



Biblical Discipleship Built From The Ground Up

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BREADCRUMBS
MINISTRIES



Biblical Discipleship - A How To Guide

THE THREE KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL DISCIPLESHIP:

1. Dependence upon the Holy Spirit is the number one task of the discipler.
2. The Word of God is your best tool. Use the Bible more than every other resource.
3. Be observant! Keep an eye on the one you're discipling. If they don't understand, slow down and try again.

THINGS TO DO:

1. Be prepared. Look at the material ahead of time. The more prepared you are in advance, the better equipped you'll be to answer questions that come up.
2. Don't be afraid to say you don't know! Nobody knows everything there is to know about the Bible, and you won't ever have all the answers. Don't worry.
3. If you get stuck, try using the cross references in your Bible. If that doesn't work, here are some searchable web resources you can use:
<http://www.gotquestions.org/>
<http://carm.org/>
<http://bible.org/>
<http://www.answersingenesis.org/get-answers>
<http://middleschoolbiblechurch.org/>
4. Remember, if you don't know the answer, don't be afraid to say so. Handling the Word of God is a big responsibility, and admitting you don't know is better than trying to wing it.
5. Answer the questions yourself before you begin. Try to anticipate any questions that might come up, or questions you find yourself asking.
6. Set a consistent day and time for the study to take place, but be flexible when life happens.

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

1. Take as much time as you need.
2. There is no timeframe built into this program. You could answer one question every week, or complete one chapter every day. It really doesn't matter. The goal is to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18
3. Find a place that is free from interruptions and distractions.
4. Keep an open mind. Don't assume the one you're discipling knows more than they do. Let them guide the learning. We never want someone to be afraid to ask a question.

5. Rabbit trails happen when questions get asked that are related to the questions (or sometimes not related at all). When this happens just go with it. If you're not comfortable answering the new questions, just say you can research it and come back to it next time.
6. If you're not a natural teacher, don't worry. This study is designed to guide itself step by step, and is discussion based, so you won't have to prepare lessons, or give lectures.

THE BIGGEST THING:

1. **DON'T WORRY!** You have the Word of God, The Holy Spirit, and The Lord Jesus all working in your favor.
2. Doing this study with someone, or even just by yourself, will cause you to grow as a Christian.

Jesus said, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." John 14:26

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Bible contains 66 individual books, written on three continents, in 3 different languages, over a period of approximately 1,500 years, by more than 40 authors who came from many walks of life, yet it remains 1 unified book from beginning to end without contradiction.

Why is it significant that the Bible contains so much diversity?

- ✦ The Bible is ONE unified book from beginning to end without contradiction.
- ✦ The main theme of the Bible is the person of Jesus Christ, and both the Old and New Testaments testify to Jesus Christ as the Lord of Glory.
- ✦ This unity is unique from all other books and religions writings and is evidence of the divine origin of the words which God moved men to record.
- ✦ It fits together into one cohesive story with an appropriate beginning, a logical ending, a central character, and a consistent theme.
- ✦ Because this IS God’s Word, we can be confident that we have an authority upon which we base our Faith.

Get To Know Your Bible: Old Testament

Go through each page of the Bible and try to find each Book. This will help familiarize you with the Books, where they are in relation to each other, and help you find them again later when needed. Be careful, as some of the books are very small and you might miss some. You should end up with 66.

1. Books of Law - Pentateuch- Look through your Bible and write down the 5 Books written by Moses:

Book	Author	Date
1. Genesis	Moses	1400 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
2. Exodus	Moses	1400 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
3. Leviticus	Moses	1400 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
4. Numbers	Moses	1400 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
5. Deuteronomy	Moses	1400 B.C.

3. Historical - Look through your Bible and write down the 12 Books:

Book	Author	Date
6. Joshua	Joshua	1350 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
7. Judges	Samuel/Nathan/Gad	1000 - 900 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
8. Ruth	Samuel/Nathan/Gad	1000 - 900 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
9. 1 Samuel	Samuel/Nathan/Gad	1000 - 900 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
10. 2 Samuel	Samuel/Nathan/Gad	1000 - 900 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
11. 1 Kings	Jeremiah	600 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
12. 2 Kings	Jeremiah	600 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
13. 1 Chronicles	Ezra	450 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
14. 2 Chronicles	Ezra	450 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
15. Ezra	Ezra	450 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
16. Nehemiah	Ezra	450 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
17. Esther	Mordecai	400 B.C.

4. Poetical- Look through your Bible and write down the 5 Books:

Book	Author	Date
18. Job	Moses	1400 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
19. Psalms	Several different authors, mostly David	1000 - 400 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
20. Proverbs	Solomon	900 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
21. Ecclesiastes	Solomon	900 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
22. Song of Solomon	Solomon	900 B.C.

5. Prophetical- Look through your Bible and write down the 5 Major Prophets:

Book	Author	Date
23. Isaiah	Isaiah	700 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
24. Jeremiah	Jeremiah	600 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
25. Lamentations	Jeremiah	600 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
26. Ezekiel	Ezekiel	550 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
27. Daniel	Daniel	550 B.C.

6. Prophetic - Look through your Bible and write down the 12 Minor Prophets:

Book	Author	Date
28. Hosea	Hosea	750 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
29. Joel	Joel	850 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
30. Amos	Amos	750 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
31. Obadiah	Obadiah	600 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
32. Jonah	Jonah	700 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
33. Micah	Micah	700 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
34. Nahum	Nahum	650 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
35. Habakkuk	Habakkuk	600 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
36. Zephaniah	Zephaniah	650 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
37. Haggai	Haggai	520 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
38. Zechariah	Zechariah	500 B.C.
Book	Author	Date
39. Malachi	Malachi	430 B.C.

- 7. How many OT books total? [39](#)
- 8. What does God say will happen to the Word of God? What is this called?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Amos 8:11-12	What does God say will happen to the Word of God?	God would take away His Word from the people.
	What is this called?	400 Silent Years: Intertestamental Period

- 9. The Gospels – Look through your Bible and write down the 4 Gospels:

Get To Know Your Bible: New Testament

NT Date Information From⁹

Book	Author	Date
1. Matthew	Matthew	See Below
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † Mark was probably written first, as Matthew borrows some from Mark. † Mark was written about A.D. 57-59. † Irenaeus said Mark was written after the deaths of Peter and Paul, c. 67-68, but both Clement of Alexandria and Origen placed it during Peter's lifetime, saying that Peter helped in its production and approved its use by the church. † There is wide agreement that Mark's record of Peter's sermons was one of the "eyewitness" accounts Luke used in writing Luke and Acts (see Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1). † Since Acts ends with Paul still in prison before his first release in 62, Mark must have been written before that time. 		
Date: This would put the writing of Matthew around A.D. 60 or so.		

Book	Author	Date
2. Mark	John Mark	See Below
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † Irenaeus said Mark was written after the deaths of Peter and Paul, c. 67-68, but both Clement of Alexandria and Origen placed it during Peter's lifetime, saying that Peter helped in its production and approved its use by the church. There is wide agreement that Mark's record of Peter's sermons was one of the "eyewitness" accounts Luke used in writing Luke and Acts (see Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1). Since Acts ends with Paul still in prison before his first release in 62, Mark must have been written before that time. Most scholars agree that Matthew used Mark as a source as well. 		
Date: About A.D. 57-59.		

Book	Author
3. Luke	Luke
Date Info	
† The only clue lies in the probable date of Acts, which is a sequel to Luke (see Acts: Date). Since Acts ends with Paul still in prison before his first release in A.D. 62, we can assume that Luke was written before that date.	
Date: Probably c. 58-60.	

Book	Author
4. John	John
Date Info	
† Early church fathers believed it was written in John's old age, some 20 years after the Synoptics. John's five books were the last NT books written.	
Date: Probably A.D. 85-95.	

10. Church History - There's only 1 Church History book and it follows the last Gospel:

Book	Author
5. Acts	Luke
Date Info	
† Acts ends before Paul's release from prison in 62 and makes no mention of the Neronian persecutions that began in 64.	
Date: Probably A.D. 60-62.	

11. Paul's Letters (Epistles) - Look through your Bible and write down the 13 Letters Paul wrote:

Book	Author
6. Romans	Paul
Date	
Date: Late winter of A.D. 57 or early spring of 58, about 22 years after Paul's conversion.	

Book	Author
7. 1 Corinthians	Paul
Date Info	
† Having spent a year and a half in Corinth (Acts 18:1-17), Paul spent most of the next three years in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-10; 20:31). He probably wrote 1 Corinthians near the end of his time in Ephesus.	
Date: C. A.D. 56.	

Book	Author
8. 2 Corinthians	Paul
Date	
Date: A.D. 56, about six months after Paul wrote 1 Corinthians.	

Book	Author
9. Galatians	Paul
Date Info	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Date: Either A.D. 48-49 or A.D. 55 ✚ Different opinions about the date of this letter are influenced by differing interpretations of the letter's recipients. The letter is addressed to "the churches of Galatia" (1:2). In Paul's day, Galatia referred to two different areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Geographically, it referred to a northerly region Paul visited on his second missionary journey (Acts 16:6; 18:23). ✚ Politically, it referred to a Roman province that, in addition to geographical Galatia, took in more southerly regions including Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe, which Paul visited on his first journey (Acts 13:14-14:24) and revisited on his second (16:1-6) and third journeys (18:23). ✚ If 2:1 refers to the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15), then Paul may have written this letter to the churches of southern Galatia just after that event, with the issue of law and grace fresh on his mind. 	
Date: That would give Galatians a date of about A.D. 48-49, making it the earliest of Paul's letters.	

Book	Author
10. Ephesians	Paul
Date Info	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Paul was in prison when he wrote this letter (3:1; 4:1; 6:20). If these remarks refer to his imprisonment in Caesarea (Acts 24:27), the letter would have been written about A.D. 57-59. If they refer to his imprisonment in Rome (Acts 28:30), which is more likely, the letter was written about 60-62. Since he expressed no hope of release, it was probably just after his coming to Rome, while he was imprisoned in his own rented house (Acts 28:30). 	
Date: A.D. 57-59.	



If we picked 10 people at random who were from the same place, born around the same time, spoke the same language, and made about the same amount of money, and were asked to write on just one controversial subject, their writings would have trouble agreeing with each other.

Book	Author
11. Philippians	Paul
Date Info	
<p>✠ The Apostolic Church Fathers quote from the letter often and specifically mention it as by Paul</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignatius (c.35-110) • Clement of Rome (96) • Polycarp (c.69-c.156) • Irenaeus, (d. A.D. 202) • Clement of Alexandria (c.150-211/216) • Tertullian (c.160-c.225) <p>BOTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcion's "canon" (c.85 - c.160) and • Muratorian Canon (c.170-200) ascribe the book to Paul. <p>✠ Since Paul seemed confident of either acquittal or release from prison (1:19,25; 2:24; see Philemon 22), he probably wrote Philippians toward the end of his time of house arrest, about a year after he wrote Ephesians and Colossians.</p>	
Date: C. A.D. 61.	

Book	Author
12. Colossians	Paul
Date	
Date: A.D. 60-61, about the same time Paul wrote Ephesians.	

Book	Author
13. 1 Thessalonians	Paul
Date	
Date: C. A.D. 51, shortly after Timothy rejoined Paul in Corinth, making it the second earliest of Paul's letters (after Galatians).	

Book	Author
14. 2 Thessalonians	Paul
Date	
Date: C. A.D. 51, from Corinth, one to three months after 1 Thessalonians.	

Book	Author
15. 1 Timothy	Paul
Date Info	
<p>✠ Paul's travel notes in 1 Timothy through Titus (1:3; 2 Timothy 1:17; 4:9, 13, 20; Titus 1:5; 3:12) do not match any events in Acts.</p> <p>✠ This, plus Paul's sense of impending death in 2 Timothy, suggests the following chronology for Paul's later years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was released from the house arrest that had begun in Acts 28:30-31. • He traveled and evangelized widely, as reflected in the travel notes cited above. • He was then arrested again: • The 2 Timothy travel notes suggest an emergency situation (2 Timothy 1:17; 4:9, 13, 20). • Several comments in 2 Timothy reflect prison life (2 Timothy 1:8; 2:9; 4:6-22). • He was then martyred. Paul expected this in 2 Timothy, and tradition strongly suggests it. 	
<p>Date: 1 Timothy was probably the first of the three letters, being written A.D. 62-64 from Macedonia (1:3). Titus was written a little later, with 2 Timothy coming three to five years later.</p>	

Book	Author
16. 2 Timothy	Paul
Date Info	
<p>✠ 1 Timothy was probably the first of the three letters, being written from Macedonia (1:3). Titus was written a little later, with 2 Timothy coming three to five years later.</p>	
<p>Date: A.D. 62-64</p>	

Book	Author
17. Titus	Paul
Date Info	
<p>✠ After 1 Timothy, from somewhere in Greece or Asia Minor where Paul was stopping on his way to Nicopolis (3:12).</p>	
<p>Date: A.D. 62-66</p>	

Book	Author
18. Philemon	Paul
Date Info	
<p>✠ During Paul's house arrest in Rome (Acts 28:30-31), about the same time as Ephesians and Colossians.</p>	
<p>Date: A.D. 61</p>	

12. There are 8 other letters in the New Testament. Look through your Bible and write them here:

Book	Author
19. Hebrews	Unknown, mostly likely Paul, Luke, Barnabas, or Apollos
Date Info	
<p>✠ It was probably before the Temple's destruction in 70, because the Temple was apparently still in use (8:4-5; 10:11).</p> <p>✠ If the destruction had occurred, it would surely have been mentioned because of its interest to the readers and relevance to the book's theme.</p> <p>✠ However, it was probably not much earlier than 70:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recipients were apparently second-generation Christians who themselves had been believers for a fairly long time. • Timothy had just been released from prison (13:23). • His imprisonment is not mentioned elsewhere in Scripture but could have followed Paul's plea to visit him in prison, c. 67 (see 2 Timothy 4:9, 21). 	
Date: Probably C. A.D. 68, perhaps from Italy (see 13:24)	

Book	Author
20. James	James
Date Info	
<p>✠ James was the earliest book of the NT canon, probably written from Jerusalem, where James ministered.</p> <p>✠ The early date (four years before Paul's first letter) is suggested by the absence of any mention of the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15), at which James played a key role, or of the Jewish vs. Gentile issues that led up to the council, which would have been of interest to his readers.</p> <p>✠ Also, the fact that James, while emphasizing the importance of good works as an evidence of faith, made no attempt to reconcile that teaching with Paul's emphasis on salvation by faith alone.</p>	
Date: C. A.D. 45	

Book	Author
21. 1 Peter	Peter
Date Info	
<p>✠ Just before Nero's persecutions and the death of Paul. Peter apparently wrote from "Babylon" (5:13), which could have been either the ancient city on the Euphrates, or Rome, for which Babylon was a popular code name among victims of its oppression.</p>	
Date: A.D. 63-64	

Book	Author
22. 2 Peter	Peter
Date Info	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † The Book of 2 Peter was written toward the end of Peter’s life. † Peter was martyred in Rome during the reign of Nero, his death must have occurred prior to A.D. 68. 	
Date: He very likely wrote 2 Peter between A.D. 65 and 68.	

Book	Author
23. 1 John	John
Date	
Date: C. A.D. 85-95, probably sometime after the Gospel of John	

Book	Author
24. 2 John	John
Date	
Date: C. A.D. 85-95, after 1 John and about the same time as 3 John; from Ephesus, as were John; 1 John, and 3 John.	

Book	Author
25. 3 John	John
Date	
Date: The Book of 3 John would most likely have been written at about the same time as John's other letters (1 and 2 John) between A.D. 85-95.	

Book	Author
26. Jude	Jude
Date Info	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † 1:14-18 seems to describe the false teachers Peter had warned were coming (2 Peter 2:1-19; 3:1-3). While Peter, writing c. 64-67, expected their arrival soon (2 Peter 2:1), they had already arrived by the time Jude wrote (1:4). † Jude probably wrote before Jerusalem's fall in 70, since if that event had already occurred it would have been natural for him to mention it in connection with the Exodus (1:5). † 1:17 suggests that, though most of the apostles were gone by the time Jude wrote, many of his readers had been instructed by them. 	
Date: Perhaps c. A.D. 69	

13. There is 1 Prophetic book in the New Testament, and it's the last book.

Book	Author
27. Revelation	John
Date Info	
† Most evangelical scholars affirm that Revelation was written in A.D. 95 or 96. † This is based on accounts of the early church fathers that the Apostle John had been exiled on Patmos Island during the reign of Domitian who died in A.D. 96. † John was then allowed to return to Ephesus. † Statements by Clement of Alexandria and Eusebius affirm that the book was written by John on Patmos in	
Date: A.D. 95 or 96.	

14. How many New Testament books total? [27](#)

15. How many total books in the Bible? [66](#)

How do you remember how many books are in each Testament?

<i>Old (3 letters)</i>	<i>Testament (9 letters)</i>	<i>39 Books</i>
<hr/>		
<i>New (3 letters)</i>	<i>Testament (9 letters)</i>	<i>3x9= 27 Books</i>
<i>Total Number:</i>		<i>66</i>



"The greatest proof that the Bible is inspired is that it has stood so much bad preaching."

A.T. Robertson - Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

"In order to be able to expound the Scriptures, and as an aid to your pulpit studies, you will need to be familiar with the commentators: a glorious army, let me tell you, whose acquaintance will be your delight and profit. Of course, you are not such wiseacres as to think or say that you can expound Scripture without assistance from the works of divines and learned men who have laboured before you in the field of exposition. If you are of that opinion, pray remain so, for you are not worth the trouble of conversion, and like a little coterie who think with you, would resent the attempt as an insult to your infallibility. It seems odd, that certain men who talk so much of what the Holy Spirit reveals to themselves, should think so little of what he has revealed to others."

– C. H. Spurgeon

16. Does your Bible have cross references? If so, look at John 3:16 and follow the first cross reference. How does the cross reference relate to John 3:16? Note: cross references are not Scripture, but were added later by men to aid the study of Scripture.

The answers will vary depending on if the Bible being used has cross references, and what verse the reference takes them to. Be prepared to discuss the importance of cross references as a tool not only to study themes in the Bible, but also to help Scripture interpret Scripture.

17. Look at Genesis 1:4. Notice that the words “it was” are in italics. Do you know why those are like that?*

Italics are used in the text to indicate words which are not found in the original Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek but implied by it. Because no language can be translated word for word, the translators added words in the English to make the meaning understandable.

Without the added words, we have:

“And God saw the light, that good: and God divided the light from the darkness.”

To avoid this sort of cave man speech, the translators add words to form proper English grammar.

*If the Bible version you’re using doesn’t have the words in italics, you must understand that these are NOT in the original Greek or Hebrew.

18. Does your Bible have a Concordance in the back? Look in the Concordance and see how many passages contain the word “Love.” Remember, this information was added to aid study, and is not the Word of God.

- a. A Concordance is an alphabetical list of names, words, and phrases, showing their book, chapter, and verse in the Bible.
- b. This is a handy tool to find verses you only remember a few words for. Say, you know a verse has the word “love” in it, but can’t remember where it is. The Concordance, while not exhaustive, may help.

19. If you have a Commentary Bible, you'll have notes below many passages. What do your notes say about John 3:16?

A Commentary is exactly what it sounds like: Someone commenting on the meaning, interpretation, and application of a passage of Scripture. Remind the student that notes are not INSPIRED; they are only study aids.

Now that you know ABOUT your Bible, it's time to dig into what your Bible is ABOUT. Specifically, we're going to be looking at what the Bible says about itself, and more importantly, who the Bible is about.

20. Read John 1:1-18. Who is the Word?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 1:1	Who was in the beginning?	The Word
John 1:1	Who was with God?	the Word
John 1:1	Who is the Word?	The Word is God
John 1:4-5	How is the Word described?	As light!
John 1:6-8	Who came to bear witness of the light?	John The Baptist
John 1:14	What happened to the Word?	He became flesh and dwelt among us.
John 1:15-17	Who specifically is the Word?	Jesus Christ

21. Since Colossians 1:16 is talking about Jesus, what does Colossians 1:16 say about who created all things? Why were all things created?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Colossians 1:13-16	Who is the focus of these passages?	Jesus
Colossians 1:16	Who created ALL things?	Jesus
Colossians: 1:16	Why were all things created?	They were created FOR Jesus.

22. We began our study of the Word of God by stating that the Bible has a central theme, and specifically, a central Person. Given what you’ve read above, read and; 44, and answer the question of

Bible Reference	Who is central to the Scriptures?	Answer
John 5:39	1) What Scriptures is Jesus talking about? 2) What do they testify of?	1) The Old Testament 2) They testify of Jesus
Luke 24:27	When Jews say, “Moses and all the Prophets,” they’re talking about the Old Testament. According to this passage, where is Jesus to be found in the OT?	“He expounded to them in ALL THE SCRIPTURES the things concerning Himself.”
Luke 24:44	Who is the focus of “the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms”?	Jesus

23. Remember, the Bible is God’s revelation of Himself to man. Given that Jesus created EVERYTHING, and all the Scriptures testify of Him, what is the central reason for God giving us the Bible?

Without the Scriptures we would not know of God’s plan and program for His Son, Redemption, The Curse, Salvation, or anything about Him because Jesus is central to everything! If you want to know God and His Son, you have to know the Bible.

24. Why did Jesus say the Bible was so important?

Bible Reference	Why Is The Bible So Important?	Answer
Matthew 4:3-4	How does man live?	Not by bread alone, but by the Word of God.
Matthew 24:35	In what can we have confidence?	The Word of God because it will NEVER pass away.

25. How do we know that God speaks to us through His Word? Read. What is the progression of God’s revelation to man?

Before	Bible Reference	After
PROGRESSION OF GOD’S REVELATION TO MAN		
God spoke at various times and in various ways in the past to the fathers by the prophets.	Hebrews 1:1-2	God has now spoken to us by His Son

To recap:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 1:1; 14	Who is the Word of God?	Jesus
Revelation 19:13	What is Jesus’s other name?	The Word of God
Hebrews 1:1-2	How has God chosen to communicate to us today?	Through His Son, Jesus, The Word of God.

26. Since Jesus IS the Word of God, reading the Bible is the same as getting to know whom?

Jesus

27. But how do we know the Bible comes from God? In other words, how do we know the Bible is inspired? What does the Bible say about itself in 2 Timothy 3:16?

ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. (emphasis added)

28. Where does 2 Peter 1:16-21 tell us Scripture (our “prophetic word”) came from? Where did it NOT come from?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
2 Peter 1:16-21	Where did the Bible come from?	The Scripture came as the Holy Spirit moved holy men of God to write it down.
2 Peter 1:16-21	Where did the Bible NOT come from?	It NEVER came by the will of man.

29. Clearly, the Word of God reveals God to man, but is it just a story? What five attributes does Hebrews 4:12 describe the Word has having?

The Word of God	Attributes
The Word of God is	Living
The Word of God is	Powerful
The Word of God is	Sharper Than A Sword
The Word of God	Pierces, Even To The Division Of The Soul And Spirit, And Joints And Marrow
The Word of God	Discerns The Thoughts And Intentions Of The Heart



The Greek word Paul uses in 2 Timothy 3:16 for inspiration is *theopneustos* which literally means "GOD-BREATHED." To say that "all Scripture is God-breathed" is to say that all Scripture is breathed out from the mouth of God, as if God were actually speaking the very words.

30. What three things does God specifically say about His Word in Isaiah 55:11?

Bible Reference	What Does God Say About His Word?
Isaiah 55:11	God says through the prophet Isaiah that His word will not return to Him void.
Isaiah 55:11	He says His Word will in fact accomplish what He pleases.
Isaiah 55:11	And His Word shall prosper in what He has purposed it for.

31. How can God’s Word in Isaiah 55:11 give us confidence and peace? Read John 3:15-16; 36; 6:47; Acts 16:30-31.

God’s Word gives us confidence in that we can trust in what He says, and that it will absolutely come to pass. Since this is true, and God promises to save anyone who believes on the Lord Jesus, that salvation will absolutely come to pass.

32. What does 1 Peter 1:23; 25 say about God’s Word?

God’s Word lives and abides forever. The Word of the Lord endures forever!

A NOTE ABOUT THE GREEK:

God chose to write the New Testament in Greek, perhaps because the Greek language is far more complex and precise than English, being capable of exact expression and subtle nuances. One of the difficulties with translating ANY language into another is that the rendering is rarely perfect. Something is lost in translation. Verbs, for example, in both Greek and English have tenses. English has past, present, and future, but Greek verbs also have what is known as *aspect*. Present-tense Greek verbs mean more than action is occurring presently. A Greek verb can also carry the meaning that the action is occurring continually or repeatedly. This is lost in English unless the aspect word *continually* or *repeatedly* is added to the translation along with the verb. A specific example of this is Ephesians 5:18, “...be filled with the Spirit.” In the original Greek, this verse is telling us to continually be filled with the Spirit. It is not a one-time event – it is a lifelong process. This *aspect* is lost in the English translation.¹

Translation also creates problems when words have different meanings, but are translated the same way into English. For example, the Greek words *allos* and *heteros*. Both are usually translated as *another* in English - yet *allos* literally means *another of the same type* and *heteros* means *another of a different type*. Also, words change meaning over time as cultures change, meaning even if the Greek word is translated literally into English, the meaning might be lost. When Jesus says, for example, in Mark 8:34, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” To take up one’s cross would have

significantly different meaning to a person living under Roman occupation than someone living in suburbia U.S.A. For these reasons, it is vitally important for the student of God's Word to study, using any tools available, the words of their Bible translation in light of the original Biblical languages of Greek and Hebrew. This is why this study often refers to the original definitions of words in the Greek.

A NOTE ABOUT BIBLE COMMENTARIES aid in the study of Scripture by providing explanation and interpretation of Biblical text. Whether you are just beginning to read Scripture or have been studying the Bible daily, commentaries offer greater understanding with background information on authorship, history, setting, and theme of the Gospel. Verse by verse exposition of the New and Old Testament can be found in commentary written by some of the greatest Christian church leaders including John Calvin, Matthew Henry, Charles Spurgeon, and C.I. Scofield.⁶

A NOTE ABOUT BIBLE ENCYCLOPEDIAS contain articles and definitions to thousands of words and terms used in Scripture. Entries include full historical references such as date, religious environment, family life, customs, language, and literature. Encyclopedia terms are usually cross-referenced and linked to the verses where they are found to help understand the full meaning of the word in context to its use in specific verses of the Bible. These articles, provided by well-known and respected Christian leaders, have been written to help those seeking a greater knowledge of Biblical characters, events and places.⁶

A NOTE ABOUT BIBLE DICTIONARIES are one of the most practical and useful theological reference books available. The combination of definitions and proper names for Biblical words with verse reference, allows users to define and analyze Scripture. Discover the meaning of words and study them in context to the theological concepts of that specific verse or passage. Popular dictionaries of the Bible include Baker's Evangelical, Easton's, and Smiths - named after their well-known theological authors. Others include the Dictionary Of Biblical Imagery and the Evangelical Dictionary Of Biblical Theology.⁶

A NOTE ABOUT INTERLINEAR BIBLES - A Bible that typically shows the Hebrew or Greek text of the Old or New Testament (respectively) with a literal English translation between the lines of the original-language text. An interlinear will often include a separate column with a cohesive English translation of the text.

A NOTE ABOUT BIBLE LEXICONS provide definitions and meaning of Biblical words found in the original New Testament Greek and Old Testament Hebrew languages of the Holy Bible. This study resource helps in understanding the origins and root meaning of the ancient language. Additionally, lexicons give the context and cultural meaning intended by the authors. The standard lexicon is the Strong's Concordance with numbers given for each word in the King James Version or New American Standard Bibles.⁶

The New Testament Greek lexicons include Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament (Louw & Nida), and the Theological Dictionary of the New Testament (Kittel).

The Old Testament Hebrew lexicons include Brown, Driver, Briggs, and The Theological Word Book of the Old Testament.

33. What does Luke 21:33 say about God’s Word?

Though Heaven and Earth will pass away, God’s Word will NEVER pass away.

34. According to Romans 1:16, what is the specific purpose for God’s Word – The Gospel?

The Gospel is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes in it.

35. What six things does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say the Word of God is profitable for?

Bible Reference	The Word of God is Profitable For
Profitable For	Doctrine (Literally, teaching and what is being taught)
Profitable For	Reproof (A proof: To refute an adversary; To prove or convince)
Profitable For	Correction(restoration to an upright or a right state)
Profitable For	Instruction in righteousness (training, discipline, correction - to make someone understand that they have failed or done something wrong and make them want to improve)
Profitable For	That the man of God may be complete (Equip, prepare, finish)
Profitable For	That the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work

36. Read verses 11 and 105 of Psalm 119, and write down the two practical implications of reading and studying God’s Word.

Bible Reference	Practical Implication Of Reading And Studying God’s Word
Psalm 119:11	Keeping God’s Word close to your mind helps us not sin against God.
Psalm 119:105	God’s Word serves to guide believers on the path God wants us on, rather than the one we want.

37. Whom does Jesus say will be blessed by the Word in Luke 11:28?

Those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

38. What does Romans 10:17 say we get from the Word of God?

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

39. Hearing the Word of God, and accepting it by faith, leads to salvation. Once saved, however, what is our obligation to the Word?

Bible Reference	Our Obligation To The Word
Acts 17:10-11	Acts states that we are to search the Scriptures to see if what we are being taught is true.
2 Timothy 2:15	2 Timothy tells us to be diligent (endeavor, labor, study) so that we can rightly divide the Word of God. (To handle correctly, skillfully; to correctly teach the word of truth)

40. What does Paul says about those who do not dedicate themselves to the study of God’s Word in 1 Corinthians 3:1-3?

He says that he couldn’t speak to them of spiritual things because they were only feeding on the milk of the Word and not the meat of the Word, thus they were as babes in Christ leading to carnality.



We fail in our duty to study God's Word not so much because it is difficult to understand, not so much because it is dull and boring, but because it is work. Our problem is not a lack of intelligence or a lack of passion. Our problem is that we are lazy.

– R.C. Sproul

Read Hebrews 5:12-14, and complete the chart below:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
v. 12	1) What is the specific admonishment for the reader? 2) How did the problem occur?	1) They should be teachers by now, but instead need someone to reteach them the basic principles of God. 2) The problem came about because they only study on a superficial level the Word of God.
v. 13	What is the definition of one who only partakes of milk?	Unskilled in the Word of righteousness: a babe in Christ, not mature!
v. 14	What happens to the Christian who partakes of the solid food of the Word?	They become mature believers, no longer babies.
v. 14	1) What is the ultimate goal for the study of God's Word? 2) Taking 5:12-14 together, what is the implication if they remain babes?	1) The goal is to be able to discern both good and evil. 2) Without deep study, they can't discern and fall victim to false doctrine and/or practices.

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE BIBLE

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Number	Symbol	Name	Chapters
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THE OLD TESTAMENT										THE NEW TESTAMENT																						
Gn GENESIS 50 1	Ex EXODUS 40 2	Lv LEVITICUS 27 3	Nm NUMBERS 36 4	Dt DEUTERONOMY 34 5	Jo JOSHUA 24 6	Jg JUDGES 21 7	Ru RUTH 4 8	1Sm 1 SAMUEL 31 9	2Sm 2 SAMUEL 24 10	Hb HABAKKUK 3 35	Hb HEBREWS 13 57	Pl PHILEMON 1 57	Rm ROMANS 16 45	1Co 1 CORINTHIANS 16 46	2Co 2 CORINTHIANS 13 47	Gl GALATIANS 6 48	Ep EPHESIANS 6 49	Ph PHILIPPIANS 4 50	1Th 1 THESSALONIANS 5 52	2Th 2 THESSALONIANS 3 53	1Tm 1 TIMOTHY 6 54	2Tm 2 TIMOTHY 4 55	Ti TITUS 3 56	Ac ACTS 28 44	Mt MATTHEW 28 40	Mk MARK 16 41	Lk LUKE 24 42	Jn JOHN 21 43	1Jn 1 JOHN 5 62	2Jn 2 JOHN 1 63	3Jn 3 JOHN 1 64	Rv REVELATION 22 66
1Kg 1 KINGS 22 11	2Kg 2 KINGS 25 12	1Ch 1 CHRONICLES 29 13	2Ch 2 CHRONICLES 36 14	Er EZRA 10 15	Jb JOB 42 18	Ps PSALMS 150 19	Pr PROVERBS 31 20	Ec ECCLESIASTES 12 21	Sg SONG OF SONGS 8 22	Am AMOS 9 30	Ob OBADIAH 1 31	Jo JONAH 4 32	1Tm 1 TIMOTHY 6 54	2Tm 2 TIMOTHY 4 55	Tit TITUS 3 56	Act ACTS 28 44	John JOHN 21 43	1John 1 JOHN 5 62	2John 2 JOHN 1 63	3John 3 JOHN 1 64	Revel REVELATION 22 66											
Is ISAIAH 66 23	Je JEREMIAH 52 24	Lm LAMENTATIONS 5 25	Ez EZEKIEL 48 26	Dn DANIEL 12 27	Am AMOS 9 30	Ob OBADIAH 1 31	Jo JONAH 4 32	Mi MICAH 7 33	Na NAHUM 3 34	Ob OBADIAH 1 31	Jo JONAH 4 32	1Tm 1 TIMOTHY 6 54	2Tm 2 TIMOTHY 4 55	Ti TITUS 3 56	Ac ACTS 28 44	Jn JOHN 21 43	1Jn 1 JOHN 5 62	2Jn 2 JOHN 1 63	3Jn 3 JOHN 1 64	Rv REVELATION 22 66												

PENTATEUCH (NARRATIVE)	HISTORY (NARRATIVE)	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	GOSPELS (NARRATIVE)	ACTS (NARRATIVE)	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER (PROPHECY)
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2

There are two ways to look at this section of our study. Those who are saved, and those who are unsaved. The first is from the perspective one who has already placed his/her trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. The second is from the perspective of one who is seeking answers about salvation. If you're a believer, this section will not only strengthen your faith, but will give you the tools needed to, as Peter said, "give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you." (1 Peter 3:15)

If you're not yet a believer, this section will provide you with more than enough information to make an informed, conscious decision to place your trust in Jesus and once and for all settle the question of where you will be spending eternity.

The best place to start a study of salvation is by answering a basic question: Is There A God? We start here because Genesis 1:1 states, "in the beginning God created the heavens and the Earth," and it was against the creator of the universe that Adam sinned. God determines what sin is, what the punishment for sin is, and provides the means by which sin is paid for; and the best place to answer the question, Is There A God?, is from the Bible itself, especially since the Bible is God's revelation of Himself to mankind.

1. Let's take a look at who was there at the beginning, and what was happening:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 1:1	1) Who was "In the beginning"?	1) From the very first act of creation God was there.
	2) Who was doing the creating?	2) Therefore, God answers both parts of the question.
John 1:1-3	1) Who was "In the beginning"?	1) From the very first act of creation Jesus was there.
	2) Who was doing the creating?	2) Jesus who IS God also answers both parts of the question.
Why would the answers above be significant to the question of the existence of God?		If everything was created, God must not only exist, He must have existed BEFORE the creation of everything.

2. When did God get His start?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Psalm 90:2	How long has God been God?	From “everlasting to everlasting” or Forever!
Psalm 93:2	When did God start being God?	He didn’t, He’s always been God.
Psalm 102:24-27	When did God get His start, and when will His years end?	God has been God throughout all generations, and His years have no end.
Isaiah 44:6	Who was BEFORE God? Who will come AFTER Him?	God was always God, He was the first and the last. There is no God but God.
Micah 5:2	How is Jesus described? Who would that make Him?	Jesus is described as being from Everlasting, thus making Him that SAME everlasting God.
Revelation 1:8	Remember what Isaiah said about who God was? How does this tie into who Jesus Is?	In Isaiah, God declares that He is “the first and the last,” and Jesus makes the same declaration of Himself. The only conclusion is that Jesus is the God of Isaiah.
How do all these passages help us answer the question of the existence of God?		Since the Bible is God’s revelation of Himself, He wants His creation to know that He not only exists, but has always existed. This should give you great comfort in that since He has always existed, and will always exist, so will those who believe.



“I do not feel obliged to believe that same God who endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect had intended for us to forgo their use.”

– Galileo

3. We all have the knowledge of God inside us. This is why Psalm 14:1 states, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God.’” The significance of this passage of Scripture is magnified when we compare it to Romans 1:18-23.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 1:18	What has man done that caused God to reveal His wrath?	Man has suppressed the truth in unrighteousness.
Romans 1:19	What truth did man suppress?	Man has suppressed the knowledge of God.
Romans 1:19	<p>What two pieces of evidence are offered in this passage that prove that we can and should KNOW God?*</p> <p>*The Greek word translated <i>manifest</i> is an adjective that describes what is plain or clear.</p> <p>The word manifest is specifically linked to the word <i>in</i> which is a primary preposition denoting a (fixed) position.</p>	<p>1) What may be known of God is manifest in us. Therefore, the knowledge of God is clearly IN us!</p> <p>2) God has shown it to us!</p> <p>Shown literally means: “to make visible or known what has been hidden or unknown, to manifest, whether by words, or deeds, or in any other way.”</p>
Romans 1:20	What evidence does God provide that proves His existence?	God provides in nature through the creation the wonders that demonstrate His existence.
Romans 1:20	What two things are we to specifically see about God from the creation?	We are to see specifically from the creation His eternal power and Godhead.
Romans 1:21	What does this passage say about man’s knowledge of God?	It states flatly that man “knew God” but didn’t “glorify God.”

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 1:21-23	What were the four ultimate results of man suppressing the knowledge of God?	1) They became futile in their thoughts. (the Greek word for "futile" literally means: "To make vain or worthless, to cancel out, to become vain, destitute of real wisdom, to be or act perversely, foolish, to get off the right path, to follow foolish or bad courses.") 2) They became fools. 3) Their foolish hearts were darkened. 4) They exchanged the glory of God for their own creations.

4. If we compare Romans 1:21-23 to Psalm 14:1, summarize why we "are without excuse."

Answers will vary here, but ultimately we should arrive at the fact that only the foolish say there is no God because God placed in us and in His creation the very knowledge of Him. Man rejects God, leading to unbelief.

5. Since we can say with certainty that God exists, the next question we have to answer is what is our relationship to God? To understand that, we have to understand the nature of sin.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 2:15-17	What was the one command God gave to Adam?	God told Adam not to eat of the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
	What would be the result if he disobeyed?	God told Adam that if he ate of that tree he would surely die.



*"Nobody talks so constantly about God as those who insist that there is no God."
 – Heywood Brown*

6. The Hebrew word for “die” literally means death, but it also means separation from God. How do we *know* it also means separation? In Genesis 3, take note of the change in relationship between Adam and God.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 3:8-10	What do these passages tell you about the relationship Adam and Eve had with God?	The fact that the Lord called after them, and they answered back directly indicates they had a very familiar and friendly relationship.
Genesis 3:23-24	What was one of the results of Adam’s sin as it relates to the word “die”? Notice they didn’t immediately drop over dead.	Whereas God and Adam enjoyed close fellowship, Adam and Eve were literally separated from God when He drove them out of the Garden, going so far as to place a whirling sword and an Angel there to keep them out.

7. More than being cursed and being driven out of the Garden, what was the result of Adam’s sin?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 5:12	Result of Adam’s sin?	Because of Adam’s sin, sin spread to all man, and not only sin, but death also.

8. Who in humanity actually sins? Romans 3:23.

All have sinned!

9. The definition of sin is rebellion against God. How does 1 John 3:4 describe sin?

Sin is described as lawlessness.



*“Then I saw that there was a way to hell, even from the gates of heaven.”
– John Bunyan, The Pilgrim's Progress*

*“Consider this, Christian: that all your trials and troubles, calamities and miseries, crosses and losses which you meet in this world are all the hell you shall ever have!!!”
– Thomas Brooks*

10. Adam’s sin was a rebellion against God when he chose to listen to Eve instead of heeding God’s warning. In the same way God told Adam he would die for his rebellion, what does Paul say is the result of our sins in Romans 6:23? What does James say in 1:15?

Bible Reference	Result of Sins
Romans 6:23	Paul says that the wages of sin is death
James 1:15	James says that sin brings forth death!

11. How long is this punishment for sins supposed to last? Read Revelation 20:10-15.

The punishment of Hell will last “forever and ever.” In other words, the punishment is eternal.

12. There is a solution for sin. What does Hebrews 9:27-28 say the solution is?

Christ died to pay the price for our sins, so that we wouldn’t have to die because of our sins.

13. The solution for sin is salvation. So, what do you have to do to be saved? Read and, and write down exactly what one must do to be saved, and the reasons why men are not.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 3:16	What is salvation predicated on?	Salvation is predicated on the fact that God loved the world so much that He gave His Son. Anyone who believes has eternal life.
John 3:17-18	Why are people NOT saved?	People are NOT saved because they haven’t believed in the name of Jesus.
Acts 16:30-31	What is the only requirement for salvation?	Belief in Jesus.

14. Write down the definition of Grace:

Grace is “A favor done without expectation of return; the absolutely free expression of the loving kindness of God to men finding its only motive in the bounty and benevolence of the Giver; unearned and unmerited favor.”

15. Write down the definition of Faith:

Faith means “firm persuasion, conviction, belief in the truth; conviction of the truth of anything, belief; confidence, certainty, trust.”

16. Grace is the unmerited favor of God toward humans. We deserve death because of our sins, but God’s grace shows underserved favor toward us. Faith is belief, trust, and conviction that God will keep His promises: specifically to save anyone who believes. This is precisely how Paul describes salvation in Ephesians 2:8: “For by grace you have been saved through faith.” But where does it all begin? Read Romans 10:13-14; 17 and chart the progression.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 10:13	What is the statement of fact?	1) Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
Romans 10:14	What do you first have to do before you can call on the name of the Lord?	2) You have to believe.
Romans 10:14	What do you have to do before you can believe?	3) You have to hear.
Romans 10:14	What do you need in order to hear, and then believe?	4) A Preacher
Romans 10:16	What is the preacher supposed to be preaching?	5) The Gospel
Romans 10:17	Since Faith is belief, trust, and conviction that God will keep His promises: specifically to save anyone who believes, where do we get our faith?	6) Faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

17. Salvation doesn't just happen. The progression Paul lays out in Romans 10 is very specific.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 1:16	What does Paul say is the power of salvation?	The Gospel is the power of God to salvation.
	What is the requirement?	The only requirement is belief.

18. What does 1 Corinthians 1:21 say about salvation?

God contrasts the wisdom of the world with the Gospel, saying that through the message of the Gospel people would be saved if they believe.

19. What is the progression of salvation given in 1 Corinthians 15:1-2?

- a. Paul preaches the Gospel.
- b. The Corinthians received the Gospel.
- c. The Corinthians were saved by the receiving of the Gospel.

20. What is the progression for salvation given in Ephesians 1:13?

- a. The Gospel is heard.
- b. They trusted in Him after they heard the Gospel.
- c. Once they believed they were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.



“Those who go to Heaven ride on a pass and enter into blessings that they never earned, but all who go to hell pay their own way.”

– John R. Rice

“There is nothing we can do to make God love us more, there is nothing we can do to make God love us less.”

– Philip Yancey

21. Are we saved by the grace of God alone, or do we have a part in it? Go back and reread Ephesians 2:8-9. What are the four key elements that answer that question?

1) It's NOT OF YOURSELVES	This literally means we can do nothing to earn our salvation.
2) It is the GIFT of God	This works with Grace. We don't deserve it, which is why it's a gift.
3) It is NOT OF WORKS	This is a reiteration. A gift is NOT worked for.
4) Lest anyone should boast	Again, if you boast that you've earned a gift, it's not a gift. Further, if you work you're owed something for it. Grace is a gift BECAUSE it's not earned.

22. Abraham is the quintessential example of faith they we are given in Scripture. Genesis 15:6, Romans 4:3, and Galatians 3:6 all say the same thing: "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Explain the contrast between works and grace in Romans 4:4-5.

Bible Reference	Works	Grace
Romans 4: 4	If someone works, he's owed a debt.	By definition this is not grace.
Romans 4: 5	We're told specifically NOT to work, but to believe.	And that belief (faith) is accounted for righteousness.
Ephesians 2:8-9	Anyone who claims that because Ephesians 2:8-9 says that salvation cannot be by works, and that belief is a work, must understand that belief is a state of being, not a work, as evidenced by Romans 4:5. Do you see the contrast?	

23. So, we are saved **BY** Grace **THROUGH** Faith, but how does that work? What happened to all the sins we committed? We know that the wages of sin is death, but what does 1 John 2:2 say about that?

Christ was the propitiation for our sins. The word propitiation literally means satisfaction, meaning that God's wrath against sin was satisfied when Christ died on the cross.

24. How do 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 1:4, and 1 Peter 2:24 fit into this idea that Christ paid for our sins?

Bible Reference	How Do These Fit?
2 Corinthians 5:21	Even though He was sinless, Christ became sin for us so we could be made righteous in God’s eyes.
Galatians 1:4	Christ gave Himself for us so we could escape the evil of this world, which means death and Hell.
1 Peter 2:24	Because of what Jesus endured on the cross, taking on our sins, we are now healed.

25. What did Jesus say He came to do in Matthew 20:28?

Jesus came to give His life a ransom. That literally means He paid the price that was on our account. What is the wages of sin? Death. Jesus paid the penalty on the cross.

26. FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

- a. God exists, and man sins against God.
- b. God says the wages of sin is death.
- c. God loved the world so much He sent His Son to die in our place to pay that sin debt.
- d. Salvation comes to all those who believe Christ paid their sin debt at the cross.
- e. Not placing trust in what Christ did means death (eternal separation from God in Hell).



Beware, I pray thee, of presuming that thou art saved. If thy heart be renewed, if thou shalt hate the things that thou didst once love, and love the things that thou didst once hate; if thou hast really repented; if there be a thorough change of mind in thee; if thou be born again, then hast thou reason to rejoice: but if there be no vital change, no inward godliness; if there be no love to God, no prayer, no work of the Holy Spirit, then thy saying “I am saved” is but thine own assertion, and it may delude, but it will not deliver thee.

– Charles Spurgeon

27. What do you have to do to be saved? Read Acts 17:30. The Greek word translated in this verse as *repent* literally means to change one's mind, exercise the mind, relent, and does NOT as is commonly taught have anything to do with regrets, sorrows, or remorse. The change of mind must be toward God, being in agreement with Him. So, in order to be saved, who does God call on to repent?

God calls on ALL MEN EVERYWHERE to repent.

28. What is it that we are to change our mind about? Read John 5:37-47. What is the relationship to repentance?

The overarching theme here is that these people Jesus is speaking to do not believe in Him. Literally, they've not changed their minds about Him.

29. Acts 26:20 states "that they should repent, turn to God." Why would anyone have to change his mind and turn to God? What is God offering them? Acts 3:19 has your answer.

People must change their minds and agree with God that they need salvation from their sins.

30. Once people agree with God that they are, indeed sinners, they must believe that Christ died on the cross to save THEM PERSONALLY from their sins. Once a person places his faith, belief, trust, hope, in Christ something remarkable happens! Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 to find out what happens. As you read, consider that there are two Greek words which are translated "new" in the Bible. The first, *neos*, refers to something that has just been made, but there are already many others in existence just like it. The word translated *new* in this verse is the word *kainos*, which means "something just made which is unlike anything else in existence." In Christ, we are made an entirely new creation, just as God created the heavens and the earth originally – He made them out of nothing, and so He does with us. He does not merely clean up our old selves; He makes us an entirely new self. When we are in Christ, we are "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). God Himself, in the person of His Holy Spirit, takes up residence in our hearts. We are in Christ and He is in us. (John 14:20)¹ One of the things we often forget is that this passage actually contains TWO remarkable things. Becoming a new creation is one, but what is the other that is equally as important?

Our OLD SELF is passed away! We are NO LONGER that person. We are a NEW creation in Christ!

31. This idea of becoming a new creation is echoed in a conversation Jesus had with a Pharisee named Nicodemus in John 3:3-8. How does what Jesus outlines echo what Paul is teaching in 1 Corinthians?

Jesus says that everyone must be BORN AGAIN as a NEW CREATION! They must be born of the Spirit.

32. What specifically happens at the moment a person places his/her trust in Jesus for salvation?

Bible Reference	Answer
2 Corinthians 1:21-22	We are sealed with the Holy Spirit who is given to us in our hearts as a guarantee.
Galatians 3:1-3	The Spirit was received by faith...at the beginning!
Ephesians 1:13	We are sealed with the Holy Spirit
1 Corinthians 12:13 and Romans 6:3-6	By the Spirit we are baptized into the body of Christ.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

We receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit through Spirit Baptism. This means that we are baptized into one Body, specifically the Body of Christ.

33. How does Romans 8:9 demonstrate that we receive the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation?

We cannot be saved unless we have the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we must receive the Spirit the moment we believe.

34. As a born again believer in Jesus Christ, what is now our ultimate goal?

Bible Reference	Answer
Galatians 2:20	To live my new life by faith, and not by the flesh.
1 Peter 4:1-2	To live FOR the will of God, and not in the flesh.

35. A definition of the Christian doctrine of salvation would be “The deliverance, by the grace of God, from eternal punishment for sin which is granted to those who accept by faith God’s conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus.”¹ What are the other ways to be saved and receive the Holy Spirit? Read John 14:6 and Acts 4:12

We can ONLY be saved by and through Jesus Christ. There is NO OTHER WAY!

3

Two big questions new believers often have are, "How do I know I'm saved," and "Can I lose my salvation"? There are countless examples, passages, and evidences the Bible offers to answer these questions, and we will examine many of them with the understanding that this topic is far too large for this little study. That being said, the best place to start to answer this question is with a better question: Does God keep His promises?

1. Let's use Noah as our example:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 6:17-18	What two promises did God make to Noah in?	1) God promised Noah that He would destroy all flesh on the face of the earth. 2) God promised Noah that he would be saved in the ark.

2. How did God keep both promises?

Bible Reference	Answer
Genesis 7:19-22	"The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. And all flesh died that moved on the earth."
Genesis 7:23	Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.

3. Now let's look at Abraham:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 17:1-6	What four promises did God make to Abraham (then Abram)?	1) God promised to multiply Abraham exceedingly. 2) God promised to make Abraham "a father of many nations." 3) God promised to make Abraham "exceedingly fruitful." 4) God promised that kings would come from Abraham.

4. What was the problem, as Abraham saw it, with God’s promises? Read Genesis 17:17 and 18:11.

Abraham was 100 and his wife was 90, and they were well past the age of child bearing.

5. How was God’s promise to Abraham specifically reiterated in Genesis 17:19?

God said that Sarah would bear a son, they would call him Isaac, and God would establish His covenant not only with Isaac, but with his descendants after him.

6. How did God keep His promise to Abraham and Sarah? Read Genesis 21:1-3.

“And the Lord visited Sarah as He had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as He had spoken. For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him – whom Sarah bore to him – Isaac”

7. What promise did God make to Moses and to Israel in Deuteronomy 18:15?

God promised to raise up for Israel a Prophet like Moses from their midst, from Israel’s descendants.

8. In, Then look at to see

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 5:45-47	How does Jesus begin to explain how God kept His promise to Moses to raise up a Prophet who would be like Moses?	Jesus said that Moses wrote about Him, and
Acts 3:11-26	How does Peter prove that Jesus is the very Prophet that Moses wrote about? Notice that Jesus was born Jewish, making Him fit even more perfectly the promise of God raising up one from Israel’s brethren.	Peter states specifically that Jesus is this Prophet Moses wrote about, thus confirming God keeps His promises.

9. 2 Samuel 7:12-13 offers an exciting look into a huge promise God made to King David. From the direct context, God is talking about David’s son, Solomon. What are the five specific promises God makes here?

Bible Reference	God’s Promises
2 Samuel 7:12	1) God promises to set up David’s seed after him.
2 Samuel 7:12	2) God promises that he be a biological son.
2 Samuel 7:12	3) God promises to establish his kingdom.
2 Samuel 7:13	4) God promises that he will “build a house for My name.”
2 Samuel 7:13	5) God promises to “establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”

10. Don’t miss the timeframe God gives in His promise.

The promise God makes in the timeframe is that the throne is established FOREVER.



“...nor can I comprehend a gospel which lets saints fall away after they are called, and suffers the children of God to be burned in the fires of damnation after having once believed in Jesus. Such a gospel I abhor. If one dear saint of God had perished, so might all; and then there is no gospel promise true, but the Bible is a lie, and there is nothing in it worth my acceptance... If I did not believe the doctrine of the final perseverance of the saints, I think I should be of all men the most miserable, because I should lack any ground of comfort.”

– Charles Spurgeon

11. God keeps this promise to David in a very special way. Currently, there is no earthly king on David’s throne, and Israel has only been back in existence since 1948, so how does God keep this promise? Examine the key Bible verses below to find the answer:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Luke 1:30-32	How does God keep a descendent of David on David’s throne?	God keeps His promise to David by giving David’s throne to his descendent: Jesus
Luke 1:33 and Revelation 11:15	How long will Jesus sit on David’s throne?	Jesus will reign on David’s throne FOREVER!
Acts 2:29-30	Take note of how David is described, and how Jesus is described. How do these passages demonstrate that God kept His promise to David?	David is dead, buried, and entombed. Jesus is not only of the fruit of David’s flesh, He’s been raised up specifically to sit on David’s throne.
John 7:37-39; 14:16-17; 16:7	What promise does Jesus make?	Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit when He returns to the Father.
Acts 1:4-5 and 2:1-4	How do these passages demonstrate that God did, indeed, keep His promise?	Jesus promised that He would baptize them with the Holy Spirit, and on the day of Pentecost they were, indeed, filled with the Holy Spirit.

12. There are literally thousands of promises God makes in the Bible, and He keeps, or will keep, every one of them. God keeping His promises relates directly to our study of Eternal Security. What is the simple promise of John 3:16?

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but *have everlasting life.*”

13. What does Jesus promise in Matthew 11:28?

Jesus promises to give rest to anyone who comes to Him.

14. What two promises does Jesus make in John 6:40?

Jesus promises everlasting life and that believers will be raised up.

15. God keeps His promises, and He promises to save anyone who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31). How do John 20:31 and 1 John 5:13 demonstrate that you can KNOW you're saved?

Bible Reference	Answer
John 20:31	This shows that we were given the Bible <u>SO THAT</u> we can BELIEVE, and believing we can have life.
1 John 5:13	This actually has two proofs: John says he wrote so that we can know we have eternal life, but he goes on to say that he wrote so that we can continue to believe. This is a confidence we get from the Scriptures.

16. One of the easiest ways to KNOW we're saved is to understand that our salvation is not dependent upon us. What four things does Ephesians 2:8-10 say about our salvation?

- 1) Salvation is not of ourselves.
- 2) Salvation is a gift from God.
- 3) Salvation is not of works.
- 4) We are HIS workmanship, not our own.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: If it were up to us to save ourselves, we'd be in serious trouble. If the wages of sin is death, every time we sinned, we'd have to pay for it with our lives. How many times can you die? How many times can you bring yourself back to life?

17. How can we KNOW for sure we're saved? Suppose you were standing before God right now and He asked you, "Why should I let you into Heaven?" What would you say? God is holy and just, and must punish sin, yet He loves us and has provided forgiveness for our sin. Complete the chart below: What does Jesus say about our salvation in?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 14:6	How can anyone get to the Father?	They must go through Jesus.
John 3:36	How long will our salvation last?	It is EVERLASTING
Acts 16:30-31	We can KNOW we're saved because we're given a very simply directive to achieve salvation. What is it?	Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.
Ephesians 1:13	1) What do you have to do to be saved? 2) What do you have to hear to be saved? 3) What is the result of your salvation?	1) Trust in Jesus. 2) Hear "the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation." 3) "You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise."
Hebrews 7:25	To what degree are those who come to Jesus saved?	The UTTERMOST

18. So, how do we get to the Father? Through Jesus. How do we get to Jesus? By Grace through Faith. Jesus died *for us* on the cross: "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might *bring us* to God." (1 Peter 3:18) Jesus was resurrected from the dead: "who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification." (Romans 4:25) Read John 1:12 and Romans 6:23. What two things (that are really the same thing) do we have to do to become children of God?

Receive Him (that is accept His offer of the free gift of salvation), and Believe!

19. What essential promise did Jesus make in John 14:1-3 that should settle once and for all if you can KNOW if you're saved?

Jesus said for us not to be troubled, because He was going to prepare a place for us AND that He is going to come back for us.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: You do not have a blind faith. You do not have generic faith. Faith **MUST** have an object. The object of your faith is the Person and Work of Jesus Christ. Since you know God keeps His promises, and God promises to save anyone who believes, we can **KNOW** absolutely that we are saved. Don't trust in yourself. Trust **IN** Him.

20. The second big question new believers ask is, "can I lose my salvation?" The first place to look to answer this question is Romans 8:35; 38-39. What can separate us from the Love of Christ?

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST!

21. If nothing can separate us from the love of Christ, can't we simply choose not to believe?

The most reasonable answer, given what Paul just said, is that if you decide you really no longer believe, it's more likely that you **NEVER** truly believed in the first place, rather than that you just decided not to believe anymore. If nothing can separate us from the love of Christ, that **MUST** include the fact that **YOU** can't separate yourself either.

22. Let's explore this idea a bit deeper. Notice all that Jesus says about losing your salvation in John 6:39 and 10:27-30.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 6:39	How many will Jesus lose?	NONE
John 10:28	How long will the believer enjoy life?	ETERNALLY
John 10:28	When will a believer perish?	NEVER
John 10:28	Who can possibly snatch a believer out of Jesus' hand?	NO ONE
John 10:29	What is it that makes our salvation secure?	NO ONE IS GREATER THAN THE FATHER WHO GAVE US TO JESUS - AND JESUS AND THE FATHER ARE ONE!

23. There are specific things that take place when we're saved.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Colossians 3:3-4	What happened when you died?	When we died, our lives were hidden WITH Christ IN God.
	What will happen when Jesus returns?	When Jesus returns we will appear with Him in Glory - this is in reference to the Rapture.

24. Eternal Security is found literally throughout the Scriptures, but is compactly described in 1 Peter 1:3-5.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Peter 1:3	Who caused us to be born again?	It was God who has begotten us.
1 Peter 1:4	What four pieces of evidence concerning our inheritance do we have that prove we can't lose our salvation?	1) We have an <u>inheritance</u> . 2) Our inheritance is <u>incorruptible and undefiled</u> . 3) Our inheritance does not <u>fade away</u> . 4) Our inheritance is <u>reserved in heaven</u> .
1 Peter 1:5	What is it that keeps us saved? What part do we play?	The Power of God keeps us saved. It has nothing to do with us.



"If it is possible to lose your salvation, then what must you do in order to keep it? I've asked this question many times of those who deny eternal security and have received different responses. But they all, essentially, can be categorized into two areas: "Remain faithful," and "Be obedient." Whichever position is taken, both are dependent upon man's faithfulness and ability."

– Matt Slick

25. In Ephesians 1:13-14 there are two Greek words that emphatically indicate that we cannot lose our salvation.

- The first is SEALED: which in the Greek means “To seal permanently, close up, and make secure with a seal signet such as letters or books so that they may not be read.”
- The second word is GUARANTEE: which in the Greek “is the earnest on the basis of which one obligates oneself to the fulfillment of a promise; a pledge.”

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Ephesians 1:13-14	Who sealed us permanently the moment we believed? How can we be unsealed once we’re sealed?	The Holy Spirit A.K.A. God. We can’t. The Bible never says we’re sealed until such time as we sin so much that we become unsealed!
Ephesians 1:13-14	What is it that we have guaranteed?	Our inheritance.

26. According to Colossians 1:13 and 2:13, where are we right now? This refers to our position in Christ, not our actual physical location.

We are alive together with Him in His heavenly kingdom.

27. Continuing with our position in Christ, Paul tell us not to set our minds on earthly things. Why?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Philippians 3:18	How does Paul describe those who set their minds on earthly things?	Enemies of the Cross of Christ.
Philippians 3:20	Why shouldn’t we set our minds on earthly things?	Because our citizenship is in heaven
Philippians 3:21	What do we have to look forward to?	Our lowly bodies being transformed and conformed to His glorious body.

28. In John 14:2, Jesus tells us that, "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to *prepare a place for you.*" Knowing that we are in Christ, with Him right now (positionally), and that we have a citizenship and a mansion already reserved for us in Heaven, how is that we can lose what even God says cannot be lost? What does Jesus promise in John 6:37?

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

29. In the world, there are ONLY two kinds of people. Read 1 John 5:12-13, and write down the two people groups. How does this relate to our study of Eternal Security?

The two people groups are 1. Those who have the Son and have life, and 2. Those who do not have the Son and do NOT have life.

John wrote these things so that we can know that we have ETERNAL life. How can life be eternal if you can lose it? Further, either you have the Son or you don't. There is NEVER any mention of having the Son for a time, then not having the Son.

30. In John 6:44, what does the Bible say about HOW people come to Christ?

People must be DRAWN to Christ by the Father.

31. How are people DRAWN to Christ?

Bible Reference	Question	Draws
John 12:32	Who draws?	Christ Draws
Romans 1:16	What draws?	The Gospel Draws
Romans 10:14	What draws?	The Word of God Draws
2 Timothy 1:12	What draws	We are Persuaded by what we hear and believe about the Gospel.
John 10:27	Who is drawing with His voice?	Christ Calls Us

32. Are you one of his sheep? (This is a yes or no question.) Did you hear God’s voice? Not an audible voice, but maybe God spoke to your conscience, or perhaps God spoke to you through a friend or a preacher who opened God’s Word to you. If you are a believer, then you heard and believed. Many hear, but do not believe. They won’t put their faith, trust, belief in Christ’s finished work on the cross and what that did for them.

Bible Reference	Question	Draws
John 5:39-40	Why did these not gain life?	They were <i>unwilling</i> to come to Jesus.
John 20:25	What did Thomas say about believing?	“Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”
John 20:27	1) What did Jesus tell him to do specifically? 2) What did Jesus tell him specifically NOT do to?	1) <i>Believe!</i> 2) <i>Do not be unbelieving.</i>

33. We can know though, that if we have accepted Jesus to be our savior, we have heard God's voice. No one comes to the Father unless the Father draws them- John 6:44. So when you were first saved, you did hear the voice of God, so you can have assurance that you are one of God's sheep. The question is, are you trusting in the promises of God?

Bible Reference	Question	Believe & Know
John 3:15	Who can believe and be saved?	<i>Everyone who believes.</i>
John 3:16	Who won’t perish?	<i>Whoever believes.</i>
John 3:36	Who can have everlasting life?	<i>Anyone who believes.</i>
John 6:35	Who will never hunger or thirst?	<i>Anyone who comes to Jesus, and anyone who believes in Him.</i>
Acts 8:36-37	What did the Eunuch have to do to be saved?	<i>He believed in Jesus.</i>

Bible Reference	Question	Draws
Romans 1:16	Who can be saved?	Everyone who believes.
Romans 4:3	What did Abraham do to be saved?	He believed God!
Philippians 1:6	Why can we be confident in our salvation?	Because it is God who began the work in us, we can be confident He will finish the work!
Hebrews 12:12	Who is the author and finisher of our faith?	Jesus!
James 1:16-18	1) Who brought us forth, literally "gave birth to us"? 2) How did He bring us forth?	1) God brought us forth. 2) He brought us forth by the "word of truth."
1 John 5:11-1	1) Where is our eternal life found? 2) What do we have to have to have life?	1) Our eternal life is found IN Jesus. 2) We have to have the Son to have life.
1 John 5:13	Why did John write his letter?	"that you may <i>know</i> that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.
Revelation 22:17	Who can come and live?	Whoever desires.



"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

– Philippians 1:3-6

4

In Biblical terms, there are two aspects of repentance that must be considered. The first is repentance that leads to salvation, and the second is repentance that mends broken fellowship with God. Many understand the term repentance to mean “turning from sin.” This is not the Biblical definition of repentance. In the Bible, the word *repent* means “to change one’s mind, exercise the mind, relent.” The Bible also tells us that true repentance will result in a change of actions. We will begin our study with the repentance that leads to salvation.

1. Repentance and faith can be understood as being two sides of the same coin. It is impossible to place your faith in Jesus Christ as the Savior without first changing your mind about who He is and what He has done. Let’s read Acts 2:22-38. While you read, consider two things: 1) Remember the definition of repentance. 2) Remember also, that these were Jews who rejected Christ and His claims, but are now confronted with Peter who was a witness to His resurrection. What is Peter focusing on concerning repentance in his sermon on the Day of Pentecost?

Bible Reference	Question	Repentance
Acts 2:38	How does Peter conclude his sermon?	He concludes with a call for the people to repent.
Acts 2:36	What does Peter ask them to repent (change their minds) from?	Peter is calling the people who rejected Jesus to change their minds about Him, to recognize that He is indeed “Lord and Christ”
This about what Peter is accusing these Jews of doing; putting to death the Lord of Glory. What is he asking them to change their minds about now?	Change From	Change To
	A rejection of Christ as the Messiah.	To faith in Him as both Messiah and Savior. ¹



“The evangelist thinks that after Jesus' resurrection His trial is reopened and fresh evidence is presented by the apostles to get the Jews to change their verdict. The new evidence is the event of Jesus' resurrection. The condemnation of Christ had been done in ignorance (Acts 3:17; 13:27), but in raising Jesus God showed the Jews they had made a mistake: they had crucified the Christ (Acts 2:36). Now, however, the Jews are given a chance to change their minds, to repent ([Acts] 2:38; 3:19; 5:31).”

– Charles H. Talbert

2. Since the foundation of salvation is FAITH, answer the following from Acts 3:1-19
 NOTE: (The Greek word in 3:19 for *convert* literally means “to turn hearts to, to cause a change of attitude in a positive and acceptable direction, to make well-disposed toward, to make friendly toward, to cause to become acceptable.”)

Bible Reference	Question	Repentance
Acts 3:1-19	What does Peter ask the people to repent about?	Peter tells the people to repent about Jesus, whom they crucified.
Acts 3:1-19	What would the result be?	the result would be that their sins would be blotted out.

3. In Peter’s story in Acts 11:1-18, we see that Jews were not permitted to eat with Gentiles, and they were not permitted to eat unclean things. Though Peter’s story covers both of these topics, his main focus is that the Gospel has been given to the Gentiles, as well as the Jews. paying careful attention to the first and last verses. What does Peter’s story have to do with repentance unto salvation?

Bible Reference	Question	Repentance and Salvation
Acts 11:18	What does repentance lead to?	Repentance leads to life.
Romans 6:23	What is the wages of sin?	Death
Acts 2:38	If sin = death, what leads to life?	The remission of sins.
Acts 10:43	What is Remission of sins synonymous with?	Salvation
Acts 11:17	Peter never mentioned “repentance” to the Jewish brethren. Rather, he referred to what?	Believing
Acts 11:1-18	The text explicitly equates “repentance” to what?	Believing for the remission of sins and eternal salvation.

4. Repentance is a command, not a request:

Bible Reference	Question	Command
Acts 17:30	What is the command given by God?	The command is to repent.
	To whom is the command given?	God commands ALL MEN - EVERYWHERE to repent.

5. When studying about repentance, it is important to study what Jesus had to say:

Bible Reference	Question	Draws
Luke 24:46-47	What does Jesus say about repentance?	Jesus taught that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations.
Luke 24:46-47	What does repentance have to do with salvation?	Jesus shed His blood for the remission of sins.
Link the Luke passage with Matthew 26:28 and Acts 10:43. What is the common thread in all of these passages?		Answers will vary: This is the heart of Salvation. Salvation IS the remission of sins. Salvation is ONLY through Jesus' shed blood.

6. While it is evident that the Bible teaches that repentance leads to salvation, it is equally evident that repentance is the method by which fellowship can be mended.

Bible Reference	Question	Repentance for Broken Fellowship
Luke 17:3-4	What do these passages have to do with repentance and salvation? If not salvation, what?	Nothing! A mere man cannot forgive a person's sins for the purpose of salvation. Clearly, then, the forgiveness of the sin in these passages is meant to underscore the mending of broken fellowship.
Compare with Matthew 18:15 (in this case "if he hears you" literally means: "To hear effectually or so as to perform or grant what is spoken, to obey"). Salvation or Fellowship?		These passages clearly teach that repentance is a method by which two people's fellowship can be restored.

7. Repentance and Fellowship go hand in hand.

Bible Reference	Question	Repentance for Fellowship
Colossians 3:12-13	What command is given	The command given is to forgive one another in the same way Christ forgave us.
Luke 17:3-4	How does this relate to the Colossians passages?	This is another method by which we may mend broken fellowship, and in this way it relates to the repentance taught about in Luke.

8. Now read about an event told in Acts 8:14-25 about a man named Simon. Simon was a born again, saved believer (Acts 8:13), but Simon attempted to buy the power to convey the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands (Acts 8:18-19). Peter is going to tell him to repent. Your job is to figure out what type of repentance he’s talking about. Read verses 20-24., and what was Simon’s reaction to Peter’s rebuke?

Bible Reference	Question	Simon and Peter
Acts 8:20	What was Peter’s reaction to Simon trying to buy the power to give the Holy Spirit?	Peter rebuked Simon
Acts 8:21; 23	What was Simon’s problem? Remember repent means to change the mind.	His heart was not right with God, meaning he was not in agreement with God.
Acts 8:22	1) What does Peter tell him to do? 2) What is the hoped for result?	1) Simon should repent of (change his mind about) his wicked request. 2) That he might obtain fellowship-forgiveness from God.

Bible Reference	Question	Simon and Peter
Acts 8:24	Explain what type of forgiveness was he speaking about.	Simon immediately repented because he asked Peter to “Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me.” This passage gives no indication that salvation was in question, as Simon was already saved. It IS an example of how one can be out of fellowship with God, and through repentance, that fellowship can be mended.

9. Fellowship with God, or our relationship with Him, becomes damaged when we sin. This does not affect our salvation, as we are eternally secure. Repentance, or changing our minds to align with God’s way of thinking, restores that fellowship we have with Him.

Bible Reference	Question	Salvation or Fellowship?
Psalm 32:1-4	Describe what David was going through when he failed to repent, and confess his sins.	When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer.
Psalm 32:5	What happened when David finally repented, and confessed his sins?	God forgave him.
Matthew 15:1-9	How does God want people to draw near to Him? (this would be true fellowship) Notice they replaced the commandments of God with the commandments of men.	God wants people to draw near to Him with their hearts.

Bible Reference	Question	Salvation or Fellowship?
James 4:8; 10	Offer three pieces of evidence that James is referring to fellowship, not salvation.	1) We are to draw near to God. This can't mean for salvation, as there is no <i>nearly</i> saved. 2) We draw near to God by cleansing our hands and purifying our hearts. 3) We're to approach God humbly.
Philippians 2:12-15	How can you tell that Paul is NOT talking about being saved when we're told to work out our own salvation?	Paul is talking about our daily living, shining as lights in front of those who are not saved (the crooked and perverse generation).
Ephesians 5:8 identifies us before we were saved, in our state of salvation, and how we should be after we're saved. Write each part of the verse below:		
Unsaved	Saved	Fellowship
For you were once darkness	but now you are light in the Lord.	Walk as children of light

10. We're going to examine 1 John 1:5-9 to emphasize the point that there IS repentance to mend broken fellowship with God.

Bible Reference	Question	Salvation or Fellowship?
1 John 5:6	1) How does the word <i>practice</i> indicate that John is NOT talking about salvation? 2) What would be more likely that we'd be practicing?	1) It seems unlikely that we would "practice" salvation. 2) However, working out our Christian walk is a daily struggle.

11. It is easier to understand verse seven in the Greek than in the English translation. In the Greek we find that “fellowship with one another” is not between believers, but between the believer and Christ.

Bible Reference	Question	Salvation or Fellowship?
1 John 1:6	Who DOES NOT have fellowship with God?	John tells his readers that those who walk in darkness do NOT have fellowship with God.
1 John 1:7	Who HAS fellowship with God?	John tells them whoever walks in the light DOES have fellowship with God.

12. If we walk (that is abide or live) in the light where God is (v. 7), John tells us, the blood of Jesus (in the Greek) *continually* cleanses us from all sin. So, is it a salvation cleansing or a fellowship cleansing? Let’s look at the book of Hebrews for contrast.

Bible Reference	Question	Salvation or Fellowship?
Hebrews 10:11-12	What is the difference between the sacrifices the Jewish priests made, and the sacrifice Jesus made?	✠ The Jewish priests had to continually make sacrifices for sins. ✠ Christ sacrificed Himself for all sins for all time.
Hebrews 10:12	What is the significance of Jesus sitting down?	His sitting down is indicative of the fact that the sacrifice for ALL sin is over forever!
1 John 1:7	Since, in the Greek, this cleansing action is continually being undertaken, how can it be related to salvation?	It can’t. Jesus made the one sacrifice for sin, so this must be a cleansing to restore broken fellowship.



“Men tell us in these days that sin is what you think it is. Well, it is not. Sin is what God thinks it is. You may think according to your own conscience. God thinks according to His.”

– John G. Lake

“Nothing hath separated us from God but our own will, or rather our own will is our separation from God.”

– William Law

13. Because we are in relationship with God, doing those things (sins) that God doesn't want us to do damages our fellowship with Him. Take for example your wife, husband, mother, etc. When you do those things that damage that relationship, does that person stop loving you? No, but they may not like you very much at the time. Your fellowship is damaged. Though we sin daily, Jesus cleanses us continually, so long as we continue to walk IN the light. This is fellowship or communion He is asking for, not law keeping or a list of do's and don'ts.

Bible Reference	Question	Salvation or Fellowship?
2 Corinthians 6:14-15	What is the contrast between walking in the light and walking in the dark?	Believers walk in the light, while unbelievers walk in the darkness.
Ephesians 5:8-11	If we're not to have fellowship with "the unfruitful works of darkness" (v.11), with whom does v.8 tell us to have fellowship with? Why?	We're to have fellowship with the Lord because we are IN the Lord.
1 John 1:5-7	If we continue to sin, how can we have fellowship with the Lord? Why?	We can't have fellowship with the Lord because He is light, and our sinning means we're walking in the darkness. Light has nothing to do with the darkness.
John 3:19-21	How do these passages echo the above truth?	Walking in the darkness means we sin, and don't want God to see our works. Walking in the light means our works are worth of God.

14. It seems like we're moving far away from our study of repentance for broken fellowship, but we're just about to make the main point. Read the next two verses: 1 John 1:8-9. Keep in mind that Jesus paid for all sins for all time with regards to our salvation, and that "sin" here is singular in number and is used without the definite article, all pointing to the fact that the sin nature we received from Adam is what is being referred to, not acts of sin (plural). Since we know John is addressing believers, what is verse 8 saying about us?

John is saying that we still have a sin nature, and that we will, in fact, continue in sin. If we say we won't or can't sin, we're just deceiving ourselves.

15. Here’s the big finale: Verse 9 gives instruction about what believers are to do about sin in their lives. We know it’s for believers since John includes himself when he says “if WE confess our sins.” Our study of repentance hinges on the word confess. In the Greek, confess is literally a compound of two words: homos (the same), and legō, (to say). Thus, confess means "to say the same thing as another," or, "to agree with another." Confession of sin on the part of the saint means, therefore, to say the same thing that God does about that sin, to agree with God as to all the implication of that sin as it relates to the Christian who commits it, and to a holy God against whom it is committed. So, how can we relate this to our study of repentance?³

When we confess, or agree with God, we must first change our mind and align our beliefs, attitudes, actions, etc. with God’s. Confession is similar to repentance in that we have to agree with God before any action by Him can take place.

16. Let’s keep the momentum going. What does verse 9 promise if we confess?

Verse nine promises that Jesus “is faithful and just to forgive us our sins AND to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

17. Since Jesus already paid the penalty for our sins, there must be a difference between the cleansing of v.7 and the forgiving and cleansing in v.9. In the Greek, TO FORGIVE (v.9) is a single act, while CLEANSES (v.7) is a continual process.

Question	Answer
How are these two different?	<p>† We were forgiven once when we believed.</p> <p>† The sins we commit daily are continually cleansed because of the blood of Christ. (v.7) This is sanctification, or the process by which we become conformed to the image of the Son.</p>
Are there sins that you commit that you might not even be aware of? Maybe you find out later in a Bible study or at church that you’ve been sinning, but you didn’t confess them. How would v.7 be applicable but not v.9?	<p>† We walk in the light to shed light on our sins, so that we can recognize them, agree with God they are sins, and turn from them.</p> <p>† But once we KNOW about these sins, we confess them (agree with God that they are sins), as in v.9, and God forgives us in that single action, but not for salvation.</p>

WRAP IT UP: What we see here is the difference between the lawbreaker (us) and the Judge (God), and a child (us again) and our Father (God). Jesus completely satisfied the requirements of the Law with His sacrifice on the cross. All the sins the believer commits, past, present, and future were paid for (on a legal basis) at the Cross and are, in that sense, forgiven the moment he places his faith in the Lord Jesus. Since we're not talking about salvation in 1 John 1:5-10, how does all this relate to our discussion of repentance?

- a. We are being forgiven and cleansed to restore the fellowship we damage when we sin against our Father. We broke fellowship when we were no longer walking in the light.
- b. Not only does God forgive the believer, but He cleanses him from the defilement which he incurred in committing that act of sin.
- c. This cannot happen unless we first change our minds, agree with God, recognize our sins, and ask that He restore the fellowship. Remember Simon?



"You are the way you are because that's the way you want to be. If you really wanted to be any different, you would be in the process of changing right now."

– Fred Smith

5

Many people today understand the church as a building. A biblical understanding of the word church comes from the Greek word ekklesia which is defined as an assembly or called-out ones. The root meaning of church is not about a building, but about people. We are going to be studying two very different churches that are, in fact, the same thing. Sound confusing? It won't be when we get done.

- 1) The first idea we have to work on is that there are two “churches” spoken of in Scripture. The Universal Church made up of all believers in Christ, and the Local Church made up of local assemblies of believers. Compare the two groups of passages below and see if you can identify which of the two churches each group is talking about.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Specifically v.13 & 27	1) How is the church being described? 2) How are you part of it?	1) The church is made up of individual members, but each member retains its own individuality. 2) Like a “bunch” of grapes is singular, but contains individual grapes, so too is the church one Body, made up of individual members.
1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Specifically v.13 & 27	Who is Paul talking about when he says we are all baptized into one Body? Take note that he includes himself in the “we.”	He is talking about all believers, everywhere! The Body of Christ is made up of all Christians.
Ephesians 4:11-12	1) Underline all the plural nouns you find in this passage. 2) What is it they all refer to?	1) And He Himself gave some to be <u>apostles</u> , some <u>prophets</u> , some <u>evangelists</u> , and some <u>pastors</u> and <u>teachers</u> , for the equipping of the <u>saints</u> for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the <u>BODY OF CHRIST</u> (the universal church). 2) All of these refer to the Body of Christ.

Bible Reference	Question
Ephesians 5:25	Basic grammar tells us that pronouns refer back to their own corresponding noun. In this case, since we know the church is the Universal Church made up of believers everywhere, the pronouns “her” and “Himself” have antecedents (corresponding nouns) that they refer back to. Complete the chart below to make it clear
Himself	Refers Back To \longrightarrow Christ
Her	Refers Back To \longrightarrow The Church

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Colossians 1:18	1) What is the body that Christ is the head of? 2) What is the church that Christ is the head of?	1) The body <u>IS</u> the Church. 2) The Church <u>IS</u> the Body of Christ!
Romans 16:5	It is ironic that when you ask people what church they attend, they usually identify a building. How does this passage demonstrate that Paul is NOT talking about the Universal Church?	Romans 16:5 says “... greet the church that is in their house.” Paul refers to the church in their house – not a church building, but a body of believers. This cannot be the Universal Church because every Christian is obviously not meeting in this particular house.
Romans 16:5	If not the Universal Church, what church IS Paul talking about?	This is a local church congregation. A congregation of people meeting in a local setting: a house.
1 Corinthians 16:19	Find the two pieces of evidence in this passage that demonstrate that the Universal Church is different from the local Church. “The <i>churches of Asia</i> greet you... with the <i>church that is in their house.</i> ”	1) The word for “churches” is plural. Since we know that the Universal Church is ONE Body, Paul must be talking about a local church body. 2) Again, the Universal Church doesn’t meet in someone’s house. This is a local church body.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Acts 11:22	How does this passage demonstrate a local church body?	This local church is identified by its city: Jerusalem. Clearly the Universal Church was not stuffed into the city limits of Jerusalem.
Acts 14:23	This passage offers us a look into the local church without actually calling them local churches. How is this possible?	There is no mandate in the Bible for a universal Elder (or Pope if you will) who is over the Universal Church. Rather, we see the command to appoint elders in <u>EVERY CHURCH</u> . This implies that local rule by elders was limited to local assemblies; local churches.

2. We can see that the Bible offers two views of the same Church: The Universal Church made up of all believers, and the Local Church made up of smaller congregations of believers. Notice that both are full of **BELIEVERS**. This leads us to ask the question: What is the purpose of church anyway? To answer this question, we have to examine the purpose and function of The Body of Christ and the purpose and function of the Local Church. It is much easier to understand the two churches when we understand that God has a PLAN and a PROGRAM. Many people don't believe that. But what do these passages say about God's plan?

Bible Reference	God's Plan
Isaiah 14:26-27	God not only has a plan, but no one can stop it or slow it down.
Psalms 33:11	God's plan will stand forever.
Proverbs 19:21	Even though men have plans, only the plans of God will stand forever.
Isaiah 46:9-11	"Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it."

3. So, what is God’s plan? For our study of the Church, we can start when Adam sinned, and God promised to redeem him and all of mankind in Genesis 3:15. This is called the Protevangelium (The First Gospel). So, we will focus on that part of God’s plan that deals with man’s redemption, how God works out His plan, and how the Church fits into that plan. The Protevangelium shows the battle between God and Satan in the Garden. Ultimately, God will bring His plan to fruition through the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 3:3-24	How is this battle between God and Satan demonstrated?	God said if they eat of the tree they die. Satan says the exact opposite. “You will not surely die.”
Genesis 3:3-24	Ultimately, God curses both Satan and the Earth, but what happens to Adam and Eve?	Adam and Eve are driven out of the Garden, but more importantly, they are separated from God. Thus, the action of God’s plan and program of redemption begins.

4. In the Protevangelium, Satan will bruise the seed of the woman (Christ), but Christ will ultimately crush the head of Satan. Of course God’s plan is much bigger than we can study here, but we can note that the redemption of mankind is of primary importance to God. How is this demonstrated in the following passages?

Bible Reference	Demonstration
2 Peter 3:9	God wants everyone to come to repentance, so He waits. This is His longsuffering.
Hebrews 2:14-15 and 9:26	Jesus died, thus defeating Satan and death at the same time, and freeing us from the bondage of sin that began with Adam.
1 Timothy 1:15 and 1 John 3:5	Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
1 John 3:8	Jesus came to destroy the works of the Devil (a.k.a. the serpent)



“The same Spirit who regenerates Christians and baptizes them into the Body also indwells them. The church’s unity, therefore, is not based on an artificial, organizational relationship. Nor on the fact that people are churchgoers. Rather, all believers have been identified in the work of a single Spirit. We are one in the Spirit.”
 – John MacArthur

5. How was God working out His plan and program in the past?

Bible Reference	God's Plan
Hebrews 1:1	God spoke to the Prophets who spoke to the people.
Deuteronomy 26:8	God acted directly with signs and wonders.
Psalms 78:23-29	God acted directly, feeding the Hebrews as they wandered in the wilderness.
Isaiah 42:6	God acts and gives the Messiah as a covenant to the people and as a light to the Gentiles.

6. Look at the following passages, taking note of how God changed the WAY He works out His plan and program.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Hebrews 1:1-2	What changed in the Way God is working out His plan?	Instead of using Prophets, or direct action, God now uses His Son, Jesus Christ to work out His plan.
Isaiah 42:1-6	When Israel failed as God's servant, What did He prophesy would change.	God said in that He would send His Servant, the Messiah.
Hebrews 10:7	How does Jesus fulfill Isaiah 42:1-6 concerning God's plan?	Jesus, the Messiah specifically came to do the will of the Father.
Matthew 20:28	How would Jesus specifically fulfill the will of the Father?	Jesus said He CAME specifically to give His life.



“The true church is not an organization, nor does one join it through the noisy mechanics of denominational machinery. Rather it is a living organism, a body, and believers are joined to it by the quiet working of the Holy Spirit.”

– Cornelius Stam

7. God used to work out His plan and program directly, then through the Prophets, then through direct action by His Son, but now how is God working things out?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Hebrews 1:1-3 and 10:12	Where is Jesus right now?	Having completed the task of purging our sins, Jesus is seated at the right hand of God.
Hebrews 9:15	What is His current task?	His current task is the Mediator of the New Covenant.

8. Remember, God sent His Son “to be a covenant to the people, and a light to the Gentiles.” Since Jesus is seated at the right hand of God, who is carrying out God’s plan and program? To understand this, we have to look at how Jesus is using us, His Body, The Church.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Peter 2:5	What are we being built up into?	A holy priesthood.
1 Peter 2:9	As a holy priesthood, what are we supposed to be doing?	Proclaiming “the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”
Ephesians 1:9-10	What did God make known to us and why did He do it? (Remember He has a plan.)	
Ephesians 1:9-10	What did He make known to us?	God “made known to us the mystery of His will...that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth – in Him.”
	Why did He do it?	Because it was “according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself.” This is God’s plan.



“There is one grand, all-comprehending church; and if I am a Christian, I belong to it, and no man can shut me out of it.”

– William E. Channing

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Matthew 16:18	What did Jesus say He would build?	His Church
Ephesians 2:20	What is the foundation for the Church?	The Apostles and Prophets
Ephesians 2:20	Just like in Matthew 16:18, what is the cornerstone?	Jesus, Himself.
Ephesians 2:21	What is the Church eventually going to become?	A holy temple in the Lord.
Ephesians 2:22	Where do individual believers fit into God's plan?	We are being fit together to make a dwelling place for God.
1 Corinthians 3:16	How does this passage fit into Ephesians 2:22?	We are the temple of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.
1 Peter 2:4-5	Why does Peter use the plural <u>stones</u> ?	This is in reference to the Universal Church.
Matthew 28:19-20	As a Royal Priesthood, and a Spiritual House, how is Jesus using us (His Body) right now?	He's using us to spread the Gospel.

9. **FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** *Bringing it all back around:*

- a. God has a plan and program.
- b. God used to act directly and/or through the Prophets.
- c. God sent Jesus to continue His plan and program.
- d. Jesus accomplished His task by following the Father's will and gave His life.
- e. Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God.
- f. We, the Body of Christ, are now being built into a holy priesthood to work out His plan.



"A healthy church is not a church that's perfect and without sin. It has not figured everything out. Rather, it's a church that continually strives to take God's side in the battle against the ungodly desires and deceits of the world, our flesh, and the devil. It's a church that continually seeks to conform itself to God's Word."

– Mark Denver

10. Jesus and the Church are intertwined.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Acts 2:47	Who is adding people to the Church?	Jesus
Acts 15:14	What is God doing among the Gentiles right now?	Taking out a people for His name.
Colossians 1:18	Even though Jesus is not presently, physically with us, who is the Head of the Church?	Jesus
Romans 12:5	If Christ is the Head, who is His Body?	We are, the Church, individual believers.

11. The Great Commission is for the Universal Church, which is one of the two *churches* we began our study with. Jesus is carrying out His plan and program through His Body, the Church, but He won't do that forever. We've already learned that Jesus promised to return for us. His coming back is called the Rapture of the Church: John 14:2-3 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." What does 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 have to say about the Rapture?

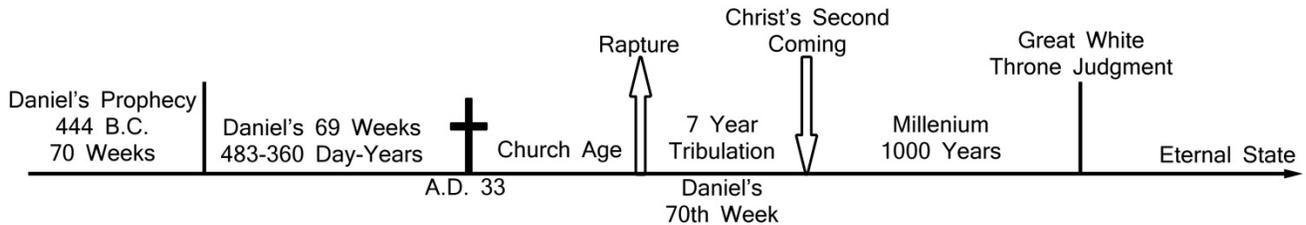
Bible Reference	Rapture
1 Thessalonians 4:16	For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
1 Thessalonians 4:17	Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. <u>AND THUS WE SHALL ALWAYS BE WITH THE LORD.</u>



"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than going to a garage makes you an automobile."

– Billy Sunday

12. If we meet the Lord in the air, and will always be with Him from that point forward, this leads us to a natural question: Who is running God’s plan and program? Look at the chart below, and find the Church Age and the Rapture. This shows the time from when the Church was born to the time the Church gets Raptured. The next event is called The Tribulation (Daniel’s 70th Week – See Appendix A) that is God completing His plan for Israel. After the Rapture, in Revelation chapters 4-6, a great scene is shown to the Apostle John where a scroll is taken and opened, starting Daniel’s 70th Week. Break down the following verses to gain a better understanding of what’s happening, and who is running the program. Remember, the Church is already gone by the time of the Tribulation.



Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Revelation 4:11-5:1	Who is seated on the throne and what does He have in His hand?	God the Father is seated on the throne, and He is holding a scroll.
Revelation 5:4-5	Who is worthy to open the scroll?	Jesus was worthy to take the scroll, open it, and break the seven seals on it.
Revelation 5:7; 6:1-2	What did Jesus do next?	Jesus takes the scroll from God the Father and begins opening the seals.
By the time Jesus opens the scroll, who is running God’s program		After the Church is Raptured, Jesus takes over and begins directly running God’s plan and program Himself.
More importantly, who is NOT running it anymore?		The Body that He WAS using is now with Him, in Heaven.



“Wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, there a church of God exists, even if it swarms with many faults.”

– John Calvin

13. Currently, God is clearly working out His plan and program through His Son, who is using His Body, the Universal Church. The local church is still part of the Body of Christ, but has more structure. Now clearly the Universal Church doesn't all meet in one building or in someone's house. That being said, we must examine the purpose and structure of the local church, and answer the question "do we really HAVE to go to church?" Let's begin with Hebrews 10:25. What simple command is given?

The simple command to believers is "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together."

14. God's plan doesn't just happen, and going to church is not an obligation that has to be met on Sunday. God has a very specific purpose for us assembling ourselves together, and it fits perfectly into how He orchestrates His plan and program. In Ephesians 4:11-14, Paul spells out in no uncertain terms why we assemble ourselves together. Examine the following verses to find the answer. Keep in mind as you read that God's plan of redeeming man is the focus of these gifts.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Ephesians 4:11	What four tools (or gifts) did Jesus give specifically to the church?	1) Apostles 2) Prophets 3) Evangelists 4) Pastors/Teachers

15. What three reasons does Ephesians 4:12 give for why Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, and Pastors/Teachers were given? Can you see how these fit into God's plan and program?

Why Were They Given?	How Do These Fit into God's Plan
Equipping the saints	To Equip
For the edifying of the Body of Christ	To Edify
For the work of the ministry	To Evangelize

16. Ephesians 4:13 offers two purposes for when the Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, and Pastors/Teachers are used for equipping and edifying. What are the purposes that assembling yourselves together accomplishes?

- a. Unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God
- b. Maturity in Christ

17. In Ephesians 4:14, Equipping, Edifying, and Evangelizing is a safeguard against what?

This safeguards us against being “tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting.”

18. We’re going to take a moment to ANALYZE the three reasons for why the Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, and Pastors/Teachers were given. Beginning with Equipment, read 1 Peter 3:15 and 5:8. Why is Equipment so important?

Bible Reference	Equipment
1 Peter 3:15	We have to be ready ALWAYS to give an answer.
1 Peter 5:8	We have an adversary, the Devil, who is constantly looking to devour us.

19. The fact is that if we are not equipped to give an answer, a cultist surely will be. If we are to fulfill the Great Commission of making disciples of all nations, we must be able to defend and explain the faith. What two concerns and reasons does Jude 3 offer for why we should always be prepared to give an answer?

Concern	Always Be Prepared To Give An Answer
Command	We are exhorted “to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.”
Why	“For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.”

20. What is the warning Paul gives in Acts 20:29-30 concerning the ungodly men in Jude? Take note of where these wolves will come from, and ask yourself if the Pastor is solely responsible for protecting the flock.

“For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.”

21. While it is true that wolves will come into the local churches to destroy the flocks of God, the problem is even bigger than that. In Ephesians 6:12, what is the real threat facing the church?

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

22. The second of the three reasons the tools were given to the church is Edification. Equipment is laying the foundation of a house, and Edification is building on that foundation. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 3:11 that there is “no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” Christians can be Edified, or Built Up through hearing the Word of God preached, studying the Word, fellowshiping with other believers, and more. Ultimately, however, there is a primary goal for Edification, and it can be found in 2 Peter 3:18 and Colossians 1:10. What is the ultimate goal of Edification?

Bible Reference	Goal
2 Peter 3:18	When we are edified, we “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”
Colossians 1:10	“that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God”



23. In Hebrews 5:12-14, Paul admonishes the believers for not growing and becoming mature Christians. There are serious consequences to believers when they're not growing by being Equipped and Edified:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Hebrews 5:12	What are the three consequences of not growing into mature Christians?	1) They should have been teachers by now. 2) They need to be retaught the basics of the faith. 3) They can't handle the meat of the Word, only the baby food.
Hebrews 5:13	What happens to a believer if he/she doesn't grow to maturity?	They become "unskilled in the word of righteousness." In other words, they lack experience, or become ignorant to the truths and doctrines of the Bible.
Hebrews 5:14	What is the most important reason for being equipped and edified, and growing to become mature Christians?	Christians need to have the ability to "by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

24. Remember, the plan of God for our study is the redemption of man. So, once we are Equipped and Edified, we can turn our attention to Evangelizing. This is the "work of the ministry" Paul discussed in Ephesians 4:12. The local church works to prepare the saints for the work of the ministry: reaching the lost for Christ. The biggest part of the work of the ministry centers around the Great Commission that Jesus gave to His Body, the Church. Read Matthew 28:19 and Mark 16:15, and find the three components.

Three Components
1. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations
2. [preach the Gospel to every creature]
3. baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

25. So, what would the consequence be of Christians NOT going to Church, NOT being Equipped, and NOT being Edified?

The answer for the consequences will be wide and varied, but should ultimately be brought back around to how we CAN'T work out Christ's plan and program as we are called to.

26. Let's take a moment to examine the structure of the Local Church body. We know that Christ is the Head of the Church, which is His Body, but what does the Local Church look like?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Titus 1:5	What does Paul tell Titus to do?	Set things in order and appoint elders.
Acts 20:28 and 1 Peter 5:1-2	What are the elders supposed to do?	Shepherd the flock of God. <i>The Greek word <u>shepherd</u> literally means to feed, to watch over, to take care of, to lead, to guide, to rule over, to govern.</i>
Hebrews 13:17 & 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13	What are the people supposed to do in relation to the elders? Why?	Obey those who rule over you, and be <u>submissive</u> , [WHY] for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account.
Demonstrate we're supposed to obey our Church Elders by underlining the pertinent portions of 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13		And we urge you, brethren, to <u>recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.</u>

27. We've already seen that Elders are accountable for those entrusted to them by God (Hebrews 13:17), and we've seen that believers are to obey and be submissive to those Elders whom God has chosen to rule over them. To obey and be submissive carries a high level of accountability that includes *Believer* to *Elder*, AND *Elder* to *believer*. Since it is the local church that is responsible for Equipping, Edifying, and Evangelizing, and because the Bible places a structure on the local church, there is a strong implication for individuals to commit themselves to the local assembly for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission. We're going to examine two very good reasons for a believer to join a local, Bible teaching, Christ centered church.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Matthew 7:15	What does Matthew say about false teachers?	We are to beware of them - wolves in sheep's clothing.
2 Peter 2:1-2	What role do Elders play in combatting false teachers?	When destructive heresies are found, or false teachers enter the assembly, it is the responsibility of the Elder to combat it. This is more easily done by stopping them BEFORE they enter the assembly in the Local Church.

28. A local assembly should offer easy access to its official doctrinal positions. This is called a Doctrinal Statement or Statement of Faith. How does joining a local assembly with a strong, well-researched, and Biblically supported Doctrinal Statement help the Elders to combat heresies and false teachers?

ANYONE who wants to teach at a local assembly must first agree with the Doctrinal Statement and sign a Membership Agreement. This is a tool used to protect the flock by ascertaining a person's beliefs BEFORE a heresy is ever taught.

29. Combatting false teachers and heresies is the first reason for joining a local assembly, but there's another good reason. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 offers six warnings and one command about with whom believers should be engaged in the work of the ministry.

Bible Reference	Warning
2 Corinthians 6:14	1) Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.
2 Corinthians 6:14	2) For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness?
2 Corinthians 6:14	3) And what communion has light with darkness?
2 Corinthians 6:15	4) And what accord has Christ with Belial?
2 Corinthians 6:15	5) Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?
2 Corinthians 6:16	6) And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.'
Command	
2 Corinthians 6:17	7) Therefore 'Come out from among them And be separate,' says the Lord.

29. Why would reading a local assembly's Doctrinal Statement and agreeing with it prevent someone from becoming unequally yoked with unbelievers?

If all members of a local assembly agree to the doctrinal statement, we can KNOW for sure that the person in ministry beside us is NOT introducing destructive heresies.

30. What are the dangers of NOT knowing what a person believes?

That person might be teaching that you can lose your salvation, or that you have to work to be saved, or that you have to worship a Jesus that is NOT the same as the one in the Bible.

31. One of the most important treasures God gives to man is children. Psalm 127:3 tells us that “children are a gift of the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.” What does Jesus say about children in Matthew 18:6? Can you link the importance of Christ’s words with our discussion about joining a local assembly?

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

Jesus takes very seriously what children are taught. Stopping a heresy from entering the church, or knowing for sure what a fellow minister of the Gospel believes are two very good reasons for joining a local assembly.

A NOTE ABOUT THE HERESY OF REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY / SUPERSESSIONISM

Replacement theology (also known as supersessionism) essentially teaches that the church has replaced Israel in God's plan. Adherents of replacement theology believe the Jews are no longer God's chosen people, and God does not have specific future plans for the nation of Israel. All the different views of the relationship between the church and Israel can be divided into two camps: either the church is a continuation of Israel (replacement/covenant theology), or the church is completely different and distinct from Israel (dispensationalism/premillennialism).

Replacement theology teaches that the church is the replacement for Israel and that the many promises made to Israel in the Bible are fulfilled in the Christian church, not in Israel. So, the prophecies in Scripture concerning the blessing and restoration of Israel to the Promised Land are "spiritualized" or "allegorized" into promises of God's blessing for the church. Major problems exist with this view, such as the continuing existence of the Jewish people throughout the centuries, especially with the revival of the modern state of Israel. If Israel has been condemned by God, and there is no future for the Jewish nation, how do we explain the supernatural survival of the Jewish people over the past 2,000 years despite the many attempts to destroy them? How do we explain why and how Israel reappeared as a nation in the 20th century after not existing for 1,900 years?

The view that Israel and the church are different is clearly taught in the New Testament. Biblically speaking, the church is completely different and distinct from Israel, and the two are never to be confused or used interchangeably. We are taught from Scripture that the church is an entirely new creation that came into being on the day of Pentecost and will continue until it is taken to heaven at the rapture (Ephesians 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17). The church has no direct relationship to the curses and blessings for Israel. The covenants, promises, and warnings are valid only for Israel. Israel has been temporarily set aside in God's program during these past 2,000 years of dispersion.

After the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), God will restore Israel as the primary focus of His plan. The first event at this time is the tribulation (Revelation chapters 6-19). The world will be judged for rejecting Christ, while Israel is prepared through the trials of the great tribulation for the second coming of the Messiah. Then, when Christ does return to the earth, at the end of the tribulation, Israel will be ready to receive Him. The remnant of Israel which survives the tribulation will be saved, and the Lord will establish His kingdom on this earth with Jerusalem as its capital. With Christ reigning as King, Israel will be the leading nation, and representatives from all nations will come to Jerusalem to honor and worship the King—Jesus Christ. The church will return with Christ and will reign with Him for a literal thousand years (Revelation 20:1-5).

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament support a premillennial/dispensational understanding of God's plan for Israel. Even so, the strongest support for premillennialism is found in the clear teaching of Revelation 20:1-7, where it says six times that Christ's kingdom will last 1,000 years. After the tribulation the Lord will return and establish His kingdom with the nation of Israel, Christ will reign over the whole earth, and Israel will be the leader of the nations. The church will reign with Him for a literal thousand years. The church has not replaced Israel in God's plan. While God may be focusing His attention primarily on the church in this dispensation of grace, God has not forgotten Israel and will one day restore Israel to His intended role as the nation He has chosen (Romans 11).¹

6

When we study the Biblical concept of prayer, we must take great care to focus solely on what the Bible teaches, and not on our personal opinions, and certainly not on our emotions. Because prayer is so intensely personal, and so intimately relational, people can sometimes forget the main purpose of prayer: a servant talking to his God, a subject talking to his Master, a friend talking to his friend. Learning how to pray is not as difficult as it sounds, simply because the Bible serves as the perfect model that contains nearly fifty lengthy prayers recorded in prose sections and several hundred shorter prayers or references to praying. This model the Bible gives us is not one of formula, but rather, it demonstrates that God was far more interested in showing people AT prayer than in telling us ABOUT prayer or HOW to pray.

1. Let's begin our study of prayer by examining some facts about prayer. One question new believers often have is, "have people always prayed"? In Genesis 3:8-11, what is the nature of communication between God and Man? In other words, how did God and man communicate?

Adam and Eve spoke directly with God, using verbal communication. No prayer is mentioned. This is not to say that they didn't pray, but the example we're given is of verbal communication.

2. Now look at Genesis 4:26, and note the change in communication style. The idea hinges on the word then. In the Hebrew, this adverb literally means "what happened next in a narrative; or what will happen in the future."

It was AFTER this (Seth's son Enosh was born) that men began to call on the name of the Lord.

NOTE FOR THE TEACHER: "The Hebrew word translated 'call upon' carries the meaning of praying in God's name and also proclaiming His name in worship. The sentence can also be translated 'men began to call themselves by the name of the Lord.' All three meanings are probably true: the believing remnant met to praise God and pray to Him for help; and in time, they identified themselves as those who bore His name. See 1 Chronicles 16:8 and Psalm 105:1.

"...True prayer is measured by weight, not by length. A single groan before God may have more fullness of prayer in it than a fine oration of great length."

– C. H. Spurgeon



3. Revelation 22:20 contains the last prayer in the Bible. What specifically is the nature of John's prayer?

John asks the Lord to return. This is a personal, communicative request...a simple prayer.

ADORATION: There are different kinds of prayer modeled in the Bible. Prayer of Adoration is offered to God alone. This is the response of creatures who encounter the infinite holiness, majesty, and perfection of God. It frequently consists of praising Him for who He is. Read Psalm 148-150, and list several things that God is praised for, who should praise Him, where, and when.

There is not a right or wrong answer, only an exploration, examination, and discussion of the prayers of adoration.

4. CONFESSION: Another type of prayer modeled in the Bible is the prayer of Confession. Here's a refresher from a previous study:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Psalm 32:1-6	What is the cause and effect relationship of sin and confession?	When David did NOT confess, God chastened him emotionally and physically. There is a consequence for sinning. When David confessed his sin, God forgave him.
1 John 1:8-10	What is the cause and effect relationship of sin and confession?	If we confess our sin, God forgives us (in this case, as with David, the fellowship we have with God is restored).

5. In examining Psalm 32 and 1 John 1 above, how can we be assured that these are not salvation confessions? Read what God has to say about David in and.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
2 Samuel 7:15-17 Psalm 89:28; 33	What does God say about David that is pertinent here?	Because God promised to be with David forever, we know that David did not lose his salvation, but only damaged his fellowship with God.

6. INTERCESSION: Another type of prayer modeled for us in Scripture is the powerful prayer of Intercession. Christians pray on behalf of others, whether for individuals, a group, or the world. Intercession may be prayer for those in danger, in sickness, or facing a crisis. Read the following passages and indicate the intercessory prayer being modeled.

Bible Reference	Intercessory Prayer
Numbers 21:6-9	The people of Israel asked Moses to pray for them, and when Moses prayed, God afforded them an escape from the serpents.
Daniel 9:1-19	With Israel in captivity in Babylon, Daniel prayed to God for Israel’s restoration to Jerusalem. Notice that this is also a prayer of confession.
2 Thessalonians 3:1-2	Paul asks the brethren to pray for the Word of the Lord to run swiftly and be glorified, and for deliverance from wicked men.
1 Timothy 2:1-2	Paul asks for prayer for all men, and kings and rulers.
Hebrews 7:25, Romans 8:34, and Revelation 12:10	Jesus continually intercedes for us with the Father against the Devil who accuses us day and night before God.
John 14:16	Jesus prays to God to send the Holy Spirit FOR us and for our benefit.
Romans 8:26-27	The Holy Spirit intercedes for us because we don’t always know how we should pray.
Colossians 1:9	Paul prays that the believers would “be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.”

7. PETITION: Another type of prayer modeled for us in the Bible is the prayer of Petition. The idea behind petitioning God is to present our own needs in light of God’s will. In other words, a petition is a prayer for yourself, your needs, and your relationship with God. Petition is not just complaining to God. The English word *petition* originates from a Latin root meaning *to seek* or *a seeker*, but in the Hebrew, with regard to prayer, the word means *an eager and intense searching for favor from God*. Usually Petition is separate from Intercession in that the former is for yourself, while the latter is for someone else, although there is often overlap of these two. The watershed passage of Scripture pertaining to petition is Philippians 4:6-7.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Philippians 4:6	1) What is the exhortation?	1) The exhortation is that we are not to be worried for ANYTHING.
	2) What is the Petition?	2) The petition is that that we should take our problems to God.
Philippians 4:7	What is the promise	In return, God promises to grant us peace and to guard our hearts and minds.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: The Greek word translated guard literally means “the sense of that security that is his when he puts all his matters into the hand of God...not merely that of protection, but of inward garrisoning as by the Holy Spirit.”

8. Hannah petitioned the Lord.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Samuel 1:9-20	What is the petition Hannah made to the Lord?	Hannah “poured out her soul before the Lord” that He would grant her a child.
	What was the result?	The Lord remembered her petition and granted it. This doesn’t mean that God will always grant us exactly what we want. Sometimes God’s answer is no, and sometimes it is wait.

9. Another prayer of petition is found in Luke 1:5-20.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Luke 1:5-20	What was the exact petition of Zacharias?	The unusual part of this petition is that we don't actually get to hear it. We can only infer from what the Angel says that Zacharias prayed for a child.
	What is significant about the result?	There are two significant results about Zacharias' prayer: The first is that John the Baptist was the answer to his prayer, and he would "be great in the sight of the Lord" and would go before God "in the spirit and power of Elijah." The second significance of his prayer is that he didn't believe and was rendered mute.

10. THANKSGIVING: The last type of prayer we're going to consider for this study is the prayer of Thanksgiving. We should always give thanks to God, not only for what He HAS done, but for what He IS doing, and what He WILL do.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Matthew 11:25	Who is praying in this passage?	Jesus is the one doing the praying.
	If you consider the question of how we should pray, why is this significant?	Aside from the fact that He IS God, Jesus is giving us a very specific example for HOW to pray. Jesus prayed, in conversational style, directly to God the Father.



*"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation
 O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
 All ye who hear,
 Now to his temple draw near,
 Join me in glad adoration!"*

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" is a hymn based on Joachim Neander's German chorale *Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen König der Ehren*, published in 1680.

11. In Philippians 1:3-5, what is Paul praying thanksgiving for?

Paul actually prays for two things. 1. He thanks God for the saints in Philippi, and 2. He thanks God for their fellowship in the Gospel.

12. Knowing that prayer is talking to God, Matthew 6:5-6 offers us very specific commands from Jesus about **HOW** to pray and **HOW NOT** to pray. How does Jesus expect us to pray, and how does He expect us NOT to pray?

Bible Reference	How To Pray
Matthew 6:5-6	Jesus tells us to pray privately, and without outward showiness.
Matthew 6:5-6	How Not To Pray
	Jesus tells us NOT to pray in showy fashion, in public, for the purpose of having people see us. The conversation is to be between man and God alone. Outward displays of righteousness are only that; displays.

13. Continuing on with Matthew 6:7-8, we find two more commands Jesus gave regarding prayer, along with the reasons. Complete the chart below:

Bible Reference	How should you NOT pray?	Three Reasons
Matthew 6:7-8	Jesus tells us not to pray with "vain repetitions,"	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Because this is how the heathen prays. 2. Jesus says that they think God will hear them because of their many words 3. Also because God already knows what we need BEFORE we ask.

☞ *Vain Repetitions: Much talk without content, repeating the same thing over and over again, useless speaking without distinct expression of purpose as contrasted to succinct, knowledgeable speech, thus foolish speaking or indiscrete vowing in prayer.⁷*

☞ *Heathen: That which pertains to those who are unconnected with the people and the God of salvation.*

14. One aspect of prayer that is often overlooked by new believers concerns doubt about whether God will answer their prayers. How does 1 John 5:14 answer this? NOTE: The Greek word translated as confidence literally means free and fearless confidence, cheerful courage, boldness, assurance.

John says that we can have confidence that if we ask according to His will, He will hear us.

15. How to pray can be controversial given that prayer is so personal. However, no rules are laid down anywhere in Scripture for the manner of prayer or the attitude to be assumed. Note the chart below:

Bible Reference	How To Pray ⁵
1 Kings 8:54; 2 Chronicles 6:13; Psalms 95:6; Isaiah 45:23; Luke 22:41; Acts 7:60; 9:40; Ephesians 3:14	There is mention made of kneeling in prayer.
Genesis 24:26,52; Exodus 4:31; 12:27; Matthew 26:39; Mark 14:35	There is mention made of bowing and falling prostrate.
1 Kings 8:22,38,54; Psalms 28:2; 63:4; 88:9; 1 Timothy 2:8	There is mention made of spreading out the hands.
1 Samuel 1:26; 1 Kings 8:14,55; 2 Chronicles 20:9; Mark 11:25; Luke 18:11,13	There is mention made of standing.

Since there is no proper WAY, PLACE, or even FORMULA to pray, how should we pray? Remember, prayer should focus on the relationship we have with God.

Bible Reference	How Should We Pray?
1 Samuel 1:1-20	Hannah poured out her soul before the Lord.
1 John 5:14	We should pray according to God's will, not ours.
John 14:13-14	We should pray in Jesus' name.
Matthew 7:9-13	We have to understand the God WANTS to give us good things.

16. A confusing issue about prayer that sometimes arises with new believers stems from Paul’s command in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to “pray without ceasing.” Often the question is, “how is it possible to pray constantly? If my eyes are closed and my head is bowed I’ll walk into things!” Paul is talking about an attitude of prayer and thanksgiving that focuses on Him rather than our problems, the world, entertainment, relationships, etc. Complete the chart below paying careful attention to what our focus should and should not be on: What do and Romans 8:4-6 tell us to do?

Bible Reference	Our Focus
Romans 8:1; 5-7	We should focus on the Spirit and not on the flesh.
Colossians 3:1	We should seek the things above
Colossians 3:2	We should set our minds on the things above, not on things on the earth.
1 John 2:15-17	We should not love the things of the world because these are not of the Father and are passing away.

17. Unceasing prayer is, in essence, continual dependence upon and communion with the Father. By setting our minds on the things above, what are we focusing on and what aren’t we focusing on?

When we pray, we set our minds on the things above and we focus on Christ, not on ourselves. This is what Paul meant when he said “pray without ceasing.” As we go through the day, prayer should be our first response to every fearful situation, every anxious thought, and every undesired task that God commands. A lack of prayer will cause us to depend on ourselves instead of depending on God's grace.



“God does not stand afar off as I struggle to speak. He cares enough to listen with more than casual attention. He translates my scrubby words and hears what is truly inside. He hears my sighs and uncertain gropings as fine prose.”

– Timothy Jones

“Pray often, for prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge for Satan”

– John Bunyan

18. Another question believers often have concerns prayer beads and/or the Rosary – are they Biblical, and can they be used in prayer?

- ↪ Beads are used to count prayers that are repeated a number of times corresponding with the number of beads.
- ↪ The history of the rosary in Christian circles has been traced back to the Crusaders.
- ↪ Historians think the Crusaders adopted this practice from the Arabs, who copied the observance of using beads from India.
- ↪ Recent archeological findings reveal that the ancient Ephesians made use of such beads in their pagan worship of Diana (Acts 19:24-41).
- ↪ Prayer beads are used by Roman Catholics to help the practitioner keep track of some 180 prayers which make up the rosary.
- ↪ Examples of such prayers are Our Father, Hail Mary, and Gloria.
- ↪ The practice of the rosary is based on the assumption that repeating these prayers over and over enables the petitioner to secure merit or favor from God in order to escape from the punishment of the fires of purgatory.
- ↪ The basic rosary is made up of 59 beads linked together.
- ↪ 53 of the beads are for Hail Mary prayers, while the other six are intended for the Our Father prayers.
- ↪ While prayer or rosary beads have traditionally been associated with Catholicism, the use of prayer beads is widespread with many religious traditions incorporating them.
- ↪ For example, prayer beads are used by members of various religious traditions such as Orthodox (Greek/Russian) Christianity, Anglicanism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and Bahá'í Faith to count the repetitions of prayers, chants, or devotions, such as the rosary of Virgin Mary in Catholicism and Dhikr (remembrance of God) in Islam.
- ↪ The one praying holds each bead and recites the prayer...over and over and over again.

- ↪ So, after everything you've studied about prayer, ask yourself the question again? Are prayer beads Biblical and should they be used?
- ↪ Matthew 6:7, "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words."

NO and NO



"We would worry less if we praised more. Thanksgiving is the enemy of discontent and dissatisfaction."

– Harry Ironside

19. Should we pray the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13?

Bible Reference	What the Lord Wants
Philippians 4:6 – “But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God”	The Lord wants us to pour out our souls to Him about absolutely everything that concerns us.
Romans 10:13 – “For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved”	The Lord wants us to call on Him.
Matthew 11:28 – “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest”	The Lord wants us come to Him.

We also know that repeating the Lord’s Prayer over and over again is “vain repetition,” and we know how Jesus felt about that! There’s nothing wrong with The Lord’s Prayer, but we must understand it for what it is. Jews of the day were very proud of their loud public prayers, and the context of the Lord’s Prayer is about how the Jews were praying at the time. Jesus was emphasizing that prayer should be between God and man, in private, and not vain repetition. Notice that Jesus says pray “in this *manner*” not *with these words*. This prayer contains the *ingredients* or *topics* that form the basis for prayers. “All of its elements may be found in the Judaism of Yeshua’s day, so in this sense it is not original with him; but it is properly revered for its beauty and economy. Its first words, Our Father in heaven (Avinu sh’baShammayim), open many Hebrew prayers. The next two lines recall the first portion of the synagogue prayer known as the Kaddish, which says, ‘Magnified and sanctified (Yitgadal v’yitkadash) be his great name throughout the world which he has created according to his will, and may he establish his Kingdom in your lifetime...’”⁸ Let’s break down the rest of the prayer to uncover the topics Jesus offers for prayers:

Topic	Question	Answer
Our Father	Who are we supposed to address our prayers to?	We’re supposed to address our prayers to God.
Our Father in Heaven	What distinguishes God from our biological father?	That fact that He is in Heaven distinguishes Him from our biological father on Earth.

Topic	Question	Answer
Hallowed be Your name	What does this tell us about God?	It's telling us to worship God, and to praise Him for who He is.
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.	Given this is talking about the will of God, what reminder is imbedded in this topic?	This is a reminder to us that we are to pray for God's plan in our lives and the world, not our own plan. We are to pray for God's will to be done, not for our desires.
Give us this day our daily bread	Is this really asking God for bread? Is He a baker? Think about the types of prayers we've studied.	We are being encouraged to ask God for the things we need. This would be prayers of Petition.
And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors	What are the two reminders in these words?	1) This reminds us to confess our sins to God and to turn from them. 2) Forgive others as God has forgiven us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one	What does this address in our daily lives? Compare to Psalm 141:4.	This is a plea for help in achieving victory over sin and a request for protection from the attacks of the devil.

POINT OF DISCUSSION: Matthew 6:13 – “For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.” This is called a *doxology*, or ascription of praise, and is connected with the prayer by the word **FOR**, to signify that all these things—the reign, power, and glory of God will be manifested by granting these petitions. It is not because we are to be benefited, but that God's name and perfections may be manifested. His glory is, then, the first and principal thing which we are to seek when we approach him. Prayer should be about Him as much as about us.¹¹

20. Another question that often comes up is to whom should we pray? God the Father, God the Son, or God the Holy Spirit? Jesus said in John 10:30 that He and the Father are ONE. The Greek word for ONE is in the neuter form, meaning not the same person, but the same essence, substance, and nature. He goes on to say in John 14:16, "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper."

ANOTHER	
There are two Greek words that are translated into the English word ANOTHER:	
Allos (ἄλλος)	Heteros (ἕτερος)
These words have very different meanings:	
Allos expresses a numerical difference and denotes another of the <u>exact same</u> sort.	Heteros expresses a qualitative difference and denotes another of a <u>different</u> sort.
Christ promised to send "another Comforter" using the Greek word Allos, another of the exact same sort as Himself, not Heteros.	
This demonstrates that all three members of the Trinity are God, and since this is true, to whom can we (and should we) direct our prayers?	
Read Matthew 28:19 to begin to find the answer. In whose name are we to baptize disciples?	The Great Commission says we are to baptize disciples "in the name [singular] of the Father AND of the Son AND of the Holy Spirit.

21. The singular nature of the name in The Great Commission tells us that ALL prayer should be directed to our triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Bible teaches that we can pray to one or all three, because all three are ONE. They’re not separate Gods. Let’s look at some examples from Scripture:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Chronicles 29:10	To whom does David pray?	David prays to and blesses God the Father.
Acts 7:59-60	To whom did Stephen pray?	Stephen prayed to the Lord Jesus to not only receive his spirit, but not to charge his killers with this sin. Who but God has either of those powers?
Ephesians 5:20 Compare with John 14:14, 15:16, and 16:23.	In whose name are we to pray?	The Lord Jesus Christ
John 15:26 There is no instance in the Bible where someone prays directly to the Holy Spirit. There’s a reason for that in. Of whom does the Holy Spirit testify? Of whom does He NOT testify?		The Holy Spirit testifies of Jesus, not Himself. He’s not here for Himself.
That being said, why can we STILL pray to the Spirit? What is our relationship with the Spirit in 2 Corinthians 13:14 and Galatians 4:6 ? (In some translations, verse 13 is combined with verse 12, leaving verse 14 renumbered as verse 13.)		We are in intimate fellowship/communion with the Spirit. Galatians tells us the Spirit is IN our hearts.
Jude 20	What does this passage say about how we should pray?	Jude tells us we should pray in the Holy Spirit.
NOTE: Perhaps the best way to understand the role of the Trinity in prayer is that we pray to the Father, through (or in the name of) the Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit. All three are active participants in the believer’s prayer. ¹		



The Greek word translated in the Bible as Doctrine literally means the Subject Matter of the teaching AND the Process of teaching. The former is the noun, while the latter is the verb. We're going to be focusing on the noun: the substance or subject matter of what is being taught. Specifically, we're going to study the Doctrines of the Church - what the Bible teaches about:

1. The Holy Scriptures
2. The Godhead
3. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit
4. The Fallen State of Man
5. Separation
6. The Second Advent of Christ
7. The Eternal State
8. The Personality of Satan - Creation.

1. To begin, we're going to look at the two types of doctrine presented in the Bible: Good Doctrine and Bad Doctrine.

1 Timothy 4:1 states, "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons."

The Greek word translated faith can mean three different things:

FAITH	
HAVE	To <u>HAVE</u> faith. To trust in and be committed to Jesus Christ. Believe/Belief
THE	<u>THE</u> faith. A body of authoritative teaching. That which is believed. Doctrine. The received articles of faith.
CHRISTIAN	The <u>CHRISTIAN</u> faith as a specific religious movement.

2. Let's look at two specific instances of how the word faith is used:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Jude 3	How is <i>faith</i> being used here?	Faith here cannot mean the ability to believe, but must be the Gospel - that which is believed, doctrine, the received articles of faith. That which "was once for all delivered." The Gospel!
1 Timothy 4:1	Since Paul says people will depart from <i>the faith</i> and give heed to doctrines of demons, what type of doctrine is Paul describing in this passage: Good or Bad?	Both are described here: Good Doctrine: The Faith Bad Doctrine: Doctrines of deceiving spirits and demons
NOTE: "give heed to" literally means to hold the mind towards, pay attention to, be cautious about, apply oneself to, adhere to.		

3. We must consider the source of ANY doctrine because we know that some doctrine is Bad, and comes from demons.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Thessalonians 5:21	What are we to test?	All things!
1 John 4:1	1) What are we to test? 2) Why are we to test?	1) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; 2) because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
John 5:39	Where were the Jews looking for eternal life?	The Scriptures!
Acts 17:11	What did the Jews of Berea use to test the words of Paul and Silas?	The Scriptures!

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
2 Timothy 3:16	Where does the doctrine Paul is describing come from?	Paul here is describing the doctrine that comes from the Bible.
	Is Paul describing Good or Bad doctrine? Why?	This would be GOOD doctrine because it comes directly from Scripture.

4. 2 Timothy 4:1-5 might be considered a trick question because there is both good and bad doctrine being described. Identify both and explain why each is either good or bad.

2 Timothy 4:1-5	Identify the Doctrine	Why Is It Good Or Bad?
V. 1-2	Paul charges Timothy to “preach the word.”	This would be an example of GOOD DOCTRINE because he is referencing the Word of God, the Bible.
V. 3	Paul here is teaching that a time will come when people “will not endure <u>sound</u> doctrine.” The word <u>sound</u> literally means uncorrupt or pure,	This is BAD because the people will only listen to BAD DOCTRINE. We know this is true because Paul goes on to say that the people will place preachers in the pulpit who will only tickle their ears.
V. 4	In this verse there is both GOOD and BAD doctrine.	† Paul tells Timothy that the people will only listen to fables (BAD DOCTRINE). † Turning away from the Truth (GOOD DOCTRINE).
V. 5	Here Paul is only talking about GOOD DOCTRINE	We know this from the charge he gives to Timothy to do the “work of an EVANGELIST” and to fulfill his ministry. Paul, as evidenced from v. 1, does not charge Timothy to preach BAD DOCTRINE as an Evangelist in an effort to fulfill his ministry!



The Greek word for “inspired” is *theópneustos*, which is a compound of two Greek words: *Theós* (God) and *pnéō* (to breathe or blow). The literal translation of this word then is “breathed out by God, or simply God-breathed.”

5. The goal now is to study the GOOD DOCTRINES in an effort to equip ourselves against false teachings and bad doctrines that we KNOW will creep into the church, or be brought in by wolves. The first and best doctrine to begin with is the Bible itself. Using the information given above about the Greek word translated “inspired,” where does 2 Timothy 3:16 say the Bible came from?

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.” This indicates that the Bible was literally breathed out BY God.

6. The following passages give indications about where the Bible came from. It’s like putting together smaller puzzle pieces in an effort to see the big picture. Look at the following passages and underline where the Scriptures came from:

- a. 2 Samuel 23:2 – “The Spirit of the Lord spoke BY me, And His word was on my tongue.”
- b. Matthew 22:31 – “Have you not read what was spoken to you by God.”
- c. Mark 12:36 – “For David himself said BY the Holy Spirit.”
- d. Acts 1:16 – “this Scripture...the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David.”
- e. 2 Peter 1:20-21 – “knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

7. Since we know that the Bible is literally God’s Word breathed out by Him, what does God say in His Word ABOUT His Word being inerrant (meaning there are no mistakes in it)?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Hebrews 6:18	What does this passage offer about what God says?	It is IMPOSSIBLE for God to lie.
John 17:17	What does this passage indicate about what God has to say?	God’s word is TRUTH!
Psalm 119:160	According to the Psalmist, how much of God’s word is truth?	100% of it.

8. If it is impossible for God to lie, and 100% of His Word is truth, how many errors can God’s Word have in it?
 It cannot have ANY errors in it.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

- ↪ We have to be careful here that we don't say that once the autographs were completed, and man began to copy them, that transcription errors didn't creep in.
- ↪ When we compare the different manuscripts (copies of the originals) we find that they are so similar that we are certain we have today 97% - 98% of the *original* New Testament.
- ↪ For the remaining 2-3%, almost 1/2 are 1 and 2 word spelling variants, or small additions like articles, etc. None of these affect doctrine.
- ↪ The following is a list of the types of errors that have crept into the Bible:

Type ¹⁰	Meaning	Example
Dittography	Writing twice what should have been written once.	A good example would be writing "latter" instead of "later." "Latter" means nearest the end. "Later" means after something else.
Fission	Improperly dividing one word into two words.	Example: "nowhere" into "now here."
Fusion	Combining the last letter of one word with the first letter of the next word.	Look it is there in the cabinet . . . or Look it is therein the cabinet.
Haplography	Writing once what should have been written twice.	A good example would be "later" instead of "latter." "Later" means after something else. "Latter" means nearest the end.
Homophony	Writing a word with a different meaning for another word when both words have the exact same pronunciation.	Meat and meet have the exact same sound but different meanings. Also, there and their and they're are another example.
Metathesis	An improper exchange in the order of letters.	Instead of writing "mast," someone writes "mats," or "cast" and cats."
Confusing similarly shaped Greek letters	Greek letters were easy to confuse when handwritten: round letters epsilon (ε), theta (Θ), omicron (O), and sigma (C) all have similar shapes. Alpha (A), delta (Δ), and lambda (Λ) all have triangular shapes and were sometimes confused. Sometimes two letters written closely together were mistaken for one letter: a tau followed by an iota (TI) could end up looking like a pi (Π); a lambda followed by an iota (ΛI) could look like a nu (N).	

- ↪ There are many more reasons why copy errors have crept into our translations, but NO doctrine is effected!
- ↪ There are good translations of the Bible, but there are bad ones, too. Good translations you can trust include: King James, New King James, New American Standard, New International Version (not the best, so choose this one as a last resort), and the English Standard Version. If you're not sure, speak to your pastor about which version to use.

9. INFALLIBLE: Since we know that the Bible is literally God’s Word breathed out by Him, what does God say in His Word ABOUT His Word being infallible (meaning it cannot be wrong or contradictory)?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 10:35 & Matthew 24:35	1) What do these say about the nature of the Scriptures? 2) Why can we trust in what the Scriptures say?	1) These passages tell us that the Scriptures cannot be broken and will NEVER pass away! 2) So, what the Bible says will happen, will happen. To date, the Bible has NEVER been proven wrong!
Revelation 19:9	Whose words are contained in the Bible?	God’s
Jeremiah 1:9	Who gave the prophet Jeremiah the words he was to speak?	God
Jeremiah 30:1-4	Who chose what words Jeremiah would write down?	God
1 Corinthians 2:7-10	Who revealed the mystery to the Church?	God revealed the mystery <i>through</i> the Holy Spirit.
Psalms 19:7-9	What does this Psalm have to say about errors in God’s Word?	God’s Word is perfect, true, right, sure, enduring forever.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: All of the *supposed* contradiction, errors, problems, etc. with the Bible can be explained, understood, and ultimately proven to be false if one takes a little time to study, has the Holy Spirit for guidance, and follows a Literal Hermeneutic (text interpretation):

LITERAL HERMENEUTIC

Interpret the text using a Literal - Normal - Historical - Grammatical - Plain - Ordinary - Primary - Usual - Common Sense *MEANING*

Principle #1 - God created language in order to communicate with His creation and authored the Bible to that end.

Principle #2 - When interpreting the words God used to communicate with us, read every word in the same Literal - Normal - Historical - Grammatical - Plain - Ordinary - Primary - Usual - Common Sense meaning it would have in its normal usage (i.e. take each word literally).

Principle #3 - Literal Interpretation means to

- a. **EXEGETE**: Drawing the meaning out of the text, not
 - b. **EISOGETE**: Superimposing a meaning onto the text.
2. **Normal**: Take the normal approach to understanding what words mean, or were intended to mean when originally written. Authors use words to communicate meaning, not to obscure meaning. Do not go beyond what is written...beyond the normal, everyday meaning. (e.g. the four rivers of Gen. 2 represent mind, body, soul, and spirit - this goes beyond the normal meaning of the word river).
 3. **Literal**: Doesn't rule out Types - Symbols - Figures of Speech - Genre Distinctions, as each has a literal, non-mysterious, understanding behind it:
 - **Types**: A figure, representation, or symbol of something yet to come: an event in the Old Testament that foreshadows another in the New Testament. The correspondence between two historical figures like Adam and Christ (Rom 5:14); the correspondence between the heavenly pattern and its earthly counterpart, e.g., the divine original behind the earthly tent/tabernacle (Acts 7:44; Heb 8:5; 9:24). There are several categories - persons (Adam, Melchizedek), events (flood, brazen serpent), institutions (feasts), places (Jerusalem, Zion), objects (altar of burnt offering, incense), offices (prophet, priest, king).
 - **Symbols**: It is important to distinguish types from symbol and allegory. A symbol is an object or act that stands for something else; usually a visible image which represents a concept: David, recognizing that man is vulnerable to the attack of sin, sees God as a "fortress of defense" (Ps 31:2, 71).
 - **Figures of Speech**: An intentional departure from straight-forward, literal use of language for the purpose of clarity, emphasis, or to convey vivid imagery in the reader's mind.
 - **Simile**: A figure of speech that compares things using "like" or "as." Matthew 10:16 "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

- **Metaphor:** A figure of speech that declares a thing **IS** another thing (no like or as): John 6:35 And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life."
- **Hyperbole:** A figure of speech of exaggeration or extravagant words. John 21:25 "And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even *the world itself could not contain the books* that would be written."
- **Irony:** A figure of speech using words to mean the opposite! 1 Kings 18:27 "And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, 'Cry aloud, *for he is a god*; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened'."
- **Euphemism:** A figure of speech using vague or mild words in place of words that may be considered too blunt or harsh. Adam *knew* Eve in Genesis 4:1.
- **Genre Distinctions:** Law, History/Narrative, Wisdom, Poetry, Epistles, Prophecy and Apocalyptic Literature.
- **Law:** This includes the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy. The purpose of law is to express God's sovereign will concerning government, priestly duties, social responsibilities, etc. Knowledge of Hebrew manners and customs of the time, as well as knowledge of the covenants, will complement a reading of this genre. Knowing also that Christ completely fulfilled the Law aids in interpretation and application for the Believer.¹
- **History/Narrative:** Stories and epics from the Bible are included in this genre. Almost every book in the Bible contains some history, but Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Acts are predominately history. Knowing that Acts, for example, is a history, and not necessarily a model, helps with Ecclesiology. A narrative is a story told for the purpose of conveying a message through people and their problems and situations. The word "narrative" is preferred over the term "story" because "story" often carries the idea of something being fictional or not based in reality. The Gospels are an example of biographical narratives about Jesus. Other narratives include the books of Ruth, Esther, and Jonah. A reader may find bits of other genres within the Gospels, such as parable (Luke 8:1-15) and discourse (Matthew 24).
- **Wisdom:** This is the genre of aphorisms/sayings that teach the meaning of life and how to live. Some of the language used in wisdom literature is metaphorical and poetic, and this should be taken into account during analysis. Included are the books of Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes.

- **Poetry:** These include books of rhythmic prose, parallelism, and metaphor, such as Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and Psalms. Since poetry uses figurative language rather than the accurate descriptions of the message, caution should be taken to understand the literal nature behind the metaphor. With proper understanding, poetry is just as comprehensible as prose.
- **Epistles:** An epistle is a letter, usually in a formal style. There are 21 letters in the New Testament from the apostles to various churches or individuals. These letters have a style very similar to modern letters, with an opening, a greeting, a body, and a closing. The content of the Epistles involves clarification of prior teaching, rebuke, explanation, correction of false teaching, and a deeper delving into doctrine. The reader would do well to understand the cultural, historical, and social situation of the original recipients in order to get the most out of an analysis of these books.
- **Prophecy and Apocalyptic Literature:** The Prophetic writings are the Old Testament books of Isaiah through Malachi, and the New Testament book of Revelation. They include predictions of future events, warnings of coming judgment, and an overview of God's plan for Israel. Apocalyptic literature is a specific form of prophecy, largely involving symbols and imagery and predicting disaster and destruction. We find this type of language in Daniel (the beasts of chapter 7), Ezekiel (the scroll of chapter 3), Zechariah (the golden lampstand of chapter 4), and Revelation (the four horsemen of chapter 6). The Prophetic and Apocalyptic books are the ones most often subjected to faulty eisegesis and personal interpretation based on emotion or preconceived bias. However, Amos 3:7 tells us, "Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets." Therefore, we know that the truth has been told, and it can be known via careful exegesis, a familiarity with the rest of the Bible, and prayerful consideration. Some things will not be made clear to us except in the fullness of time, so it is best not to assume to know everything when it comes to prophetic literature.
- 4. **Grammatical:** Every word of the Bible is important and though some words will hold more importance than others, all the words and sentences are a part of God's communication to us. (1 Timothy 3:16) Grammatical relationships are vital to sound interpretation because thoughts are expressed in words which stand in relationship to each other to express complete thoughts. Grammatical interpretation observes the impact that grammar plays in any given text. Thus, Bible interpreters must correctly analyze the relationship that words, phrases, or sentences have toward one another. Such an analysis entails the study of the original Biblical languages of Hebrew and Greek, lexicology (meaning of words), morphology (form of words), parts of speech (function of words), and syntax (relationship of words).

5. **Historical:** Historical interpretation means that we take into account, as much as possible, the historical background of the author and the recipients. The Bible was written to ordinary people, and is understandable to anyone. However, it was written thousands of years ago to different cultures. It is incumbent upon the reader to uncover how the original hearers/readers would have understood the text, including word definitions, figures of speech, geographical location, time period, and culture. This guideline safeguards against inappropriate “eisegesis.”

Definitions used from <http://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-genres.html>¹

We believe that God created language in order to communicate with His creation, and that He gave us the Bible, His written Word, to accomplish that goal. (John 1:1; 14; Hebrews 1:1-2) We believe in using the principles of literally interpreting the Bible in order to understand what God meant to communicate to us. This means assigning to every word the same normal – historical – grammatical – plain – ordinary – primary – usual – common sense meaning it would have in its normal usage; Exegeting (drawing the meaning out of the text), not Eisegeting (superimposing a meaning onto the text). We believe literal interpretation includes the use of Types – Symbols – Figures of Speech – Genre Distinctions, as each has a literal, non-mysterious, understanding behind it. We believe that the meaning of each word of Scripture, in the original languages of Hebrew and Greek, must be determined by its historical and grammatical context, seeking to ascertain the author’s original intended meaning, and not enlisting deconstructionism to assign meaning.



Our next topic of study in Basic Bible Doctrine is the Godhead. We believe in one triune God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each is co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, coequal in power and glory, and has the same attributes and perfections.

1. We can break this down by examining a few Bible passages, understanding that this is a huge topic and we're only going to camp here for a little while.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Deuteronomy 6:4	Are we monotheistic or polytheistic?	We are monotheistic – ONE GOD
	Why?	Because the Bible declares that God is ONE!

2. So, since we're monotheistic, and we know we're created in God's image, how might Genesis 1:26-27 confuse this issue?

God says "let US make man in OUR image," then says that He created man in His image. It sounds like God is talking to someone else, and we were made in more than one God's image.

3. While it is not possible to completely understand how God's Tri-unity works, the Bible gives us at least a basic working knowledge. Let's start with the relationship between Jesus and God in John 1:1 and 1:14.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 1:1	<u>WHERE</u> was Jesus in the Beginning?	He was WITH God.
John 1:1	<u>WHAT</u> was Jesus in the Beginning?	He WAS God.
John 1:14	What happened to God?	He became man and dwelt among us.



"The devil would have Christ prove Himself to be God, by turning stones into bread; but the Holy Ghost shows His Godhead by turning stones into flesh (Eze. 36:26-27)."

– Thomas Watson

4. Jesus made very specific claims about Himself.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 10:30	Who did Jesus claim to be?	Jesus said He and the Father were one (in the Greek it literally means one and the same substance, essence, and nature, not one person).
John 10:31	How did the Jews react	The Jews took up stones to kill Him
John 10:33	why did they react that way?	because He made Himself to be God in that one statement, and that was blasphemy because they KNEW God was ONE, they just didn't understand the Tri-unity of God.

5. God is extremely particular when it comes to sharing His Name and His Glory. After you answer that question, compare with, then answer it again.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Isaiah 42:8	Who does God share His name and glory with?	God said He would share His name and glory with NO ONE
Isaiah 9:6 and John 17:5	In light of the above answer, what does this say about Jesus?	God shares His Name and Glory with no one, yet Jesus not only is called "Mighty God and Everlasting Father," He claims the glory of God that He previously had. Jesus IS God.

6. The Bible is clearly saying that the Godhead/Trinity is made up of a plurality of persons that exist as ONE in the Person of the Father, and the Person of Jesus Christ. But what about the Holy Spirit? In Matthew 28:19, in whose name (singular) are we supposed to baptize? NOTE: In the Greek (as well as the English translation) the word for name is singular.

We are supposed to baptize in all three names of the Godhead/Trinity

- † Father - Singular
- † Son - Singular
- † Holy Spirit - Singular

7. Earlier we noted that man was created in the image of God, but who does Job say not only created him, but gave him life in Job 33:4? Pay careful attention to the designation Job uses for who gives him life. (In the Hebrew language, the words for Spirit and Breath are parallel, referring to the Breath of God)

Job says that it was The Spirit of God that made him, and the breath (that is Spirit of God) of the Almighty gave him life. The fact that the Spirit made Job is significant enough to place Him in the Trinity, but the plurality is also mentioned: The Spirit AND the Almighty are both present, doing the creating.

8. Who raised Jesus from the dead? You might be surprised to discover it was...

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Acts 4:10 and 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10	Who raised Jesus from the dead?	God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.
John 2:19 and 10:17	Who raised Jesus from the dead?	Jesus raised Himself from the dead.
Romans 8:11	Who raised Jesus from the dead?	The Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead.

9. What can we now conclude from these (and many more) passages about the Godhead/Trinity?

Question	Answer
How many Gods do we serve?	There is only one God: the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
How many persons does God exist it?	He somehow exists in three Persons who are identical in substance and form the Godhead/Trinity.

10. We can now move onto the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. It's not possible, nor is it necessary to try to unpack everything there is to know about the Spirit in this little study. That being said, we're going to try to hit upon some very important points about the Third Person of the Trinity. As we've studied previously, The Holy Spirit is God, but is He a living, breathing Person? Complete the chart below, understanding that it is only a short list:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Matthew 10:20	What are the Names of the Spirit?	The Spirit of your Father.
Matthew 28:19	How is the Holy Spirit on the same level as God?	All Three Persons are listed.
John 14:17; 15:26	What are the Names of the Spirit?	The Spirit of Truth
Acts 8:39; Judges 15:14; 1 Samuel 16:12	What are the Names of the Spirit?	The Spirit of the Lord
2 Corinthians 13:14	How is the Holy Spirit on the same level as God?	All Three Persons are listed.
2 Corinthians 13:16-18	How is the Holy Spirit on the same level as God?	"The Lord <u>IS</u> the Spirit"
Genesis 1:2 Romans 8:9	What are the Names of the Spirit?	The Spirit of God AND The Spirit of Christ
Ephesians 4:4-6	How is the Holy Spirit on the same level as God?	All Three Persons are listed.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 6:63	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	He is a life giver.
John 14:26	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	The Spirit is referred to as <u>HE</u> .
1 Corinthians 2:12	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	We received Him.
Romans 8:11	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	The Spirit raised Jesus, and will raise us also.
Romans 8:16; 26	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	The Holy Spirit is referred to as a <u>HIMSELF</u> .
2 Timothy 1:14	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	The Holy Spirit is referred to as a <u>WHO</u> .
1 John 5:6	How is the Holy Spirit referred to as a Person?	The Holy Spirit is referred to as a <u>WHO</u> , and as one WHO bears witness.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
2 Samuel 23:2	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Matthew 4:1	Attributes of Personhood	He Leads
Matthew 12:32	Attributes of Personhood	He Can Be Spoken Against
Mark 1:8	Attributes of Personhood	He Can Be Baptized With
Luke 12:12; John 14:26	Attributes of Personhood	He Teaches
Acts 5:3	Attributes of Personhood	He Can Be Lied To

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Acts 5:32	Attributes of Personhood	He Can Be A Witness
Acts 5:9	Attributes of Personhood	He Can Be Tested
Acts 7:51	Attributes of Personhood	He Can Be Resisted
Acts 8:29	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Acts 10:19	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Acts 11:12	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Acts 13:2	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Acts 15:28	Attributes of Personhood	He Has An Awareness Of Goodness
Acts 16:6	Attributes of Personhood	He Forbids
Acts 20:28	Attributes of Personhood	He Makes Overseers
Romans 8:26	Attributes of Personhood	He Intercedes
Romans 8:27	Attributes of Personhood	Has A Mind.
Romans 15:30	Attributes of Personhood	He Loves
1 Corinthians 2:10	Attributes of Personhood	He Searches All Things

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Corinthians 2:11	Attributes of Personhood	He Knows
Isaiah 63:10 Ephesians 4:30	Attributes of Personhood	Can Be Grieved.
1 Timothy 4:1	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Hebrews 3:7-8	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks
Revelation 14:13	Attributes of Personhood	He Speaks

11. In John 16:7, Jesus promises to send the Helper, and uses the masculine pronoun Him to describe the Helper. What does that say about the Holy Spirit?

By using the pronoun Him, Jesus demonstrates that He (The Spirit) is a separate and distinct person. Not a force, not a ghost, and not a power or attribute of God.

12. What actions do each member of the Trinity take that indicate separate persons (including the Spirit as a Person) in John 15:26?

- a. The Helper Comes
- b. Jesus sends the Helper
- c. The Helper proceeds from the Father

13. What action does the Holy Spirit take that clearly indicate His personhood in the following passages:

Bible Reference	Holy Spirit Action
Acts 8:29	The Holy Spirit spoke in audible terms.
Acts 13:1-2 and 22:6-10	The Holy Spirit not only spoke, but specifically called out certain men for the work of the Ministry. Notice that it was Jesus who called Paul into ministry...but so, too, did the Spirit.
In 1 Corinthians 12:11, what does the Holy Spirit have that men also have?	The Holy Spirit has a will to act.

14. What is the specific Work of the Holy Spirit? Look up the following passages and write down the Work the Spirit came to do.

Bible Reference	Holy Spirit Work
John 14:26	He will teach us all things, and cause us to remember all that Jesus taught (this is also in reference to the writing of the New Testament).
John 15:26	He will testify of Jesus Christ.
John 16:13	He will guide us into all truth and He will tell us of things to come.
John 16:14	He will reveal the glories of Christ to His people.

15. The Holy Spirit will accomplish many things while He is here on Earth, but what is the most significant work He does at the moment we believe and are saved that is found in the following passages:

Bible Reference	Holy Spirit Work
John 3:5-8; 6:63	We are born again, given new life, by the Holy Spirit
John 14:17	He will abide with us and be IN us!
Romans 6:1-6 Romans 6:1-4 doesn't specifically mention the Spirit, but does describe the believer's position before God that is similar to the 1 Corinthians passage below.	He actualizes our co-death, burial, and resurrection with Christ.
1 Corinthians 12:12-13a; 27	He baptizes us into the Body of Christ.
Ephesians 1:13; 4:30	He seals the believer until the day of redemption.



The Fallen State of Man has many facets, but the one that we will be working with is man's sin nature. It must be clearly understood that man cannot rid himself of his sin nature any more than he can save himself. There are those who teach that we can be entirely sanctified in this life, but that is NOT what the Scriptures teach. That being said, there are many questions that surround the sin nature: Where did we get it, what does it mean, and how do we fix it?

1. We have to start with the Creation before we can discuss the sin nature. Adam did NOT have a sin nature from the very beginning of his creation. We can demonstrate this from the Bible in two ways by looking at Genesis 1:26-31:
 - 1) Adam was created in the image and likeness of God.
 - ✠ "This image was imparted only to humans (2:7). 'Image' (selem) is used figuratively here, for God does not have a human form. Being in God's image means that humans share, though imperfectly and finitely, in God's nature, that is, in His communicable attributes (life, personality, truth, wisdom, love, holiness, justice), having the capacity for spiritual fellowship with Him."⁴
 - 2) God saw that what He'd created was "very good." How does this prove that Adam couldn't have been created with a sin nature?

If Adam had a sin nature, and sin is definitely NOT good, God couldn't have called His creation "very good."



"People do not drift toward Holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord. We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith. We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation; we slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism; we slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated."

– D.A. Carson

2. Since Adam wasn't created with a sin nature, where did he get it? Follow the progression in the following passages:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 2:15-17	1) What was the command God gave to Adam?	1) God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
	2) What would the result be if Adam disobeyed?	2) If he ate of that tree he would die.
Genesis 3:6	What did Adam do next?	Adam ate the fruit that God told him not to eat.
Genesis 3:26	What did God do to Adam as a result of his sin?	God kicked him out of the Garden.

3. We should be careful not to lose sight of the significance of Adam being kicked out of the Garden. God told Adam that he would die if he disobeyed, but Adam didn't instantly drop over dead! The truth is that death in the Bible often means separation, and that's exactly what happened to Adam. He lost the close, personal fellowship he had with God in the Garden. In the Hebrew, "die" literally means, "dying, you will die." God was telling Adam that not only was he going to die spiritually (separation from God), but from that moment he would become mortal, and would continue in a dying state until he returned to the dust from which he came.

Sin has consequences:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 5:12 and 1 Corinthians 15:22	Who is the "one man"?	The "one man" was Adam
	What was the consequence of his sin?	Because of his sin, sin entered the world, and death through that sin, and now everyone dies.

4. Adam’s sin is called the Fall, but if Adam was the one who sinned and fell, why do all people have a sin nature? According to God’s law, anyone who was IN Adam when he sinned also sinned. This doctrine is called Headship. In order to demonstrate this, we have to look at where man’s sin came from and follow the progression of that sin.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 5:12	Where did man’s sin come from?	Sin entered the world when Adam sinned
Note the progression of what happened to mankind AFTER Adam sinned?		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Through one man (Adam) sin entered the world. 2. Death enters the world through sin. 3. Death spread to all men, because all sinned.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Notice that the word sinned (“because all sinned”) is in the past tense? It doesn’t say we all sin, present tense. God can LEGALLY impute Adam’s sin to everyone because we were IN Adam when Adam sinned, thus we sinned when he sinned.

5. There are TWO views of Headship (how we were IN Adam): Federal Headship and Seminal Headship. Both are taught in the Bible, and both teach that we were IN Adam when he sinned. Write down the definitions:

- a. Federal Headship: Adam’s position is that of the legal, Federal (or representative) head for all mankind. As our representative, when Adam sinned we sinned; in God’s holy and judicial eyes, God imputed to us (reckoned to our account) Adam’s guilt.
- b. Seminal Headship: This refers to the physical seed of Adam, the progenitor of the human race. Because he sinned, he was cursed, and passed that curse to all mankind through procreation or his “seed.” When he fell, he became imperfect. An imperfect man cannot have perfect children.

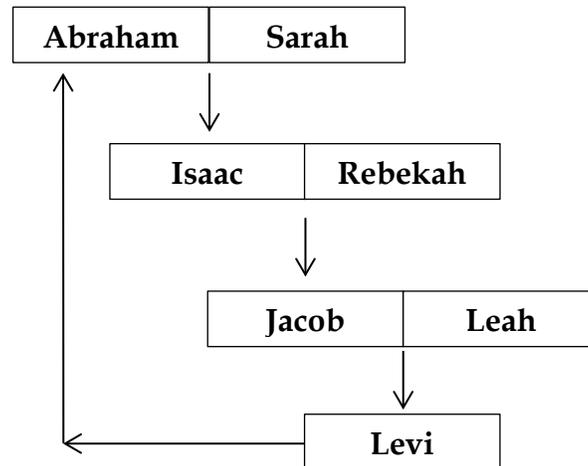


“Ponder the achievement of God. He doesn't condone our sin, nor does He compromise His standard. He doesn't ignore our rebellion, nor does He relax His demands. Rather than dismiss our sin, He assumes our sin and, incredibly, sentences Himself. God's holiness is honoured. Our sin is punished...and we are redeemed. God does what we cannot do so we can be what we dare not dream: perfect before God.”

– Max Lucado

6. A good example of HOW this works is found in Genesis 14:18-20 and Hebrews 7:8-10. Fill in the blanks to follow who is saying what, and who is doing what.
- a. Genesis 14:18-20: "Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he (Melchizedek) was the priest of God Most High. And he (Melchizedek) blessed him (Abraham) and said: 'Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.' And he (Abraham) gave him (Melchizedek) a tithe of all."
 - b. Hebrews 7:8-10: "Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he (Melchizedek) receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he (Melchizedek) lives. Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, for he (Levi) was still in the loins of his father (Abraham) when Melchizedek met him (Abraham)."
7. This concept -
- 1) Adam sins.
 - 2) Adam has children and passes his sin nature onto them.
 - 3) Eventually all of us were born, and can trace our family tree back to Adam.
 - 4) That means we were ALL (this means every human besides Jesus) IN Adam when he sinned.

This is demonstrated in Hebrews 7:8-10 when Levi paid tithes to Melchizedek. Levi paid tithes BECAUSE he was IN Abraham (would eventually be born to, or a descendant of Abraham) when Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek.



To make sure you understand this concept, fill in the names below:

- a. The book of Hebrews points out that **Levi** was in the loins (body) of his ancestor **Abraham** when **Abraham** paid tithes to **Melchizedek**.
 - b. Therefore, **Levi** paid tithes to **Melchizedek** when **Abraham** paid tithes to **Melchizedek** because **Levi** was IN **Abraham's** loins when **Abraham** paid the tithes.
 - c. In the same way **Levi** was IN (going to be born from) **Abraham**, we are all born from **Adam**.
 - d. Think about Adam, Noah, and Abraham. Since God declared in Hebrews that this applies to each person being "in" their ancestors, then Abraham was in the body of Noah before the Flood. And Noah was in the body of his ancestor Adam when he sinned!



Adam - Noah -
 - e. Therefore, we were all in **Adam** when he sinned! This explains why we inherit a sin nature.
 - f. When **Adam** sinned, he obtained a sin nature, and since we were in **Adam** and our life came from him, **we** inherit this nature as well.
8. Since Genesis 14:18-20, Hebrews 7:8-10, Romans 5:12, and 1 Corinthians 15:22 teach that we were ALL IN Adam when he sinned, what is the natural consequence of that sin? Remember what God told Adam the consequence of his sin in the Garden would be?

The natural consequence of our sin is that we all die physically and spiritually (meaning we're separated from God).

9. When you place your faith in Christ, what happens? What are you given?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 3:3-6	If we were born in sin because of Adam, what has to happen to us before we can be saved?	We have to be born <u>AGAIN</u> .
2 Corinthians 5:17	What happens when we are born again?	We become a new creation! <u>ALL</u> things have become new!
1 Peter 1:23	Since we have to be born again, what does Peter say about our new nature?	Our new nature is not corruptible like our old nature was.

10. So, does being born again and receiving a new nature mean we won't sin anymore? What does Paul say is happening inside every believer in the following passages:

Bible Reference	Inside Every Believer
Galatians 5:17	Our new nature (the Spirit) wars against our old nature (our flesh).
Romans 7:23	Paul says that he sees another nature inside him, warring against the new nature.

11. Since we know there is a war going on between our New Nature and our Old Nature, is there anything we can do to keep from sinning and have victory over our Old Nature? The following passages will give you your answer:

Bible Reference	What Can We Do?
Galatians 5:16	Walk in the Spirit and you won't fulfill the lusts of the flesh.
Colossians 3:1-2 and Romans 8:5	If we live listening to our flesh we will sin, but if we listen to the Spirit, we can have victory over sin. Therefore, set your minds on the things above, not on worldly things
1 Peter 2:11	Stay away from those things that will cause you to sin.



“John Wesley tells of a dream he had. In the dream, he was ushered to the gates of Hell. There he asked, ‘Are there any Presbyterians here?’ ‘Yes!’, came the answer. Then he asked, ‘Are there any Baptists? Any Episcopalians? Any Methodists?’ The answer was Yes! each time. Much distressed, Wesley was then ushered to the gates of Heaven. There he asked the same question, and the answer was No! ‘No?’ To this, Wesley asked, ‘Who then is inside?’ The answer came back, ‘There are only Christians here.’ (1 Cor 1:10-17)”

– John Wesley

“The Bible does not teach that a man is saved by a principle, but by the shedding of blood. Salvation is not through life lived, but through life poured out. It is not by the life of Jesus that we are redeemed; but by His life given up in the pain and suffering of a shameful death, of which death there is no sufficient symbol or method of expression other than that of the shedding of blood. Redemption is provided, not by the richness of His life provided, but by the suffering of His life poured out.”

– G. Campbell Morgan

12. There is a fundamental difference between Salvation and Daily Life when talking about the Fallen State of man. If you're a born again believer, you have a new nature, you are indwelled with the Holy Spirit, and in that you can have some victory over sin, though not complete victory since you still have your old nature. When it comes to salvation, however, what can man do to fix his fallen state? The following passages hold the answer:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 3:20 and Galatians 2:16	How can/can't man be justified (declared righteous before God)?	We cannot be justified by works, only by faith in Jesus Christ.
Ephesians 2:8-9	How are/aren't we saved?	We are saved by grace through faith, but not by any works we've done because salvation is a gift.
Isaiah 57:12; 64:6	How does God see our works?	As filthy rags that profit us nothing.
Matthew 7:21-23	1) On what basis were these trying to get into Heaven? 2) Why will Jesus reject them?	1) They're trying to get into Heaven on their own works. Notice the works they list in v. 22. 2) Jesus will reject them because there was no relationship. They were not born again into the family of God.
How does the Fallen State of Man effect our salvation and our daily lives:		
Answers here will vary, but ultimately, it must be understood that salvation is a gift that cannot be earned in any way, and daily life will be a struggle due to the sin nature we still possess.		

10

The next point in our series on basic Doctrine is Separation. This doctrine is very basic, yet often misunderstood or outright ignored by many Christians. The Bible teaches that a Christian is to be separate from the world, from false teachers, and from disobedient brothers. It doesn't teach to abstain from any and all human contact. That would make the Great Commissions especially difficult. Biblical separation generally encompasses two areas: Personal Separation and Ecclesiastical (Church) Separation.

1. The Bible uses the word "Holy" to describe God, but also calls us to be holy (1 Peter 1:15). The fundamental idea behind the word holy is separation, consecration, devotion to the service of Deity, sharing in God's purity, and abstaining from earth's defilement. What do the following passages call/exhort us to, and by extension call/exhort us from?

Bible Reference	Exhortations
Titus 2:11-12	We should deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age.
2 Corinthians 7:1	We should cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
Ephesians 5:1-4	We should be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.



"On all hands we hear cries for unity in this and unity in that; but in our mind the main need of this age is not compromise but conscientiousness, 'First pure, then peaceable.' It is easy to cry 'A confederacy,' but that union that is not based on the truth of God is rather a conspiracy than a communion. Charity by all means: but honesty also. Love of course, but love to God as well as love to men, and love of truth as well as love of union. It is exceedingly difficult in these times to preserve one's fidelity before God and one's fraternity among men. Should not the former be preferred to the latter if both cannot be maintained? We think so."

– C.H. Spurgeon

2. There are only two paths we can take in our daily walk: God’s and Satan’s. The Heavenly and the Worldly. Personal Separation is not a list of DO’s and DON’Ts, but a Biblical principle designed keep us on the right (Heavenly) path towards God, and away from the wrong (Worldly) path of Satan that leads us away from God. How do the following passages demonstrate why Separation is so important?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 8:44 and Ephesians 2:1-3	1) Who rules this world? 2) What was our relationship to this person?	1) Satan rules this world, and we, before we were saved, followed after his path, and not God’s. 2) Because we used to follow Satan’s path, it is often easy to fall back.
Romans 12:2	We are not supposed to be conformed to the world, but by renewing our minds we can better know the will of God. This means that conformity to the world causes us to lose our understanding of God’s will for us; God’s path for us.	
1 John 2:15; 4:1-6	The world is ruled by Anti-Christ, and we are not of the world. We can tell the difference between truth and error because we listen to God, and not the world.	
James 4:4	Making ourselves conform to the world makes us an enemy of God.	
Luke 16:13	We cannot serve two masters. This example uses money, but really money is just another idol. We cannot serve God and ANY other idol.	
John 15:18-19	The world hates Jesus, and now, because He has chosen us, the world hates us, too. Therefore, we cannot be of the world.	
Describe the Biblical purpose for the principle of separation:		
Satan rules the world, and we are not of the world, so we should be set apart from the world, not conforming ourselves to the world but to Christ.		

3. We are explicitly called to be separate from the world, but there is an extreme view of this idea:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Corinthians 5:9-11	What does Paul say that this DOESN'T mean?	Paul was making the point that if we were to be completely separate from sinners, we'd have to be out of the world.
	What aspect of separation was he actually talking about in these passages?	He was talking about Christians who are persistently practicing sin.

4. Separation doesn't mean we can't be in the world, since it's very apparent we can't escape the world and all the sin that is in it. So, where does that leave us? We know we're not supposed to focus our minds, desires, attitudes, etc. on the world, but since we're here, what is our role in the world? Read the following passages and determine our role in the world:

Bible Reference	Exhortations
Matthew 5:16	We're supposed to shine as lights for God's glory.
Philippians 2:14-15	We're to serve as an example to a fallen and sinful world.
1 Peter 2:9	We were created to proclaim the praises of God.
Matthew 28:19-20	Ultimately, we're to follow the Great Commission!

5. Separation means that we are to be IN the world but not OF the world. We are called to minister TO the world, but that ministry must also be separated FROM the world. What five examples does Paul offer of this principle in 2 Corinthians 6:14-15?
 - a. Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.
 - b. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness?
 - c. And what communion has light with darkness?
 - d. And what accord has Christ with Belial (the Jewish name of the devil)?
 - e. Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

6. Ecclesiastical Separation literally means that good churches are to be set apart from churches who teach false doctrine, or whose practices violate the commands of Scripture.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Revelation 2:14-15	What two doctrines did Jesus warn the Church in Pergamos about?	1) The Church in Pergamos taught "the doctrine of Balaam"* 2) And "the doctrine of the Nicolaitans."**
*The covetousness of one who hires himself to do religious work for personal gain.	**The Nicolaitans were trying to lead Christians to worship idols, that is, to pay homage to the Roman emperor as a god, and to indulge in immoral sexual conduct.	

7. From the very beginning of the Church, the doctrine of Separation was taught.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Galatians 1:8-9	What doctrinal heresy was being taught in the churches of Galatia?	Another Gospel was being taught. Namely, that Christians had to keep the Law to be saved.
Galatians 1:6-7	How does Separation fit here? NOTE: the Greek word translated <i>another</i> is allos, meaning another of the exact same sort.	Paul is teaching that these believers should not turn from the true Gospel to another gospel.

8. Aside from the obvious sins, offer three core reason to separate yourselves from these found in 2 Timothy 3:1-7? NOTE: In the Greek, the words translated *turn away* literally mean “purposely to avoid association with someone - to shun, to avoid, to keep away from, to have nothing to do with.”

1. They resist the truth.
2. They have corrupt minds.
3. They are disapproved (disqualified-unfit) concerning the faith.

9. Separation can involve a specific individual.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Titus 3:10-11	What is the separation command given?	We are to reject a person who is divisive
	Should the separation be immediate?	No, only after the first and second admonition.

10. How do we know if a church is to be trusted, and can be worked with (or yoked, if you will)? 1 John 4:1 and Acts 17:11 give us the answer.

Bible Reference	Exhortations
1 John 4:1	"Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."
Acts 17:11	"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

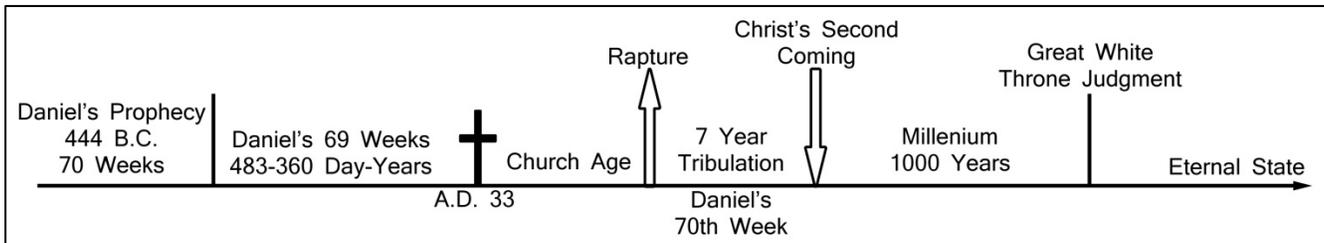
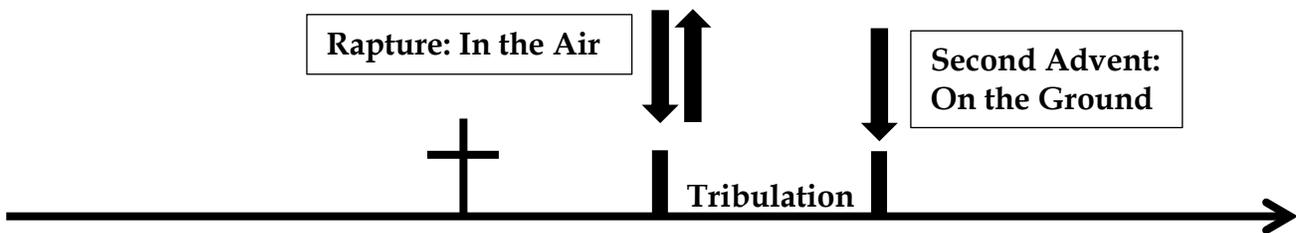
11. Should you partner in ministry with one who holds that homosexuality is NOT a sin? What if they believe abortion is okay? What if they believe you can lose your salvation? Consider 2 Corinthians 6:14.

We must never take the command not to be unequally yoked lightly. Our goal must always be to search the Scriptures. Keep in mind that Separation NEVER centers on preferences, but on doctrines.

11

The next Doctrine we’re going to study is The Second Advent of Christ. To make it easier, refer to the Glossary of Terms below. The Return of Christ actually takes place in two phases: The Rapture and The Second Advent. We’ll begin by re-examining the timeline of End Times Events (Eschatology):

Term	Definition	Also Known As
The Glorious Appearing	Christ Returns for His Church	The Rapture
The Return of Christ	Christ Returns to the Earth	The Second Advent



1. Read Daniel 9:24. How many weeks were determined for Israel (a week is a seven year period of time)?

70, so 70-Seven year periods of time.

2. When Daniel received this prophecy from the angel Gabriel, Israel was in captivity in Babylon, Jerusalem had been destroyed, and the Temple demolished. Read Daniel 9:25. What command starts the timeline countdown? NOTE: The commandment was given by Artaxerxes Longimanus in 444 B.C. (Nehemiah 2:1-8)

The timeline starts when the command is given “To restore and build Jerusalem.”

3. Keep in mind that a week is not 7 days, but a period of 7 years.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Daniel 9:25	When would the first part of the timeline end?	The first part of the timeline would end when with the coming of the Messiah – This is the First Advent of Christ.
	How long would it take (in weeks)?	This would take up 69 of the 70 weeks
	How many weeks would be left?	leaving one week left to be fulfilled.

4. Refer to the timeline above. What is the gap between the Cross and the Rapture called?

The Church Age

5. Name the two titles given to the gap between the Rapture and Christ’s Second Coming?

7 Year Tribulation and Daniel’s 70th Week.

6. The timeline of events is spelled out perfectly in Daniel 9:25-26.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Daniel 9:25	To date, how many weeks of Daniel’s prophecy have been fulfilled?	7 weeks + 62 weeks = 69 weeks 69 weeks have passed.
Daniel 9:26	Explain how we know the exact number of weeks that have passed.	We know because Gabriel told Daniel that 69 weeks would end with the Messiah being cut off: “There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks...And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off.”

7. In Mark 13:19-20 (mirroring Daniel 9:26), Jesus predicts that there will be (future tense) a tribulation the likes of which has never been seen. Since there is only one week remaining in Daniel’s 70 weeks, what part of the timeline is Jesus talking about?

7 Year Tribulation and Daniel’s 70th Week.

8. Daniel’s prophecy moves from near future to distant future. The people of the prince who is to come are the Romans under Titus, the son of Vespasian, who destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in A.D. 70, just as Jesus stated would happen in Mark 3:2. Titus prefigures the future Anti-Christ who (Daniel 9:27) will make a covenant, end sacrifices in the Temple, and eventually proclaim himself to be God (2 Thessalonians 2:4). Getting back to the timeline, answer the two questions in the chart.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Daniel 9:26	Who is going to come right after Messiah is cut off?	The people of the Prince who is to come.
	What will they do?	They will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

9. When the leaders of Israel registered their rejection of Christ by attributing His power to Beelzebub, the prince of the demons (Matthew 12:24), Christ warned that if they persisted in that view they would be guilty of sin for which there would be no forgiveness (Matthew 12:31-32).⁴ What was that sin?

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit was the unpardonable sin. This was for the Jew at the time, not for us.

10. Jesus gave three more warnings against Israel for their attributing His power to Satan:

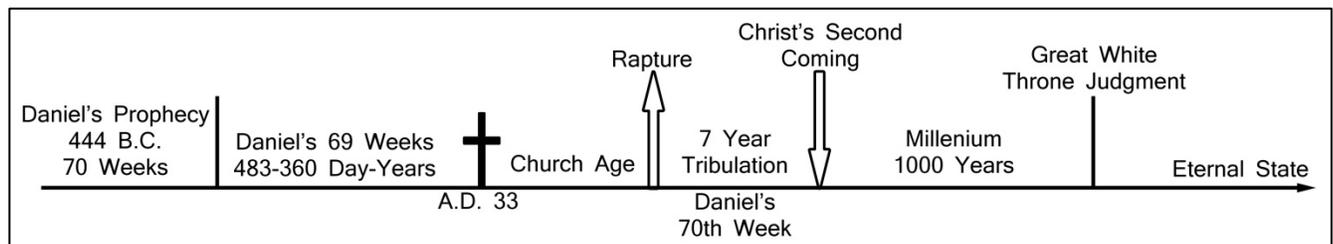
Bible Reference	Warnings
Luke 21:24	"And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled." Even though Israel currently controls Jerusalem, the Temple Mount is controlled by the Muslims (Gentiles).
Matthew 23:38-39 There are two warnings in these verses.	"See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'"
Matthew 24:1-2	"Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, 'Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down'" This destruction was accomplished by Titus in A.D. 70 when he destroyed the city of Jerusalem and killed thousands of Jews."

11. The crushing of Israel by Titus in A.D. 70 did not end the nation’s sufferings because war, Gabriel said, would continue until the end (Daniel 9:27). Even though Israel was to be set aside in God’s plan while He turned to the Gentiles, she would continue to suffer until the prophecies of the 70 “weeks” were completely fulfilled. Her sufferings span the entire period from the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 to Jerusalem’s deliverance from Gentile dominion at the Second Advent of Christ. Jesus already told us when that would be, but what does Paul reiterate in Romans 11:25?

Blindness would remain upon Israel until the “fullness of the Gentiles has come in.”

12. Since Israel is being set aside while Jesus creates the Church, use the timeline to find the point at which the “fullness of the Gentiles has come in.”

The Rapture



13. As we've previously studied, Jesus promised to go away, prepare a place for us, and return to gather us to Himself (John 14:2-3). What happens to the Church in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17?

Jesus returns for the Church, we meet Him in the air, and we will "always be with the Lord." This is the Rapture of the Church

14. Once the Rapture happens, what comes next on the timeline?

7 Year Tribulation and Daniel's 70th Week.

15. There is great confusion in the Body of Christ over terms surrounding the Second Advent of Christ (a.k.a. The Second Coming). There are two terms that are used interchangeably that are causing the confusion: The Rapture (a.k.a. The Glorious Appearing) and the Second Coming. These are two SEPARATE events. In His first coming, Jesus Christ came to earth as a baby in a manger in Bethlehem, just as prophesied. Jesus fulfilled many prophecies of the Messiah during His birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. However, there are some Messianic prophecies that Jesus has not yet fulfilled. The Second Coming of Christ will be the return of Christ to fulfill these remaining prophecies. In His first coming, Jesus was the suffering Servant. In His second coming, Jesus will be the conquering King. In His first coming, Jesus arrived in the most humble of circumstances. In His second coming, Jesus will arrive in glory with the armies of heaven at His side. Neither the first or second coming of Christ has anything to do with the Rapture. In the broadest sense, Jesus came, and will come again in fulfillment of promises God made to *Israel*. The Church is completely separate and different.¹

Term	Definition	Also Known As
The Glorious Appearing	Christ Returns for His Church	The Rapture
The Return of Christ	Christ Returns to the Earth	The Second Advent

The chart below will help you learn the difference between the Rapture and the Second Advent.

1. Where is the Church found in relation to Jesus coming in each event?		
Rapture	John 14:1-3 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17	Jesus comes <u>FOR</u> His Church.
Second Advent	Zechariah 14:5 Colossians 3:4 Jude 14-15 Revelation 19:11-16	Jesus comes <u>WITH</u> His Church.

2. Where does Jesus appear in each event?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Christians are caught up to meet Jesus in the air.
Second Advent	Zechariah 14:4 Revelation 19:11-21	Jesus' feet touch the earth.

3. Who is taken and who is left behind?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Christians are taken first and unbelievers are left behind.
Second Advent	Matthew 13:28-30	The wicked are taken first, but the righteous (the tribulation saints) are left behind.

4. What will Jesus do at each event?		
Rapture	Revelation 19:6-9	Jesus will gather His Bride, the Church, unto Himself in preparation for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.
Second Advent	Zechariah 14:3-4 Jude 14-15 Revelation 19:11-21	Jesus will execute judgment on the earth and establish His Kingdom.

5. When does the Marriage Supper of the Lamb take place?

Rapture	Revelation 19:6-9	The Marriage Supper of the Lamb takes place in Heaven AFTER the Glorious Appearing (Rapture) of the Church.
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Second Advent	Revelation 19:11-21	War on earth comes AFTER the Marriage Supper of the Lamb at the Second Coming when the King of kings and Lord of lords lays the smackdown on evil!
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6. How long will each event be?

Rapture	1 Corinthians 15:51-52	Rapture will happen in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye (Blink- it's over!).
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Second Advent	Zechariah 12:10 Matt 24:30 Revelation 1:7	The Second Coming will be a slow coming. Everyone will see Jesus coming with great power and great glory!
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7. Who will see Jesus at each event?

Rapture	1 John 3:2, 1 Corinthians 15:52	Only those who are looking for Him (Christians) will see Him.
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Second Advent	Revelation 1:7	Every eye will see Him and those who have rejected Him will wail.
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8. Will Jesus shout?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:16	Jesus will descend from Heaven with a shout (calling for the saints at the resurrection).
Second Advent	Revelation 19:11-21	No shout is mentioned, although the Lord does slay the wicked with the sword of His mouth.

9. Will there be a resurrection at each?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 1 Corinthians 15:51-54	A resurrection will take place.
Second Advent	Zechariah 12:10; 14:4-5 Revelation 1:7; 19:11-21	There is no resurrection spoken of.

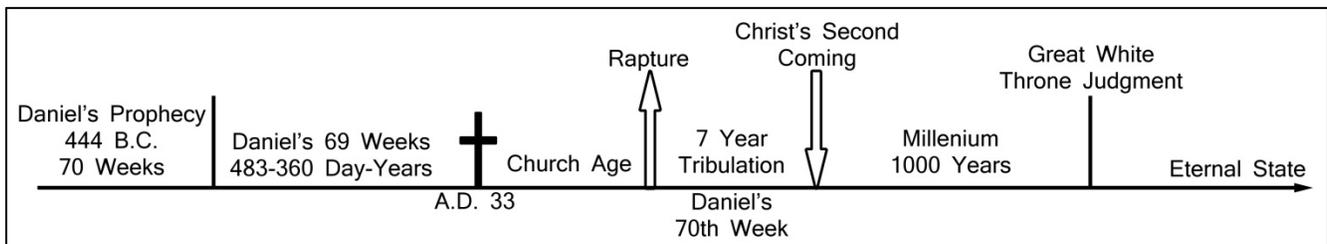
10. What about the timing of each event?		
Rapture	Revelation 3:3 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6	Can happen at any time...maybe even now, which is why we are to be WATCHING for the return of Jesus Christ!
Second Advent	Daniel 9:24-27 Matthew 24:29-30 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8	Will occur at the end of the seven-year tribulation period.

11. What role will the angels of Heaven have?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	No angels are sent to gather the Church.
Second Advent	Matthew 13:39, 41; 49; 24:31; 25:31 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10	Angels will be sent to gather people together for judgment.

12. What about the resurrected bodies?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:14-16	Those who died in Christ will return with Jesus in their resurrected, glorified bodies.
Second Advent	Revelation 19:11-14	Christians will return with Jesus already in their resurrected bodies riding on white horses.

13. White horse for Jesus or no white horse for Jesus?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:14-16	Jesus doesn't return riding a white horse.
Second Advent	Revelation 19:11	Jesus will return riding a white horse

14. What is the message each event will bring for mankind?		
Rapture	1 Thessalonians 4:18 Titus 2:13 1 John 3:1-3	Will bring with it a message of hope and comfort.
Second Advent	Joel 3:12-16 Malachi 4:5 Revelation 19:11-21	Will bring with it a message of judgment.



16. Getting back to the timeline, how do we know that the gap between the Rapture and the Second Coming will only last seven years? The answer is back in Daniel 9:27.

Gabriel tells Daniel that the Anti-Christ will “confirm a covenant with many for one week.” This is also why the Tribulation is called Daniel’s 70th week, since the other 69 weeks led up to the Messiah being cut off.

17. Once the Tribulation ends, what is Christ’s Second Coming actually about? This is no small question, but for our purposes we have to go back to what God promised David in 2 Samuel 7:8-17.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
2 Samuel 7:8-17	What five promises did God make?	1) God would set up his seed after him. 2) The descendants would come from David’s body. This is a seed line. 3) God would establish his kingdom. 4) The son would build a house for God. 5) God would establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
Define who would be the near fulfillment and who would be the far fulfillment.	The near fulfillment would be David’s son Solomon, but the far fulfillment would be Christ.	

18. Now, fast forward to the birth of Jesus in Luke 1:26-33. The angel Gabriel comes to Mary and tells her she’s going to have a Son. He makes three very critical announcements about Jesus.

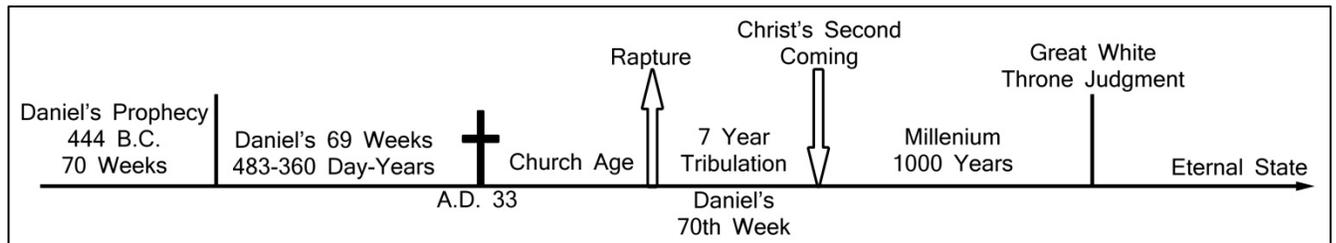
Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Luke 1:26-33	What person from 2 Samuel is Jesus in the family line of?	David
	What is God going to give to Jesus?	David’s throne
	How long will it last?	Forever (specifically, it will have no end)
	How is this related to 2 Samuel 7:12-13?	This is (or will be) the fulfillment, at least in part, of God’s promise to David.

19. One of the most misunderstood concepts in the Gospels is for whom Jesus came at His First Advent. While it is true that Jesus did say in John 3:17, “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved,” what did He say in Matthew 15:24, and who did He tell the disciples to go (and NOT go to) in Matthew 10:5-6? Remember, this is the first time Jesus came to Earth.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Matthew 15:24	What did Jesus say about who He came for?	Jesus said He came for the “lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
Matthew 10:5-6	Who did Jesus tell the disciples NOT go to?	Jesus told His disciples NOT to go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans.
Matthew 10:5-6	Who did Jesus tell the disciples to go To?	Jesus told His disciples to go specifically to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

20. Jesus said He came for the “lost sheep of the house of Israel” because He had a job to do in order to fulfill God’s promise to David. With that in mind, head over to Mark 1:14-15. Once Jesus started His public ministry. Pay careful attention to which gospel (meaning good news) He was preaching about.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Mark 1:14-15	What is Jesus’ message?	Jesus said that the time was fulfilled, and that the Kingdom God promised to David was here.
Mark 1:14-15 Matthew 4:23 Luke 4:42-43	What is He offering Israel?	Jesus was offering the Kingdom God promised to David to Israel.



21. Since we know Jesus had a very specific mission at His First Advent - to offer the Kingdom promised by God to David - why is there a Second Advent on the timeline? Why does Jesus have to come a second time? All of the following passages have the same thing in common: The answer to this question.

Bible Reference	Why the Second Advent?	Answer
Isaiah 53:3	Why does Jesus have to come a second time?	Jesus (and His offer of the Kingdom) was rejected by Israel.
Zechariah 12:10; 13:7	Why does Jesus have to come a second time?	It was prophesied that Jesus would be rejected. Notice the word pierced is in the past tense.
Psalms 118:22 Acts 4:10-11	Why does Jesus have to come a second time?	Jesus (and His offer of the Kingdom) was rejected by Israel.

Bible Reference	Why the Second Advent?	Answer
Daniel 9:26	1) Why does Jesus have to come a second time? 2) How do we know it was going to be Israel that would cut off the Messiah?	1) Jesus would be rejected (cut off) by Israel. 2) Gabriel said that 70 weeks were determined for <u>Israel!</u>
John 12:37-50	Why does Jesus have to come a second time?	Jesus (and His offer of the Kingdom) was rejected by Israel
Acts 13:46; 18:6	Why does Jesus have to come a second time?	The Jews rejected Jesus, thus Jesus turned to the Gentiles.
Acts 28:16-31	Why does Jesus have to come a second time?	Some say this is the final rejection of the offer of the Kingdom (v.23) before the destruction of Jerusalem, but even if it isn't, it's still a rejection of Christ and His offer.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: To conclude, The Kingdom should have been accepted by Israel, but it wasn't. Because they rejected the offer of the Kingdom, and because God keeps His promises, the Second Advent became necessary to establish the Kingdom God promised to David.

22. We can demonstrate from the Bible that the Second Advent is for the Kingdom offered to the Jews through the promise God made to David.

Bible Reference	Why the Second Advent?	Answer
Acts 1:6	What do the disciples ask Jesus just before He ascended to Heaven?	Jesus just got done telling them they were going to receive the Holy Spirit, yet the first thing they ask about is when He is going to restore the Kingdom. They were <u>STILL</u> looking for the promised Kingdom.

23. Some people claim that there will be no kingdom, and that God is finished with Israel because she rejected her king. This is simply not true, and cannot be support by Scripture, especially after our study of how God keeps His promises!

Bible Reference	Israel	Answer
Genesis 12:1-3	What does this unconditional covenant promise?	The Abrahamic Covenant promised Israel a land, descendants, and a spiritual blessing.
Genesis 17:6	1) What does the unconditional Abrahamic Covenant promise? 2) When expanded by the Davidic Covenant, who would be the ultimate fulfilment of this promise?	1) That kings would come from him. 2) Christ would be the ultimate fulfilment of this promise.
Deuteronomy 30:1-10	What does this unconditional covenant promise?	The Palestinian Covenant promised Israel a restoration to the land and occupation of the land.
2 Samuel 7:10-13	What does God promise in this unconditional covenant?	The Davidic Covenant promised Israel a king from David’s line who would rule forever – giving the nation rest from all their enemies
Isaiah 49:6	What will God do for Israel?	Restore her.
Romans 11:1	Has God cast away Israel?	No
Romans 11:25	What has happened to Israel?	Israel has been blinded.
Romans 11:25	When will Israel’s blindness be lifted?	When the times of the Gentiles is over.
Romans 11:26	What will eventually happen to Israel?	All Israel will be saved.

Bible Reference	Israel	Answer
Romans 11:29	How does this passage prove Israel will be saved?	For the gifts and the calling of God are <u>irrevocable</u> .
Revelation 7:1-8	If God is finished with Israel, what problem would these passages pose?	The fact that the 144,000 are specifically called out by <i>Jewish Tribe</i> would pose a problem.
Jeremiah 31:35-37	Once and for all, why can we KNOW that God is not finished with Israel?	Since the ordinances will NOT depart from before the Lord, He will not cast away Israel.

24. Getting back to our study of the kingdom, we have to examine the words of Christ, Himself: We now know that when Jesus returns He will do so specifically to set up the Kingdom. Let's look at some Biblical proof for this claim:

Bible Reference	Kingdom	Answer
Jeremiah 23:5-6	Offer evidence for how we know Jesus has not yet set up His kingdom.	1) There is no judgment and righteousness in the earth. 2) Judah hasn't been saved. 3) Israel doesn't dwell in safety.
Luke 1:32-33	When was this fulfilled?	It wasn't. Jesus is not currently sitting on the throne of His father David, reigning.
Acts 1:5-6	Even though Jesus is promising the disciples they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit, what are they STILL looking for?	The restoration of the kingdom of Israel.

Bible Reference	Kingdom	Answer
Acts 1:7	What is significant about the response Jesus gives to their question of the restoration of the kingdom?	He doesn't say there will NOT be a restoration of the kingdom.
Amos 9:11 Acts 15:6-18	When will God restore the kingdom?	After the times of the Gentiles!
Hebrews 1:3; 12:2	Where is Jesus now?	Jesus is seated at the right hand of God.
Matthew 25:31	When will Jesus sit on the throne of His father David?	"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory."
Revelation 20:2-7	How many times do these passages mention a specific, literal 1,000 years?	Six

12

Our next study centers around The Eternal State, meaning three general things: 1. Humans are eternal and after death they do not simply cease to exist. 2. Saved people after death are absent from their bodies, and are consciously in the presence of the Lord, waiting for the resurrection of their bodies at the Rapture. 3. The Unsaved after death are consciously waiting for the resurrection of their bodies, but they are separated from the Lord. The difference between saved and unsaved is one of eternal bliss versus eternal torment.

1. To begin, human beings are eternal. There is nothing in the Bible that says we will be annihilated after we die. What does Matthew 25:46 say about the two groups of people whom Jesus will judge at His Second Advent?

One group will “go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

2. Let’s break down John 5:24-29 to gain a better understanding of the two groups of people:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
John 5:24	What two specific things happen to those who believe the Word of Jesus?	1) They do not come into judgment. 2) They pass from death into life – not just life, but everlasting life.
John 5: 28-29	What two resurrections will happen?	1) The resurrection to life. 2) The resurrection to condemnation.
John 11:25-26	What are the two promises Jesus makes concerning eternal life?	1) Jesus promises that anyone who believes in Him, even though he dies, will live. 2) Jesus also promises that anyone who believes will NEVER die!

3. In 1 Thessalonians 4, three important questions about the Rapture are answered:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
1 Thessalonians 4:13-16	When Jesus comes, what happens to those who believed in Him, even though they've died (fallen asleep)?	Those who have placed their trust in the Lord Jesus for their salvation are raised FIRST.
1 Thessalonians 4:17	After the dead in Christ are raised, what happens to the rest of the believers?	Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.
1 Thessalonians 4:17	How long will we be with the Lord?	We will ALWAYS be with Him, thus eternally.

4. How can we be sure we will be raised bodily, and not just spiritually? Paul lays it all out in 1 Corinthians 15:35-53. Complete the chart below showing the difference between our mortal bodies and our immortal bodies:

Verse	Mortal Bodies	Glorified Bodies
40	Terrestrial	Celestial
42	Sown in corruption	Raised in incorruption
43	Sown in dishonor	Raised in glory
43	Sown in weakness	Raised in power
44	Sown a natural <u>BODY</u>	Raised a spiritual <u>BODY</u>
45-48	Made from dust	Made from heaven
53	Corruptible	Incrruptible
53	Mortal	Immortal



"God hath given to man a short time here upon earth, and yet upon this short time eternity depends."

– Jeremy Taylor

"If you have not chosen the Kingdom of God first, it will in the end make no difference what you have chosen instead."

– William Law

5. How do we know what we will be like when our bodies are changed? What do each of the following verses say about this?

Bible Reference	What Will We Be Like?
Philippians 3:21	Our bodies will be changed and conformed to His glorious body.
1 John 3:2	We don't know exactly, but we do know that we will be like Jesus when He is revealed.
Colossians 3:4	We will have, at least in part, the same glory Jesus has.

6. How do we know that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord? Read the following verses and write down what they say about this topic:

Bible Reference	Absent From the Body and Present with the Lord?
1 Corinthians 5:1-8	God has a glorified body all prepared for us; a heavenly body, not like the body we have now. When we are here, in this body, we are absent from the Lord, but when we are in our glorified body we will be present with the Lord.
Philippians 1:22-23	Paul states that if he were to live on in the flesh his labor will produce fruit, but if he departs he will be with the Lord.
Revelation 6:9-11	These are the Tribulation Saints, those who were martyred for the cause of Christ. Note that they not only speak to Jesus, He gives them robes and talks back to them. It sure sounds like being absent from the body means being present with the Lord.

8. How do we know that the souls of the unsaved are NOT present with the Lord? Where are they? NOTE: Until the final resurrection there is a temporary heaven—Paradise/a.k.a. Abraham’s bosom (Luke 23:43; 2 Corinthians 12:4) and a temporary hell—Hades (Revelation 1:18; 20:13-14). Read Luke 16:19-31, and answer the two questions above. Keep in mind that Luke NEVER calls this story a parable, and it corresponds to Jesus descending “into the lower parts of the earth” (Ephesians 4:9).

This story shows us there are two real places people go after they die, and that the rich man is clearly NOT in the presence of the Lord. Notice they are not simply annihilated or unconscious (“soul sleep”), but are fully awake and alert with very real, physical bodies.

9. There exists a false idea that once you die you’ll eventually be annihilated or simply cease to exist. How do we know that the soul and body remain forever and ever? What does Daniel 12:2 say about life after death?

Daniel says that there is an everlasting life and an everlasting contempt. The Hebrew word translated “contempt” literally means “to repel, meaning the object of repulsion is an abhorrence. It is used only twice in the Old Testament and in both cases speaks about the eternal abhorrence of those who rebelled against the Lord.”

10. You’ve learned that death means separation, and that the literal death we face apart from Christ is an eternal separation from Him in Hell. How does 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 exemplify this doctrine and serve to demonstrate that we are not annihilated after death?

The Lord will take vengeance on those who reject Him, by way of everlasting punishment and separation. The Greek word translated “destruction” doesn’t carry the fundamental thought of annihilation by any means, but unavoidable distress and torment.

11. Finally, read Revelation 14:6-11. What happens to anyone who rejects God and worships the Devil instead? This will happen in mass quantity to people living during the Tribulation. NOTE: The Greek construction of Forever and Ever literally means: "Unto Ages of Ages."
- a. "He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY ANGELS AND IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LAMB."
 - b. "And the smoke of their torment ascends FOREVER AND EVER; and THEY HAVE NO REST day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."



"Are you implying that it is unjust for God to send people to hell? If so, then you accuse God of injustice. Sin is wrong and it must be punished. What would you have God do to those who oppose Him and do evil? Do you want Him to ignore that which is wrong? Do you want Him to turn His head and not be holy and righteous?"

– Matt Slick

The word "hell" (gehenna) occurs in the New Testament twelve times -- eleven on the lips of Jesus. It is not a myth created by dismal and angry preachers. It is the solemn warning of the Son of God who died to deliver sinners from its curse. We ignore it at great risk.

– John Piper

13

Satan is a person who is not a myth, not an idea, and not a universal force called evil. He is a real, created being with very real attributes. He sins, he lies, and he is bent on the destruction of man. In this study we will examine the fact that Satan is a person, the author of sin, and the cause of the Fall of Man; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire.

1. What is happening in Job 1:6-8 that demonstrates that Satan is a real person?

Satan and God are having a conversation about God’s servant Job.

2. How does Isaiah 14:12-16 demonstrate that Satan is a very real created being?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Isaiah 14:12-16	What does Satan want?	Satan said he would ascend above God, making himself like God.
	What will be the consequences?	The consequences will be that he will be cut down to the ground, and brought down to the lowest depths of the Pit.

3. Let’s look at Matthew 4:2-11. Answer the questions below that demonstrate the reality of Satan as an actual person:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Matthew 4:1-11	Where in these passages does it indicate this is only a story, parable, or other object lesson?	It doesn’t. Matthew treats this like an actual event.
Matthew 4:3-4	What activity does Jesus participate in?	Jesus is not only converses with Satan, but quotes Scripture to him to prove His point.
Matthew 4:11	What two, very real, results occurred when Jesus drove Satan away?	1) Satan left. 2) Angels ministered to Jesus.

4. What seven elements can you find in Ezekiel 28:13-15 that prove Satan is a real person?

Bible Reference	Prove Satan is a Real Person
Ezekiel 28:13-15	
1)	Satan was in the Garden of Eden
2)	He was exceedingly beautiful (hence his coverings of precious jewels)
3)	He was “the anointed cherub who covers” meaning Satan had occupied a special place of prominence in guarding the throne of God (cf. Exodus 25:20).
4)	He was on the “Holy mountain of God.”
5)	He “walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.”
6)	He was created.
7)	He sinned.

5. We know Satan lies, and to prove this we can read Genesis 3:1-4. What was the first lie recorded in the Bible and from whom did it come?

Satan lied to Eve telling her that she wouldn't die if she ate the fruit, even though that's exactly what God said would happen, and that's exactly what did happen.

6. What six descriptors does Jesus offer of Satan in John 8:44-45?

Bible Reference	Descriptors of Satan
John 8:44-45	
	1) He was a murderer from the beginning.
	2) He does not stand in the truth.
	3) There is no truth in him.
	4) When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources (or nature).
	5) He is a liar.
	6) He is the father of lies.

7. How do the following verses demonstrate that Satan is the sworn enemy of God and man?

Bible Reference	Satan: Sworn Enemy of God and Man
Matthew 4:3 and 1 Thessalonians 3:5	Satan tempts both God and men.
1 Corinthians 4:4	Satan, as god of this world, has blinded the people so they won't see/hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Revelation 12:20	Satan accuses us before God day and night.
Revelation 20:3	Satan deceives men.

8. Even though he was cast out of heaven, Satan still seeks to elevate his throne above God. He counterfeits all that God does, hoping to gain the worship of the world and encourage opposition to God’s kingdom. Satan is the ultimate source behind every false cult and false world religion. Satan will do anything and everything in his power to oppose God and those who follow God.¹ For example, what warning does 1 Peter 5:8 offer us concerning Satan?

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

9. What will ultimately happen to Satan? See Revelation 20:10.

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

10. In propaganda, there is a technique called “The Big Lie” which was coined by one of the biggest liars in history next to Satan himself: Adolph Hitler. The Big Lie basically says that people are more apt to believe a big lie than a small lie because they either will not or cannot believe someone would be so impudent as to tell such a colossal lie! People believe that since one couldn’t possibly fabricate such a colossal lie, the lie must be the truth! It has been said that the greatest lie the Devil ever told was convincing humanity that he didn’t exist. The only problem with this lie is that not only does Satan exist, he is actively working against God to try to make himself a god. In his attempts to accomplish this task, Satan has been running a counterfeit program that mirrors everything God does in His plan and program. The chart below demonstrates that Satan is, in fact, working his counterfeit program. As you study Scripture longer and longer, you will see more and more evidence of Satan’s counterfeit program. This is only a short list.

True Christianity	Satan’s Counterfeits
1. God works in His children “both to will and to do of His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:13)	1. Ephesians 2:2 “...according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.”
2. We read of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (Matthew 24:14)	2. Galatians. 1:6-7; 2 Corinthians 11:3-4 Satan also has a gospel or two or three...: “...to a different gospel, which is not another...”
3. Jesus has his “Apostles.” (Luke 6:13)	3. 2 Corinthians 11:13 Satan has his apostles. “For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.”

True Christianity	Satan's Counterfeits
4. God will by his angels "seal" His servants in their foreheads. (Revelation 7:3)	4. Revelation 13:16 Satan marks the foreheads of his servants.
5. Jesus quoted scripture. (Matthew 4:4-10)	5. Matthew 4:6 Satan knows and quotes the Scriptures.
6. God is a Trinity - made up of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)	6. Revelation 20:10 Satan has his own unholy trinity - himself, the beast, and the false prophet.
7. In the beginning GOD! (Genesis 1:1)	7. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Satan is a counterfeit god.

11. Why should we be concerned about Satan?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Romans 1:16	What is the power of God unto salvation?	The Gospel
Romans 10:17	Where does our faith, and thereby our salvation, come from?	So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
Luke 8:4-8 (parable) Luke 8:11-12 (interpretation)	How can Satan effect our salvation?	Those who hear the word can have the devil come and take away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.
2 Corinthians 2:10-11	Why do we have to forgive?	If we don't, Satan can take advantage of us.

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
2 Corinthians 11:14	How does Satan deceive us?	He transforms himself into an angel of light.
Ephesians 6:11	Why do we need the armor of God?	To stand against the wiles of the Devil.
Ephesians 6:12	Why is Paul so concerned about Satan?	Because we face fierce and relentless spiritual opposition from Satan and his demons.
1 Thessalonians 2:19	Who stopped Paul from going to the church at Thessalonica?	Satan
1 Timothy 4:1-2	How does Satan subvert the Doctrines of God?	He propagates doctrines of demons.
Revelation 12:10	What action is Satan undertaking against us?	He accuses us before God day and night.



“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’”

– Isaiah 14:12-14



God created the universe in six literal, 24-hour periods. Each day in Genesis is a literal day; nothing more and nothing less. A day is NOT a large period of time, a gap in time, or an age. God did NOT use evolution to slowly create the universe. The Creation DAY is absolutely critical to our understanding of the Bible, because if we change the meaning of the word day into something else, that means we can change ANY word in the Bible to mean something else. We must interpret the Bible literally in order to understand what the original author meant to communicate to his intended audience. Basically, this means interpreting every word with the same meaning it would have in normal usage. What words usually mean, in normal everyday usage, is what God intended when He wrote the Bible. Therefore, the word day, when read in context, means a day.

1. A good place to start our examination of creation is with the question: What does creation ex nihilo mean? Ex nihilo is Latin for “from nothing.” The term creation ex nihilo refers to God creating everything from nothing. In Genesis 1:1, what does God say He used to make the universe?

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” Prior to that moment there was nothing. God didn’t make the universe from preexisting building blocks. He started from scratch. He doesn’t say He took existing materials and formed them INTO the universe.

2. “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.” Hebrews 11:3

The Bible never expressly states that God made everything from nothing, but it is implied. When examining Hebrews 11:3, we have to keep in mind that there are two important Greek words that are translated poorly into English which have great bearing on how we should interpret this passage. The first is the word worlds. This word is *aion* and literally means “an age or time, in contrast to *kosmos* referring to people or space.” The second word is framed and literally means “to create, with the implication of putting into proper condition - to create, to make.” A different translation would be:

“By means of faith we perceive that the material universe and the God-appointed ages of time were equipped and fitted by God’s word for the purpose for which they were intended, and it follows therefore that that which we see did not come into being out of that which is visible.”³

In your own words then, explain how Hebrews 11:3 tells us the universe was created.

Answers here will vary, but should center on the fact that the ages were created by the word of God, and that the universe came into existence by divine command and was not assembled from preexisting matter or energy.

3. Jesus is essential to our understanding of creation. Complete the chart below that demonstrates this very fact:

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Hebrews 1:1-2	How does God make the *worlds? *Some translations have the word <u>ages</u> - <u>universe</u> - <u>world</u>)	God made the worlds by His Son
John 1:1-3	How does John prove Hebrews?	John: All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
Colossians 1:16	How does this passage specifically prove the claim of Hebrews?	Colossians: He created absolutely everything: seen and unseen. This means both the physical and spiritual worlds.
Colossians 1:17	The Greek word translated <u>consist</u> means <u>to join together parts into a whole, to constitute, create, bring into existence.</u> How does this help prove our assertion that Jesus created everything?	It means that everything was brought into existence BY Jesus. Without Him, there would still be nothing (ex-nihilo).
Hebrews: 1:3	Not only did Jesus create absolutely everything, use the definition below to determine what else He does and how He does it. *The Greek word translated <u>upholding</u> literally means, <u>to cause to continue by sustaining or maintaining a state - to sustain, to maintain.</u>	God' Son, Jesus, keeps everything going by the word of His power. This passage might be better translated "sustaining all things by his powerful word."

4. Since we know that God created the universe ex nihilo, and Hebrews 11:3 tell us the universe was created by “the word of God,” we have to examine what “the word of God” actually means. We should also consider how the actual creating took place. What do the following verses teach about **HOW** the universe was created?

Bible Reference	The Universe Was Created BY The Word Of God
Genesis 1:6-7	God said...and it was so. God spoke, and creation happened.
Psalm 33:6-9	V. 6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And all the host of Them by the breath of His mouth. V. 9 - For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.
Psalm 148:1-5	God spoke and the creation happened.

5. Now that we’ve established that the Creation happened because God spoke the universe into existence, we’ll turn our attention to the six days of creation. A careful examination of the Hebrew word for **day** (Yom) and the context in which it appears in Genesis 1 will lead to the conclusion that **day** means a literal, 24-hour period of time. The trick, however, is that the Hebrew word Yom translated into the English word **day** can mean more than one thing. It is the context that drives the interpretation of each occurrence of the word Yom. Read each of the following verses, examine the context, and determine how the word Yom/day is to be understood:

Bible Reference	How is Yom / Day Understood?
Genesis 1:16	It is used to refer to the period of daylight between dawn and dusk.
Genesis 2:4	It is used to refer to an unspecified period of time.
Genesis 7:11	It is used to refer to a 24-hour period.

6. So, what does it mean in Genesis 1:5-2:2 when Yom used in conjunction with ordinal numbers (i.e., the first day, the second day, the third day, the fourth day, the fifth day, the sixth day, and the seventh day)?

Bible Reference	Question	Answer
Genesis 1:5-2:2	Are these 24-hour periods or something else?	Each instance of the word Yom used with either the word morning or evening must be taken to mean a literal day with the sun rising and setting.

7. We can determine how Yom should be interpreted in Genesis 1:5-2:2 simply by examining the context in which we find the word and then comparing its context with how we see its usage elsewhere in Scripture. By doing this we let Scripture interpret itself. Look through Genesis 1:5-2:2 and pay attention to the terms “evening” and “morning” used with the word Yom. What would the normal, historical, everyday usage of the word Yom mean in these contexts?

The morning and the evening are time references that ANYONE reading it would understand to mean a regular, normal day. The references to “evening” and “morning” make no sense unless they refer to a literal 24-hour day.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

- a. The Hebrew word Yom is used 2301 times in the Old Testament.
 - b. Outside of Genesis 1, Yom plus a number (used 410 times) always indicates an ordinary day, i.e., a 24-hour period.
 - c. The words “evening” and “morning” together (38 times) always indicate an ordinary day.
 - d. Yom + “evening” or “morning” (23 times) always indicates an ordinary day.
 - e. Yom + “night” (52 times) always indicates an ordinary day
8. God never leaves Himself without a witness, and in this case the argument for whether or not the word Yom in Genesis 1 is a literal 24-hour day is put to rest by God Himself. How does God, in Exodus 20:8-11, demonstrate that Yom in Genesis 1 is a literal 24-hour day? Notice the word “For,” meaning BECAUSE, shows a causal relationship to that which precedes it.

According to Exodus 20:8-11, God used six literal days to create the world in order to serve as a model for man’s workweek: work six days, rest one. Certainly God could have created everything in an instant if He wanted to. But apparently He had us in mind even before He made us (on the sixth day) and wanted to provide an example for us to follow.

9. What actually happened during each day of the creation? Complete the chart below, not only to understand what happens, but also to create a reference chart for later use and study.

SIX DAYS OF CREATION¹	
Creation Day 1 (Genesis 1:1-5)	God created the heavens and the earth. "The heavens" refers to everything beyond the earth, outer space. The earth is made but not formed in any specific way, although water is present. God then speaks light into existence. He then separates the light from the dark and names the light "day" and the dark "night." This creative work occurs from evening until morning – one day.
Creation Day 2 (Genesis 1:6-8)	God creates the sky. The sky forms a barrier between water upon the surface and the moisture in the air. At this point earth would have an atmosphere. This creative work occurs in one day.
Creation Day 3 (Genesis 1:9-13)	God creates dry land. Continents and islands are above the water. The large bodies of water are named "seas" and the ground is named "land." God declares that all this is good. God creates all plant life both large and small. He creates this life to be self-sustaining; plants have the ability to reproduce. The plants were created in great diversity (many "kinds"). The earth was green and teeming with plant life. God declares that this work is also good. This creative work takes one day.
Creation Day 4 (Genesis 1:14-19)	God creates all the stars and heavenly bodies. The movement of these will help man track time. Two great heavenly bodies are made in relation to the earth. The first is the sun which is the primary source of light and the moon which reflects the light of the sun. The movement of these bodies will distinguish day from night. This work is also declared to be good by God. This creative work takes one day.
Creation Day 5 (Genesis 1:20-23)	God creates all life that lives in the water. Any life of any kind that lives in the water is made at this point. God also makes all the birds. The language allows that this may be the time God made flying insects as well (or, if not, they were made on day six). All of these creatures are made with the ability to perpetuate their species by reproduction. The creatures made on Day 5 are the first creatures blessed by God. God declares this work good, and it occurs in one day.

SIX DAYS OF CREATION**Creation Day 6 (Genesis 1:24-31)**

God creates all the creatures that live on dry land. This includes every type of creature not included on previous days and man. God declares this work good.

God then takes counsel with Himself, "God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness'" (Genesis 1:26). This is not an explicit revelation of the trinity but is part of the foundation for such, as God reveals an "us" within the Godhead. God makes man, and man is made in the image of God (men and women both bear this image) and is special above all other creatures. To emphasize this, God places man in authority over the earth and over all the other creatures. God blesses man and commands him to reproduce, fill the earth and subdue it (bring it under the rightful stewardship of man as authorized by God). God announces that man and all other creatures are to eat plants alone. God will not rescind this dietary restriction until Genesis 9:3-4.

God's creative work is complete at the end of the sixth day. The entire universe in all its beauty and perfection was fully formed in six literal, concurrent, 24-hour days. At the completion of His creation, God announces that it is very good.

Creation Day 7 (Genesis 2:1-3)

God rests. This in no way indicates He was weary from His creative efforts, but denotes that the creation is complete. Further, God is establishing a pattern of one day in seven to rest. The keeping of this day will eventually be a distinguishing trait of the God's chosen people. (Exodus 20:8-11)

10. One of the biggest arguments against the word Yom meaning a literal 24-hour day comes from the charge that light was created BEFORE the Sun, thus disproving the 24-hour Yom assertion. In order to understand how this seeming contradiction can be cleared up, we have to look at the Hebrew word for light. In this case, the word light literally means the substance of light, not a source of light. Light is distinct from the heavenly bodies it is associated with. Now that you have that tool, in your own words, discuss the following progression as to why light being created before the Sun is NOT a contradiction.
- a. Genesis 1:3 - God creates light (the substance of light) on the first day.
 - b. Genesis 1:5 - Evening and Morning - alternating periods of light and darkness exist.
 - c. Therefore, light was in existence, coming from one direction upon a rotating earth, resulting in the day and night cycle.
 - d. Genesis 1:14-19 - Sun created as a source of light from that time onward. The sun was created to rule the day that already existed.
 - e. Same day - new light source.
 - f. The first three days of creation (before the sun) were the same type of days as the three days with the sun, having Day and Night cycles.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: As this concludes our study of creation consider the following:

- a. Perhaps God deliberately left the creation of the sun until the fourth day because He knew that down through the ages cultures would try to worship the sun as the source of life.
- b. Not only this, modern theories tell us the sun came before the earth. God is showing us that He made the earth and light to start with, that He can sustain it with its day and night cycle and that the sun was created on day four as a tool of His to be the bearer of light from that time. Incidentally, those who say that a day could be millions of years must answer the question, "What is a night?"²

Appendix

Daniel's 70th Week

The "seventy weeks" prophecy is one of the most significant and detailed Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament. It is found in Daniel 9. The chapter begins with Daniel praying for Israel, acknowledging the nation's sins against God and asking for God's mercy. As Daniel prayed, the angel Gabriel appeared to him and gave him a vision of Israel's future.

The Divisions of the 70 Weeks

In verse 24, Gabriel says, "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city." Almost all commentators agree that the seventy "sevens" should be understood as seventy "weeks" of years (or seventy seven year periods), in other words, a period of 490 years. These verses provide a sort of "clock" that gives an idea of when the Messiah would come and some of the events that would accompany His appearance.

- Week = 7 Years
- 70 (7 Year periods) Weeks
- $70 \times 7 = 490$ Years

The prophecy goes on to divide the 490 years into three smaller units: one of 49 years, one of 434 years, and one 7 years. The final "week" of 7 years is further divided in half. Verse 25 says, "That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks."

Seven weeks "sevens" is 49 years, and sixty-two weeks "sevens" is another 434 years:

- $49 \text{ years} + 434 \text{ years} = 483 \text{ years}$

The Purpose of the 70 Weeks

The prophecy contains a statement concerning God's six-fold purpose in bringing these events to pass. Verse 24 says this purpose is 1) "to finish transgression," 2) "to put an end to sin," 3) "to atone for wickedness," 4) "to bring in everlasting righteousness," 5) "to seal up vision and prophecy," and 6) "to anoint the most holy."

Notice that these results concern the total eradication of sin and the establishing of righteousness. The prophecy of the 70 weeks summarizes what happens before Jesus sets up His millennial kingdom. Of special note is the third in the list of results: "to atone for wickedness." Jesus accomplished the atonement for sin by His death on the cross (Romans 3:25; Hebrews 2:17).

The Fulfillment of the 70 Weeks

Gabriel said the prophetic clock would start at the time that a decree was issued to rebuild Jerusalem. From the date of that decree to the time of the Messiah would be 483 years. We know from history that the command to "restore and rebuild Jerusalem" was given by King Artaxerxes of Persia c. 445 B.C. (see Nehemiah 2:1-8).

The first unit of 49 years (seven “sevens”) covers the time that it took to rebuild Jerusalem, “with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble” (Daniel 9:25). This rebuilding is chronicled in the book of Nehemiah.

Using the Jewish custom of a 360-day year, 483 years after 445 B.C. places us at A.D. 30, which would coincide with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-9). The prophecy in Daniel 9 specifies that after the completion of the 483 years, “the Anointed One will be cut off” (verse 26). This was fulfilled when Jesus was crucified.

Daniel 9:26 continues with a prediction that, after the Messiah is killed, “the people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.” This was fulfilled with the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. The “ruler who will come” is a reference to the Antichrist, who, it seems, will have some connection with Rome, since it was the Romans who destroyed Jerusalem. The destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 was but an illustration of a future invasion and destruction to be led by Antichrist.

The Final Week of the 70 Weeks

Of the 70 “sevens,” 69 have been fulfilled in history. This leaves one more “seven” yet to be fulfilled. Most scholars believe that we are now living in a huge gap between the 69th week and the 70th week. The prophetic clock has been paused, as it were. The final “seven” of Daniel is what we usually call the tribulation period.

Daniel’s prophecy reveals some of the actions of the Antichrist, the “ruler who will come.” Verse 27 says, “He will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’” However, “in the middle of the ‘seven,’ . . . he will set up an abomination that causes desolation” in the temple. Jesus warned of this event in Matthew 24:15. After the Antichrist breaks the covenant with Israel, a time of “great tribulation” begins (Matthew 24:21, NKJV).

Daniel also predicts that the Antichrist will face judgment. He only rules “until the end that is decreed is poured out on him” (Daniel 9:27). God will only allow evil to go so far, and the judgment the Antichrist will face has already been planned out.

Conclusion

The prophecy of the 70 weeks is complex and amazingly detailed, and much has been written about it. Of course, there are various interpretations, but what we have presented here is the [correct] dispensational, premillennial view. One thing is certain: God has a time table, and He is keeping things on schedule. He knows the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10), and we should always be looking for the triumphant return of our Lord (Revelation 22:7).¹

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