attitude does it display? A statement of willing to do service and displays such an attitude.
- e. What kind of attitude of Abraham is displayed in Gen. 22:14? Attitude of trust in God's providence.
- f. What does Gen. 25:8 state about how Abraham viewed his life? Consider this in view of the trials that Abraham went through. Satisfied with life even though told by God to leave his homeland and wander in the wilderness, childless until late in years, the testing of Isaac as a sacrifice.
- g. Read Ex. 3:6 and Matt. 22:32. God is referred to what in these verses. What does this say about Abraham? Show the intimate relationship between God and Abraham.
- h. Read Rom. 4:3, Gal. 3:7-9, Heb. 11:8,17, Jam. 2:21,23. How was Abraham justified? By Faith that was active to obey God – i.e. by faith and works. What kind of attitude did he display? Trust and Obedience.

#### IV. David

##### 1. Verses.

- a. I Sam. 17:26, 32, 37, 45-46 – *"Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, 'What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?'"* 32 *David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."* 37 *And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine"* And Saul said to David, "Go, and may the LORD be with you." 45 *Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. 46" This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your*

*head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel."*

- b. 1 Sam. 23:2,4, 9-10,12, 30:8, 2 Sam. 2:1, 5:19 – *"So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the LORD said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines and deliver Keilah." 4 Then David inquired of the LORD once more. And the LORD answered him and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines into your hand.""* 9-10 *Now David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him; so he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." Then David said, "O LORD God of Israel, Your servant has heard for certain that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah to destroy the city on my account. 12 Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?" And the LORD said, "They will surrender you." 30:8 David inquired of the LORD, saying, " Shall I pursue this band? Shall I overtake them?" And He said to him, "Pursue, for you will surely overtake them, and you will surely rescue all." 2 Sam. 2:1 "Then it came about afterwards that David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up to one of the cities of Judah?" And the LORD said to him, "Go up " So David said, "Where shall I go up?" And He said, " To Hebron." 5:19 "Then David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand."*
- c. Ps. 3:1, 4:1, 5:1, 8:1, 9:1 -- *"O LORD, how my adversaries have increased! Many are rising up against me. 4:1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Be gracious to me and hear my prayer. 5:1 Give ear to my words, O LORD, Consider my groaning. 8:1 O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens! 9:1 I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders.*
- d. 1 Sam. 24:4-5, 8, 17, 1 Sam. 26:8-10 – *"The men of **David** said to him, "Behold, this is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold; I am about to give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.'" Then **David** arose and cut off the edge of Saul's robe secretly. It came about afterward that **David**'s conscience bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul's robe. 8 "Now afterward **David** arose and went out of the cave and called after Saul, saying, "My lord the king!" And when Saul looked behind him, **David** bowed with his face to the ground and prostrated himself. 17 He said to **David**, "You are more righteous than I; for you have dealt well with me, while I have dealt wickedly with you. 1 Sam. 26:8-10 – "Then Abishai said to David, "Today God has delivered your enemy into your hand; now therefore,*

please let me strike him with the spear to the ground with one stroke, and I will not strike him the second time." But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him, for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD'S anointed and be without guilt?"

- e. 1 Samuel 25:32-33 – “Then David said to Abigail, " Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me, and blessed be your discernment, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodshed and from avenging myself by my own hand.”
- f. I Sam. 30:6 – “Moreover David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all the people were embittered, each one because of his sons and his daughters But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.”.
- g. II Sam. 9:1 – “Then **David** said, "Is there yet anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"”.
- h. II Sam. 12:13, 24:10 – “Then **David** said to Nathan, " I have sinned against the LORD " And Nathan said to **David**, "The LORD also has taken away your sin; you shall not die.” 24:10 “Now **David's** heart troubled him after he had numbered the people So **David** said to the LORD, " I have sinned greatly in what I have done But now, O LORD, please take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have acted very foolishly.”.
- i. Matt. 1:1, Lk. 1:69, Heb. 4:7, Acts 13:22 – “"After He had removed him, He raised up **David** to be their king, concerning whom He – “The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of **David**, the son of Abraham:”. 1:69 “And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of **David** His servant”. 4:7 “He again fixes a certain day, "Today," saying through **David** after so long a time just as has been said before," TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS." Acts 13:22 – “"After He had removed him, He raised up **David** to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ' I HAVE FOUND **DAVID** the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.”.

#### A. Questions.

- a. What phrase in I Sam. 17:26, 32, 37, 45-46 shows David’s attitude in fighting Goliath? “Lord will deliver” – absolute trust in the Lord. Do we have this type of attitude?
- b. What phrase occurs in 1 Sam. 23:2,4, 9-10,12, 30:8, 2 Sam. 2:1, 5:19 that shows another attitude of David? “David inquired of the Lord” What kind of attitude is it? Seeking to know the truth and follow it.

- c. In Ps. 3:1, 4:1, 5:1, 8:1, 9:1, what do these verses state about David's practice and what does it indicate about his character? Prayerful man who went to prayer for many different reasons (petition, praise, thanksgiving, etc). It shows how important prayer was to this man.
- d. In I Sam. 24:4-5, 8, 17, what do these verses say about how David viewed authority? Conscience bothered him because he cut off edge of Saul's robe -- has respect for authority -- even though Saul was unrighteous toward David. In second set of verses, still considered Saul as Lord's anointed in which he was.
- e. What attitude is displayed in the story about David and Abigail in 1 Samuel 25:32-33? Humbleness, willing to listen to others no matter status in life.
- f. In Sam. 30:6, what attitude is shown here about David? Do we display similar attitude in times of trial? Seek God's help in strengthening himself.
- g. What kind of attitude is shown in II Sam. 9:1? Kindness
- h. What kind of attitude is shown in II Sam. 12:13, 24:10? Penitent. Do we have the same attitude when we sin?
- i. Note in Matt. 1:1, Lk. 1:69, Heb. 4:7, Acts 13:22 how David becomes a key figure referred to in New Testament based on his character and no doubt the promise made to him about his kingdom.

## V. Daniel

### 1. Verses.

- a. Dan. 1:8– *“But **Daniel** made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.”*
- b. Dan. 2:14 – *“Then **Daniel** replied with discretion and discernment to Arioch, the captain of the king's bodyguard, who had gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon.”*
- c. Dan. 2:19-20 – *“Then the mystery was revealed to **Daniel** in a night vision. Then **Daniel** blessed the God of heaven **Daniel** said, 'Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, For wisdom and power belong to Him.’”*
- d. Dan. 4:19 – *“Then **Daniel**, whose name is Belteshazzar, was appalled for a while as his thoughts alarmed him The king responded and said, 'Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation alarm you ' Belteshazzar replied, ' My lord, if only the dream applied to those who hate you and its interpretation to your adversaries!’”*

- e. Dan. 6:4,10, 16, 21, 23 – *“Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against **Daniel** in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him.”* 10 Now when **Daniel** knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously. 16 Then the king gave orders, and **Daniel** was brought in and cast into the lions' den The king spoke and said to **Daniel**, " Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver you." 21 Then **Daniel** spoke to the king, " O king, live forever! 23 Then the king was very pleased and gave orders for **Daniel** to be taken up out of the den. So **Daniel** was taken up out of the den and no injury whatever was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.
- f. Dan. 10:12 – *“Then he said to me, " Do not be afraid, **Daniel**, for from the first day that you set your heart on understanding this and on humbling yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to your words.”*

#### A. Questions.

- a. In Dan. 1:8, Daniel displays 2 different attitudes. What are they? Made a choice to do God's will. Respect for governing authorities to allow an exception for his food.
- b. In Dan. 2:14, the scripture states Daniel exercised discretion and discernment. Please look up definitions in dictionary. Do we possess these characteristics in our Christian lives? **dis·cre·tion** = 1 The quality of being discreet; circumspection .2. Ability or power to decide responsibly. 3. Freedom to act or judge on one's own. **dis·cern·ment** =1. The act or process of exhibiting keen insight and good judgment. 2. Keeness of insight and judgment.
- c. What attitude does Daniel show toward King Nebuchadnezzar in Dan. 4:19? Concerned about his welfare even though of his unrighteousness.
- d. In the story of Daniel and the lion's den (Dan. 6:4,10, 16, 21, 23), there are at least 7 attitudes shown by Daniel. What are they? Honest and upright in his duties, diligent in his duties, obedient to God even in the midst of persecution and losing his life, trusted in God, constantly served God, influenced others with his faith.
- e. What attitudes does Daniel show in Dan. 10:12? Obedient to God from the beginning, steadfast, humbling himself before God.



## VI. Josiah

### 1. Verses.

- a. 2 Ki. 22:1,3-5 – “**Josiah** was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.” 3-5 “Now in the eighteenth year of King **Josiah**, the king sent Shaphan, the son of Azaliah the son of Meshullam the scribe, to the house of the LORD saying “Go up to Hilkiah the high priest that he may count the money brought in to the house of the LORD which the doorkeepers have gathered from the people. Let them deliver it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD, and let them give it to the workmen who are in the house of the LORD to repair the damages of the house”.
- b. 2 Ki. 23:4, 19, 23-24 – “Then the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the doorkeepers, to bring out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven; and he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel”. 19 “**Josiah** also removed all the houses of the high places which were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made provoking the LORD; and he did to them just as he had done in Bethel. 23-24 “But in the eighteenth year of King **Josiah**, this Passover was observed to the LORD in Jerusalem. Moreover, **Josiah** removed the mediums and the spiritists and the teraphim and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might confirm the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.”
- c. 2 Chron. 34:31, 33 – “Then the king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD to walk after the LORD, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all his heart and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant written in this book”. 33 “**Josiah** removed all the abominations from all the lands belonging to the sons of Israel, and made all who were present in Israel to serve the LORD their God. Throughout his lifetime they did not turn from following the LORD God of their fathers.”
- d. 2 Chron. 35:16, 18, 26 – “So all the service of the LORD was prepared on that day to celebrate the Passover, and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD according to the command of King **Josiah**.”. 18 “There had not been celebrated a Passover like it in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet; nor had any of the kings of Israel celebrated such a Passover as **Josiah** did with the

*priests, the Levites, all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” 26 “Now the rest of the acts of **Josiah** and his deeds of devotion as written in the law of the LORD,”*

A. Questions.

- a. What attitude does **Josiah** display in 2 Ki. 22:1,3-5? Concern that the temple is in dis-repair and using his authority to get it fixed.
- b. When **Josiah** commands to have the idols removed in 2 Ki. 23:4, 19, 23-24, what attitudes does he display? Courage in the midst of the deep-rooted practice in worshiping idols. Reverence and obedience to follow God’s will.
- c. In 2 Chron. 34:31, 33, what kind of attitudes are shown in these verses? Faithful obedience and complete devotion to the Lord through his life. Do our Christian lives evidence such attitudes?
- d. **Josiah** resurrects Passover Worship in 2 Chron. 35:16, 18, 26. Note his devotion and action to implement this worship.

## **Brethren**

**I. Objectives: Show our responsibilities and attitudes we should have toward our Brethren.**

### **II. Who are our brethren?**

A. Term can have a wide meaning in the Bible.

1. Hebrew word for brethren in Old Testament. Strongs -- 251.
  - 1) brother
  - 1a) brother of same parents
  - 1b) half-brother (same father)
  - 1c) relative, kinship, same tribe
  - 1d) each to the other (reciprocal relationship)
  - 1e) (fig) of resemblance
2. Refer to Hebrews. Read Exodus 2:11. Who are the brethren? -- *"Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren."*
3. Refer to the Israelites. Read 1 Chron. 28:2. Who are the brethren?-- *"Then King David rose to his feet and said, 'Listen to me, my brethren and my people; I had intended to build a permanent home for the ark of the covenant of the LORD and for the footstool of our God. So I had made preparations to build it.'"*
4. Greek word for brethren in New Testament. Strong 80.

AV -- brother (346)

  - 1) a brother
  - 2) having the same national ancestor, belonging to the same people, or countryman
  - 3) any fellow or man
  - 4) a fellow believer, united to another by the bond of affection
  - 5) an associate in employment or office
  - 6) brethren in Christ.
5. The word brother and brethren is the same word both in the Hebrew and Greek. The translators have translated the brother normally when referring to brothers in a family.
6. Refer to the Jews even those who would do harm and injustice to God's ministers. Read Acts 23:1. Who are the brethren? *"Paul, looking intently at the Council, said, 'Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day.'"*
7. Christians. Read 1 Thess. 1:4. Who are the brethren? -- *"knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you."*

B. Use "Brethren" as Jesus defined it- disciples doing the will of the Father. Focus on our brethren here in the local church.

1. Read Matt. 12:48-50. -- *"But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, 'Who is My mother and who are My brothers?' And stretching out His hand toward His*

*disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers! "For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother."*

### III. Duties & Attitudes.

A. Love. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. Demonstration of our love is shown by Jesus commandment to his apostles. Love one another -- a new commandment. John 13:33-35 -- *"33 Little children, I am with you a little while longer You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*
2. We are to love our brethren and continue to excel more in our love.. I Thes. 4:9-10 -- *"9 Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; 10 for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more,"*
3. Heb. 13:1 -- *"Let love of the brethren continue."*
4. As our faith grows, so ought our love for the brethren. 2 Thess. 1:3 -- *"We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is only fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater;,"*
5. Our love for the brethren should be sincere and fervent. 1 Peter 1:22 -- *"Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the **heart**,"*
6. One of our tests of love concerns our brethren. These are tests to know if we are God's children. According to vs. 16, are we willing to lie down our life for our brethren? 1 John 3:14,16 -- *"14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death." "16 We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."*
7. Rom. 12:10 -- *"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;"*

B. Serve. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. This is work of the Spirit. Gal. 5:13 -- *"For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."*

2. Do not grow weary in our service. 2 Thess. 3:13 -- *"But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good."*

C. Rebuke / Admonish / Encourage. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. Gal. 6:1 -- *"Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted."*
2. James 5:19 -- *"My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back,"*
3. 1 Thess. 3:7 -- *"or this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith;"*
4. 1 Thess. 5:14 -- *"We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone."*
5. Jam. 5:9 -- *"Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door."*
6. Rom. 15:14 -- *"And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another."*

D. Greet one another. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. Kissing was a custom of that day of greeting one another. Greeting one another is more than a social contact. It is showing a genuine interest in the welfare of another and it set apart "holy" from other social greetings. Note it is a commandment and we need to greet **all brethren**.
2. 1 Thess. 5:26 -- *"Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss."*
3. 1 Cor. 16:20 -- *"All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss."*
4. 2 Cor. 13:12 -- *"Greet one another with a holy kiss."*
5. Rom. 16:16 -- *"Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you."*

E. Withdraw from the unruly. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. 2 Thess. 3:6 -- *"Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us."*
2. Rom. 16:17 -- *"Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them."*

F. Grow together toward unity of the Scriptures. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. 1 Cor. 1:10 -- *"Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment."*

G. Pray. What attitudes and practices should we have toward our brethren according to these verses? List key phrases and attributes associated with these instructions.

1. 1 Thess. 5:25 -- *"Brethren, pray for us ."*

## Rejoicing

**I. Objectives: To show that rejoicing in the Lord is commanded and it is for our benefit.**

### **II. What is rejoicing?**

#### **A. Look up definition in dictionary. NWCD**

**Rejoice = to give joy to; gladden**

#### **B. Use verse Phi. 3:1 and look up word in Strongs**

**5463** -- chairo -- a primary verb.

AV -- rejoice (42)

be glad (14)

joy (5)

hail (5)

greeting (3)

God speed (2)

all hail (1)

joyfully (1)

farewell (1) [74]

1a) to rejoice, be glad; to rejoice exceedingly

1b) to be well, thrive; in salutations, hail!; at the beginning of letters; to give one greeting, salute

### **III. It is commanded. Read the following verses. What should we rejoice in?**

#### **A. Phil. 3:1 -- *"Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you."***

1. We rejoice "in the Lord" or in connection with the Lord. Context determines the meaning. Vs. 9 We rejoice in the righteousness that we have through faith in Jesus Christ.

#### **B. Phil. 4:4 -- *"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"***

1. A new discussion from previous verse but again note "in the Lord". Vs. 1 has a conclusion word: therefore. His point is to stand firm in the midst of enemies of Christ (vs. 18), others who are not following Paul's example, and anxieties (5-7). Is rejoicing in the Lord a way to help us stand firm?

#### **C. 1 Thess. 5:16 -- *"Rejoice always"*.**

1. This Scripture is found in a section of many admonitions. Rejoicing should be an ongoing part of our Christian life just like prayer - pray without ceasing.

### **IV. Read the following verses. What should we rejoice in? The Joy of our Savior's Existence & Mission.**

- A. Luke 2:10-11 -- *"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'"*
  - 1. The angel proclaims to the shepherds the news of great joy about a Savior being born.
- B. Luke 24:52 -- *"And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy,"*
  - 1. After JC ascension into heaven, the apostles had great joy.
- C. John 15:11 -- *"These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full."*
  - 1. JC wanted His joy to be in his apostles so that their joy would be full. Evidently, this would be accomplished by them keeping His commandments which included abiding in love.
- D. Heb. 12:2 -- *"fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."*
  - 1. JC looked beyond His suffering /death on the cross to the joy that would be produced as a result of His death.
- E. 1 Pet. 1:8 -- *"and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,"*

**V. What attitudes should Christians have according to these verses? We as Christians should be filled with joy.**

- A. Gal. 5:22 -- *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,"*
  - 1. We are to walk by the spirit (vs16). A fruit or result of this walk is joy.
- B. Phil. 1:25 -- *"Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith,"*
  - 1. Paul was in a dilemma as far as personal desire. He wanted to be with the Lord but because of the brethren he wished to be with them to see their progress and joy in the faith.

**VI. What should cause joy in our hearts from these verses? Joy in hearing about others becoming Christians.**



**A.** Acts 15:3 -- *"Therefore, being sent on their way by the church, they were passing through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and were bringing great joy to all the brethren."*

1. Paul in his trip to Jerusalem was informing the brethren in transit about the Gentiles becoming Christians during his first journey. This provided great joy to the brethren.

**B.** Acts 13:52 -- *"And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit."*

1. In Antioch of Psidia, Paul turns to the Gentiles and preaches the Word of God. Many became converts and were very joyous.

**VII. Why should we be joyous according to these verses? Being faithful should produce joy on the behalf of many.**

**A.** Phil. 2:2 -- *"make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose."*

1. Paul tells the brethren in Philippi to make his joy complete by serving one another and united in faith.

**B.** Phil. 4:1 -- *"Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved."*

1. Note how proud Paul was of the church in Philippi.

**C.** Col. 1:11-12 -- *"11 strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light."*

1. We should have a thankful attitude, filled with joy because of our inheritance.

**D.** 1 Thess. 2:19-20 -- *"For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?" 20 "For you are our glory and joy."*

1. Paul states that the brethren in Thessalonica was his joy.

**E.** 1 Thess. 3:9 -- *"For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account, "*

1. Again, we see Paul's joy in the Church.

**F.** 2 Tim. 1:4 -- *"longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy."*

1. Paul would be filled with joy in seeing his son in the faith and fellow worker, Timothy.

**G.** 1 John 1:4 -- *"These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete."*

1. Apostle John wrote with an attitude of joy thinking about the benefit of his letter.

**H.** 2 John 1:12 -- *"Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be made full."*

1. Apostle John wanted to see the chosen lady and her children and his joy was based on them walking in truth (vs. 1,3).

**I.** 3 John 1:4 -- *"I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth. "*

1. The same was said of Gaius. Note both occasions of the word "walk".

**J.** 1 Thess. 3:9 -- *"For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account,"*

**VIII. Under what circumstances should we rejoice according to these verses? When We Suffer for the cause of Christ, we should rejoice.**

**A.** Phil. 2:18 -- *"You too, I urge you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me."*

**B.** Jam. 1:2 -- *"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,"*

**C.** James 4:9 -- *"Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom."*

**D.** 1 Pet. 4:13 -- *"but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation."*

**IX. What should we rejoice in according to this verse? We need to rejoice with our brethren on occasions of happiness.**

**A.** Rom. 12:15 -- *"Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep."*

## Thanksgiving

### **I. Objectives -- Understand and appreciation different reasons why we should give thanks to God.**

### **II. Things to give thanks for.**

A. Read Acts 27:35. What did this person give thanks for? Paul—food – in the presence of all.

a. Acts 27:35 – *“Having said this, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of all, and he broke it and began to eat.”*

B. Read Eph. 1:16, I Thes. 1:2-3, 3:9, 2 Thes. 2:13, Col. 1:3. What is the main item for which thanks is given? Brethren.

a. *Ephesians 1:16 – “do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers.”*

b. *2 Corinthians 1:11 – “you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.”*

c. *1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 – “We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers; We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is only fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater;”*

d. *2 Thessalonians 2:13 – “But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.”*

e. *Colossians 1:3 – “We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,”*

f. *1 Thessalonians 3:9 – “For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account.”*

C. Read 2 Cor. 9:11-12. What is the main item for which thanks is given? Contribution to help needy saints in Jerusalem.

- a. 2 Cor. 9:11-12 – *“you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God.”*

D. Read 2 Cor. 8:16. What is the main item for which thanks is given? Titus

- a. 2 Corinthians 8:16 – *“But thanks be to God who puts the same earnestness on your behalf in the heart of Titus.”*

### **III. Note How Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Creator gave thanks. What are the implications for us?**

- A. What are the occasions when Jesus Christ offered thanksgiving from these verses: Matt. 15:36, 26:27, John 6:11, I Cor. 11:24?? Feeding the people from few loaves and fish, Passover, Lord’s Supper.

1. Verses.

- a. Matthew 15:36 – *“and He took the seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke them and started giving them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.”*
- b. Matthew 26:27 – *“And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you;”*
- c. Mark 8:6 – *“And He directed the people to sit down on the ground; and taking the seven loaves, He gave thanks and broke them, and started giving them to His disciples to serve to them, and they served them to the people.”*
- d. Mark 14:23 – *“And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank from it.”*
- e. Luke 22:17 – *“And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, “Take this and share it among yourselves;”*
- f. Luke 22:19 – *“And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”*
- g. John 6:11 – *“Jesus then took the loaves, and having given thanks, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted.”*

- h. John 6:23 – *“There came other small boats from Tiberias near to the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks.”*
- i. 1 Corinthians 11:24 – *“and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”*

#### **IV. Psalms – a Book of Thanksgiving.**

B. Read 10 of the following verses in Psalms and meditate on them: 18:49, 30:4, 12, 33:2, 35:18, 44:8, 45:17, 52:9, 54:6, 57:9, 75:1, 79:13, 86:12, 92:1, 100:4, 105:1, 106:47, 107:1, 21, 31, 108:3, 109:30, 111:1, 118:19, 21, 28, 29, 119:7, 62, 122:4, 136:1, 2, 3, 26, 138:1, 2, 4, 139:14, 140:13, 142:7, 145:10.

##### **1. Verses.**

- a. Psalm 18:49 – *“Therefore I will give thanks to You among the nations, O LORD, And I will sing praises to Your name.”*
- b. Psalm 30:4 – *“Sing praise to the LORD, you His godly ones, And give thanks to His holy name.”*
- c. Psalm 30:12 – *“That my soul may sing praise to You and not be silent O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.”*
- d. Psalm 33:2 – *“Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.”*
- e. Psalm 35:18 – *“I will give You thanks in the great congregation; I will praise You among a mighty throng.”*
- f. Psalm 44:8 – *“In God we have boasted all day long, And we will give thanks to Your name forever. Selah.”*
- g. Psalm 45:17 – *“I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations; Therefore the peoples will give You thanks forever and ever.”*
- h. Psalm 52:9 – *“I will give You thanks forever, because You have done it, And I will wait on Your name, for it is good, in the presence of Your godly ones.”*
- i. Psalm 54:6 – *“Willingly I will sacrifice to You; I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.”*
- j. Psalm 57:9 – *“I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations.”*

- k. Psalm 75:1 – *“We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks, For Your name is near; Men declare Your wondrous.”*
- l. Psalm 79:13 – *“So we Your people and the sheep of Your pasture Will give thanks to You forever; To all generations we will tell of Your praise.”*
- m. Psalm 86:12 – *“I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And will glorify Your name forever.”*
- n. Psalm 92:1 – *“It is good to give thanks to the LORD And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;”*
- o. Psalm 97:12 – *“Be glad in the LORD, you righteous ones, And give thanks to His holy name.”*
- p. Psalm 100:4 – *“Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise Give thanks to Him, bless His name.”*
- q. Psalm 105:1 – *“Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples. Psalm 106:1 Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- r. Psalm 106:47 – *“Save us, O LORD our God, And gather us from among the nations, To give thanks to Your holy name And glory in Your praise.”*
- s. Psalm 107:1 – *“Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, For His lovingkindness is everlasting. Psalm 107:8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!”*
- t. Psalm 107:15 – *“Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!”*
- u. Psalm 107:21 – *“Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!”*
- v. Psalm 107:31 – *“Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, And for His wonders to the sons of men!”*
- w. Psalm 108:3 – *“I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations.”*
- x. Psalm 109:30 -- *“With my mouth I will give thanks abundantly to the LORD; And in the midst of many I will praise Him.”*
- y. Psalm 111:1 – *“Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart, In the company of the upright and in the assembly.”*

- z. Psalm 118:1 – *“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- aa. Psalm 118:19 – *“Open to me the gates of righteousness;I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the LORD.”*
- bb. Psalm 118:21 – *“I shall give thanks to You, for You have answered me,And You have become my salvation.”*
- cc. Psalm 118:28 – *“You are my God, and I give thanks to You;You are my God, I extol You.”*
- dd. Psalm 118:29 – *“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- ee. Psalm 119:7 – *“I shall give thanks to You with uprightness of heart,When I learn Your righteous judgments.”*
- ff. Psalm 119:62 – *“At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You Because of Your righteous ordinances.”*
- gg. Psalm 122:4 – *“To which the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD--An ordinance for Israel--To give thanks to the name of the LORD.”*
- hh. Psalm 136:1 – *“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- ii. Psalm 136:2 – *“Give thanks to the God of gods,For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- jj. Psalm 136:3 – *“Give thanks to the Lord of lords,For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- kk. Psalm 136:26 – *“Give thanks to the God of heaven,For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- ll. Psalm 138:1 – *“I will give You thanks with all my heart;I will sing praises to You before the gods.”*
- mm. Psalm 138:2 – *“I will bow down toward Your holy templeAnd give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth;For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name.”*
- nn. Psalm 138:4 – *“All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,When they have heard the words of Your mouth.”*

oo.Psalm 139:14 – *“I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works,And my soul knows it very well.”*

pp.Psalm 140:13 – *“Surely the righteous will give thanks to Your name;The upright will dwell in Your presence.”*

qq.Psalm 142:7 -- *"Bring my soul out of prison,So that I may give thanks to Your name;The righteous will surround me,For You will deal bountifully with me."*

rr.Psalm 145:10 – *“All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,And Your godly ones shall bless You.”*

## **V. One of the Duties of the Levitical Priests.**

- A. Read verses Lev. 7:12-13, 15, Neh. 11:17, 12:8, 12:27, 12:24, 12:46, 2 Chron. 31:2. Based on these verses, what were the Levitical Priests to do with regard to this subject.? Peace offerings were to be made with thanksgiving.??? In Nehemiah, note how the priests were to offer thanksgiving. Also, there were leaders of hymns of thanksgiving(Neh. 12:46). It was part of their duties.

### **1. Verses.**

- a. Leviticus 7:12-13, 15 – *“If he offers it by way of thanksgiving, then along with the sacrifice of thanksgiving he shall offer unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil, and cakes of well stirred fine flour mixed with oil. 13 With the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving, he shall present his offering with cakes of leavened bread. 15 Now as for the flesh of the sacrifice of his thanksgiving peace offerings, it shall be eaten on the day of his offering; he shall not leave any of it over until morning.”*
- b. Nehemiah 11:17 – *“and Mattaniah the son of Mica, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, who was the leader in beginning the thanksgiving at prayer, and Bakbukiah, the second among his brethren; and Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.”*
- c. Nehemiah 12:8 – *“The Levites were Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah who was in charge of the songs of thanksgiving, he and his brothers.”*
- d. Nehemiah 12:27 – *“Now at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought out the Levites from all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem so that they might celebrate the dedication with gladness, with hymns of thanksgiving and with songs to the accompaniment of cymbals, harps and lyres.”*



- e. Nehemiah 12:46 – *“For in the days of David and Asaph, in ancient times, there were leaders of the singers, songs of praise and hymns of thanksgiving to God.”*
- f. 2 Chronicles 31:2 – *“And Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and the Levites by their divisions, each according to his service, both the priests and the Levites, for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister and to give thanks and to praise in the gates of the camp of the LORD.”*
- g. Nehemiah 12:24 – *“The heads of the Levites were Hashabiah, Sherebiah and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brothers opposite them, to praise and give thanks, as prescribed by David the man of God, division corresponding to division.”*

## **VI. It is the will of God, important to avoid apostacy, part of armor of God.**

A. According to Col. 4:2 and Eph. 6:18, what kind of attitude should we have when praying? Devote ourselves to prayer with thanksgiving.

1. Verses.

- a. Colossians 4:2 -- *“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;”*
- b. Eph. 6:18 -- *“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,”*

B. According to Rom. 1:21, what 2 things lead to apostacy? Did not honor God as the creator and did not give thanks to God.

- a. Romans 1:21 – *“For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”*

C. What is sin? Transgression of God’s will. What are we commanded to do in I Thess. 5:18, Eph. 5:20, Col. 3:17?

- a.
- b. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 – *“in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

- c. Ephesians 5:20 – *“always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;”*
- d. Colossians 3:17 – *“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”*

## **VII. For the creation and His deeds done.**

- A. Read I Chron. 16:8, Ps. 9:1, 26:7, 107:22, Is. 12:4, 25:1. What do these verses say about what to give thanks for? God’s deeds, works, wonders, creation.
- B. Read Lk 17:16. What did the Samaritan give thanks for? Being healed from leprosy. Do we give attention to thanking God when our Brethren or even ourselves recover from serious illness or operations?
  - 1. Verses.
    - a. 1 Chronicles 16:8 – *“Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples.”*
    - b. Psalm 9:1 – *“I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders.”*
    - c. Psalm 26:7 – *“That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving And declare all Your wonders.”*
    - d. Psalm 107:22 – *“Let them also offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, And tell of His works with joyful singing.”*
    - e. Isaiah 12:4 – *“And in that day you will say, “ Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name Make known His deeds among the peoples; Make them remember that His name is exalted.””*
    - f. Isaiah 25:1 – *“O LORD, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; For You have worked wonders, Plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.”*
    - g. Luke 17:16 – *“and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan.”*

## **VIII. For his loving kindness, mercy**

A. Read Is. 12:1, 51:3, I Chron. 16:34, Ez. 3:11. Note God's lovingkindness and mercy.

1. Verses.

- a. Isaiah 12:1 – *"Then you will say on that day," I will give thanks to You, O LORD; For although You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, And You comfort me."*
- b. Isaiah 51:3 – *"Indeed, the LORD will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places And her wilderness He will make like Eden, And her desert like the garden of the LORD; Joy and gladness will be found in her, Thanksgiving and sound of a melody."*
- c. 1 Chronicles 16:34 – *"O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting."*
- d. Ezra 3:11 – *"They sang, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, saying, 'For He is good, for His lovingkindness is upon Israel forever.' And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid."*

## **IX. Worship, praise.**

A. Read Heb. 13:15 and 6 of the following verses: Ps. 42:4, 50:14, 69:30, 95:2, 100:1, 4, 116:17, 118:1, 138:1, 147:7, Jer. 17:26, 2 Sam. 22:50, Dan. 6:10. What in the Old Testament was part of worship? Giving thanks. What should be a part of our worship today? same

1. Verses.

- a. Psalm 42:4 – *"These things I remember and I pour out my soul within me For I used to go along with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God, With the voice of joy and thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival."*
- b. Psalm 50:14 -- *"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving And pay your vows to the Most High."*
- c. Psalm 69:30 – *"I will praise the name of God with song And magnify Him with thanksgiving."*
- d. Psalm 95:2 – *"Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms."*

- e. Psalm 100:1 – *“Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.”*
- f. Psalm 100:4 – *“Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise Give thanks to Him, bless His name.”*
- g. Psalm 116:17 – *“To You I shall offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving, And call upon the name of the LORD.”*
- h. Psalm 118:1 – *“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.”*
- i. Psalm 138:1 – *“I will give You thanks with all my heart; I will sing praises to You before the gods.”*
- j. Psalm 147:7 – *“Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises to our God on the lyre”.*
- k. Jeremiah 17:26 -- *“They will come in from the cities of Judah and from the environs of Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the lowland, from the hill country and from the Negev, bringing burnt offerings, sacrifices, grain offerings and incense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving to the house of the LORD.”*
- l. 2 Samuel 22:50 -- *“Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the nations, And I will sing praises to Your name.”*
- m. Daniel 6:10 – *“Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.”*
- n. Hebrews 13:15 – *“Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.”*

## **X. Salvation**

- A. Read Jon. 2:9, I Chron. 16:35, Is. 12:1. What in these verses was thanks given for? Jonah saved from the belly of the large fish. Israelites saved from other nations during the time of David. Remnant saved during the Assyrian conquest of Northern Israel.
- B. Read the following verses: Lk. 2:38, Rom. 6:17, 7:25, I Cor. 15:57, 2 Cor. 2:14, 4:15, 9:15, Col. 1:12. What are we to give thanks for in these verses? Salvation through JC.

## 1. Verses.

- a. Jonah 2:9 – *“But I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving That which I have vowed I will pay Salvation is from the LORD.”*
- b. 1 Chronicles 16:35 – *“Then say, "Save us, O God of our salvation, And gather us and deliver us from the nations, To give thanks to Your holy name, And glory in Your praise.”*
- c. Isaiah 12:1 – *“Then you will say on that day," I will give thanks to You, O LORD; For although You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, And You comfort me.”*
- d. Luke 2:38 – *“At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.”*
- e. Romans 6:17 – *“But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed.”*
- f. Romans 7:25 – *“Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.”*
- g. 1 Corinthians 15:57 – *“but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*
- h. 2 Corinthians 2:14 – *“But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.”*
- i. Colossians 1:12 – *“giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.”*
- j. 2 Corinthians 4:15 – *“For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.”*
- k. 2 Corinthians 9:15 – *“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”*

## XI. Benefits.

- A. What is the benefit of giving thanks according to Phil. 4:6? Lessens our worries and anxieties. The degree of lessening is dependent on our faith.

B. What did Daniel give thanks for in Dan. 2:23? Wisdom and power. Do we give thanks to the Holy Spirit for Scripture?

1. Verses.

- a. Philippians 4:6 – *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”*
- b. Daniel 2:23 -- *"To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, For You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, For You have made known to us the king's matter."*

## **XII. For who God is, His righteousness, faithfulness**

A. According to Ps. 7:17, Is. 38:19, Jer. 33:11, Rev. 11:17, what should we give thanks for? God's righteousness, faithfulness, goodness, the Almighty.

1. Verses.

- a. Psalm 7:17 – *“I will give thanks to the LORD according to His righteousness And will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.”*
- b. Isaiah 38:19 -- *"It is the living who give thanks to You, as I do today; A father tells his sons about Your faithfulness."*
- c. Jeremiah 33:11 – *“the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who say, " Give thanks to the LORD of hosts ,For the LORD is good,For His lovingkindness is everlasting";and of those who bring a thank offering into the house of the LORD. For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were at first,' says the LORD.”*
- d. Revelation 11:17 -- *“saying, "We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.”*

## Word of God

**I. Objective: To show that Bible Study is commanded by God and is required for faithfulness, growth and strength. We should have attitudes that 1) long for it and 2) realize its vital importance to our spiritual survival.**

### **II. Christianity is a taught religion.**

A. According to these verses, what are the first steps toward becoming a Christian? One must first hear the Word of God and believe.

1. Rom. 10:17 -- *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."*
  - a. Subject = Why Israel was rejected, Rom. 9:30-31.
  - b. Answer = unfaithful, 10:3.
  - c. Aim of Old Testament was to lead Israel to Christ, 10:4.
2. Acts. During the preaching of the first gospel sermon, Peter and the apostles appealed to the Jews to hear the word of God.
  - a. 2:14: *"... Peter, taking his stand with the eleven ... give heed to my words."*
  - b. 2:22 *"Men of Israel, listen to these words..."*
  - c. 2:37: *"Now when they heard this..."*
  - d. 2:41: *"So then, those who had received his word ...".*

B. What was one of Jesus' main roles during his time on this earth?? Jesus spent most of his time during His ministry teaching the people the Word of God.

1. Matthew 4:23 -- *"Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people."*
2. Mark 10:17 -- *"As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, 'Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?'"*

3. Luke 20:21 -- *"They questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, we know that You speak and teach correctly, and You are not partial to any, but teach the way of God in truth."*
  4. John 13:13 --*"You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am."*
  5. Many other passages on Jesus teaching and being called a teacher (44 times in Gospels).
- C. What was one of the main reasons why Jesus worked miracles? The purpose of Jesus miracles was to confirm His message.
1. John 5:36 -- *"But the testimony which I have is greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish--the very works that I do--testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me."*
  2. Jesus was "the Prophet" prophesied in the Old Testament. John 1:21 -- *"They asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not " "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No.""*

### **III. God's method of communication.**

- A. We know that God is sovereign by virtue of being the Creator and that He must be the ultimate source of authority for all we believe or practice. But how does man today come to know what His will is? What means does He use to express His will? Is it through anointed individuals today? Through visions? Inward light provided by the Holy Spirit? Personal experiences? The church? Etc.
- B. Patriarchal Dispensation – How did God communicate with man???
1. God to man.
    - a. Adam and Eve, Gen. 2:16,18, 3:16,17.
    - b. Noah, Gen. 6:13.
    - c. Abraham, Gen. 17:1-3.
- C. Old Testament Dispensation – How did God communicate with man???
1. God to man.
    - a. Moses, Ex. 3:4, 11.
  2. God thru Prophets.
  3. Writings of the Prophets.



- a. Exodus 24:7 -- *"Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, " All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"*
  - b. Deuteronomy 17:19 -- *"It shall be with him and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes,"*
  - c. Joshua 8:35 -- *"There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel with the women and the little ones and the strangers who were living among them."*
  - d. Other passages: Deut. 31:11, 2 Ki 19:14, Neh. 8:18.
4. Have you not read? What subject was Jesus inquiring about in these verses?
- a. Sabbath. Matt 12:3 -- *"But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions,"*
  - b. Sabbath: Matt 12:5 -- *"Or have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath and are innocent?"*
  - c. . Divorce: Matt 19:4 -- *"And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,"*
  - d. Resurrection: - Matt 22:31 -- *"But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God:"*
  - e. Resurrection: -- Mark 12:26 -- *"But regarding the fact that the dead rise again, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God spoke to him, saying, ' I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, and the God of Jacob'?*
- D. Christian Dispensation. In steps 1 through 4, list who is communicating with whom and the method of communication.
- 1. God to his Son.
    - a. Heb. 1:1-2 -- *"God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world."*
    - b. All authority relative to our salvation has been delegated to Jesus Christ, Mt. 28:18-20, Eph. 1:20-23. But, Christ has ascended back to heaven, so we are still left with the question of how the divine will is expressed to man today.
  - 2. Son sent Holy Spirit.

- a. Jn. 16:7, 13 -- *7"But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you." 13"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."*
  - b. These promises were made to a select group of men: the apostles of Christ, Jn. 13:1-2 with Lk. 22:13,14, Jn. 14:26, Jn. 15:16, Jn. 15:27, Jn. 16:2.
3. Holy Spirit guided the apostles and prophets.
- a. Through these men, the Holy Spirit empowered others to be prophets, Acts 6:6...8; 8:14-18; 19:6. The faith of Christians is built on the revelation of the apostles and prophets, Eph. 2:20. See also Eph. 4:11; 1 Co. 12:28.
  - b. Ac. 2:42 -- *"They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching."*
  - c. Paul's letter to Ephesians -- Eph. 6:17 -- *"...which is the word of God."*
  - d. Col. 3:16 -- *"Let the word of Christ..."*
  - e. 2 Tim. 2:15 -- *"...accurately handling the word of truth."*
4. Apostles & prophets wrote it down.
- a. If we could talk to these men, we could ask them what the King has authorized. However, all of these men have died. Once again, then, we ask, how are we today going to know the divine will?
  - b. Eph. 3:1-5 -- *"1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you; 3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;"*
    - 1) How was Paul's "insight into the mystery of Christ" to be known? -- when you read!!!
  - c. 1 Jn. 1:1-4 -- *"1 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life-- 2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our*

*fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete."*

- 1) How was what John had seen and heard "concerning the Word of life" to be known? -- reading what they wrote!!!
  - d. Col 4:16 -- *"When this letter is read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter that is coming from Laodicea."*
  - e. 1 Thess 5:27 -- *"I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren."*
  - f. The writings of the apostles and prophets to be received with the same regard as if God personally wrote: 1 Th 2:13; 4:8; 2 Th 3:6,14; 1 Co 14:37.
5. Inspiration directly to man stopped after entire word complete (I Cor. 13:8-13).

#### **IV. Importance.**

- A. Ultimate source of authority. While we may confer with men, and learn from men, ultimately there is but one source of authority in religion. If what we believe or practice has no higher source than man, whether it be others or ourselves, it is unworthy of our adherence.
1. Mt. 16:17 -- *"And Jesus said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven'."*
    - a. Did Peter learn Jesus was the Christ from men? (Read John 1:35-42; 5:30-47 before you answer.)
    - b. What is Jesus' point? (Note the "not...but.")
  2. Mt. 21:25-26 -- *"The baptism of John was from what source, from heaven or from men?" And they began reasoning among themselves, saying, 'If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Then why did you not believe him?' 'But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the people; for they all regard John as a prophet.'"*
    - a. What two alternatives does Jesus give for the source of John's baptism?
    - b. What are the implications pertaining to human responsibility towards it, depending on where it is from?
  3. Mt. 15:9 -- *"BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN."*
    - a. Why was the Pharisees' worship vain?

- b. Is it wrong to live by the doctrines men teach? (Read Mat. 23:1-3 before you answer.) Harmonize your answer to this question with your answer in "a."
  4. Gal 1:8 -- *"But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!"*
    - a. What was the standard against which the Galatians were to measure teaching they heard?
    - b. Would this include things they might hear from "apostles" or in a "vision"? Would this include the Galatian letter?
- B. God's Commandment. According to these verses, why is it important to study Scripture?
  1. Acts 2:42 -- *"They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."*
  2. Phil 1:27 -- *"Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;"*
  3. Gal 3:11 -- *"Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, 'THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.'"*
- C. Know His Will. According to these verses, why is it important to study Scripture?
  1. Eph. 3:3-4,6 -- *"3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,"*
- D. Avoid temptation. According to these verses, why is it important to study Scripture?
  1. Eph. 6:10-11,17 -- *"10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 17 And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*
- E. Grow. According to this verse, why is it important to study Scripture?
  1. II Pet. 3:17-18 -- *"17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen".*

F. Comfort, Hope, Strength.

G. To be Pleasing to God.

## **V. God's Providence.**

A. Local Church, Evangelists, Teachers, Elders. What aids has God provide us for understand Scripture?

1. Eph 4:11-13 -- *"11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the (H)knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ."*

B. Bible withstood assault thru time but has endured.

C. Evidence to know it is true: many prophecies, many miracles, eye witnesses, completeness, accuracy. What does these verses indicate about the accuracy of the WORD?

1. Luke 1:1-4 -- *"1 Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, 3 it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus. 4 so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught."*

D. The Scriptures are a complete and sufficient expression of the divine will. What do these verses tell us about Scripture?

1. The faith of Jesus Christ that God delivered to God's people of the first century was designed to be the faith for God's people of all time. The kernel of that faith is presented in the four gospels.
2. Jude 3 -- *"Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints."*
  - a. The saints are charged to contend for the faith which was once delivered for all time.
3. 2 Pt. 1:12 -- *"Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you."*

- a. Peter said his readers were “established” in the faith. All needed relative to that faith is revealed in the Scriptures (2 Pt. 1:3 “Everything pertaining to life and godliness”).
- 4. 2 Ti. 3:16-17 -- *"16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."*
  - a. The Scriptures inspired by God will make the “man of God” adequate or complete in teaching, reproof, correction and training in righteousness.

## VI. Approach.

A. Frequency -- regular occurrence like daily. What frequency should we be studying?

- 1. Act 2:42 -- *"They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching ..."*
- 2. Acts 2:46: -- *"Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple ..."*
- 3. Acts 17:11 -- *"Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."*
- 4. Jewish Christians in Jerusalem were able to preach the word as they were scattered, Acts 8:1,4.

B. What to Study?

- 1. Gospels - start point for faith in Jesus as the Christ and Lord.
- 2. Rest of New Testament since it is the covenant/dispensation that Christians are under.
- 3. Old Testament is beneficial, Rom 15:4, I Cor 10:11.

C. Aids.

- 1. Local church.
- 2. Evangelist, elders, teachers, Eph. 4:11-12.
- 3. Other: computer, concordances, dictionaries, lexicons, commentaries.

D. Attitudes.

- 1. Honest.
- 2. Apply knowledge.

3. Never too old to learn more.

## Evangelizing Our Fellow Man

### I. What is Evangelism?

- A. The Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines Evangelism as "the winning or revival of personal commitments to Christ".
- B. The dictionary is a product of man and subject to change and error by man. God's Word is inerrant, changeless and will be used to judge us on the Last Day.
- C. The work evangelism is not found in the Bible but the concept is. Evangelism could be defined as preaching and teaching Jesus Christ. Acts 5:42 -- *"And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus {as} the Christ"*.
- D. When someone is preaching and teaching Jesus Christ, they are not only talking about Jesus as the Son of God but also of the plan of salvation. In Acts 8, Philip was preaching Jesus Christ (Acts 8:5, 12, 35). We discover that includes baptism since the people were baptized even though we have no record he taught baptism. Preaching Jesus Christ must also include things concerning the Kingdom of God since these statements are used in parallel in Acts 8:5 & 12.

### II. Why Evangelize?

- A. From the verses below, why should we evangelize our fellow man? There are many reasons to evangelize but the most fundamental is that it is commanded by God.
  - 1. Great Commission??? Some believe that we are commanded to evangelize by the Great Commission. The Great Commission was given by Jesus Christ to the Apostles and does not directly apply to us today.
    - a. Scriptures.
      - Mark 16:14-20. *"And afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after he had risen. And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who have believed; in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it shall not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.'"*
      - Matt. 28:16-20. *"But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. And when they saw Him, they worshipped Him; but some were doubtful. And Jesus came up and spoke to*



*them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'"*

*Luke 24:44-49. "Now He said to them, 'These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled'. Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.'*

- b. If we make these scriptures applicable to us today then the following would be true: 1) we are witnesses, 2) we would receive power from on high, 3) we could handle poisonous snakes and not die and 4) we could miraculously cure the sick.

2. *"Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Holy Spirit"*, Eph. 4:1-6(KJV).

a. Scripture.

*"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the Lord's vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of our calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."*

- b. This command is to be obeyed by all Christians.
- c. We understand what the unity of the Spirit is since it is defined in verses 4:4-6.
- d. But what are our duties in regard to this commandment?
- e. The word *"endeavoring"* comes from the Greek word *spodazo* which means to make effort, be prompt or earnest, be diligent, labor.
- f. It is obvious that this command involves teaching the gospel to others. Parents fulfill this responsibility in teaching their children. We as faithful Christians fulfill this responsibility either when we restore those Christians who have fallen away or nurture those Christians who are young in the faith.
- g. But does our responsibility stop there? Consider if this command extends to laboring or being diligent in spreading the gospel to the lost world.

3. II Tim. 2:1-2.

- a. *"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."*
  - b. Paul charges Timothy to take his learning's from the Apostles and teach faithful men who will then in turn teach others also.
  - c. We are to teach others from the knowledge gained. The people we are to teach include brethren, friends and neighbors.
4. Rom. 12:6-8.
  - a. Scripture.
 

*"And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly; if prophecy according to the proportion of this faith; if service in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."*
  - b. No doubt there are some spiritual gifts mentioned in these verses. However, the principle is still there in that we need to apply the gifts or talents we possess. This scripture is backed up with the parable of the talents.
  - c. However, sometimes we have a tendency to say we do not have the gift of teaching -- so I do not need to teach. We deceive ourselves using this logic. God has provided an intellect that has so much potential but the problem is generally laziness and apathy. Scientists have said that Albert Einstein only used 10% of his mental capabilities. Are we fully utilizing our capabilities? It takes work and courage. We can teach our children but what stops us from teaching others.
5. Col. 1:9-10, 4:5-5.
  - a. Scripture.
 

*"For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding; so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God." vs. 1:9-10.*

*"Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person." vs. 4:5-6.*
  - b. In the first scripture, we find Paul praying for the Christians in order they may be filled with knowledge so that they may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord. A part of this walk entails bearing fruit in every good work. Evangelism is definitely a work that Christians should be engaged in.
  - c. In the second scripture, we are told to make the most of our opportunities. Are we making the most of our opportunities, when we do not talk to our non-Christians who we have known for a number of years? Do we make the most of the opportunity, when we never talk to our neighbors about Christ who have been our neighbors for many years?

6. Final Analyses.

- a. Putting all these scriptures together, we can see how evangelism is a way of life and a commandment that as a Christian we should be engaged in.
- B. From the verses below, why should we evangelize our fellow man? Our love for our neighbor as commanded by God is to seek his welfare. A person who does not believe in Christ and has not obeyed His commandments will be condemned to a fiery Hell. If we love our neighbor, we will tell them about Christ and possibly save their souls.
1. Scripture - Matt. 22:34-40, Jam. 2:8, Gal. 5:14, Rom. 13:9.  
*"But when the Pharisees heard that He had put the Sadducees to silence, they gathered themselves together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, testing Him, Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your god with all your **heart**, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets'".*
  2. There are other New Testament Scriptures which confirm that we are to love our neighbor.
  3. The word "love" used in these verses means not doing any harm to our neighbor and seeking the good of his welfare.
    - a. We know that faithful Christians will make it to Heaven. People who do not follow Christ's commandments will end up in a fiery Hell. These people include: the ungodly, the atheists, the good moral people (according to world's standard), the religious people not following Christ's will and the ignorant.
    - b. If we know that this is their outcome, why don't we try and rescue them by preaching and teaching Jesus Christ? Do we love our neighbor when we do not take any action at all?
- C. Are there any benefits to evangelize for the benefit of the local church? A local Church will eventually die with the passage of time as the congregation grows with age. There are several churches in the greater Houston and surrounding areas who are today in that situation. Members should be engaged in evangelism so the local church can stay strong and grow.
- D. What does evangelism do for the person doing the teaching? Evangelism strengthens the members engaged in this work in standing for truth. Sometimes we are not always aware of the different positions on various doctrines and hearing these doctrines and responding, will strengthen our faith.

## II. Using Acts 2 to Evangelism.

- A. Opposition, "*Taking his stand*", In teaching others, what will we encounter according to in Acts 2:12-14a and what should we do about it?.
1. Scripture -- "*And they continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others were mocking and saying, 'They are full of sweet wine.' But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven raised his voice and declared to them.*"
  2. There was diverse reaction to the miracle of speaking in tongues. Some asked what this is all about and others said -- they were drunk. In evangelizing, there will be diverse opinions on religious matters. And some opinions might be very insulting.
  3. But Peter takes his stand. We must also take a stand. In taking a stand, there are opposing forces that one is standing against, i.e. false doctrine and ignorance. Taking a stand involves courage and pressure situations.
- B. In our evangelistic efforts, what should be one of our main objectives according to Acts. 2:36? The Object of This Sermon, vs. 36.
1. Scripture -- "*Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ -- this Jesus whom you crucified.*"
  2. The name Jesus referred to the earthly man. Peter was trying to show that this earthly man was also the Lord and Christ.
  3. Our teaching to unbelievers should focus on this message.
- C. What evidences are presented in Acts 2 to backup the above objective? The Evidences.
1. Peter and the apostles used many evidences to convince the people who Jesus was. The evidences presented are a) the prophecy of Jews during this time about Jesus, vs. 16-18, b) the miracles performed by Jesus, vs. 22-24, c) Old Testament Prophecy, vs. 25-31, d) the Apostles as eye witnesses, vs. 32 and e) the miracle of speaking in tongues and some more Old Testament Prophecy, vs. 33-35.
- D. List the steps of salvation in the following verses. The Plan of Salvation.
1. Hear the word of God. "*Men of Israel listen to these words*", vs. 22 and "*Now when they heard this*", vs. 37.
  2. Believe Jesus is the Christ. "*They were pierced to the **heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brethren, what shall we do?'*", vs. 37.
  3. Confess Jesus as Lord, Rom. 10:9-10. vs 37 is also a confession.
  4. Repent, vs. 38.
  5. Be Baptized, vs. 38.
  6. Remain Faithful. "*And they were continually devoting themselves to the Apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer*", vs. 42.

- E. According to verse 40, what is a key characteristic of teaching the lost? Kept on Exhorting Them, vs. 40.
1. Scripture -- *"And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them saying, 'Be saved from this perverse generation'".*
  2. Teaching the gospel to others involves patience and diligence. In this verse, Peter evidently did not convert them right after his sermon but he kept exhorting them with many other words. In evangelizing, we need to answer their questions and use other scriptures if needed to convert them.
- F. Who will respond to the gospel? Those who received the word, vs. 41.
1. Scripture -- *"so then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls."*
  2. People who have good and honest **hearts** will heed the call to obey the gospel.
  3. About three thousand souls were added to the Universal Church that day.
- G. What is the distinction between our efforts and the Lord's work? The Lord was adding to their number, vs. 47.
1. Our responsibility is to teach and preach the word. It is then up to the hearer either to accept or reject the gospel. We should not feel responsible if a person does not become a Christian. If they do obey, it is the Lord who adds them to the Church.

# Sin

**I. Objectives -- To re-inforce certain attitudes with regards to sin that a Christian should have in order to avoid it.**

**II. Practicing Sin is Contrary to Being a Child of God.**

- A. Read I John 3:8-9. What false doctrine was the Apostle John confronting? Agnosticism. What does it mean to practice sin? Life devoted to or a continuing practice of without a feeling of remorse or repentant. If one practices sin, whose son is he? Devil.
1. I John 3:8-9: – *“the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. 9 ” No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.”*
- B. Read Rom. 8:10-12. How is Christ in you? We live our lives in accordance with his teachings. How can our body be dead to sin? How is the body dead to sin? ??? What does it mean when it says the spirit is alive? ???
1. Rom. 8:10: – *“If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.”*

**III. Deceit of Sin and Avoiding Entrapment.**

- A. Read I John 1:8, 3:4, Heb. 3:13, 11:25. What lessons can be obtained from these verses? All sin is lawlessness (includes things we ought to be doing). We can deceive ourselves about practicing sin and be hardened from the deceit of sin. Deceitfulness of sin is that it is no long lasting but be very temporal and passing.
1. I John 1:8 – *“If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.”*
2. I John 3:4 – *“Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.”*

3. Heb. 3:13 – *“But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called ‘Today,’ so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”*
  4. Heb. 11:25 – *“choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.”*
- B. Read 2 Pet. 2:14. What kind of character are the false teachers described in this verse? Never cease from sin, heart trained in greed. What kind of influence? Entice unstable souls and have accursed children.
1. 2 Pet. 2:14 – *“having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children;”*
- C. Read Gen. 4:7, Jam. 1:15, Heb. 12:1, Ex. 23:33. What do these verses teach us about ways to avoid sin? Recognize the temptation and master it. Do not allow temptations to progress to sin. Recognize we can easily be entangled in sin. We have examples in Bible to help us live Godly lives. Influence of wicked people. In Ex. 23:33, how did the Canaanites “make the people sin”? trick question – figure of speech metonymy – put in a position to sin through influence.
1. Gen. 4:7 – *“If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”*
  2. Jam. 1:15 – *“Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.”*
  3. Heb. 12:1 – *“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,”*
  4. Ex. 23:33 – *“They shall not live in your land, because they will make you sin against Me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”*

#### **IV. Sin Works Against the Purpose of Jesus Christ’s Mission.**

- A. Read I John 1:7, 3:5, Heb. 9:26, 28, Gal. 3:22, 2 Cor. 5:21. Why did Jesus Christ come to this world? Take away the guilt/consequences of sin, cleanses us from our sins, for us to be righteous with God. How does one who practices sin be in alignment with His missions? Against the very purpose of Him coming.

1. I John 3:5 – *“You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.”*
2. I John 1:7 – *“but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”*
3. Heb. 9:28 – *“So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.”*
4. Heb. 9:26 – *“Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.”*
5. Ga. 3:22 – *“But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.”*
6. 2 Cor. 5:21 – *“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*
7. Ex. 23:33 – *“They shall not live in your land, because they will make you sin against Me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”*

## **V. We Have Been Set Free! -- Why Be Enslaved Again?.**

- A. Read Rom. 6:7,18,20,22,8:2. In 6:18, what does this phrase mean “freed from sin”? free from the guilt/spiritual consequences. Having been freed from sin, what are our responsibilities and benefits now? Slaves of righteousness; sanctified (set apart), eternal life.
  1. Rom. 6:18 – *“and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”*
  2. Rom. 6:20 – *“For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.”*
  3. Rom. 6:22– *“But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life..”*
  4. Rom. 6:7 – *“for he who has died is freed from sin.”*
  5. Rom. 8:2 – *“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”*



## VI. We Should be Dead to Sin.

- A. Read Rom. 6:2,11, I Pet. 2:24. What attitudes toward sin do these verses show? Dead to sin, unfathomable to go back once we died to sin, JC died so we might die to sin.
1. Rom. 6:11 – *“Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”*
  2. Rom. 6:2 – *“May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?”*
  3. I Pet. 2:24 – *“and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed..”*

## VII. Fear Its Consequences.

- A. Read Ex. 20:20, 34:7, Rom. 6:23, Matt 25:31-34, II Thess. 1:7-9. What kind of attitude toward sin do these verses indicate? Fear of eternal punishment,
1. Ex. 20:20 – *“Moses said to the people, " Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin.”*
  2. Ex. 34:7 – *“who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”*
  3. Rom. 6:23 – *“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*
  4. Matt. 25:31-34 -- *“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”*
  5. 2 Thess. 1:7-9 – *“and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well (A)when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who)do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.”*

# Our Attitudes Toward Prayer

## I. Men Ought to Pray. Read the following verses and provide the admonitions relative to pray.

- A. Lk. 18:1 *"Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart,"*
  - 1. This parable illustrates through the unrighteous judge that God will answer prayers for justice through Jesus Christ. Pray at all times and not lose heart.
- B. Rom. 12:12 *"rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,"*
  - 1. This chapter deals with the transformed life that Christians must live (vs. 1-2). In this transformed life, one way to overcome evil is by prayer, (vs. 9,21).
- C. Eph. 6:18 *"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints."*
  - 1. Prayer is part of the armor of God to overcome Satan.
- D. Php. 4:6 *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."*
  - 1. Prayer is a tool given by God to overcome anxiety.
- E. Col. 4:2 *"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;"*
  - 1. We ought to use prayer for opportunities to teach God's Word with wisdom and boldness (vs. 2-6).
- F. 1 Th. 5:17 *"pray without ceasing;"*
  - 1. Use prayer for joyous thanksgiving to God (vv. 16-18).
- G. 1 Tim. 2:1 *"First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,"*
  - 1. Use prayer to appeal to the Ruler of nations for a tranquil and quiet life (vv. 1-2).
- H. Heb. 4:16 *"Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need."*
  - 1. Use prayer for strength and mercy in time of temptation.

- I. Jam. 5:13 *"Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praises."*
  - 1. Use prayer to comfort our self and others in the face of suffering
- J. 1 Pet. 4:7 *"The end of all things is at hand; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer."*
  - 1. Use prayer to prepare for calamity and tumultuous times.
- K. 1 Jn. 1:9 *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*
  - 1. Use prayer to confess our sins so that we may have fellowship with God
- L. Jude 1:20 *"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit;"*
  - 1. Use prayer to keep us faithful amidst false doctrine.
- M. At what occasions was Jesus Praying at? Prayer in the Life of Jesus.
  - 1. At His baptism, Lk. 3:21.
  - 2. Began His ministry, Lk. 3:23.
  - 3. Early in the morning, departed to lonely place, Mk. 1:35.
  - 4. At mealtime, Matt. 15:35.
  - 5. In the evening, after day of sorrow, Matt. 14:23.
  - 6. Time of popularity, make Him a King, John 6:15.
  - 7. Whole night in prayer, Lk. 6:12.
  - 8. Transfiguration, Lk. 9:28-29.
  - 9. Gethsemane, Lk. 22:41-44.

## II. What is Prayer?

- A. Eph. 6:10 -- "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might," 18 "with all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints".
  - 1. Prayer is not a formula to be memorized and repeated, nor a magical incantation to call down the heavenly powers, nor is it merely self help through expression. What is prayer? We need to be aware of and utilize the various kinds of prayer. To be "*strong in the Lord*" in our "*struggle*" against sin (Eph. 6:10f), we must take up the armor of God "*with ALL PRAYER and petition . . .*" (v. 18).
    - a. "*with all prayer*" = dia pasEs proseuchEs - Eph. 6:18. "'by means of all prayer...' not a single kind being neglected or omitted" Lenski. "...i.e., while ye employ every kind of prayer and entreaty, omit no sort of prayer and entreaty." Meyer. "I...1...a. any, every one (sc. of the class denoted by the noun annexed to pas)...b. any and every, of every kind..." TH.
  - 2. Prayer is man talking to his God. It is an outpouring of a troubled **heart**, a confession of sin, a request for help, a response of gratitude, an utterance of praise. Prayer requires no

scholastic degree; it does not depend on a fluent command of the language; it costs no money. What it does require is faith, a sincere and contrite **heart**, and action—men must “ask.” Prayer is one of the greatest privileges man has, but, sadly, one of the most neglected, taken for granted, and abused. “Lord, teach us to pray!”

## B. Types of Prayer.

1. 1 Tim 2:1 *"First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,"*
  - a. The words in 1 Tim 2:1 (Though these words are not to be sharply distinguished, they are not identical in meaning. Each highlights a facet of prayer.):
  - b. “*entreaties*” (“supplications” KJV, NKJV, ASV) - deesis. Stresses need. Thus sense of inadequacy, shortcoming, dependency. Note some specific needs. Q: Do you feel any needs? Then prayer is of value to you.
  - c. “*prayers*” - proseuche. Occurs approx. 86 times in N.T. - every time directed to God. Prayer addressed to Deity...this demands reverence, godly fear. Also comfort - for God is able to meet our “needs”! (Relate to last point.) Able - willing - powerful - wise - faithful.
  - d. “*petitions*” (“intercessions” KJV, NKJV, ASV) - enteuxis. Suggests free access, confidence of approach. Contrast the restricted access rulers today. Compare Esther’s access to the king, and that was her husband! God wants us to come, and awaits to receive us. A strong motivation.
  - e. “*thanksgivings*” - eucharistia. Expression of gratitude for blessings already received (and presently enjoying)! Note how often connected with exhortations to pray, Php. 4:6; Col. 4:2; 1 Th. 5:17,18. Importance of thanksgiving can be seen in Ro. 1:20ff.
2. What kind of prayer in this verse? Petition = “*what you need*”.
  - a. Mt 6:8 *"Therefore do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him. [See vv. 5f.]"*
3. What kind of prayer in this verse? Complaint.
  - a. Ps 54:1 *"Save me, O God, by Thy name, And vindicate me by Thy power. 2 Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth. 3 For strangers have risen against me, And violent men have sought my life ..."*
4. What kind of prayer in this verse? Confession.
  - a. Ps 32:5 *"I acknowledged my sin to Thee, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And Thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin. [Selah. 6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found ...]" [See vv. 1f.]*
  - b. See Ps. 51; 1 Jn. 1:9.
5. What kind of prayer in this verse? Praise/thanksgiving.
  - a. 1 Ch 29:13 *"Now therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious name."* [See vv. 10f.]

6. What kind of prayer in this verse? Imprecatory.
  - a. Ps 55:1 *"Give ear to my prayer, O God; And do not hide Thyself from my supplication. 2 Give heed to me, and answer me; I am restless in my complaint and am surely distracted ... 9 Confuse, O Lord, divide their tongues, For I have seen violence and strife in the city. ... 15 Let death come deceitfully upon them; Let them go down alive to Sheol, For evil is in their dwelling, in their midst."*

### III. Circumstances for Prayer: *"pray AT ALL TIMES . . ."* (v. Eph. 6:18).

- A. What is the circumstance of this prayer? 1 Ki 19:4 *"But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree; and he requested for himself that he might die, and said, 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take my life, for I am not better than my fathers.'"*
- B. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Neh 2:1 *"And it came about in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, that wine was before him, and I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. ... 4 Then the king said to me, 'What would you request?' So I prayed to the God of heaven."*
- C. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Jonah 2:1 *"Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the stomach of the fish,"*
- D. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Mt 26:36 *"Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to His disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.'"* [See Jn 18:1,26. "garden"]
- E. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Mk 6:46 *"And after bidding them farewell, He departed to the mountain to pray."*
- F. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Lk 23:33 *"And when they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. ... 46 And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit.' And having said this, He breathed His last."*
- G. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Ac 7:59 *"And they went on stoning Stephen as he called upon the Lord and said, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!'" 60 And falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" And having said this, he fell asleep."*
- H. What is the circumstance of this prayer? Ac 16:24 *"and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison, and fastened their feet in the stocks. 25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;"*

#### IV. Right Attitudes in Prayer.

##### A. The Lord looks at the **heart**.

1. 1 Sam. 16:7 *"The Lord looks at the **heart**".* Not all prayer will God hear. The individual must have the proper spirit, or disposition—a requisite of all true worship, Jn. 4:24. See also Ps. 19:14.
2. Ps 66:18 *"If I regard [“cherished” NIV] wickedness in my **heart**, The Lord will not hear”;* “regard” “cherished” – Too precious, valuable, important to give up or quit. Pretend repentant, sorry, but hold regard, love, delight in wickedness ...hypocrisy!
3. Isa 1:15 *“So when you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide My eyes from you, Yes, even though you multiply prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are covered with blood.”*

##### B. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verses? Regard as Holy (Reverence, Respect, Honor).

1. Mt 6:9 *“Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.’”* On *“be thy name,”* compare Dt. 28:58; Ps. 20:1 (parallelism); 29:2; Ac. 4:10,12.
2. Lev 10:1 *“Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, “It is what the LORD spoke, saying, ‘By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored.’” So Aaron, therefore, kept silent.”*
3. Mal 1:6 *“A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?” says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. ...”*

##### C. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verse? Sincerity.

1. Mt 6:5 *“And when you pray, you are not to be as the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order to be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. 6 But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you. 7 And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition, as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. 8 Therefore do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him.”*

##### D. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verse? Humility.

1. Lk 18:9 *“And He also told this parable to certain ones who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: 10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee, and the other a tax-gatherer. 11 The Pharisee stood and was praying thus to himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer. 12 I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’ 13 But the tax-gatherer, standing some distance away, was even*

*unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' 14 "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, but he who humbles himself shall be exalted."*

- a. "humble": "1. Having or showing consciousness of one's defects or shortcomings; not proud..."  
*Webster's New World Dictionary, 1982.*

E. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verses? Faith.

1. Explained: Confidence, not only in God's existence, but also in His love, faithfulness, omniscience, and omnipotence, not that God will answer all requests positively. Requests may also be denied or delayed. Faith prays, "Your will be done," in the confidence His will is best. And even when granted, it may be in a means totally unsuspected nor understood.
2. Heb 11:6 *"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes (proserchomai) to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."*
3. Heb 4:16 *"Let us therefore draw near (proserchomai; "come" kjv, nkjv) with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need."*
4. Lu 18:1 *"Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart, 2 saying, "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God, and did not respect man. 3 "And there was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.' 4 "And for a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, 'Even though I do not fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, lest by continually coming she wear me out.'" 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge \*said; 7 now shall not God bring about justice for His elect, who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? 8 "I tell you that He will bring about justice for them speedily. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?""*

F. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verses? Spirit of Obedience.

1. Jn 9:31 *"We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing, and does His will, He hears him."*
2. Ps 34:15 *"The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry. 16 The face of the LORD is against evildoers, To cut off the memory of them from the earth. 17 The righteous cry and the LORD hears, And delivers them out of all their troubles. 18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, And saves those who are crushed in spirit."*

H. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verses? Alertness.

1. By "alertness" is meant spiritual alertness, vigilance, attentiveness, and is opposed to listlessness, remissness, and indolence. In the following passages some danger threatens and this alertness is necessary to preparedness.

2. Mk 14:38 *"Keep watching and praying, that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."* See vv. 27-50.
  - a. Succumbing to fear when their personal safety was threatened at the arrest of Jesus. Opposed to "sleeping," v. 37, but there is more involved in Jesus' exhortation than physical awareness. They needed to be alert to the danger that would some confront them. One might be "awake" physically and yet not "alert" or "watching."
3. Lu 21:36 *"But keep on the alert at all times, praying in order that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."* See vv. 34-36.
  - a. Other versions:
    - NASB - *"But keep on the alert at all times"*
    - NKJV - *"Watch therefore, and pray always"*
    - ASV - *"But watch ye at every season"*
  - b. Becoming overwhelmed with the desire for forbidden pleasures and temporal pursuits while God's judgment is delayed. "Be alert" is readily seen here not to be an exhortation against physical sleepiness.
4. 1 Pe 5:8 *"Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."* See vv. 6-11.
  - a. Other versions:
    - NASB - *"Be of sober spirit, be on the alert"*
    - NKJV - *"Be sober, be vigilant"*
    - ASV - *"Be sober, be watchful"*
  - b. Letting anxiety in the face of suffering cause one to lose his faith and devotion to God.
5. Col 4:2 *"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving."* See vv. 2-6. Compare Eph. 6:18.
  - a. Other versions:
    - NASB - *"keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving"*
    - NKJV - *"being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;"*
    - KJV - *"and watch in the same with thanksgiving;"*
    - ASV - *"watching therein with thanksgiving;"*
  - b. Neglect or ruin opportunities to teach or influence others for truth.

I. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verses? Forgiving Spirit.

1. Mt 6:12 *"And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.' ... 14 For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions."*  
See also Mt. 18:21-35.

J. What attitudes of prayer do you find in these verses? Gratitude.

1. Php 4:6 *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."*
2. Col 4:2 *"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;"*
3. 1 Th 5:17 *"pray without ceasing; 18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*



4. Ro 1:21 *"For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish **heart** was darkened."*
5. Ro 1:25 *"For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen."*