

Qualification for Eternal Life

“And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”
1 John 5:11-13

Jesus is the only way to God.

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”
John 14:6

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:12

“For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”
1 Timothy 2:5

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”
Matthew 7:13-14

“Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist – he denies the Father and the Son. No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”
1 John 2:22,23

The Barrier of Sin

Our Sin

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.”
Romans 5:12

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
Romans 3:23

Sin’s Penalty

“For the wages of sin is death.” Romans 6:23 “For in Adam all die.” Romans 15:22

God’s Character

“There is no one righteous, not even one.” Romans 3:10

“Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness.”
Romans 10:3

Jesus Redeemed and Justified Us

“...are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”
Romans 3:2

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
Romans 5:1

Jesus Paid Our Penalty

“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.”
Romans 3:13

“Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures.”
1 Corinthians 15:3

Jesus Became Our Righteousness

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations.” Ephesians 2:13-14

You Are Sure of Your Salvation

God wants you to know that if you have believed in Jesus Christ then you have been saved.

“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.” John 1:12,13

“For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” Colossians 1:13,14

“All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.” John 6:37

“The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.” Romans 8:16

“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” 1 John 5:13

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.” Revelation 3:20

God’s Love and Forgiveness

How God Sees Us

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

“because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.” Hebrews 10:14

“If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.” Romans 8:1

The Believer and Their Daily Sins

“Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.”

and doesn’t do it, sins.” 1 John 3:4 “Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do
James 4:17

“But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.”

Romans 14:23

Who Sins?

“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” 1 John 1:8

“If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.”
1 John 1:10

Where Does Temptation Come From?

- * Satan (Matthew 4:1)
- * Our Sin Nature (James 1:13-15)

How Can We Resist Temptation and Sin?

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.” Corinthians 10:13

“Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way.” Proverbs 4:14-15

What Do We Do If We Sin?

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

“I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin.” Psalms 38:18

“Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

“When I kept silent (*THIS MEANS HE DID NOT CONFESS HIS SIN*), my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

“Then I acknowledged my sin to you (THIS MEANS HE CONFESSED HIS SIN) and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD”—and you forgave the guilt of my sin.” Psalms 32:1-5

“He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.”
Proverbs 28:13

Salvation Provisions

There are **36** things God provides for every believer at the point of salvation.

These things occur immediately at the time of the new birth.

These things are the work of God; they are instantaneous; they are simultaneous; they are based on the merit of Christ; they are complete; they are eternal.

Salvation is complete and eternal. **Eternal** reality takes affect in the believer’s life in that moment in **Time**.

1. In the eternal plan of God
2. Reconciled
3. Redeemed
4. Condemnation removed
5. Under Grace through propitiation
6. All sins judged
7. Union with Christ
8. Free from the Law
9. Regenerated
10. Adopted
11. Acceptable to God
12. Justified
13. Forgiven all trespasses
14. Citizenship in the heavenly city
15. Delivered from the Kingdom of Satan
16. Transferred into God’s Kingdom
17. A position that is on a secure foundation
18. A gift from God the Father to Christ
19. Delivered from the power of sin nature
20. Members of the priesthood to God
21. A special race of people
22. Given access to God
23. God’s inheritance
24. Recipients of eternal life
25. In the realm of the “much more” care of God
26. Beneficiaries
27. Partners in a heavenly association
28. Members of the family of God
29. Light in the Lord
30. United to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
31. Recipients of Holy Spirit’s ministries
32. Glorified
33. Complete in Him
34. Possessor of every spiritual blessing

- 35. Removal of scar tissue on the human soul
- 36. Redemption of the physical body

Developing Your Relationship

With God

God has revealed himself to us.
Now we need to seek him.

Seek God

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Jeremiah 29:13

“Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart.”
119:2

Psalms

Seek God's Kingdom

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Matthew 6:33

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”

Colossians 3:1,2

“As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

Luke 10:38-42

Seek God:

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.”

Matthew 5:6

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:4

“For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”

2 Chronicles 16:9

“I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.”

Proverbs 8:17

“He rewards those who earnestly seek him.”

Hebrews 11:6

Prayer

Who to pray to:

“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.’”
Matthew 6:9

“In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.”
John 16:23,24

How to pray:

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.”
John 15:7

“Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
1 Thessalonians 5:17,18

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:6,7

“Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.”
Psalms 62:8

“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7

Who to pray for:

“I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:1-4

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”
Ephesians 6:18

“Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”
Matthew 9:36-38

“Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.” Luke 6:28

When to pray:

“Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my sighing. Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray. In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.”
Psalms 5:1-3

“Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress,

and he hears my voice.”

Psalms 55:17 **The Bible**

Supernaturally Written

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16,17

“Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”
2 Peter 1: 20,21

“You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me.”
John 5:39

“If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?”
John 5:46,47

Always Applicable

“Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.”

Psalms 119:89

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”

Matthew 24:35

“The word of the Lord stands forever.” 1 Peter 1:25

“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.” Isaiah 40:8

Use

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16,17

Effect on our life

“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

John 8:31,32

“You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.” John 15:3

“I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path.” Psalms 119:105

“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.” Psalms 119:130

“Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”

2 Peter 1:4

“The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.”

Psalms 19:7.8

Spiritual Nutrition

Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Mathew 4:4

“He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.”

Deuteronomy 8:3

“And this is the word that was preached to you. Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.”

1 Peter 2:2

“How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”

Psalms 119:103

What we do with it:

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.”

Colossians 3:16

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.” Psalms 119:11

“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

Joshua 1:8

“But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”

Psalms 1:1,2

Results of hearing the Bible

“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.”
Romans 10:17

“Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”
John 14:21

Bible revealed by the Holy Spirit

“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”
John 14:26

“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.”
John 16:13

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him—but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.”
1 Corinthians 2:9-13

Weapon of Spiritual War

“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”
Ephesians 6:17

“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword.”
Hebrews 4:12

“The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” . . . Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” . . . Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”
Matthew 4:1-11

Obedience

“Peter and the other apostles replied: ‘We must obey God rather than men!’”
Acts 5:29

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.” John 14:15

“Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”
John 14:21

“Jesus replied, ‘If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.’”
John 14:23,24

“This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.”
1 John 5:3

Commands of the New Covenant

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
John 13:34-35

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”
Matthew 22:36-40

“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “Do not commit adultery,” “Do not murder,” “Do not steal,” “Do not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”
Romans 13:8-10

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12

“This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:17

“If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.”
James 2:8

Obedience for Christian Growth

- a) Seek God First (Matthew 6:33)
- b) Separation from the World (1 John 2:15-17)
- c) Forgetting our past (both good and bad) (Ph 3:13,14)
- d) Church Attendance (Hebrews 10:24,25)
- e) Christian Fellowship (1 Corinthians 15:33)
- f) Water Baptism (Acts 8:12, 36-38)

The Spirit

Holy Spirit is a Person. Holy Spirit is God. (Acts 5:3,4)

Born of the Holy Spirit

“In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”
John 3:3

“Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water (*Physical Birth*) and the Spirit (*Spiritual Birth*).’”
John 3:5

Jesus said, “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”
John 14:17

“And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.”
Romans 8:9

These four verses refer to a person being saved, or in other words, having the new birth, being born again, accepting Christ, being recreated, regeneration, becoming a new creation.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” 2
Corinthians 5:17

This is our spiritual baptism by the Holy Spirit into Christ, or the Body of Christ.

“For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.” 1 Corinthians 12:13

Filled With The Spirit

This refers to being baptized with the Spirit, or receiving the Holy Spirit, being filled with the Spirit.

“There he found some disciples and asked them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’” Acts 19:1,2

This is when Jesus baptizes us with the Holy Spirit.

“John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.’” Luke 3:16

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” Ephesians 5:18

The Spirit is a Spring of Water and a River

John 4:13,14 where the Holy Spirit is a “spring of water welling up to eternal life,” inside the believer followed by

John 7:37-39 where those who believed would have the Holy Spirit flowing like streams of living water from within them.

At the point of the new birth the Holy Spirit comes in you and you are born of the Spirit.

After this new birth the Holy Spirit can come upon you. This is referred to being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Point of Doctrine: You do not get more of the Holy Spirit later after you have been Born Again

Point of Doctrine: You do not need to be filled with the Spirit to be Born Again and possess eternal life.

To be Born of the Spirit you must *BELIEVE* that Jesus is Lord as found in Romans 10:9:

“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” and Acts 2:41, “Those who accepted his message were baptized.”

To be Filled with the Spirit you must *ASK* as found in

Luke 11:11-13:

“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”
1 Corinthians 14:1 says, “Eagerly desire spiritual gifts.”

Fruit of the Spirit

The fruit of the Spirit that is listed in Galatians 5:22-23 can be produced by anyone who has the Holy Spirit living in them.

Gifts of the Spirit

The gifts of the Spirit are a manifestation of the filling of the Holy Spirit or the Spirit being on a person. These are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 and Romans 12:3-8.

Faith

Our righteousness is received by faith in God’s word and Jesus’ work.

“For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”
Romans 1:17

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.”
Ephesians 2:8

The Christian life is lived by faith

“We live by faith, not by sight.” Corinthians 5:7

What is faith?

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

Hebrews

11:1

Faith affects our ability to continue to receive from God after we have received salvation by faith.

Receiving From God By Faith

"She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment."

Matthew 9:21-22

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied. Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you";

Matthew 9:27-29

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up." James 5:15

"But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does."

James 1:6

Faith is our basis for pleasing God

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Hebrews 11:6

Faith can grow

"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." Romans 10:17

Abundant Life

Our association with God will cause us to be successful and prosperous in every area of our lives.

"Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

Psalms 1:1-3

"Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Joshua 1:8

Jesus' mission was to bring abundant life to humanity.

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

John 10:10

Every area of Man is affected by God

"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well."

3 John 2

*God is not a lottery ticket to financial prosperity.
The belief that God's purpose and method is to give
his people material wealth is a false teaching that
has often surfaced through out church history.*

"If anyone teaches false doctrine and does not agree with sound (*healthy*) instruction of the Lord Jesus and to godly teaching he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain."
1 Timothy 6:3-10

Purpose of the Church: Proclaim & Live the Victory of Jesus

"Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him."

2 Corinthians 2:14

Victory comes through Jesus Christ

"Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians

15:57

Nothing has positional victory over a believer

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:37

Only Believers are over comers

"For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."

1 John 5:4

Believers face many problems

"A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all." Psalms 34:19

Sometimes our deliverance is not removal from the circumstances but empowerment in the circumstances "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."
1 Corinthians 10:13

"I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:13

Satan

The Two Kingdoms

	<u>God's</u>	<u>Satan's</u>
Type:	Light	Darkness
King:	Jesus	Satan
Residents	Believers	Unbelievers
Quality	Abundance	Lack
Servants	Angels	Fallen Angles
Character	Love (Galatians 5:22)	Selfishness (Gal. 5:19)

Names for Satan

John 8:44	Devil, Liar, Murderer
John 10:10	Thief
Revelation 12:10	Accuser
1 Peter 5:8	Devouring Lion
2 Corinthians 11:14	Angel of Light
Acts 10:38	Oppressor
Mark 4:15	Word Stealer
Luke 22:31	Faith Sifter

Satan is fighting against God's Kingdom, which includes believers:

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Ephesians 6:12

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

"...in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes." Corinthians 2:11

2

Jesus Defeated Satan

"He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

1 John 3:8

"And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross." Colossians 2:15

“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.”
Acts 10:38

Our Victory Is Positional in Jesus Christ

“He replied, ‘I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.’”
Luke 10:18,19

“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world,” 1 John 4:4

“And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.”
Ephesians 2:6

Our Warfare vs. Satan

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” James 4:7

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.” 1 Peter 5:8-10

Jesus’ Three Temptations Matthew 4:1-11

“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

“They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.”
Revelation 12:11

“The seventy-two returned with joy and said, ‘Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.’” Luke 10:17

God’s Plan

Serve God and People

“Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:26,27

Be Witness for God in Words & Lifestyle

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Fulfill office of Ambassador for Kingdom

“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
2 Corinthians 5:18-20

Seek and find God’s plan for our lives

“Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:33

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. . . .” Matthew 25:14-29

Use gifts you have through the Holy Spirit

1) Gifts to protect and to supernaturally assist the body of Christ

“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit., to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.” 2 Corinthians 12:7-11

2) Gifts that function and make the body work and produce:

“Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is servicing, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.” Romans 12:4-8

3) Gifts that develop and perfect the other body parts:

“It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Ephesians 4:11-16

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.” 1 Peter 4:10

Foundational Doctrines

“You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine.”
Titus 2:1

Depravity

God classifies all men as totally sinful and so they produce only sinful acts in God’s estimation.

“The scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin.”
Galatians 3:22

“We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written, . . .
(Romans 3:9)” (then Paul lists the following Old Testament scriptures in the verses that follow 3:10-18). . .
Psalms 14:1-3; 53:1-3; 5-9; 140:3; 10:7; 36:1; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Isaiah 59:7,8.)

“For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.”
Romans 11:32

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death
came to all men, because all sinned.” Romans 5:12

Also called “total depravity of man”

This means that man is as bad off as he can be.

This is not saying that man is as bad as he can be.

The Doctrine of depravity has to do with God’s view of man.

Not with man’s conduct but with man’s state.

Modern liberal view sees man evolving into
something better.

They also teach there is so much good in man
that man is not so bad off.

Scripture does not measure man by man.

Man is evaluated by and compared to his creator.

Words Describing Sin

Personal Sin-produced from man’s natural condition

Transgressions- a picture of a man stepping to one side or overstepping marked of bounds

Iniquity-that which is altogether wrong

Error-the sinner disregards the right or strays from the norm

Sin-personal transgressions, which are, pictured as going wide of the target or missing the mark.

Wickedness-the outworking and expression of evil in man.

Ungodliness-lack of respect for God.

Disobedience-the unwillingness to be guided or led in the way of truth.

Unbelief-the failure to trust God

Lawlessness-open contempt for divine law.

Three Aspects of Sin taught in the Word

1) Sin Nature –This is not an act but man’s nature that will always produce personal sin.

Adam was not created with a sin-nature but with an innocent free will.

When Adam disobeyed he caused his nature to be set similar to jello going from being unset or
uncongealed to being set up. His nature was set like concrete.

Romans 7:25, “So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God’s law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.”

2) Fruit of Sin

The fruit of this nature is sin and death

Galatians 5:19-21, “The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and
witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies,
and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Positionally A Sinner

God has placed man positionally under sin

Galatians 3:22, “But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being
given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.”

God has decided and judged all men sins already.

John 3:18, “Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because
he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”

Summary of the doctrine of depravity:

Man is guilty of personal sin.

Man harbors a sin-nature in his being

Man has been positionally placed by God in sin.

Example of a changed nature:

A fish was created to live in the atmosphere of water, if it was to live on land its nature would have to change.

Man was created to live in God. When man sinned his nature had to change to adapt to his new atmosphere.

Five Great Facts of Depravity:

Man is a sinner

Man is spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1)

Man is under condemnation (John 3:18)

Man is under the power of Satan (1 John 5:19;

2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:1-3)

Man is lost (Luke 15)

Grace

God's response to man's needs

Man's need is greater than he can meet or even understand.

God is a God of grace.

God's grace produces graces or graciousness.

This product is called mercy.

Hebrews 4:16, "Let us then approach the throne of grace
mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

with confidence, so that we may receive

"Throne of Grace"

God's character and quality

God rules universe from a throne of Grace.

"Mercy . . . Grace"

The product produced by God's character that we obtain.

"Our time of need."

God responds to our need.

God does not respond to our merit.

the apostle of Grace, taught these truths:

has manifested grace

1, "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men." (Romans 5:15-17; 2 Corinthians 8:9)

Grace was manifested in the salvation that God brought.

3:24, ". . . justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

5:20, "The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more.

What refers to the new state we have been brought to

Galatians 6:14, "For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace."

Colossians 5:2, "...through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand."

What is God's operating principle for his child

In the New Testament we operate under grace

The Old Testament operated under law to achieve the holiness of God. The law was the goal.

The New Testament standard is not the perfection of the law, but the perfection of Jesus, the very nature of God. Grace demands and expects this perfection, this nature.

Our goal is not legalistic, but the likeness of Christ.

Galatians 5:4, "You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope."

5. Grace provides the daily needs of the Child of God

Hebrews 4:16, "Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Philippians 4:19, "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

POINT: Do you think you earned the riches in his glory??

6. Grace cannot be compromised

There is no union between law and grace

There is no religious system where grace and law can coexist or be mingled

Romans 4:13-16, "For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring."

7. Grace brings all the provisions of spiritual blessing:

called by grace	equipped by grace	justified by grace			
sanctified by grace	conformed to Christ by grace	kept by grace	reconciled by grace	sustained by grace	
	liberated from bondage, sin, law by grace				

Regeneration

The word "regeneration" is of Latin origin and means "born again, born a second time, generated over again."

John 3:7, "You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'"

Titus 3:5, "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit"

1 John 3:2, "now we are children of God."

1 John 3:1, "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

A person born into this world or kingdom is spiritually dead and a child of sin.
To live in God's kingdom you must have eternal life and be a child of God.
This occurs when you are born a second time, born of a new

Father, into a new family.

1. The Author (Father) of the New Birth is God

John 1:12,13, "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—**children born** not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but **born of God.**"

2. The Active Agent that Causes the New Birth is the Holy Spirit:

John 3:5-6, "Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

3. The Means by which the Holy Spirit Produces the New Birth is the Word of God

1 Peter 1:23, "For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God."

A man cannot believe in that which he is ignorant.

A man must hear to believe.

Romans 10:17, "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ."

4. The Power of the New Birth is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

1 Peter 1:3, "In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

5. The Instrument by which the New Birth is accomplished is Faith

Galatians 3:26, "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus

John 1:12, "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

6. The Basis on which the New Birth is accomplished is the Blood

1 Peter 1:17-19, "you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ."

Imputation

Imputation means to "reckon over to one" or "to set down to one's account."

This is illustrated in Philemon 17-18 when Paul tells his friend Philemon to charge Paul's account for the things the slave Onesimus had stolen."

Imputation #1: Man is charged with sin

"Just as **sin** entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because **all sinned**" Romans 5:11

In divine bookkeeping the ledger shows the debit of sin in our account.

When we balance our checkbook we cannot ignore some

of the bills and some of the debts and still rejoice over having a positive balance.

God cannot balance the books until he has dealt with all the debt of sin.

NOTICE: In Romans 5:11 we "all sinned" because we were all placed under "sin" or charged with "sin".

Imputation #2: Jesus Christ was charged with sin and all of our sins

("Sin" is our position or nature. "Sins" are our acts from that position. We were born with "Sin" but since then we have "Sinned.")

The divine transfer of that which did not belong to Jesus Christ was set down to the account of Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 53:4, "Surely he **took up** our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God,

smitten by him, and afflicted."

"Took up" (or, "borne" in the King James) means "to carry because something was placed upon another."

Jesus carried "our infirmities" not his and "our sorrows" not his.

Isaiah 53:6, "the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

Imputation #3: The Righteousness of Christ is credited or imputed to Believers

2 Corinthians 5:21, "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."
 Romans 1:16-17 Romans 3:21-22
 Romans 10:3 Philippians 3:8-9 Hebrews 9:14 1 Corinthians 1:30
 Hebrews 10:4 Colossians 2:9-10

Substitution

The necessity for substitution arises out of the righteous and holy demands of a righteous and holy God that sinners must be punished for their sins

The word substitution does not occur in most English translations.

The penalty is announced in Eden

"You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." Genesis 2:16-17

"The soul who sins is the one who will die." Ezekiel 18:4

The Old Testaments teaching that a holy and righteous God must execute the sentence he had declared on sin was a well-known principle revealed throughout the scriptures.

God is not only holy, righteous and just he also has infinite patience, compassion, long suffering, mercy and grace.

In Romans 3:22-26 Paul addresses the question of how a holy, just, righteous God can maintain his character and yet justify the sinner:

"There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus." Romans 3:22-26

God's answer is the doctrine of substitution.

The judgment of the just and righteous God was handed out to a substitute.

'And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." Luke 22:19-20

"I lay down my life for the sheep." John 10:15

"God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." Galatians 3:13

“. . .who gave himself as a ransom for all men— the testimony given in its proper time.”
1 Timothy 2:6

“who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.”
Matthew 20:28

The English word “for” in “give his life as a ransom for many” is misleading. It may give the picture that he gave to gain. The Greek Text says clearly, “to give his life instead of many having to give their lives.”

Jesus did not only die so that good could come to us, he died instead of us.

The substitute must:

Be a man to represent man.

“Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.” Hebrews 5:1

2) Identify with man’s problems and life conditions.

“He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.” Hebrews 5: 2,3

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.” Hebrews 4:15

3) Separate from men.

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.” Hebrews 7:23-27

Jesus said, “Can any of you prove me guilty of sin?”
John 8:46

The Romans had three crosses already prepared for three criminals that morning. The early morning trials caused Jesus to be substituted in the place of the worst of those three criminals, Barabbas.

Repentance

The average person assumes the scriptural meaning of repentance is sorrow and includes vows and promises to never commit the sin again.

Repent in the Bible means “a change of mind.” Literally, “a turning about: specifically in the mind. A change of course, direction, attitude.

Repentance may occur together with sorrow, but sorrow is not repentance.

Guilt can produce sorrow.

Embarrassment and fear of judgment can produce sorrow.

Jesus example of repentance is Matthew 21:28-30:

“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

“I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing.

He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

“Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

Paul taught Timothy repentance or “ a change of mind” comes when the word of God is taught.

“And the Lord’s servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to **teach**, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must **gently instruct**, in the hope that God will grant them **repentance** leading them to **a knowledge of the truth**, and that they will **come to their senses** and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.”

2 Timothy 2:24-25

In the following verse there is no repentance. They did not change their minds but they changed the ‘truth.’

“Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth.”

2 Timothy 4:2

Repentance is a change of mind in respect to revealed truth in the Word of God.

2 Corinthians 7:10 teaches: “Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Word of God——

Godly Sorrow ——

Repentance (change of mind) ——

—leads to SALVATION

Word of God——

Worldly Sorrow——

Guilt, shame, fear, etc——

——leads to DEATH

Godly repentance (change of mind) leads to salvation and works (changed behavior) follow.

“I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.”

Acts 26:20

Repentance is a change of mind.

A true change of mind will result in changed actions.

Redemption

When a Roman general returned to Rome after conquering an enemy he led the captives back and sold them as slaves. The slaves were placed on the slave block and purchased to be

brought into a life of bondage. Rare, but possible, they could be redeemed. That means they could be purchased and set free from that bondage by their new owner. No one could set them free unless they were willing to redeem the slave.

As long as we were in the slave market of sin and in slavery to Satan, God had no right to touch the one who belonged to another.

#1 Word for Doctrine of Redemption:

“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were **redeemed** from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers.”

1 Peter 3:18

This Greek word for Redeemed is a word that emphasizes the act. The act of setting free and liberating.

This word does not focus on:

The price of redemption

The need for redemption

The destiny of the redeemed

The word emphasizes the purchase was necessary and was accomplished.

God did not bring us into glory by creating us, but rather by purchasing us.

We are his by creation and we are purchased by him from creation.

#2 Word for Doctrine of Redemption:

The twenty four elders (people) in Revelation 5:9 sing praise to God in a new song about man's purchase from creation. (Notice the angels did not sing the verse on redemption but begin singing in 5:11 when the song began to express God's character in verse 12.)

“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain and with your blood you **purchased** men for God.”

The Greek word “purchased” means “to go shopping” or “to go into the market to purchase.” The emphasis is on the method.

Peter emphasized the “act” God had done. John emphasis the “method.”

#3 Word for Doctrine of Redemption

“Christ **redeemed** us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: ‘Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.’”

Galatians 3:13

Here the same word as Revelation 5:9 is used only a preposition is added to the Greek word. The preposition “out of” is added to “to purchase.” The new compound word means “to purchase out of so that it can never return.”

This word emphasizes the result of redemption. A Roman slave could be returned to the slave block. Galatians 3:13 indicates this purchase of God can not be reversed. God is unwilling to surrender ownership.

#4 Word for Doctrine of Redemption

“There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the **redemption** that came by Christ Jesus.”
Romans 3:22-24

This word has in view the destiny of the one redeemed.
It emphasizes the thoroughness and completeness of the redemption.

Reconciliation

When you adjust your watch to the office clock you have reconciled your watch. When you adjust your checkbook into agreement with the bank's statement of your account you reconcile your account.

The scriptural word “reconciliation” means “to cause to conform to a standard, to be adjusted to a specified standard.”

The world is out of balance when compared to God.

“You see, at just the right time, when we were still **powerless**, Christ died for the **ungodly**. . . While we were still **sinners** Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from **God's wrath** through him. When we were **God's enemies** Christ died for us.”
Romans 5:6,7,8

“**we were still powerless**” – this emphasizes our total and complete inability to make ourselves look good to God. Even if we knew we couldn't do it.

“**the ungodly**” – this emphasizes our desire. Not only could we not help ourselves, we did not want to try.

“we were still **sinners**” – along with being unable to change, and having no desire to change, we practiced the darkness we were in.

“**God's wrath**” – sentence had been passed on the powerless, ungodly sinners. This is far from any hope of favor from God.

“**God's enemies**” – or position and sin were translated into acts of war and rebellion against God.

These five statements make it very clear we were not able to conform to God's standards and we were far from being reconciled or aligned with God.

In this condition God came through Jesus Christ and reconciled us. He reset us. He realigned us. He caused us to come into conformity with him.

“For if, when we were God's enemies we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son.”
Romans 5:10

“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors.”
2 Corinthians 5:18-20

The world has been reconciled (realigned) to God, but now the individual must be reconciled.

“We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
Romans 5:20-21

We have been reconciled with God by being made the righteousness of God.

Propitiation

The universal concept of the heathen god is an angry god that must be pleased and satisfied before any good thing or blessing occurs.

All heathen religions seek to change the attitude of their god.

1 Kings 18:26, 28-29 gives us a picture of what this might look like:

“So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “O Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.”

The three Great Doctrinal words revealing the

value of Christ death:

Redemption – This is seen from the side of sin.

Christ death purchased us out of slavery to

Reconciliation – This is seen from the side of man. brought next to God.

Men who were far from God have been

Propitiation – This is seen from the side of God.

Propitiation does not suggest God needs to change.

“God is love” before and after the cross.

But God’s love for sinners could not be released

until God’s holy and righteous justice was satisfied with man’s payment for his sin.

Propitiation is the work of Christ that satisfies all the claims of that God is free to act on behalf of sinners.

divine holiness, righteousness and justice so

Leviticus 16 shows the purpose of the atonement was as a

propitiation to God.

Justification

In Western courts of law the sentence must be in accord with the facts in a case. No judge can clear the guilty and condemn the innocent. This is justice.

The principal is established in Deuteronomy 15:1:

“When men have a dispute, they are to take it to court and the judges will decide the case, acquitting (justify) the innocent and condemning the guilty.”

Paul addresses how God can be just and yet justify the guilty without violating justice.

“God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished – **he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and**

the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:25-26

Parents sometimes are not fair and just judges of their children but instead make up excuses and explanations for poor conduct. These parents violate their own character in the area of being just and fair.

God cannot violate his own character.

Basis for Justification:

1) We are New Creatures

“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

In Christ all of our old self has been disassociated from us. If you move from Minnesota to Iowa, the laws and taxes of Minnesota can no longer be applied to you. You are under a new jurisdiction.

2) We are the righteousness of God

“Be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.” Philippians 3:9

“It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: ‘Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.’” 1 Corinthians 1:30

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

3) We are perfected

“By one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.”

Hebrews 10:14

4) We have received the fullness of Christ.

“From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.” John 1:16

“For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him.” Colossians 1:19

“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ.” Colossians 2:9,10

These facts logically precede God’s work of justification:

- 1) Our sin is removed
- 2) Our indebtedness is cancelled
- 3) We are made new creations
- 4) We are given the righteousness of God
- 5) We are complete and perfected in Christ
- 6) We are given the fullness of Deity

7) At this point we are brought before God for judgment in the courts system of heaven. Only one verdict is possible. We are justified (or acquitted of all charges of sin, ungodliness, transgressions, etc.

Justification is the divine pronouncement that one who is in Christ Jesus is fully acceptable to God’s holiness.

Sanctification

The primary use of sanctification in scripture does not refer to improvement in practical holiness.

It is wrong to accept sanctification as a state of holiness where it is impossible for the child of God to sin.

Paul said the Corinthians were sanctified in 1 Corinthians 1:2. He then spends the rest of the letter instructing, rebuking and correcting them.

Three Words that all have to do with the believers position and not work:

- 1-Sanctify
- 2-Holy
- 3-Saint

Sanctify

“As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.” John 17:18-19

Jesus Christ was sanctified or set apart by God for a useful purpose.

So, Jesus Christ is referring to the disciple also being sanctified or set apart.

Jesus set himself apart or sanctified himself for:

- 1-the cross
- 2-physical death
- 3-separation from Father
- 4-the will of God

Holy

The root word is same as sanctified.

Holy means “to be set apart **from** what is unholy.

“Such a high priest meets our need – one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.” Hebrews 7:26

This verse list ‘holy’ along with ‘blameless’, ‘pure’ and ‘set apart from sinners.’ All of them refer to Jesus Christ separateness.

Holy has the same basic meaning as sanctify.

Saint

All believers in Jesus Christ are referred to as saints.

You do not work to become a saint but are made a saint at the new birth.

Three Aspects of Sanctification

1) Positional Sanctification 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, “That is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified . . .”

2) Experiential Sanctification (Practical Sanctification) – the believers set themselves apart.

Romans 12:1 “offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God.”

Romans 6:13 – Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.”

This is a progressive sanctification and where included in Peter's last words in 2 Peter 3:18: "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

3) Ultimate Sanctification

1 John 3:2, "Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

Jude 25, "To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen."

Security

Can a person know they are saved?

Can a person lose their salvation?

When considering the doctrine of security from a scriptural point the student of the word must not pull scriptures out of context.

Consider these points when studying this doctrine:

1. There are passages which warn the nation of Israel that they will be set aside by God. Matthew 18 speaks of servants banished from the king's presence. These verses and those like it refer to Israel's Assyrian dispersion (721 BC), the Babylonian captivity (586 BC), or the Roman conquest (70AD).
2. Apostates in the last days in 1 Timothy 4:1-3 refer to people involved in Christianity (wolves in sheep clothing) that have never been redeemed. A form of godliness without the power is speaking of Christian rituals without the indwelling Holy Spirit.
3. John 15:6 speaks of branches being cut off and burned. These are unproductive believers. These are those who resist to grow and produce.
4. Hebrews 6:4-8, speaks of people who fall away not being able to return to the cross again to be born again a second time. They can repent and come back into fellowship with God obviously, but they can't return to the cross to get born-again a second time because they are still born again.
5. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 is speaking of losing rewards. This verse guarantees salvation will endure the fire of judgment. Rewards can be lost. Salvation can not be.

Galatians 5:4 speaks of falling from grace. This grace is the principal of our lifestyle as a believer. If we turned to begin living under a legal system of works we would have fallen from the understanding of grace.

Also consider:

Ephesians 1:4	John 10:29
Romans 8:31-34	Romans 8:38-39
John 5:24	Romans 5:7-9
1 John 2:1-2	Hebrews 9:24
John 17:11-16	Ephesians 1:13-14

Other References:

Sin against the Holy Spirit. . . . Matthew 12:25-33

The Spirit's Three Convictions. . . John 16:8-11

The Spirit's Testimony.1 John 5:6-12

Predestination

The biblical term and the development of this doctrine must balance with these realities:

- 1) The love of God
- 2) Human Free Will
- 3) God's sovereign authority over all
- 4) God's right to predetermine the course of history and his creatures

To arrive at the correct understanding a believer must be careful not to allow any of the above statements to be diluted or watered down in order to arrive at an acceptable answer. Hold firm to the revealed truth and allow the Spirit of God to develop your understanding. We are growing in our knowledge of our Lord and Savior, so there are some things that are true that we can not yet understand.

The teaching of this doctrine whatever its interpretation was not to confuse believers but to comfort, encourage and strengthen them.

Remember a believer needs the scriptures to teach who God is and how he works. We should not always expect him to fit into our estimation our natural conception of his character.

Terms that must be defined:

Foreordination	Decree		
Foreknowledge	Election	Predestination	Calling

Foreordination

Means "to determine before hand"

God planned all the details before he began creation.

The opposite would be to create first and think second

Ephesians 1:4, "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight."

Ephesians 1:5, "In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will."

Ephesians 1:11, "In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will."

1 Corinthians 2:7, "No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began."

Decree

a theological word that means God establishes the certainty of that which He has foreordained by decreeing it to be so. It is similar to approving the blue prints before construction begins.

God's decree finalized his plan that would take a specific course of action once began

Daniel 11:36, Speaking of when the anti-christ comes, "The king will do as he pleases. . .He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.

Luke 22:22, "The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed, but woe to that man who betrays him."

Acts 2:23, "This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge."

Acts 4:27-28, "Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.

Foreknowledge

Omniscience is not the same as foreknowledge. Omniscience says God knows all things.

Foreknowledge says God knows certain things because he has decreed they will be done. (This concept is similar to faith in God's Word. God has faith his decrees will occur and this faith actually becomes foreknowledge of an event based on what God decreed.)

Romans 8:29, "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his son."

*(Is this an inconsistent thought? If God foreknew those in time who would accept him as Lord and responded to this foreknowledge by electing those individuals for salvation then God's foreknowledge is based on knowing ahead of time what man's free-will would do. This would not be foreknowledge but omniscience. Omniscience is based on knowing even man's free will choices ahead of time. Foreknowledge is not based on knowing what is in the future and knowing what man is going to do. Foreknowledge is **based on God's decrees** that he has declared will happen. Omniscience is based on knowing all things. God's foreknowledge is based on knowing what God has decreed is to happen.)*

1 Peter 1:2, "Who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit."

This does not say, "We are elect because of God's foreknowledge saying, "I see faith in this person so I will elect, or choose them for salvation."

Election is in keeping with foreknowledge, but not because of it or based on it. Foreknowledge is not based on what God knew man would do, but based on what God knew he would do with men.

Election

means, "to call out." It is selection and separation unto himself.

Election is the work of God.

It is not people electing God.

Romans 9:11-16 "Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls – she was told, 'The older will serve the younger.' Just as it is written: 'Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.' What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whom I have mercy; and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.' It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy."

Election is the sovereign work of God, according to his own purpose and will predetermined by his foreordination, in which he selects those through whom the divine purpose will be fulfilled.

Ephesians 1:4, "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us."

Election does not separate some to heaven and some to hell

All men have been condemned to hell (John 3:18)

Election separates from among condemned men some to fulfill God's purpose and program.

Predestination

means "to determine before hand."

This has to do with the end to which those who have been elected are set apart.

Predestination in scripture always is qualified by a reference to the end or purpose we are predestined for. Our end is not salvation. Salvation, or the new birth, is the beginning.

Ephesians 1:4,5, "he predestined us to be **adopted as his sons.**"

Ephesians 1:11,14, "predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will . . .the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing **our inheritance** until the redemption of those who are God's possession ."

Romans 8:29, "he also predestined to be **conformed to the likeness of his Son.**"

1 Corinthians 2:7, "No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for **our glory** before time began."

We were predestined for glory, son ship, inheritance, and glory. We were not predestined for faith, to believe, to accept Christ.

Called

Understood to be God sending a summons to those he foreknew, elected and predestined for glory.

Romans 8:30, "Those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified."

God's call to a man is not unaided by the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit empowers the dead sinner who was with out life, and under condemnation to supernaturally hear God's call

The man has no power and no desire to respond:

John 6:44, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day."

Romans 5:6, "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for us."

The invitation is to all condemned men:

Revelation 22:17, "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."

John 3:18, "Whoever believes in him is not condemned."

(This "whoever" is unlimited.)

All men are rendered savable by the death of Christ.

But, only those who are empowered by the Holy Spirit can and will respond.

The “whoever” is unlimited, but only those whom God called will respond.

God calls those he foreknew, elected and predestined for glory.

“Therefore, my brother, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure.”
2 Peter 1:10

The Christian Life

Abiding in Christ (Absolute Thinking)

Psalms 80:8-11; Isaiah 5:1,2,7

John 15:1-10

verse 1 “**true vine**” It is a basic principle in horticulture that no fruit can be better than the vine that produces it. Jesus was the true vine that came from the very presence and of the very essence of God.

Verse 2 “**cuts off**” isairo and means “to lift up, to take away” here it is “cuts off” or “cuts away.”

“**prunes**” is kaqairo and means “to cleanse” here “to cleanse by pruning” or “cutting back.”

Two aspects:

- 1) the removal of the dead wood. Dead wood is worse than fruitless wood because it can be a source of disease and decay.
- 2) the pruning of the live wood to improve fruit bearing. The untrimmed live wood produces long rambling branches that produce little fruit because the strength of the vine is used to produce the rambling vines and not the fruit.

Verse 4, 7 “**remain in me**” is the idea of abiding (prayer, study, obedience, fellowship with God)
“my words remain in you” is the idea that his word is living in you (understanding, Spirit)

The word abide (or “remain”) speaks of:

- 1) perfect fellowship – connected together as vines are
- 2) perfect oneness – one purpose, to produce the fruit of the vine
- 3) perfect supply – each vine is supplied for by the true vine
- 4) perfect provision – the gardener cares for and provides

Abiding (remaining) is an aorist imperative meaning a command or instruction to do something.
Aorist meaning the time of the command was in time past.

So, this is a command that is possible at all times because of the absolute provisions from the absolute vine and the gardener.

Ambassadorship

2 Corinthians 5:20

Ephesians 6:20

Ambassador is “presbeuo” in the Greek a technical term used of the emperor’s legate, namely, the one who speaks for the emperor. The word clearly refers to the imperial service of Caesar, and in the scriptures to the imperial service of Christ in which the saints are engaged.

The imperial secretary used the technical expression “pepisteumai” which meant “I am entrusted.” He meant he had been entrusted with a designated matter. Paul as an imperial secretary of the Lord Jesus was entrusted with the writing of the epistles.

Paul uses this same technical phrase in Galatians 2:7; 1 Corinthians 9:17, 1 Timothy 1:11.

The correspondence of the imperial secretary was designated by the technical expression “hiera Grammata” or “sacred writings.” It was used of imperial letters and decrees.

Paul uses the expression in 2 Timothy 3:15 in the words translated “holy scriptures.”

Ambassadors in Scripture: 2 Samuel 10:4, 2 Chronicles 32:31, 2 Chronicles 35:21, Isaiah 30:4

Qualities of an Ambassador:

- I. Ambassadors do not appoint themselves.** Appointed by Christ.
- II. An ambassador does not support himself.** God supplies all our needs.(Ephesians 1:3; Philippians 4:19)
- III. An ambassador is not a citizen of the country** where he is sent. We are citizens of heaven. (Philippians 3:20)
- IV. An ambassador has instruction in written form.** We have the Bible. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- V. An ambassador cannot take insults personally;** he is accepted or rejected not on his own merit but because of who he represents (John 15:19-21)
- VI. An ambassador does not enter a country to profit himself** (2 Corinthians 5:15)
- VII. An ambassador is a personal representative** of someone else; everything he does and says reflects on the one who sent him. (John 13:35; 17:18-23; 20:21)
- VIII. An ambassador’s perspective is service;** his prospect is reward. (Matthew 5:12; 2 John 8; Revelation 22:12)
- IX. An ambassador is recalled when war is declared.** (2 Thes 2:1-12)

Authority

Authority is the legal or moral right to exercise power, or power that is rightly possessed.

God is ultimate authority.

God is source of all authority.

God gave authority to:

Government Genesis 9:6, "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed.
For in the image of God has God made man."

Nations

Kings, Priest and Prophets in Israel

Parents

Employers

Jesus was under these authorities as a man

living in this world:

Government Luke 23:14 Pilate said, "I have examined him. . .and found no basis for your charges against him."
King Luke 23:15 "Neither has Herod, for he sent him back."
Nation Galatians 4:4 "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law. . ."
Priest Mark 1:44 "Go show yourself to the priest. . ."
Prophets Luke 18:31 "everything written by the prophets about the son of man will be fulfilled."
Parents Luke 2:51 "He went down to Nazareth. . . and was obedient to them."
Employers Matthew 13:55 "Isn't this the carpenter's son?"
Law of Moses Luke 10:26 "What is written in the Law?"

Jesus was not manipulated by peers and social groups:

Pharisees Luke 5:22 Challenged them and their views
Teachers of Law Luke 11:45 The teachers said to Jesus, "When you say these things, you insult us also."
Religion Luke 6:2-5 Unlawful on the Sabbath? The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.
Family Luke 8:19-21 Mother and brothers came to take him away
Tradition Luke 11:38 "Jesus did not first wash before the meal."

Jesus had authority over:

Nature Mark 4:41
Death John 10:18
Demons Matthew 10:1
All authority Matthew 28:18

Faith and Authority Matthew 8:8-13:

The greatest human military, Roman, reached the peak of its power based on authority.

Jesus evaluation was that this man had great faith because he understood authority.

Understanding authority in the natural benefits your spiritual understanding.

Lack of understanding authority has consequences.

If you do not understand authority, then you cannot fully understand God's position.

If you do not understand God's position then you will not be able to understand, "It will be done just as you believed it would."

The promise to children "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth" is based on them learning this principle by submitting to their parents.

Living with authority effects your life every day.

Availability

Willingness. Isaiah 6:8, "Here am I. Send me!"

1. The work is there. God is looking for willing workers.
The work that needs to be done is of a great variety.

Recognize the need. David in 1 Samuel 16:13; 17:37

1. Anyone could have done the work.
2. David did not wait for his "calling" but met the need.
3. David was a shepherd, a supply deliverer and a harpist. He was not yet a warrior.

Let the spoken word come to pass. Mary. Luke 1:38

1. God has a plan. Let him speak it.
2. 1 Timothy 4:14, "Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you."

Obey. Elijah 1 Kings 17:2,3,8,9

1. Don't make your own decisions
2. Paul in Acts 20:22; 21:4,9,10,11

Self Sacrifice. Moses. Hebrews 11:25,26

Committed to Point of Death. Esther. Esther 4:16

All else is not worthy of your life.

Not measured by Human standards. Paul 2 Tm4:16

1. Do not let people measure your success.
2. If you live by #1-6 know that your reward is there in the end 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Blood of Christ

Leviticus 17:1, "For the life of a creature is in the blood, and *I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves* on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life."

- a) "I have given it to you" Divine Provision It is not our gift to God
- b) "To make atonement" Price Paying Matching price of offense
- c) "For yourselves" Substitution. One replaces the other

The blood of Christ speaks of Jesus' voluntary self-sacrifice on the cross for our sins. 1 Peter 1:18,19 John 1:29 Revelation 1:5

By the price of His blood, Jesus accomplished three great works at the cross

- 1) Justified – declared righteous and not guilty
- 2) Redemption – payment of a penalty
- 3) Propitiation – divine satisfaction

The finished work of Jesus on the cross is sufficient to provide salvation for all men.
Revelation 5:9 John 12:32

To receive the benefits of Jesus blood we must believe in him
John 6:29, 47, 54 John 1:12

The blood of Christ continues to cleanse the believer from all sins

It is through the blood of Christ that we can be reconciled to God and have peace with Him. Ephesians 2:13 Colossians 1:20 Romans 5:1

The term "blood of Christ" encompasses the entire scope of the spiritual sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Hebrews 9:14

Children

How do parents obtain parenting skills?

Trial and error

Learning from their own parents

Observing other parents

Research

Without God's opinion (divine viewpoint) found in the Word of God all the above are only man's ways and are destined to bring sorrow and failure.

Children become a curse or a blessing

Deuteronomy 28:1; 30:19; Proverbs 10:1;

Proverbs 23:24,25;29:17;31:28

There is no such thing as a bad seed.

Proper training is the maximum expression of love a parent can give their child.

All Children come from God

Job 33:4, "The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life."

Psalms 127:3, "Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him."

God's Plan is that Children have Parents and Parents Train Children

Children are with parents a little less than 1/3 of their lives

Animals are with parents only a few months.

Animals have instincts. Children have parents.

Deuteronomy 6:6,7; Ephesians 6:4;

Proverbs 22:6

Parents Ultimate Test and Their Built-in Advantage

Proverbs 17:6, "Children's children are a crown to
are the pride of their children."

the aged, and parents

The grandchildren are the test of parenting.

Children are naturally proud of their parents and

desire to be like them.

Children are blessed for honoring their parents

Exodus 20:12 Ephesians 6:2 Proverbs 3:1,2

The father and mother are equal in the eyes of the
parent.

child and in the role of

God has Established the Parents Authority

Colossians 3:20- The Parents Responsibility

Colossians 3:21, "Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged."

a. "embitter" is ereqizete which means "to excite, to provoke, to irritate."
The thought is of a child frequently irritated by over severity
or injustice.

b. "discouraged" means "to be without courage or spirit, to lose heart."

Ephesians 6:4, "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead , bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

a. "exasperate" is paropgizete which means "to anger, to make angry, to bring one along to deep seated anger."

b. It is right for parents to demand obedience, but there must not be authority used on a whim.

c. Discipline is essential in the home, but there is no room for unnecessary rules and endless petty correction.

Christian Techniques

Five Techniques of the Christian Way of Life

Definition: TECHNIQUE- The mechanical performance of practice of an art; the practical details of methods by which an artist in any line expresses his mental conceptions (theology) and mechanical skill in any art (Christ likeness).

For example, in basketball players must be taught certain techniques that are required to play the game. They must know the proper way to dribble, shoot, pass, play defense, and rebound. These would be considered five techniques of basketball.

Confession (*self-judgment*) – 1 John 1:9, The technique by which we deal with personal sins for cleansing, forgiveness, restoration to full fellowship, power and service. Use this daily.(Psalm 32, 38, 51;
1 Corinthians 11:28:31; 1 John 1:7-22)

Spirituality (*fellowship with the Holy Spirit*), Commanded in Ephesians 5:18, "Be filled with the Spirit." The mechanics are seen in Ephesians 1:23;3:16-20; 4:1-16. The technique is the daily practice of sincere study, prayer and application.

Faith-Rest Life (*trust in God*), The technique of reliance on the promises, principles, doctrines of the Word of God when faced with troubles, persecutions, temptations, worries, deceitfulness and desires of daily life. This produces inner rest, peace, and tranquility. Daniel in the lion's den is an example. It is seen in spiritual calmness and poise. (Mark 4:17-19; Psalm 119:103,105; Psalm 138:2)

Living in the Word (*life application*), A lifestyle of thoughts (decisions), words and actions (deeds) that are dependent on the Word of God in a renewed mind (a soul saturated with the Word.) This technique is developed by the “spiritual athlete” (2 Timothy 2:5) that has trained themselves because of their desire to attain the goal (1 Corinthians 9:24-27) (Matthew 4:4; Psalms 119:103,105; Psalm 138:2)

Occupation with Jesus Christ (*recognition that Jesus is the only true celebrity*) This technique involves the pursuit of Jesus Christ for the celebrity he truly is. The emotions, plans, etc. come from a soul occupied with thoughts of Jesus Christ. This is the First Love relationship in Revelation 2:4 (Matthew 6:24; James 4:4; Matthew 10:37)

Philippians 3:10, “I want to know Christ. . .”

Hebrews 3:1, “Consider Jesus, . . .”

Hebrews 12:2, “Fix your eyes on Jesus, . . .”

Hebrews 12:3, “consider him who endured. . .”

Destiny

Factors that determine our destiny

Decision

Every decision we make will later play a part in making us. We are the product, not of our environment, but of our decisions. It is not only in choosing, but in rejecting the evil that our life is blessed.

Tendency

When we decide often in a certain way, we develop a trend or tendency in our life. We tend to follow familiar paths, things we have done before.

Habit

Our tendencies form into habits. We can develop good or bad habits, and we can break them as well. Habits result from making decisions in the same way over and over until it is normal and natural to continue.

Character

A person’s character is the result of habits they have formed over a period of time. It is much easier to change a habit than one’s character. The easiest of all is to not make decisions that lead to the habits that are difficult to break.

Destiny

The character we build has much to do with our destiny, both in time and eternity. That disciplined character will bring the believer blessing in eternity is clear from 2 Peter 1:5-11.

Failure to build the character of Christ into our lives will also have eternal results as seen in 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Endurance

*“The heights by great men seized and kept
Did not occur by sudden flight.
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward through the night.”*

Endurance is a vital factor in the spiritual life

“You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.” Hebrews 10:36

“persevere” is “hupomonas” and means “patient endurance; It is the spirit which can bear things, not simply with resignation, but with blazing hope; it is not the spirit which sits statically enduring in one place, but the spirit which bears things because it knows that these things are leading to a goal of glory.”

“promises” with out endurance we will miss the manifestation of many or the temporal promises in our lives and we will not enjoy the hope of the promises waiting for us in eternity.

Endurance can only be developed by pushing beyond our present limitations.

“Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance (hupomonas”); perseverance, character, and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us. Romans 5:3

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance (hupomonas”). Perseverance must finish its work so that you man be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1:3-4

Spiritual endurance involves patient waiting for the will of God to be fulfilled in us by the Word of God.

Psalms 119:32:

“I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free.” NIV

“The way of thy commandments will I run, For thou wilt enlarge my heart.” Rotherham’s

“I will (not merely walk, but) run in the way of your commandments, when you give me a heart that is willing.” *Amplified*

“I will run the way of they commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.” *King James*

“I shall run the way of Thy commandments, for Thou wilt enlarge my heart.” NAS

* An enlarged or strengthened heart in the natural world comes from training and working out. The training makes you stronger on race day to achieve a better performance. Spiritual endurance should strengthen you not break you down.

Endurance is the key to the abundant life

Luke 21:19, “By standing firm (“hupomonas”) you will gain your life.

“By your endurance shall ye gain your lives for a possession.” Rotherham’s

Endurance is the key to eternal reward

2 Timothy 2:12

Endurance results from keeping one’s eye on Jesus

Hebrews 12:1-3

Hebrews 11:27

Consider the distance runner’s perspective and apply it to the life of faith

Promises

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack. . . .even my enemies live at peace with me.though I fall seven times, I will rise again. . .The Lord will strengthen me and help me. . .My God will meet all my needs. . .The eternal God is my refuge. . .The Lord is my refuge when I’m oppressed and a stronghold

in times of trouble. . .I will fear no evil. . .The Lord will deliver me from all my fears. . .I may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers me from them all. . .though I stumble I will not fall, for the Lord upholds me with his hand. . .the Lord will deliver me. . .The Lord will sustain me. . .The Lord will heal my broken heart and bind up my wounds. . .I will escape trouble. . .my paths will be made straight. . .I am not to be afraid for I am worth more than many sparrows. . .I will be given rest. . .in all things God works for my good. . .nothing is impossible with God. . .nothing will be impossible for me. . .I will lack no good thing. . .the Lord forgives all my sins. . .the Lord heals all my diseases. . .the Lord redeems my life. . .the Lord crowns me with love and compassion. . .the Lord satisfies my desires with good things. . .my youth is restored like the eagle's . . .in all things, at all times, I have all that I need. . .I will be made rich in every way. . .I will enjoy good health. . .all will go well with me. . .The Lord himself goes before me. . .The Lord will never leave me nor forsake me. . .The Lord brings escape from death. . .all these things will be given to me as well. . .angels are ministering spirits sent to serve me. . .The Lord is my helper. . .Men can do nothing to me. . .I have overcome the world. . .The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me. . .whatever I ask for in prayer, I believe that I have received it. . .I ask whatever I wish, and it is given to me. . .I seek and I find. . .I knock and the door is opened. . .I receive whatever I ask for in prayer. . .

Factors of Effective Faith

Effective Faith is built on Genuine Knowledge of God

This means knowing god, not just knowing about Him.
 We come to know him as Creator through his creation
 He reveals himself to us through His word
 We come to know Him in a personal way through Jesus
 14)

(Romans 1:18-21)
 (2 Timothy 3:16,17)
 Christ our redeemer (Philippians 3:7-14)

Effective Faith is Spiritual Power at Work.

James says that "Faith without works is dead." (James 2:17,26)
 Faith takes the power of God's Spirit (Gal.5:22-23) and work in life (Mt.5:13-16, Eph. 2:10) God's word (Heb.4:12) and puts it to
 Power is the characteristic of the growing Christian. (Eph.1:18,19; 3:14-19; Col. 1:24-29; 2 Peter 1:5)

Effective Faith Turns Personal Faith into Public Ministry

Every believer in Jesus Christ is an Ambassador of the Lord.
 Every believer is a Priest of God (1 Peter 2:5-9)
 Every believer is a minister to other believers
 We all have a teaching ministry to others by our words and Peter 3:1)
 Paul sees this as a mission of obligation, opportunity

(2 Cor.5:14-21)
 (1 Cor. 12:4-11)
 deeds (Heb.5:11-14; 1 Thess. 1:3-10; 1
 and honor in Romans 1:14-17.

Effective Faith will always Result in Persecution.

This world hates Jesus Christ (John 15:18-24), it also hates and persecutes those who most reflect him (Matthew 5:10-12; 2 Timothy 3:12)

It is the highest honor a believer can attain, to share in his Master's sufferings. (Phil.1:27-30; Col. 1:24; 1 Peter 4:12-14)

Effective Faith Follows a Path of Continual Refining and Purifying

This is the principle of "faith to faith" of Romans 1:17

Proverbs 4:18 compares this path to the growing light of dawn turning to day.

Major themes of this subject are:

Cleansing (Ephesians 5:26; John 13:10)

Spiritual Growth (1 John 1:7)

Confession and correction (1 John 1:9; 2 Tim2:19)

The Path of Correction is outlined in James 4:6-10

In Daniel 12:3 we see the ultimate end of those who pursue and attain to effective faith. Our resurrection bodies will shine like the stars in heaven, some faintly others brilliantly. Our effectiveness in this area will determine our eternal brilliance.

Flexibility

Roman Soldier Motto: "You may bend me, but you will never break me."

We must develop spiritual flexibility to survive, grow, and minister:

adapt to differences

adjust to pressures

survive situations

We must bend but not break

We must adapt but not compromise

We must flex without shattering

We must survive without selling out

A knife blade will snap if not tempered properly.

Tempered steel results from being heated and cooled.

Inflexible People:

a. Paul as a Pharisee, Galatians 1:13-14 Philippians 3:4-6

b. Moses as an Egyptian, Hebrews 11:24-26 Exodus 2:11

c. Saul as King of Israel, 1 Samuel 18:1-12; 31:1-6

Flexible People

a. John the Baptist John 3:22-30 Luke 7:18-30

b. Moses after 40 years in wilderness:

Exodus 7-10 Plagues with rod

Exodus 13:17 Led to Red Sea

Exodus 15:22 Bitter water

Exodus 16:4 Bread from heaven

Exodus 16:11 Quail

Exodus 17:1 Water from rock

Exodus 18:13 Accepts advice from

Father-in-law

c. Paul after being trained for the ministry by the Lord

Philippians 4:11-13, "I am not saying this because

to be content whatever the circumstances. I

and I know what it is to have plenty. I have

I am in need, for I have learned

know what it is to be in need,

learned the secret of being

content any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry,
 whether living in plenty or in want.”

1. “I have Learned to be content. . .circumstances.”
 - a. Learned from circumstances.
 - b. God uses life to teach us.
2. “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.”
 - a. Flexibility developed by adjusting to changes
 - b. Extremes: poverty-prosperity, hunger fullness, plenty-want.
3. “Learned the secret of being content. . .I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”
 - a. Flexibility releases power and ability of God in you.

Paul in times of Trouble

“I have worked much harder, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep. I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.” 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

Paul in times of Ease

“As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis (*a beautiful city on the western shore of Greece used as a winter resort by Paul*), because I have decided to winter there. Do every thing you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.” Titus 3:12-14

“When we got to Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier to guard him. . .For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.” Acts 28:16,30

Spiritual flexibility begins with personal contentment, which is based on character
 Romans 5:3-5

We are no longer threatened or intimidated by change. James 1:2-4

Holy Spirit’s Works

Baptism: New position

By the baptism of the Holy Spirit we are placed in Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13.)
 We were dead in Adam, Now we are alive in Christ
 We have been identified with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:3,4)
 We have been seated with him in heaven (Eph2:4-7; Col. 3:1-4)

Regeneration: New Life

Regeneration is the work by which God the Holy Spirit makes us spiritually alive

Indwelling: New Power

At the moment of salvation, we are permanently indwelt by God the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9-11)
 The indwelling of the Holy spirit supplies us with an inherent power that can be activated through the filling of the Holy Spirit ((Ephesians 5:18)

Giftng: New Purpose

At salvation the Holy Spirit gives each of us a unique spiritual gift (1 Cor. 12:7,11) and a unique work to accomplish (Matt.25:15; Mark 13:34)
 The purpose of our spiritual gift is to manifest the power of the Spirit of God within us to edify the body of Christ in some way
 The work chosen by God for us is something that no one else could ever accomplish and that will remain undone for eternity if we do not do it.

Only in the exercise of our gifts in the work God has chosen can we fulfill the plan of God for our lives and achieve the eternal greatness for which we were designed.

Sealing: New Destiny

Sealing is the work by which the Holy Spirit assures our eternal destiny (Eph. 1:13, 14; 4:30)

In ancient times, the seal signified three things:

Ownership

Security

Safe Deliver

Positional Truth in Christ

Positional Truth

1 Peter 1:3-5

Romans 8:38-39

Temporal Truth

1 John 1:5-10

Romans 7:14

1 Corinthians 3:1, Spiritual and Carnal Believers

*-manually cut and paste
positional and temporal truth
diagram here. . . -*

Reversionsim

The Eight Stages of Reversionism (or, backsliding)

Ephesians 4:17-19

"So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer (1)live as the Gentiles do, (2)in the futility of their thinking. They are (3)darkened in their understanding and (6)separated from the life of God <because of (5)the ignorance that is in them <due to (4)the hardening of their hearts. (7)Having lost all sensitivity, (8)they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more."

(1) Reaction/Distracted Stage ("...live as the Gentiles do...")

Gentiles unbelievers cannot focus on God during good or bad times.
The carnal believer faces impact in their life from circumstances that surface as a distraction (good or bad).
Impact- When something happens in life that causes you to spiritually flinch or look away from God. Like a bird hitting the windshield of a car, circumstances hit your view of God
Reaction- When you respond like a Gentile during circumstances and look away from the windshield.
Distraction- While you look away your focus is placed on some thing else. At this point you continue because you are either ignorant of doctrine or arrogant towards doctrine.

(2) Frantic Search for Happiness ("...in the futility of their thinking...")

"Futility" is the Greek word mataiothi or "mataiotati" is the word for emptiness, futility, worthlessness.

New Testament uses it to refer to:
Presumption of human thought
Pagan Idolatry
A deceitful way of life

The idea of emptiness in their thinking gives the impression of a vacuum in their soul that will implode and suck in the first thing they see after the impact of life in stage one.

This stage is very deceitful because everything seems peaceful and happy. All ideas and actions are quickly justified and engaged in.
It is a period of great freedom and unhindered burdens, similar to the experience of a person falling through the air after leaving the top of a ten story building. At least, a great sense of freedom and control for the first nine floors down. Hitting the ground is the beginning of stage three

(3) Boomerang Stage ("...darkened in their understanding...")

Frustration results from decisions made during stage two.
Adversity will increase forcing you to make a decision to return or continue into stage four.
This is the most common place for a believer to try to recover. But, they must have been taught how to recover and how to maintain or else they will never return to God's perfect plan.

Attitudes of people in Boomerang Stage:

They want to try one more attempt at happiness without returning to God
They want to solve the problem without God due to their guilt.
They become angry at God and enter a more conscious rebellion.

(Stages 4, 5, 6 overlap but connect like a chain.)

(4) Black Out of the Heart ("...the hardening of their hearts...")

The heart, or soul, is distorted, disengaged, or blacked out by the old sin nature.
When the heart is dysfunctional the emotions are left unrestrained and in control.
This leads quickly into stage five, Emotional Revolt

(5) Emotional Revolt of the Soul ("...the ignorance that is in them...")

Emotional revolt creates psychotic behavior
Emotions swing believer back and forth
Personality is fractured and the believer swings through a wide range of personalities during a daily routine:
happy, cheerful, apathy, self pity, crabby, miserable.
Romans 7:24, "wretched man" is a psychological term

(6) Divine Detachment ("...separated from the life of God...")

Failure to recover during stage five causes God to hand them over to themselves, their old sin nature.

Review:

Believer in Fellowship. Controlled by Holy Spirit

Believer in Stages 1 & 2.Controlled by Self

Believer in Stages 3-5.Out of Control

Believer in Stages 6-8.Controlled by a very distorted self

Example of Divine Detachment is Romans 1:24

Confession becomes a thing of the past

Life here is lived in Satan's Domain

False doctrine replaces truth

Norms and standards fall

Light in soul becomes darkness; answers can not be seen

Result is scar tissue on the soul or a callused conscience.

(7) Scar Tissue on the Soul (“ . . .Having lost all sensitivity. . .”)

Just like scar tissue builds up on wounds and makes the skin ugly to the sight & insensitive to the touch, so the soul becomes ugly during human fellowship and insensitive to the Holy Spirit

The believer begins to hurt those around them and cannot fulfill Eph. 4:32, “Be kind & compassionate one to another.”

With no sensitivity for right and wrong a whole new world

opens up to them. They can allow themselves to do things they could not do before.

(8) Self Detachment (“ . . .they have given themselves over to sensuality. . .”)

God detaches them at stage six. Here they detach themselves to their old sin nature

They live in greediness with no satisfaction

They become out cast

They rebel against everything listed below:

Mankind-they use people

Natural order

Privacy

Property

Sexual boundaries

Norms and standards

The Lord Jesus Christ

This is the end of the line for them,

“They are brute beast, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught (put on exhibit as a source of testing to believers) and destroyed (die the sin unto death).” 2 Peter 2:12

One of two things happens with them:

a) They die the sin unto death (1 Corinthians 5:5; 1 John 5:16)

b) Live on earth as a source of testing for other believers, very similar to Satan's purpose

IMPORTANT NOTE: *If a person still has a desire to return to God they have not reached stage eight. They are at an earlier stage that does have a way out. Please see “Spiritual Recovery” from James 4:6-10.*

Royal Family Honor Code

As members of the royal family of God, we are called to live by a royal code of conduct, a code that sets a divine standard. We will never be able to attain the standard unless we choose to put grace to work our lives every day of.

The Law of Life

As believers, we have been set free from death, from sin, and from Satan. In Christ we have been endowed with everything we need to live an abundant life.
Romans 8:1,2; John 10:10; Ephesians 1; Romans 6:11-13

The Law of Liberty

Jesus Christ wants us to enjoy the freedom He died for. He loves for us to make decisions and He loves for us to be different from each other. Anything the Bible does not forbid is spiritually neutral, and is, therefore, an area in which we individually must choose what we will and will not do. We also need to remember that God intends for each of us to be free, that each of us will answer directly to God for how we use our freedom, and that it is never acceptable to try to force another believer to make the choices we think he should make or to judge and malign him for the choices he has made. The judgmental believer is always a weak believer. Our freedom in Christ can never be taken from us, but it can be forfeited. "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1
"Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. . . Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize." Colossians 2:16-18

The Law of Love

The law of love is higher than the law of liberty. Liberty justifiably says, "I have the right to do anything that is not forbidden in the Word." But love says, "Though I may do anything, there are certain allowable things I will not do if they will cause others to stumble in their faith." The Law of Love recognizes that while we have freedom we are our brother's keeper. (1 Corinthians 8, Romans 15:1) God does not force us to live by the law of love, so he does not find pleasure in us trying to force anyone else to live by the law of love or demanding that another believer "treat us with love."

The Law of Self-denial

Under the law of self-denial we restrict ourselves for the sake of unbelievers. We remember that we are ambassadors of Christ and that how we live may be a more forceful declaration of the Gospel than what we say
2 Corinthians 3:2,3; 1 Corinthians 10:23,24,33
We are willing to deny ourselves for the sake of being an effective witness in the place where God has put us. Every believer's sphere of influence is different; therefore every believer's self-imposed restrictions will be different. All of us have to decide for ourselves what we will do and not do for the sake of manifesting Christ to our world.

The Law of Supreme Sacrifice

This is the law that only heroes live by
"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." 2 Cor. 8:9
The law of supreme sacrifice best illustrates the passion of the love of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 2:3-8)
To live under the law of supreme sacrifice means that we are willing to become selfless, to consider the plan of God as more important than ourselves, to consider the weak believer and the unbeliever as more important than ourselves. Those who give up everything to enter into this love of Christ find that all they sacrifice is no sacrifice at all compared to the joy of the fellowship of His sufferings.
"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death and so somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead." Philippians 3:10,11

Spiritual Recovery

James 4:6-10

Spiritual Submission to God

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil."
James 4:6,7

The word here means to "take your rightful place in rank"

This is a total and unconditional release of any claim to your life. It is counting yourself dead.

We can now resist the devil.

This resistance is now empowered by faith while filled with the Spirit

We must lay aside entangling sins. (Hebrews 12:1)

We must come to our senses. (Luke 15:17)

We must escape the snare of the devil that captivates us
(2 Timothy 2:26)

We now can begin the journey home and draw near to God

God is awaiting our return. He will meet and welcome us. (Luke 15:11-32)

Begin to apply 2 Peter 1:5-7

Recovery demands correction of habits and actions

1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

"purify" is "to wash." This requires confession of deeds done.

Our actions are washed in applying the word (Ephesians 5:26)

There must also be the purification of double minded attitudes

This "double-mindedness" (James 1:8) is a wavering between God's will and our own will.

God's will must take precedence over our will. (Matt. 26:39)

James 4:13-15; Isaiah 14:12-15

For revival this decision must take place as Elijah challenged his generation in 1 Kings 18:21.

Only by true repentance will one endure the long journey home.

The path of spiritual recovery is often painful. We must face all the bad decisions made in departing from the will of God.

What provided "laughter" on the way down is a source of "mourning" in true repentance. (Matt.5:4,8;
James 4:9)

When we are back in his presence, humility will carry us to blessing

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." (James 4:10)

The "before the Lord" is the "presence of the Lord." This signifies two things:

The completion of recovery has occurred

You are once again positioned to fulfill God's perfect plan for your life.

Jonah fled from "the presence of the Lord." (Jonah 1:3 NAS)

Which means Jonah fled from God's plan for his life as far as location, function and attitude.

Once you are back you are again fully equipped to serve effectively just as the prodigal son was fully equipped upon his return. (Luke 15:21-24)

Romans 11:29, "For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable."

Even your gifts and your calling are never taken away even in your sin. But, recovery is necessary for your gifts and calling to be used fulfilling God's plan for your life.

Soldier of Christ Jesus

"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses. These entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.
Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus."

2 Timothy 2:1-3

Characteristics:

In person: strong spiritually through dependence upon the grace of God.

In public: effective in leadership, example, and in teaching others.

In persecution: able to endure, persevere and press on in affliction.

The soldier of Christ must keep the fire of his service burning bright

“For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Timothy 1:6,7

The soldier realizes part of his assignment is to guard the deposit of true doctrine.

“What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you – guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.” 2

Timothy 1:13,14

A good soldier trains daily in the use of his weapons and armor.

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15

A Good soldier of Christ must keep himself pure.

“In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.” 2

Timothy 2:20-21

The good soldier must prepared for persecution, and be able to endure it.

“You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, sufferings – what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of . . .” 2 Timothy 3:10-12

The good soldier must fight the good fight to the finish:2 Tim 4:7,8

Steps of Success of Failure

Attitude

Arrogance (self-centered), or

Humility (Christ-centered)

James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5

Priorities

Value system based on eternal things, or

Value system based on temporal things

Matthew 6:33; 2 Timothy 3:1-5; Luke 12:34

Decisions

Our choices will be Spiritual and Sacrificial, or

Our choices will be Carnal and Selfish

Joshua 24:15; Philippians 3:7-14; Romans 8:5-11

Actions

Right actions that reveal the secrets of our hearts (decisions), or

Wrong actions that reveal the secrets of our hearts

Results

Our actions will bring either blessing, or
Our actions will bring cursing.

We cannot change a life of cursing unless we go back to our attitude to God at step one. Genesis 4:7;
Galatians 6:7,8

Lists and Timelines

Ezra through Nehemiah Timeline

(covers 107 years)

ZERRUBABEL'S return with 29,818 Israelites to rebuild the temple,

23 years

539 BC	Cyrus overthrew Babylon Daniel prays (in Ecbatana?) Cyrus allowed any Jews to return & rebuild temple	Daniel 9 Ezra 1:2	
537	Return of the remnant		Ezra 2
536	Zerubbabel goes to rebuild the temple Altar built and the foundation laid Angel comes to Daniel after 3 weeks of fasting	Ezra 3	
10,11,12	529 Cambyses (Cyrus son) succeeds Cyrus , opposition to Jews Ezra 4:1-5		Daniel
521	Darius Hystaspes takes over the throne Darius rejects opposition to building; orders Samaritans to stay away	Haggai 1:2 Haggai 1:1 on Aug. 29,	Ezra 5-6 Haggai 2:1 on
520	Ministry of Haggai.		
Oct.17	Ministry of Zechariah. Resume building temple	Zechariah 1:1 Oct/Nov Ezra 5	
518	Dec. 7, 518,	Zechariah 7	
516	Temple completed by Zerubbabel	Ezra 6:13-18	

Interlude of:

31 years

Time of ESTHER

Persecution in Susa; Opposition continues in Judea: 27 years

485	Xerxes begins to reign; Samaritans take this chance to file a complaint Xerxes says stop rebuilding of the rebellious city, Jerusalem banquets	Ezra 4:6 483	Xerxes vast display of wealth and
478/9	Esther goes to Xerxes and becomes Queen in Dec/Jan the execution date	Esther 2 474	Esther's fifth year as queen. On April 17
	set by lot	Esther 3:7	
473	Jews are to be killed on March 7	Esther 3:12-14	
464-458?	Artaxerxes says to stop rebuilding the rebellious city rebuilt until I so order"	Ezra 4:7-23 Ezra 4:21 (Dn.9:25)	Artaxerxes says "this city will not be
	In Artaxerxes' seventh year he issues the decree to rebuild and restore	Ezra 7:12-26 (Dn.9:25)	

Ezra leaves Babylon on April 8 to teach the law to the Jews that have returned; Ezra arrives in Jerusalem on Aug.4 **Ezra 7:8,9**

People assemble on Dec. 19;
The investigation of intermarriage begins **Ezra 10:9-16**
457 Committee ends a three month investigation by Mar/Apr **Ezra 10:17**
NEHEMIAH leaves Susa w/ King Artaxerxes
permission to rebuild Jerusalem's wall: 13 years

445 Nehemiah leaves to rebuild the walls (Artaxerxes 20th year)
Nehemiah 1
Mar/Apr 445, no walls **Nehemiah 2:1**
Opposition to building walls **Nehemiah 4**
Oct. 2, 445, walls completed in 52 days **Nehemiah 6:15**
Oct. 8, 445, Ezra reads Law to public for first time in thirteen years **Nehemiah 8:2**
Oct. 9, 445, People celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles **Nehemiah 8;13**
Oct. 30, 445, Israel confesses their sin **Nehemiah 9**

433 Nehemiah is recalled to Artaxerxes after a 12 year absence **Nehemiah 5:14;13:6**
432 Malachi written

-----about 458 years of silence from God concerning his revelation -----

26 AD Jesus public ministry begins. Daniel's 70 weeks (or, 490 years) are interrupted. They began w/ Artaxerxes' decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem in 458 BC in Ezra 7:12-26.

458 BC + 26 AD = 484 (Daniel's "69 7's", 483 until Messiah)

Church History Timeline

<u>Year</u>	<u>Event</u>
64 AD	Fire in Rome – Starting on July 19, ten of fourteen sections were burnt. Nero blamed Christians beginning sporadic and local persecution
67	Paul Beheaded by Nero
70	Jerusalem Destroyed – A Jewish revolt against Rome broke out in 66 AD. The temple was destroyed and its gold and furniture disappeared into the Roman world.
150	Justin Martyr Writes "Apology" – The philosopher converts to Christianity and became the first apologist to explain the faith as reasonable.

- 156 **Polycarp Martyred** – The 86 year old had been a student of the Apostle John. He is burnt at the stake in Smyrna.
- 177 **Irenaeus** becomes Bishop in Lyons (city in modern France)– A life long acquaintance of Polycarp used the writings of John to defeat Gnosticism
- 196 **Tertullian begins to Write**- An African who wrote in Latin which became the language of theology to describe the Trinity. He joined a charismatic/puritan group in 206 and began to look for the return of Christ. Famous Quote: “The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.”
- 205 **Origen** begins to Write – In Alexandria, Egypt he became president of a Bible school at the age of 18 due to the martyrdom of all the other leaders including his Father. He had a long writing career.
- 251 **Cyprian Writes** “On the Unity of the Church” – A wealthy, cultured Pagan gave his possessions to the poor, vowed chastity. Became bishop of Carthage. He said, “A second birth created me a new man by means of the spirit breathed from heaven.” He was no Theologian but practically worked in the office of a leading pastor for church unity
- 270 **Anthony Begins Life as a Hermit** – His original idea sparks the monastic movement.
- 312 **Constantine** Converts to Christianity
- 325 **Council of Nicea** – Due to Arius’ teaching that Jesus was divine but not God a deadly debate broke out and was the focal point of this council.
- 367 **Athanasius’s Letter Recognizes New Testament Canon** Books- He used two standards: 1) Apostolic Origin, 2) The use of the writings in the churches.
- 385 **Bishop Ambrose Defies the Empress** – Church power uses threats loss church membership, loss of communion, loss of salvation to manipulate the political world.
- 387 **Augustine** is converted
- 397 **Council of Carthage**- This council confirmed and officially recognized Athanasius’ list of New Testament canon
- 398 **John Chrysostom** Becomes Bishop of Constantinople
- 405 **Jerome Completes Latin Vulgate**- The Latin translation that became the standard text of the church until the reformation in the 1500’s
- 432 **Patrick** goes to Ireland as a missionary after having escaped slavery there several years before.
- 451 **Council of Chalcedon**-By this time an Eastern and Western split was forming. Rome and Alexandria, Egypt sided together against Antioch and Constantinople from the East. They exiled each others leaders over theological issues. 400 bishops came to this council and voted to defined that Christ is “acknowledged in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation. . .the characteristic property of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person.” This was the first council that the Roman bishop (the Pope) played a major role, a fact that caused the East to consider this the last official council with the west.
- 451 **Columba** goes to Scotland as a Missionary
- 590 **Gregory I becomes Pope**. He asked for military troops to protect Rome from Constantinople. None were sent so Gregory organized his own army. He taught masses celebrated in behalf of the dead could relieve their pains in a place he believed in called purgatory. He was interested in church music and the Gregorian chant is named after him.
- 732 **Battle of Tours**- Here Charles Martel turned back the massive forces of the Muslims that had swept across North Africa and up into Europe. This battle saved Western civilization or else we might be speaking Arabic.
- 800 **Charlemagne Crowned Emperor**-He united an empire in the West, provided leadership and protection, and did not see any reason to submit to the pope.
- 1054 **The East and West Schism**- East used Greek for theology, the West used Latin. Worship styles were different concerning communion bread, the date for Lent, and how to celebrate mass. Eastern priest could marry but had to have a beard. Vice-versa in the West. The pope sent delegates to the East. They were refused a hearing and the delegates excommunicated the churches leader in the East. He in return excommunicated the Western delegates. The East became the Greek Orthodox Church. The West became the Roman Catholic Church.
- 1095 **First Crusade** launched by Pope Urban II
- 1150 **University of Oxford** founded
- 1173 **Waldensians** founded by Peter Waldo
- 1206 **Francis of Assisi** Renounces Wealth
- 1215 **Fourth Lateran Council** ruled that every baptized person must annually make confession to a priest and take communion. The doctrine of transubstantiation was made official. There was only one true church. Disagreeing with the church was no longer an option. The state could punish heretics and confiscate their property. Jews were required to wear special identifying badges and Christians could not do business with the Jews, in time placing the Jews in the ghettos.
- 1252 **Pope Innocent IV authorized torture** as a means of getting information and confessions out of people in cases of heresy.

- 1273 **Thomas Aquinas** Completes huge Theological work called "Summa Theologica" that becomes the theological base of Christianity
- 1321 **Dante** Completes the Divine Comedy
- 1380 **Wycliffe** Oversees The Translation of the Bible into English
- 1415 **John Hus** is burnt at the Stake by the Church for asserting that Christ alone is the head of the church, that God alone can forgive sin, that the pope could not establish doctrine apart from the Bible. Influenced by Wycliffe he lifted Biblical preaching to an important place with the church service. He challenged the worldliness of the church leaders by comparing them to Christ: They rode a horse, Christ walked. They had their feet kissed, Christ washed the disciples feet. His nation of Bohemia rebelled successfully against the Catholic church.
- 1456 **Johann Gutenberg's Printing Press** produces the first printed Bible. A new age of communication has opened up.
- 1478 **Establishment of Spanish Inquisition-** The church turned those who did not agree with their doctrines over to be killed. They would torture people until they turned others in or confessed they to taught against the "accepted" church teachings. The Church could confiscate property of the condemned. The Protestants took hold of northern Europe. Spain and the south fell into the hands of the Roman Catholic Church
- 1512 **Michelangelo** Completes Sistine Chapel Ceiling
- 1517 **Martin Luther** Posts his 95 Theses
- 1523 **Zwingli** Leads Swiss Reformation
- 1525 **Anabaptist Movement** Begins- For some people the reformation was not moving fast enough back to the first century church of scripture. Lutherans and members of the Swiss Reformation were still caught in church hierarchy. The conflict that surfaced was infant baptism. On January 21, 1525 the church order them to cease disputation. That cold, snowy evening the rebels went out rebaptized the adults. They were called Anabaptist, or "rebaptizer" by the church. They would often interrupt Protestant church meetings and refused to go to war for their nation. The Mennonites and Brethren churches are descendants of this group.
- 1536 **John Calvin** Publishes "The Institutes of the Christian Religion"
- 1545 **Council of Trent Begins-**In response to the Protestants acquisitions and masses of people leaving, this 18 year meeting abolished indulgences, and the clergy were exhorted to "avoid even the smallest faults." But they restated the Catholic doctrine and rejected the Protestant claim of only two of the seven sacraments. They rejected the reformed teaching that a person could know that they were justified. They reaffirmed transubstantiation (bread and wine became Christ). Church services still could not be in the common languages but had to be in Latin. And "Fearing what would happen if every plowboy could indeed read the Scriptures for himself, the council again said the church alone could adequately interpret Scripture and refused the use of the Bible in the languages for the people. Only the Latin Vulgate was accepted.
- 1572 **Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre-** The Queen of France, Catherine de Medici, ordered the execution of all Protestant leaders in Paris. At 4:00 a.m. on August 24, on St Bartholomew's Day. Most of the Protestants were middle class, when the upper class began to execute the middle class protestants leaders, the lower class joined in. Bodies were piled up by the hundreds. 30,000 – 40,000 Protestants died.
- 1608 **First Baptist** Baptized by John Smith
- 1611 **Publication of the King James Bible**
- 1620 **Pilgrims** sign Mayflower Compact
- 1648 **Society of Friends** Founded by George Fox
- 1678 **John Bunyan's** "The Pilgrims Progress" is published
- 1735 **The Great Awakening** under Jonathan Edwards – Believing in Calvin's doctrine of election he believed God chooses whom he will save, Edwards insisted that pastors in the New England colonies preach about the gravity of sin and the necessity of the heart turning toward God. Jonathan Edwards was not flamboyant and his sermons were centered on justification by faith with his intellectual bent. The result was surprisingly an incredible emotional response that included wailing and bodily contortions that Edwards called emotional excesses that were evidence of the Spirit of God moving in human hearts.
- 1738 **John Wesley's** Conversion – John joined his brothers home Bible study they called "Holy Club" that searched for holiness. This became the Methodists.
- 1780 **Robert Raikes** begins Sunday School
- 1793 **William Carey** Sails for India
- 1807 **Slave Trade Abolished** by vote of British Parliament
- 1816 **African Methodist Episcopal Church** Founded by Richard Allen
- 1830 **Charles G. Finney's** Urban Revivals Begin

- 1830 **John Nelson Darby** helps start the Plymouth Brethren. Darby was the first to teach the doctrine of the rapture of the church.
- 1854 **Hudson Taylor** arrives in China
- 1854 **Soren Kierkegaard** Publishes attacks on Christendom – He became the father of “existentialism” which gained prominence in the 20th century. He is responsible for much of the subjectivity of modern theology.
- 1854 **Charles Spurgeon** becomes Pastor in London
- 1855 **Dwight L. Moody’s** conversion
- 1857 **David Livingstone** Publishes Missionary Travels
- 1865 **Salvation Army** Founded by William Booth
- 1870 **Papal Infallibility** proclaimed doctrine by Pope Pius IX
- 1906 **Azusa Street** Revival launches Pentecostalism
- 1910 **Fundamentalist Movement** launched by the Publication of “The Fundamentals”
- 1919 **Karl Barth’s** “Commentary on Romans” is published
- 1921 **First Christian Radio Program**
- 1948 **World Council of Churches** is formed
- 1949 **Billy Graham’s** Los Angeles Crusades
- 1960 **Modern Charismatic Movement** begins
- 1963 **Martin Luther King, Jr.**, leads March on Washington
- 1970 **Chinese Church Grows** despite shutdown of churches

English Bible

The History of the English Bible

- 1250 AD Cardinal Hugo places chapter divisions into scripture
Years later Athias adds OT verses and Robert Stevens adds NT
- 1350 ca Scholars, like Wycliffe, are unfamiliar with original Hebrew and Greek languages. All translating is from Latin to English
- 1375-6 John Wycliffe writes “On Divine Dominion” and “On Civil Dominion” and declares that all people are under God. States that all political/religious authority should live righteous or lose their rule and possessions. Wycliffe is condemned for these views
- 1377 Pope condemns Wycliffe.
Wycliffe condemns the church’s rituals, ceremonies, and doctrine not found in the Bible. He says Christians are saved by divine grace. People are responsible for themselves and it is then required that they have access to the scriptures.
- 1380 Wycliffe decides the best way to fight corrupt church is to give everyone a Bible. **Wycliffe’s English New Testament** translation from the Latin Vulgate is released (not printed)
- 1382 **Wycliffe’s English Old Testament** is complete
- 1384 Wycliffe dies of a stroke. In about 35 years, around 1420, the church is still so upset with Wycliffe they have his body dug up and burned and his ashes thrown in the Swift River.
- 1388 John Prueve revises Wycliffe’s English translation

- 1425ca The Renaissance bring new interest to the study of the classical writings. An interest and need to study Greek and Hebrew follow.
- 1448 Pope Nicholas brings Codex Vaticanus to the Vatican
- 1500 Oxford is teaching Greek
- 1515 William Tyndale graduates from Oxford saying to a clergyman who resisted translating the scriptures: “If God spare my life, ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the scriptures than thou dost.”
- 1516 Erasmus publishes his Textus Receptus. Erasmus used 5 Greek New Testament manuscripts:
 - 1) 11th century MSS of Gospels, Acts, Epistles
 - 2) 5th century MSS of Gospels
 - 3) 12th–14th century of Acts and Epistles
 - 4) 15th century of Acts and Epistles
 - 5) 12th century of Revelation
 -He also used Latin copies to fill in the gaps.
- 1517 Martin Luther posts his 95 theses on October 31
- 1519 2nd Edition of Textus Receptus with revised Greek text.

- 1522 3rd Edition of Textus Receptus now includes 1 Jn5:7 that Erasmus did not want and had omitted
Martin Luther makes a German translation from Erasmus' 1516 text.
- 1523 Tyndale goes to London; the bishop refuses to let him work on an English translation
- 1524 Tyndale goes to Germany to work on his English translation
- 1525 **Tyndale finishes the first English translation** directly from a Greek text. He used Erasmus' 1516 Textus Receptus. Germany smuggles 15,000 copies to England. England burns the copies as fast as they can find them.
- 1527 The fourth edition of Textus Receptus is finished. It includes along with the Greek, the Latin Vulgate and Erasmus's translation into Latin
- 1535 The fifth edition of Textus Receptus is finished
- 1536 October 6, Tidal is strangled and burnt by England's King Henry VIII and the Church of England. Tyndale dies praying, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes." This prayer is almost immediately answered. . .
- 1537 King Henry VIII breaks ties with the pope and orders royal funds used to print **Miles Coverdale's English Bible**. Henry did not know Coverdale's work was simply the finishing of Tyndale's OT work. It was printed along with Tyndale's NT. This Bible becomes the first English Bible Authorized for public use. It is called "**The Great Bible**"
- 1543 King Henry VIII changes his mind along with parliament and makes it a crime to use an English Bible with out a licensed person. England again begins to burn Tyndale and Coverdale Bibles.
- 1553 (Father Ephraem uses some old vellum in a Syrian Monestary to record sermons by erasing the GNT MSS from 400's)
- 1554 Queen Mary of England attempts to restate Roman Catholicism in England. She executes protestants. She executes Bible translators: John Rogers and Thomas Cranmer. Coverdale is arrested. Protestants flee England.
- 1550's "**Geneva Bible**" Whitingham, an English exile, uses Beza's Latin and some Greek to make a small inexpensive Bible with John Calvin's strongly evangelical notes.
- 1568 "**Bishop's Bible**" English church leaders realize the "Geneva Bible" is a better translation than the Great Bible. The Great Bible is revised and called "Bishop's Bible." This became the main Bible until the "King James"
- 1580 (Catherine de Medici of France dies, her books are placed in the French National Library in Paris. Included unknowingly is Father Ephraem's book of sermons copied in 1553 on GNT MSS from 400's. They will be discovered in 254 years in 1834)
- 1611 **King James Bible** is finished using "Textus Receptus" as the Greek Text
- 1627 **Codex Alexandrinus**, Brought to England from Greek Orthodox in the East. It is a MSS from the 400's and it includes Revelation.
- 1700 John Mills produces an improved "Textus Receptus"
- 1730 Bengel's Greek New Testament deviates from Erasmus' Textus Receptus due to Codex Alexandrinus
- 1750 Textus Receptus itself begins to change
- 1809 Napoleon takes Pope and the Vatican Library into exile. Someone takes note of some ancient manuscripts on parchment.
- 1815 Vatican Library Returned
- 1831 Lachman's New Greek New Testament text is based on Manuscripts from 300's
- 1834 A student in the back stacks of the French National Library in Paris is working on a term paper on Father Ephraem. While reading Father Ephraem's hand written sermons he notices that the Father had erased something first. **Ephraemi Rescriptus**, a GNT MSS from the 400's is discovered.
- 1843 Someone remembers seeing the **Codex Vaticanus** in the Vatican. Tregelles and Tischendorf are allowed to view it.
- 1844 Tischendorf discovers **Codex Sinaiticus** in a monestary at Mt. Sinia and saves it from the fire. It is an almost complete Bible MSS from 350 AD
- 1845 Tregelles memorizes Codex Vaticanus as the pope gave him permission to read it for a few hours a day, but could not take notes, use paper or pen, and could not remove it. He read it and memorized it in all three languages while guards observed him. He would return to his room each night and write it out. By the end of the summer he had a copy of the text of Codex Vaticanus.
- 1849 Henry Alford compiles his Greek New Testament Text
- 1857 Tregelles begins publishing his GNT text between 1857-1872 that he memorized from Codex Vaticanus
- 1859 Pope is very upset with Tregelles' work. The pope reacts by having Codex Vaticanus photographed and released to the public. This manuscript had been available at the Vatican since 1481 and dates back to 320. It includes almost the entire Bible.

- 1860's By now there are three very good Greek New Testament Text that surpass the Textus Receptus:
1) Tregelles' 2) Tischendorf's 3) Westcott and Hort's
- 1870 The Convocation of Canterbury decided to revise the King James. Sixty-five British scholars made significant changes to the KJ Bible. They corrected mistranslations of Hebrew words and reformatted the poetic passages into poetic form. The NT had thousands of changes based upon better textual evidence. The **English Revised Version** is released. American scholars were invited to participate with the understanding that if their suggestions were not accepted they could not publish their own version until 1901. In 1901 several of the surviving members published the American Standard Version
- 1871 John Nelson Darby, Plymouth Brethren, made a new translation into English using mainly Codex Vaticanus and Codex Sinaiticus called **New Translation Bible**.
- 1872 J.B. Rotherham publishes a translation of Tregelles text, in which he attempted to reflect the emphasis inherent in the Greek text. This was **The Emphasized Bible**.
- 1881 Westcott and Hort release their GNT text King James is revised. They attempt to make each Greek word same in English.
- 1900 **Oxyrhynchos Papyri** found. 2000 stuffed crocodiles are found containing a library of papyri from the first century that include many daily documents but also Greek grammars, etymologies and much more. This is a turning point in Greek studies.
- 1901 **American Standard Version** is released by the American scholars who had joined the 65 British scholars in 1870 to revise the King James and form the English Revised version.
- 1902 **The Twentieth Century New Testament** 20 men and women worked to produce a smooth-flowing easy to read translation.
- 1903 Richard Weymouth published **The New Testament in Modern Speech**. Weymouth had a Doctor of Literature from the University of London and spent his life producing an edition of the Greek text (1862) that was more accurate than Textus Receptus.
- 1906 A Jewish Temple Library from 600 BC is discovered in Elephantine, Egypt.
- 1913 James Moffiatt, a Scottish scholar published **The New Testament: A New Translation**. Unfortunately it was based on Soden's Greek New Testament text that is now considered defective.
- 1923 Edgar J. Goodspeed, a professor of New Testament at the University of Chicago released **The Twentieth Century New Testament**. He had criticized Weymouth's and Moffiatt's translations and had been challenged to do better.
- 1927 Adolf Deissman writes "Light From the Ancient East" after 20 years of study of the papyri of Oxyrhynchos.
- 1931 November 19, the **Chester Beatty Papyri** from 90's-200's AD are purchased from a dealer in Egypt. Three manuscripts contain a large portion of the New Testament. P45 (200's AD) contains portions of Gospels and Acts. P46 (90's AD) almost all of Paul's epistles and Hebrews. P47 (200's AD) contain Revelation 9-17.
- 1933 Russian Communist, who see no value but cash in Codex Sinaiticus, sell it to Great Britain.
- 1947 Dead Sea Scrolls discovered
- 1952 The English Revised and the American Standard Version were accurate but hard to read. New manuscript finds demanded a revision of the Greek Text. The result was the **Revised Standard Version** generally based on Masoretic Text for the OT (1952) and the 17th edition of Nestle Text for the NT (1946). It was a revision which sought to preserve all that is best in the English Bible. It was well received by Protestants and soon became their standard text. Evangelicals and fundamentals rejected it mainly because of Isaiah 7:14, "Look, a young woman is with child and shall bear a son." It did not use the word "virgin."
- 1954 **Bodmer Papyrus** published
- 1961 **The New English Bible**, it was to be a fresh translation in modern idiom (though extremely British) of the original languages. This was not a revision. They produced readings from different text never before produced in English.
- 1962 **The Living Bible**, Kenneth Taylor's paraphrase of the NT Epistles. Taylor paraphrased from the American Standard Version.
- 1966 **Good News for Modern Man** (NT) Published by the American Bible Society. Promoted and made affordable sold more than 35,000,000 copies in six years. Influenced by the linguistic theory of dynamic equivalence
- 1971 **New American Standard**, this is a revision of the American Standard Version (1901). The popularity of the American Standard Translation was failing. 32 Scholars who believed in a literal translation prepared a new revision. Very good study Bible but hard to read and 30 years behind in the area of the text.
- 1976 Due to the success of the Good News Bible NT of 1966 the entire Bible was done: **The Good News Bible: Today's English Version**.

- 1978 **New International Version**, a completely new rendering of the original languages done by an international group of more than 100 scholars. It is an excellent thought-for-thought translation in contemporary English. Scholars from U.S. Canada, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand sought to use vocabulary common to the major English-speaking nations of the world. The NT was finished in 1973 and the OT in 1978. Since 1987 the NIV has outsold the KJ, a feat never accomplished by any other translation.
- 1979 Novum Testamentum Graece – 1
- 1982 **New King James**
- 1985 New International Version revised
- 1986 **New Jerusalem Bible**
Novum Testamentum Graece – 2, corrections had been made
- 1989 New English Bible revised
- 1990 **New Revised Standard**

Promises

- 2 Timothy 4:18 "The Lord will rescue me."
- Proverbs 16:7 "he makes even his enemies live at peace with him."
- Proverbs 24:16 "A righteous man falls seven times, he rises again."
- Isaiah 41:10 "I will strengthen you and help you."
- Matthew 21:22 "You will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."
- Ephesians 3:20 ". . . Him who is able to do immeasurably more. . ."
- Philippians 4:19 "My God will meet all your needs."
- Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God is your refuge, . . . everlasting arms
a stronghold."
- Psalms 9:9 "The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold."
- Psalms 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley . . . fear no evil
from all my fears
from them"
- Psalms 34:4 "I sought the Lord. . . He delivered me from all my fears
from them"
- Psalms 34:19 ". . . many troubles, . . . the Lord delivers him from them"
- Psalms 37:23,24 "though he stumble he will not fall."
- Psalms 37:25 "I have never seen the righteous forsaken."
- Psalms 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help
sustain you."
- Psalms 50:15 "I will deliver you, and you will honor me."
- Psalms 55:22 "Cast your cares on the Lord & he will sustain you."
- Psalms 147:3 "He heals the broken hearted & binds up their wounds"
- Proverbs 12:13 "A righteous man escapes trouble."
- Proverbs 3:5,6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. . . paths straight"
- Nahum 1:7 "He cares for those who trust in him."
- Matthew 10:29,30 "Even the very hairs of your head are all numbered."
- Matthew 11:28 "Come to me. . . I will give you rest."
- Romans 8:28 "In all things God works for the good of those who. . ."
- Mark 11:24 "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have
be given you."
- John 15:7 ". . . ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."
- John 16:23 "My Father will give you whatever you ask in my name"
- John 16:24 "Ask and you will receive, & your joy will be complete"
- Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find"
- Luke 1:37 "For nothing is impossible with God."
- Matthew 17:20 "You can say to this mountain, 'Move. . . and it will . . ."
- Matthew 17:20 "Nothing will be impossible for you."
- Matthew 21:22 "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask
good thing."
- Psalms 34:10 "Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."
- Psalms 103:2-5 "Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases"
- 1 Corinthians 9:8,11 "In all things at all times, having all that you need
is getting along
will not leave"
- 3 John 2 "Enjoy good health . . . even as your soul"
- Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord himself goes before you . . ."

Isaiah 30:18	"The Lord longs to be gracious to you. . .	.wait for him
Psalms 68:20	"From the Sovereign Lord comes escape	from death
Matthew 6:25	"Do not worry about your life. . .eat or	drink. . .clothes.
Matthew 6:33	"Seek first his kingdom. . .all these things	will be given
Hebrews 1:14	"Are not all angels ministering spirits	sent to serve
Hebrews 13:5	"Never will I leave you; never will I	forsake you."
Hebrews 13:6	"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid."	
Hebrews 13:6	"What can man do to me?"	
John 14:27	"Do not let your hearts be troubled	and do not be afraid
John 16:33	"In this world you will have trouble. . .	I have overcome
Psalms 138:8	"The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me."	
1 Samuel 17:47	"For the battle is the Lord's"	
Philippians 4:13	"I can do everything through him. . ."	
Romans 8:37	"In all these things we are more	than conquerors."
1 Peter 2:24	"By his wounds you have been healed."	
1 John 5:4	"Everyone born of God overcomes	the world."
Revelation 12:11	"They overcame him by the blood	of the lamb."
1 John 4:4	"The one who is in you is greater than	
	the one in world	
2 Timothy 1:7	"For God did not give us a spirit of	
	timidity. .but power	
Psalms 91:9,10	"No harm will befall you, no disaster	will near your. . .
Psalms 23:1	"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not	be in want.
Philippians 2:13	"For it is God who works in you to will	and to act
1 John 5:14,15	"If we ask anything according to his will,	he hears us. We know that we
have	what we asked of him."	

Topics

Apologetics

Point #1: Christianity is not blind faith or intellectual suicide.
Faith in Christianity is based on evidence and God has always intended it to be that way.
"You shall **know** the truth and the truth will make you free." John
8:32
"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your **mind**."
Matthew 22:37

Point #2: It is not how great you believe something that makes it true, but believing something that is true makes it great.
Jesus is the real object of our faith. The value of the Christian faith is not in the one believing, but in the one who is believed in.

Point #3: The difference between Greek mythology and potential Christian mythology is that similar events in Christianity happened to real, historical flesh and blood individuals.

Moses and the historical Egyptians, Samson and the real Philistines, Jesus and the well documented Romans.

* All the ancient myths have been exposed long ago. It is common to see the modern secular world still trying to undermine Christianity.

* Myths never claim to have an eyewitness.

The Bible does claim to have eyewitnesses:

2 Peter 1:16	1 John 1:1-3	Luke 1:1-3	
Acts 1:1-3	1 Cor.15: 6-8	John 20:30	Acts
10:39-42	1 Peter 5:1		

*When the apostles preached they appealed to the public to recall the events they had seen:

Acts 2:22 Acts 26:24-28

“Apologetics” comes from the Greek word *apologia*, or “*apologia*.” It means “defense.” It was used to describe the argument of defense in court during a judicial interrogation. It describes giving an answer to the skeptical, abusive inquiries.

apologia is used in 1 Peter 3:15 and translated as “answer” in the NIV.

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

Also: Acts 22:1; Colossians 4:6;
Philippians 1:7; 1:16; Jude 3

*“We can not pander to a man’s intellectual arrogance,
but we must cater to his intellectual integrity.”*

“Christian faith goes beyond reason but never against it.”

“I know whom I have believed.” 2 Timothy 1:12

The heart cannot rejoice in what the mind rejects.

Presuppositions

A presupposition is simply an idea that is presupposed which means to suppose or assume an idea before any evidence is assembled or presented

Everyone tends to live life with certain presuppositions. A person’s religion and their philosophy for life should be carefully investigated.

Many Christians and churches are filled with unknown and indefensible presuppositions concerning their own faith. Likewise, the secular public also has their presuppositions in which they study history, and all other subjects.

These philosophical presuppositions are:

- 1) There is no God
 - 2) There are no miracles
 - 3) We live in a closed system
 - 4) There is no supernatural
- (what you see is all there is)

These presuppositions are the beginning of the secular world's evaluation of Christianity. The presuppositions of Christianity will never influence the secular world to reconsider their presuppositions. We must provide an answer that is backed up by evidence as Peter says in 1 Peter 3:5 that will stand up in court. God has provided the evidence if we will discover it and use it.

Authenticity of New Testament

Authenticity is the general historicity and reliability.

Critics of New Testament Authenticity say:

- 1) The New Testament contains legends
- 2) New Testament events are not historical
- 3) The books were written by church people trying to promote a particular belief or view.
- 4) The New Testament books were not written by claimed authors
- 5) The New Testament books were not written in the first century
- 6) The books (letters, epistles) were not sent to the people that supposedly received them.

Reasons to embrace the Authenticity of the NT:

Effect must have adequate cause.

We can see the powerful effect and the tremendous impact on history from the written New Testament documents during 2000 years of history.

2) **The quality and the quantity of available ancient manuscripts** that have come down to us from the earliest dates.

a) A manuscript is a hand copy of a document. A printed copy would not be a manuscript.

b) Most manuscripts wore out from use and time has consumed most of the ancient world's written documents.

c) Examples of available manuscripts:

- * Homer's *Illiad*.643 existing manuscripts (2nd)
- * Caesar's "Gallic Wars" . . . 10 existing manuscripts
- * "Histories of Tacitus".4 ½ existing manuscripts
- * New Testament. 24,600 existing manuscripts (1st)
(also, an additional 24,000 NT portions available.)

POINT: "To be skeptical of the resultant text of the New Testament books is to allow all of classical antiquity to slip into obscurity, for no documents of the ancient period are as well attested bibliographically as the New Testament."

3) **None of the original autographs of any ancient document still exist.** We do know the accepted date for the writing of the original and we can set the date when the copy (manuscript) was written. The time between the original writing and the oldest existing copy is call the elapse time.

a) **Homer's *Illiad*** was written in 700's BC, the oldest manuscript that we have today was copied in 1200 AD. There were 1,900 years between Homer and our oldest manuscript. A lot can be changed in a document during 1,900 years of making copies by hand.

b) **Caesar's "Gallic Wars"** was written between 58-50 BC. Our earliest copy is from 850 AD. An elapse time of 900 years

c) **"Histories of Tacitus"** was written around 100 AD. The earliest existing copy is 850 AD. Elapse Time: 750 years

d) **The New Testament** was written between 46-95 AD. The earliest existing portion is of the book of John (which was originally written in 85 AD in Ephesus, Asia) copied between 110-130 AD and found in Egypt, Africa. An elapse time of 15-35 years and found on another continent. This manuscript is called the John Ryland's Manuscript.

4) Early Translations

- a. for the most part ancient literature was rarely translated into another language.
- b) The Syria and Latin translations or version were done about 150. This is almost within a generation of the original autographs.

5) Early Church Fathers Use and Quotes of the NT

- a) The early church father's (leaders in the church were often people who had known and heard the apostles teach) during the first and second century)
- b) The writings of the apostles became the New Testament. The church fathers would have allowed a change to be made to the apostles writings, nor would they have been allowed to make any lasting change themselves. An alteration would have quickly been identified.
- c) They would not have embraced a psuedo (fake) writing.
- d) The writings of **Clement of Rome** serve as one of many examples. Clement ministered along side the apostle Paul (Philippians 4:3). We have some manuscripts of Clements writings from the 1st century. Clement quotes from: Matthew, Mark, Luke, Acts, 1 Corinthians, 1 Peter, Hebrews and Titus.
- e) Ignatius, who wrote between 70-110 quotes from 15 NT books.
- f) Before the council of Nicea in 325 there were over 32,000 recorded quotes written from the New Testament.

Critics teach that the character and work of Jesus was a gradual increase of myths and traditions. That could be true if the elapse time was 2 or 3 generations. But, the New Testament was given to and then quoted by people who had known Jesus. The truth is there is no time for creating a change in Jesus or in his work. There are too many on lookers for one person to create a false quote, let alone an entire false book.

A few Manuscripts:

John Ryland' MS (from 110-130 AD): A fragment that Destroy the liberal view that the book of John was not written until 160 AD by a pseudo-John.

Bodmer Papyrus II (from 150-200): Contains most of the book of John

Chester Beatty Papyri (from 200 AD): Papyrus codices, 3 contain major parts of the New Testament.

Codex Vaticanus (325-350): Found in the popes library in the Vatican. In 1845 Tregellas memorized it in its Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic and then published it. Contained nearly the whole Bible.

Codex Sinaiticus (from 350): A German scholar discovered it being thrown into a fireplace at a monastery at Mt Sinai in 1844. Contained nearly full Bible

Authenticity of the Old Testament

Our OT is the same 39 books accepted by the Jews of Jesus' day.

There was no council in the OT times that met to vote to accept the books
No other ancient writings have been so accurately handed down with such an abundance of textual evidence as the Old Testament

The Critics of the OT come from the thought of Higher Criticism.
Higher Criticism is full of high-sounding technical discussions but are really based on these presuppositions.

False Presuppositions of Higher Criticism:

1) *Moses could not have written the Pentateuch (1st five books) because writing was unknown in his day (1400 BC).* . . **BUT**, archaeological discoveries have confirmed that writing was very common even among housewives before Abraham (2000 BC)

2) *The evolution of man's cultural development does not agree with the Bible's account of Israel's high civilization and literary abilities . . .* **BUT**, each day new evidence is uncovered revealing the advanced state of ancient civilizations and technology all across the globe.

3) *The miracle stories of were derived from ancient mythologies that were first recorded in mythology and then copied into the Bible. . .* **BUT**, a bias against miracles is simply a presupposition against the existence of God. If God exist then miracles and prophecy are not only possible but highly probable if not necessary.

4) *Fulfilled prophecy is also a miracle, and therefore impossible. So, since the OT is filled with miracles and prophecy then the validity of scripture is destroyed. . .* **BUT**, all the higher critics use grammar, vocabulary and style can not deflate the truth that prophecies have come to past in history and are unfolding yet today.

Higher criticism teaches that 4 different mystery writers wrote Genesis and parts of the other first six books of the OT. They are called J, E, P, D referring to a "Jehovist," a "Elohist," a "Priestly," and a "Deuteronomist" writer between 900 and 600 BC. This liberal view was develop and made popular between 1806-1878. This is a ridiculous assumption for several reasons yet it is very popular and considered academic even in seminaries. Imagine the scribes and the priest presenting this "forgery" called the Law of Moses for the first time around 700 BC to the masses of the general public and the political powers that would have existed at that time in Israel. They would have had to tell them about Moses, the founding of the Nation, and include the concept of the holy and righteous God for first time about 700 years after it had supposedly happened. Then they would have had to sell them on the Israel's "traditional worship style" that they had never heard of. It would include these:

*A priesthood *A system of worship *A temple *Power to priesthood *A national history *Moses
*Tithes (\$) to the priest *Circumcision w/ all men
*Holy writings
*Annual Passover- the purpose of the Passover would then have been to remember something that never happened nor had they heard of it
?????Would the Kings and rulers have accepted the priests' new find?
?????Would the majority of the people? Why had the priesthood been so careless with these documents that no one saw them or had heard of them for several hundred years?

!!!!It is unbelievable that all the institutions in the law would have been suddenly accepted and practiced unless a generation of people were really in Egypt, and really saw Moses lead them, and really saw the miraculous delivery and provisions. These things were written as they happened and the traditions began from reality.

Archeology shows that:

- 1) Peoples, nations and their cities existed and have been excavated.
- 2) The empire of David and Solomon existed
- 3) The Babylonian captivity and return are now considered historical
- 4) The names of over 40 different kings mentioned in the OT have been found in documents and inscriptions

These things prove:

- 1) The OT was written by the contemporaries of these events
- 2) The OT was written carefully and accurately
- 3) The OT has been copied and preserved methodically until our time.

Jesus and the Old Testament:

1. He accepted the OT as authentic (There are 320 OT quotes in the NT)

2. He said, "The Scripture cannot be broken." John 10:35
3. He said, "It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one title or the law to fail." Luke 16:17
4. He accepted Moses as the author of the Pentateuch (1st 5 books) Lk24:27; Jn5
5. He accepted Isaiah as the author of both divisions of Isaiah. (He quotes Isaiah 6:9-10 in Matt.13:14 & Isaiah 53:1 in John 12:38)
6. He accepted Daniel as the author of Daniel. Matt. 24:15
7. He accepted these people as historical: Adam/Eve Mt.19:4,5; Abel, Mt.23:35; Noah Lk.17:26; Abraham, Jn.8:56-58; Lot, Lk.17:28
8. He accepted creation in Genesis as historical. Mk 10:6-9
9. He accepted the Flood as historical. Mt.24:37-39
10. He accepted these miracles: Sodom, Lot's wife, Manna, serpents, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah.

It is a serious thing to challenge the authenticity of the Old Testament when Jesus accepted it and used it as foundational material to his life and ministry.

Consider this:

Jesus said:

"If you believed Moses you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?" John 5:46,47

Bibliology

Revelation

- a. General Revelation is what God has revealed to all men in nature, history and conscience.
- b. Special Revelation (direct revelation), is what God has revealed in his written word. It is knowledge unknowable to the natural.

Authentic

The books and letters of scripture are truly written by the claimed authors in the time they are said to have been written. They were received by the people (churches, etc.) that they were addressed to. They are not frauds, but are historical documents.

Inspiration

Is the recording of truth as the Spirit of God moved on men to write or speak it. Inspiration speaks of the origin and source of the message. The scriptures came from God the Holy Spirit.

Authority

The Bible carries with it the divine authority of God. It is binding upon man – on his mind, conscience, will, heart. Man, doctrine, tradition and the church are all subject to the authority of Scripture.

Inerrancy (Infallible)

This means that the scriptures are without error in the original manuscripts. It is inerrant in all that it affirms (historical, scientific, moral, doctrinal.)

Illumination

The one who inspired the writing of Scripture (Holy Spirit) is also the one who illumines the minds of those who read and study it. Because of sin and darkened understanding, no one can understand scripture properly without the assistance (illumination) of the Holy Spirit.

Canonicity

"Canon" comes from the Greek word "kanon." It means originally "a reed or rod." Since these rods were used as measuring rods the word "kanon" came to mean "a rule or standard." This word was used to describe and identify the accepted books of scripture that would be the churches standard.

Criteria for New Testament Canonicity

- a. Apostolicity – must either be written by an apostle or someone closely associated with an apostle
- b. Reception by the Churches – must be universally received by the local churches as authentic at the time of their writing
- c. Consistency – consistent with the doctrine that the church already possessed

- d. Inspiration – Each book must give evidence, internally and externally, of being divinely inspired.
- e. Recognition – Each must be recognized as canonical in the writings of the Church Fathers and then used by those who at that time had the gift of pastor/teacher.

Rejection of the Apocrypha

- a. The apocrypha was never in the Hebrew canon. (the OT)
- b. Jesus Christ did not, nor did any apostle, quote from the apocrypha.
- c. Josephus expressly excluded them from his list of sacred scripture.
- d. No mention of the apocrypha was made in any catalogue of the canonical books in the first four centuries of the church.
- e. They never claim to be inspired by their authors.
- f. No prophets were connected with these writings
- g. These books contain many historical, geographical and chronological errors.
- h. The apocrypha teaches doctrines and upholds practices which are contrary to the canon of scripture:
- Prayers and offerings for the dead (2 Maccabees 12:41)
 - Suicide justified in 2 Maccabees 14
 - Atonement & salvation by almsgiving (giving money)
 - Cruelty to slaves justified
 - Doctrine of Emanations
 - Pre-existence of souls

Books That Were Debated for Inclusion/Exclusion in the NT Hebrews – Western church thought it was a non-Pauline forgery

James – Authorship was questioned in West

2 Peter – Authorship questioned, Chapter 2 similar to Jude

Jude – Authorship questioned

Revelation – Eusebius Questioned it because he opposed the doctrine of Christ's personal return to earth (chiliasm)

The Shepherd of Hermas – Non-apostolic origin; Late date of Writing

Didache – Uncertain origin; Late date

Revelation of Peter – Authenticity doubted

Bible Translations

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew (the Old Testament) and Greek (the New Testament) For years it has been translated into other languages for other people to read.

Two basic methods of Bible Translation

- 1) **Formal Equivalence** – render the exact words form for form, word for word. But, strict literalism can distort the original meaning because it may not take into account such things as idioms.
- 2) **Dynamic Equivalence** – reproduce the closest natural equivalent of the original. It does this first in meaning, second in style. This is to give modern reader the same dynamic impact. This is thought for thought translation instead of word for word. Of course, for this to be a correct translation you must have the correct interpretation to correctly translate the thought.

Jerome who translated the Latin Vulgate in 405 said: *“For I myself not only admit but freely proclaim that in translating from the Greek (except in the case of the holy scriptures where even the order of the words is a mystery) I render sense for sense and not word for word.”*

Martin Luther, when he translated the German Bible, attempted to reproduce the spirit of the author; at times this could only be done by idiomatic rendering, though when the original required it only word for word could be used.

Strictly Literal Translation

New American Standard

Literal Translation

New King James

Revised Standard
New American Bible

Literal with Freedom to be Idiomatic

New International Version
New Jerusalem Bible
Revised English Bible
New Jewish Version

Dynamic Equivalent (Modern Speech)

Today's English Version

Paraphrase

The Living Bible

Use 3 or 4 Bible translation for yourself:

For detailed word studies. New American Standard
New Revised Standard

For general study. New International Version
New Jerusalem Bible

For reading pleasure. The Living Bible

Other useful translations by individual men:

Williams New Testament – by Charles B. Williams
New Testament in Modern English – by J.B. Phillips
Weymouth New Testament – by Richard Weymouth
New Testament: An Expanded Translation – Kenneth
The Worrell New Testament – by A.S. Worrell
The Emphasized Bible (OT/NT) – by Joseph Bryant

Wuest

Rotheraham

Christianity is Unique

Is Christianity only one of many religions?

No. None other is like Christianity.

Do all religions possess a certain amount of truth and error?

Scriptural Christianity is either all true or all false

Christianity is absolutely true or completely false.

If Christianity is true then all other religions are false.

1) The Bible Claims to be Unique

a) The God of the Bible is the only true God (Jeremiah 10:10)

b) Christ is the only way to God (John 14:6)

c) The Bible is the only true revelation from God
(Isaiah 8:20; Rev 22:18-19)

d) Only way of salvation (Galatians 1:9)

2) Christianity has a Unique Historical Basis

a) Moslem.based on teachings of Mohammed

b) Buddhism.based on teachings of Buddha

c) Confucianism. . .based on teachings of Confucius

d) Christianity. . . .NOT based on the teachings of Christ, but based on who he is
and what he did in history (namely the cross) Salvation is not in his teaching but salvation
is in Him.

No other religion is as based on historical events & facts

3) Christianity has Unique Account of Origins

-Other religions confess their utter ignorance on this point.

-None (including evolution) can go back to the beginning

a) Babylonian -began with a chaotic mixture of 3 waters

b) Egyptian –initial watery chaos, everything else evolved

c) Greek –a chaos of water at the beginning

d) Roman –a universal blind interplay of atoms

e) Evolution –similar, more sophisticated, began w/ matter

f) Christianity –starts with special creation by an **eternal,**

omnipotent, personal God:

An **eternal** God. . .explains where the **concept of time** came from An **infinite** God. . .adequate cause for
bigness & smallness of **space**

Omnipotent. . . accounts for vast **power and matter** in cosmos

Omniscient . . . explains **intelligence** and **order** of creation
Personal . . . justifies **life, personality** and **freewill**

4) Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

- No one is like Jesus Christ in history, in myths, in literature. No one even imagined him.
Jesus is not on a list of great religious leader.
Jesus is not at the head of the line because he is not even in the same line as other religious leaders.
Jesus Christ is in contrast to them in these ways:
- a) Anticipation of his coming
 - b) Virgin birth –there are myths of demi-gods being born but here the eternal God himself was conceived & born.
 - c) Divine/Human nature –the only begotten Son of God
 - d) Sinless Life –a whole life without sin in deed, word or thought (1 Pt.2:22; 1 Jn.3:5; 18:38; Mt.27:4; 2 Cr 5:21)
 - e) Unique Teaching –many non-believers call Jesus the greatest teacher ever. Sermon on the Mount, Upper Room discourse, parables are without parallel in history and quoted by many religions and many non-believing leaders, sometimes unknowingly
 - f) Unique Death –Jesus died of free will (J 10:18; 19:30)
 - g) Resurrection –greatest proof of his absolute uniqueness.
-Other leaders have tombs and memorials.

Essence of God

This is also called the Character of God or Attributes of God
If God can be known, can he be defined?
God can not be defined exhaustively, yet he can be defined with descriptive words.
These descriptive words are the very nature or character of God. They are his attributes.
God can display one attribute or quality at a given time but never is one attribute preeminent over any of the others.

Sovereignty	God rules over all.(Ps.103:19; Rom. 8:28)	
Righteousness	God and his plan are perfect. Holiness (Rm.1:17)	
Justice unconditional.	God is fair. He cannot be unfair. (Isa. 30:18)	Love God's love is "o qeos o agaph estin" God is love, but love is not God. No article on love making love the nature of God but not giving love its own identity.)
Eternal	God has always existed and always will be (John 11:25)	
Omniscience	God knows everything and all things. Ps. 139:1-4; John 1:47,48)	
Omnipotence	God has all power and can do anything. (Luke 1:37)	
Omnipresence dimension, Infinite space.	<u>Immanence</u> . God is everywhere at all times. our time. (Ps.139:7-12) <u>Transcendent</u> . Outside of creation. He is beyond where we can go.	God is with us in our world, our He is not bound by time or
Immutability Veracity	God never changes. (Heb. 13:8) God is absolute truth. (Isa. 65:16)	

Faith

Five Hebrew Words for Faith

1. Prop - Genesis 15:6, the word for “amen.” It means to use God as a prop. To use God as a foundation, to lean on Him.

2. Slam - Psalm 37:3, the word translated “faith” or “trust.” This Hebrew word originally used for two wrestlers grappling, when finally one is picked up and slammed down. It began to mean to “pick up your troubles and problems and slam them on the Lord.”

3. Flee – Psalm 57:1, used to say “flee like a bunny.” As a rabbit would flee from a large animal. The rabbit does not stay and fight the predator, instead he flees. Right before he is about to be overtaken the rabbit sees a rock with a crack in it or a cleft. He goes in and is safe.

4. Withstand – Job 13:15, means to trust though in extreme pain. Habbakkuk 3:17,18 and Daniel 3:17, 18.

5. Hang on – In Isaiah 40:31 “Those who hope in the Lord. . .” This word originally used in making rope. There is first just a little strand, which is easy to break. These are the “faint” in verse 30 (tired, weary, stumble and fall). But the word is reference to the process of making a rope with that one little breakable strand. The word “hope” in Isaiah 40:31 means to be a strand twisted into a great rope and therefore made strong and came to mean “trust.” It means not just to “hope” but to “keep on hoping” as you become a gigantic, powerful rope which nothing can break.”

Faithfulness of God

“Faithful” is “pistos” which means “trustworthy, faithful; of persons who show themselves faithful.

1. God is faithful to forgive sins (1 John 1:9)

God is faithful to keep us saved

(2 Timothy 2:13)

God is faithful to deliver us through temptations

(1 Corinthians 10:13; 1 Peter 4:19)

God is faithful to keep his promises to us

(Heb. 10:23)

God is faithful to us in suffering

(1 Peter 4:19)

God is faithful in fulfilling his plan for us

(1 Thess. 5:24; 1 Cor. 1:4-9)

God is faithful to strengthen us

(2 Thes. 3:3)

Jesus is the faithful and merciful high priest (Heb. 2:17)

Jesus Christ is synonymous with faithfulness (Revelation 19:11)

False Doctrines

These are the most common false doctrines that are taught

1. Deny the deity of Jesus Christ.
2. Deny the virgin Birth of Jesus Christ
3. Deny the inspiration of the Word of God.
4. Deny the inerrancy of the Word of God.
Deny the authority of the Word of God. Add revelations, dreams, church authority, a man's word or a new book from God to the same authoritative level as the Bible.
6. Deny that man is a sinner.
7. Deny salvation accomplished by the blood of Jesus Christ
8. Deny the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ
9. Deny the trinity. Confuse the Father, Son and Spirit.
10. Deny salvation by faith. Replace this with good deeds for salvation.
11. Deny that there is really a literal, eternal hell.
12. Deny the character of God by overemphasizing one aspect such as the love of God. It is eventually taught that everyone goes to heaven.
13. Deny final judgment for individual accountability to God.
14. Deny other groups or churches could be saved outside a their own special church or fellowship.

Fellowship

Greek "koinonia" or "koinonia" and means "fellowship, a close mutual relationship; participation, sharing in; partnership; contribution, gift."

Root word is "common", "share" and is opposite of "one's own"

Greek literature used "koinonia" to describe partners in business, joint owners of a piece of property, shareholders in a common enterprise.

Translated into English as: fellowship, communion, participation, share a common life, partnership.

Philemon 6 refers to Christian who share a "koinonia" faith
Philip. 1:5 refers to Christians who are "koinonia" in the gospel

Derivatives of the word Koinonia occur over 60 times in the NT in reference to the supernatural life that Christians share.

It is eternal life from God through Jesus and is shared by all believers.

"Koinonia" is the combining the vertical with the horizontal, the divine with the human and constitutes its utterly unparalleled life."

1. Fellowship begins with faith in Jesus Christ
(1 Corinthians 1:9; Philemon 6)
2. Fellowship with God requires agreement with His word.
(1 John 1:7)

3. Fellowship is with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(Philippians 2:1; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

Fellowship with men means to lay down individual
(Galatians 2:9)

goals and unite as a team.

Fellowship can not occur with light and darkness, or
6:14)

good and evil. (2 Corinthians

6. Maintaining fellowship with God and as a result with

believers also. (1 John 1:3-10)

Greek

The New Testament was originally written in Greek. It was the common language of the people in the Roman world.

The alphabet:

a b g d e z h q i k l m n x o p r s(V) t u
a b g d e z a t h i k l m n x o p r s t u
f c y w
 ph ch ps o

A Greek word would look like this: **qeoV**
 It is pronounced in English: **thee – os**
 It is written, or transliterated, in English: **theos**
 It means, or is translated, in English: **God**

logoV low-gos logos “word” (used in “logical”)
nomov nu –mos nomos “Law” (used in “antinomian”)
aggelov ang-el-os angelos “angel” (used in “angel”)
ergon er-gone ergon “work” (used in “energy”)
teknon tech-non technon “child” (not used in English)
egw eh-go ego “I have”
blepw blep-w blepo “I see”
baptizw bap-tidz-o baptizo “I baptize”
zwzw sodz-o sozo “I save”

Lucifer’s Fall

1. The original relationship between Jehovah and Lucifer
 - a. Ezekiel 28:12-16
 - b. Isaiah 14:12
2. Lucifer’s Sin
 - a. Ezekiel 28:16
 - b. 1 Timothy 6:10 (Matt.6:24; Romans 1:25)

3. Jehovah confronts the sin
 - a. Ezekiel 28:16 (Genesis 4:23; Psalms 145:8)
4. Lucifer rejects Grace
 - a. Ezekiel 28:17
 - b. 1 Timothy 3:6 (2 Corinthians 7:10)
5. Lucifer challenges Jehovah & rebels with Five "I wills"
 - a. Isaiah 14:13,14
6. Angels make their choice: "Who is Lord?"
 - a. Revelation 12:7, 9
 - b. Matthew 25:41
 - c. 2 Peter 2:4 and Job 4:18
7. Jehovah puts down rebellion with Four "I dids"
 - a. Ezekiel 28:17-18
 - b. Luke 10:18
8. Jehovah sentenced Lucifer
 - a. Matthew 25:41
- Lucifer appealed the verdict. Accuses Jehovah's character
 - a. Genesis 3:1
 - b. Zechariah 3:1-6, "Satan" means accuser (Rev.12:10)
10. Jehovah suspends sentence; Begins plan to reveal his character
 - a. Romans 8:36
 - b. 1 John 4:4
11. Man is created to solve the angelic conflict
 - a. Romans 5:12 and Romans 5:18
 - b. Matthew 25:41 and Ephesians 2:2,3
 - c. Romans 8:36-39
 - d. Isaiah 53:4-7
 - e. Ephesians 1:12 and 3:21
12. Jehovah's plan and hidden strategy
 - a. Ephesians 3:9-11
 - b. Revelation 13:8
 - c. Hebrew 2:14
 - d. Ephesians 1:4
 - e. 1 Corinthians 2:8
 - f. 1 Corinthians 2:7
 - g. Romans 16:25 and 1 Timothy 3:16
13. Victorious Proclamation: The Church Age
 - a. 2 Corinthians 2:14
 - b. 1 Corinthians 4:9
 - c. Colossians 2:14,15
 - d. Job 1:8,11;2:3
14. The Final Battle, Arrest, Court, and Judgment
 - a. Revelation 20:1-10
 - b. 2 Peter 2:4
 - c. Jude 6
 - d. Daniel 7:9-14
 - e. Philippians 2:10-11
 - f. The witnesses
 - 1 Corinthians 6:3
 - Revelation 12:9,10,11
 - Jude 14
 - Revelation 1:1,2

Mosaic Law

1. The entire Mosaic Law is given in the Pentateuch (1st 5 books of OT)
2. The division of the Mosaic Law
 - a. Codex I. . .The Moral Code (Ex. 20:1-17; Lev. 11-27)
 - b. Codex II. . .The Spiritual Code (Ex. 25:1-31:18; Lev.1-27)
 - c. Codex III. . .The Social Code (Ex. 21:1-23:19; Leviticus)

(see detailed listing below)

3. The Law to the Jew today
Nationally their eyes are veiled.
Individually they may turn and have the veil removed.
(2 Cor. 3:15-16).
4. The Law to the Gentile
Nationally and individually they live without the law and will be judged without the law. (Romans 2:12-16)
5. Recipients of the law were Jews and only Jews of the OT (Exodus 19:3; Lev. 26:46; Romans 3:19; 9:4)
 - a. Never was the law intended for the Gentiles
 - b. Christians are not under the law
(Acts 15:5, 24; Romans 6:14; Galatians 2:19)
6. Christ fulfilled the Law of Moses (Matthew 5:17)
 - a. Codex I – he lived the perfect life
 - b. Codex II – his death, burial, resurrection, ascension, exaltation
 - c. Codex III- patriotism and observance of the Laws of Establishment (parents, family, priesthood and Rome)
7. Church and relationship to Law
 - a. Romans 10:4, “Christ is the end of the Law,”
 - b. Since the church is not under the law, the law con not and is not the Christian way of life.
 - c. Believers are under the law of Spirituality
Rm. 8:2-4 1 Cor.13 Gal.5:18, 22,23
8. Limitations of Mosaic Law
 - a. Can not justify (Acts 13:39; Rm.3:20,28; Gal.2:16; Phil.3:9)
 - b. Can not give eternal life (Gal. 3:21)
 - c. Can not provide Holy Spirit (Gal.3:2)
 - d. Can not produce miracles (Gal. 3:5)
 - e. Can not resolve the problem of the old sin nature (Rm. 8:3,7)
9. Present purpose of the Law
 - a. Codex I: To use the divine standard to convince man that he is a sinner and needs a savior.
(Rm. 3:20,28; Gal. 3:23,24; 1 Tm.1:9,10)
 - b. Codex II: To communicate through Bible teaching of the principles of Codex II God’s grace of salvation for the unbeliever and spiritual rebound for the believer.
 - c. Codex III: To provide the basis for national function, freedom and prosperity under the divine laws of Establishment; to preserve nations under the principle of Divine Institution

Keeping the Law is NOT the way of salvation but is a revelation of:

1. Man’s sin nature
2. Man’s salvation
3. Man’s freedom and of prosperity on earth.

The Division of the Law

A) Codex I . . .The Moral Code (Ex.20:1-17; Lev.11-27)

- 1) Known as the commandments
- 2) Composed of 120 commandments
- 3) Includes the Decalogue (10 commandments)
- 4) It defines morality
- 5) It proves man is a sinner and needs a savior (Rm.7:7-14)
- 6) It provides the basis for Divine Institutions
 - a) Volition, free will. . .basis for freedom
 - b) Marriage. . .stabilizer of the human race
 - c) Family. . .basis for orderly society
 - d) Nation. . .basis for privacy, protection of rights & freedoms
- 7) Summed up by Jesus in Matthew 22:36-40
- 8) Fulfilled by NT saints by love
(Rm.13:9-10; Gal.5:14; James 2:8)

B) Codex II . . .The Spiritual Code (Ex.25:1-31:18;
Lev.1-27

parts of

- 1) Known as the ordinances
- 2) Regulated worship
- 3) Complete shadow of Christology (The branch of theology which concerns the person and work of Jesus Christ, particularly as
- 4) Complete shadow of Soteriology ("The doctrine of the plan of salvation; the entire saving work of God.")
- 5) Includes tabernacle, holy days, levitical offerings, modus operandi worship during age Jews
- 6) Described as a shadow of New Testament reality (Col.2:17; Heb.8
- 7) Points to a greater truth
- 8) Fulfilled by NT saints in Christ (Hb.10:4-7;Gal. 3:10-14)

revealed in the OT.)

of levitical priesthood and believer's

C) Codex III . . .The Social Code (Ex.21:1-23:19;
parts of Lev.)

- 1) Known as the judgments
- 2) Outlines the perfect standard for a nation under God
- 3) Includes:
 - a) dietary laws
 - b) soil conservation
 - c) laws of sanitation
 - d) taxation
 - e) quarantine
 - f) military service
 - g) marriage
 - h) divorce
- 4) Punishments for nonobservance were also stated
- 5) An example of NT overriding Codex III is Acts 10:9-21
- 6) When the Pharisees added traditions to the Word of God they placed

them in Codex III. Regulations concerning washings, Sabbaths, gentiles etc. Jesus called them traditions of men and did not consider these additions scriptural. The Pharisees did not add to Codex I and II.

Philosophical Proof for the Existence of God

The more a **true** witness is challenged the more **perfect** his testimony will be revealed to be. To challenge the existence of God with an open and pure heart will only prove to that heart the reality of God's existence.

Where few facts are known and ignorance is great, negative evidence is of small account, but supporting evidence will have great weight.

Skeptics Will Make These False Statements:

Cosmologist can explain the origin of the universe w/o a God.
Archaeologists have shown the Bible to be a legend at best.
The Bible is too primitive for modern society's use.
People in the past have used God to explain the unexplainable. Today we have science.
Philosophically, the concept of God is unthinkable.
The existence of God cannot be proved in any arena.

Some True Statements:

The Bible is the only religious source from ancient times that has endured

scientific advances.

Science has explained the origin of the universe with the following conflicting theories:

- a) Big Bang Theory
- b) Oscillation Theory
- c) Static Universe Theory

One constant element in all three of these theories is that they demand a first cause before they can begin.

It is irrational (unreasonable to human mind) that the universe came from nothing.
It is irrational to the:

- A) Ancient mind
- b) Eastern & Western mind
- c) Scientific mind
- d) Any mind

The existence of God is reasonable.

It is one of the truths about God that does not take spiritual insight.

Most spiritual truths come by revelation (Word of God, Spirit of God).

Romans 1:19-21 explains the revelation of God attainable through the process of human reason:

“What may be known about God is plain. . . understood from what has been made. . . they knew God. . .”

Science cannot find a natural explanation for the origin of the universe.

After thousands of years of thought and research nothing is easier to verify (nor can it be disproved) than:

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

Point of Doctrine:

**A being greater than the universe
has to exist. (we call him God)**

Reasons For The Doctrine of God:

Category A: Reasons logically dependent on sense experience (a posteriori, or “posterior to”)

1. **Cause** (Cosmological) – There cannot be an infinite regress of finite causes. There must be an uncaused causer.
2. **Design** (Teleological) – Observable order and design demand a designer
3. **Moral** (Anthropological) – all people possess moral impulse. Behavioral science can not explain this development of moral since many moral behaviors go unrewarded for long periods of time. The development of moral behavior cannot come out of nature.
4. **Motion** – motion cannot start itself. Infinite regress of motion is meaningless. The unmovable mover of the Greeks.
5. **Perfection** – There is a universal pyramid of beings seen from insects to men. Man is at the top of the existence pyramid, but the universe is too grand for man to be the Ultimate expression of existence.
6. **Dependency** – All things exist in a network of relationships and dependency. Infinite regress of dependency is contradictory must begin with an independent being.

Category B: Reasons logically independent of sense to”)

7. **Perfect Being** (Ontological) -concept of perfection exists but is never attained.
8. **Innate Idea** – people are born with the idea of God
9. **Mysticism** – man can experience God directly. This union is so real it is self-validating
10. **Truth** – the concept of truth exists. People seek truth so the ultimate truth exists.

11. **Man is Finite** being finite is proof there is the infinite

12. **Blessedness** – man is basically restless, searching, striving.

This drive is only fulfilled when man finds God.

C. S. Lewis: If there is hunger, there is food. If there is thirst, there is
If there is curiosity, there is knowledge. If there is loneliness,

drink.

there is society.

Starvation does not prove that food does not exist.

Loneliness does not prove people don't exist.

Failure to achieve immortality, to reach paradise, or to find

God does not prove any of these don't

exist.

Time: Time can be measured. We call it seconds, minutes, hours, days, and years. Because time exist today and is actual and real and because it can be measured there had to be a beginning of time. Time cannot go back into the past forever. If you can measure or count time it had to have a beginning and it demands an end. This is a basic concept of math. If you are currently counting something, there had to be an original first number. In other words before there is a "two" there has to have already been a "one".

Prayer

Prayer must be applied in two directions

- For men to receive strength to accept the established will of God
- For God to move in agreement with man's desire

The Established Will of God

- We pray for our wills to line up with God's will
- If we are to experience victory in our life we must seek, find and
time.
- Matthew 26:39, "Yet not as I will, but as you will."
- Matthew 6:10, "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth. ."
- Acts 4:27; James 4:1,2; 1 John 5:14

live God's established will for us and our

The Desired Will of Man

- We go to God and by our wills ask him to intervene
- For victory to be realized we must ask and believe while under the
authority of the above, "The Established Will of God"
- Matthew 26:39, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be
us."
- Matthew 6:11-13, "Give us today our daily bread. . Forgive us .
us."
- Acts 4:29 James 4:2,3 1 John 5:15

taken. . .

.Lead us . . Deliver

Jesus Teaching on Prayer

Luke 11:1-13 Luke 18:1-8 Matthew 5:44 Matthew 6:5-6
Matthew 6:7,8 Matthew 18:19,20 Matthew 21:22 Matthew 26:41

New Testament Teaching on Prayer

Ephesians 1:17,18 Ephesians 6:18 1 Timothy 2:1,2 1 Jn.5:14,15

Science and God

There are no conflicts with Scripture and Nature

There are conflicts with Theology and Science

Theology is man's study of God's inspired scriptures
Science is man's study of God's created natural world

- 1) Both Groups (theologians and scientist) are subject to error.
 - a) Galileo (1564-1642) was kept under house arrest by the church for 8 years for supporting the Copernican theory that stated that the earth revolved around the sun.
 - b) Science once believed in the eternal cosmos.
- 2) Either group is subject to correction by the other
 - a) Science has refuted the flat earth theory so theologians can no longer use the scriptural reference to the "four corners of the earth" as literal.
 - b) Science held to spontaneous generation into the mid-1800's even though scripture taught God made them "according to their kind."
- 3) The Bible is not a science textbook.
- 4) Science is constantly in the process of developing

Established facts

...that demand a response in support of God's existence:

- A) If the physical forces within stars were only slightly different, our universe would be almost devoid of carbon and oxygen, and life would not exist.
- B) If gravity was slightly stronger, all stars would be red dwarfs, too cold to support life.
- C) If gravity was slightly weaker, all stars would be blue giants, burning too briefly for life to develop.
- D) The mass of the neutron in an atom is delicately balanced with the mass of the proton; if it were not protons would decay into neutrons and make life impossible.
- e) 21 % of gases are oxygen. If it was 25% fires would break out spontaneously around the globe. If it were 15% higher life would suffocate.
- f) If proteins were not almost exactly 1,836 times heavier than electrons molecules would not be able to form and there would be no chemistry, no life, and no one to wonder why.
- g) The position and angle of the earth is set. A few degrees closer we disintegrate. A few degrees away we become a frozen rock.
- h) The 23 degree axis of the earth provide equal distribution of sun and makes possible the food chain.
- i) The atomic clock is the most accurate time instrument we have invented. They are accurate up to within 3 seconds a millennium. We use the rotation of the stars to set and check these clocks.
- j) After 150 years of study, fossil records are beginning to agree with scriptures account that life forms appeared abruptly with no transitional forms.

Laws of Thermodynamics and the Scriptures

Law #1: **The law of conservation of mass and energy:**

Matter and energy cannot be created or destroyed.

Genesis 2:1,2 "Thus the heavens and the earth were **completed** in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing."

Law #2: **The law of declining order:**

Contents of our universe are becoming less ordered and more random.

Left to themselves things become disorganized and wear out.

"In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

*They will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like garment."*

Psalms 102:25,26

Spirit, Soul, Body

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1

Thessalonians 5:23

A believers Spirit is saved (born again, new birth) once in time for all eternity. This is complete. (Ephesians 2:6)

A believers Soul (mind) is being saved in time during their life. This is a process. (Romans 12:1-2)

A believers Body will be saved at the rapture (resurrection) of the church. This will happen only in the future. (1 Corinthians 15:50-54)

Spiritual Principles of God

The Purpose: To exemplify the unchanging nature of God

- 1. Organization** -God's plan to simplify our lives God's plan to keep His will in perfect order
Purpose: A consistent godly lifestyle principle
Objective:How to organize the organism
Goal: To be an effective witness for the Lord Jesus Christ
- 2. Sow and Reap**-God's plan to provide for our lives God's plan to cause His will to reproduce after His kind
Purpose: A faith building principle
Objective:How to receive the provisions of god
Goal: To super abound, having our needs met
- 3. Stewardship** -God's plan to fulfill our lives God's plan to cause his will to produce an abundance
Purpose: A character building principle
Objective:Wise stewardship over the provisions of God
Goal: To super abound and meet the needs of others
- Authority** - God's plan to protect our lives God's plan to protect the integrity of His will
Purpose: A discipline building principle
Objective:How to stay in position with God
Goal: To actualize concepts for successful living
- 5. Unconditional Love** –God's plan to keep our lives from failing God's plan to keep his word from returning unto him void
Purpose: A proper attitude building principle
Objective:How to have good success with God and man
Goal: To have victory over evil circumstances
- 6. Obedience** - God's plan to reward our lives God's plan to show forth the excellency of his will
Purpose: A righteousness building principle
Objective:How to live in the blessed state
Goal: To put our faith into action
- 7. Agreement** - God's plan to crown our lives with peace God's plan for us to be at oneness with his will
Purpose: A communication, decision making, problem solving principle
Objective:How to rest in God

Goal: To achieve the peace that Jesus promised

Systematic Theology

Theology – according to its etymological features, is a compound of two Greek words: “Theos” (“God”) and “Logos” (“speech” or “expression”). It means to discourse or discuss upon one specific subject, God. To discuss God we must include his works, his ways, his word. Some examples of Theology are :

Augustinian Theology,	Calvinistic Theology,
Lutheran Theology,	Arminian Theology,
Revealed Theology,	Natural Theology,
Catholic Theology,	Evangelical Theology,
Theology,	Mercersburg Theology,
Oxford Theology,	New England Theology
Biblical Theology,	Fundamental Theology,
Practical Theology,	Pastoral Theology,
Black Theology,	Exegetical Theology,
New Theology,	Polemic Theology,
Rational Theology,	Systematic Theology
Dogmatic Theology	

Systematic Theology – the collecting, scientifically arranging, comparing, exhibiting, and defending of all facts from any and every source concerning God and His works. The person who does this must be a Biblicist or one who is not only a Biblical scholar but also a believer in the divine character of each and every portion of the text of the Bible. Systematic Theology is not an end in itself; its purpose is to classify and clarify the truth set forth in the Scriptures.

Systematic Theology is most often broken down into these 8 fields of study:

Bibliology – examines the scriptures to see if the beliefs concerning the Bible are true. It is not the study of the Bible's content, but the study of the Bible's nature and character.

Christology – is the doctrine respecting the Lord Jesus Christ. This theme is pursued into the preincarnate Christ, Christ incarnate, the sufferings of Christ, the resurrection of Christ, the ascension of Christ, the second advent of Christ and the eternal kingdom of Christ.

Pneumatology - is the scientific treatment of any or all the facts related to spirit. This could include: 1) God the Spirit, 2) Angels as spirits, 3) Man's spiritual side. The study of angels becomes angelology and the study of man's spirit is covered in anthropology. The study called pneumatology generally involves information concerning the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, symbols of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit and prophecy, Holy Spirit's work with Gentiles and Israel, Holy Spirit's work in the lives of Christians.

Angelology – the study of the doctrine of angels. It includes the origin, nature, fall, and classification of angel. Also the work and destiny of the angels is involved.

Anthropology – is the doctrine of man in relation to God. It covers the origin of man, the unity of the race, the fall of man, and the consequences of his fall.

Soteriology- that portion of Systematic Theology which treats of salvation. Soter is from the Greek word meaning savior.

Ecclesiology- the sixth major division of Systematic Theology, contemplates the New Testament doctrine of the Church. Study involves the founding, organization, ordinances, and mission of the church.

Eschatology – Considers the biblical doctrines of the last things. These are the doctrines of the second coming of Christ, of the resurrections, of the judgments, of the millennium and of the final state.

Yahweh

Hebrew spelling “YHWH”, the personal name of God: **The Lord, or Yahweh.**
Spelled in the NIV as “LORD” to distinguish it from “Adonai” or “Lord.”
Whenever the Hebrew names stand together as in
“YHWH Adonai” it is translated
“Sovereign LORD”

The Root of YHWH is “hawa” which means:

- a) “existence” as of a tree trunk where it falls in Ec11:3
- b) “development” as in Neh. 6:6 Thus, the concept form these meanings (“existence” and “development”):
-The Active, Self-Existent One

Sacredness of the Name YHWH:

In post-exilic times (after the Babylonian captivity in 586 BC) YHWH began to be considered so sacred that it was not pronounce aloud.

They said **Adonai** (Lord) when they read **YHWH**.

Around 600AD the vowels of adonai (a, o, a, l) were combined with the Hebrew consonants to remind synagogue readers to pronounce Adonai.

This produced the artificial name **Jehovah**.

Compound Names of God

1. Yahweh Jireh The Lord will provide Gn.22:14
2. Yahweh Nissi The Lord is my banner Ex.17:15
3. Yahweh Shalom The Lord is peace Judges 6:24
4. Yahweh Sabaoth The Lord of Hosts 1 Sam.1:3
5. Yahweh Maccaddeshcem The Lord who sanctifies you
Ex.31:13
6. Yahweh Roi The Lord is y shepherd Ps.23:1
7. Yahweh Tsidkenu The Lord our righteousness Jer.23:6
8. Yahweh Shammah The Lord is There Ezek. 48:35
- Yahweh Elohim Israel The Lord, God of Israel
Jd. 5:3;Isa.17:6

Elohim

Elohim refers to God as:

- a. Creator
- b. Sovereign
- c. Judge
- d. Producer of mighty works

Compound names with Elohim:

1. **El Shaddai**- Shaddai sis connected wth Akkadian which means “mountain.” Thus, “the Almighty One standing on a mountain.” (Gen 17:;1;28:3;35:11; Ex.6:3; Ps.91:1-2)
2. **El Elyon** –The Most High God. First used in Gn.14:19, when Melchizedek blessed Abraham or Isaiah 14:14 recording of Satan’s attempt to usurp God. Not used much until time of David.
3. **El Olam** – “the Everlasting God.” Emphasizes God’s unchangeableness. (Psalm 100:5; 103:17; Isaiah 4:28)
4. **El Roi** – “the God Who Sees.” Hagar in Genesis 16:13

Maps and Charts

Seven Ages (or, Dispensations)

- Creation of man 1) **Age of Innocence**

- Fall of man **2) Age of Conscience**
- Flood of Noah **3) Age of Government**
(1,656 years after creation)
- Tower of Babel **4) Age of Nations** (100 years after flood)
- Abram & Mt Sinai **5) Age of Israel**
(2000 & 1400 BC)
- Death of Christ*
(30 AD)
- Day of Pentecost **6) Age of Church**
Rapture
(???? AD)
- Tribulation*
- Second Coming of Christ*
(7 years later)

Millennium(1000 years) **7) Age of the Kingdom End Time Events**

After the rapture of the church the seven year tribulation begins.
At the end of those seven years Jesus returns to the earth (Zech.14:4).
This seven year period is detailed in Daniel 2,7,9,11;Matthew 24 and Revelation 4-19.
It is divided into the first 3 ½ years and the second 3 ½ years.

Potential Order of events during first 3 ½ years:

<u>In Daniel</u>	<u>In Matthew 24</u>	<u>In Revelation</u>	
Kingdom of iron/clay (2:41)			
10 horns of 4 th beast (7:7,8,24)			
Little horn (Anti-christ) Makes covenant (9:27)	False Christ appear (24:5)	1 st seal-Antichrist (6:2)	
	False peace Wars/Cold Wars (24:6)	2 nd seal-Wars on earth (6:3)	
	Famines (24:8)	3 rd seal-Famine (6:5,6)	
	Earthquakes (24:8)	4 th seal-a fourth of earth dies	(6:7,8)

Potential Order of events during second 3 ½ years:

<u>In Daniel</u>	<u>In Matthew 24</u>	<u>In Revelation</u>	
Two witnesses(13)			
Anti-christ breaks (28)	Persecution of Jews of believers(6:9-11) w/ Israel (9:27)	5 th seal-Martyrdom 7 year Covenant	(24:9-28)
Idol set up in temple	Idol set up(24:15)	Idol set up (13:14) (9:27)	
	Sun, Moon dark	6 th seal-Sun black (6:12-14)	
The king (anti-chr.) (8:6-19)		1 st - 6 th trumpets- says He is God	

(11:36-39)

Demonic activity begins

The king (anti-chr) has wars but army from East is trouble(11:40-45)

Rock (Jesus) destroys anti-chr. (kingdoms of man) Sign of Son of Man (24:30) Jesus appears; strikes statue (19:11-21) & Jesus appears (2:44,45)

End of Tribulation

Beginning of 1,000 yr kingdom

	<u>In Daniel</u>	<u>In Matthew 24</u>	<u>In Revelation</u>
Thrones Set Up for judgment (7:9-14)	Sheep Nations & goat nations judged. (25:31)	Satan locked up (20:1-3)	
Beast thrown in fire (Daniel 7:11)	Eternal judgment (Matt.25:46)	Thrones set up to rule (20:4)	

End of 1,000 year Kingdom;

Great White Throne judgment (Rev.20:11-15)
Old universe burns up (Rev. 21:1; 2 Pet.3:10-13)
New Universe created for eternity (Rev.21)

Beginning of Eternal State

Heaven, Hell, Hades, etc

Jerusalem

Israel

Tabernacle

Table of Contents

Basics

Qualification for Eternal Life	1
The Barrier of Sin	2
You Are Sure of Your Salvation	4
God's Love and Forgiveness.	5
The Believer and Their Daily Sin	6
36 Salvation Provisions.	8
Developing Your Relationship With God. .	10
Prayer	12
The Bible.	14
Obedience	19
Faith	25
Abundant Life.	26
Purpose of the Church.	28
Satan.	30
God's Plan.	33

Foundational Doctrines

Depravity	36
Grace.	40
Regeneration.	43
Imputation.	45
Substitution.	47
Repentance.	51
Redemption.	54
Reconciliation.	57
Propitiation.	59
Justification.	61
Sanctification.	64
Security.	67
Predestination.	69
Foreknowledge.	71
Election.	72
Called.	73

The Christian Life

Abiding in Christ.	75
Ambassadorship.	77

Authority.	79
Availability.	82
Blood of Christ.	83
Children	85
Christian Techniques.	88
Destiny.	90
Endurance.	91
Promises.	94
Factors of Effective Faith.	96
Flexibility.	98
Holy Spirit's Works.	101
Positional Truth in Christ.	103
Reversionism.	104
Royal Family Honor Code.	109
Spiritual Recovery.	112
Soldier of Christ Jesus.	114

Lists and Timelines

Ezra through Nehemiah Timeline.	65
Church History Timeline.	67
English Bible, History of.	71
Promises.	76
Salvation Provisions: 36 things God provides	78

Topics

Apologetics.	79
Authenticity of New Testament Documents.	81
Authenticity of the Old Testament.	83
Bibliology.	85
Bible Translations.	87
Christianity is Unique.	89
Essence of God.	90
Faith, Five Hebrew Words for.	92
False Doctrines.	93
Fellowship.	93
Lucifer's Fall.	95
Mosaic Law.	96
Philosophical Proof for Existence of God.	99
Prayer.	100
Science and God.	101
Spirit, Soul, Body.	102
Spiritual Principles of God.	103
Systematic Theology.	104
Yahweh.	105

Maps and Charts

Ages (Dispensations).	107
End Time Events.	108
Heaven, Hell, Hades, etc.	109
Jerusalem.	110
Israel.	111
Tabernacle.	112

HEAVEN

(Paradise here today, Rv.2:7)

**GEHENNA-
LAKE OF FIRE**
Mt.25:41, Rev.19:20;20:15

SHEOL / HADES Gen.37:35;1 Sam.2:6;
1 Sam.28:13-15,19;Ps.30:3; Is.38:10;14:9-11
Hosea 13:14; Ps.16:9-10

PARADISE

PLACE OF TORMENT

Luke 16:22

Luke 16:23

Luke 23:43

Rev.20:14

John 20:17

(Gen.3:24;Ezek. 31:15-18)

Ephesians 4:7-9

Matthew 12:40

Matthew 27:52

ABYSS

Rev.20:1,3

Lk.8:31;

Rev.9:1;

TARTARUS

1 Peter 3:19

2 Peter 2:4

Jude 6

