

# THE FIRST PRINCIPLES

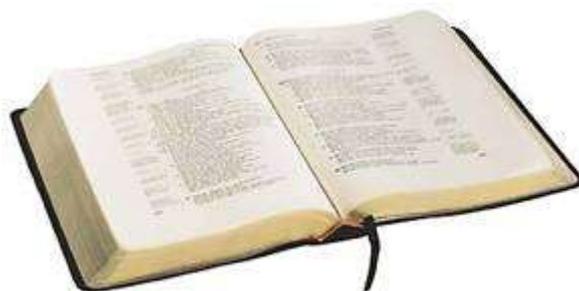
***Hebrews 5:12***

*“the first principles of the oracles of God”*

## ***A Practical Bible Study and Discipleship Course For New Christians***

***“As newborn babes,  
desire the sincere milk of the word,  
that ye may grow thereby:  
if so be that ye have tasted  
that the Lord is gracious.”***

**1Peter 2:2,3**





# THE FIRST PRINCIPLES

## *Hebrews 5:12*

*“the first principles of the oracles of God”*

*Record your name, and the name and telephone number of your discipler here...*

Your Name: _____
Date Study Began: _____
Date Completed: _____
Your Discipler's Name is: _____
His/Her Telephone: _____
His/Her E-mail: _____

An Educational Ministry of  
**Bible Baptist Church of Ballincollig, Ireland**

Pastor Craig Ledbetter, B.A., Th.G.  
Unit B Enterprise Business Park, Inishmore  
Ballincollig, Cork, Ireland P31K594  
Telephone within Ireland: **(021) 487-1234**  
From USA: **011-353-21-4871234**  
Int'l: **+353-21-487-1234**  
E-Mail: **craig1611@gmail.com**  
Web: **www.biblebc.com**

US Contact Address: **c/o PO Box 849, Rossville, GA 30741 USA**

This Study is written by Pastor Craig Ledbetter, and is copyrighted, © 1993-2020. But any portion of this Study may be copied in part, or in its entirety without the written permission of the publisher (**Romans 13:7**) as long as there is no charge except for the cost of production. The entire MS-Word document is available upon special request.

© 1993-2020 Craig Ledbetter's *In-House* Publications – Specially Printed in Ireland

Eighteenth Edition Printing - April, 2020 (with Embedded Fonts)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

STUDY INTRODUCTION .....	5
SECTION ONE.....	12
BIBLICAL SALVATION .....	13
ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER .....	20
BELIEVER'S BAPTISM.....	23
THE WORD OF GOD.....	28
BIBLE STUDY TECHNIQUES .....	36
Section ONE Test .....	53
SECTION TWO.....	56
THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH.....	57
BIBLE MEMORIZATION.....	69
KNOWING GOD .....	74
PERSONAL WORSHIP .....	84
THE LORD'S SUPPER .....	88
Section TWO Test.....	92
SECTION THREE.....	94
PRAYER.....	95
THE WILL OF GOD .....	99
SPIRITUAL WARFARE .....	102
THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY .....	106
FINANCES .....	123
Section THREE Test.....	128
SECTION FOUR.....	131
PERSONAL EVANGELISM.....	132
WINE AND STRONG DRINK.....	138
THE CHRISTIAN AT WORK.....	147
CREATION AND EVOLUTION .....	152
THE FUTURE .....	163
DISCIPLESHIP .....	171
Section FOUR Test.....	175
FINAL REVIEW .....	177
MEMORY AND LESSON VERSE LIST .....	178

All Scripture references, unless otherwise noted are from  
*the Word of God – the King James Bible*

# Welcome

## The First Principles Bible Study Course

When the Lord Jesus was on this earth, He spent three and a half years personally teaching His disciples all the things they needed to know to find forgiveness and full life in the kingdom of God. By setting aside time to study His word, you are showing God that you too wish to become more than just a believer, but a follower of Jesus Christ.

The *First Principles Bible Study Course* was written to equip believers to live for Jesus through the study of God's word from Genesis to Revelation.

## The Bible

You need another book in your hands as well as this Study Course... the Bible. As Christians, we firmly believe the Bible is the inerrant, infallible, inspired Word of Almighty God. We further believe that God's word has been preserved by God in the English language in the King James Bible. The goal of this Study Course is for you to learn the Bible and apply its truths to your life, not correct it, or think anyone can improve upon it. The Bible was given to us to correct, and improve us!

## How Long Does the Study Course take to Complete?

Depending upon your interest level from week to week, the Study Course is usually completed in less than two years.

## Do You Have to Have a Teacher?

Yes, and no. Learning most things is always best with a passionate teacher, who takes the time to answer questions as they arise, and helps make things clear in your own understanding. But not everyone has a personal teacher that is available to teach them, so this Study Course is written in an expanded fashion to answer as many normal questions as possible.

## What is the Fruit of the Study Course?

An unsaved person will thoroughly learn how to be saved, and usually will decide to get born again; A new believer will become more passionate for God, and get trained to study the Bible and stand for the Lord; backslidden Christians will get encouraged to get right with God, and get back in the spiritual battle for souls; and hungry believers will get fed by the “meat” subjects of God’s word.

## Concerning Section Tests

Every section ends with a test, that presents questions concerning the previous five lessons (or in the case of the fourth section, it covers the previous six lessons). These tests need to be taken on your own, and then either presented to your Discippler, or posted to the **First Principles Academy** for grading.

## How to Use the Answer Key

The information in the Answer Key section of the Discipleship Course looks kind of cryptic, but is just an easy way to list the answers to the blanks in this kind of a study. The first thing you will notice is the Chapter Title and Heading (i.e., **Lesson One** – Biblical Salvation). Following that, on each line is the location of the question blank, as follows:

VI.A.1.b. hand

The first part locates where the blank is – **Section VI**. Each roman numeral (I, II, III, IV, etc.) is used in the study outline as a main topic. Find the part of the lesson that starts with the roman numeral VI (six), and then look down until you find the paragraph starting with

capital ‘A.’ Under that, the paragraph marked ‘1.’ will have a sub-paragraph marked, small ‘b.’ at its start. In THAT paragraph, is the statement with the blank you are checking your answer against. Now, thankfully, not all of the answers are in sections so deep, with so many sub-sections, but you see how it works. There can be a few blanks that are actually not part of a paragraph that is numbered, so, the previous section number will be used.

Two other points need to be made concerning answers.

1. Usually there is only one answer that is correct for the fill in the blank, so one answer will be listed. But if another answer would be acceptable, it will be listed in parenthesis brackets “(...)”.
2. If there are more than one fill in the blank in a paragraph for you to locate answers for, the answers will simply be separated by semi-colons (;).

### Study Introduction

PARAGRAPH	ANSWERS
V.A.1.	Truth
V.A.2.	truth
V.A.3.	word
V.B.3.	true
VI.A.	believe
VI.B.	know
VII.A.	grow
VII.B.	unfruitful

Each lesson is in the above format and is clearly identified, with the answer matching the blank lines in the paragraphs marked in the outline.

Please Note – if you are only looking *in the Answer Key* for the answers to the fill in the blanks of the Study Guide, you are looking in the wrong place. The answers are found in the Bible, in the Scripture location referred to in the Study. Always look there first! The answers in the Answer Key could be wrong, so make sure you know what the Bible says, and not just what the Answer Key says.

THE FIRST PRINCIPLES 81<sup>st</sup> Century Edition

**V. What Is Truth?**

**A. Let's Compare John 18:36-38 with John 17:17**

1. In John 18, the Lord Jesus is standing before Pilate, accused of being a King. Jesus tells Pilate that He IS a King, but not of this world, and that His design is not to set up a physical kingdom, but to declare the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Pilate responds, "What is \_\_\_\_\_?" But notice what Pilate does next. He does not wait around for the answer. He does not believe there is any such thing as "truth." It is the same with most people. They have been lied to so many times about Santa, the tooth fairy, and Easter bunnies they think that God and truth are only lies as well.
3. Yet, in John 17:17, Jesus Himself says God's \_\_\_\_\_ is truth! Now, either Jesus was a liar, or crazy, or telling the truth. Which is it?

**B. Let's first agree on three things:**

1. There must be something, somewhere, that is *true*. Because, without *truth*, there is no way of knowing what is really true or false, good or bad, right or wrong, and anyone's guess becomes as good as another's.
2. **God** is the Author of truth. He cannot lie or He is not God (Titus 1:2).
3. God has revealed truth through the Bible alone (John 17:17).

The Bible says, "Yea, let God be \_\_\_\_\_, but every man a liar." Romans 3:4

**VI. The Purpose of the Bible**

- A. It was written that we may "\_\_\_\_\_" that Jesus was who He said He was - the Messiah, the Son of God, who came to pay our sin-debt (John 20:31).
- B. It was also written, so that we may "\_\_\_\_\_" that we have eternal life, not just "hope" for it (1John 5:13)!

**VII. The Purpose and Design of This Study Guide**

- A. This Study will teach you the wonderful truths of God's word, so you can \_\_\_\_\_ to "perfection" or full maturity in Christ (1Peter 2:2,3; 2Peter 3:18).
- B. To do this, you need to develop in yourself the following life principles by reading, and learning from God's word daily (see 2Peter 1:4-8)

<b>Faith</b> (you start off with this at salvation)	<b>Patience</b> (waiting on God & through trials)
<b>Virtue</b> (the inner strength to do right)	<b>Godliness</b> (becoming more like Christ)
<b>Knowledge</b> (knowledge of Jesus Christ)	<b>Brotherly kindness</b> (towards people)
<b>Temperance</b> (keeping a right balance)	<b>Charity</b> (having unconditional love)

The Bible finishes in verse 8 by saying, "For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor \_\_\_\_\_." That is what God wants - spiritual fruitfulness and success as a real Christian!

Have fun!

How much lee-way does an instructor have when the disciple offers another answer than what is expected? Let's look at another example, still using Lesson One, but this time, let's see multiple possible answers in the Answer Key, and learn how to deal with them.

**Lesson 1 - Biblical Salvation**

Turn to page 13, and notice how that some of the answers have semi-colons ‘;’ in them that are answers to more blanks on that line. If there is something in parentheses (...), it is offering other possible answers to a question.

- IX.A. No
- IX.A.1.b. hand
- IX.A.2. chastising
- IX.A.2.b. loves
- IX.A.2.c. bastard (*that's a real Bible word*)
- IX.B. Confess it as a sin and forsake it right away
- X.A. saved; hell
- X.B. Bible
- X.C. Lamb; sins
- X.D. our sins
- X.E. death (or blood)
- X.F. internal
- X.G. mine (or all people of the world)
- X.H. it is instant (or straight away)
- X.I. (*the answer is up to the individual*)
- X.J. (*the answer is up to the individual*)

THE FIRST PRINCIPLES 21<sup>st</sup> Century Edition Lesson One

**IX. Dealing With Sin Once You Are Already Saved**

A. Can a Christian be happy while *disobeying* God? **Yes** or **No**?

1. Notice how it will affect us (**Psalm 32:2-5**) When you keep silent about your sin (**Iniquity** is another word for sin):
  - a. You will age faster.
  - b. God's \_\_\_\_\_ will be hard against you, not blessing you.
  - c. You will basically "dry up" like a desert.
2. See in **Hebrews 12:5-11** where God always endeavors to make us mature, and holy in our lives by \_\_\_\_\_ us when we sin.
  - a. Chastening means "correcting" NOT punishing. God brings trouble into your life to get you back "on the *strait* (hard path) and *narrow*"
  - b. God chastens His children because He \_\_\_\_\_ them.
  - c. If a person never experiences God's **chastisement**, it is evident that person never became a Christian at all and is a \_\_\_\_\_ (**Heb 12:8**) – God calls them *illegitimate* – not the real thing – a faker).

B. What should a believer do when they sin? (**1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13**) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. To "confess" means to **agree** with God about the sinfulness of your life, and especially specific acts where you broke His direct commandments!

**X. Concluding Questions** - Fill in these questions from memory.

- A. The Bible was written for us to know that we are \_\_\_\_\_, and that as sinners we needed God to reach down to us (not for us to reach up), and to save us from \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. God has revealed truth through the \_\_\_\_\_ alone.
- C. The theme of the Bible from start to finish is all about "*the \_\_\_\_\_ of God which taketh away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world*" (**John 1:29**).
- D. What has separated all of humanity from God? \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Our salvation depends only upon whether we are willing by faith to let the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ be sufficient to pay off all our sin-debt to God, instead of trying to pay it off ourselves with our own good works.
- F. The term "*born again*" refers to what? An **external** birth, or an **internal** birth? (Circle one).
- G. When Jesus died, whose place was He taking? \_\_\_\_\_
- H. When a person repents of their sins, and calls upon Jesus Christ to save them from hell, how long does it take before they are forgiven of all sins, past, present, and future? \_\_\_\_\_
- I. Have you **let Him** take your place, and been born again yourself? **Yes** or **No**
- J. Is Jesus Christ worthy of your life being lived for His glory from now on? **Yes** or **No** (Circle one).

Date Lesson Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Disciple \_\_\_\_\_

BIBLICAL SALVATION • 13



## STUDY INTRODUCTION

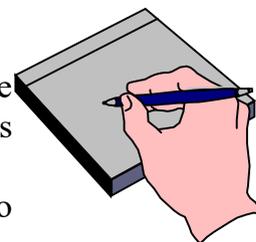
### I. How to Use This Study Guide

- A. **Along-side your Bible.** Never put anything above the authority of the word of God. Use *tools* to help your Bible study, but never let them take its place!
- B. **Look up all the Scriptures listed in this Study.** Each Scripture for you to look up appears in parenthesis and coloured like this: (**John 3:16**). The answers to every question of this Study will come from those marked Scriptures. Keep reading through all of the verses listed until you are satisfied that you understand the Bible's instruction on each topic.
- C. **Pray for guidance as you study.** God gave you His word (**Psalm 68:11**), and if you ask Him, He will guide you through it, and help you understand it (**John 16:13**).
- D. **Fill in every blank** with the words of Scripture as you look them up! You may not see the answer right away, but the answer is in every verse listed!

**II. Memorize four Memory Verses.** These will help establish your faith in the promises of the Bible! They are located at the beginning of each of the four Sections of this Study. They are **Matthew 4:4**, **Hebrews 10:25**, **1 Corinthians 12:27**, and **Romans 12:11**.

### III. Recommended Materials for Your Study

- A “Bible Dictionary” to explain Bible words better
- Get some good writing pens and highlighters for marking your Bible
- Purchase a separate notebook/journal to record your own notes as you study your Bible
- You should purchase some small (3” x 5”) record/index cards to write down Scriptures for memorizing and meditation



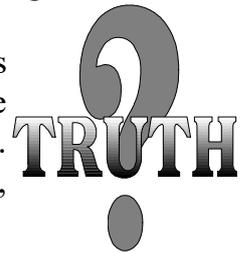
**IV. Suggestions For Reading Your Bible.** Realize that the Bible is a book. It is not a magical good-luck charm. It was written to be read with human eyes, and tested by the human mind, and believed by the human heart. The method of reading the Bible is very simple. Here are just a few suggestions to get you going.

- A. **Listen to it.** Start with a determination to “listen” to what is written. When you approach the Bible, seek to hear what the words are saying. Let God talk freely as if He were right beside you.
- B. **Pray through it.** Praying is asking. So, ask God to grant unto you the true understanding of His word. There is no perfect interpreter of the word of God except the Author of the word, God Himself (**1 Corinthians 2:9-13**).
- C. **Read the Bible from Beginning to End.** You will never get the meaning of ANY book unless you read it from cover to cover. For the first time, you should start in Matthew, and read through to Revelation. After that, then go to Genesis, and start all over, and read all the way through to the end!
- D. **Read with the Heart, and not just the Mind.** The Bible is perfect and quite capable of being examined by the mind, but was written for the heart.
- E. **Read the Bible Daily.** Set aside a regular time every day to spend in God’s word.
- F. **Read it Obediently.** Here is the big deal. Read the Bible with the goal of doing what you find commanded to be done. God says in **James 1:22** that we are to “*be ye \_\_\_\_\_ of the word and not hearers only deceiving your own selves.*”
- G. **Read the Scriptures Contextually.** That means, allow the Scriptures to explain themselves. A sentence is always understood within the meaning of the surrounding sentences. So, always find out **who is speaking, who are they speaking to, and, what are they talking about.** Sounds simple and yet few actually take the time to do this!

V. Let's begin with a question. What Is Truth?

A. First, Compare what is said in **John 18:36-38** and with **John 17:17**

1. In **John 18**, the Lord Jesus is standing before Pilate, accused of being a King. Jesus tells Pilate that He IS a King, but not of this world, and that His design is not to set up a physical kingdom, but *to declare the* \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Pilate responds, "*What is* \_\_\_\_\_?" But notice what Pilate does next. He does not wait around for the answer. He does not believe there is any such thing as "truth." It is the same with most people. They have been lied to so many times about Santa, the tooth fairy, and Easter bunnies they think God and truth are only lies as well.
3. Yet, in **John 17:17**, Jesus Himself says God's \_\_\_\_\_ is truth! Now, either Jesus was a liar, or crazy, or telling the truth. Which is it?



B. Let's agree on three things:

1. First, there must be something, somewhere, that is *true*. Because, without *truth*, there is NO WAY of knowing what is really true or false, good or bad, or right or wrong; and anyone's guess becomes as good as another's.
2. Secondly, **God** is the Author of truth. He cannot "\_\_\_" or He is not God (**Titus 1:2**).
3. Lastly, God has revealed truth through the **Bible** alone (**John 17:17**).
4. Do you agree with these three statements? Yes or No? (circle one).

The Bible says, "*Yea, let God be* \_\_\_\_\_, *but every man a liar.*" **Romans 3:4**

VI. The Purpose of the Bible. Why was the Bible even written?

- A. There are many reasons why God took the time to put down His words on paper, but here are TWO big reasons...
- B. It was written that we may "\_\_\_\_\_ " that Jesus was who He said He was - the Messiah, the Son of God, who came to pay our sin-debt (**John 20:31**).
- C. It was also written, so that we may "\_\_\_\_\_ " that we have eternal life, not just "hope" for it (**1John 5:13**)!

VII. Things to know when you start reading a King James Bible

A. There are some older words that have important meanings to know:

1. "**Thou**" and "**Thee**" – these simply are words for 'you' but are spoken in a serious tone towards a single individual, see **Genesis 3:9** "*And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art* \_\_\_\_\_?" (Where are you?)
2. "**Ye**" – This is the plural word for 'YOU' as in "you all". See **Matthew 3:2** "*And saying, Repent* \_\_\_\_\_: *for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*" (repent all of you...)
3. "**Hath**" and other words ending in "**th**" is the older way of having an 's' on the end. Just replace the 'th' with an 's' and it will be the same as today!
  - a. See **Proverbs 28:13** "*He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy*"
  - b. It is the same as saying "He that COVERS his sins shall not prosper: but whoso CONFESSES and FORSAKES them shall have mercy."
  - c. Other words with "th" at the end include: loveth, heareth, doeth, giveth... and they are not hard to understand are they?

B. Other words that you are unfamiliar with, like Propitiation, Salvation, Justification, etc., should be looked up in a Bible Dictionary, so that you don't miss what God is

saying in any Scripture. Maybe you have one at the back of your Bible? If not, like suggested at the beginning of this Study, you should order and purchase one.

C. **Psalm 119:140** says, "Thy word is very \_\_\_\_\_: therefore thy servant loveth it."

### VIII. The Purpose and Design of This Study Guide

- A. This Study will teach you the wonderful truths of God's word, so you can \_\_\_\_\_ to "perfection" or full maturity in Christ (**1Peter 2:2,3**; **2Peter 3:18**).
- B. To do this, you need to develop in yourself the following life principles by reading, and learning from God's word daily (take the time to now read **2Peter 1:4-8**):
  - 1. **Faith (1:5)** - you start off with this at salvation. It is how you come to God... simply believing Jesus Christ is all you need to live now.
  - 2. **Virtue** – this is the inner strength that God will constantly give you to do right.
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_ – Add the knowledge about Jesus Christ (by studying the Bible)
  - 4. **Temperance** – add the ability to keep a right balance about things.
  - 5. **Patience** – learning how to wait on God, and wait through all your trials.
  - 6. \_\_\_\_\_ – this simply means striving to become more like Christ.
  - 7. **Brotherly kindness** – learn how to be kind towards people as if they are family.
  - 8. Lastly, add \_\_\_\_\_ – this means having unconditional love towards people!
- C. The Bible finishes in **verse 8** by saying, "*For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor \_\_\_\_\_.*" That is what God wants - spiritual fruitfulness and success as a real Christian!

***Have fun!***

# SECTION ONE

*This Section of your Discipleship study  
will establish you in*

## *The Word of God*

Memory Verse:

***“But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” Matthew 4:4***

This is your first Scripture to memorize. To understand, and memorize this Scripture verse, please read Matthew Chapter 4, verses 1 through 4, to see what all is going on and ask yourself three questions:

- Who is doing the talking in verse 4? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who are they talking to? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are they talking about? \_\_\_\_\_

Knowing the answers to these three questions will help you easily understand each portion of Scripture you read - there is no better way to learn! So, everyday, read this Scripture out-loud, at least once, and in a few days, you will have memorized it and be able to recall it without looking at it.

In this Section, you will study the following Subjects:

- **Biblical Salvation** - What Does It Mean?
- **The Eternal Security of the Believer** - Can We Lose Salvation?
- **Believer's Baptism** - What Is It For?
- **The Word of God** - How We Got Our Bible!
- **Bible Study Techniques** - How to Master God's Words!

# BIBLICAL SALVATION

## Lesson One

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

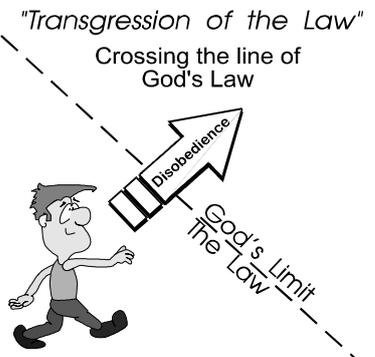
Lesson Verses: *1 John 5:11,12*

**“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” 1 John 5:11,12**

### I. Introduction

The decision to trust Jesus Christ as the Saviour of your soul is the greatest decision you could ever make! This lesson will briefly explain what happens when a person gets *saved*, and how the decision to trust Christ forever affects their relationship with God.

### WHAT IS SIN?



### II. Is Anyone “Good?”

A. The *spiritual* condition of **everyone** is described as what? Look in *Romans 3:10*, and *23*, where we are described as \_\_\_\_\_.

B. What does the Bible say “**sin**” is? (*1 John 3:4*) \_\_\_\_\_ . To “*trans-gress*” is to “cross a line” that God laid-out showing what is right and wrong. When we cross **His** laws (break through them), we sin. We call it “breaking God’s laws.” Everybody could be doing something, but if God said NOT to do it, and we go ahead anyway, then we have sinned.

C. God says, “*There is \_\_\_\_\_ righteous; no not one*” (*Romans 3:10*).

### III. God’s Absolute Laws of Right and Wrong

A. Most everyone agrees that we all break a few of God’s laws here and there, but hardly anyone believes these sins are serious enough to keep them out of heaven. The Bible says otherwise!

B. God laid out the requirements for entrance into His heaven in a simple list, and that requirement is perfection - having NO sin in us at all.

C. If you think you don’t sin, then God says you are \_\_\_\_\_ (*1 John 1:8*)!

D. If you want to try and prove that you don’t sin, take the following test:

The Big Ten		Never	Occasionally	Most of the Time	All the Time
1	Have I made something in my life more important than loving and obeying God?				
2	Have I <i>bowed down</i> to a statue, or an idol?				
3	Have I used Gods’ (or Jesus’) name flippantly?				
4	Have I worked on the Sabbath?				
5	Have I dishonoured or disobeyed my parents?				
6	Have I killed somebody?				
7	Have I committed adultery?				
8	Have I stolen ANYTHING, EVER?				
9	Have I told a lie?				
10	Have I coveted something?				

E. The above list is not anything new. What do we call this list? Not the Ten Suggestions, but God’s Ten \_\_\_\_\_. You find this list in every Bible in *Exodus chapter 20, from verses 1 through 17*.

F. So, to be classified as a sinner does not only mean being a *murderer*, or a *thief*, but it means when a person does ANY sin (*James 2:9,10*; like *stealing, cursing, rebelling,*

*hating, dishonouring, coveting, etc.*). Therefore, anyone who sins at all, is a **sinner** in God's eyes, and needs to be saved.

- G. Compare this truth to a tree – a small tree can be known for what it is, even when it has no fruit. The fruit (let's say, *apples*) comes later, but the tree will produce apples because it is an APPLE tree. In the same way, a person *sins* because he/she is a *sinner*.
- H. Note that if you ticked NEVER in number 6 above, remember that God says “*Whosoever \_\_\_\_\_ his brother is a \_\_\_\_\_: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.*” (1John 3:15)
- I. If you ticked NEVER in number 7 above, remember that Jesus said, “*But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to \_\_\_\_\_ after her hath committed \_\_\_\_\_ with her already in his heart.*” (Matthew 5:28).
- J. Even if you only ticked a few of the above NEVERS, then you probably are a pretty good person in man's eyes, but in God's eyes, you still are a SINNER (a law breaker), and you have proven God to be correct, and ought to now realise the truth that you need something to save you from the coming penalty for your sin.

#### IV. The Need for Salvation

- A. Ok, so we are sinners – we break God's laws. We break a lot of them! But, so what? Well, there is a **BIG penalty** for all our sins. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:23).
- B. Notice the word “*wages*” in Romans 6:23. Wages are what we earn - they are the result of our actions, whether on a job, or as we live our life. So, every sin we commit, we are only earning “\_\_\_\_\_”. And, that is NOT what we want is it?
- C. And there are two deaths to worry about. The first death is the end of your physical life, but it is not the end of your existence. What lies beyond a person's death is **eternity**. And if a person dies in their sins, they are condemned to die for an **eternity** IN A PLACE CALLED HELL.
1. No one normally believes they will end up in a devil's hell. They would never accept that they deserve such punishment. But what does the Bible say?
  2. The Bible says *hell* is a real place where Satan, his angels, and all sinful people will spend **eternity** suffering eternal punishment and separation from God.
  3. It is no joking matter: There are 162 clear references to hell in the New Testament alone, and 70 of these were made by Jesus himself! They include: Matthew 13:41,42; 5:29,30; 10:28; 11:23,24; 16:18; James 3:6; Revelation 20:13,14.
- D. **But WHY did God create Hell?**
1. God created hell because He is a righteous and holy God and cannot allow *sin* in His Heaven (Revelation 21:8).
  2. Since all men and women, boys and girls are sinners, **God's Son** came into the world to save us from hell's punishment. How did Jesus do that? By living a perfect sinless life that none of us could ever live, and then die a death in place of all mankind, be buried for three full days and nights, and then triumphantly raised again from the grave! Jesus did all this so that sinful people could receive the free gift of eternal \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:23), and thus have free access to heaven.
  3. It is only by believing Jesus' *finished work* on the cross that sinners such as you and I can ever be allowed into Heaven. But those who do not accept what Jesus did for them are destined to go to hell because they remain in their sins (John 3:18,36)!

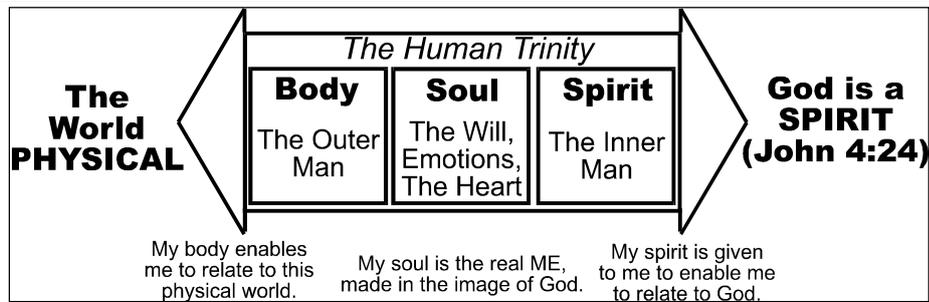
#### V. The Way of Salvation is found in a *Person*, Not a Religion

- A. When Jesus died on the cross, What did God make available to everyone?
1. “\_\_\_\_\_ *life*” (John 3:16,17) – think about it! Instead of an eternity in hell!

2. But to get eternal life, Jesus said we “*must be born \_\_\_\_\_*” (John 3:3,7).
  3. Read **Romans 6:23** again. Thankfully, God doesn’t just show us our condition (as sinners), and then abandon us – He offers us a free gift. The “\_\_\_\_\_ of God” (which CANNOT be earned) is the opposite of the wages of our sin!
  4. Specifically, that free GIFT that God offers is called, “\_\_\_\_\_ life.”
- B. Jesus was God’s gift to us, like an innocent lamb, taking the place of a sinful world. John the Baptist cried out “*Behold the \_\_\_\_\_ of God which taketh away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world*” (John 1:29). **Jesus** is our substitute in death so that we can receive the gift of eternal life!
- C. What does salvation cost?
1. God’s gift is given to us freely, requiring only a *committed choice* on our part **to accept it**. Take it as your own.
  2. God’s gift of eternal life is provided FREE to you through the willingness of Jesus Christ to take your and my place in death and God’s judgment on the cross! There is no other way to heaven than *through Jesus alone* (John 14:6)!
- D. Did you know that **Ephesians 2:8,9**, says it is **impossible** for a sinner to save themselves from the penalty of their sin through *good works*?
1. Notice getting saved is “*not of \_\_\_\_\_, lest any man should boast.*”
  2. What do we normally think are good works that should get us into heaven?
- 
3. Notice in **Titus 3:5** that it is “*not by works of \_\_\_\_\_...*”
  4. Have you tried to live righteously for any length of time? **Yes, No** (circle one). Was any of your righteous works good enough to get you saved? **Yes, No**.
  5. The gift of Salvation is only obtained by **surrender to Christ** - allow Jesus to do all the saving of your soul – with you no longer trying to do all the right things to earn heaven. So stop working at being good, and just finally accept what Jesus did for you in your place. Believe it with all your heart that Jesus did it for YOU!
- E. Just WHO are you going to trust?
1. An honourable man, named Jesus of Nazareth, who lived 2,000 years ago in Galilee? Who did amazing miracles like raising the dead, and healing blind and deaf people; who taught people how to pray, and how to love one another; who died at the hands of the Roman soldiers on a cross? Are you trusting in Jesus the MAN?
  2. Or are you trusting the *GOD who became a man*, who willingly took your and my place in death on the cross *as a Man*, in the place of all men and women everywhere, and who raised Himself out of the tomb and lives forevermore to give LIFE to all that believe on Him? Are you trusting Jesus the Son of God?
  3. One belief will leave you lost and unconverted. The other will transform your life!

## VI. Let's explore the *two births* the Bible talks about

- A. Our first birth is our **PHYSICAL** birth (read all of **John 3:1-7**):
1. The first birth is a **water** birth (**John 3:5**). It is not baptism. We all start our life in water. Every human is born out of a *water sack* in the womb.
  2. Your first birth comes from your *physical* parents. Their “flesh” produced your \_\_\_\_\_ (**John 3:6**).
  3. But that is not all there is to you! You are more than just bone and muscle and blood and brain.
  4. Take a look at the chart below.



5. You are a THREE-part being, with a body, a soul and a spirit.
  6. The most important part of You is the box in the middle labelled SOUL:
    - a. Your soul is the real you – the part that feels, wishes, dreams, and chooses.
    - b. Your body is what God gave your soul to interact with this world.
    - c. Your spirit is what God gave your soul to interact with Him.
  7. In simpler words, the real you (your soul) is invisible, inside you, using your body to interact with this world, and using your spirit to attempt to interact with God.
  8. What is the Soul?
    - a. The soul is part of the trinity of man (1Thes 5:23). Each part of you is vital, but Jesus said the \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important (Matt 16:26)
    - b. It is called the *hidden* or the *inner man* (1Peter 3:3,4; 2Corinthians 4:16-18)
    - c. The soul is the source of your emotions, your will, the ability to reason, and understand. It is your awareness of yourself.
    - d. In other words, your soul is **the real you** – what you really are, what you think, how you feel, and why you feel that way.
    - e. It is separate from the body – an immaterial, invisible part of you (2Cor 4:18).
  9. Everything would be fine, except the part of you that is supposed to be able to communicate with God (your spirit) is DEAD.
    - a. Sin by our first parents killed that part of us on the inside (Gen 2:17). Who were our first parents? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. The only way to *regenerate* (give life to) the spirit is by being born again, but this time, on the inside (Ephesians 2:1; Titus 3:5)!
- B. The second birth is your **SPIRITUAL** birth (John 3:5,6):
1. Your first birth only gave you human life – not eternal life. You HAVE to have a SECOND birth.
  2. This birth can only come from God. John 4:24 says that “God is a \_\_\_\_\_.” He is not *flesh* like we humans are. According to John 3:6, His Spirit will produce \_\_\_\_\_ in the life of a sinner if they would just fully believe on His Son, Jesus Christ (John 7:37-39)!
  3. The second birth involves trusting God’s \_\_\_\_\_ to be **true** (1Peter 1:23). You *can* fully and completely trust the death of Jesus Christ to be your payment for your sin, **because** God said in His word you could, and that He would give you a free gift, eternal salvation - eternal life!
  4. If you didn’t have God’s perfect word to discover all this, how could you know what to believe at all? Everyone’s guess would be as good as another’s. No wonder there are so many religious wars!
- C. Therefore, there are only two “births” that a person can experience.
1. The first birth gives only temporary life - it came from temporary parents didn’t it? And it ends in death because of \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 5:12) in all of us.

2. The second birth is only experienced by a person who turns to Christ for **salvation from** sin. It *never ends* because it came from an eternal Parent – \_\_\_\_\_ (1John 5:1)!
  3. The first birth makes you physically a child of your parents. The second birth makes you spiritually and eternally a child of \_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:11,12).
- D. A person desperately needs Jesus Christ to save them, because without Him, there is **no other** \_\_\_\_\_ to God (John 14:6). You cannot look to Allah, or Buddha, or Mary, etc., to get to God!
1. It is SIN that \_\_\_\_\_ all of humanity from God (Isaiah 59:2).
  2. And no one can take away sin except \_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:29).
  3. If a person dies without having their sin paid-off by faith in what Jesus Christ did on the cross, there is only one destiny for them (John 3:36; Matthew 23:33; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10-15).
    - a. What is that destiny? \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. That's why God calls upon everyone everywhere to \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 17:30) and be saved when? \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 6:2)
    - c. "Succoured" means *to help you*. That means, God will even help you believe His Son when you don't know how!
- E. Salvation is NOT a "process" - it is **instantly** given (Luke 18:9-14).
1. The Pharisee thought he was good enough.
  2. The Publican (a public official, greedy tax collector) easily admitted he was a "\_\_\_\_\_ " (Luke 18:13).
  3. There is always a process to the humbling of a person, but when they know they are lost, and in need of forgiveness, once salvation is asked for, it is **INSTANTLY** given as a free gift by God – because of Christ (Rom 6:23)!
- F. What must a person do in order to be saved from hell (born again)?
1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20:20,21; 2Peter 3:9). Repentance is a determined **choice** to turn away FROM sin, and turn TO Jesus Christ for salvation. It is being **very sorry** for your sin, and hating it! It is different from "*penance*" which is you trying to PAY for your sinfulness. You cannot pay for your sins - **only Jesus can!**
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:11,12; John 5:24; 6:28,29; Acts 16:30,31).
    - a. What does it mean to "*believe on Jesus?*"
      - 1) Not just agree with the Bible with our head (even "*the devils also \_\_\_\_\_, and tremble*"; James 2:19)
      - 2) But it means to understand from the heart that the only payment God will accept for your sins is the death of Jesus in your place (1John 2:1,2; 5:4,5).
      - 3) And it means to accept by faith His payment for your sins and allow Him to come into your heart and save you FROM your sins!
    - b. The word "**propitiation**" in 1 John 2:2, means "*full payment.*" God had to do more than just "forgive" sins, He had to completely pay-off all the broken laws that had mounted up against us, and that is what Jesus' death did - it paid *in full* all our sin debt!
- G. Read carefully Romans 10:13,17. Can you be **sure** Christ will save you if you ask Him to do so? **Yes**, or **No** (circle one)
1. Would you agree that if **God said it - that should settle it?** Then believe it! That is all Jesus asks of us – just believe with all your heart!

2. Faith is “*confidence*” in God’s promise, that He will never lie to you! He promises in His word over and over that He can and will save you!

Have you ever asked the Lord Jesus to **save** you from your sin and make you a child of God? \_\_\_\_\_. *When* was that? \_\_\_\_\_. **If you have not, will you ask Him, now?** (**Revelation 3:20**) **Yes**, or **No**. He stands at the door of your heart, knocking, and waiting. The handle is on YOUR side of the door. Open it, and let Him in! THAT’s when you become BORN AGAIN.

**VII. The Four ‘R’s of Salvation - Learn these well!** You can use these four great truths and Scriptures to explain to anybody how to become a born again believer in Jesus Christ!

- A. **Realize** you are a sinner, and are without the necessary righteousness to earn your entrance into heaven (**Romans 3:23**). God’s law proves that we sin, and that we are in eternal trouble with God because of our sin! So, none of us are good enough to live with God as we are! We **HAVE** to be **changed** from condemned to forgiven. But how?
- B. **Recognize** that you cannot fix yourself, but only by God’s specific intervention can a person be saved from coming punishment (**Titus 3:5**). None of us have the ability to pay off our sins, no matter how much we try to go to church, say our prayers, and be nice to people! The truth is, no one can be “good enough” to make up for all the bad.
- C. **Repent** of your life, and all the sin that filled it (that means, hate the sin that separates you from God, and stop trusting your attempts to be good), and then, give all that you are (sin and all) to the One who loves you and gave Himself for you on the cross (**2 Corinthians 7:10**). No one truly repents unless they first see themselves as a law-breaker, separated from God, and deserving of hell (**John 3:36**). Once you have repented, you are then empty of all self-righteousness, and are now ready to...
- D. **Receive** the priceless free gift of eternal life from God by simple *faith*, asking in prayer for God to save you, all because of Jesus (**John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8,9; Romans 10:13**)! You will need to ask *specifically* to be saved - don’t be vague or shy with God! And remember: you can ask simply because Jesus Christ paid for all your sins, past, present, and future! Nothing could be more important than knowing these four truths!

**VIII. The Completion of A Person’s Salvation**

- A. Salvation is a one-time event that changes your **destiny** forever (from hell, to heaven). It is NOT a “*continual process*”, nor a “*journey*” that a person is on! It occurs when a person decides to fully believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to save them from the punishment of their sins! Just like your first birth was a one time event, so also is your second birth! Have YOU experienced such an event? **Yes** or **No**?
- B. Would you think that your salvation is now dependent upon your ability to live a *sinless, perfect* and *holy* life? (see **Galatians 3:11**) **Yes** or **No**? No one can live sinlessly, even after getting saved.
- C. So, what **KEEPS** a person saved? **JESUS!** He *intercedes* with God, as \_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of a Christian who yields to temptation in a time of weakness? (**1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 2:1,2**). Don’t ever believe that a Christian is perfect - only forgiven.
- D. We therefore can **never** *lose* our gift of salvation once we have been born again! (**Romans 8:37-39; John 10:27-29; Jude 24**). Let’s examine why not!
  1. Because we have been \_\_\_\_\_ into God’s family - taken from being condemned sinners, and made into *children of God*, and heirs of everything that God has (**Romans 8:15-17**)! We are in God’s *family* now!
  2. Because we are fully **Forgiven** - **all** our sins (past, present and future) were paid-for completely at the cross by Jesus Christ! There is **NO** further payment necessary for us to pay (**Ephesians 1:7; Acts 13:38,39**)!

3. Because we have been \_\_\_\_\_ - we *exchanged* our sinfulness for the righteousness of Jesus Christ ([Acts 13:38,39](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#))!!! Jesus did not justify *our sins*, but instead, justified **US** – made us right with God!
4. We will learn more about this in Lesson 2.

### IX. Dealing With Sin Once You Are Already Saved

- A. Okay, but what happens now, when a Christian sins?
  1. The Holy Spirit first shames us, and makes us aware we are doing wrong. It is called “reproving” or convicting us – making us know we are guilty ([John 16:7,8](#)).
  2. We won’t enjoy the sin like we used to ([Psalm 32:1-5](#)).
    - a. Notice in how disobeying God will affect us. Iniquity is another word for sin:
    - b. You will age faster.
    - c. God’s \_\_\_\_\_ will be hard against you, not blessing you ([Psalm 32:4](#)).
    - d. You will basically “dry up” on the inside like a desert.
    - e. So, Can a Christian be happy while disobeying God? **Yes** or **No**?
  3. We will be lovingly chastised by God. [Hebrews 12:5-11](#) explains that God always endeavours to make us mature, and holy in our lives by chastening us when we sin.
    - a. Chastening means “correcting” NOT punishing. God brings trouble into your life to get you back “*on the strait (hard path) and narrow*”
    - b. God chastens His children because He \_\_\_\_\_ them.
    - c. If a person never experiences God’s **chastisement**, it is evident that person never became a Christian at all and is a \_\_\_\_\_ ([Heb 12:8](#)) – God calls them *illegitimate* – not the real thing – a faker.
- B. What should a believer do when they sin?
  1. \_\_\_\_\_ ([1 John 1:9](#)). To “confess” means to **agree** with God about the sinfulness of your life, and especially about specific acts where you broke His direct commandments!
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ ([Proverbs 28:13](#)). What do you think “forsake” means?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### X. Concluding Questions - Fill in these questions from memory.

- A. The Bible was written for us to know that we are \_\_\_\_\_, and that as sinners we needed God to reach down to us (not for us to reach up), and to save us from \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. God has revealed absolute truth through the \_\_\_\_\_ alone.
- C. What has separated all of humanity from God? \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Who can actually completely take away the sins of the whole world? \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Instead of trying to pay off all our sins ourselves with our own good works, our salvation depends only upon whether we are by faith willing to let the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ be sufficient to pay off all our sin-debt to God.
- F. The term “*born again*” refers to what? An **external** or an **internal** birth? (Circle one).
- G. When Jesus died, whose place was He taking? \_\_\_\_\_
- H. When a person repents of their sins, and calls upon Jesus Christ to save them from hell, how long does it take before they are forgiven of all sins, past, present, and future?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I. Have you **let Him** take *your* place, and been born again yourself? **Yes** or **No**
- J. Is Jesus Christ worthy of you living your life by following Him and obeying His word from now on? **Yes, No.**

**Well done! Lesson One is completed!**

Date Lesson Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Discipler \_\_\_\_\_

# ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER

## Lesson Two

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

Lesson Verse: *1 John 5:13*

*“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God” 1 John 5:13*

### I. Introduction – “Now that I am saved, can I ever *LOSE* my salvation?”

Once a person has settled the question of how to be saved - *by grace through faith in the Saviour Jesus Christ* - it is imperative that he/she understands the security of that new relationship with God. The devil’s main work on the new believer is to get them to doubt the security of that relationship.

### II. What Jesus Said About Your Salvation

- A. Jesus cannot throw you away. In *John 6:37*, Jesus promises that “...*him that cometh to me I will in no wise \_\_\_\_\_.*” To “*cast out*” would be to reject, or cast away a sinner who has come to Christ for salvation. Jesus promises *never* to do that!
- B. No one can cause you to lose your salvation – not even you! *John 10:27-29* makes it clear that no one can cause you to lose your salvation. It is God that saves, and He is greater than all men. Notice that Jesus gives a person “\_\_\_\_\_ *life*”, and that they shall “\_\_\_\_\_ *perish*”! How long is eternal life? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Therefore, Your salvation is all because **God is gracious enough** to allow your simple child-like faith in Jesus, be enough to give you eternal life. It is simply a priceless *gift* from God.
  1. No one can lose their salvation because **no one can earn it!** It is *freely given* on the merit of \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness (*2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 2:8,9*), not on the basis of our own goodness (*Isaiah 64:6*).
  2. Either Christ paid for ALL your sins, or He didn’t (*Hebrews 10:12,14,17*). And if He did, then when you accepted His salvation, your eternity was settled for how long? \_\_\_\_\_ (see again *1 John 5:11-13*)!

### III. Is There Anything That Can Separate Us From God?

- A. *Romans 8:38,39* says that **NONE** of the following can separate us from God:
  1. **Death** - you can't lose it when you die.
  2. **Life** - you can't lose it while alive.
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ - neither the good or the bad ones can take it from you.
  4. **Principalities** - no government or ruler can take it away from you.
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ - no spiritual power, including the devil himself can cause you to lose it. Spiritual powers are big, but not big enough.
  6. **Things present** - nothing happening right now can take it away.
  7. **Things to come** - nothing in the future (including sins) can make you lose it.
  8. **Height** - nothing above you can take it away.
  9. \_\_\_\_\_ - nothing from hell below you can rob you of God’s forgiveness.
  10. **Nor any other creature** shall be able to \_\_\_\_\_ us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- B. There are NO sins that you could do that could make Jesus reject you now that you have been forgiven! He took away the sins of the WHOLE \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 1:29*)!

And there are no Scriptures that show a believer could sin a sin and therefore lose their new life in Christ. None!

- C. Your salvation is *sealed* for all eternity with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 1:13; 4:30](#)).
1. To “seal” something is to “secure” it like a package is “sealed” for shipping, and like when you put a down-payment on a house (you are sealing the purchase)
  2. The Holy Spirit is our *seal* showing that \_\_\_\_\_ owns us, and will not let anything “spoil” or ruin us ([1 Corinthians 6:19,20](#))!
  3. Jesus promises He will **NEVER** leave you, nor \_\_\_\_\_ you ([Heb 13:5](#))!
- D. Best of all, your \_\_\_\_\_ is written down in heaven ([Luke 10:20; Rev 20:14,15](#)) - your reservation for your trip has already been made!
- E. Therefore, NOTHING can separate a believer from the love of God. ***Yet the truth is, a Christian does still sin***, and is \_\_\_\_\_ if he thinks he does not sin anymore ([1 John 1:8](#)). So, what effect does sin have on a Christian?
1. It will NOT send us to hell now – but it will make it so God is not close to us.
    - a. Sin USED to separate us from God completely – we were in a completely different family ([John 8:44](#)).
    - b. But sin now only separates us in our *fellowship* with God (our closeness)! Just as you can never break the relationship between a child and his or her parents, the same is true when we become a child of God ([John 1:12,13](#)). It is permanent.
    - c. Remember, Your relationship with God is now a Father/son relationship by the new "birth" ([John 3:3](#)). Jesus teaches us to call God, “our \_\_\_\_\_” ([Matthew 6:9](#)) because, by your faith in Christ, ***that’s just what He is!***
  2. God will have to lovingly chastise you.
    - a. When a Christian sins, no matter what sin it is, if that sin is not confessed to God *as sin* (not just a “mistake”), and if not repented of, then God will have to *chastise* you ([Hebrews 12:6-8](#)).
    - b. God is responsible for His children, and will not let us get away with sin like we used to before we were adopted into His family!
  3. God will ignore you – He will not answer your \_\_\_\_\_ ([Psalm 66:18](#)) until you get right with Him. He won’t hear you when you pray... and that’s pretty serious.
  4. But, if your sinning goes on for very long, the Lord may just cause you to become weak, sickly, or even to die early because you have stopped living for Him ([1 Corinthians 11:30-32](#)).
- F. But a believer, a born again Christian cannot ever become lost again!
1. Remember, Jesus promises to never throw us away, nor cast us away ([John 6:37](#)).
  2. Jesus promises that a believer will NEVER “\_\_\_\_\_” ([John 10:28](#))
  3. Jesus promises that He will lose NO ONE that comes to Him for salvation. See [John 6:39](#), “*And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose \_\_\_\_\_.*”
  4. Jesus put GOD the Holy Spirit inside you, and then “\_\_\_\_\_” Him in you until you reach heaven! ([Rom 5:5; Eph 1:13](#)).
  5. If someone starts seriously sinning, and leaves church, and stops believing, and does NOT experience God’s chastening... then that person “*went out from us, but they were \_\_\_\_\_; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.*” [1John 2:19](#).

IV. What If You Don't Feel Saved?

- A. “\_\_\_\_\_” your heart to see if you trusted Christ to **save** you, or are still *working* your own way to heaven (2 Corinthians 13:5). A “reprobate” is a faker, or a fraud. More people only “hope” they are Christians because they have prayed a prayer, or go to a certain church, or whatever. If you are saved, it will be because as a sinner, you simply repented and trusted Christ!
- B. And then **Determine** in your heart, that eternal life is NOT based upon *feelings*, but only on the factual truths of the word of God and your acceptance of it (1 John 3:19,20; Titus 1:2).
1. He said you are forgiven by your faith alone (Acts 13:38,39).
  2. He said you are now accepted (Ephesians 1:6).
  3. He said you will be with Him one day (John 14:1-3).
  4. At some point you are going to have to just **believe** all that God said, and settle it forever in your heart! (1John 2:25).



V. **So, Once sealed, ALWAYS sealed** (Ephesians 4:30). That's why a Christian can say they **know** they are saved, and actually **HAVE** right now, eternal life (1John 5:13).

VI. **Things That Give Us Assurance of Salvation.** Below are some things that will develop automatically in your life now that you personally know and trust Jesus Christ!

- A. A love for the Bible - a love for the TRUTH (Psalm 1:1,2; 119:97)!
- B. A love for God like never before - A personal walk with Him develops! He is not a Genie, or a distant Creator, but **Saviour and Friend** (Matt 22:36,37)!
- C. A desire to do God's \_\_\_\_\_, instead of only your own (Psalm 40:8)!
- D. No more \_\_\_\_\_ - True confidence in Christ and in the truth (2Tim 1:7)!
- E. The chastening hand of the Lord in your life when you sin (Hebrews 12:6)!
- F. A spiritual discernment - able to sense spiritual things going on, and focus on the eternal, instead of only on this life (Romans 8:15,16; 1Cor 2:14-16)!

## VII. Some Questions to Ponder...

- A. Jesus promises that “...*him that cometh to me I will in no wise* \_\_\_\_\_.”
- B. What kind of life did Jesus purchase for a believer? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Can anyone or anything come between and separate you from your relationship with God after you have been born again? **Yes** or **No**?
- D. No one can lose their salvation, because no one can earn it! **True** or **False**?
- E. How many of your sins did Jesus actually pay for when He died on the cross for you?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- F. Name ANY sins that you could commit that would be more than Jesus died for:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Give a Scripture that proves those sins would make you lose your new life in Christ:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- G. What does the Holy Spirit do to a person's soul when they get saved? \_\_\_\_\_
- H. What is written down in heaven the moment you get born again? \_\_\_\_\_
- I. What BIG thing will God have to do to you if you start sinning and not stopping?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Lesson Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Discipler \_\_\_\_\_

# BELIEVER'S BAPTISM

## Lesson Three

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

Lesson Verse: *Acts 2:41*

*“Then they that gladly received his word were **baptized**” Acts 2:41*

### I. Introduction

- A. The Christian life, entered through the new birth, is just that - *a life*. In the Bible, a new Christian is compared to a "baby" (1Peter 2:2), and is commanded to “\_\_\_\_\_ *in grace*” to maturity (2Peter 3:18). A Christian therefore, is not to stay as a “baby” all their life, but to GROW. And an important FIRST step of a Bible believing Christian’s growth is *believer’s baptism* (Acts 2:37-41; Matthew 28:18-20).
- B. This simple step of obedience is NOT part of being saved - it is God’s test of whether or not a person whole-heartily wants to follow the Lord Jesus Christ now that they ARE saved!
- C. This lesson will explain what believer’s baptism is, its importance, and when a Christian should get baptized.

### II. What is Believer's Baptism?

#### A. Let’s First Start with What Baptism is Not

1. **Baptism is NOT a Sacrament** - The word sacrament means doing something to **earn** God’s gift of grace. The word *sacrament* is a word from Catholicism and was carried over into the Reformation, but is not a Bible word. God’s grace is a free gift from God that cannot ever be earned! God gives His grace FREELY, if only we would take it by faith.
2. **Baptism is NOT a means of Salvation** - To everyone thinking their baby baptism helped them out, God's Word says in Titus 3:5 “Not by \_\_\_\_\_ of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.” God clearly declares that we are saved by **free grace** through **simple faith** in His Son. Ephesians 2:8,9 says, “For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of \_\_\_\_\_ lest any man should boast.” No works, no matter how good can be a part of paying for your sins. Period!
  - a. Although Catechisms, Creeds, and Confessions say that baptism is necessary for your salvation, the Bible says the opposite! Anything that you are trusting in, especially your good works like baptism, is nothing compared to the perfect effort of God’s son Jesus Christ in your place on the cross!
  - b. Baptism cannot cleanse anyone’s soul! It is only water! It never has washed anything *on the inside of us* away, and it never will! Only the perfect blood of Jesus Christ can wash away all your sin!
3. **Baptism is NOT a tradition or empty religious ceremony.** It is the FIRST thing a believer does once they have become a born again Christian. It follows salvation just about every time someone got saved in the New Testament. See again Acts 2:41 “Then they that gladly received his word were \_\_\_\_\_: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”

#### B. What Baptism Is

1. Baptism in the Bible is **the act of obedience** to the command by Jesus Christ for every new believer to be baptized in water (Matthew 28:19,20; Acts 2:41,42).

2. Baptism is **only for followers** of Jesus Christ who have made a definite decision to turn away from sin, and believe only in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour! It is not for babies, or for people who just feel like getting baptized.
3. It means **to fully submerge a believer into water**, in order to identify the believer with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection (**Romans 6:3,4**), and to testify to the world that they are a new creature because of God's grace, not because of being baptized. Baptism is a statement that you are now a believer, not a MEANS of becoming a believer!
4. Believer's Baptism, **means to go into and then come out of WATER** (**Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:9,10; Acts 8:38,39**), as in *complete immersion*, and is the only thing that can picture a burial and resurrection, whereas all other definitions (like, sprinkling, dipping, pouring, etc.) cannot illustrate this.
5. Baptism **associates the new believer with the doctrine of the church administering it**. This is important! **1 Corinthians 10:1-4** shows that the Jews coming out of Egypt were baptized unto \_\_\_\_\_ and his laws. When they went under the water, they were following Moses. Well, when a new believer gets baptized, they are deciding to agree with the doctrine of the church that is baptizing them. Be careful who is baptizing you, and make sure they are Bible-only in doctrine.
6. Baptism therefore is the method ordained by Jesus Christ to keep His church pure from false believers, and false teachers who may attempt to enter the church as ravenous wolves, not sparing the \_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 20:28,29**).

### C. There are Two '*Baptisms*' in the Bible

1. Water Baptism is actually the SECOND Baptism a person needs. It is NOT the most important baptism.
2. Notice these important Scriptures and truths:
  - a. Every person starts off "in sins" and not "in Christ". **Ephesians 2:1,5** says every one of us have lived "*IN sins*" all our lives. It was the condition we naturally lived in. We were lost, and condemned because of all our sins we constantly did against the laws of God.
  - b. Then, **1 Corinthians 12:12,13** shows the sinner being **taken from** a life that had been *in sin*, and now being placed INTO the Person of \_\_\_\_\_ Himself at the time of their new birth (see also **2 Corinthians 5:17**)! **This is a SPIRITUAL baptism**, and it is MUCH more important than any water baptism.
    - 1) Spiritual baptism is what happens when a sinner is saved from the punishment of their sins – they are PLACED INTO SALVATION HIMSELF!
    - 2) The placement of a sinner's life into Christ is what actually saves that sinner. As far as we are concerned, we are only trusting Christ to cleanse us from all sin in us. As far as God is concerned, we are actually being immersed into, and surrounded by our Saviour for the rest of eternity!
    - 3) So, at your salvation, God didn't just give you the gift of eternal life - He actually placed you INTO eternal life Himself, which is Jesus Christ!
    - 4) This is the most important baptism, because, if you didn't get placed *into Christ*, then you never got saved!
3. So, two baptisms need to occur in every person's life:
  - a. Is it a (**spiritual** or **water**) baptism which happens when we are saved (placed into Jesus Christ when we ask to be saved from our sins).

- b. And THEN, is it a (**spiritual** or **water**) baptism, which happens **after** we get saved (placed into water to show the world we are burying our old life).
- c. Which baptism must happen FIRST? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Has THAT baptism happened in your life yet? **Yes** or **No**?

D. **The importance of ‘Water Baptism’.** We have learned now about *Spiritual Baptism*. The Bible also talks about ‘*water baptism*.’ Let’s find out more about it.

1. Baptism into water only occurs to those capable of ‘believing’ on the Lord Jesus for salvation. Therefore, only those that \_\_\_\_\_ can be baptized (**Acts 8:26-39**). This excludes all baby baptisms, because they can’t believe! **There is not one record of the baptism of a baby in the Bible.**
2. Water baptism ALWAYS follows a sinner’s salvation where they have been Spiritually baptized into Christ first.
3. Water baptism symbolizes on the outside what happened already ‘inside’ when a person was saved - “I died to sin (its guilt, power, and its penalty), my old life is therefore dead and buried, and I was raised to a new life IN Christ.”
4. **Romans 6:3-6** describes baptism as a 3-fold *memorial* of:
  - a. Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. His \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. And His \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. *According to 1Corinthians 15:1-4, the whole Gospel is contained in these three events, and that a person is SAVED if he or she simply trusts them to be sufficient to pay for their sins!*
  - e. If you think water baptism is necessary for a person to be saved, **1Corinthians 15** never mentions water ANYWHERE!
  - f. The apostle Paul’s whole focus in life was not baptizing people, but preaching the Gospel to get people to believe (**1Cor 1:13-18**)! Not that water baptism is not important, but that it was *secondary* to salvation - not part of salvation!
  - g. So, water baptism *identifies* or *associates* the believer no longer with their old life of sin, but with Jesus Christ and **His** death, burial, and resurrection. In the same way that a uniform associates a worker with the company they work for!
5. Water baptism presents a public testimony to the world that one has accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and that they are willing to live a different life now for the Lord Jesus (**Acts 2:41; Romans 10:11**)!

### III. Does Baptism Have Anything Do With Salvation?

- A. So, when immersed into water in baptism, does this “wash away our sins?”
- B. John the Baptist declared in **Mark 1:4** “*John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.*” That sounds like a person has to be baptized to receive the removal (remission) of their sins.
- C. But listen to Jesus clarify:
  1. **Matthew 26:28** “*For this is \_\_\_\_\_ of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*”
  2. God says in **Hebrews 9:22**, “*without shedding of \_\_\_\_\_ is no remission.*”
- D. John’s Baptism was ONLY Water Baptism (**Mark 1:7,8; Acts 1:5**)
  1. **Mark 1:7,8** *And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.*

2. **Acts 1:5** For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.
  3. So, Baptism of the Holy Ghost [SALVATION] is infinitely more important than baptism in water!
- E. The \_\_\_\_\_ (not baptism) is the Gospel – full stop! (**1Cor 1:17,18**)
- F. Believer's Water Baptism only pictures the Remission of sins that had happened to them when they believed!
1. It is a joyful ceremony marking the public confession of a new believer's FAITH in Jesus, and their decision to FOLLOW the life of Christ
  2. **Act 19:4,5** Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
  3. Just like the Lord's Remembrance Supper is a PICTURE (it is NOT literal, even though it SOUNDS literal), so also is believer's baptism. Neither Baptism or Communion does anything for the soul of the believer!
- G. Here are some more Scriptures
1. **Ephesians 2:8,9** We are saved by what? \_\_\_\_\_ Not by ANY work, effort at all other than that!
  2. **1Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. NOT by our baptism.
  3. **Ephesians 1:7** "...we have redemption through \_\_\_\_\_"
  4. **1John 1:7** "...the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ his Son, cleanseth us from \_\_\_ sin."
- H. So... Only the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ can wash away our sins! Not water at all!

#### IV. How Should A Person be Water-Baptized?

- A. You must be baptized just **like Jesus was baptized**: Jesus was not sprinkled, or poured upon, but rather *immersed* into the water. **Matthew 3:16** says, "He (Jesus) ...went **UP** straightway \_\_\_\_\_ of the water..." He had been IN it.



- B. You must be baptized **like ALL New Testament believers were baptized**: (**Acts 8:38,39**) "... they went down both into the water... and when they were come UP out of the water..." Note that there is NO exception to this in all the Bible examples.
- C. A new Christian should be baptized **in the only way that adequately pictures Christ's death, burial, and resurrection** to save the sinner (See again **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, and **Romans 6:1-6**).

#### V. Why Get Baptized?

- A. Because we are following someone who is our greatest example. Who is this example? (**Matthew 3:13-16**) \_\_\_\_\_

- B. Because it was the *normal practice* of the Christians in the New Testament (**Acts 2:41; 8:38; 9:17,18; 10:48; 16:14,15,33; 18:8; 19:4,5**).
- C. Because it is Christ's *command* for all nations: "*Go ye therefore and teach all nations, \_\_\_\_\_ them...*" (**Matt 28:19,20**). Jesus said, "*If ye \_\_\_\_\_ me, keep my \_\_\_\_\_*" (**John 14:15**).
- D. Because it *testifies* to the world that you are different now (**2 Corinthians 5:17**), and that you are aligning your life with what the Bible says, and not with what this world and its religions say.
- E. Baptism is God's test of a person's sincerity of faith. If a person is not willing to go on record as having been saved by the grace of God through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, then they really are not coming to Christ for salvation, but for their own purpose. God doesn't just want "lip service" (**Matthew 15:8**). He wants to know if we are really serious! We already know that He is really serious - He already *died* in our place! Will you *live* for Him?

Key Truths About Baptism	
❖	It means <i>immersion</i> .
❖	It is supposed to happen AFTER a person consciously repents, and accepts Jesus Christ as their Saviour from sin's penalty.
❖	Any baptism before salvation is worthless, and does not count.
❖	Baptism is a public show of your commitment to living your new life for Christ.

**VI. Two Important Questions to Settle:**

- A. Why did Jesus die? \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Why did He rise again from the dead? Think about it! Because whatever reason He did it, proves what He wants to do IN YOUR LIFE! What one word keeps popping up in all the following Scriptures? \_\_\_\_\_ (**John 10:10; 5:24; 3:16; Romans 6:23**).
- C. THAT answer explains the reason for getting Scripturally baptized... to **show** the world that you now have a new " \_\_\_\_\_ " that you are going to live, for Him!

**VII. What If I Was Baptized Already BEFORE I Got Saved?**

- A. Notice when true Christians got baptized (**Acts 2:41; 16:30-33**). Was it Before or After their repentance of sin, and acceptance of Christ? (circle one)
- B. If you were baptized **before** you became born again (for example, when you were an infant, or when you joined some religion or church), then *you only got wet*, and you still need to be baptized.
- C. So, if you have been saved, and have **never** been *Scripturally* baptized, and you are going to be obedient to the Saviour and His word, when should you be baptized?  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Have you ever been Scripturally baptized after you got saved? If so when? \_\_\_\_\_ and where? \_\_\_\_\_  
If you have never been Scripturally baptized, are you ready now? **Yes, No**

Date Lesson Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Discipler \_\_\_\_\_

# THE WORD OF GOD

## Lesson Four

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

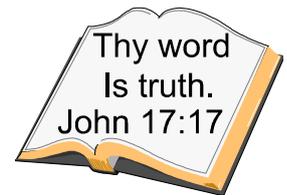
Lesson Verse: *Hebrews 4:12*

*"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."*

Hebrews 4:12

### I. Introduction

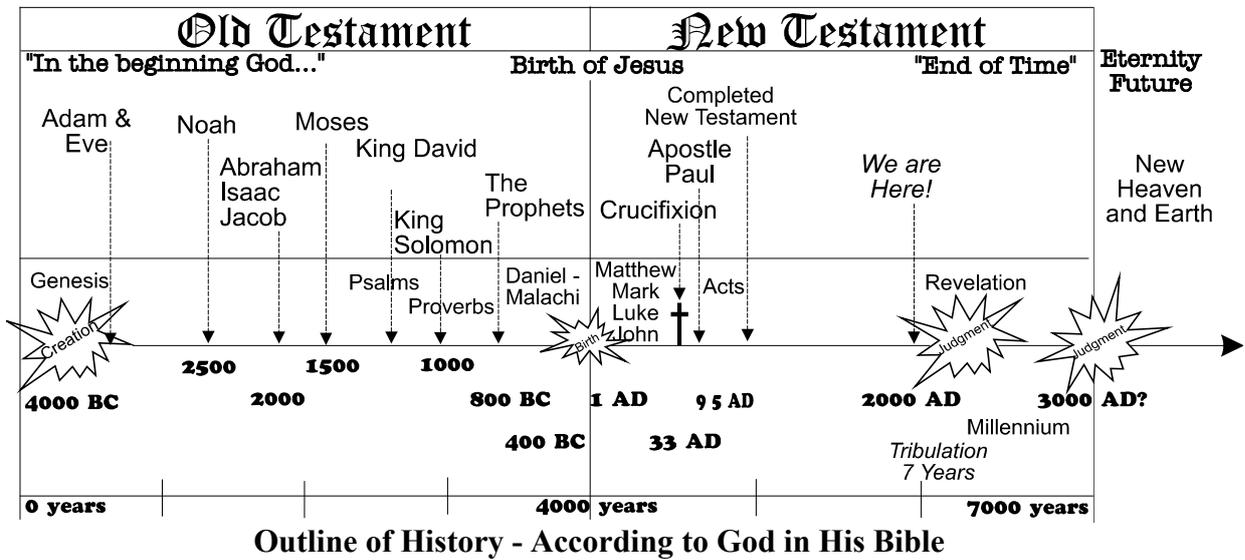
- A. What separates **Bible**-Christianity from all other types of Christianity is its claim to an absolute, written authority from God (*John 17:17*). So many "Christians" only *use* the Bible, but do not believe it is completely true. Having the perfect word of God is essential because the way in which a Christian is to live his or her life is only found in the pages of the Holy Bible!
- B. The purpose of this lesson is to help the Christian to know what it is that they hold in their hands, and how they can trust it as *the very "word of \_\_\_\_\_"* (*1 Thessalonians 2:13*)! We don't just "believe" the Bible is God's word... we can **PROVE** it.
- C. What you hold in your hands is a supernatural Book, given to us by God to show us who God is, what He expects, and how to follow Him throughout all of our lives.



### II. Bible Facts

- A. The Bible is **the oldest book in the world**. It has been read by more people and translated into more languages than any other book and holds the distinction of being the first book ever printed on a printing press.
- B. It alone has altered the events of human history **more than any other piece of literature**. The Bible has been introduced into nations full of chaotic warlike tribes and ended up producing civilized and safe societies. This one book has defended beleaguered women and freed slaves by expressly teaching all are to be treated as equals.
- C. It guides the human heart and mind on a journey that has led to the greatest discoveries and accomplishments ever attempted. And it speaks with all authority on the issues of not only life, but of death, and eternity. It does all this in words on a page, that can be held in a hand, studied by the mind, believed with the heart, and experienced in the soul. There is no other book like the Bible. And there is no better book for the soul. Read it. Test it. Believe it. And enjoy the fruits of living by it.
- D. The Bible is **ONE** Book made up of **66** separate books. During the Council of Trent (1563 AD), the Roman Catholic church added 7 more books called the *Apocrypha*, but they are not inspired like the other 66, and cause great confusion by its contradictions.
- E. Each book of the Bible is thankfully divided into Chapters, and each chapter into verses. There are 1,189 chapters in the entire Bible, and 31,102 verses.
- F. **It is eternal**. According to Jesus Christ, "\_\_\_\_\_ " and "\_\_\_\_\_ " will pass away, but NOT God's word (*Matthew 24:35*).
- G. Overall, the Bible is divided into two main sections:
  1. The **first** section is called the \_\_\_\_\_ (*2Cor 3:14*).
  2. The **second** section is called the \_\_\_\_\_ (*2Cor 3:6*).
  3. A "testament" is a written *testimony* about God's will for us in the form of a covenant (or agreement) with us.

- H. The Bible is **God's revelation** of the origin and destiny of all things (Isaiah 46:9,10). It is a record of how God dealt with man in the past, present and future. And it reveals the plan of God for mankind here and now, and in the next life.
- I. It contains **the message of eternal salvation** for all who believe in Christ, and eternal \_\_\_\_\_ for all who reject that Gospel (John 3:36).
- J. It is the most remarkable Book ever! Of its divine library of 66 books, there is history, biography, poetry, proverbial sayings (true sayings), hymns (songs), laws, parables (stories that teach truth), riddles, allegories (symbolic language), prophecies, records of birth, and death, mysteries, adventure, recipes, blessings, cursings, and all other forms of human expression!
- K. The Bible is superior to all philosophy because it was not given “by man’s \_\_\_\_\_” but by the teaching of the \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 2:13).
- L. **The Bible is perfect**, having no error because it is both *inspired*, and \_\_\_\_\_ by God (Psalm 12:6,7). God wrote the Scriptures through men (that’s *inspiration*, 2Timothy 3:16), and then bound Himself to keep His word from error (that’s *preservation*, Matthew 24:35)! That means God’s word is still here today - it has not been lost or corrupted, or else Jesus was a liar!
- M. This one Book permeates all of literature. No stories are as well known as David and Goliath, Daniel in the Lion’s Den, Moses at the Red Sea, and Noah’s world wide flood. The words of this Book that you hold in your hand are even etched in stone upon so many public buildings all over the world as testimony to how it has been the foundation for laws and a just society.
- N. And the Bible is not going away... Jesus said in Matthew 24:35, “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall \_\_\_\_\_.”



- O. **Psalm 119** describes the importance of the Bible in the life of the believer.
  1. The Bible refers to *itself* in **Psalm 119** using eight different words:
    - a. **The** \_\_\_\_\_ - God’s definition of right and wrong (vs 1)
    - b. **The** \_\_\_\_\_ - a record of what God thinks (vs 2)
    - c. **God’s** \_\_\_\_\_ - a record of how God works (vs 3)
    - d. \_\_\_\_\_ - Truths that apply to life - principles (vs 4)
    - e. \_\_\_\_\_ - fixed truths of God (5)
    - f. \_\_\_\_\_ - clear commands and instructions (6)
    - g. \_\_\_\_\_ - God’s conclusions about various subjects (vs 7)
    - h. **The** \_\_\_\_\_ - the very words of God (vs 9)

2. The Psalm also declares that God charges the believer with eight responsibilities concerning the Scriptures:
  - a. To *love* them (119:97,159) - How much do YOU love the Bible?
  - b. *Prize* them (119:72,127) as you would infinite **treasure!**
  - c. *Memorize* them (119:11) - learn God's words as He wrote them.
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ on them (119:15,23,48,78) - understand each word!
  - e. *Study* them (119:12,18,26,27) - See *2Tim 2:15!*
  - f. *Trust* them (119:42) Faith comes by hearing this Bible (Rom 10:17)
  - g. *Obey* them (119:8) - See *James 1:22!* Live this Bible every day!
  - h. *Declare* them (119:13) - tell others of God's word on life!

P. There are four things God wants us to learn from the Bible (2Timothy 3:16,17):

1. **Doctrine** - learn what is right and true.
2. **Reproof** - learn what is not right in our life, and in the world.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - learn how to **get** right - most important.
4. **Instruction** in righteousness - learn how to **stay** right.
5. These four foundations prepare you so that "...*the man of God* (the mature Christian) *may be* \_\_\_\_\_, *thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*"

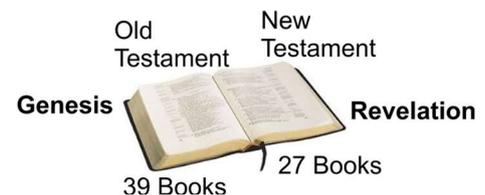
### III. What The Bible Is Not - Make no mistake about it!

- A. It is NOT a charm or good luck piece.
- B. It is NOT a book of "heavenly utterances" in a supernatural language. It is God's revelation in the most simple human language possible.
- C. It is NOT a book of mysteries. It is self interpreting, explaining all the mysteries of life, so that no mysteries remain.
- D. It is NOT a book that says one thing and means another.
- E. It is NOT a book that should be constantly criticized and attacked simply because you don't like what it says, or how it says it! It is God's words!

### IV. How We Got Our Bible - A Brief History Lesson

- A. The Bible was written not by just one or two people, but by 40 different people from 19 different occupations, including shepherds, soldiers, farmers, cattlemen, fishermen, tax collectors, a medical doctor, and even several kings and prophets, etc. These men's lives spanned a period of about 2,000 years, with the earliest book, the book of Job being written about 1,900 years before the birth of Christ. Other books, including Genesis through Deuteronomy were written around 1,400 years before Christ. And the book of the Revelation was written about 95 years AFTER the birth of Christ.

1. The first part of the Bible is called **the Old Testament**, and consists of 39 books. These books make up about 3/4ths of the entire Bible. They include Genesis, Exodus, Ruth, Esther, Psalms, Proverbs, Daniel, and ends with the book by Malachi. These 39 books were written mainly in the Jewish language of Hebrew.
2. The second part of the Bible is called **the New Testament**, and it has 27 books in it. They include Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Ephesians, 1st and 2nd Timothy, James, and it ends with the book of Revelation. All the New Testament books were written in the Greek language starting just after Christ's resurrection, with the last ones being completed by 95 A.D.



- B. The Bible is the written record of the very words that proceeded from the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (Matthew 4:4). They are referred to as the *Scriptures*, the *Law*, **God's Word**,

and *the Book*. We get our word “*Bible*” from the Greek word ‘Biblios’, which simply means “the Book.”

- C. The Bible actually describes how it was written.
1. The Bible came not “by the \_\_\_\_\_ of man” (2Peter 1:21). No one just sat down and decided to write something and call it Scripture.
  2. The Apostle Peter continued in 2Peter 1:21, “but *holy men of God spake as they were \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Ghost*”. That is called Inspiration (2Tim 3:16). This means God “breathed” (spoke) His very words into the human authors of the Bible as they wrote it - they were not invented by human imagination. They came directly from God (Matthew 4:4)!
  3. God chose to use over 40 human authors to pen the books of the Bible, with the Holy Spirit always directing, and controlling their words. Let’s look at some of the “sub-authors” that God used to pen this Book of books called the Bible:
    - a. Who wrote Deuteronomy 31:24-26? \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. Who wrote most of the Psalms? Luke 20:42 \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. Proverbs 1:1 \_\_\_\_\_
    - d. Isaiah 1:1 \_\_\_\_\_
    - e. Romans 1:1,7 \_\_\_\_\_
    - f. 1Peter 1:1 \_\_\_\_\_
  4. What the sub-authors spoke was written down. What was written down was copied and passed around throughout the world! These authors were serious men. They came from all walks of life. They were men of good reputation and of sound mind. Many of them were viciously persecuted and killed for the life they lived. None of the authors were ever made wealthy or powerful by the words they wrote, or the prophecies they gave. Far from it; many were impoverished. Moses, the author of the first five books of the Bible, chose to live a life of horrific hardship in the service of God as opposed to the billionaire’s life he could have lived as the adopted son of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Many Bible writers made similar choices. Their motivation certainly was not covetousness and worldly advantage. The lives they lived, and the testimonies they held, and the deaths they died gave powerful evidence that they were telling the truth.
- D. As each of the authors spoke, they then penned their words under the perfectly guided inspiration of the Holy Ghost (2Timothy 3:16 says, “*All scripture is given by \_\_\_\_\_ of God*”).
- E. The Old Testament was written mainly in the *HEBREW* language, with the oldest book being written 2000 years before the Birth of Christ (BC) and the last being written about 350 years BC. The Hebrew (which is read from right to left) for Genesis 1:1 looks like:

בראשית ברא אלהים את השמים ואת הארץ:

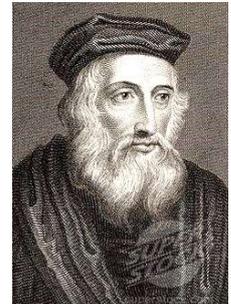
- F. The New Testament was written in *GREEK* from 35 AD to 95 AD (A.D. is a Latin abbreviation for, *Year of the Lord* starting from Christ’s birth). The Greek for John 3:16 looks like (you read Greek from left to right):

οὕτως γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ  
τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ  
ἀποληταὶ ἀλλ' ἐχῆ ζωὴν αἰώνιον

- G. Aren't you glad we can read God's words in our own language?!
- H. The Bible is now **completed**. It's last book was finished in about 95 AD, when the apostle John completed the book of *Revelation*. No one can add anything to it through personal revelations, visions, or prophecies, and no one can take away from it (**Rev 22:18,19**) - anyone who tries to say they have any additional prophecies than already contained in the Bible is of the devil!
- I. Through 3,000 years, God has preserved over **5,200** Greek and Hebrew copies and portions of His words! These copies are what our Bible is translated from.
- J. From those copies, God combined His words into ONE Book at around 157 AD. This Bible was called the *Vetus Latina*, or **Old Latin Bible**. At the same time, the Bible was beginning to be translated into dozens of other languages including Coptic (Egyptian), Syriac, and Gothic (European).
- K. In 382 A.D. the Roman Catholic Church had Eusebius Jerome (340-420 AD) produce a new version of the Latin Bible, called **Jerome's Latin Vulgate**. It was completed in 405. Jerom's Vulgate became the official Bible of the Roman Catholic Church for the next 1,300 years, and all other translation work was officially prohibited and was a criminal offence punishable by death. (See Council of Toulouse of 1229 A.D., the Council of Tarragona of 1234, and the Ecumenical Council of Constance in 1415). Until the Reformation of the 14th through 17th centuries the Bible was always read at great risk.
- L. **The English Bible** is the result of some 1,300 years of life-threatening work, starting as far back as 700 AD (only some of the publications are listed below).
  1. In 1382, a man named **John Wycliffe** (1330-1384) translated the first complete Bible into English. For this, he was *excommunicated*, and after death, his bones were *burned* by order of the pope! Here is an example of his translation of **John 3:16**:



MS 2650  
Bible: Matthew, Egypt, 1st half of 4th c.  
Unique text of the Gospel. 8 chapters are the earliest known of this part of the Bible



for god loved so the world! that he gaf his oon bigetun sone, that eche man that bileueth in him perisch not: but have euerlastynge life.

2. The next was made by **William Tyndale** (1494-1536), who was only able to finish the New Testament and the first five books of the Old Testament by 1530. By order of the Catholic Church, Tyndale was *burned* at the stake for translating the Scriptures on October 6, 1536!



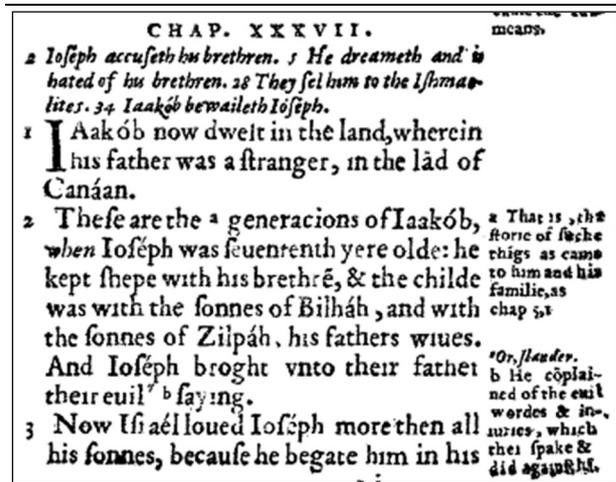
3. In 1535, **Myles Coverdale** (1485-1568) completed the first printed Bible (all others were *hand copied*, or printed without moveable type).
4. In 1539 the **Great Bible** was published. It was called **Great** because of its large size. This Bible was placed into every church, and a chain placed on it so that it could not be removed, but freely read from without worry of it being stolen.

5. In 1560, the **Geneva Bible** was produced by Bible scholars in Geneva, Switzerland because in England, Catholic *Queen Mary* had ascended the throne and forbid access to the Bible, and its publication.
6. The Roman Catholic church came out with it's **Rheims** New Testament in 1582, and **Douay** Old Testament in 1609. They were translated for the express purpose of backing up the dogma and teaching of the church instead of presenting the truths of Christ.
7. In 1604, **King James** the First, authorized 47 men to produce a complete translation of the Bible without Catholic influence in it. It was completed in 1611, and is referred to as the **King James Version (KJV)**, or **Authorized Version (AV)** of 1611, and still today is God's preserved word for the English speaking people. The King James Bible has gone through **seven editions**, the last one being in **1769**, correcting spelling errors, and making very minor changes so that it is completely accurate and faithful to the texts of the original languages from which it was translated.

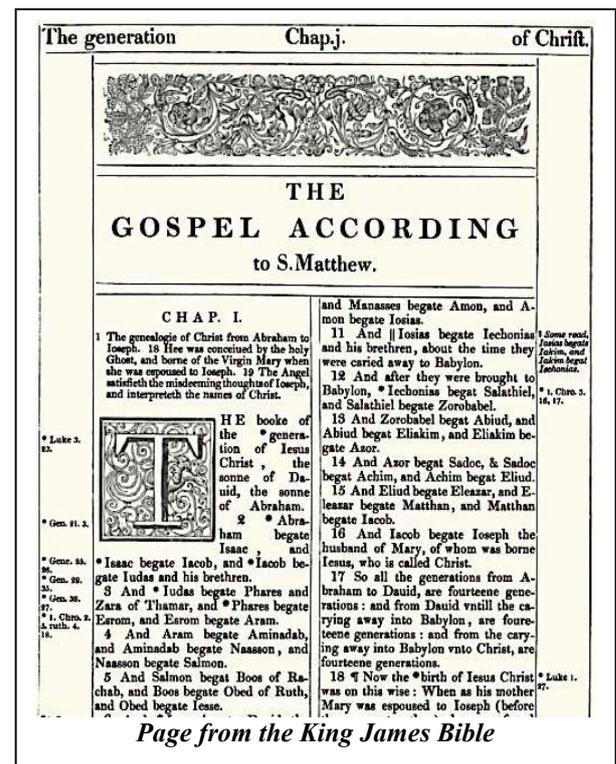
- M. Since 1611 there have been over 200 attempts to falsely “modernize” the Bible. Maybe you know of some of these. They include the **New International Version (NIV)**, **New American Standard Version (NASV)**, **Good News Bible**, **New King James Version**, **English Standard Version**, etc. But none are as accurate, or honest in their translation, or have the effect on people’s hearts like the **King James Bible!** More about this in Lesson 5.
- N. Since the time of the Reformation, over 2,000 languages have received the “*words of Life*” as the Apostles called them in **John 6:68**, due to the sacrificial efforts of Bible believing men and women who believed with all their heart that “\_\_\_\_\_ cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (**Romans 10:17**). Jesus plainly declared in **John 5:24**, “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth \_\_\_\_\_, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto \_\_\_\_\_.*”
- O. So, what you hold in your hands, has cost a great number of people a high price to make sure you can read God’s words, and believe God’s promises for yourself.

**V. Proofs of Inspiration - How We Know the Bible was Given By God!**

- A. This book has been tested and proven scientifically to be absolutely accurate when it has spoken of science. Historically it has recorded ancient events that even now are being discovered to be 100% true. Prophetically the Bible has foretold hundreds of



Genesis 17 from Geneva Bible



Page from the King James Bible

vast future events, long before they ever occurred, with 100% accuracy! There is no other book in all of history like this Book you now hold in your hands!

- B. **Its Unity Proves it was Given by God.** Over 40 authors wrote the 66 books of the Bible in different lands (*Job* in Mesopotamia, *Moses* in Jordan, *Paul* in Rome and Greece, *John* in Turkey, *Peter* in Babylon), and at different times, covering a period of over 2,100 years (from 2000 B.C. to 95 A.D.), and yet never contradicting each other! Try to duplicate that! No matter what you have been told, none of the writings were “sanctioned” by some church council, or commanded to be written by some church leader. They were all written by the direct inspirational hand of \_\_\_\_\_ (2Tim 3:16), and preserved from any human error, in spite of the fact that myriads of religious efforts were made to destroy both the prophets and their message!
- C. **Its Influence on the World.** No other book has so influenced the course of human events like the Bible - it has never been *imposed* upon a people. No matter what culture a person lives in, one thing has always been true - *Religion* has always been forced upon people on a collective basis, while Biblical Christianity has always been *chosen* on an individual basis. This one piece of “literature” has brought about the greatest nations, and greatest freedoms no sword or any other means could! Notice the effect the word of God had upon the people of first century A.D. (Acts 8:4; 17:6) – it turned the world “\_\_\_\_\_”. Compare the time of the Dark Ages (when the Bible was banned from being read or believed), and the effects of Humanism, Stalinism, Marxism, and all other forms of tyrannical dictatorship (all banned the Bible) with the Reformation, and the Renaissance! Don’t let anyone take away your access to God’s written word!
- D. **Its Supernatural Preservation.** Whole kingdoms and religions have sought in vain to destroy the influence of the Scriptures, and yet it still reigns victorious, and indestructible (Matt 24:35). It has, and always will out-last all religions and kingdoms of this world, simply because, it is God’s pure word (Ps 12:6,7)!
- E. **Its Fulfilled Prophecy.** One of the most important areas of proof that God wrote the Bible involves the fact that almost 3,300 verses of prophecy have been fulfilled *to the letter*. These prophecies were predictions made hundreds and even thousands of years before their fulfilment:
1. The prediction in Micah 5:2 of the birthplace of \_\_\_\_\_ was made 700 years before the event - see Matthew 2:1-6).
  2. Jesus would be born of a virgin, "*Behold, a \_\_\_\_\_ shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel*" (750 BC - Isaiah 7:14)
  3. Jesus would be rejected by His own people, "*He is despised and \_\_\_\_\_ of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him*" (750 BC - Isaiah 53:3).
  4. Jesus would heal people, "*The eyes of the blind shall be \_\_\_\_\_, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped... The lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb \_\_\_\_\_*" (Isaiah 35:5,6).
  5. The prophet Zechariah (in Zech 11:12,13) back in 500 BC foretells that Jesus would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver "*Give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price \_\_\_\_\_ of silver*". See Mt 26:15
  6. Jesus’ hands and His feet would be pierced by nails, "*They \_\_\_\_\_ my hands and my feet.*" (Ps 22:16), "*and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced*" (500 BC Zech 12:10). Normally criminals were stoned.
  7. Jesus would be in the grave for 3 days and 3 nights, "*For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; so shall the Son of man be three days*

**and three nights in the heart of the earth."** (Matthew 12:40). The Book of Jonah was written 800 years before Christ.

8. Jesus would rise from the grave, "*But God will redeem (resurrect) my soul from the power of the \_\_\_\_\_*" (written 1000 years BC - Psalm 49:15)
  9. Not one detail has failed, and there are over 300 more yet to be fulfilled! Deuteronomy 18:20-22 says God promises that everything His prophets speak will be fulfilled, and if not, then they were *false* prophets, and should die! No human authored book would dare to make so many predictions, so far in advance, and subject its authenticity to such chance - yet God did!
- F. **Its Scientific Accuracy.** There are more than 300 clearly scientific statements in the Bible, that only God could have shown people – they could not have figured it out on their own.
1. The Bible describes the earth not as a flat world, but as a \_\_\_\_\_ (like a *sphere*, Isaiah 40:18,22). The Bible expressed this as FACT long before Columbus discovered it was right!
  2. It says the earth is suspended in space (Job 26:7) hanging upon \_\_\_\_\_. There is no way anyone could have known that to be true back in 2000 BC! And it told us these things without the aid of an orbiting satellite.
  3. The Bible explains that all the major languages were instantly divided into *confusion* 4,400 years ago at the Tower of \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 11:1-9).
  4. The Bible reveals that there are "paths," or currents in the seas (Psalm 8:8). Again, Columbus "discovered" that this was true when he sailed to the New World on one ocean *current*, and then back to Spain on another.
  5. The Scriptures in Psalm 102:24-27, and Hebrews 1:10-12 declare *the Second Law of Thermodynamics* (which states that everything **wears out**) before scientists ever figured it out on their own!
  6. God's command to wash everything (Leviticus 17:15) protected His people from invisible diseases and germs that were not discovered until the 1600 and 1700's!
  7. The Bible revealed that the stars are innumerable (Jeremiah 33:22). That is a big thing to say when only in the past 80 years has it been accepted as true!
  8. The Bible in Genesis chapters 1 and 2 also reveals the process by which all of life began on this planet (by supernatural and instantaneous creation).
  9. And there is *much, much more!* You can't beat the awesomeness of the Bible, no matter how much education you obtain - it's always years ahead of science!
- G. **Its Historical Accuracy.** Noah's flood (Genesis 6-9) is described by Babylonian tablets written in 650 B.C., as well as in 250 other ancient world histories. Most of the places named in the Bible have been identified through careful archaeology, thus validating the historical accuracy of the Bible again and again! The same cannot be said however about other religious books including the Book of Mormon.
- H. **The Claims of the Bible Itself.** Over 3,800 times the writers of the Bible boldly claim that God Himself spoke what they wrote (i.e., "*thus saith the Lord*"), and that what we hold in our hands are the very words of God (2Timothy 3:15,16; 1 Thes 2:13)

***The Bible IS God's Word to Mankind***

***Read it; Believe it; Study it; Obey it; Love it, and Preach it!***

Date Lesson Completed _____	Discipler _____
-----------------------------	-----------------

# BIBLE STUDY TECHNIQUES

*A Study of the Importance and Methods of Bible Study*

## Lesson Five

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

Lesson Verse: *2Timothy 2:15*

**“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”**

**2Timothy 2:15**

### I. Introduction

The disciple of Jesus Christ not only believes the word of God, but studies it, obeys it, and builds his or her life around it. This goal requires work, and study so that the Christian, *like a soldier*, is prepared to live life for the Lord! No soldier enters into combat however, without first knowing his weapons, and understanding how to use them effectively against his enemy.

The Bible is the Christian's weapon against sin and even Satan; and this lesson is intended to instruct him in how to study it, and then use it in his life.



### II. The Bible is Our Source for Truth – THE best reason to learn it from start to finish.

#### A. About God - About Ourselves - And basically, about all the unanswerable questions that cannot be found by science or reasoning

1. It tells you what you and I are really like on the inside – in our \_\_\_\_\_ (*Jer 17:9,10*).
2. It tells us what \_\_\_\_\_ is like (*John 4:24*).
3. It tells us clearly about heaven, about hell, about Satan, demonic activities.
4. It shows us what love actually is (*1Corinthians 13:1-8*). It's called “\_\_\_\_\_.”
5. It tells us about the future (*Isaiah 46:9,10*).
6. None of those things can be known unless GOD revealed them to us.
7. This Bible is an amazing Book, and MUST be studied and learned if you are going to know the truth about any of the above.

#### B. What's the Point?

1. If you don't take the time to actually learn what God wrote down for you, then you will be **deceived** by every other wind of doctrine and persuasion (*2Tim 4:2-4*).
2. First by your own heart
3. Then by the greatest liar ever... \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 8:44*).
4. And it will cost you, your family, and every nation to not know God's truth, or turn away from it (*Psalms 9:17*)!

#### C. Things Jesus said about the Bible

1. Jesus taught that EVERY word of Scripture in the Bible proceeded from **God** and was not from man. (*Matthew 4:4*)
2. He believed in the Genesis record of a six-day creation (in other words, He did not believe in evolution). (See *Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-8*)
3. He believed that the Flood of Noah actually occurred. (*Matthew 24:37-39*)
4. He believed Abraham actually lived and followed God and became the father of the Jewish nation. (*John 8:56*)
5. He believed \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were real cities that were destroyed by God by fire and brimstone. (*Matthew 10:15; 11:23-24*)
6. He believed Jonah was really swallowed by a \_\_\_\_\_. (*Matthew 12:39-41*)

7. He believed Lot's wife was a real woman who was turned into a real pillar of salt. (Luke 17:32)
8. He believed God gave \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven to Israel for almost 40 years in the desert. (John 6:31,49,58)
9. He taught the doctrine of the preservation of Scripture – that God protected the Scriptures from loss or error after they were written down. (Matthew 5:17-18; 24:35; Luke 16:17)
10. He taught that all the Old Testament Scriptures pointed to Him alone, and not to any other man or prophet. (Luke 24:27,44)
11. He never corrected or criticized any Scripture. (John 17:17).

#### D. Things the Bible Claims about itself

1. That it is actually what \_\_\_\_\_ spoke (Ex 5:1) – not made up by people
2. That it is pure and perfect (Psalm 19:7; 12:6)
3. That it is preserved for all generations to have access to it (Psalm 12:7).
4. That it will stand all the tests we can throw at it (Isaiah 40:8).

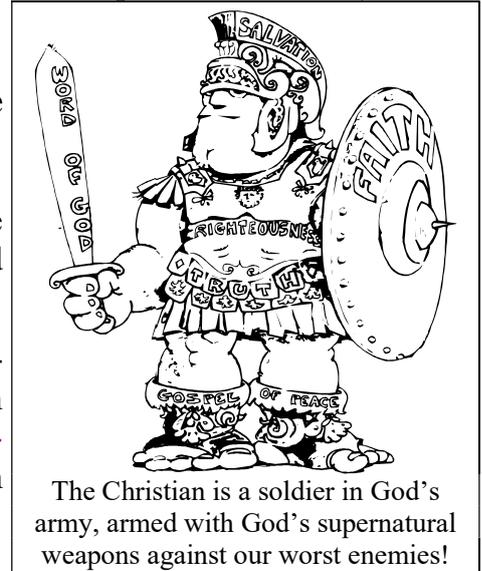
#### E. This single Book has proven itself to be absolutely true and trustworthy

1. Science and philosophy constantly change and cannot find God (1Cor 1:21)
2. Even Religion cannot find God (Luke 10:21)
3. So, to find and know and actually understand God, it took GOD Himself revealing Himself through prophets, then the Bible and ultimately through God's Son (Hebrews 1:1,2). The only thing we lack is CHILD-LIKE faith to believe it!

### III. The Bible is the Christian's Greatest Weapon

- A. The Bible is a powerful Weapon against being deceived by the lies of the culture we grow up in (teaching that we are only a higher form of animal, and should act only like animals; that we are accidents; that the only life we have is here and now; that there is no God and no heaven and no hell; and that God would never send anyone to hell). Knowing the truth, overwhelms all the lies and half-truths of modern society.
- B. The Bible is our Weapon against the Devil
  1. What did Jesus use against the temptations and pressures of Satan? \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 4:4,7,10).
  2. Quoting and believing the TRUTH of a select Scripture instead of a fear or doubt, can enable you to \_\_\_\_\_ the devil, and make him flee from you (James 4:7).
- C. The Bible also is our Weapon against Sin and Temptation. The Bible is the Christian's primary *offensive* weapon against sin in his or her life, and against the temptations that our world attacks us with. How can it actually defeat sin?
  1. By replacing the lies we have believed since childhood with God's truth.
  2. By feeding our faith and confidence in God (Romans 10:17).
  3. By reminding us to humble ourselves and draw close to the only real power against Satan, which is God Almighty (James 4:6,7)!
  4. By using the words of God as a sword against everything that attacks you!
- D. The Apostle Paul lists seven powerful spiritual weapons available to the Christian in Ephesians 6:11-18, and refers to them as the "*whole \_\_\_\_\_ of God.*"
  1. Your loins (your body) needs to be *girt about* (covered) with \_\_\_\_\_. God's absolute truth is what all the other spiritual weapons and defences are resting upon.
  2. The *breastplate* of \_\_\_\_\_. Not our 'right'-ness, but the purity of our lives, in line with Christ's, who gave us HIS righteousness.

3. Your feet *shod* (covered) with the preparation of the \_\_\_\_\_ of peace. Be ready to go and answer the world's need for hope from the Gospel!
  4. The *shield* of \_\_\_\_\_, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
  5. The *helmet* of \_\_\_\_\_.
  6. The *sword* of \_\_\_\_\_, **which is the word of God.**
  7. And, Praying always.
  8. None of that may look like much, but the Apostle Paul says those things actually help us wrestle and win against the powers of darkness!
- E. Only one of the above items can be used as an offensive weapon - "*the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit*", which is "*the \_\_\_\_\_ of God*" (Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12)! All others are there to protect you when under attack.



#### IV. Some More GREAT Reasons for Bible Study

- A. It is **commanded**..." \_\_\_\_\_ *to shew thyself approved unto God* " (2Tim 2:15). This verse is not a suggestion!
- B. Another reason is because it is **profitable** for the Christian (2Tim 3:16; Psalm 1:1-3) - not monetarily, but spiritually. The benefits are eternal!
- C. The truths of Scripture gives the Christian **victory**! As a powerful weapon, the very words of Scriptures will give you victory over sin and temptation (Ps 37:31; 119:11).
- D. The Bible is a *guiding* \_\_\_\_\_ to the Christian (Psalm 119:105). It provides instructions on *how* to go through life, *where* to go, *why* go a certain path, and even *when* to go (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).
- E. Special blessings are promised for those who \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ the things written in the Bible (Revelation 1:3) - *not what another man says, or even what your church says!*
- F. The Bible is the *only* means to test religious teaching - "*If they speak not according to **this** \_\_\_\_\_ it is because there is no \_\_\_\_\_ in them*" (Isaiah 8:19,20). God gave His word to be the only basis for truth (John 17:17).

#### V. HOW to Study and Really Learn the Bible

##### A. Have a Personal Quiet Time

1. A quiet time is a Christian's personal time of talking to God in prayer, and listening to God by reading His words from the Bible.
2. King David said: "*I will \_\_\_\_\_ in thy precepts*" (Psalm 119:15; 1:1-2). That means King David took time out of his busy schedule to read, and think, and ponder, learn and then obey whatever God had said to do.
3. To have a *Quiet Time* you need to:
  - a. **Make time** to read and study the Bible *every day*.



- 1) When reading your Bible, take time to ponder what is being said. In Acts 17:10,11, the people in Berea did not simply believe what the Apostle Paul taught, but rather tested what he said by the word of God said! "*They \_\_\_\_\_ the word with all \_\_\_\_\_ of mind, and searched the Scriptures \_\_\_\_\_*"

- 2) Choose a convenient time - decide when is the best time, and have it. Don't *wait* for a convenient time because it probably will never come!
  - 3) Be consistent - form a habit of doing it *every day*. You are going to have to make it as important as \_\_\_\_\_ and sleeping is (Job 23:12).
- b. Begin with **prayer**, asking God to speak to you, and show you His will for you daily (Psalm 119:18).
  - c. **Read** your Bible - like you would any other book, reading at least one chapter each time. If you are going to read through the Bible in one year, you will need to read at least four chapters a day.
  - d. When you find something that has special meaning to you, **underline** those verses with your pencil, or light coloured markers, and then copy a few select ones to the small pocket-sized note cards to memorize them later.
  - e. **Write** out your thoughts and conclusions in a notebook so that you can begin to apply the Scripture to your life. Think about how the verses relate to your life. Always ask yourself **5** questions as you read:

- 1) Who is doing the talking? *Is it Jesus, or Moses, or John, etc.*
- 2) Who is he or she talking to? *The disciples, Jews, etc.*
- 3) What is the subject being talked about? *Look at the context!*
- 4) Does that subject relate to me, and what I am going through?
- 5) How can I learn from this event in Scripture?

- f. **Obey** what you read. "**Be ye \_\_\_\_\_ of the word and not \_\_\_\_\_ only**" (James 1:22). The goal of Bible study is wrapped up in finding what the Bible says about a subject, and then doing what it says to do!
- g. Be careful to **pay attention to CONTEXT** (Isaiah 28:9,10). The Bible is not a list of do's and don'ts that can just be extracted at random, but rather a revealing description of God and His will that must be read **in context** - a verse is understood only in light of the meaning of the surrounding verses. See for example what happens when you read **Matthew 27:5** with **Luke 10:37**! So, the wrong kind of Bible study can be deadly, because you start making the Bible say what YOU want it to say - and that is how cults are established!
- h. As you study your Bible, use a sharpened pencil, or nice pen to **record your thoughts** in the margin of your Bible, or in a good notebook for further study later on (see Deeper Study, next).
- i. Finish in **prayer**, thanking God for speaking to your heart in such a wonderful, and personal way!

## B. Public Bible Study in Church, and Study Groups

1. Pastors are to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ (2Tim 4:2). That means, a man is supposed to get in front of people, and boldly declare the truth from the Bible about sin, righteousness, the coming judgment, and Jesus the Lamb of God who can save any and all who come to God by Him!
2. To those who are saved, preaching in church is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (1Cor 1:18), and is a wonderful time for the Disciple to learn and grow from what is taught by a pastor. Don't be ashamed of straight-talk-preaching, when it comes from the Bible! It is more important than all the worship of all religions put together because, it is God's way of saving sinners (1Cor 1:17,18,21)!



Evangelist Billy Sunday boldly preached to crowds of 20,000 people!

3. As Christians, we are to receive the word with \_\_\_\_\_ like a thirsty man receives water (James 1:21). Never become unteachable, or unreachable, because preaching prepares you to serve and disciple others later! It takes a humble heart to receive instruction.
  4. **Bible study groups** are great places to learn the Bible. Remember to make sure, when looking for a group, that it is under the authority of a local church (i.e., that it is sponsored by a Bible believing church and pastor). Not everything that calls itself a Bible Study really is one.
- C. So, in summary, every believer should have a quiet time and every Christian family should have a family Bible time, and every Christian is to be in church, learning the Bible through preaching and teaching.

**VI. Bible Study Tools** - Things that can help you learn more in your Study Time

- A. **Bible Cross-References.** Most Bibles have some sort of Cross Referencing system either in the centre column, or embedded in each verse. Use these references to help you understand what other portions of Scripture say about the subjects in the verse you are reading. An example can be found in **Genesis 1:1-3**, where a little note would direct you to see that the creation of the world is also described in **John 1:1-3**, and **Acts 17:24**, and **2Cor 4:6**, etc. If your Bible does not have a similar system, then consider buying one that does because it is so helpful and easily accessible when you are reading and studying the Bible.
- B. **Study Bibles** - Beyond the cross-referencing system, there are many Bibles that have *Study Notes* along with the Scripture that are designed to give the student more in-depth information about each verse and subject. These Bibles are very good to have, and are more often than not, the only Bible helps you need. Be sure to only use the notes as opinions, and not as absolute. They are not always going to be right!

Creation of the World	CHAPTER 1
1 IN the <sup>a</sup> beginning <sup>b</sup> God created the heaven and the earth.	1 <sup>a</sup> [John 1:1-3] <sup>b</sup> Acts 17:24
2 And the earth was <sup>a</sup> without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. <sup>b</sup> And the Spirit of God <sup>1</sup> moved upon the face of the waters.	2 <sup>a</sup> Jer. 4:23 <sup>b</sup> Is. 40:13, 14 <sup>1</sup> was hovering over
3 <sup>a</sup> And God said, <sup>b</sup> Let there be light: and there was light.	3 <sup>a</sup> Ps. 33:6, 9 <sup>b</sup> 2 Cor. 4:6 <sup>1</sup> [Heb. 11:3]
4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.	5 <sup>a</sup> Ps. 19:2; 33:6; 74:16; 104:20; 136:5
5 And God called the light Day, and the <sup>a</sup> darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.	6 <sup>a</sup> Jer. 10:12 <sup>1</sup> expanse 7 <sup>a</sup> Prov. 8:27- <sup>30</sup> <sup>b</sup> Ps. 148:4

- C. **Concordances** - A Bible concordance is an alphabetical index of the words used in the Bible, listing where they appear. Some Bibles come with a mini-concordance in their back pages. But when a Christian wants to know what the entire Bible says about a subject or word, you need a Complete Concordance. A good one is the *Dr. James Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, which lists every word, and every place that each word occurs in the Bible!

JESUS (je'-zus) See also BAR-JESUS; CHRIST; JESUS; JOSHUA; JUSTUS.	
Mt 1:1	book of the generation of J. Christ, .... 2424
Mt 1:16	of whom was born J., who is called .... 2424
Mt 1:18	birth of J. Christ was on this wise: .... 2424
Mt 1:21	son, and thou shalt call his name J.: ... 2424
Mt 1:25	son: and he called his name J. .... 2424
Mt 2:1	when J. was born in Bethlehem of .... 2424
Mt 3:13	cometh J. from Galilee to Jordan ..... 2424
Mt 3:15	J. answering said unto him, <b>Suffer</b> .... 2424
Mt 3:16	J., when he was baptized, went up .... 2424
Mt 4:1	was J. led up of the spirit into the .... 2424
Mt 4:7	J. said unto him, <b>It is written</b> .... 2424
Mt 4:10	saith J. unto him, <b>Get thee hence</b> , .... 2424
Mt 4:12	J. had heard that John was cast .... 2424
Mt 4:17	From that time J. began to preach, .... 2424
Mt 4:18	J., walking by the sea of Galilee, .... 2424
Mt 4:23	J. went about all Galilee, teaching .... 2424
Mt 7:28	when J. had ended these sayings, .... 2424
Mt 8:3	J. put forth his hand, and touched .... 2424

- D. **Bible Atlas** - This is a handy set of maps of the lands in the Middle East where all the events of Scripture took place. They help you understand distances and terrain that people would have had to deal with back then.
- E. **Commentaries, Study Guides and Bible Dictionaries**
  1. The last thing a Christian may want to obtain for their library of tools is a set of **Bible Commentaries** and **Study Guides**. Commentaries usually are large volumes of writings by authors on each and every verse in the Bible. They bring together archaeology, history, various languages and other helpful tools into the understanding of Scripture.
  2. Be aware that commentaries can be very destructive to the faith of young Christians. Some authors do not believe the Bible is the word of God. They usually spend

more time **questioning** the Scriptures instead of *commenting* on them! So, look hard for ones that help you grow in grace, and not in criticism of God's word.

- F. *Study Guides* are outlines of notes on Scripture. These are not as extensive as commentaries, but often more practical.
- G. *Bible Dictionaries* are reference books that contain definitions of words and proper names as found in the Bible, helping the student better understand the meaning and context of verses.
- H. There is a load of computer based Bible software available that can search and sort through every word and phrase in the Bible, as well as provide you access to hundreds of thousands of pages of research materials and commentaries. You have NO EXCUSE for not studying the Bible today!

## VII. A Deeper Study

- A. As you read each page of your Bible, when you notice something confusing, or something important, take time after you have finished reading the current chapter, to go back and **study** the portion of Scripture that got your attention for more insights.
  1. There are things in your Bible that should stand out, and make you think, like:
    - a. **S**ins to avoid (Col 3:5,6,8,9; 2:8; 1Cor 6:9,10).
    - b. **P**romises to claim (Jer 33:3; Philp 4:13,19).
    - c. **E**xamples to follow (1Pet 2:21-23).
    - d. **C**ommands to obey (Matt 28:19,20; Eph 5:18; 4:31,32).
    - e. **SW** – Scriptures about the Spiritual Warfare we are in (Eph 6:12; 1Pet 5:8).
  2. Mark verses using multi-coloured pencils, or lightly-coloured pens, and marking them like: **Blue** for Promises; **Red** for Warnings; **Green** or **Yellow** for Important Information; **Orange** for Prophecy; and any two-colour combination for other special identification. This helps you find the verses later when you need them.
  3. Take time to notice every important word in a Scripture, and **ponder its meaning**. An example would be to write out the words in Matthew chapter 5, and try to learn what each means - NOT just what you *think* they mean!
  4. Use a Concordance to **look up those words** to see what else the Bible has to say on that subject. Remember, the Holy Spirit may be trying to get your attention about something. If your Bible has cross-references in the margins, look those up too. Be sure to write down what you found in your notebook.
  5. One other practical way is to **write a Scripture down in your notebook in your own words**. It will show you what parts of a verse you may not really understand.

## VIII. Concerning *Which Bible* - The Differences in the English Versions

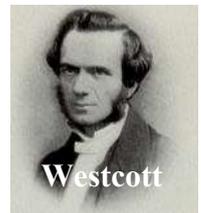
- A. Satan's primary attack has always been against the foundation of our faith, the Bible (Gen 3:1). His goal has always been to question and “\_\_\_\_\_” the Bible, so that its message gets changed (2Cor 2:17). What has happened is this: God wrote the Bible, and Satan seeks to "corrupt" its message by constantly redefining words, and ultimately, removing them, and even entire verses from what God said! A study of Satan's methods will only strengthen your faith in the Bible as the very word of God!
- B. **The Two Greek Manuscript Sets of the New Testament**
  1. The basis for all the different versions of the Bible are because of the existence of TWO sets of differing Greek "manuscripts": the **Majority** text, and the **Westcott and Hort** text.

2. The *Majority Text* is a group of about 5200 portions of Scripture in Greek that through the past 2,000 years has been accepted by Christians as authentic, and true. What follows is an example of what a passage in the Majority Text looks like, along with the English underneath. Note *verse 37* is present and marked. This is important because verse 37 **disappears** in the Westcott and Hort text!

σοῦν. (36) ὡς δὲ ἐπορεύοντο κατὰ τὴν ὁδόν, ἦλθον ἐπὶ	And as they were going along the way, they came upon
τι ὕδωρ· καὶ φησὶν ὁ εὐνοῦχος, Ἴδου ὕδωρ· τί κωλύει	a certain water, and says the eunuch, Behold water; what hinders
με βαπτισθῆναι; (37) Ἔειπεν δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος, Εἰ πιστεύεις ἐξ	me to be baptized? And said Philip, If thou believest from
ὅλης τῆς καρδίας, ἔξεστιν. Ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ εἶπεν, Πιστεύω	the whole the heart, it is lawful. And answering he said, I believe
τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ θεοῦ εἶναι τὸν Ἰησοῦν χριστόν. (38) Καὶ ἐκέλευ-	the Son of God to be Jesus Christ. And he com-
σεν στήναι τὸ ἄρμα· καὶ κατέβησαν ἀμφότεροι εἰς	manded to stand still the chariot. And they went down both to
τὸ ὕδωρ, ὁ τε Φίλιππος καὶ ὁ εὐνοῦχος· καὶ ἐβάπτισεν αὐτόν.	the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

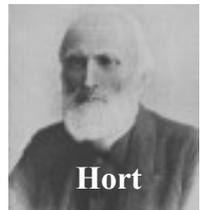
Majority Text of the Greek New Testament - Acts 8:36-38

3. The second primary Greek text is the *Westcott and Hort Text*. Brook Foss Westcott (1825-1903) and Fenton Hort (1828-1892) were two Anglican ministers who created *their own Greek text* from only **two** Greek manuscripts called the *Vaticanus* and *Sinaiticus*.



Westcott

- a. Vaticanus showed up in a Vatican Library in 1481, and Sinaiticus was found in a the trash in a Monastery on Mt. Sinai in 1844.
- b. These manuscripts were believed to be *older*, and *more accurate* (watch statements like that) than all the rest of the 5000 manuscripts of the Majority Text! Westcott and Hort rejected the authority of the Majority Text and chose rather to accept these *Roman Catholic* texts that now bears their name.



Hort

4. Notice the missing verse in the following *Westcott and Hort* text:

(35) ἀνοίξας δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος τὸ στόμα	And opening - Philip the mouth
αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀρχάμενος ἀπὸ τῆς γραφῆς ταύτης	of him and beginning from this scripture
εὐηγγελίσατο αὐτῷ τὸν Ἰησοῦν.	preached to him - Jesus.
(36) ὡς δὲ ἐπορεύοντο κατὰ τὴν ὁδόν,	And as they were going along the way.
ἦλθον ἐπὶ τι ὕδωρ, καὶ φησὶν ὁ εὐνοῦχος·	they came upon certain water, and says the eunuch:
Ἴδου ὕδωρ· τί κωλύει με βαπτισθῆναι; †	Behold[,] water; what prevents me to be baptized?
(38) καὶ ἐκέλευσεν στήναι τὸ ἄρμα, καὶ	And he commanded to stand the chariot, and
κατέβησαν ἀμφότεροι εἰς τὸ ὕδωρ, ὁ	went down both into the water, -
τε Φίλιππος καὶ ὁ εὐνοῦχος, καὶ ἐβάπτισεν	both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized

What happened to verse 37?

Westcott & Hort Greek Text of the New Testament - Acts 8:35-38

5. Did you notice what is *doctrinally* affected if you accept the Westcott and Hort over the Majority text? Satan will go to any length to confuse people by getting them to think **baptism** is the important thing, and not trusting in Christ alone (**2Peter 3:15,16; 2Cor 2:17; 4:2**)! The Westcott and Hort text attacks the Deity of Jesus Christ (that He is God), removes the importance of faith **before** baptism (as presented in **Acts 8:36-38**), waters down the clear teachings that are present only in the King James Bible.

6. The clear goal of Satan is to simply make a Bible contradict itself. If he can do that in the mind of a reader, then that reader will not trust it completely, and it makes God confusing, and ultimately a liar (1Cor 14:33)! One thing ought to be clear to the Bible believer, God is not the author of \_\_\_\_\_
7. The differences between these two sets of documents are so profound, that they cannot be ignored.

**C. The English Versions From the Two Manuscript Sets**

Comparing the English versions is very revealing. Notice how all the “new bibles” (left hand side) are from the Westcott and Hort text, and yet only the **King James Version** is from the Majority text. Therefore, the new versions are NOT revisions as they claim to be, but rather NEW bibles based upon completely different Greek texts than what historical Christianity accepted until 1881!

See all the “bibles” translated from the ‘2’ Westcott & Hort Greek Documents	Translated from the 5,200 Majority Greek Documents
Roman Catholic <i>Douay</i> version (1609) - Catholic Bible <b><i>The Revised Version (1881)</i></b> 1901 American Standard Version 1903 Ferrar Fenton, The Holy Bible <i>in Modern English</i> 1903 Weymouth, The New Testament <i>in Modern Speech</i> 1912 The Holy Bible An Improved Edition 1913 James Moffatt, A New Translation <i>in Modern Speech</i> 1924 The Centenary Translation of the New Testament 1926 A New Translation of the Bible Revised edition 1937 The New Testament <i>in the language of the people</i> 1946 Revised Standard Version New Testament 1948 New Testament <i>in modern English</i> 1951 Norlie, The New Testament <i>in Modern English</i> 1952 Revised Standard Version The Holy Bible 1952 Williams, A New Translation <i>in Plain English</i> 1958 J B Phillips, The New Testament <i>in Modern English</i> 1959 The Berkeley Version <i>in Modern English</i> 1961 The New English Bible New Testament 1962 The King James II Bible, 1971 1963 New American Standard New Testament 1965 The Amplified Bible 1966 Good News for Modern Man 1966 The Jerusalem Bible 1970 The New American Bible 1970 The New English Bible 1971 New American Standard Bible 1971 Kenneth N Taylor The Living Bible, Paraphrased 1972 The Bible in Living English 1972 Today's English New Testament 1973 New International Version 1976 Good News Bible: The Bible <i>in Today's English</i> Version 1976 The Holy Bible <i>in the Language of Today</i> 1978 New International Version 1985 The New Jerusalem Bible 1987 New Century Version 1989 The Revised English Bible with the Apocrypha 1990 New Revised Standard Version 1993 The Message: The Bible <i>in Contemporary English</i> 1994 21st Century King James Version 1994 The Inclusive New Testament - Political correctness bible 1995 An Understandable Version 1995 Contemporary English Version 1996 NIV Inclusive Language Edition 1996 Holy Bible, New Living Translation Etc, etc, etc!	<b>King James Version</b> (1611)
The “New” King James Version (1982) - A merge of both text sets	

- D. **Every major language has the two types of Bibles** - at least one from the Westcott and Hort texts, and the other from the Majority texts. In every language however, the Westcott and Hort versions are ALWAYS sold on the basis that they are supposedly EASIER to read, and not whether they are an honest translation from the correct texts. Is that always true????? Check out just a “few” of the supposed better words for our modern world...

BIBLE VERSE	NIV (Easier word?)	AV 1611
Isaiah 24:23	abashed	confounded
Ezekiel 40:18	abutted	over against
2 Chron 15:14	acclamation	voice
Isaiah 13:8	aghast	amazed
Ezek 40:13	alcove	little chamber
2 Chr 13:22	annotations	story
Num 31:50	armlets	chains
Acts 2:6	bewilderment	confounded
Ps 58:7	blunted	cut in pieces
Job 8:2	blustering	strong
Ex 35:22	brooches	bracelets
Dan 10:6	burnished	polished
Rev 4:3	carnelian	sardine
1 Ki 7:6	colonnade	porch
1 Ki 4:22	cors	measures
Ezek 13:22	disheartened	sad
Lk 20:23	duplicity	craftiness
Rom 2:20	embodiment	form
Mk 14:31	emphatically	vehemently
2 Chr 30:22	encouragingly	comfortably
Pro 23:10	encrouch	enter
2 Chr 17:14	enrollment	numbers
Ps 45:11	enthralled	greatly desire
Lk 9:34	enveloped	overshadowed
Jude 16	faultfinders	complainers
Ex 28:20	filigree	enclosings
Ps 89:47	fleeting	short
Acts 5:40	flogged	beaten
Is 59:13	fomenting	speaking

- E. The current trend among Bible publishers is to edit their bible translations, and bring them back closer to the King James Bible. This has resulted in “New” Versions being published, so they now include verses that they had first removed, making them not so different than the King James anymore - can you guess why they did this? Because the KJV sets the pace! The Bible believer however must not be deceived into thinking those ‘bibles’ are ok to read and study now – they may be getting closer to the word of God, but why trade what is perfect, for something that is in a constant state of evolution?!
- F. **Next are some Critical Scripture Changes to know about.** According to **Revelation 22:18,19**, God warns us to never \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ away from His words, and yet look below! Notice the verses listed in the following table, and compare what *Westcott and Hort* versions say in the verse, and then what the *King James Bible* says. It will shock you! This is only a sampling of thousands!

## THE CORRUPTION LIST!

Matt 6:13	Last half of Christ's example prayer is removed
Matt 9:13	The need for sinners "to repent" is removed!
Matt 17:21	Prayer and fasting is evidently not necessary
Matt 18:11	The verse explains the very reason for Christ coming!
Matt 19:16,17	Jesus is not called "good", and so He is made to only talk <i>about</i> "good"
Matt 23:14	Somebody doesn't like attacks on money-hungry religious leaders
Matt 27:35	Last half of the verse is missing!
Mark 7:16	Someone is attempting to remove Christ's plea to the sinner's free-will
Mark 9:24	The word "Lord" omitted (see also Luke 23:42)
Mark 9:44,46	See if your Bible has these verses, or questions their presence!
Mark 10:24	Someone doesn't like Jesus' remarks against trusting in riches!
Mark 11:26	Someone doesn't like God's warnings against our disobedience!
Mark 15:28	Someone doesn't like all the connections back to the O.T. prophecies
Mark 16:9-10	These verses are attacked, and declared untrustworthy
Luke 2:33	The word "father" is substituted for "Joseph" making him Jesus' father!
Luke 4:4	The words "every word of God" omitted
Luke 17:36	Just a small verse removed - yet it is necessary for the context!
Luke 23:17	This verse is clean gone as well
John 3:13	Jesus is not allowed to be in two places at the same time!
John 5:4	This missing verse explains why the people were gathered at the pool
John 7:53-8:11	This entire section is attacked, and rejected, and yet most important!
John 9:35	Jesus is no longer the Son of God!
Acts 1:3	The word "infallible" is watered down so as to not offend anyone!
Acts 4:27	Jesus is no longer God's <i>Son</i> , but rather <i>Servant</i> (no Deity)
Acts 8:37	Verse either missing or questioned, and yet critical to salvation!
Acts 15:34	Silas is missing!
Acts 24:7	Gone!
Acts 28:29	Also missing!
Rom 11:6	Last half of verse missing.
Rom 16:24	Paul's usual ending is deleted!
2Cor 2:17	The word of God no longer is being "corrupted"
Col 1:14	The 'blood' omitted - salvation no longer needs the blood of the Lamb!
1 Thes 5:22	We are to abstain from all <i>appearance</i> , not just <i>kinds</i> of evil
1Tim 3:16	'God' is changed to an unknown 'He' so that you can't tell He is God!
1Tim 6:5	Godliness is the means of gain? Paul is warning about just the opposite
1Tim 6:10	The love of money is not always bad anymore.
2Tim 2:15	We do not really have to STUDY our Bible anymore
James 5:16	All the new bibles now command us to confess our <i>sins</i> to each other!
1 John 4:19	They even took GOD away so that all we can do is "love"
1 John 5:7	Verse missing, with part of verse 8 made into verse 7!
Rev 22:18,19	Talk about changing verses! Notice how 'book' is changed to 'tree'

## G. Problems with the "New" King James Version (NKJV)

1. Changed Words = Changed Meanings (*You will need a copy of an NKJV for this*)
  - a. Is Jesus God's "Son" or God's "servant"? In Acts 3:26, the NKJV calls Jesus only God's "Servant." But the KJV correctly calls Him God's "Son." These are not the same. Which one is He? To the Muslim, Jesus is only God's servant. But the Bible says He is God's CHILD/Son. Changed words like this make a great deal of difference in how we understand a passage.
  - b. Do we really need to change all the "thee's" and "thou's" to 'you' and 'you'?

- 1) Please decide what God is saying to Moses based on the NKJV:
  - a) *"And the LORD said to Moses, "How long do **you** refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?" (Exodus 16:28, NKJV)*
  - b) It looks like God is saying, *"Moses, **you** are continuing to refuse to keep My commandments and My laws."* But look carefully at the accurate King James:
    - c) *"And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse **ye** to keep my commandments and my laws?"*
    - d) Now we understand! It was the people, not Moses, God was upset with
    - e) **"Ye"** and **"you"** mean more than one person. **"Thee," "thou," "thy," "thine," "doeth," "hast,"** etc., only mean one person.
    - f) How do we know? The **"y"** is plural. The **"t"** is singular. It's that easy.
- 2) Now you know what Jesus meant when He said to Nicodemus, *"Marvel not that I said unto **thee** (Nicodemus, a single person), **Ye** (everyone, plural) must be born again" (John 3:7).*
- 3) What Jesus said was, *"Nicodemus, marvel not that I said unto thee, all of you need to be born again."* This is very important. Not only Nicodemus needed to be saved. But everybody, including him, needed to be born again. That's why Jesus used the singular and the plural words!
2. Were many people *"peddling"* (selling) the word of God in Paul's day, or were they CORRUPTING it? (2Cor 2:17)
3. Do people go to **hades** or **hell**? (Matt 16:18; Luke 16:23)
  - a. The NKJV claims to be "more accurate" because it leaves untranslated words like **"Gehenna," "Hades"** and **"Sheol."** What do they mean? You will know from the King James the exact meaning: **"hell."** We know what that means. Meaning is very important. When's the last time you heard someone told to "go to hades", or "see you in hades"?
  - b. The NKJV changes or removes the word HELL 22 times!!!
4. Are people "Saved", or only "BEING Saved"? (1Corinthians 1:18; 2Cor 2:15)
5. Are we supposed to "STUDY", or just "be diligent" so that you are not ashamed before God? (2Tim 2:15).
6. What kind of a man holds onto riches and wealth? (Prov 11:16)
7. Are we to set our "MIND" or our "HEARTS" on things above? (Col 3:2)
8. See also Acts 4:27, 1Timothy 6:5; 1Cor 6:10; James 5:16 and compare with the 'old' King James Bible.

#### H. Missing Words in the NKJV:

1. The Name, "**JEHOVAH**" is gone!
  2. The word "**REPENT**" is taken out 44 times!
  3. "*Nevertheless I live*" is missing in Galatians 2:20!
- I. The Bible-believer settles once and for all whether we have the word of God, or not! ***If we do, then we live by it!*** If not, then God is a liar, and let's eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die, and who cares! But as we have seen, God does care - proven in the giving of the Son of God, and the very word of God!

**IX. The Superiority of the King James Bible of 1611 - The AV (Authorized Version).**

When the Bible believer examines the facts, the King James Bible of 1611 is found to be superior to any other English Bible because of the following four main reasons:

A. **The Source of the Translation.** The simple belief is that God **both** *inspired*, and then *preserved* His word without error ([Matthew 24:35](#); [Psalm 12:6,7](#)).

1. The AV translators chose to use the available 5,200 agreeing Greek copies of the New Testament as the source of the King James Bible.
2. All other versions primarily use only **TWO** Greek copies of the New Testament to translate from - these two documents have over **35,000** differences between them and the AV copies, including deleted verses. That's a lot of differences.

B. **The Honesty and Accuracy of the Translation** ([2Cor 2:17](#); [2Pet 3:14-16](#))

1. The AV translators took no *liberties* in translating the Bible the way they wanted. They did not attempt to paraphrase, or "interpret" hard passages. Most other Bibles attempt to "fix" problems with the meaning of the Greek and Hebrew by trying to figure God out. Thankfully the AV translators did not! If a passage of Scripture was hard to understand in Greek or Hebrew, then it was translated that way. If they needed to add a word to help the meaning, they put it in *italics* (words that are *slanted*) to show when they had to add specific words in English so that the reader could best understand the sense of the verse being translated.
2. By the way; the italicized words are just as much the word of God as the normal words (see and compare the words of [Deuteronomy 8:3](#) and [Mt 4:4](#)).
3. Notice the plain errors in the other versions – check these two out in other versions:
  - a. [2Sam 21:19](#) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. [Heb 3:16](#) \_\_\_\_\_

C. **The Fruit of its Reading** ([Matthew 7:20](#))

1. *Ease of Memorization* - The AV is much easier to memorize and retain because of the way it is written, and the way it impacts the heart.
2. *True Revivals* - No other Bible has brought about real revival (i.e., the closing of pubs and bars, the restoration of families, the fear of God instilled in entire communities) like the AV does! All other "bibles" water-down, and weaken the heart of the Christian from that of a strong soldier, to a lazy, lukewarm, and emotionally unstable compromiser.
3. *No confusion* - The AV is much clearer than the other versions, especially in areas of important doctrine. Look up the differences between the AV and another version in the following verses:
  - a. [1Cor 1:18](#) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. [Acts 8:37](#) \_\_\_\_\_

D. **The Enemies of the Translation**

1. *The Roman Catholic Church* - The AV 1611 is considered to be "anti-Catholic" - which it is - and is usually not permitted to be read by Catholics.
2. *The Liberal branch of "Christianity"* - The AV 1611 is considered to be archaic, and a hindrance to today's modern "me" philosophy - *which it is!*
3. *The Lazy Christian* - The AV requires a person to *think* and *study* instead of having all their thinking done for them with paraphrases and easy to read 'bibles'!
4. *The Carnal Christian* - The AV makes worldly Christians uncomfortable because it does not compromise on God's clear hatred of sin and try and mix holiness with modern terminology!

## X. Concerning The Apocrypha

- A. The books called ‘Apocrypha’ (which mean *extra writings*) were later added to the Bible by Catholic “church councils,” and only show their ungodly desire to make the Bible into a complex, and contradicting book, instead of the perfect, and supernatural one that it always has been! Neither Jesus Christ, nor any New Testament author ever used, or even alluded to anything ever written in *any* of the Apocryphal books. This goes in the face of the fact that Christ and His apostles quote from every other Old Testament Book! The Apocrypha is made up of *1 & 2 Esdras, Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus* (or *Sirach*), *Baruch*, and *1 & 2 Maccabees*.
- B. Here are some reasons the Apocrypha is rejected by Bible believers:
1. They are not included in the original Hebrew Old Testament preserved by the Jews. **Romans 3:1-2** states that God used the Jews to pen, and also to preserve His Word; therefore, we trust that He guided them in the rejection of the Apocryphal books from the canon of Scripture.
  2. They contain teachings contrary to the rest of the Bible, like:
    - a. **Praying for the dead.** The apocryphal book 2<sup>nd</sup> Maccabees teaches people to pray to the dead and make offerings to atone for the sins of the dead "*He also took up a collection... and sent it to Jerusalem to provide for a sin offering.... Therefore he made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin.*" (2 Maccabees 12:43-46).
    - b. **Mediators in heaven.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Maccabees also contains the heresy that dead saints intercede in heaven for those on earth (2 Maccabees 15:11-14). They do NOT.
    - c. **The Use of Magic.** A supposed good angel teaches the use of magic in Tobit! "*Then the angel said to him, 'Cut open the fish and take the heart and liver and gall and put them away safely.'* ... *Then the young man said to the angel, 'Brother Azarias, of what use is the liver and heart and gall of the fish?' He replied, 'As for the heart and the liver, if a demon or evil spirit gives trouble to any one, you make a smoke from these before the man or woman, and that person will never be troubled again. And as for the gall, anoint with it a man who has white films in his eyes, and he will be cured'"* (Tobit 6:4,6-8). The Bible clearly condemns magical practices such as this (consider **Deut 18:10-12; Lev 19:26,31; Jer 27:9**).
    - d. **Salvation through works** is taught in the book of Tobit. "*For almsgiving delivers from death, and it will purge away every sin*" (Tobit 12:9). "*So now, my children, consider what almsgiving accomplishes and how righteousness delivers*" (Tobit 14:11). **Leviticus 17:11** clearly says "*it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*"
  3. None of these match any of the rest of the Bible, and were only added to confuse the reader and force them to look to the “church” for the truth!

## XI.A Survey of What is In the Bible...

The following section lists the basic information that you need to understand as you read and study God's word. It is intended to help you understand just what is the underlying "structure" of God's ways of doing things. It won't explain "everything," but will lay-out the framework of people and truths in the Bible.

- A. **The Main Events of the Bible** - what follows are the important events in history and prophecy as recorded in the Bible! Take careful note!

1. **The Creation.** The Bible teaches in [Genesis 1](#), and throughout the Scriptures that God "created" everything there is in six literal days, about 6,000 years ago, and that everything is currently wearing out, and not improving.
2. **The Fall.** God created two people, and placed them in a perfect garden called Eden. Satan in [Genesis 3](#) entered the garden with one purpose – lure Adam and Eve into disobeying God, and become cursed by God. Disobey they did, but God provided two lambs to take the place of Adam and Eve in death. From then on, God's promise was for a future Messiah to come who would one day "take away the sins of the world."
3. **The Flood.** About 4,600 years ago, a world-wide flood occurred that wiped-out all land-dwelling creatures, including mankind ([Genesis 6-8](#)). Everyone died except for Noah, and his family, who were saved because they obeyed God, and built an ark which contained two of every kind of land animal. It was the flood that fashioned the continents into their current shapes, and lifted the mountains to their current heights.
4. **The Calling out of Abraham.** Abraham is a cornerstone of the Old Testament. He lived in an ungodly city called Ur, but decided to obey God's word and leave Ur to follow God's will for his life. When God promised Abraham that He would give him as many children as the number of the stars, Abraham didn't doubt, but simply believed God, and became the father of the race of people called the Jews, who because of Abraham, are the people of God ([Genesis 12-25](#)).
5. **The Bondage in Egypt.** The descendants of Abraham were called Jews. These Jews went to dwell in Egypt, but were enslaved by the Egyptians for over 400 years ([Genesis 30](#) through [Exodus 3](#)).
6. **The Passover.** Just before Israel was set free from slavery in Egypt, God commanded that every believer get themselves a lamb, and to kill that lamb in their place. They were to then take the blood of that lamb, and place it visibly upon the outside doorposts of each home, and God promised to "*pass over*" them in His judgment ([Exodus 12](#))!
7. **The Promised Land.** Abraham had been promised a piece of land known as Canaan. It was over 400 years later when Joshua led the nation of Israel into Canaan and conquered all its inhabitants ([The Book of Joshua](#)). It is where Israel now dwells, and always will be Israel's.
8. **The Kingdom Age.** Israel became a kingdom under three great kings named Saul, David, and Solomon. Many other kings followed them ([1 Samuel – 2 Chronicles](#)).
9. **The Captivity.** After about 400 years in the Promised Land, the people of Israel lost interest in following the God of the Bible, and became totally idolatrous. God gave them over to their enemies, who came into their cities, and took all the healthiest, and strongest, and most beautiful away to distant lands as slaves again. Israel had gone full circle, and would have to wait for 70 years before they could begin to rebuild their lives back under God ([Jeremiah](#) and [Lamentations](#)).
10. **The Exile, and the Return from Exile.** The Book of [Esther](#) is a description of how God protected the Jewish people during captivity, and the Books of [Ezra](#) and [Nehemiah](#) describe the return of the people from Babylon back to their homeland.
11. **The Old Testament.** This set of 39 Books in the Bible contains the history of the world from Creation, up to about 400 years before the birth of Jesus. It was written in Hebrew, and pointed toward Christ.
12. **The Birth, and Life of Christ - His First Coming.** God became flesh and dwelt among us on earth 2,000 years ago. He lived a sinless life for 33 years, and then died as our substitute for sins on the cross to pay off our sin-debt to God. Everyone

of His day wanted Jesus to rule as King, but His first coming was not to rule, but to save ([Matthew – John](#))!

13. **The New Testament.** This set of 27 Books in the Bible records the life of Christ, and presents the truths and freedoms that can transform any sinner into a true saint.
14. **The Rapture.** A catching away ([1Thes 4:16,17](#)) of the Christians from the earth just before the beginning of the time called the Tribulation. It occurs so fast that people won't know what happened!
15. **The Tribulation.** Seven years of disasters and troubles that will rock the very foundations of this planet ([Revelation 6-19](#)). It will result in 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population of the earth dying.
16. **The Second Coming of Christ.** Christ Jesus, and all Christians are coming back again! Jesus promised that He will defeat Satan, and will establish a true kingdom of heaven on earth ([Revelation 19](#)). We don't know when it will happen, but look for it everyday expectantly!
17. **The Millennium.** This is the 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ on this earth, who will return the earth back to what it was like in the Garden of Eden ([Revelation chapters 20,21](#)).
18. **The New Heaven and New Earth.** Once the Millennium is over, God will destroy this entire universe by fire, and start over with a perfect universe, and earth, with no more sin, or Satan around ([Rev 21 & 22](#)).

## **B. The Main People of the Bible**

1. **Adam and Eve** ([Gen chapters 2,3](#)). These were the first humans on earth, and from them are all humans, and because of their disobedience to God, we have death, and sin, and separation from God.
2. **Cain and Able** ([Gen 4](#)). Here were two brothers, sons of Adam and Eve. Abel worshipped God with the sacrifice of lambs, and Cain with his own good efforts. When God only appreciated Abel's lamb, Cain ended up killing his brother out of envy, and became the first murderer!
3. **Noah** ([Gen 6-9](#)). Noah was the only man who followed and obeyed God in his day - the rest of the world was caught up in wickedness and violence. He was commanded to build a huge ark that would carry both himself, his family, and two of each kind of animal through the coming world-wide flood.
4. **Nimrod** ([Gen 10](#)). Nimrod began again false worship, and open rebellion to God's word. He built Babylon, and attracted all the world to worship his false gods, which are the basis for ALL the world's religions still (including Catholicism), except for Biblical Christianity!
5. **Abraham** ([Gen 12-25](#)). The father of the race of people called Israel, or the Jews. It was his faith in God that moved God to choose to use him to bring the promised Messiah into the world. It was his people that God would use to pen the Scriptures, and keep them from error.
6. **Isaac** ([Gen 21-35](#)). The miraculous born son of Abraham. This boy was the promised son of Abraham, and was born when Abraham was 100 years old, and his wife Sarah was 90!
7. **Jacob** ([Gen 25-49](#)). He is one of Isaac's sons. He is a trouble-maker, but gets converted, whose name gets changed to *Israel* by God because he finally surrenders to the Lord.
8. **The Children of Israel.** These are the descendants of Jacob/Israel, and are the people of God.
9. **Joseph** ([Gen 30-50](#)). Joseph was Jacob's favourite son, and ended up being hated most by his other brothers, and sold into slavery in Egypt. While in Egypt, he was

tested by temptations, and and trials, yet he remained faithful to God. Even while in prison, he honoured God and served others. And God brought him out top stand one day before Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and foretold about the coming wealth, followed by a terrible famine that was to happen throughout the world. Pharaoh made Joseph second in command of all the empire, and became known as saviour of the world! Joseph is the greatest example of whate Jesus was going to be when he came to this world!

10. **Moses the Lawgiver.** God protects Moses from birth, when he is taken in by Pharaoh's daughter, and made into the adopted son of the king of Egypt. Moses later discovers that he is a Jew, and renounces his position so that he can be with his people which at the time were slaves. Moses ultimately leads Israel out of Egypt, and to the land promised them called Canaan, which is modern Palestine, where Israel is today. God uses Moses to pen the first five Books of the Bible, which are referred to as "the Law" of Moses ([Lk 24:44](#)).
11. **Joshua.** He leads Israel into their Promised Land, and defeats all the kingdoms of the land, allowing Israel to possess it in peace (see [the Book of Joshua](#)).
12. **The Judges.** These are leaders whom God uses to bring Israel back to God each generation after Moses and Joshua because they would spiritually drift away. They were before the time of kings in Israel (see [the Book of the Judges](#)).
13. **The Kings.** God set Israel up as a kingdom with Saul as its first king. After him was king David, followed by Solomon. After them, the kingdom splits in two, and each kingdom lasts for no more than 400 years before being taken captive by other countries.
14. **Job.** One of the most important books in the entire Bible, is that of **Job**, which deals with the reason for suffering, and tragedy, and shows God's hand in everything we go through.
15. **Daniel the prophet.** There were many prophets used by God to write much of the Bible, but Daniel stands out among them. He is used to write about the coming Messiah (Jesus), and the end times.
16. **Jesus the Saviour.** Jesus is the whole theme of the Bible - from the first lambs slain in the Garden of Eden, God has been pointing sinners to the only substitute acceptable - that of an innocent Lamb. God became flesh, gave His life freely on the cross, and was buried, but then after three days, rose again, and ascended to heaven victorious over both sin and death! That makes Him our only way to heaven, by faith!
17. **Satan, the devil.** Satan's name used to be *Lucifer*, an arch-angel, who turned away from God seeking to de-throne the Lord. He was kicked out of heaven, but still works destruction in God's creation. He only seeks to destroy what God has created, and set himself up as God. He is doomed to burn forever with his followers in the lake of fire ([Rev 20:10](#))!
18. **Devils.** Devils are what we call "demons" and were created by Satan to help him work against all that God does in the world.
19. **Angels.** Angels are spiritual beings that minister for God here on earth. They only do what God wants done, not what we want done.

### C. The Main Themes of the Bible

1. **The Depravity of Mankind.** At the start of the Bible, God shows that mankind, even in the most perfect of environments, will choose to go their own sinful way instead of God's way ([Isaiah 53:6](#)). God however, will not give-up on the work of redeeming us from sin's power and price. All humans, at their best, are still sinful, and unable to enter heaven, no matter how hard they try ([Psalm 39:5](#); [Isaiah 40:17](#)).

They MUST be "born-again" where their sins are completely forgiven, and their names are written in heaven, all by faith in Jesus Christ!

2. **The Intervention of God in Human Affairs.** In order to keep mankind from self-destruction, and total loss, God has had to intervene sometimes with disasters (like the world-wide flood of Noah's day, etc.), and with the coming of Jesus Christ. God is in no way ignoring our condition here on earth, but intervenes at the right times, in the right ways ([Gal 4:4,5](#); [Heb 1:1,2](#)). As a matter-of-fact, He intervenes in everyone's life *daily!*
3. **The Salvation of Sinners.** The primary reason for God's intervention is to restore what sin has ruined, and He does that one heart at a time in the lives of sinners who repent, and follow His Son, Jesus Christ ([Lk 19:10](#)). This theme is played-out over and over throughout the lives of all people throughout Scripture.
4. **The Coming Physical World-wide Kingdom of Christ.** The constant struggle with sin on this earth will NOT go on forever, but will climax with the return of Jesus Christ the second time. He thankfully comes again to destroy the works of the devil, and to rule as King of kings, and Lord of lords. No one knows when He is coming again, but we know He says it is imminent (soon)!

*Date Lesson Completed* \_\_\_\_\_

*Discipler* \_\_\_\_\_

## Section ONE Test

### *The Word of God*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Each mark = 2 points) SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_ out of 53 total

The following questions will identify how much you have learned in your Bible Study time. Answer as many as possible, and take your time so that you can think and remember the answers. Most answers are obvious, but some will be hard. All questions come from the material you just studied in Section One of the First Principles Course. God bless you as you become confident in knowing and growing in God's wondrous word!

1. Write out *word perfect*, **Matthew 4:4** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is spiritually wrong with everyone who has ever been born, besides Jesus?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does the Bible say "sin" is? \_\_\_\_\_
4. List THREE of the Ten Commandments:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the penalty for breaking any of God's laws? \_\_\_\_\_
6. When Jesus died on the cross, What kind of life did God make available to everyone who would believe? \_\_\_\_\_
7. According to **Ephesians 2:8,9** a sinner is saved by God's *what*? \_\_\_\_\_
8. If a person does NOT get "saved," their *eternal destiny* according to the Bible is **where**?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
9. God created hell because He is a righteous and holy God and cannot allow sin in His Heaven. **True** or **False** (circle one)
10. Who is your father if you are not born again? \_\_\_\_\_
11. How many births are required for a person to get into heaven? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How many sins were forgiven at the cross when Jesus died? \_\_\_\_\_
13. List the three parts of a human being, that are referred to as the Human Trinity:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Which one is the most important part? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Which part is dead towards God until the new birth? \_\_\_\_\_
16. The first birth makes you physically a child of your parents. The second birth makes you spiritually and eternally a child of who? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What does it mean to Repent? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
18. Can a Christian be happy while living in disobedience to the word of God? \_\_\_\_
19. Is there anything that can separate a Christian from the love of Christ? \_\_\_\_
20. What is it that actually "*seals*" (preserves) the Christian's salvation for all eternity?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
21. List an obvious proof that a person has gotten saved \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
22. Who actually lives in and through every believer? \_\_\_\_\_
23. What does God promise that He will do if a Christian starts seriously sinning, or leaves church, or stops believing? \_\_\_\_\_

**THE FIRST PRINCIPLES Discipleship**

24. What two things should a believer do with their sin when they give in to temptation?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ it.

25. Describe in simple words what water baptism is: \_\_\_\_\_

26. What kind of baptism is the most important to have? \_\_\_\_\_

27. Water baptism describes a 3-fold memorial of what:

- a. Christ's \_\_\_\_\_
- b. His \_\_\_\_\_
- c. And His \_\_\_\_\_

28. Should babies be baptized? Yes, or No?

29. What two things must have taken place before a person can be baptized?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_, and 2) \_\_\_\_\_

30. The Bible has how many books in it? \_\_\_\_\_

31. The Bible is divided into two sections:

- a. The first section is called the \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The second section is called the \_\_\_\_\_

32. God chose to use about how many human authors to pen the books of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

33. The Old Testament was written mainly in what language? \_\_\_\_\_

34. The New Testament was written in what language? \_\_\_\_\_

35. In what year was the King James Bible published? \_\_\_\_\_

36. List ONE of the seven Proofs that the Bible was Given By God: \_\_\_\_\_

37. Not only is the Bible “*inspired*,” but it is also what? \_\_\_\_\_

38. If you don’t take the time to actually learn what God wrote down for you in the Bible, then what will happen to you: \_\_\_\_\_

39. What is the Christian's Greatest Weapon against Satan? \_\_\_\_\_

40. What did Jesus *say* to defeat the temptations of the devil? “It is \_\_\_\_\_”

41. Describe what a Personal Quiet Time should be: \_\_\_\_\_

42. List one of the Bible Study Tools that can help you learn more in your Study Time: \_\_\_\_\_

43. What verse is missing in **Acts 8** in the “Westcott and Hort” Greek? \_\_\_\_\_.

44. What difference does that verse make to a person’s salvation? \_\_\_\_\_

**How are you doing?**

Have you been born again? **Yes, No.** When? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been baptized yet? **Yes, No.** When? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you read your Bible all the way through yet? **Yes, No.**

What Book in the Bible are you reading currently? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you attending church every week? **Yes, No.**

Are you enjoying this study of the Bible? **Yes, No.**

Do you have your own King James Bible? **Yes, No.**

***Well Done!***

You have now completed Section ONE, and its test. Hand this test in to your Discipler, and it will be quickly graded. After going through this test, knowing what you don’t know, and maybe don’t understand, you may want to go back over certain portions of the Course before going on to the next Section. Otherwise, press on, and keep growing!

