

*The House Of God Which Is The Church Of The Living God  
The Pillar And Ground Of The Truth Without Controversy, Inc.  
Keith Dominion*

**THE UNIVERSAL  
SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS**

**AUGUST 2, 2020 – JULY 31, 2022**

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**I have taught thee in the way of wisdom: I have led thee in right paths.**

**Proverbs 4:11**

# SUNDAY BIBLE SCHOOL PREFACE



**Dear Fellow Workers Together With Christ:**

**We are grateful to God for your earnest labor in God's vineyard. We have come to another milestone in our church history, as we present to you the 2020-2022 Universal Sunday Bible School Lessons of the House of God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth, (which was in the mind of God before the beginning of time).**

We are most appreciative of the inspiration of our Sunday Bible School Committee, which helped to make the printing of the new Sunday Bible School lessons a living reality. We earnestly pray God's blessing upon them collectively and individually. They have done and are doing an extraordinary task to the honor and glory of God.

Let us remember that the Sunday Bible School Committee has before them one of the most influential assignments that is held in the House of God Church. The Sunday Bible School literature must nurture young and old alike, and the lessons, based on the eternal Word of God, must convict saints and sinners alike. They must edify the sanctified ones who are perfected forever by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. These lessons must be the very voice of the Lord saying, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (I Corinthians 15:58).

The recommended **age level of students and promotions** is as follows:

Senior Class – 19 years and above (may be grouped according to ages, needs and interests, if desired)

Junior Class – 15 to 18 years

Intermediate Class – 12 to 14 years

Catechism Class – 9 to 11 years

Beginner/Primary Class – 3 to 8 years

Promotion should occur at the end of the two-year period. It is recommended that the students be given a test as one of the qualifications for promotion. Graduation Exercise may be held either during the Sunday Bible School hour, or at a more appropriate time thereafter. Students must be given certificates that are ordered from our Headquarters Office.

All teachers, superintendents and officials of Sunday Bible School classes must be thoroughly screened, qualified and appointed as any other leaders appointed in the church. Qualification ability, both spiritual and temporal, must be ascertained by proper authorities in the church. Due to the critical crisis of the time, all classes with underage children must have a teacher and an assistant at all times, especially when classes are held in separate locations. It is firmly required that parents be held responsible for their own children when personal needs arise.

All leaders, from the bishopric to the humblest member of this church, must know the fundamental doctrine of the church, and must never be allowed to preach, teach or practice any doctrine contrary to or out of harmony with the Bible, faith, and Decree of the church.

All Sunday Bible School officials must attend their weekly church services, Sunday Bible School Convention and other services held, for the edifying of the church, the body of Christ. Remember, one who is unlearned, unholy and ignorant of God's Word cannot teach others. Do you realize that God hath given unto us all things pertaining unto life? God hath given unto us, His Son, His Spirit, the earth, the angels of light, the powers of darkness, death, the kingdom, and all the means of salvation. If we are ignorant of God, His Word and plan for mankind, we cannot teach this to others. Remember, the sacrificial cross is Christ's way of creating vision and shaping values while operating in the spirit of excellence.

In this church, there has always been and shall always be one law, one doctrine and one decree that must be taught through this organization, wherever it is established. When any leader (from the least to the greatest) refuses to obey the faith, doctrine and decree, they will be dealt with accordingly.

We are reminding all leaders to consider that the Sunday Bible School is God's guaranteed solution to a growing church. Now is the time for God's children to awake out of sleep and take charge of their God-given power to tread over all the impossibilities of life and move forward to the next level.

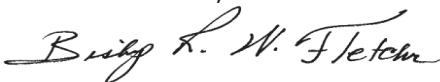
**Guideline for Sunday Bible School Superintendents (prior to reciting the Ten Commandments):** By the divine guidance of the Holy Ghost in the Chief Overseer, **all** Sunday Bible School **superintendents** are instructed to give the **CHURCH STATEMENT** concerning what we earnestly believe and do firmly teach, concerning the everlasting and moral law of God.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We are especially grateful for the help of Deaconess Miller, General Secretary and Assistant Editor, for facilitating this work toward fruition. We are most appreciative for Trial Elder Janice A. Smith, of the Branch Office Staff, who laboriously and diligently worked with the Sunday Bible School committee in assisting to get the books printed for this organization. We are especially thankful for all Sunday Bible School writers, and the technical support of the Headquarters and Branch Office staffs and others who contributed to this publication.

If the mission of the church is not clear, which is to attain to the Excellency of God's image and likeness that is within us, we risk losing the Now Generation who are seeking for something that is worthwhile in living and dying during their era!

Yours in His service,



Bishop Rebecca W. Fletcher  
Chief Overseer and Editor

*This Issue Is Dedicated in Sweet Reminiscence  
of  
Our Generational Leaders  
Publicity Staff Officials*

**Bishop Henry Dillard, Chief Helper (1929-2018)**

*Presiding Bishop of South Carolina Diocese*

**Bishop Willie Walker, Presiding Bishop (1927-2018)**

*Presiding Bishop of West Coast Florida Diocese*

**Bishop Viola Jackson (1929-2019)**

*Presiding Bishop of Georgia Diocese Three*

**THE SUMMATION**

The paths that were trod led straight to God  
And the way that was taught is still the way to walk  
The leadership of the blessed found no rest  
They fought that we would fight and do our best.  
War-worn, battled-scared! Retreat! Advance!  
Others must join the war, but not by chance.  
Victory is always in view to the faithful few  
Afraid not to obey, others would have no excuse!

They were forever prisoners in the Word of God  
They did their all to heed the heavenly call  
Aware from the beginning their work had meaning  
And patiently nursed the skirmish wounded, bleeding!  
Then their work here below too quickly ended  
And everything that was done transcended.  
The God who gave them grace and time  
Is still saying to all, "These souls are mine."



# ORDER OF SERVICE 9:30 – 11:30 A.M.

## Sunday Bible School Superintendent in Charge

### **15 minutes: 9:30 – 9:45**

Call to Worship  
Opening Song  
The Lord's Prayer  
Roll Call

Classes Reassemble  
Sunday School Offering

### **40 minutes: 10:40 – 11:20**

Responsive Reading, 136th Psalm  
Lesson Number, Date,  
Subject, Motto Text, and  
Scripture for Entire Lesson

Review of Lesson

### **10 minutes: 11:20 – 11:30**

### **55 minutes: 9:45 – 10:40**

Classes Assemble  
Reading and Discussion of Lesson

Memory Verse  
Reading and Adoption of Minutes  
Church Statement by Superintendent  
The Ten Commandments  
Closing Song and Benediction

## RESPONSIVE READING

### PSALM 136

1. O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
2. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
3. O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
4. To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
5. To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
6. To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
7. To him that made great lights: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
8. The sun to rule by day: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
9. The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
10. To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
11. And brought out Israel from among them: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
12. With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
13. To him which divided the Red sea into parts: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
14. And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
15. But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
16. To him which led his people through the wilderness: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
17. To him which smote great kings: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
18. And slew famous kings: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
19. Sihon king of the Amorites: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
20. And Og the king of Bashan: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
21. And gave their land for an heritage: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
22. *Even* an heritage unto Israel his servant: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
23. Who remembered us in our low estate: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
24. And hath redeemed us from our enemies: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
25. Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
26. O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

Preparation by the teacher is imperative. A teacher cannot successfully teach pupils a lesson that he or she has not seen until the class begins. The teacher must be a person full of the Holy Ghost, prayerful, patient, full of faith, and obedient in all things. He or she must be the one who puts in practice that which is taught so that what is taught will stimulate pupils to become stronger Christians. (Read Matthew 11:25)

We are yet pleading with you to study your lessons and attend Sunday Bible School in order to be ready to make contributions to your class. The teacher must be well prepared so as to give guidance when it is needed. As students of Sunday School, a sense of self-worth and importance comes from contributing. As the class members assume more of the burden of study, the teacher will be relieved of the responsibility of being the sole dispenser of biblical truth in the classroom. The Church is described as a body in I Corinthians 12:14-26, with each body part contributing what it, and only it, can do. No teacher can learn for his or her students. A teacher can only help the students through the teaching process, and active participation aides the students in the learning process.

1. **Subject** – the topic that forms the basis of the discussion.
2. **Motto Text** – the guiding principles as it relates to the lesson.
3. **Entire Lesson** – biblical evidence and support of the subject and purpose of the lesson.
4. **Purpose** – reason or point of the lesson.
5. **Practical Application** – the idea given from the lesson that may become a part of our daily lives.
6. **Commentary** – comments and explanation about the lesson.
7. **Blackboard Emphasis and Daily Guidelines** – simple statements that can be remembered about the lesson to whet the appetite and invoke a thirst and hunger for scriptural searches, relating to and giving further insight of the lesson.
8. **Memory Verse** – an exercise in retention or recalling Bible verses.

### Other helpful study resources:

The Holy Bible – The Church Decree – A Bible Dictionary – A Dictionary

***The BIBLE of choice for all congregations within this Church is the King James Version (KJV), as was used by our Founder, Mother M. L. Tate. We have been taught and we have witnessed some of this fact in scriptural quotes in our Church Decree. Let all of us admonish and encourage each other, and then knit ourselves together as one in using the King James Version.***

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And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt; To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou *art*, to bring thee in, to give thee their land *for* an inheritance, as *it is* this day.

Deuteronomy 4:37-38

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But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

I Timothy 3:15-16

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## FUNDAMENTAL BUILDING MATERIALS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

The believer's faith is no stronger than the foundation upon which they build. The following is a study of some of the Great Doctrine upon which the House of God Church is built:

1. The Doctrine of the Bible is the Lord's message to His people on planet earth.
2. The Doctrine of God, the Mighty Creator, who spoke a non-existing world into existence, by the "word of His power."
3. The Doctrine of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, "who taketh away the sins of the world."
4. The Doctrine of the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of burning that purifies and delivers the soul from the curse of sin and death.
5. The Doctrine of Salvation, the all-inclusive and conclusive works of God, whereby lost souls are redeemed from the curse of sin and death.
6. The Doctrine of the True Church of the Living God, the Bride of Christ, the Lamb's Wife being perfected and made spotless for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.
7. The Doctrine of the Bible, the spoken word of God, written to mankind in all ages.
8. The Doctrine of Angels, "ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation."
9. The Doctrine of Satan, prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.
10. The Seven Churches and Seven Messages are symbolic of the seven methods of satanic attacks on the Christian Church of all ages, as well as on individuals within the Church. (Read Revelation chapters 2-3)
11. The Rapture - The First Coming of Christ "FOR" the Church/ The Second Coming of Christ will occur when Christ comes "WITH" the Saints to Judge the World (Read I Thessalonians 4:16-17)
12. The Heavenly Vision is the scene in Heaven before the breaking of the seals. (Read Revelation chapter 4-5, chapter 8:1)
13. The Seven Seals of Judgment - It is believed to be a symbol of the following events:
  - a. First Seal – Hail, fire, blood
  - b. Second Seal – Burning mountain
  - c. Third Seal – Star wormwood
  - d. Fourth Seal – Sun smitten
  - e. Fifth Seal – Plague of locusts
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(Study Revelation Chapters 8:7 thru 11:19)
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20. Last Promise, Last Prayer and Last Provision (Study Revelation 22:20-21)



**THEME I**  
**THE LOVE OF GOD FOR HIS PEOPLE**

And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them,  
and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt; To drive out  
nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou *art*, to bring thee in,  
to give thee their land *for* an inheritance, as *it is* this day.

Deuteronomy 4:37-38

**LESSONS 1-10**

**LESSON 1**

**AUGUST 2, 2020**

**FAMILY SUNDAY**  
**THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE GOD FAMILY**

**MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 3:14-15** For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-17**

1. For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,
2. If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:
3. How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,
4. Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)
5. Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;
6. That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:
7. Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.
8. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;
9. And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:
10. To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,
11. According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:
12. In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.
13. Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.
14. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15. Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
16. That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
17. That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that as we take up our cross daily and follow Jesus, we must deny ourselves and serve others, even in our families.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We believe in the one living and true God who is the Creator of heaven and earth. He is eternal, almighty, unchangeable, infinitely powerful, wise, just and holy.

### COMMENTARY

One of the greatest mysteries of time is the unity of true believers with the family of God. At one time we were without Christ and were aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenant of promise. With God in Christ and Christ in God, and true believers united with them by God the Holy Ghost, true believers become full members of the Family of God.

In his first letter to Timothy, Paul declared that one of his reasons for writing the epistle was that men might know how to behave themselves in the house (family) of God, which is the church of the living God (3:15). Further, he affirms that it is the responsibility of those in the church to be the pillar and support of the truth.

We believe that the one God eternally exists in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God, co-equal and co-eternal, having precisely the same nature and attributes, and worthy of precisely the same worship, confidence, and obedience. Review Matthew 3:16, 17; Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 12:29; John 1:14; Acts 5:3, 4; II Corinthians 13:14.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | True believers were chosen in Christ unto good works before the world was<br>Ephesians 1:4, 2:10 |
| Tuesday   | God alone put believers into Christ – I Corinthians 1:30   |
| Wednesday | True believers who are joined to Christ are one spirit – I Corinthians 6:17                      |
| Thursday  | In Christ we inherit a heavenly reservation – I Peter 1:4  |
| Friday    | We are made partakers of Christ – Hebrews 3:14   |
| Saturday  | We are branches and He is the vine – John 15:1-5   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Corinthians 8:6** But to us *there is but* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom *are* all things, and we by him.

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### LESSON 2

AUGUST 9, 2020

### MORNING BY MORNING GOD BRINGS JUSTICE TO LIGHT: HE FAILETH NOT

**MOTTO TEXT: Zephaniah 3:5** The just LORD *is* in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.



## ENTIRE LESSON: Zephaniah 3:1-20

1. Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!
2. She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the LORD; she drew not near to her God.
3. Her princes within her *are* roaring lions; her judges *are* evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.
4. Her prophets *are* light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law.
5. The just LORD *is* in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.
6. I have cut off the nations: their towers are desolate; I made their streets waste, that none passeth by: their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, that there is none inhabitant.
7. I said, Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them: but they rose early, *and* corrupted all their doings.
8. Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination *is* to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, *even* all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.
9. For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.
10. From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, *even* the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering.
11. In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain.
12. I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD.
13. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make *them* afraid.
14. Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.
15. The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, *even* the LORD, *is* in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.
16. In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: *and to Zion*, Let not thine hands be slack.
17. The LORD thy God in the midst of thee *is* mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.
18. I will gather *them that are* sorrowful for the solemn assembly, *who* are of thee, *to whom* the reproach of it *was* a burden.
19. Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.
20. At that time will I bring you *again*, *even* in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the LORD.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that God can help us, no matter what our present situation may be. It is written: “Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, **and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice**” (Jonah 2:2).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “*It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness*” (Lamentations 3:22-23).

## COMMENTARY

“God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day” (Psalm 7:11). God is God and we are not. Our opinion about how things should work or what is fair doesn't determine how things work, because we're not in charge. God does not answer to us, we answer to Him. God is loving and forgiving, but He is also holy and must punish sin.

The prophet Zephaniah, in the foreground of the prophetic portraiture stands the Chaldean invasion, with its fearful consequences. He paints a bright horizon for a purged people, those who had turned from the Lord must hold their peace at His presence. When God's judgments are abroad, He will hide the meek who seek His face.

Searching Jerusalem with candles speaks of thoroughness in the exposure of evil and contradicts the estimation of God that would do neither one thing or the other. “He will not do good, neither will He do evil.” God does not leave the world to run itself, never intervening in its affairs.

Morning by morning, God brings justice to light: he faileth not. Every day is a fresh reminder of our need and of God's ability to meet the need. Throughout the day His goodness is the portion of the prayerful, trustful heart, and through the night He unslumberously watches over His own.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday “Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.” (Isaiah 41:10).
- Tuesday “The LORD thy God in the midst of thee *is* mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing” (Zephaniah 3:17)
- Wednesday “*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee*” (Hebrews 13:5).
- Thursday “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen” (Matthew 28:19-20).
- Friday “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are” (I Corinthians 3:16-17).
- Saturday “Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?” (Matthew 6:25)

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Luke 9:23-25** For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

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LESSON 3

AUGUST 16, 2020

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE DEFEATED BY SATAN  
TO TURN TO GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: II Corinthians 1:8-10** For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life: But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver *us*.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 55:1-13**

1. Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
2. Wherefore do ye spend money for *that which is* not bread? and your labour for *that which* satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye *that which is* good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.
3. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, *even* the sure mercies of David.
4. Behold, I have given him *for* a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.
5. Behold, thou shalt call a nation *that* thou knowest not, and nations *that* knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.
6. Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:
7. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
8. For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
9. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
10. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
11. So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.
12. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.

13. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign *that* shall not be cut off.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of man but in the power of God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Spiritual verities/truths are not of human wisdom but revealed by God.

### COMMENTARY

We wage a battle against powerful forces from without and within. We can only fight against these forces in a steadfast faith that is immovable and unshakable. It is useless if we have not taken this stand. If we are wholehearted, we can resist on the evil day and remain standing after we have done (overcome) all things. What a glorious promise this is: *“overcome all things” in Christ Jesus.*

The Armor of God, described by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:10-18, is our spiritual defense against attacks by Satan. But if you were to leave home every morning wearing a full suit of armor, you would look and feel awkward. Fortunately, that's not expected. Although invisible, the Armor of God is real, and when used properly and worn daily, it provides solid protection against the onslaught of all enemies (Ephesians 6:11-18).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

#### *It is written:*

- Monday “All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom *is* the LORD'S: and he *is* the governor among the nations” (Psalm 22:27-28).
- Tuesday “Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts” (Malachi 3:1).
- Wednesday “Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually. Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth” (I Chronicles 16:11-12).
- Thursday “But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).
- Friday Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded” (James 4:7-8).
- Saturday “But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness” (Psalm 9:7-8).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 2:12** Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

## GOD'S WAY: A MORE EXCELLENT WAY

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 55:9** For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**ENTIRE LESSON: II Kings 5:1-14**

1. Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, *but he was* a leper.
2. And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.
3. And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord *were* with the prophet that *is* in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.
4. And *one* went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that *is* of the land of Israel.
5. And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand *pieces* of gold, and ten changes of raiment.
6. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have *therewith* sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.
7. And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, *Am* I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.
8. And it was *so*, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.
9. So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.
10. And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.
11. But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.
12. *Are* not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.
13. And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, *if* the prophet had bid thee *do some* great thing, wouldest thou not have done *it*? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?
14. Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

**PURPOSE:** To stress that only the resurrected power of Jesus Christ can clean the leprosy of sin.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Humility and obedience to the will of God make possible His provision to supply our abundant needs.

### COMMENTARY

During a time of differences among the nations, they still could reach out to another in the time of need when there was no help within the nation.

God, in His best, had orchestrated a kidnapping to make Himself known to a nation that did not know neither served Him, yet He allowed Syria to punish Israel. The enemy nation of Syria had captured a little girl who knew God; she accepted her predicament and yet cared for those who held her captive. Naaman was introduced to Elijah the prophet of Israel via those who listened and carried unaltered messages.

Leprosy, characterized as a scaly skin disease, in today's lesson reference the verbal usage, meaning *to cleanse*. We know that the various diseases are placed on mankind due to sinful disobedience. Although the physicians and medications sometimes help, God does the healing as we become clean, separating from the sins of the world.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | A more excellent way – I Corinthians 12:27-31                 |
| Tuesday   | Abundant faith and love in the church – I Thessalonians 1:3-4 |
| Wednesday | Preferred above spiritual gifts – I Corinthians 14:12         |
| Thursday  | Reward of obedience – II Kings 5:14                           |
| Friday    | An exemplary way – Hebrews 10:25                              |
| Saturday  | Acknowledgement of God's work – II Kings 5:15-16              |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 10:29-30** The way of the LORD *is* strength to the upright: but destruction *shall be* to the workers of iniquity. The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

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## LESSON 5

AUGUST 30, 2020

### THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE IN EVERY PLACE, BEHOLDING THE EVIL AND THE GOOD

**MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 15:2-3** The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness. The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 15:1-26

1. A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.
2. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.
3. The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, beholding the evil and the good.
4. A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life: but perverseness therein *is* a breach in the spirit.
5. A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.
6. In the house of the righteous *is* much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.
7. The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish *doeth* not so.

8. The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright *is* his delight.
9. The way of the wicked *is* an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.
10. Correction *is* grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: *and* he that hateth reproof shall die.
11. Hell and destruction *are* before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?
12. A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.
13. A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.
14. The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness.
15. All the days of the afflicted *are* evil: but he that is of a merry heart *hath* a continual feast.
16. Better *is* little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.
17. Better *is* a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.
18. A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but *he that is* slow to anger appeaseth strife.
19. The way of the slothful *man is* as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous *is* made plain.
20. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother.
21. Folly *is* joy to *him that is* destitute of wisdom: but a man of understanding walketh uprightly.
22. Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.
23. A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word *spoken* in due season, how good *is it!*
24. The way of life *is* above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.
25. The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.
26. The thoughts of the wicked *are* an abomination to the LORD: but *the words* of the pure *are* pleasant words.

**PURPOSE:** To show that man produces outward forms that work from the outside, but our God works from the inside out.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it?* or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” (Numbers 23:19).

### COMMENTARY

Hypocrisy is defined as presenting ourselves as something that we know we are not. It is one of the most subtle and dangerous of sin. Jesus warned the disciples in Luke 12:1 to, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisee, which is hypocrisy.” Leaven spreads subtly and pervasively, until the whole lump of dough is affected. So does hypocrisy. It is a perpetual danger for the religious, and especially for religious leaders.

A hypocrite plays church. He is not a Christian; he is a deceiver. He is a pretender. He does not care about the mote in your eye; he is trying to injure your eye so that you will be totally blind. Be wise! Don’t be deceived nor take a hypocrite for your friend. Have an

honest heart. Be honest with each other. The quicker you find out, the better it will be for your welfare. The hypocrite hopes you will fail, the church will fail and plans of the church will fail.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

Monday Watch Yourself! Consider Who You Are – Proverbs 23:1-2  
Tuesday Have You Considered Your Value? – Matthew 10:31  
Wednesday Are You A Member of the Pharisee and Hypocrite Club? – Luke 11:44  
Thursday Have You Considered the End of the Street You Are Traveling? – Proverbs 23:20  
Friday Of What Use Is Your Cover and Hiding Place? – Matthew 10:16  
Saturday The Best Advice If You Desire to Live a Precious Life – Luke 12:29-31

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Corinthians 5:25-27** Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

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**LESSON 6**

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2020**

### **EVANGELISM SUNDAY GOD'S OPTOMETRISTS: APPOINTED TO OPEN THE EYES OF THE BLIND**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 42:6-7** I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, *and* them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 42:1-25**

1. Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.
2. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.
3. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.
4. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.
5. Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:
6. I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;
7. To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, *and* them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.
8. I *am* the LORD: that *is* my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.



9. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.
10. Sing unto the LORD a new song, *and* his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof.
11. Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up *their voice*, the villages *that* Kedar doth inhabit: let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains.
12. Let them give glory unto the LORD, and declare his praise in the islands.
13. The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.
14. I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, *and* refrained myself: *now* will I cry like a travailing woman; I will destroy and devour at once.
15. I will make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools.
16. And I will bring the blind by a way *that* they knew not; I will lead them in paths *that* they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.
17. They shall be turned back, they shall be greatly ashamed, that trust in graven images, that say to the molten images, *Ye are* our gods.
18. Hear, ye deaf; and look, ye blind, that ye may see.
19. Who *is* blind, but my servant? or deaf, as my messenger *that* I sent? who *is* blind as *he that is* perfect, and blind as the LORD'S servant?
20. Seeing many things, but thou observest not; opening the ears, but he heareth not.
21. The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make *it* honourable.
22. But this *is* a people robbed and spoiled; *they are* all of them snared in holes, and they are hid in prison houses: they are for a prey, and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith, Restore.
23. Who among you will give ear to this? *who* will hearken and hear for the time to come?
24. Who gave Jacob for a spoil, and Israel to the robbers? did not the LORD, he against whom we have sinned? for they would not walk in his ways, neither were they obedient unto his law.
25. Therefore he hath poured upon him the fury of his anger, and the strength of battle: and it hath set him on fire round about, yet he knew not; and it burned him, yet he laid *it* not to heart.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that we, God's optometrists, are appointed to open the eyes of the blind.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** It is written: "What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way" (Mark 10:51-52).

## COMMENTARY

An optometrist is a trained and licensed professional who examines the eyes for visual defect, diagnoses the problem and prescribes corrective lenses or other types of treatments. In II Corinthians 4, people are spiritually blind until God gives them eyes to see. In verse

18 of the lesson, Jesus is saying, “I am sending you to open their eyes.” It is God who opens the eyes of the spiritual blind to see the truth, beauty, and worth of Christ.

Paul was sent to “Open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me” (Acts 26:18).

Like Christ, God has sent us to preach recovery of sight to the blind. Is it not written? “The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” (Luke 4:18-19).

## **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

### ***Sight to the blind is true and proven valid:***

Monday Two blind men healed – Matthew 9:27-31

Tuesday Man born blind – John 9:1-7

Wednesday Blind need sight – Matthew 11:5, 15:31, 21:14; Luke 7:21

Thursday Christ healed a man that was blind, dumb and possessed with a devil – Matthew 12:22

Friday Blind brought to Christ to be healed – Mark 8:6, 22

Saturday Blind man saw men as trees walking – Mark 8:24

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Luke 4:18** The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

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**LESSON 7**

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2020**

## **GRANDPARENTS' DAY GRANDPARENTS: TELLING THE ORACLES OF GOD FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 78:2-4** I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide *them* from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

### **ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 78:1-39**

1. Give ear, O my people, *to* my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:
3. Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
4. We will not hide *them* from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.
5. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:
6. That the generation to come might know *them*, *even* the children *which* should be born; *who* should arise and declare *them* to their children:

7. That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:
8. And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation *that* set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.
9. The children of Ephraim, *being* armed, *and* carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.
10. They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;
11. And forgat his works, and his wonders that he had showed them.
12. Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, *in* the field of Zoan.
13. He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.
14. In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.
15. He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave *them* drink as *out of* the great depths.
16. He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.
17. And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.
18. And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.
19. Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?
20. Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people?
21. Therefore the LORD heard *this*, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;
22. Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:
23. Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,
24. And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.
25. Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.
26. He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind.
27. He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:
28. And he let *it* fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.
29. So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;
30. They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat *was* yet in their mouths,
31. The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen *men* of Israel.
32. For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.
33. Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.
34. When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and inquired early after God.
35. And they remembered that God *was* their rock, and the high God their redeemer.
36. Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues.
37. For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant.
38. But he, *being* full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity, and destroyed *them* not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.
39. For he remembered that they *were but* flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

**PURPOSE:** To urge grandparents to recount the divine oracles of God from generation to generation.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Tell the story of God in order to encourage others to put their trust in God. Remember His works and keep His Commandments.

### COMMENTARY

Every grandparent should tell the story of Israel's history showing God's mercy toward a rebellious people. The writer Asaph committed himself to give instructions and not hide them. God's strength, power and wonderful works are praiseworthy from one generation to the next. The children are exhorted to not be as their fathers whose hearts were not right and whose spirits were not steadfast with God.

From Israel's history, all should receive a word of warning. As our nation today, Israel was given over to her own desire and was not estranged from lust. Though the people had so much trouble because of God's anger towards them, they continued to sin and still did not believe or praise God for His wondrous works even when they were delivered.

Grandparents have a mandate to talk to their children and grandchildren. Even though your children and grandchildren may speak against God and mock Him, continue to tell the story of God's miraculous works and His mercy towards the children of men.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Children of God – Matthew 5:9                                    |
| Tuesday   | Children of Disobedience – Ephesians 2:2                         |
| Wednesday | Take Fast Hold of Instruction and Let Her Not Go – Proverbs 4:13 |
| Thursday  | Rebellion as Sin of Witchcraft – I Samuel 15:23                  |
| Friday    | Call to Remembrance Thy Grandmother Lois – II Timothy 1:5        |
| Saturday  | Children of Abraham – Matthew 3:9                                |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 79:13** So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations.

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## LESSON 8

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

### ALMIGHTY GOD: A STRONGHOLD IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE

**MOTTO TEXT: Nahum 1:6-7** Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him. The LORD *is* good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 27:1-14

1. The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
2. When the wicked, *even* mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.
3. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this *will I be* confident.

4. One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.
5. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.
6. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.
7. Hear, O LORD, *when* I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.
8. *When thou saidst*, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.
9. Hide not thy face *far* from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
10. When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.
11. Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.
12. Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.
13. *I had fainted*, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
14. Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that Almighty God is a stronghold in the day of trouble.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof” (Matthew 6:34).

## COMMENTARY

What comes to mind when you think of creating security in your life? Is it financial security to get out of debt, or save for retirement? Is it physical security to create an active and healthy lifestyle? Is it marriage, finding a spouse to join you for the rest of your life? These may appear to be great ways to consider creating security in our life, but even bigger than that, comes the aspect of an overarching security for your life.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

### *How can God's people have security in this day of trouble?*

- Monday “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love” (I John 4:18).
- Tuesday “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” (Hebrews 12:1).
- Wednesday “Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God *is* a consuming fire” (Hebrews 12:28-29).

- Thursday “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).
- Friday “For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. . . . He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings” (Psalm 27:5, 40:2).
- Saturday “Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:29-30).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 17:13-14** O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, *and* they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters. Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou *art* my praise.

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**LESSON 9**

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2020**

**GOD’S UNCONDITIONAL LOVE REJECTS SIN AND DISOBEDIENCE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Leviticus 21:4-5** *But* he shall not defile himself, *being* a chief man among his people, to profane himself. They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cuttings in their flesh.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Leviticus 19:1-30**

1. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
2. Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God *am* holy.
3. Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I *am* the LORD your God.
4. Turn ye not unto idols, nor make to yourselves molten gods: I *am* the LORD your God.
5. And if ye offer a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD, ye shall offer it at your own will.
6. It shall be eaten the same day ye offer it, and on the morrow: and if ought remain until the third day, it shall be burnt in the fire.
7. And if it be eaten at all on the third day, it *is* abominable; it shall not be accepted.
8. Therefore *every one* that eateth it shall bear his iniquity, because he hath profaned the hallowed thing of the LORD: and that soul shall be cut off from among his people.
9. And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest.
10. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather *every* grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I *am* the LORD your God.
11. Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.

12. And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I *am* the LORD.
13. Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbour, neither rob *him*: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning.
14. Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear thy God: I *am* the LORD.
15. Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty: *but* in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour.
16. Thou shalt not go up and down *as* a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I *am* the LORD.
17. Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.
18. Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I *am* the LORD.
19. Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee.
20. And whosoever lieth carnally with a woman, that *is* a bondmaid, betrothed to an husband, and not at all redeemed, nor freedom given her; she shall be scourged; they shall not be put to death, because she was not free.
21. And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, *even* a ram for a trespass offering.
22. And the priest shall make an atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering before the LORD for his sin which he hath done: and the sin which he hath done shall be forgiven him.
23. And when ye shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food, then ye shall count the fruit thereof as uncircumcised: three years shall it be as uncircumcised unto you: it shall not be eaten of.
24. But in the fourth year all the fruit thereof shall be holy to praise the LORD *withal*.
25. And in the fifth year shall ye eat of the fruit thereof, that it may yield unto you the increase thereof: I *am* the LORD your God.
26. Ye shall not eat *any thing* with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.
27. Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard.
28. Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I *am* the LORD.
29. Do not prostitute thy daughter, to cause her to be a whore; lest the land fall to whoredom, and the land become full of wickedness.
30. Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I *am* the LORD.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that one of the greatest problems confronting the church today is following after worldly trends envied by lukewarm church members.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The world has gone wild over tattooing, body piercing, etc. Some saints are enjoying today's lifestyles as others in the world.

## COMMENTARY

The questions of today are: What is wrong with the attracting trends of the world? Why should Christians hold to the old-time way? We must teach that the Bible is the only “Acid Test” in making decision as to what is right and what is wrong. Is it not written in Isaiah 5:20? “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”

Christians and sinners alike should consider life as being no longer than one’s shadow at noon. Not only is life short, but also changes continuously even as the heart does. **Consider the marks you put on your body today may not match the life God has preordained for the future.**

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Consider whose you are and God’s purpose for your life – Deuteronomy 14:2         |
| Tuesday   | Observe the gender dress code because you belong to God – Deuteronomy 22:5        |
| Wednesday | Do not cut the flesh – Leviticus 21:5-7   |
| Thursday  | Do not shave your head bald – Ezekiel 44:20                                       |
| Friday    | Ask yourself if God will be glorified in what you are doing – I Corinthians 10:31 |
| Saturday  | There is nothing new under the heaven – Ecclesiastes 1:9                          |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Samuel 15:22-23** And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king.

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LESSON 10

OCTOBER 4, 2020

### COME ON OVER TO THE LORD’S SIDE WHILE THE BLOOD IS YET RUNNING WARM IN YOUR VEINS

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 32:26** Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who *is* on the LORD’S side? *let him come* unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: I John 5:1-21

1. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.
2. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.
3. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.
4. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.



5. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?
6. This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.
7. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.
8. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.
9. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.
10. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.
11. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
12. He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.
13. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.
14. And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
15. And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.
16. If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is* not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.
17. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.
18. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.
19. *And* we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.
20. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.
21. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that a soldier is not made a soldier overnight, but each day's preparation goes to make the soldier proficient.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** There is no neutral or middle ground. It is either we are on God's side, or not.

### COMMENTARY

The dictionary meaning of *overcome* is to get better, to overpower or to win. We understand *victory* to mean the overcoming of an enemy, mastery or success in a struggle. God's people are not fighting a war just against flesh and blood, but also fighting against **spiritual wickedness** in high places. Lucifer, the Devil, and his agents serve as chief officers of the opposition. Each one in God's army should follow the example of Jesus and fight to win.

We really need to ask ourselves this question: “Are we really on the Lord's side?” For years, many of us were on the enemy's side, filled with sin, hatred, misery and greed. But God changed all that when we received the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Jesus did not compromise with the devil on the mountain nor the scribes and Pharisees in the valley. He did no sin neither was guile found in His mouth. Jesus mastered every storm; and willingly laid down His life, for no one had ever been able to die, go in the grave, and get up as the Bible says Jesus did. He got the victory, for Paul says, “If he did not rise, our religion is in vain.” Yes, overcoming brought victory from the mountain to the grave.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | The World Cannot Receive the Followers of Christ – John 14:17, 15:19 |
| Tuesday   | The Mark of False Teachers – I John 4:3                              |
| Wednesday | The Spirit Actualizes the Believer's Sonship – Galatians 4:6         |
| Thursday  | Warning Against Subtracting from God's Word – Revelation 22:19       |
| Friday    | Doctrine as a Final Test – II John 10-11                             |
| Saturday  | Pleasing God as A Soldier – II Timothy 2:4                           |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 2:26-29** And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

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**THEME II**  
**GREAT IS THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS**

But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

I Timothy 3:15-16

**LESSONS 11-21**

**LESSON 11**

**OCTOBER 11, 2020**

**THE MYSTERY OF MYSTERIES:  
REVEALED TO TRUE BELIEVERS BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Corinthians 2:10-11** God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Corinthians 2:1-16**

1. And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.
2. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
3. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.
4. And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
5. That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
6. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:
7. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:
8. Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
9. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.
10. But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.
11. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.
12. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.
13. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

14. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.
15. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.
16. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that believers were in the mind of God in eternity “before the world was,” even before man was ever created.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love” (Ephesians 1:4).

### COMMENTARY

In the Word of God, believers in Christ Jesus possess all things pertaining to righteousness. It is written: “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue” (II Peter 1:3).

A mystery in Scripture is a hidden truth now divinely revealed. True believers are foreknown by God, predestinated, called, justified and glorified. This all happened on behalf of the believer in eternity before the God created the earth and before man was made in the image and likeness of the Trinity. It is written: “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality” (I Corinthians 15:51-53).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | God, through Christ, has made an atonement for sins (Romans 5:11).   |
| Tuesday   | By faith and acceptance in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, believers have been redeemed from the curse of sin and death (Galatians 3:13).  |
| Wednesday | Believers have been granted repentance and are now reconciled to God (II Corinthians 5:18).  |
| Thursday  | Believers are now sanctified, justified, holy sanctified and free from all sin and sinning, through God the Holy Ghost dwelling in their sanctified hearts (Decree, page 38 #34).  |
| Friday    | Once believers are sanctified, justified and made holy sanctified and freed from all sins and sinning are put down “in” the body of Christ, where there is no sin and where they are enabled to go on unto perfection (Hebrews 6:1). |
| Saturday  | If believers remain in the sinless body of Christ, they will grow until they are born of God and cannot sin (I John 3:9).  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Romans 8:28-31** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

**THE CREATION OF THE EARTH  
CAME OUT OF THE WOMB OF NOTHING**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 33:11-12** The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Blessed *is* the nation whose God is the LORD; *and* the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 33:1-22**

1. Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright.
2. Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings.
3. Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.
4. For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth.
5. He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.
6. By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.
7. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.
8. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
9. For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.
10. The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.
11. The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
12. Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD; *and* the people *whom* he hath chosen for his own inheritance.
13. The LORD looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men.
14. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth.
15. He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.
16. There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength.
17. An horse *is* a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver *any* by his great strength.
18. Behold, the eye of the LORD *is* upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;
19. To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.
20. Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he *is* our help and our shield.
21. For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.
22. Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

**PURPOSE:** To confirm that the true Church of the living God do preach and firmly believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost that these three are “One” in holy estate of the Godhead.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The laboring Trinity of the Godhead fashioned the perfect world out of nothing. There was no preexisting matter. God spoke, by the Word of His power, the creation of the earth came out of the womb of nothing.

## COMMENTARY

The multiplication of gods, as taught by some, is a contradiction; Scripture shows that there can never be but one God, one Creator, one superlative power who reigns supreme in the universe. The Hebrew word for one is *Yacheed*, which is used in a collective sense, as: (1) the people are one, (2) All baptized into one body, (3) he that planteth and he watereth are one, (4) the two in marriage shall be one flesh, etc.

There are many grapes in a cluster, but they are spoken of as a cluster of grapes. Jesus prayed that true believers may be one, even as He and His Father are one (Read Genesis 1:26, 11:7; II Corinthians 3:6-8, 12:1-3; John 17:22-23).

When Jesus was baptized by John in the River of Jordan, the Spirit descended on him and a voice out of heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). Jesus prayed that God the Father would send the Holy Ghost (another Comforter). The disciples were told to baptize in the name (*singular*) of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | The word <i>omniscience</i> denotes that God knows all things (I John 3:20).  |
| Tuesday   | The work <i>omnipotence</i> denotes that God, with His superlative power, can bring to pass that which is declared by mankind to be impossible (Hebrews 1:3).     |
| Wednesday | The word <i>omnipresence</i> denotes that God is always present; this is not a material presence, but spiritual, yet it is a real presence (Proverbs 15:3).       |
| Thursday  | The word <i>eternity</i> denotes infinite duration, it is an ongoing present forever (Isaiah 43:13).  |
| Friday    | The word <i>immutability</i> denotes that God's nature is absolutely unchangeable. He remains the same forever and ever, from eternity to eternity (Malachi 3:6). |
| Saturday  | God is the Supreme being of love (I John 4:8-16).   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 49:15-16** Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of *my* hands; thy walls *are* continually before me.

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LESSON 13

OCTOBER 25, 2020

### TEMPERANCE SUNDAY THE DANGER OF MAKING UNWISE DECISIONS

**MOTTO TEXT: Joel 3:14** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 16:1-15

1. Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name *was* Hagar.

2. And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.
3. And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.
4. And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.
5. And Sarai said unto Abram, My wrong *be* upon thee: I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the LORD judge between me and thee.
6. But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid *is* in thy hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face.
7. And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.
8. And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.
9. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.
10. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.
11. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou *art* with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction.
12. And he will be a wild man; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.
13. And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?
14. Wherefore the well was called Beerlahairoi; behold, *it is* between Kadesh and Bered.
15. And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael.

**PURPOSE:** To warn of the perils of making unwise decisions without consulting God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Unwise decisions can have an impact on generations to come.

### COMMENTARY

Many people have spoiled their Christian lives because of bad decisions made apart from God's will (e.g., wrong job, wrong friends, wrong marriage partner, mistakes in the pursuit of education, mistakes made in moving to another place). It is not only young people who make unwise decisions; many older and even elderly people have committed grave mistakes.

God promised to give Abraham as many sons and daughters as innumerable as the stars of the sky (read Genesis 15). Abraham was childless and believed in the promise of God. God's promise to Abram seemed an impossibility. When God's promise of a son seemed to have been delayed, Sarai took matters into her own hands and gave Hagar (her own handmaid) to Abram that she might bear him a son.

When Hagar became pregnant with Ishmael, she looked down on Sarai. This brought about much strife in Abram's family and a great deal of suffering for Hagar and the child,

Ishmael. Abram's and Sarai's pragmatic decision has been a source of fierce conflict in the Middle East, between the Arab Nation and the Jewish Nation, until this present day.

If we disobey God's Word, we cannot expect God's blessing. What many Christians do is to make their own plans and then ask God to bless them, but that is backwards. We must first make certain that our plans are in accordance with God's will, then we can reasonably ask for and expect God's blessing.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Freedom of Choice – Genesis 13:10                |
| Tuesday   | No Success Outside of God's Will – Number 14:41. |
| Wednesday | Questioning God's Will – Joshua 24:15            |
| Thursday  | Valley of Decisions – Joel 3:14                  |
| Friday    | Allowing God to Plan – Psalm 40:5                |
| Saturday  | Doing God's Will – John 7:17                     |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 16:1-3** My son, if thou be surety for thy friend, *if* thou hast stricken thy hand with a stranger, Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth. Do this now, my son, and deliver thyself, when thou art come into the hand of thy friend; go, humble thyself, and make sure thy friend.

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**LESSON 14**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2020**

### **GET READY FOR AN AWESOME MIRACLE: STRANGE VOICES ARE HEARD THROUGHOUT THE LAND**

**MOTTO TEXT: Jeremiah 33:11** The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD.

### **ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-11**

1. The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;
2. To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;
3. To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.
4. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.
5. And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien *shall be* your plowmen and your vinedressers.



6. But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: *men* shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.
7. For your shame *ye shall have* double; and *for* confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.
8. For I the LORD love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
9. And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they *are* the seed *which* the LORD hath blessed.
10. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels.
11. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

**PURPOSE:** To remind us that for over 2000 years, Jesus has been on His way back to planet earth to take His children out of this evil world. Are you ready?

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer” (Isaiah 54:7-8).

### COMMENTARY

As we go through this troublesome world, let us not fret. The words of Jeremiah the prophet give God’s people hope: “The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD *is* good; for his mercy *endureth* for ever: *and* of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD” (Jeremiah 33:11).

We, God’s heaven bound children, must go through trouble without complaining, for the Lord God is making us to be an exceeding joy for many nations. When we get to Glory we will not sorrow anymore. For His cross has taken away all our sins and buried them. So, get ready saints and let’s go home!

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

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|-----------|--|
| Monday    | When we get to heaven, we shall live forever in God’s presence (Revelation 21:1-3).  |
| Tuesday   | “I <i>am</i> the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts is his name” (Isaiah 51:15)   |
| Wednesday | “Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD’s house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD’s house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word” (Jeremiah 26:2). |
| Thursday  | “Jesus beheld <i>them</i> , and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).  |

- Friday “If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* the LORD that healeth thee” (Exodus 15:26).
- Saturday “Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this *which is done* to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive” (Matthew 21:21-22).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 55:6-7** Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

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## LESSON 15

NOVEMBER 8, 2020

### DIVINE WISDOM THAT BUILT THE WORLD

**MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 3:19-20** The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Proverbs 3:1-26

1. My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
2. For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.
3. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
4. So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
5. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
6. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
7. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
8. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.
9. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:
10. So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.
11. My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:
12. For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.
13. Happy *is* the man *that* findeth wisdom, and the man *that* getteth understanding.
14. For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.
15. She *is* more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.
16. Length of days *is* in her right hand; *and* in her left hand riches and honour.
17. Her ways *are* ways of pleasantness, and all her paths *are* peace.

18. She *is* a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy *is every one* that retaineth her.
19. The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.
20. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.
21. My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion:
22. So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck.
23. Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble.
24. When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet.
25. Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh.
26. For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that God, the Creator, is King over all the people of the earth.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Colossians 3:16).

### COMMENTARY

God is the Creator of the universe. It is written: “The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew” (Proverbs 3:19-20).

Solomon realized the significance of this truth, like his father David before him (Psalm 8). He affirmed it early in Proverbs in order to emphasize that true wisdom is not of human origin, but comes from the Lord who made all things.

Everyone owes ultimate allegiance to the LORD, an allegiance that transcends family, ethnic, and national claims. It is not these that are unimportant. But wisdom says that each of us need to fear the Lord first and foremost. It is written: “The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction” (Proverbs 1:7).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

#### *It is written:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | “How much better <i>is it</i> to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!” (Proverbs 16:16)   |
| Tuesday   | “Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. <i>There are</i> many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand” (Proverbs 19:20-21).   |
| Wednesday | “He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding. The fear of the LORD <i>is</i> the instruction of wisdom; and before honour <i>is</i> humility” (Proverbs 15:33).   |
| Thursday  | “ <i>God</i> giveth to a man that <i>is</i> good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to <i>him that is</i> good before God. This also <i>is</i> vanity and vexation of spirit” (Ecclesiastes 2:26). |
| Friday    | “The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God <i>is</i> in his heart; none of his steps shall slide” (Psalm 37:30-31).   |

Saturday “When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn. Whoso loveth wisdom rejoiceth his father: but he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth *his* substance” (Proverbs 29:2-3).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 4:5-6** Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

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LESSON 16

NOVEMBER 15, 2020

### THE CREATION OF MAN IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

**MOTTO TEXT: Genesis 1:26** And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 1:24-31

24. And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.
25. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that *it was* good.
26. And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
27. So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
28. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.
29. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which *is* upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which *is* the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.
30. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein *there is* life, *I have given* every green herb for meat: and it was so.
31. And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

**PURPOSE:** To encourage saints to believe and holdfast to the unchanging Word of God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The Bible teaches us, in Genesis 1:24-26, that the living creatures were made after their own kind, but man was made after the image and likeness of God.

## COMMENTARY

In the House of God Church, Keith Dominion, we believe that our Christian Institutions shall be free from the teaching of evolution theories. Humans are set apart from all other creatures by the ability to make moral judgments. We also believe that man's progress in science does not affect our fundamental and foundational belief.

Creation took place in six days and on the seventh day God rested from His work. Is it not written? "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made" (Genesis 2:2-3).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | The Beginning of Creation – Mark 10:6           |
| Tuesday   | God's Glory and Man's Dominion – Psalm 8:5-6    |
| Wednesday | Holy People and their Food – Leviticus 11:13-47 |
| Thursday  | Who Made Us? – Proverbs 22:2                    |
| Friday    | Test of Love – James 2:5-13                     |
| Saturday  | Warnings about False Teachers – II Peter 2:1-3  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 32:17-18** Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, *and* there is nothing too hard for thee: Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of hosts, *is* his name.

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LESSON 17

NOVEMBER 22, 2020

## THANKSGIVING LESSON GIVING THANKS TO ALMIGHTY GOD FOR HIS UNIQUE AND TIMELESS BLESSINGS

**MOTTO TEXT: I Corinthians 15:57-58** But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 100:1-5

1. Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.
2. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
3. Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name.
5. For the LORD *is* good; his mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations.

**PURPOSE:** To stimulate honor and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for His unique and timeless blessings.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (I Thessalonians 5:18).

### COMMENTARY

The Holy Bible is filled with commands to give thanks to God. Most verses go on to list reasons why we should thank Him, such as: His loves endures forever (Psalm 136:3). Thanksgiving and praise always go together. We cannot adequately praise and worship God without being thankful.

Feeling and expressing appreciation is good for us. Like any wise father, God wants us to learn to be thankful for all the gifts He has given us (James 1:17). It is in our best interest to be reminded that everything we have is a gift from Almighty God! Without gratefulness, we become arrogant and self-centered. We begin to believe that we have achieved everything on our own. Thankfulness keeps our hearts in a right relationship to the Giver of all good gifts.

Giving thanks also reminds us of how much we do have. First Thessalonians 5:18 says, “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” We are to be thankful not only for the things we like, but for the circumstances we don’t like.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

Monday      Every Day Is God’s Thanksgiving Day – Psalm 50:14  
Tuesday     Show Your Thankfulness – Amos 4:5  
Wednesday   Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving – Psalm 100:4  
Thursday    In Everything Give Thanks – I Thessalonians 5:18  
Friday       Sing unto the Lord with Thanksgiving – Psalm 147:7  
Saturday    Let the Peace of God Rule in Your Hearts and Be Thankful – Colossians 3:15

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 30:4-5** Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger *endureth* but a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.

LESSON 18

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

### DON’T GIVE UP! WHEN IT IS ALL OVER, WE SHALL WEAR A CROWN

**MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 3:11** Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

### ENTIRE LESSON: I Peter 4:1-10

1. Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;
2. That he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

3. For the time past of *our* life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:
4. Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with *them* to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of *you*:
5. Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.
6. For this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.
7. But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.
8. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.
9. Use hospitality one to another without grudging.
10. As every man hath received the gift, *even so* minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

**PURPOSE:** To show that when we are suffering and being reproached as a Christian, it is not an occasion for feeling ashamed, but to glorify Almighty God. It is written: “Yet if *any man suffer* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (I Peter 4:16).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:10).

### COMMENTARY

The Bible lets us know that all of God’s prophets suffered for their faithfulness to Him. Some survived, others gave their lives. Daniel was thrown into a den of lions because of his beliefs, but God delivered him (Read Daniel 6:15-23). His three friends (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego) were condemned to death in a “burning fiery furnace” because they would not bow to Nebuchadnezzar’s golden image (Babylon’s idol god). God miraculously spared their lives (Read Daniel 3:8-29).

David constantly cried out to God for deliverance from his enemies (Read Psalm 7:1-2, 18:7-19). But his confidence in God is expressed in Psalm 3:2-7. We, as believers, are to live as examples even under difficult circumstances. Remember Revelation 3:11, “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: **hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown**” (Revelation 3:11).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | A Crown of Life – James 1:12; Revelation 2:10  |
| Tuesday   | A Crown of Glory – I Peter 5:4                 |
| Wednesday | A Crown of Rejoicing – I Thessalonians 2:19-20 |
| Thursday  | A Crown of Righteousness – II Timothy 4:8      |
| Friday    | An Incorruptible Crown – I Corinthians 9:25    |
| Saturday  | The Crowns of Gold – Revelation 4:4            |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Peter 5:10-11** But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*. To him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

**BELIEVERS, SEALED WITH THAT HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 1:13** In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed with that holy Spirit of promise**.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Revelation 7:1-17**

1. And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.
2. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,
3. Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.
4. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: *and there were* sealed an hundred *and forty and* four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.
5. Of the tribe of Judah *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad *were* sealed twelve thousand.
6. Of the tribe of Aser *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses *were* sealed twelve thousand.
7. Of the tribe of Simeon *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar *were* sealed twelve thousand.
8. Of the tribe of Zabulon *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph *were* sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin *were* sealed twelve thousand.
9. After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
10. And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.
11. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and *about* the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,
12. Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, *be* unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.
13. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?
14. And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
15. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.
16. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.
17. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.



**PURPOSE:** To remind God’s people, “grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:30-32).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Be not “weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Galatians 6:9).

### COMMENTARY

God’s great desire for His people is that we feel secure in His love and in His power. Everything else in life may be unstable—our health, our family, our job, our education, our society, our world. At any of these levels you may feel as if you are out on a forty-foot ledge during an unpredictable wind. You feel yourself losing balance and falling, and every brick you grab pulls out of its mortar.

This message contained in this word ‘sealed’ is a message of safety and security in God’s love and power. God sends the Holy Spirit as a preserving seal to lock in our faith, as an authenticating seal to validate our sonship, and as a protecting seal to keep out destructive forces. “I have chosen you,” says the Lord. ‘I have predestined you; I have redeemed you; I have sealed you by my Spirit. Your inheritance is sure, because I am passionately committed to magnify the glory of my grace in your salvation’.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

Monday The Blood of Christ – Ephesians 1:13-14, 2:13

Tuesday Man of Sin – II Thessalonians 2:3

Wednesday A Great Wonder in Heaven – Revelation 12:1

Thursday A Great Nation – Genesis 12:2

Friday Jacob Blesses His Sons – Genesis 49:1-27

Saturday Division in the Land – Ezekiel 48:1-7

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 7:2** And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea.

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## LESSON 20

DECEMBER 13, 2020

**BE YE GLAD AND REJOICE:  
“OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY, BEHOLD,  
ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW”**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 65:17-18** For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever *in that* which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Revelation 21:1-27

1. And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
3. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.
4. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.
5. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.
6. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.
7. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.
8. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.
9. And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.
10. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,
11. Having the glory of God: and her light *was* like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;
12. And had a wall great and high, *and* had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are *the names* of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:
13. On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.
14. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.
15. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.
16. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.
17. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred *and forty and* four cubits, *according to* the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.
18. And the building of the wall of it was *of* jasper: and the city *was* pure gold, like unto clear glass.
19. And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation *was* jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;
20. The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysopterus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.
21. And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

22. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.
23. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.
24. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.
25. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.
26. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.
27. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that “If any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (II Corinthians 5:17).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** When we think of new things in that glorious city, we think of God's glory, spiritual light, radiancy, precious stones, pearly gates, all of the saints and kings and priests bringing their honor to the city.

### COMMENTARY

Eternal renewal and expectation of new things begin for the Christian at the time of salvation. We are the new creation in an old world, but we anticipate a glorious new body, a glorious transformation and the glorious new city of New Jerusalem. God promised to make all things new. Overcomers may expect and will inherit all things.

In contrast to the glorious new things of the righteous, sinners will have their part in the Lake of Fire and Brimstone. According to Scripture, the fearful are the first mentioned to have their part in the Lake of Fire. They did not encounter the difficulties of standing up for right, in spite what others did. Because of fear, they were not among those to suffer persecution. Unbelievers dared not to take up the cross, deny themselves and follow Jesus. They were never duty bound. All workers of iniquity may expect future punishment.

Everything will change. Every tear will be wiped away. The Lord will comfort His people for all the suffering they have endured, for whatever reason they suffered. Praise God, when He wipes away tears, they don't return. It is written: “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful ” (verses 4, 5).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

***When we encounter troubles, tests, and trials, remember this: We are just passing through! In other words, just keep on rejoicing in the God of our salvation. It is written:***

Monday “I will **rejoice** in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God *is* my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' *feet*, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments” (Habakkuk 3:18-19).

Tuesday “The father of the righteous shall greatly **rejoice**: and he that begetteth a wise *child* shall have joy of him. Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall **rejoice**. My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways” (Proverbs 23:24-26).

- Wednesday “With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth. I have **rejoiced** in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways” (Psalm 119:13-15).
- Thursday “I will greatly **rejoice** in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels” (Isaiah 61:10).
- Friday “This is the day *which* the LORD hath made; we will **rejoice** and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).
- Saturday “**Rejoicing** in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer...**Rejoice** with them that do **rejoice**, and weep with them that weep” (Romans 12:12, 15).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ecclesiastes 11:9** Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these *things* God will bring thee into judgment.

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LESSON 21

DECEMBER 20, 2020

**CHRISTMAS LESSON  
THE MORNING STAR TEACHES US  
WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOD AND HIS WORK**

**MOTTO TEXT: II Peter 1:19** We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 2:1-23**

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
3. When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.
5. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,
6. And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
9. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.
13. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.
14. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:
15. And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.
16. Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.
17. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,
18. In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.
19. But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,
20. Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.
21. And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.
22. But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:
23. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that it doesn't matter what we are facing or what we are going through, the Day Star is "shining in a dark place, until the day dawn," and it will arise in our hearts.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** "The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple" (Psalm 19:7).

### COMMENTARY

We are co-workers with God. As such, His miraculous Words in our mouths (through faith) can speak something out of nothing. According to the Word of God, we are recipients of God's authority, His possession, His eternal riches, etc. It is written: "And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:20-21).

There is no way of pleasing God without knowing who He is and who we are in Christ Jesus, for He enables us to do things only God Himself can do. It is written: “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure” (Philippians 2:13).

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

- Monday “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12).
- Tuesday “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world” (John 9:5).
- Wednesday “I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness” (John 12:46).
- Thursday “This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil” (John 3:19).
- Friday “In him was life; and the life was the light of men. . . . *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world” (John 1:4, 9).
- Saturday “Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth” (John 12:35).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I John 2:8-10** Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

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**THEME III**  
**THE PEOPLE HAVE ROBBED GOD**

Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto me,  
saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the LORD of hosts.  
Zechariah 1:3

**LESSONS 22-30**

**LESSON 22**

**DECEMBER 27, 2020**

**O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM!**  
**WHO SHALL DELIVER ME FROM THE BODY OF THIS DEATH?**

**MOTTO TEXT: Romans 7:19-20** For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 7:5-25**

5. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.
6. But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not *in* the oldness of the letter.
7. What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.
8. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin *was* dead.
9. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.
10. And the commandment, which *was ordained* to life, I found *to be* unto death.
11. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew *me*.
12. Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.
13. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.
14. For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.
15. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.
16. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that *it is* good.
17. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
18. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.
19. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.
20. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
21. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.
22. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:
23. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.
24. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25. I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

**PURPOSE:** God’s Word concerning sin is the same today, yesterday and forever more.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God, the Great Judge of the earth, is under oath to enforce His law of sin and death, regardless of who is guilty.

**COMMENTARY**

In I John 1:9, the Lord says, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” It is imperative that we realize exactly what God is saying. I John 1:9 does not say, “If we confess,” but it says, “If we confess *our* sins.” There is a big difference.

To simply confess means nothing. But to confess something as a sin means admitting it is wrong and admitting what is right. Someone can confess something, but not really feel it is wrong or experience any remorse for it. A person can even confess something and admit it is wrong, but not be willing to quit. That is not genuine repentance which true confession of sin includes. True confession of sin is admitting you have sinned, and you must make a 180 degree turn from that sin.

Many professed Christians stray and sin sexually, but they never confess it as a sin. Some admit it is wrong, but no repentance is involved. That is why many people never experience the joy that God has for them. It is written: “For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That **every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour**; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God” (I Thessalonians 4:3-5).

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*God’s law concerning sin is as much in force today, as it was in the Garden of Eden.*

*God is yet saying:*

- Monday The soul that sinneth it shall die – Ezekiel 18:4
- Tuesday The unrighteous man shall die for his sins – Ezekiel 18:26, 33:18
- Wednesday The wages of sin is death – Romans 3:23, 6:23
- Thursday To live after the flesh is to die – Romans 8:12-13
- Friday The unrighteous shall not enter into the Kingdom of God – I Corinthians 6:9-11
- Saturday Sinning profess believers shall lose their inheritance – Galatians 5:21

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

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**LESSON 23**

**JANUARY 3, 2021**

**NEW YEAR’S LESSON/NEW BEGINNING  
PRAYING AND TRUSTING GOD FOR DELIVERANCE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 5:3, 8** My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up...Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.



## ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 5:1-12

1. Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.
2. Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.
3. My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct *my prayer* unto thee, and will look up.
4. For thou *art* not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.
5. The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.
6. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.
7. But as for me, I will come *into* thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: *and* in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.
8. Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.
9. For *there is* no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part *is* very wickedness; their throat *is* an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.
10. Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.
11. But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.
12. For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that God expects His people to call upon Him when they are in need of deliverance.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** There is only One who can help us in time of need and that is the Lord Himself. He has all authority and all power in heaven and on earth.

## COMMENTARY

The word ‘deliver’ means to hand over or set free. In fact, salvation means to deliver from the power, dominion, and guilt of sin. No one has the power, but God, and to whom He gives this power. Trust means to place confidence, and we usually place confidence in those we believe are able.

God is all wise, and this is justification for trusting Him for our deliverance. In teaching His disciples how to pray, He said, “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

Paul, in writing to his son Timothy, gave him instructions on how to behave and explained how God delivered him from his enemies and made him able to endure hardness as a good soldier. Reader, let us not be like many people, when faced with trouble, who will instinctively revert back to their lifelong habits.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | God Is Our Rock in Whom We Take Refuge – Psalm 18:2     |
| Tuesday   | God Delivers His People from All Troubles – Psalm 34:17 |
| Wednesday | God Is Our Hiding Place – Psalm 32:7                    |
| Thursday  | God Delivers Us from All Fears – Psalm 34:4             |
| Friday    | God Is Able – Isaiah 50:2                               |
| Saturday  | God Is Our Defense – Psalm 62:6                         |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 32:7** Thou *art* my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. *Selah*

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LESSON 24

JANUARY 10, 2021

**BE NOT DECEIVED:  
NO MAN CAN BE SAVED BY GOOD WORKS ALONE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 7:21-23** Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 7:13-29**

13. Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:
14. Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.
15. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.
16. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?
17. Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.
18. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.
19. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.
20. herefore by their fruits ye shall know them.
21. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
22. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?
23. And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.
24. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
25. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.
26. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:
27. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.
28. And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:
29. For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that those who trust they will be saved by their work shall be lost in the Day of Judgment, for no man can be saved by any good work he does. It is written: “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:8-10).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto *them that are* wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!” (Isaiah 5:20-21)

## COMMENTARY

The word *Masonry* applies to the most secret order in the world and is believed to be one of the largest in membership. It is said the fundamental principle of this organization is declared belief in God, and the acceptance of a book of laws. The Bible lies open on an altar during the opening of any lodge. Many in the Lodge are there because they *thought* it was a “Christian” civic group and have been led there by friends, family and even clergy.

According to ancient history, the Masonry dates back to the time of King Solomon, from medieval guilds of Masons and architects, the most skilled of whom had an organization bound together by signs and passwords which represented the secrets of their trades. It is not until the 18<sup>th</sup> century that permanent lodges were reestablished upon the principles, which the modern organization is founded.

There are various degrees of Masonry, but three degrees only are required to become a master Mason. All other degrees are only added exemplification of the mysteries of Free Masonry. It is written: “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ” (Colossians 2:8).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday **Matthew 5:34-37** – “But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God’s throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.”
- Tuesday **Matthew 10:28** – “Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”
- Wednesday **Ephesians 5:11-12** – “Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.”
- Thursday **James 5:12** – “But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and *your* nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.”
- Friday **Deuteronomy 29:29** – “The secret *things belong* unto the LORD our God: but those *things which are* revealed *belong* unto us and to our children for ever, that *we* may do all the words of this law.”

Saturday **Galatians 6:7-8** – “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Mark 4:22** For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad.

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**LESSON 25**

**JANUARY 17, 2021**

### **WITCHCRAFT: A SATANIC TRIP TO BE AVOIDED**

**MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 18:9** When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Deuteronomy 18:10-22**

10. There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, *or* that useth divination, *or* an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,
11. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.
12. For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.
13. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.
14. For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so *to do*.
15. The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;
16. According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.
17. And the LORD said unto me, They have well *spoken that* which they have spoken.
18. I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.
19. And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require *it* of him.
20. But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die.
21. And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?
22. When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that *is* the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, *but* the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that God’s people are warned against the satanic traps of Satan, which are deceitful, false, and demonic.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Many people, including saints, are fascinated by horoscopes, fortune telling, witchcraft, and bizarre cults; as a result, their interest comes from a desire to know and control the future.

### COMMENTARY

As believers we must trust in the surety of God's Word and not regard them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, nor be defiled by them. Thank God for delivering His people from the sin of rebellion and all the traps of Satan.

Let us continuously pray and ask the Lord God to help us not to be deceived by the seemingly miraculous power of sin. The Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, shows that in the last days there will be worldwide deception that if it were possible, God's very elect will be deceived. Let us ask our Lord God to keep us from all evil and temptation, and help us to teach others to do the same.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | God's order and command against the occult – Deuteronomy 18:9-13   |
| Tuesday   | The occult expresses spiritual rebellion against God – Leviticus 20:2-5  |
| Wednesday | The occult is satanic and religious trap – Isaiah 28:1-25  |
| Thursday  | God is against all who justify efforts to contact the dead or communicate with the spirit of the dead – Leviticus 19:31, 20:6; Galatians 5:19-21   |
| Friday    | Obedying God's command helps us avoid being deceived and losing favor with God – Ephesians 2:8-9   |
| Saturday  | “Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from <i>these things</i> that shall come upon thee” Isaiah 47:13 |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Leviticus 20:6** And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

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LESSON 26

JANUARY 24, 2021

### THE LUKEWARM CHURCH: DISPLEASING IN THE SIGHT OF GOD

**MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 3:15-16** I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Revelation 3:14-22

14. And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
15. I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
16. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
18. I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.
19. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.
20. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
21. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
22. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that God is displeased with a church (or Christian) that is happy with itself, happy where it is and happy with what it has done.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (II Corinthians 13:5)

### COMMENTARY

A church doesn’t become lukewarm overnight. It takes year after year for this to happen. The tragic thing is, since it’s slow and gradual, many church congregations don’t even notice it. When Jesus addresses the indecisive Laodicean church, He doesn’t have much good to say about it.

Dying churches all over America have fallen prey to the temptation of false doctrine. Is God pleased because the church seems to be growing, but failing to grow spiritually? Is it not written? “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry” (II Timothy 4:3-5).

Lukewarm Christians are those who sit in churches and believe the message of the gospel but are not really sold out to Jesus and not meaningfully engaged in the mission. They are complacent.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday “Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world” (I John 2:15-16).
- Tuesday “They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate” (Titus 1:16).
- Wednesday “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh. And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” (Luke 6:45-46)

- Thursday “Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near *me* with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men” (Isaiah 29:13).
- Friday “Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 6:1)
- Saturday “The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, *I* try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, *and* according to the fruit of his doings” (Jeremiah 17:9-10).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 1:18-20** Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

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LESSON 27

JANUARY 31, 2021

**ICHABOD:  
THE VANISHING LAW OF CHRIST IN CHURCHES**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Samuel 4:21** And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Samuel 4:12-22**

12. And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes rent, and with earth upon his head.
13. And when he came, lo, Eli sat upon a seat by the wayside watching: for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city, and told *it*, all the city cried out.
14. And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What *meaneth* the noise of this tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli.
15. Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes were dim, that he could not see.
16. And the man said unto Eli, I *am* he that came out of the army, and I fled to day out of the army. And he said, What is there done, my son?
17. And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God is taken.
18. And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died: for he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.
19. And his daughter in law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, *near* to be delivered: and when she heard the tidings that the ark of God was taken, and that her father in law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed; for her pains came upon her.

20. And about the time of her death the women that stood by her said unto her, Fear not; for thou hast born a son. But she answered not, neither did she regard *it*.
21. And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband.
22. And she said, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of God is taken.

**PURPOSE:** To stress biblical facts that failure to teach the people all the fullness of God's Word can cost the church the presence of God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Many leaders fear teaching the whole gospel truth, thinking it will divide and destroy the church. In fact, just the opposite happens, telling the **whole truth** will unite the church, revive its spirit and produce spiritual growth.

### COMMENTARY

The Bible calls Satan the great deceiver. To be deceived means to be led away from the truth without knowing it. Satan's plan is to deceive mankind by working on human weaknesses. He knows what he is doing. In Proverbs 16:25 we read: "There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death." Think about this for a moment. The Bible states "the wages of sin is death." So what may seem right, can lead to death because the consequence of sin is death. Do you see how deception works?

Many leaders are deciding the moral standards of the church, as well as objectives and methods employed to achieve them. The moral law by many is being altered to pacify the salacious and unorthodox inclinations of humankind, rather than do what is declared righteous in God's sight. It is written: "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter" (Isaiah 5:20).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | God's timeless Word is the only light that can give spiritual direction in the vast darkness of this world (I Samuel 15:35).  |
| Tuesday   | When Eli's daughter-in-law was pregnant and received news of her husband's death, she gave birth and named the child Ichabod (I Samuel 4:21-22).                      |
| Wednesday | When the Church of Laodicean forgot their dependence on Christ, He left that church and spewed them out of His mouth because they were lukewarm (Revelation 3:14-22). |
| Thursday  | God is not willing that one soul be lost (Revelation 3:19).   |
| Friday    | Jesus drove them out of the temple, saying to them, "Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise" (John 2:15-16).                     |
| Saturday  | "I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present <i>you as</i> a chaste virgin to Christ" (II Corinthians 11:2).   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Timothy 3:1-2** This *is* a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. **A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach.**



## THE REPEATED DAYS OF NOAH AND LOT

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 24:42-44** Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 17:26-37**

26. And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.
27. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.
28. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;
29. But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all.
30. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.
31. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.
32. Remember Lot's wife.
33. Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it.
34. I tell you, in that night there shall be two *men* in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.
35. Two *women* shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
36. Two *men* shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
37. And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body *is*, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light how man disobeyed God's Commandments and fell from His grace.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** "For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one *part* under heaven, shineth unto the other *part* under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day" (Luke 17:24).

**COMMENTARY**

We know that the Days of both Noah and Lot were followed by wrath from the Almighty. It would actually be more appropriate to say the Days of Noah and Lot warranted the wrath that followed them. But why? Why the Flood? Why the fire and brimstone? It has been said that if we do not learn from the past, we are doomed to repeat it.

It appears people thought they were living normal lives during the time Noah lived, just before the Flood. They were oblivious to the impending disaster. Living in this evil society that refused to repent, Noah alone found favor in God's sight as a "righteous" person. We are told that he was "moved with godly fear" and built an ark (Genesis 7:1;

Hebrews 11:7). Because of the widespread violence in the world at that time, God decided to repopulate the earth through this faithful man and his descendants (Genesis 6:17-18).

As the violence of this present age increases, God's message becomes more fitting: "Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because *there is* no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood. Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away" (Hosea 4:1-3).

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | The Pre-flood Age was an age of godlessness – Genesis 4:16-24         |
| Tuesday   | The Pre-flood Age was an age of city building – Genesis 4:17          |
| Wednesday | The Pre-flood Age saw the breakdown of the home – Genesis 4:19        |
| Thursday  | The days of Noah were days of agricultural development – Genesis 4:20 |
| Friday    | The pre-flood era was an age of music making – Genesis 4:21           |
| Saturday  | The pre-flood age was characterized by violence – Genesis 4:23        |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ecclesiastes 1:9-10** The thing that hath been, *it is that* which shall be; and that which is done *is* that which shall be done: and *there is* no new *thing* under the sun. Is there *any* thing whereof it may be said, See, this *is* new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.

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## **LESSON 29**

**FEBRUARY 14, 2021**

### **SIN IN THE HEART YIELDS DEATH IN THE BLOOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: Leviticus 17:11** For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: Leviticus 17:1-16**

1. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
2. Speak unto Aaron, and unto his sons, and unto all the children of Israel, and say unto them; This *is* the thing which the LORD hath commanded, saying,
3. What man soever *there be* of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth *it* out of the camp,
4. And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people:
5. To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them *for* peace offerings unto the LORD.
6. And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the LORD *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the LORD.

7. And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.
8. And thou shalt say unto them, Whatsoever man *there be* of the house of Israel, or of the strangers which sojourn among you, that offereth a burnt offering or sacrifice,
9. And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer it unto the LORD; even that man shall be cut off from among his people.
10. And whatsoever man *there be* of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people.
11. For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.
12. Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood.
13. And whatsoever man *there be* of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust.
14. For *it is* the life of all flesh; the blood of it *is* for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh *is* the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.
15. And every soul that eateth that which died *of itself*, or that which was torn *with beasts*, *whether it be* one of your own country, or a stranger, he shall both wash his clothes, and bathe *himself* in water, and be unclean until the even: then shall he be clean.
16. But if he wash *them* not, nor bathe his flesh; then he shall bear his iniquity.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that the divine blood in human flesh is so powerful that it can melt the most callous, murderous, vengeful and spiteful hearts known to mankind.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Man's disobedience to God's Commandment was not to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, which caused death in the blood.

## COMMENTARY

As we study the meaning and mystery of the blood in the body, we must begin with the fundamental principle recorded in Leviticus 17:11, "For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul."

Man was created by God from the dust of the earth. God the Creator breathed His own breath into man's nostrils, this is when man became a living soul. It is written: "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7).

The divine blood in human flesh is so powerful that it touches broken and despised hearts. The divine blood brings hope, cleanses, heals, and delivers from the curse of sin and death. It is written: "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" (Hebrews 9:14)

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*By the blood of Jesus, we have these and other wonderful provisions which we will see throughout the Word of God.*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | We receive forgiveness of sins – Matthew 26:28                    |
| Tuesday   | We are completely washed of our sins – Revelation 1:5             |
| Wednesday | We are redeemed – Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14                  |
| Thursday  | We are justified and regarded as innocent before God – Romans 5:9 |
| Friday    | We are brought near to God – Ephesians 2:13                       |
| Saturday  | We have peace with God – Colossians 1:20                          |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 119:10-11** With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

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LESSON 30

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

### THE UNJUST SERVANT: FORGIVEN BUT NOT FORGIVING

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 18:27-28** Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took *him* by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 18:23-35

23. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.
24. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.
25. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.
26. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.
27. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.
28. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took *him* by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.
29. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.
30. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.
31. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.
32. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33. Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?
34. And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.
35. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

**PURPOSE:** To remind God’s people that if we fail to impart forgiveness, when one who has offended us repents of the offense, we expose ourselves to the coals of fire, and we are in worse shape than the one who has given the offense.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Christians are commanded to be forgiving. Whatever the offences, we are told to forgive those who offended us as many times as we are offended. This degree of forgiveness, however hard it is for many of us to do, is very important.

**COMMENTARY**

In the Parable of the Unforgiving / Unmerciful / Unjust Servant, Jesus is teaching His disciples, about forgiveness. The first servant had been forgiven all, and he then should have forgiven all. In like manner, a child of God by faith through Christ has had all sins forgiven. Therefore, when someone offends or sins against us, we should be willing to forgive him from a heart of gratitude for the grace to which we ourselves are debtors.

It is easy to proclaim the virtue of forgiveness. But the reality is another matter. C.S. Lewis put it so well, “Forgiveness is a beautiful word until, you have something to forgive.” But why is forgiveness so hard? First, forgiveness is difficult because it is not natural. The natural human impulse is to get even, to exact revenge. Forgiveness goes against the grain of human existence. Secondly, forgiveness is hard because it is not fair. To forgive without just repayment offends our sense of justice. We want to be vindicated.

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*What happens when we refuse to forgive?*

- Monday God Himself Won’t Forgive Us – Matthew 6:14-15
- Tuesday It Breeds Bitterness – Hebrews 12:14-15
- Wednesday We get stuck in the past – Isaiah 43:18-19
- Thursday It Gives Satan a Foothold – Ephesians 4:26-27
- Friday Hinders Our Fellowship with God – Mark 11:25-26
- Saturday Our Hearts Become Hardened – Romans 2:5

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ezekiel 36:26** A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

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**THEME IV**  
**GOD'S MESSAGE TO DIVINE LEADERSHIP**

And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee,  
if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.  
Blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the city, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the field.  
Deuteronomy 28:2-3

**LESSONS 31-44**

**LESSON 31**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

**LEADERS CANNOT SHOW OTHERS THE WAY  
UNTIL THEY KNOW GOD'S WAY**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 119:10-11** With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 119:1-24**

1. Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.
2. Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart.
3. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.
4. Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy precepts diligently.
5. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!
6. Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.
7. I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.
8. I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.
9. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.
10. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.
11. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
12. Blessed *art* thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.
13. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.
14. I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches.
15. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
16. I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.
17. Deal bountifully with thy servant, *that* I may live, and keep thy word.
18. Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.
19. I *am* a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.
20. My soul breaketh for the longing *that it hath* unto thy judgments at all times.
21. Thou hast rebuked the proud *that are* cursed, which do err from thy commandments.
22. Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies.
23. Princes also did sit *and* speak against me: *but* thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.
24. Thy testimonies also *are* my delight *and* my counsellors.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal Psalm 119 as a roadmap for getting the wisdom, values and principles God’s leaders need to lead the LORD’s people effectively.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God’s leaders do not seek the praises of men; they seek to please the LORD.

### COMMENTARY

The goal of God’s leader should not be to make a great name for ourselves, but to please the LORD in all we do. The leader must not let his discontentment become disconsolation. When a leader sees imperfection within the church membership, he must say with the writer of Hebrews (6:9), “Beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.”

One thing is for sure: if you begin to lead others, you will be criticized. No one will be a significant spiritual leader if his aim is to please others and seek their approval. Paul said in Galatians 1:10-12, “For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught *it*, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

It is written: “For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister” (6:10). It is also written: “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose” (Romans 8:28).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*What happens when we use God’s Word as our source for leadership principles?*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Our leadership will be blessed – Psalm 119:1-2                                     |
| Tuesday   | Our leadership will remain pure and ethical – Psalm 119:9-11                       |
| Wednesday | Our leadership will enjoy liberty – Psalm 119:45                                   |
| Thursday  | Our leadership will gain wise counsel when needed – Psalm 119:66                   |
| Friday    | Our leadership will be strengthened and revitalized – Psalm 119:28, 149, 154-159   |
| Saturday  | Our leadership will have a reliable guide even for new issues – Psalm 119:129, 160 |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 119:124-125** Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes. I *am* thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.

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LESSON 32

MARCH 7, 2021

### YOUTH DAY WATCH THE COMPANY YOU KEEP

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 1:1-2** Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

## ENTIRE LESSON: I Corinthians 15:33-58

33. Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.
34. Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak *this* to your shame.
35. But some *man* will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?
36. *Thou* fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:
37. And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other *grain*:
38. But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.
39. All flesh *is* not the same flesh: but *there is* one *kind of* flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, *and* another of birds.
40. *There are* also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial *is* one, and the *glory* of the terrestrial *is* another.
41. *There is* one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for *one* star differeth from *another* star in glory.
42. So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:
43. It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:
44. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.
45. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was made* a quickening spirit.
46. Howbeit that *was* not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.
47. The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.
48. As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.
49. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.
50. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.
51. Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
52. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
53. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.
54. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.
55. O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?
56. The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.
57. But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
58. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.



**PURPOSE:** To reiterate that we are influenced by the company we keep. Often there are people around us who have a negative effect on our morality and decision making, sometimes they are our family members.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” (I Corinthians 15:33).

### COMMENTARY

Giving up your friends is hard. You may believe the propagated lie, ‘You can resist foolish friends’. Or, you may find your best friends are fools. Or, your foolish friends may be popular, costing you status with peers. Or, you may naively think you can help foolish friends. The warning about deception is to save you, since many think friends are not dangerous. But if you allow an evil input in your life, you will lose your good manners.

Concerned parents monitor every friend, for foolish friends are a great threat to children and youth. Many decent parents make schooling decisions to protect their children, but fail to monitor individual friends from school, work, church, family, sports, and neighbors.

Whether we like it or not, we tend to become more like those we hang around. The company we keep can degrade our godly morals and ruin our judgment very quickly, and we can easily become deceived if we are not careful.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*Scriptures offers advice on what to do about these situations and the consequences of keeping bad company:*

Monday “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (II Corinthians 6:14)

Tuesday “But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat” (I Corinthians 5:11).

Wednesday “He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. Evil pursueth sinners: but to the righteous good shall be repayed” (Proverbs 13:20-21).

Thursday “scorner seeketh wisdom, and *findeth it* not: but knowledge *is* easy unto him that understandeth. Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not *in him* the lips of knowledge” (Proverbs 14:6-7).

Friday “I hate *vain* thoughts: but thy law do I love. Thou *art* my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word. Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God” (Psalm 119:113-115).

Saturday “I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked” (Psalm 26:4-5).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Romans 16:17-18** Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

## MINISTERS: PASSING GOD'S TEST FOR DIVINE LEADERSHIP

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 18:19-20** Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God: And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Exodus 18:1-27**

1. When Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father in law, heard of all that God had done for Moses, and for Israel his people, *and* that the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt;
2. Then Jethro, Moses' father in law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife, after he had sent her back,
3. And her two sons; of which the name of the one *was* Gershom; for he said, I have been an alien in a strange land:
4. And the name of the other *was* Eliezer; for the God of my father, *said he, was* mine help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh:
5. And Jethro, Moses' father in law, came with his sons and his wife unto Moses into the wilderness, where he encamped at the mount of God:
6. And he said unto Moses, I thy father in law Jethro am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her.
7. And Moses went out to meet his father in law, and did obeisance, and kissed him; and they asked each other of *their* welfare; and they came into the tent.
8. And Moses told his father in law all that the LORD had done unto Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, *and* all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and *how* the LORD delivered them.
9. And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.
10. And Jethro said, Blessed *be* the LORD, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.
11. Now I know that the LORD *is* greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly *he was* above them.
12. And Jethro, Moses' father in law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God: and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses' father in law before God.
13. And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.
14. And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What *is* this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even?
15. And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to inquire of God:
16. When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make *them* know the statutes of God, and his laws.
17. And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest *is* not good.

18. Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that *is* with thee: for this thing *is* too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.
19. Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:
20. And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt show them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.
21. Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them, *to be* rulers of thousands, *and* rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:
22. And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, *that* every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear *the burden* with thee.
23. If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee *so*, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.
24. So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.
25. And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.
26. And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.
27. And Moses let his father in law depart; and he went his way into his own land.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that Jesus Christ is truly God's perfect role model for Christian leadership.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Jesus shaped His followers for future leadership, knowing that divine leadership is more than historical curiosity; it is an ongoing reality in every generation, until the consummation of the church on the earth.

### COMMENTARY

Shepherding God's people is one of the greatest tasks assigned on this earth to anyone. So important is this ministry that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be the perfect example for all Christian leadership. God, therefore, calls each of His leaders (*of every rank and file*) to assume the same profile of Christ, namely: the eagle, the ox, the lion, and the man.

The Apostle Paul exhorted pastors and teachers to train up leaders within the church (Ephesians 4:11-13). Pastors are still called to identify and train the next generation of leaders in our churches. If the pastor doesn't equip the next generation of leaders in the church, who will?

Churches need an equipping culture. Of course, everyone in our churches should be disciplined and all are called to be ministers. If you do discipleship, you'll be creating leaders. But if you recognize someone with the gifts and calling to vocational ministry, take the time to personally invest in them beyond the discipleship and development of a lay church member.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

Monday As we move forward to the Soon Coming of Christ, we are going through a transition. Many of the Lord's matured leaders are being called from labor to reward, while the Lord is raising up a new generation to continue God's work (Psalm 78:4-7).

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Tuesday   | Like Christ, it is our task today to follow Christ, God's perfect pattern, who left on this earth a first generation of leadership that has yet to be equaled. I Peter 2:21  |
| Wednesday | Let us now examine ourselves to see if we qualify for the position we might desire. II Corinthians 13:5  |
| Thursday  | Are you saved and filled with God the Holy Ghost, good moral standards, sound judgment, and common sense, according to Acts 2:4, 38-39, 6:3, 10:46; I Corinthians 12:3; Mark 16:17?  |
| Friday    | The office of an apostle, bishop, prophet, evangelist, pastor, elder, teacher, deacon, etc., requires being blameless, the spouse of one mate, vigilant, good behavior, hospitable, apt to teach ( <i>especially by example</i> ). I Timothy 3:2 |
| Saturday  | Walking with God requires an intimate, prayer-filled reliance upon him. Christian leadership is truly impossible if you haven't fostered an intimate relationship with Christ. Genesis 6:9   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 5:14-16** Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

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## LESSON 34

MARCH 21, 2021

### DAVID: A LEADER AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

**MOTTO TEXT: I Samuel 16:7** But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: I Samuel 16:1-13

1. And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.
2. And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear *it*, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.
3. And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me *him* whom I name unto thee.
4. And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?
5. And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.
6. And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed *is* before him.
7. But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man

looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

8. Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.
9. Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.
10. Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.
11. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all *thy* children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.
12. And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, *and* withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this *is* he.
13. Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that David loved the Lord and lived his life as a man after God's own heart (I Samuel 13:14).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** David's example shows that true leaders always declare themselves without making any announcements.

### COMMENTARY

By human standards, David, as the youngest son of Jesse, appeared least likely to be considered for a leadership position. But God saw the young heart of this young man and knew that His people needed a leader with a tenderness of spirit. David became a warrior, but gentleness was his defining trait.

David developed into a leader of courage with wisdom and strength beyond his years. He demonstrated his godly spirit through his willingness to take on Goliath while the great warriors of Israel hid in their tents (I Samuel 17:40-50).

David enjoyed a clear sense of dependence on God and made sure God would get the glory for any success in his life. His life illustrates that faithfulness in small things often results in much larger assignments and greater responsibility down the road.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | <b>David's perspective differed from others.</b> He didn't see what everyone else saw, an invincible Giant. He saw an opportunity.                      |
| Tuesday   | <b>David's methods differed from others.</b> He decided to use proven weapons that he knew would work, not the conventional ones.                       |
| Wednesday | <b>David's conviction differed from others.</b> He recognized Goliath had no covenant with God, while he felt passionately committed to God's covenant. |
| Thursday  | <b>David's motives differed from others.</b> He heard Goliath's threats against the God of Israel and knew God could beat him.                          |
| Friday    | <b>David's vision differed from others.</b> He waited to make God known to the world as the most powerful God on earth.                                 |
| Saturday  | <b>David's attitude differed from others.</b> He saw Goliath not as a threat too big to hit, but as a target too big to miss.                           |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Chronicles 28:9** And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

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LESSON 35

MARCH 28, 2021

**PALM SUNDAY**  
**CHRIST, OUR EXAMPLE, CAME DOING THE WILL OF GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Peter 2:20-21** For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer *for it*, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Peter 2:1-25**

1. Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,
2. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:
3. If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.
4. To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious,
5. Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
6. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.
7. Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,
8. And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.
9. But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
10. Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.
11. Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;
12. Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.
13. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;
14. Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.
15. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

16. As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.
17. Honour all *men*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.
18. Servants, *be* subject to *your* masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.
19. For this *is* thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.
20. For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer *for it*, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God.
21. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:
22. Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:
23. Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously:
24. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
25. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that as we go about doing the will of God, we must always consider that we are workers together with God. Like Christ, we must do nothing of our own initiative, seeking instead to do God’s will according to His method in all things.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** It is written: “But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked” (I John 2:5-6).

### COMMENTARY

As the ambassador from Heaven, Christ came doing God’s will on earth, as it is in Heaven. Christ prayed always, talking with God to know His will and the way which all things were to be done. Christ, the Living Word of God (John 1:13-14), took the authority God had given Him and acted on God’s behalf.

Christ did all He saw His Father doing. He prayed before He did His deeds and not during them. Jesus was not praying when He cursed the fig tree. He spoke to the fig tree saying, “No man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever.” And presently the fig tree withered. (Mark 11:12-14; 20-24; Matthew 21:18-22; John 5:19, 11:41-42, 14:12).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | When Christ’s disciples became alarmed because of a great tempest in the sea, insomuch as that ship was covered with the waves, Christ arose from sleep and rebuked the winds and the seas, and there was a great calm (Matthew 8:23-27). |
| Tuesday   | With the Word of God’s power, Christ fed five thousand people with two fishes and 5 loaves of bread; there remained twelve filled baskets not consumed (Read Matthew 14:13-21).   |
| Wednesday | The ten lepers pleading for God’s mercy to be healed, Christ spoke and they were healed (Luke 17:11-19).  |

- Thursday The cripple man sitting by the pool of Bethesda, Jesus asked, “Wilt thou be made whole?” Jesus said, “Rise, take up thy bed and walk.” The man was immediately made whole (John 5:1-9).
- Friday Two men, possessed with devils, living in a graveyard were so exceedingly vicious that no man could pass by that way. The men came to Jesus and He cast out the demons with the Word of God (Matthew 8:28-34).
- Saturday Christ’s disciples had been fishing all night long without catching any fish. Christ spoke saying, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a draught.” They gathered such a great multitude of fishes their net broke (Read Luke 5:2-6).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: John 13:13-16** Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for *so* I am. If I then, *your* Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

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LESSON 36

APRIL 4, 2021

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**VICTORY OVER DEATH IN THE GRAVE IS THE RESULTS OF CHRIST**  
**GAINING VICTORY OVER THE POWER OF SIN**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 25:8** He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Mark 16:1-20**

1. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.
2. And very early in the morning the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.
3. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?
4. And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.
5. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.
6. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.
7. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.
8. And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any *man*; for they were afraid.
9. Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.
10. *And* she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.



11. And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.
12. After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.
13. And they went and told *it* unto the residue: neither believed they them.
14. Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
15. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
17. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
19. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
20. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

**PURPOSE:** To show that the resurrection of Christ truly evidences that Satan is defeated, and the power of sin and death is forever broken.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Christ, through the abiding Spirit of the Holy Ghost, was made able to resist the temptation of Satan and sin.

### COMMENTARY

This lesson shows that it is impossible to put too much emphasis on the importance of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Belief in the resurrection holds the destiny of the world and the entire human race.

The doctrine of life after death is so great that Jesus remained on the earth forty days after His resurrection giving infallible proofs. Victory over death in the grave is the result of Christ (in His own person) gaining victory over the power of sin, while being tempted in this world in all points as we are. Yet, Christ was without sin.

Through the eternal spirit He was able to offer Himself to God without spot. For this cause, when death fought to hinder His resurrection, it was not possible. Jesus said, "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Who can bring a charge against Christ? (John 8:46) |
| Tuesday   | Tempted, but remained sinless (Hebrews 4:15)       |
| Wednesday | No guile in His mouth (I Peter 2:22)               |
| Thursday  | The murderer slew an innocent man (I John 3:15)    |
| Friday    | Made sin, but sinned not (II Corinthians 5:21)     |
| Saturday  | We shall rise (I Thessalonians 4:14)               |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Corinthians 15:54** So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

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**LESSON 37**

**APRIL 11, 2021**

### **NOAH: A MAN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**MOTTO TEXT: Hebrews 11:7** By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 6:8-18**

8. Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.
9. These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.
10. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
11. The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.
12. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.
13. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.
14. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.
15. And this *is the fashion* which thou shalt make it *of*: The length of the ark *shall be* three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.
16. A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; *with* lower, second, and third *stories* shalt thou make it.
17. And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein *is* the breath of life, from under heaven; *and* every thing that *is* in the earth shall die.
18. But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that Noah still stands as an example of the kind of person God wants to use.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God hasn't changed, and even now He looks for righteous leaders who can help Him change the world.

#### **COMMENTARY**

There is something about righteousness, the kind of morally virtuous lifestyle powered from Almighty God above. Noah, the man God chose to rescue the human race from extinction, demonstrated just this kind of righteousness.

Humankind had grown so evil that God pledged to destroy it and all living things on earth (Genesis 6:7). But the Lord's pronouncement of judgment didn't come without hope. God had charged righteous Noah to help save a remnant.

God didn't choose Noah randomly. He knows whom He can count on to get things done, and it's not necessarily the one with the most skill, talent, or social standing. Rather, it's the one who daily walks with Him, the one who hears His voice and follows His lead. Noah was just such a man.

No doubt Noah had his own weaknesses and frailties. But he walked with God, and it was that close walk that made him righteous before the Lord (Genesis 6:9).

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Noah faced the same circumstances Christians face today (Matthew 24:36-39).  |
| Tuesday   | Like people today, almost certainly the people of Noah's day were busy enjoying the pleasures of life and did not believe or care that judgment was coming (vv. 12-13).  |
| Wednesday | One can imagine that Noah was often asked about his construction project. Indeed, it is likely that he was mocked for such an enterprise (vv. 6:14-22).  |
| Thursday  | In II Peter 2:5, Noah is described as a "preacher of righteousness."   |
| Friday    | "But without faith <i>it is</i> impossible to please <i>him</i> : for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and <i>that</i> he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).                                  |
| Saturday  | "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith" (Hebrews 11:7). |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I John 2:2-3** And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

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## **LESSON 38**

**APRIL 18, 2021**

### **LEADERSHIP: ARE YOU PROACTIVE OR REACTIVE?**

**MOTTO TEXT: Number 20:9-11** And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts *also*.

### **ENTIRE LESSON: Numbers 20:2-13**

2. And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.
3. And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD!

4. And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?
5. And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? it *is* no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither *is* there any water to drink.
6. And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.
7. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
8. Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.
9. And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him.
10. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?
11. And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts *also*.
12. And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.
13. This *is* the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the LORD, and he was sanctified in them.

**PURPOSE:** To reiterate that God’s leaders should never make a major decision during an emotionally low time. We should make decisions in the peak times, not the valley times.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Choose to be proactive and not reactive in your leadership. Don’t let your mandate come from the grumbling of the crowd.

## COMMENTARY

We learn something invaluable about leadership at the expense of Moses in Numbers 20. By this point Moses felt unendurable weary of the complaining, the stagnation, and the lack of progress among the people. He was running on empty, and in his weakened conditioned he made a decision that cost him his future.

Moses was directed by God to speak to a specific rock in order to get water for the nation. In anger he struck it (as he had earlier). He reacted in fury rather than obeying with poise, and for his disobedience he was barred from entering the Promised Land.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*As leaders, get your cues from God and the mission He has given you. Ask yourself these questions:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Am I a reactor or a creator when I lead?                                 |
| Tuesday   | Do I play defense or offense when I lead?                                |
| Wednesday | Am I a people-pleaser or am I a God-pleaser when I lead? (John 8:29)     |
| Thursday  | Do I boss my calendar, or does someone else choose where I give my time? |
| Friday    | Do I compromise my obedience to God, so that I look better to others?    |
| Saturday  | Do I presume that what worked before will work again?                    |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Titus 1:7-9** For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

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LESSON 39

APRIL 25, 2021

### ACHAN: THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF SIN

**MOTTO TEXT: Joshua 7:1** The children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Joshua 7:2-25**

2. And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which *is* beside Bethaven, on the east side of Bethel, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the country. And the men went up and viewed Ai.
3. And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him, Let not all the people go up; but let about two or three thousand men go up and smite Ai; *and* make not all the people to labour thither; for they *are but* few.
4. So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men: and they fled before the men of Ai.
5. And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them *from* before the gate *even* unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became as water.
6. And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads.
7. And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!
8. Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!
9. For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear *of it*, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?
10. And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?
11. Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put *it* even among their own stuff.
12. Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.
13. Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, *There is* an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou

canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.

14. In the morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your tribes: and it shall be, *that* the tribe which the LORD taketh shall come according to the families *thereof*; and the family which the LORD shall take shall come by households; and the household which the LORD shall take shall come man by man.
15. And it shall be, *that* he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel.
16. So Joshua rose up early in the morning, and brought Israel by their tribes; and the tribe of Judah was taken:
17. And he brought the family of Judah; and he took the family of the Zarhites: and he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man; and Zabdi was taken:
18. And he brought his household man by man; and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.
19. And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide *it* not from me.
20. And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:
21. When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they *are* hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.
22. So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, *it was* hid in his tent, and the silver under it.
23. And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD.
24. And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.
25. And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that our sins are abhorred by God just as much as Achan's sin was in ancient time.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The story of Achan illustrates the principle that leaders may become vulnerable following a major success.

### COMMENTARY

Achan, an Israelite soldier, chose to disobey some clear directives regarding treasures captured in war. Joshua told his men that all the spoils taken from Jericho were "devoted things," belonging in God's treasury. Achan, in his thievery, defied Joshua's orders, taking some valuables and hiding them under his family's tent.

Joshua, unaware of Achan's sin, sent a small contingent of soldiers against Ai, and the confident Israelites suffered a major retreat. Joshua immediately recognized that something must be wrong. He sought God's face for answers and eventually identified Achan as the culprit.

In an act of severe judgment, the guilty man, his entire family, their livestock and possessions were all destroyed. By this act, Joshua determined to follow God and to remove those who would stand in the way of God's work.

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

- Monday Achan's sin caused Israel to be defeated by their enemies. Thirty-six men died as a result of his sin. (Joshua 6:18, 7:5)
- Tuesday God punished the whole family of Achan so that the rest of the nation could see that God does not tolerate sin. (Verses 15, 17)
- Wednesday There are many sins that not only bring evil effects to the sinner, but to the sinner's family as well. (Verses 11, 24-25; Deuteronomy 29:18-20)
- Thursday Achan did not come forward when Israel failed in its first attempt to take Ai. (Verse 4)
- Friday During the lengthy investigation, Achan was yet hiding his sin. (Verses 18)
- Saturday Achan's confession came only after he was directly confronted by Joshua. (Verses 19-20)

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I John 1:6-7** If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

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**LESSON 40**

**MAY 2, 2021**

**NATIONAL PRAYER DAY  
THE COSTLY RESULTS OF AN IMPAIRED PRAYER LIFE**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Thessalonians 5:17-19** Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Thessalonians 5:1-28**

1. But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.
2. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.
3. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.
4. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
5. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
6. Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.
7. For they that sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.
9. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,
10. Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.
11. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.
12. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;
13. And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. *And* be at peace among yourselves.
14. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all *men*.
15. See that none render evil for evil unto any *man*; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all *men*.
16. Rejoice evermore.
17. Pray without ceasing.
18. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
19. Quench not the Spirit.
20. Despise not prophesyings.
21. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
22. Abstain from all appearance of evil.
23. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
24. Faithful *is* he that calleth you, who also will do *it*.
25. Brethren, pray for us.
26. Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss.
27. I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren.
28. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that living in sin grieves the Holy Ghost and hinders our prayers.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The Lord God said, "Behold, the LORD's hands are not shortened, that he cannot save; neither his ears heavy that he cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:1-2).

### COMMENTARY

Prayer is spiritual communication between man and God, a two-way relationship in which man should not only talk to God, but also listen to Him. Prayer to God is like a child's conversation with his father. It is natural for a child to ask his father for the things he needs and desires.

There are many promises in God's Word to encourage us to pray, such as: "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him" (Psalm 91:15); "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear" (Isaiah 65:24); "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7). The Scriptures that tell us we are to pray for one another, also assure us that God hears and answers prayer.



Our attitude in prayer is important. We must not be haughty, but humble (Ephesians 4:2; James 4:10; I Peter 5:6, etc.). Seen in this light, to "pray continually" (I Thessalonians 5:17) means, in one sense that we must always strive to have a prayerful attitude. Our prayers must come often and regularly, not from legalistic duty, but from a humble heart, realizing our dependence on God in every aspect of our lives. Martin Luther said, "The less we pray, the harder it gets."

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Hannah found comfort in praying – I Samuel 1:13  |
| Tuesday   | Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, prayed fervently to the Lord – II Chronicles 20:1-24       |
| Wednesday | Paul and Silas prayed while incarcerated – Acts 16:25-34                                   |
| Thursday  | Hezekiah prayed humbly to the Lord for his life to be extended – II Kings 19:14-19, 20:1-6 |
| Friday    | Jabez prayed and cried out to God – I Chronicles 4:10                                      |
| Saturday  | David's prayer for deliverance – Psalm chapter 3   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 34:17** *The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.*

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**LESSON 41**

**MAY 9, 2021**

### **MOTHER'S DAY GODLY WOMEN: STANDING FIRM FOR WHAT IS RIGHT IN THE MIDST OF OPPOSITION**

**MOTTO TEXT: Esther 4:16** Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which *is* not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: Esther 4:1-17**

1. When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;
2. And came even before the king's gate: for none *might* enter into the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.
3. And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, *there was* great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.
4. So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told *it* her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received *it* not.
5. Then called Esther for Hatach, *one* of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what *it was*, and why *it was*.

6. So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which *was* before the king's gate.
7. And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.
8. Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to show *it* unto Esther, and to declare *it* unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.
9. And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.
10. Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;
11. All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, *there is* one law of his to put *him* to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.
12. And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.
13. Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.
14. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, *then* shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?
15. Then Esther bade *them* return Mordecai *this answer*,
16. Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which *is* not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.
17. So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that Esther went before the king prepared for the worst-case scenario and she got the very best.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** It will always prove profitable in the long run to obey God. When others see us in radical obedience, obedience that makes no sense, they will want some of what we have.

### COMMENTARY

Life can be hard. Difficult times happen, and pain cannot be avoided. When life doesn't make sense, do we turn to God or away from Him? God has a special plan for our lives. It is written: "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right. A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps" (Proverbs 16:7-9).

There are times we have to go against what others advise. Esther approached the king, even though she didn't have permission. Not following protocol could have meant certain and sudden death for her. Esther's response: "If I perish, I perish." Sometimes God's will make perfect sense. That doesn't mean, however, that you won't be required to take risks for God. The best things in life often come with the greatest risks. Esther saved a nation. Her obedience was even better than expected.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday “For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness *is* unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth. They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all *are* thy servants” (Psalm 119:89-91).
- Tuesday “And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee” (Joshua 10:8).
- Wednesday “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (I Corinthians 15:58).
- Thursday “Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, *my* dearly beloved. I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord” (Philippians 4:1-2).
- Friday “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage” (Galatians 5:1).
- Saturday “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses” (I Timothy 6:12).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Joshua 1:9** Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

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## LESSON 42

MAY 16, 2021

### JACOB: A LEADER MADE USABLE THROUGH BROKENNESS

**MOTTO TEXT: Genesis 32:24-25** And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 32:22-32

22. And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two womenservants, and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford Jabbok.
23. And he took them, and sent them over the brook, and sent over that he had.
24. And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.
25. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.
26. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.
27. And he said unto him, What *is* thy name? And he said, Jacob.
28. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

29. And Jacob asked *him*, and said, Tell *me*, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore *is it that* thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.
30. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.
31. And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.
32. Therefore the children of Israel eat *not of* the sinew which shrank, which *is* upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that leaders cannot do anything of significance in the kingdom of God until they humble themselves before God and seek His face. Leaders must be broken in order to be blessed.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God had to break Jacob to make him useful. In the breaking process, Jacob, the deceiving heel-catcher became **Israel**, who purposed to serve God rather than himself.

**COMMENTARY**

It is said leaders have it easy. Not ever. Leaders that are gifted with tremendous natural leadership can have a very difficult time, especially with issues of character. This was true for Jacob. From the very beginning he wielded great influence. No matter what he did or where he went, he stirred things up. He captured the heart of his mother and the birthright of his brother, turning Isaac's household upside down (Genesis 25:23).

Over time, Jacob's leadership created great prosperity. And it was his sons who founded the twelve tribes of the Hebrew nation. Wealthy, strong, influential, and blessed with a large family, Jacob seemed to have everything. But a leader who goes his own way and seeks to benefit only himself, cannot be an effective instrument in God's hands. Remember, every time you stand up under the weight of adversity, you are being prepared, as Jacob was, to better serve God and lead His people.

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

- Monday Jacob was alone with God; all distractions had been removed (Genesis 32:24).
- Tuesday Jacob was hungry for God; he desperately wanted to receive what God had for him (Genesis 32:26).
- Wednesday Jacob was broken by God; he allowed God to break and change him (Genesis 32:25-28).
- Thursday Jacob was honest with God; he stopped pretending in order to let God work in his life (Genesis 32:27).
- Friday God develops humility in us because we need to depend on Him, depend on others, and think less of ourselves (1 Peter 5:5).
- Saturday Humility is one of the most important qualities that we all need to have. It's so important that God Himself would want it from us (Micah 6:8).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Peter 5:6-7** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

## MOSES: GOD'S PROBLEM SOLVER

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 14:13-14** And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Exodus 34:1-20, 29-35**

**Exodus 34:1-20**

1. And the LORD said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon *these* tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.
2. And be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me in the top of the mount.
3. And no man shall come up with thee, neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount.
4. And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone.
5. And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.
6. And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,
7. Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*.
8. And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped.
9. And he said, If now I have found grace in thy sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us; for it *is* a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance.
10. And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou *art* shall see the work of the LORD: for it *is* a terrible thing that I will do with thee.
11. Observe thou that which I command thee this day: behold, I drive out before thee the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite.
12. Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee:
13. But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves:
14. For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name *is* Jealous, *is* a jealous God:
15. Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and *one* call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice;

16. And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods.
17. Thou shalt make thee no molten gods.
18. The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.
19. All that openeth the matrix *is* mine; and every firstling among thy cattle, *whether* ox or sheep, *that is* male.
20. But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem *him* not, then shalt thou break his neck. All the firstborn of thy sons thou shalt redeem. And none shall appear before me empty.

**Exodus 34:29-35**

29. And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him.
30. And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.
31. And Moses called unto them; and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned unto him: and Moses talked with them.
32. And afterward all the children of Israel came nigh: and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai.
33. And *till* Moses had done speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.
34. But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the veil off, until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel *that* which he was commanded.
35. And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the veil upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

**PURPOSE:** To reiterate how God calls His people to live at a higher standard than the unbelievers who surround them. God always knows what is best for us and what is best for our relationship with Him.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** If Moses harped on (consistently wrote) one thing, it was this: "Be sure to obey God, whether you understand or not."

**COMMENTARY**

Moses was raised in Pharaoh's palace. He probably spoke with an aristocratic lilt/accnt. He did not, however, pretend that he grew up a slave. He knew who he was, and he led from that foundation. The people may have felt jealous at first, but they came to respect and follow him. Leadership depends on authenticity. Have you noticed that rules, regulations and laws often bring out the human tendency to ask, but why?

Many of problems arise from ignoring God's Word when we don't think the instructions make sense. Moses tells us the rules and regulations God gave to His people to not only kept them clean, made them holy before Him, but they also protected them from discomfort, sickness, and untimely death.

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*What characterizes those who choose to pursue life at God's higher standard?*

Monday They adopt godly values (Hebrews 12:28).

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Tuesday   | They care for the interests of others (Philippians 2:4).               |
| Wednesday | They live with integrity (Titus 3:1-2).                                |
| Thursday  | They keep their word (Psalm 15:2-4).                                   |
| Friday    | They manage time and money well (Psalm 15:5; Isaiah 55:2; Luke 19:15). |
| Saturday  | They pass on to others what they have received (Ezra 9:12).            |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Exodus 33:11** And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

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**LESSON 44**

**MAY 30, 2021**

**ELIJAH: STANDING ALONE, SPEAKING THE TRUTH**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Kings 18:21-22** And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word. Then said Elijah unto the people, I, *even* I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Kings 18:27-38**

27. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he *is* a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, *or* peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.
28. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.
29. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that *there was* neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.
30. And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD *that was* broken down.
31. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:
32. And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.
33. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid *him* on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour *it* on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.
34. And he said, Do *it* the second time. And they did *it* the second time. And he said, Do *it* the third time. And they did *it* the third time.
35. And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.
36. And it came to pass at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou *art* God in Israel, and *that I am* thy servant, and *that I have* done all these things at thy word.

37. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou *art* the LORD God, and *that* thou hast turned their heart back again.
38. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that *was* in the trench.

**PURPOSE:** To express Prophet Elijah's urgency to the people of ancient Israel to turn from sin and to return to the true God. His message is just as important for us today.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The Bible teaches that we are to have bold courage to take a stand for Christ in this world, even if it means standing alone.

### COMMENTARY

Elijah lived during one of the darkest and most evil times in the history of Israel. Israel had pushed God out of their culture; they elevated other gods to an equal level as they engaged in open idolatry. This took place during a very sad time in the history of Israel, when the people had all but turned their backs on God, and their king had sinned against the Lord openly and boldly. Elijah grew tired of the people's spiritual rebellion and expressed his anger against the false prophets of Baal. He confronted both forces atop Mount Carmel and there defeated the devil's henchmen, although the false prophets outnumbered Elijah 850 to 1.

Elijah was a man of faith and obedience. He faithfully delivered the message to Ahab and Jezebel. God eventually used him to challenge the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. Leaders always need courage. It took courage for one solitary man to pray for judgment on his own people, confront a wicked king, then stand before hundreds of false prophets and challenge their piety!

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday     Elijah stood up boldly for God in a time when idolatry had swept the land. Read Acts 17:16; Colossians 3:5.
- Tuesday    Elijah urged the people to turn from sin and return to the true God. Read Galatians 4:9, 11.
- Wednesday  Elijah faithfully carried out God's mission in the face of danger and hardship. Read Hebrews 13:3.
- Thursday    Elijah was a single voice of one crying in the wilderness that rebuked sin in the land. Read Luke 19:10.
- Friday      Elijah's heart was prepared and raised up by the Lord in the hour of need. Read Hebrews 4:16.
- Saturday    Elijah trusted the Lord to provide for him. Read Luke 12:33.

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Malachi 4:5-6** Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

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## THEME V

### JESUS HEALS ALL MANNER OF SICKNESS AND DISEASE

And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth *his* hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

Mark 1:40-41

## LESSONS 45 - 50

LESSON 45

JUNE 6, 2021

### THE PERPETUAL HEALING PROMISES OF GOD

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 15:26** And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* the LORD that healeth thee.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: James 5:9-16

9. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.
10. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.
11. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.
12. But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and *your* nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.
13. Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.
14. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:
15. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
16. Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that we are living in the last days when God is pouring out the former and latter rain in the same season.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We can expect a healing explosion today, as did the early church. God wants to work miracles, signs and wonders in these last days as never before.

#### COMMENTARY

As we study the subject of this lesson, we discover the first agreement as made in the Garden of Eden, when the Lord said, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). This promise includes complete redemption and the removal of the curse of sin and death.

In the Old Testament the agreement reads, “If ye will do I will do.” In the New Testament the agree reads, “For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more” (Hebrews 8:12).

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*Let us study God’s ongoing healing program designed to function throughout the Day of Grace:*

- Monday “I *am* the LORD that healeth thee” – Exodus 15:26
- Tuesday “I will take sickness away from the midst of thee” – Exodus 23:25
- Wednesday “God sent His word and healed thee” – Psalm 107:20
- Thursday “The LORD God *is* my strength, and He will make my feet like hind’s *feet*” – Habakkuk 3:19
- Friday “The LORD *is* my Shepherd” – Psalm 23:1
- Saturday “The LORD God *is* a Sun and Shield” – Psalm 84:11

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 146:8** The LORD openeth *the eyes* of the blind: the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down: the LORD loveth the righteous.

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**LESSON 46**

**JUNE 13, 2021**

### **THE YOKE OF SIN DESTROYED BY THE ANOINTING OF THE HOLY GHOST**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 10:27** And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 10:1-27**

1. Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness *which* they have prescribed;
2. To turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and *that* they may rob the fatherless!
3. And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation *which* shall come from far? to whom will ye flee for help? and where will ye leave your glory?
4. Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand *is* stretched out still.
5. O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.
6. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.
7. Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but *it is* in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few.
8. For he saith, *Are* not my princes altogether kings?
9. *Is* not Calno as Carchemish? *is* not Hamath as Arpad? *is* not Samaria as Damascus?
10. As my hand hath found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven images did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

11. Shall I not, as I have done unto Samaria and her idols, so do to Jerusalem and her idols?
12. Wherefore it shall come to pass, *that* when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks.
13. For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done *it*, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant *man*:
14. And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people: and as one gathereth eggs *that are* left, have I gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped.
15. Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith? *or* shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake *itself* against them that lift it up, *or* as if the staff should lift up *itself*, *as if it were* no wood.
16. Therefore shall the Lord, the Lord of hosts, send among his fat ones leanness; and under his glory he shall kindle a burning like the burning of a fire.
17. And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day;
18. And shall consume the glory of his forest, and of his fruitful field, both soul and body: and they shall be as when a standardbearer fainteth.
19. And the rest of the trees of his forest shall be few, that a child may write them.
20. And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.
21. The remnant shall return, *even* the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God.
22. For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, *yet* a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness.
23. For the Lord GOD of hosts shall make a consumption, even determined, in the midst of all the land.
24. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt.
25. For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction.
26. And the LORD of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb: and *as* his rod *was* upon the sea, so shall he lift it up after the manner of Egypt.
27. And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that without God the Holy Ghost, no sinner can be saved, neither can His works be done by any human effort.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (Luke 10:19).

## COMMENTARY

We are living in the age of the Spirit. The Old Testament period may be called the Age of the Father. The period covered by the gospel may be called the Age of the Son. We believe the period from Pentecost until the Second Coming of Christ is called the Age of the Spirit.

God the Holy Ghost is the Third Person of the Godhead; without Him no one can be saved. Before one sinner can be delivered from the yoke of sin, God the Holy Ghost must come and release His Spirit from trespass and sin, and produce in him faith, repentance, humility, love and fear of God. These things, without the working of the Holy Ghost, are quite impossible.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

### *Unveiling the Holy Ghost's Assignment:*

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Empowers believers for the mighty works of God – Micah 3:8; Acts 1:8 |
| Tuesday   | Strives with sinners to be saved – Genesis 6:3                       |
| Wednesday | Gives comfort – Acts 9:31  |
| Thursday  | Helps our infirmities – Romans 8:26                                  |
| Friday    | Renews the spirit – Isaiah 32:15                                     |
| Saturday  | Regenerates believers – John 6:8-11; Titus 3:5                       |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 3:11** I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire.

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LESSON 47

JUNE 20, 2021

## FATHER'S DAY

### THE DANGER OF PLEASING PEOPLE RATHER THAN PLEASING GOD

**MOTTO TEXT: Galatians 1:10** For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

### ENTIRE LESSON: I Samuel 15:1-25

1. Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee *to be* king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.
2. Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember *that* which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid *wait* for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.
3. Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.
4. And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.
5. And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.
6. And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

7. And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah *until* thou comest to Shur, that *is* over against Egypt.
8. And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.
9. But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing *that was* vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.
10. Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,
11. It repenteth me that I have set up Saul *to be* king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.
12. And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.
13. And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed *be* thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.
14. And Samuel said, What *meaneth* then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?
15. And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.
16. Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.
17. And Samuel said, When thou *wast* little in thine own sight, *wast* thou not *made* the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?
18. And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.
19. Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?
20. And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.
21. But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.
22. And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams.
23. For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king.
24. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.
25. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD.

**PURPOSE:** To be mindful that if we are going to please God alone, then our love for Him will cause us to walk in obedience to Him.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice” (verse 24).

### COMMENTARY

When we refuse to tell someone the truth, it’s not simply because we want to please them by not hurting their feelings—it’s because we dread the thought of being uncomfortable or inconvenienced. And when we obsess about what others think of us, it’s not because we want them to feel good. No, we want to appear good enough to be admired. While it may appear that we are seeking to please others, we are actually seeking to please ourselves. This is both the irony and danger of people-pleasing.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*It is written:*

- Monday “When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him” (Proverbs 16:7).
- Tuesday “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer” (Psalm 19:14).
- Wednesday “Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).
- Thursday “Servants, obey in all things *your* masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men” (Colossians 3:22-23).
- Friday “We beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, *so* ye would abound more and more” (I Thessalonians 4:1).
- Saturday “For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation” (Psalm 149:4).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 146:1-3** Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being. Put not your trust in princes, *nor* in the son of man, in whom *there is* no help.

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LESSON 48

JUNE 27, 2021

### THE CLEANSING POWER FOR SIN: NOT IN THE WATER, BUT IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST

**MOTTO TEXT: I John 1:7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

## ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 8:1-28

1. *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
2. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
3. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
4. That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
5. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.
6. For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.
7. Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.
8. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
9. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
10. And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness.
11. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
12. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.
13. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.
14. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
15. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
16. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
17. And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.
18. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
19. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.
20. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope,
21. Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
22. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.
23. And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.
24. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
25. But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*.

26. Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
27. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.
28. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

**PURPOSE:** To stress that the cleansing power of sin is not in the water, but it is in the blood of Jesus Christ.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and I will give you an heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 36:26).

### COMMENTARY

A new heart requires a new blood transfusion, “for the life of the flesh is in the blood” (Leviticus 17:11). Since the life of the flesh is in the blood, there must be a donor with incorruptible blood that is compatible with every type. The Lord God, through His Son Jesus Christ, hath made available this rare type of blood that is blends with all other types and is made available to all without cost.

The cleansing power of sin is not in the water but is in the blood of Jesus Christ. The blood in His veins is described by John as, “A pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb” (Revelation 22:1). Ezekiel the prophet, foreseeing God’s plan of salvation said, “And it shall come to pass, *that* every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live “(Ezekiel 47:9).

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, “If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:37-38).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | “The heart <i>is</i> deceitful above all <i>things</i> , and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9).  |
| Tuesday   | “Examine yourselves [ <i>not others</i> ], whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (II Corinthians 13:5). |
| Wednesday | “Every way of a man <i>is</i> right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts” (Proverbs 21:2).   |
| Thursday  | “For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known” (Luke 12:2).  |
| Friday    | “And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God” (Luke 16:15).          |
| Saturday  | “Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment” (John 7:24).   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.



### JESUS CHRIST: OUR HEALING PHYSICIAN

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 15:26** If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: John 5:1-9

1. After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
2. Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep *market* a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.
3. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water.
4. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.
5. And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.
6. When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time *in that case*, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?
7. The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.
8. Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.
9. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that divine healing is for God’s children today, for Jesus is our Great Physician.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** It is written: “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases” (Psalm 103:2-3).

#### COMMENTARY

Man, created in God’s image and likeness, was made partaker of the divine nature of God (Genesis 1:26-28). When man fell, he lost God’s image and inherited a giant void from God within himself. God’s Spirit within is indispensable, for without this man has nothing upon which to draw in times of mental, emotional or physical distress.

Today, medical science indicates that at least eighty-five percent of all physical ailments of mankind are produced by emotional disturbance, such as: ulcers, heart trouble, hypertension, asthma, chronic cough, etc. it is further believed that there are at least fifty-one emotionally induced diseases that can cause sickness, as man indulges in depression.

#### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | I Will Put None of These Disease upon Thee – Exodus 15:26a          |
| Tuesday   | I Am the Lord that Healeth Thee – Exodus 15:26b                     |
| Wednesday | Christ Took our Infirmities – Isaiah 53; Matthew 8:17; I Peter 2:24 |
| Thursday  | God Sent His Word and Healed Them – Psalm 107:20                    |

Friday God's Word Shall Not Return To Him Void – Isaiah 55:8-11  
Saturday We Are Healed by Faith, Prayer and Fasting – Matthew 17:20-21

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Numbers 23:19** God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

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**LESSON 50**

**JULY 11, 2021**

**TRUE BELIEVERS:  
REJOICING DURING TIMES OF SUFFERING**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 64:7-8** But God shall shoot at them *with* an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded. So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 5:1-21**

1. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
2. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
3. And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;
4. And patience, experience; and experience, hope:
5. And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.
6. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.
7. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.
8. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
9. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
10. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.
11. And not only *so*, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.
12. Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
13. (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.
14. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.
15. But not as the offence, so also *is* the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, *which is* by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

16. And not as *it was* by one that sinned, *so is* the gift: for the judgment *was* by one to condemnation, but the free gift *is* of many offences unto justification.
17. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)
18. Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one *the free gift came* upon all men unto justification of life.
19. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
20. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
21. That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that we must not run from our suffering but rejoice that God will never leave nor forsake His people.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** If we cannot bear our cross, we cannot wear a crown. It is written: "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown" (Revelation 3:11).

### COMMENTARY

We all suffer at some point in our lives. Maybe you, or someone you love, are suffering right now. Maybe you are dealing with a scary diagnosis, a child who is making poor decisions, financial struggles, etc. Even if things are going well for you right now, life has a tendency to go up and down. Suffering knocks on each of our doors eventually. How can we engage our suffering in a positive way? Does Paul have anything to teach us about how to accept suffering well?

When we suffer, we build endurance. Our capability for holding difficulty and struggle increases. It's similar to building our muscles in the gym. In order to get stronger, we have to put our muscles under strain. In a similar way, when we suffer, our endurance for dealing with difficult things increases.

Endurance produces character. As our endurance increases, our character develops. Our character involves our tendencies to engage in actions and behaviors in a consistent manner. For example, if a person has a character of courage, they tend to respond with courage in the face of danger. As you endure over time, your character begins to be shaped..

Character produces hope. Paul writes that character produces hope. When we develop our character, we experience hope for the future. Hope involves believing that we can move forward toward our dreams and goals. This doesn't necessarily mean that all our problems will go away. But, we experience hope that we can move forward toward what God wants us to do and who He wants us to become.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | When we suffer we follow Jesus' example – I Peter 2:21                 |
| Tuesday   | Suffering is an acceptable offering to God – I Peter 2:20              |
| Wednesday | Suffering is a special calling – I Peter 4:19                          |
| Thursday  | We are blessed when we suffer – I Peter 3:14                           |
| Friday    | There is an anointing that comes upon us when we suffer – I Peter 4:14 |
| Saturday  | Suffering produces stability – I Peter 5:10                            |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Peter 1:6-7** Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

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**THEME VI**  
**HAVE YOU TAKEN THE WRONG STAND?**

Be not hasty to go out of his sight: stand not in an evil thing;  
for he doeth whatsoever pleaseth him. . . . That your faith should not stand  
in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.  
Ecclesiastes 8:3; I Corinthians 2:5

**LESSONS 51 - 61**

**LESSON 51**

**JULY 18, 2021**

**THE SOUL THAT SINNETH SHALL DIE**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Corinthians 6:9-11** Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

**ENTIRE LESSON: II Peter 2:2-22**

2. Many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.
3. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.
4. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;
5. And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;
6. And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;
7. And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:
8. (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)
9. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
10. But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.
11. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.
12. But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;
13. And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as* they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

14. Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:
15. Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son of Bosor*, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
16. But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.
17. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.
18. For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.
19. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.
20. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.
21. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.
22. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that once saved always saved is contrary to Bible teachings.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Many sinners and saints alike today are wearing one size fits all man-made garments. These garments are made to fit everybody, but not fitting anybody.

### COMMENTARY

God can by no means clear the guilty. His holiness and justice demand that He bring the guilty to judgment. To extend the sinner mercy and pardon in his sinful condition without repentance on his part, accepting Christ as his Savior, would undermine the foundation of God's great throne of justice and holiness.

God cannot look upon sin with any degree of allowance. He turned His back as Christ hung between heaven and earth on the cross of Calvary, bearing the sins of a lost world. God refuses to condone sin in anybody. From Genesis to Revelation, there is no verse of Scripture which justifies or encourages sin in any measure. When a verse is interpreted to mean such, then the wrong interpretation has been placed on it.

Don't think for a moment that you can serve God and the devil at the same time. Jesus told us in Matthew 6:24, "No man can serve two masters." Know ye not that you are serving whomsoever you are obeying?

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Monday  | Lucifer, before he came to be Satan, was sinless and walked in the presence of God (Isaiah 14:12-14; Matthew 25:41; Luke 10:18; John 8:44; Revelation 20:10-11). |
| Tuesday | The angels who fell with Lucifer from heaven were once holy (Revelation 12:3, 7, 12).  |

- Wednesday Adam and Eve were made perfect in the image and likeness of God; they sinned and lost that glory. Their sin cost the life of God's Son (Genesis 1:26-31; John 3:16).
- Thursday Some of Christ's disciples departed from Him after counting the cost of discipleship (John 6:66).
- Friday Demonic spirits did not always exist (Read Matthew 8:29; Mark 5:7; Luke 8:23, 32; James 2:19).
- Saturday Except you repent you shall perish (Luke 13:5).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 18:3** Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

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**LESSON 52**

**JULY 25, 2021**

**THE EXPLOSIVE FIRE OF TRUTH**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Corinthians 3:13** Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Corinthians 3:1-23**

1. And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, *even* as unto babes in Christ.
2. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able.
3. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?
4. For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I *am* of Apollos; are ye not carnal?
5. Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?
6. I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.
7. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.
8. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.
9. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye are* God's building.
10. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.
11. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
12. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;
13. Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.
14. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.
16. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?
17. If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.
18. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.
19. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.
20. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.
21. Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;
22. Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;
23. And ye are Christ's; and Christ *is* God's.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that the Word of God, interwoven with faith and the Holy Ghost, burns false doctrines, the dross of sin, in our lives, etc. (Isaiah 4:4).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** When we speak of fire, we think of combustion and the word 'truth', as utterance or message.

### COMMENTARY

Have you ever watched purification in progress? Think about a precious metal like gold. Gold is purified in only one way, with fire. And we're not talking an outward brush with the flames. Purification comes from being plunged into the heart of the fire — the place where fire is harshest and turns blue — and being kept there until that which is being purified loses any resemblance to what it once was.

Having been purified, the gold can be molded according to the will of the goldsmith. It only loses contact with the fire when its final shape has been formed. When we, as believers, confess our sin, God not only promises to be faithful (*which He always is*) and to forgive us (*which He always does*); He promises to engage us in the painful process of purification in order to cleanse us from the sin that is tearing us apart.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

#### *It is written:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” (II Corinthians 7:1).  |
| Tuesday   | “The words of the Lord <i>are</i> pure words: <i>as</i> silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times” (Psalm 12:6).  |
| Wednesday | “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ” (I Peter 1:7).  |
| Thursday  | “For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. Thou hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins. Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy <i>place</i> ” (Psalm 66:10-12). |



- Friday “For my name’s sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction” (Isaiah 48:9-10).
- Saturday “But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap: And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years” (Malachi 3:2-4).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Zechariah 13:8-9** And it shall come to pass, *that* in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off *and* die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, *It is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

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LESSON 53

AUGUST 1, 2021

**FAMILY SUNDAY**  
**FAMILY LIFE: A CALLING OF GOD THAT CAN NEVER BE**  
**OVERESTIMATED**

**MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 5:20-21** Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 127:3-4; Colossians 3:12-14; Ephesians 5:25-28; I Corinthians 13:5-8**

1. **Psalm 127:3** Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb *is* *his* reward.
2. **Psalm 127:4** As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth.
3. **Colossians 3:12** Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
4. **Colossians 3:13** Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.
5. **Colossians 3:14** And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.
6. **Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
7. **Ephesians 5:26** That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
8. **Ephesians 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
9. **Ephesians 5:28** So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

10. **I Corinthians 13:4** Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
11. **I Corinthians 13:5** Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
12. **I Corinthians 13:6** Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
13. **I Corinthians 13:7** Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
14. **I Corinthians 13:8** Charity never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away.

**PURPOSE:** To illustrate that Family life is the high calling of God that can never be overestimated.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

### COMMENTARY

Family is a precious gift from God, but it comes with many challenges. As leaders, it is important that we help God's people acknowledge their struggles, discover truths in Scripture to guide their way, and encourage them through the process of growing in grace.

It is very difficult to raise a strong family in today's culture. It takes hard work and commitment. Families are much more than groups of individuals. They have their own goals and aspirations. They also are places where every child and adult should feel that he or she is special and be encouraged to pursue his or her own dreams. Family is the place where everyone's individuality is permitted to flourish.

Parenting has become much more difficult in this day and age. In today's hard and fast world, the most successful persons are those who can make quick decisions about what they want from life. Family value that helps you distinguish what is morally correct and what suits your value system. Today, the single largest task in the hands of parents is protecting their children from outside influences that are majorly negative in nature. Injecting strong family values in a child since childhood is one such measure that can ensure their safety in a time when direct supervision of child has become near impossible.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*The study the context of the lesson reveals love as the rarest virtue that can help us keep the faith to the end:*

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|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Divine love is the greatest story ever written (John 3:16; I John 4:10)   |
| Tuesday   | God's love is perfect. It passes our power of understanding. It is everlasting. It is free, sacrificial, and endures to the end (I John 4:8; Ephesians 3:19; Jeremiah 31:3).                  |
| Wednesday | Agape love describes the unconditional love God has for the world. It is self-given without asking anything in return, and it does not consider the worth of its object (Romans 5:5).         |
| Thursday  | Believers in Christ are a brotherhood in the service of Christ, and a family made up of those who do the will of God. It is written: “Love one another; as I have loved you” (John 13:34-35). |
| Friday    | Family life is the high calling of God that can never be overestimated (Isaiah 62:1-5).   |
| Saturday  | Family life is a God-given lifetime assignment (Ephesians 5:21, 6:4)  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Deuteronomy 6:6-7** And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

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**LESSON 54**

**AUGUST 8, 2021**

### **THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: Romans 2:2-3** We are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 2:1-29**

1. Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.
2. But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.
3. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?
4. Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
5. But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;
6. Who will render to every man according to his deeds:
7. To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:
8. But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,
9. Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;
10. But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:
11. For there is no respect of persons with God.
12. For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;
13. (For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.
14. For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:
15. Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)
16. In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

17. Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God,
18. And knowest *his* will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;
19. And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,
20. An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.
21. Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?
22. Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?
23. Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?
24. For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.
25. For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.
26. Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?
27. And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?
28. For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *is that* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:
29. But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that all men have an appointment with death followed by the Resurrection and Judgment of God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** All must give an account for their stewardship in this life, be it good or bad.

### COMMENTARY

There is much more to life than just eating, drinking, being merry and dying. We, according to the Word of God, do not believe that death marks the end of life. While it ends one span of human life on this earth, it also provides the entrance from time to eternity.

God's Word reveals that man in yonder world will meet his thoughts and deeds at the Judgment Seat of God. When millions and millions of innumerable eternities will have each lived their endless ages and continued to roll on into unthinkable eternities, the soul of man will live on as a conscience personality, endowed with eternal life united with his own identified body. Work to receive eternal life or be judged to accept eternal damnation.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*John has revealed unto all, in Revelation 20:10-15, what happens to man after being transported from this life into the eternities which are to come. He said...*

Monday      "The devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Verse 10).

- Tuesday “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them” (Verse 11).
- Wednesday “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works” (Verse 12).
- Thursday “And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works” (Verse 13).
- Friday “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death” (Verse 14).
- Saturday “And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire” (Verse 15).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 3:20-21** For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

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**LESSON 55**

**AUGUST 15, 2021**

**I MUST REPENT, FOR I HAVE SINNED AGAINST THE LORD**

**MOTTO TEXT: II Samuel 12:13** And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

**ENTIRE LESSON: II Samuel 12:1-13**

1. And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.
2. The rich *man* had exceeding many flocks and herds:
3. But the poor *man* had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.
4. And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man’s lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.
5. And David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, *As the LORD liveth*, the man that hath done this *thing* shall surely die:
6. And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.
7. And Nathan said to David, Thou *art* the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;
8. And I gave thee thy master’s house, and thy master’s wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if *that had been* too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

9. Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife *to be* thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.
10. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.
11. Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give *them* unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.
12. For thou didst *it* secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.
13. And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that spiritual healing begins when we take the prescription of God found in II Chronicles 7:14, it is written: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall 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.”

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Get in a hurry to confess and forsake your sins; for the Day of Grace is swiftly coming to an end.

### COMMENTARY

David, God’s king, “a man after God’s own heart,” lost fellowship with God because Satan pulled a sneak attack which resulted in David committing adultery and murder to cover the sin. The Lord sent Prophet Nathan, to make known to David that hidden and unconfessed sin was keeping the king in the backslidden condition.

Nathan said to David “thou art the man,” along with God’s spiritual prognosis (judgment pronounced on David and his family), generated an immediate response from David, “I have sinned against the Lord.” His confession is found in Psalm 51.

David realized his utter helplessness to cleanse himself from sin, to get back to the joy of God’s salvation and His peace, or even to teach transgressors God’s way. Remember, it does not matter how far we have fallen from grace, yet God refuses none who come to Him for spiritual healing.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Confession Precedes Forgiveness – Psalm 32:5          |
| Tuesday   | Spiritual Healing – Hosea 4:4                         |
| Wednesday | Confession Brings Instant Results – II Samuel 12:13   |
| Thursday  | A Prescription for Backsliders – Isaiah 55:7          |
| Friday    | To Those Who Do Not Repent – Luke 13:3; II Peter 2:12 |
| Saturday  | Where to Find Mercy and Grace – Hebrews 4:16          |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Acts 22:14-16** And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

### WOE TO ALL WHO ARE TAKING IT EASY IN ZION

**MOTTO TEXT:** **Amos 6:1** Woe to them *that are* at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, *which are* named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

**ENTIRE LESSON: Amos 6:1-14**

1. Woe to them *that are* at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, *which are* named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!
2. Pass ye unto Calneh, and see; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great: then go down to Gath of the Philistines: *be they* better than these kingdoms? or their border greater than your border?
3. Ye that put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near;
4. That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;
5. That chant to the sound of the viol, *and* invent to themselves instruments of music, like David;
6. That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.
7. Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.
8. The Lord GOD hath sworn by himself, saith the LORD the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.
9. And it shall come to pass, if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die.
10. And a man's uncle shall take him up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the bones out of the house, and shall say unto him that *is* by the sides of the house, *Is there* yet *any* with thee? and he shall say, No. Then shall he say, Hold thy tongue: for we may not make mention of the name of the LORD.
11. For, behold, the LORD commandeth, and he will smite the great house with breaches, and the little house with clefts.
12. Shall horses run upon the rock? will *one* plow *there* with oxen? for ye have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into hemlock:
13. Ye which rejoice in a thing of nought, which say, Have we not taken to us horns by our own strength?
14. But, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, saith the LORD the God of hosts; and they shall afflict you from the entering in of Hemath unto the river of the wilderness.

**PURPOSE:** To warn against saints who are taking it easy (complacent) in a time of great unrighteousness.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Now is the time for God's people to lift up their voices and righteous lifestyle like trumpets and show God's people their sin.

## COMMENTARY

Israel lived a comfortable lifestyle of luxury and prosperity when they should have been earnestly concerned over the sins of the nation, and the coming Judgment Day of the Lord. It has been well said, “All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.” Good men must take action for Christ.

The Church today must guard against being deceived. Israel foolishly believed that their material success proved they were living under God’s blessing, and that God would never send His judgment upon them. Those who sorrow for the sins of the people will be blessed by God and escape His judgment.

This “woe” was addressed to both Judah (**Zion**) and Israel (**Samaria**) because both kingdoms were indifferent toward God’s Word and the judgment that hung over them. They called themselves “the foremost nation” and enjoyed an unwarranted false confidence for several reasons.

The notable men in Israel’s government gave their opinion that the nation was safe and secure, and the people believed them, just as people today believe the political “experts” and the polls. False confidence that’s based on expert advice, statistics, and material resources and that ignores the spiritual dimension of life is sure to lead to defeat.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Too many saints are sitting around today waiting to be told by the preacher or elders what to do next. Jesus said, “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields” (John 4:35). |
| Tuesday   | “For what <i>is</i> your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away” (James 4:13-14).   |
| Wednesday | Our time here on earth is meant to be spent in service to the King of kings (Ecclesiastes 12:13; Revelation 17:14).   |
| Thursday  | David said, “the king’s business required haste” (I Samuel 21:8).   |
| Friday    | It is time to wake up brethren, “for now <i>is</i> our salvation nearer than when we believed” (Romans 13:11).  |
| Saturday  | It is time to wake up “and arise from the dead” so that we might be able to see and receive the light of Christ (Ephesians 5:14).   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Zephaniah 1:12** And it shall come to pass at that time, *that* I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil.

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LESSON 57

AUGUST 29, 2021

### AVOID BEING DOUBLE MINDED

**MOTTO TEXT: Luke 15:17** And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

### ENTIRE LESSON: II Corinthians 10:1-18

1. Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence *am* base among you, but being absent *am* bold toward you:



2. But I beseech *you*, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.
3. For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4. (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;
6. And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.
7. Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he *is* Christ's, even so *are* we Christ's.
8. For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:
9. That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters.
10. For *his* letters, say they, *are* weighty and powerful; but *his* bodily presence *is* weak, and *his* speech contemptible.
11. Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such *will we be* also in deed when we are present.
12. For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.
13. But we will not boast of things without *our* measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.
14. For we stretch not ourselves beyond *our measure*, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in *preaching* the gospel of Christ:
15. Not boasting of things without *our* measure, *that is*, of other men's labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly,
16. To preach the gospel in the *regions* beyond you, *and* not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.
17. But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.
18. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

**PURPOSE:** To affirm that it is better to glory in the Lord than to glory in personal success.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We cannot have it both ways. We cannot dine at the world's table and the Lord's Table as well. Is it not written? "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep" (I Corinthians 11:28-30).

## COMMENTARY

It is said a double-minded Christian is always being torn in two directions. He has professed Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, yet he has maintained a relationship with a particular sinful obsession.

Satan has been at his craft for many centuries. And just as he knew what "triggers" to employ with Adam and Eve, he has discovered a variety of enticements that are intended to lead believers to become double-minded. Satan hates to see believers fully surrendered to the Lord. The devil knows from past experience that when a Christian is fully surrendered, God works even more miracles in the lives of His people.

Paul, in this lesson, admonishes those that glory to glory in the Lord. Don't think that we would have a great success in our campaigns if we would put more of God in it and less of ourselves? Jesus said that if any man will come after Him, let him deny self, take up the cross and follow Him. This requires fasting, prayer and much humility.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | It is suicidal to have continuous imaginations and evil thoughts (Genesis 6:5).                                 |
| Tuesday   | It is dangerous to know God and glorify Him not (Romans 1:1-24).  |
| Wednesday | Don't run towards mischief; it is degrading enough when allow yourself to be pushed into it (Proverbs 6:16-19). |
| Thursday  | Do you believe God is blind or have you lost your mind? (Ezekiel 8:12)  |
| Friday    | Can't you spend your time in doing better than this? (Psalm 38:12)  |
| Saturday  | The thoughts of the righteous are right (Proverbs 12:5).  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: James 4:7-8** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, ye sinners; and purify *your* hearts, ye double minded.

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**LESSON 58**

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

### **EVANGELISM SUNDAY THE MISSION OF BELIEVERS**

**MOTTO TEXT: Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: Mark 16:1-20**

1. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.
2. And very early in the morning the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.
3. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?
4. And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.
5. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.
6. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.
7. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.

8. And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any *man*; for they were afraid.
9. Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.
10. *And* she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.
11. And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.
12. After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.
13. And they went and told *it* unto the residue: neither believed they them.
14. Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
15. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
17. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.
19. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
20. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

**PURPOSE:** To unveil that the mission of the Church is to preach the gospel and to confirm it.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** After the resurrection of Christ, the disciples/apostles “went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen” (Mark 16:20).

## COMMENTARY

Today, there is a growing interest in the Second Coming of Christ and the end of the world. When will it happen? Before Jesus’ imminent ascent to heaven the disciples asked Jesus this question, and His response was quite revealing. He said, “It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:7-8).

Our English word “mission” comes from the Latin word for “sending.” Being a Christian includes being sent into the world as a representative of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you.” Jesus clearly understood His life mission on earth. At age 12 He disclosed, “I must be about my Father’s business” (Luke 2:49). And 21 years later, dying on the cross, He said, “It is finished.” Like bookends, these two statements frame a well-lived, purpose-driven life. He completed the mission the Father gave Him.

William James once said, “The best use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it.” The truth is, only the Kingdom of God is going to last. Everything else will eventually vanish. Knowing that, why would you give anything else a higher priority?

## **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

### ***What is the local church’s mission, according to the Bible?***

- Monday Proclaim the gospel – Matthew 28:18-20  
Tuesday Preserve the gospel – I Timothy 3:15  
Wednesday Display the gospel – Ephesians 3:10  
Thursday Go into the world, make disciples of all nations – Matthew 28:19-20  
Friday Be a light in this dark world – Ephesians 5:8  
Saturday Glorify Christ – Psalm 50:14-15; Revelation 4:11

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Acts 20:24** None of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

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**LESSON 59**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2021**

## **GRANDPARENTS’ DAY GRANDPARENTS: CONFIRMING THE WAY OF HOLINESS TO THE NOW GENERATION**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 43:19** Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, *and* rivers in the desert.

### **ENTIRE LESSON: Jeremiah 31:21-26; Isaiah 35:1-10**

#### **Jeremiah 31:21-26**

21. Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps: set thine heart toward the highway, *even* the way *which* thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities.
22. How long wilt thou go about, O thou backsliding daughter? for the LORD hath created a new thing in the earth, A woman shall compass a man.
23. Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity; The LORD bless thee, O habitation of justice, *and* mountain of holiness.
24. And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all the cities thereof together, husbandmen, and they *that* go forth with flocks.
25. For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.
26. Upon this I awaked, and beheld; and my sleep was sweet unto me.

#### **Isaiah 35:1-10**

1. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.
2. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, *and* the excellency of our God.

3. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.
4. Say to them *that are* of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come *with vengeance, even God with a recompence*; he will come and save you.
5. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
6. Then shall the lame *man* leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.
7. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, *shall be* grass with reeds and rushes.
8. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it *shall be* for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err *therein*.
9. No lion shall be there, nor *any* ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk *there*:
10. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**PURPOSE:** To confirm the way of holiness and rejoicing as an everlasting lifestyle for the redeemed of the Lord.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The Lord brings both spiritual and physical healing that He requires of us as we walk the highway of holiness.

### COMMENTARY

In the lesson texts, Jeremiah and Isaiah both appeal to the Children of Israel and Judah. Both prophets plead for Israel to repent. Isaiah's prophesy is concerning the joy of the redeemed. Although he is speaking literally of the Jews being restored to their land, we can also equate this with the joy one has in the Holy Ghost. Just as God has promised healing to the Jews and restoration of the land, the same promise applies to us today.

Grandparents have a lot to rejoice about while travelling on the spiritual highway, reminding their families of God's daily blessings bestowed upon His people. No detours are allowed!

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | What Holiness Means – I Peter 1:15-16           |
| Tuesday   | The Importance of Holiness – Leviticus 11:44-45 |
| Wednesday | God Commands Us to Be Holy – Exodus 19:5        |
| Thursday  | A Mark of God's People – Isaiah 4:2-4           |
| Friday    | Comfort in God's Holiness – Psalm 99:5          |
| Saturday  | Thy Word Is Truth – John 17:17                  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 62:10** Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people.

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## THE TRUTH ABOUT SIN

**MOTTO TEXT: Romans 6:12-13** Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 6:1-23**

1. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
2. God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
3. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
5. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his* resurrection:
6. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
7. For he that is dead is freed from sin.
8. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
9. Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
10. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
11. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
12. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
13. Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.
14. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
15. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
16. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
17. But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
18. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.
19. I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
20. for when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
21. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.

22. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23. For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**PURPOSE:** To sound the alarm that all sin is rebellion against God, for it drives a wedge between you and the One who loves you with an eternal love.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Sin blinds us to the truth of God and leaves us feeling ashamed, fearful, and separated from the Lord.

### COMMENTARY

Many would say that sin's origin was here on earth in the Garden of Eden. But sin began with Lucifer's fall due to his pride and rebellion against God (Isaiah 14:12-13). Temptation gained its first foothold in the Garden when the serpent (Satan) tempted Eve to doubt God's goodness and plan for her life. Sin always entices us to act independently of God. This is what Satan did in heaven. He drew one-third of the angels from God in an effort to overthrow the Lord.

God's grace is the only cure for our sin. It is written: "For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, *which is* by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many" (Romans 5:15). As long as we live in sin, sin will fight for dominance in the life of the believer. The lost man is helpless to defend himself against the evils of temptation. Thanks be to God that He provided a way of escape that we do not have to yield to the temptation of sin. It is written: "hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*" (I Corinthians 10:13).

Sin deceives us into thinking that God has distanced Himself from us. The enemy will do anything to keep us from knowing and experiencing the intimate, saving love of God. When our fellowship with God is hampered, we quickly discover that the sweetness of our fellowship with other believers disappears.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday "And God saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5).
- Tuesday "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God" (I Corinthians 6:9-10).
- Wednesday "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (I John 1:9).
- Thursday "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth" (I John 1:6).
- Friday "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded" (James 4:8).

Saturday “I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye **be not partakers** of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues” (Revelation 18:4).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 30:1** Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin.

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**LESSON 61**

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

**I HAD MY CHANCE TO REPENT, BUT I REFUSED**

**MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 2:21** And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Revelation 2:18-29**

18. And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet *are* like fine brass;
19. I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last *to be* more than the first.
20. Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.
21. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.
22. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.
23. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.
24. But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.
25. But that which ye have *already* hold fast till I come.
26. And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:
27. And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.
28. And I will give him the morning star.
29. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

**PURPOSE:** To forewarn, there is everlasting life or everlasting death.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Repent of your fornication while God is ready to forgive.



## COMMENTARY

The word ‘chance’ means opportunity or favorable circumstances. How many chances have you had to do that which is right? James 4:17 instructs us in this manner, “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.”

As long as we have life, there is hope, but once life is gone, there is no hope. Verse 21 is the key verse in our lesson. “And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.” We must remember that God is Spirit and we who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth. The fornication spoken is spiritual fornication.

John 4:23 says, “The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.”

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | No Coming Back – Luke 16:20-26                     |
| Tuesday   | Contrast in the Church Family – Matthew 21:28-31   |
| Wednesday | Put Not Forth Thine Hand – II Samuel 1:6-10, 13-16 |
| Thursday  | Stout Hearted Men – Revelation 9:20-21             |
| Friday    | Did Not Forgive – Matthew 18:28-35                 |
| Saturday  | No Room to Be Rich Toward God – Luke 12:16-21      |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 6:16** Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

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**THEME VII**  
**THE WORD OF GOD AND CHURCH DOCTRINE**

For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart....If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed.

Hebrew 4:12; II John 10

**LESSONS 62 - 70**

**LESSON 62**

**OCTOBER 3, 2021**

**GOD’S WORD: MAGNIFIED ABOVE ALL HIS NAMES**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 138:2** I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 138:1-8**

1. I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.
2. I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.
3. In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, *and* strengthenedst me *with* strength in my soul.
4. All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth.
5. Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the LORD: for great *is* the glory of the LORD.
6. Though the LORD *be* high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.
7. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.
8. The LORD will perfect *that which* concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, *endureth* for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that it is the Word of God’s power that created all things.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God the Father, having put all power and authority into the name of Jesus, hath given that name to us, even as Moses’ rod.

**COMMENTARY**

The Bible, according to the way Christ and the apostles used it, sets the standard for us, providing us with everyday guidance. So why is the Word read less and studied in the churches than ever before? The answer is one that you may not like, Jesus said in John 14:24, “He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me.” Jesus wants His words to consistently be first in our life, having the highest priority or we will not be led by the Spirit into truth, but be lead away.

Jesus prayed to His Father in John 17:17, “**Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**” God changes the believer’s life through the Word, it is a steady work of

the Holy Ghost as we walk, yield and obey, He fills us with His Spirit. There is no impartation/knowledge that will change us like this. The Word is Spirit, and it affects us by our understanding it so we can be changed into the people Christ wants us to be.

The Word is like the lines on the highway that keeps us driving correctly. But we need to listen to it. Many of us have become frustrated because we do not see the results that others have, God is not a respecter of persons, He wants you to be fruitful. To be in Christ and be fruitful, we must abide in His teachings, walk in the Spirit. Jesus said in John 15:1-5, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | God's Word is described or compared to fire – Jeremiah 5:14   |
| Tuesday   | God's explosive Word, spoken by believers through God the Holy Ghost, has explosive power – Job 37:5; Mark 3:17 |
| Wednesday | God's Word heals – Psalm 107:20   |
| Thursday  | God's Word produces unwavering faith – Romans 10:17   |
| Friday    | God's Word is settled in Heaven – Psalm 119:89  |
| Saturday  | God's Word is a lamp unto our feet and light unto our path – Psalm 119:105                                      |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 119:129-133** Thy testimonies *are* wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them. The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments. Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name. Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

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**LESSON 63**

**OCTOBER 10, 2021**

### **GOD'S WORD: PLANTED, CONCEIVED AND BELIEVED IN A PURE HEART**

**MOTTO TEXT: Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

### **ENTIRE LESSON: Hebrews 4:1-16**

1. Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.
2. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it*.

3. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.
4. For he spake in a certain place of the seventh *day* on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.
5. And in this *place* again, If they shall enter into my rest.
6. Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:
7. Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
8. For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.
9. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.
10. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God *did* from his.
11. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.
12. For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
13. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.
14. Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession.
15. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin.
16. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that God's Word is planted, conceived and believed in a pure heart, and becomes a spiritual force releasing the ability of God within the heart.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** It is written: "For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ" (II Corinthians 2:17).

### COMMENTARY

The Word of God has the power to reveal to us certain things that we could not know in any other way.

Human beings could study and speculate on these things for a thousand years and come up with many theories, but that's all they would be, just theories, because no one could really know. God's Word, on the other hand, gives us an eyewitness, truthful, and detailed account of things about God and human existence that we could never know otherwise.

God's Word is a standard against which all philosophies, ideologies, and proposed solutions for the human condition can be measured for accuracy. When God's Word approves it, we can run with it; if the Word rejects it, nothing we can do will make it work, make it acceptable, or make it right.

The Word reveals who God is, what He desires, and what He is preparing to give to those who believe and obey Him. The Hebrew writer says that God rewards those who look for Him, and the way to look for Him is to look for Him in His Word.

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

### *It is written:*

- Monday “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” (II Timothy 3:16-17).
- Tuesday “Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psalm 119:105).
- Wednesday “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35).
- Thursday “The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments” (Psalm 119:130-131).
- Friday “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4).
- Saturday “He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: James 1:20-22** For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

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LESSON 64

OCTOBER 17, 2021

### KEEP THE FAITH: GOD JUDGETH THE RIGHTOUS AND IS ANGRY WITH THE WICKED EVERYDAY

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 54:17** No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 7:1-17

1. O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:
2. Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending *it* in pieces, while *there is* none to deliver.
3. O LORD my God, if I have done this; if there be iniquity in my hands;
4. If I have rewarded evil unto him that was at peace with me; (yea, I have delivered him that without cause is mine enemy:)
5. Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take *it*; yea, let him tread down my life upon the earth, and lay mine honour in the dust. *Selah*
6. Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me *to* the judgment *that* thou hast commanded.

7. So shall the congregation of the people compass thee about: for their sakes therefore return thou on high.
8. The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity *that is* in me.
9. Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.
10. My defence *is* of God, which saveth the upright in heart.
11. God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry *with the wicked* every day.
12. If he turn not, he will whet his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.
13. He hath also prepared for him the instruments of death; he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors.
14. Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.
15. He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch *which* he made.
16. His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.
17. I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that no matter what we face in this life, whether it's people or tough circumstances, know that we are not alone. The Lord is with His people!

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** "The eyes of the LORD *are* upon the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their cry. The face of the LORD *is* against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth" (Psalm 34:15-16).

### COMMENTARY

Have you ever been falsely accused? Been the subject of gossip? Had lies spread about you? When you know deep in your heart that you are innocent, it can be incredibly painful to hear rumors about yourself. To have your integrity brought into question, your reputation slandered, some days it could be all you can do to get out of bed in the morning, knowing the battle another has orchestrated for you to face.

Some days, we simply cry out to God, "Vindicate me, oh God!" Clear my name of false accusations. Prove my innocence through the truth. Present evidence justifying my actions. Defend me! You've probably have been there before, or know someone who has. Many may be walking this path again, hearing your name or another's name slandered. You find yourself begging God for vindication, to make righteousness shine like the dawn and due justice like the noonday sun (**Psalm 37:6**).

**When we are going through a rough time in our lives, we need to completely surrender the matter to Almighty God.** When we step in and take matters into our hands, what we are really saying is that we don't trust God.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*How can God's people keep the faith when going through tough times?*

Monday "Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10).

- Tuesday “Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy” (I Peter 4:12-13).
- Wednesday “Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God” (II Corinthians 1:3-4).
- Thursday “For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory” (II Corinthians 4:16-17).
- Friday “The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee” (Psalm 9:9-10).
- Saturday “The LORD will perfect *that which* concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, *endureth* for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands” (Psalm 138:8).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 1:3-4** Grace *be* to you and peace from God the Father, and *from* our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

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**LESSON 65**

**OCTOBER 24, 2021**

**TEMPERANCE SUNDAY  
HOW TO HANDLE ABRASIVE SOULS GOD’S WAY**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Samuel 25:2-3** And *there was* a man in Maon, whose possessions *were* in Carmel; and the man *was* very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man *was* Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man *was* churlish and evil in his doings; and he *was* of the house of Caleb.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Samuel 25:1-33**

1. And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.
2. And *there was* a man in Maon, whose possessions *were* in Carmel; and the man *was* very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.
3. Now the name of the man *was* Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man *was* churlish and evil in his doings; and he *was* of the house of Caleb.
4. And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep.
5. And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up

to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

6. And thus shall ye say to him that liveth in *prosperity*, Peace *be* both to thee, and peace *be* to thine house, and peace *be* unto all that thou hast.
7. And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.
8. Ask thy young men, and they will show thee. Wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes: for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David.
9. And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased.
10. And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who *is* David? and who *is* the son of Jesse? there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master.
11. Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give *it* unto men, whom I know not whence they *be*?
12. So David's young men turned their way, and went again, and came and told him all those sayings.
13. And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff.
14. But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them.
15. But the men *were* very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields:
16. They were a wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.
17. Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he *is such* a son of Belial, that *a man* cannot speak to him.
18. Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched *corn*, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid *them* on asses.
19. And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.
20. And it was *so, as* she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert of the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.
21. Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this *fellow* hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that *pertained* unto him: and he hath requited me evil for good.
22. So and more also do God unto the enemies of David, if I leave of all that *pertain* to him by the morning light any that pisseth against the wall.
23. And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground,
24. And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, *upon me let this* iniquity *be*: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid.
25. Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, *even* Nabal: for as his name *is, so is* he; Nabal *is* his name, and folly *is* with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the



young men of my lord, whom thou didst send.

26. Now therefore, my lord, *as* the LORD liveth, and *as* thy soul liveth, seeing the LORD hath withholden thee from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging thyself with thine own hand, now let thine enemies, and they that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal.
27. And now this blessing which thine handmaid hath brought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord.
28. I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee *all* thy days.
29. Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, *as out* of the middle of a sling.
30. And it shall come to pass, when the LORD shall have done to my lord according to all the good that he hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel;
31. That this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood causeless, or that my lord hath avenged himself: but when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.
32. And David said to Abigail, Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me:
33. And blessed *be* thy advice, and blessed *be* thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that giving our best effort to live harmoniously with difficult people is wise, especially those who share the faith.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Are you mean and abrasive toward others because you're trying to mask something about yourself that you don't like? Or do you treat others with grace?

## COMMENTARY

Difficult people are everywhere. Some are hostile, rude, mean, selfish, impatient, uncaring, etc. It's sad to say that some of the so-called Christians can act the same as these people. If we are to be true followers of Christ, we must learn to love even the most difficult of people.

Dealing with difficult people requires prayer and the power of God. When we know we are going to encounter a difficult person, we should pray beforehand. Ask for God's wisdom and His strength to respond well. Pray for the person and for God's work in his or her life. Remind yourself of some of the biblical truths shared here. Then seek to love as best as you can. Take any frustrations or emotional pain from your interaction with the difficult person straight to God and seek His healing and comfort.

Living a life of unconditional love is not just difficult, it's impossible on our own! But thanks be to God that He has provided not only the path to walk, but the power to walk it. It is not by our own might, will power or strength that we are able to love others, but by God's Spirit living within us (Zechariah 4:6). "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

Remember, Jesus Christ is the perfect role model for handling what we call *sandpaper relationships*. Like Christ, love one another and reach out to them with lovingkindness.

## **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Christ instructs His believers to forgive his brother seventy times seven (Matthew 18:21-22).  |
| Tuesday   | Forgiveness not only helps one to be saved from sin, but also from sickness of spirit, soul, and body (Matthew 6:14-15).   |
| Wednesday | Study the Word of God; consider that bad things that happen to us can be the consequences of our selfish behaviors, and not necessarily punishment from God (Genesis 50:20).                                 |
| Thursday  | We should keep the golden rule by doing <i>unto others as we would others to do unto us</i> (Luke 6:31).   |
| Friday    | Do not expect forgiveness from God if we refuse to forgive our brethren or one another (Matthew 18:21).  |
| Saturday  | Each individual, regardless of their sinful condition, has a spark of God's life in them. We should look for the spark in the offending party and reach out with the constraining love of God (I Peter 4:8). |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 3:12-14** Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do ye*. And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

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**LESSON 66**

**OCTOBER 31, 2021**

### **GOD'S OBEDIENT CHILDREN: MAKING THE RIGHT DECISIONS DURING TRYING AND CHANGING TIMES**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Peter 1:7** The trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: James 1:1-16**

1. James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.
2. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
3. Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
4. But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.
5. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.
8. A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.
9. Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:

10. But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.
11. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.
12. Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.
15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
16. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize our dependency upon God’s continuous guidance.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** A quick decision without consulting God can be fatal.

### COMMENTARY

Decision is the act of making up one’s mind. Trying means causing severe strain or distress. Each of us have one appointment to meet in this life, other than that, our trials are varied. Martin Luther King said, “On some positions, cowardice asks the question, ‘Is it safe?’ Expediency asks the question, ‘Is it politic?’ And vanity comes along and asks the question, ‘Is it popular?’ But conscience asks the question, ‘Is it right?’”

The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of convenience, but where they stand in moments of challenge, moments of great crises and controversies. Doing what is right in difficult situations can be extremely challenging, but our God is able to give us the boldness to stand and do what is right.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Put to the Test by God – Jeremiah 17:10                     |
| Tuesday   | Trust God and Sin Not – Job 2:9-10                          |
| Wednesday | Be not Deceived in Your Ways – Lamentations 3:40            |
| Thursday  | Caught up in Self and Forgot God’s Order – I Kings 20:38-42 |
| Friday    | Try the Spirit by God’s Word – I John 4:1                   |
| Saturday  | Multitudes in the Valley of Decision – Joel 3:14            |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 91:9-11** Because thou hast made the LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

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**THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD,  
THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH,  
BLESSED BEYOND MEASURE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 16:17-19** Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 16:1-28**

1. The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would show them a sign from heaven.
2. He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, *It will be* fair weather: for the sky is red.
3. And in the morning, *It will be* foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not *discern* the signs of the times?
4. A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.
5. And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.
6. Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.
7. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, *It is* because we have taken no bread.
8. *Which* when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?
9. Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?
10. Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?
11. How is it that ye do not understand that I spake *it* not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?
12. Then understood they how that he bade *them* not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.
13. When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?
14. And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.
15. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?
16. And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.
18. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
20. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.
21. From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.
22. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.
23. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.
24. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
25. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.
26. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?
27. For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.
28. Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that the True Church of the Living God is more than an elaborate building on a street corner or an organized group of people. Instead, it is the mystical body of Christ, made up of true believers.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The True Church of the Living God was formed on the Day of the Pentecost in the upper room in Jerusalem. This is when God, for the first time, baptized individual believers into a unified spiritual organism, the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:1-4).

## COMMENTARY

“Beyond measure” indicates something that is immeasurable—too large, extensive or extreme to calculate. Think about counting grains of sand or stars in the night sky, as God asked Abram to do. There were too many to count. That’s how God wants to bless us.

To be blessed beyond measure is to experience the extreme goodness of God. It is written: “*Oh* how great *is* thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; *which* thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!” (Psalm 31:19) The goodness of God represents everything He is, everything He has, and everything He desires to do for us. He wants to overwhelm us with His infinite goodness. The word *goodness* in the Hebrew means, “prosperity, good things and property.”

No matter how wonderful your greatest imagination might be, God wants to do more. It is written: “Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever” (Psalm 23:5-6).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | The church of the firstborn – Hebrews 12:23                   |
| Tuesday   | Christ, the Head of the church – Ephesians 1:22               |
| Wednesday | Christ loved and gave Himself for the church – Ephesians 5:25 |
| Thursday  | Christ's body, the church – Colossians 1:24                   |
| Friday    | Christ and the church – Ephesians 5:32                        |
| Saturday  | God appoints leaders in the church – I Corinthians 12:28      |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 2:19-20** Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*.

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LESSON 68

NOVEMBER 14, 2021

### A PRAYER FOR HELP IN OUR TIME OF NEED

**MOTTO TEXT: Nehemiah 1:6-7** Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 64:1-12

1. Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence,
2. As *when* the melting fire burneth, the fire causeth the waters to boil, to make thy name known to thine adversaries, *that* the nations may tremble at thy presence!
3. When thou didst terrible things *which* we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence.
4. For since the beginning of the world *men* have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, *what* he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.
5. Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, *those that* remember thee in thy ways: behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned: in those is continuance, and we shall be saved.
6. But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.
7. And *there is* none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.
8. But now, O LORD, thou *art* our father; we *are* the clay, and thou our potter; and we all *are* the work of thy hand.
9. Be not wroth very sore, O LORD, neither remember iniquity for ever: behold, see, we beseech thee, we *are* all thy people.

10. Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.
11. Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee, is burned up with fire: and all our pleasant things are laid waste.
12. Wilt thou refrain thyself for these *things*, O LORD? wilt thou hold thy peace, and afflict us very sore?

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that the One who sits on the Throne of Grace is the King of kings and He is our Father. We can talk to Him, sit with Him, tell Him our hurts and find grace to help in our time of need.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil” (Luke 11:2-4).

### COMMENTARY

Whether it's spiritual protection from Satan's attacks or physical protection, we can come to God and ask Him to be our Protector and Provider. We can seek refuge and lean on God, not our own strength or abilities. God promises to be our refuge if we will let Him! When we don't know what to pray, the Scriptures provides the words for us:

Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou *art* the LORD God, and *that* thou hast turned their heart back again. Isaiah 18:37

Establish me in the present truth. II Peter 1:2. .

Let me talk with thee of thy judgments. Jeremiah 12:1

Pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance. Exodus 34:9

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | “Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry, give ear unto my prayer, <i>that goeth</i> not out of feigned lips” (Psalm 17:1).   |
| Tuesday   | “Hearken therefore unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling place, <i>even</i> from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive” (II Chronicles 6:21). |
| Wednesday | “Confess <i>your</i> faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16).  |
| Thursday  | “This is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (I John 5:14-15).   |
| Friday    | “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Ephesians 6:18).  |
| Saturday  | “Ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find <i>me</i> , when ye shall search for me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:12-13).  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Philippians 4:6-7** Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

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LESSON 69

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

**THANKSGIVING LESSON**  
**REJOICING IN THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION:**  
**IN THE MIDST OF TROUBLE AND DESPAIR**

**MOTTO TEXT: Habakkuk 3:17-19** Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and *there shall be* no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God *is* my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' *feet*, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Habakkuk 3:1-19**

1. A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth.
2. O LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.
3. God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. *Selah* His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.
4. And *his* brightness was as the light; he had horns *coming* out of his hand: and there *was* the hiding of his power.
5. Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet.
6. He stood, and measured the earth: he beheld, and drove asunder the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow: his ways *are* everlasting.
7. I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction: *and* the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble.
8. Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? *was* thine anger against the rivers? *was* thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses *and* thy chariots of salvation?
9. Thy bow was made quite naked, *according* to the oaths of the tribes, *even* thy word. *Selah* Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers.
10. The mountains saw thee, *and* they trembled: the overflowing of the water passed by: the deep uttered his voice, *and* lifted up his hands on high.
11. The sun *and* moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, *and* at the shining of thy glittering spear.
12. Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger.
13. Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, *even* for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. *Selah*



14. Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages: they came out as a whirlwind to scatter me: their rejoicing *was* as to devour the poor secretly.
15. Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, *through* the heap of great waters.
16. When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.
17. Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and *there shall be* no herd in the stalls:
18. Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.
19. The LORD God *is* my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' *feet*, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that when we are facing difficulties in this life, and we will, we should not run from God, rather run to Him, praising and thanking Him for all we have in Him despite the difficulties and hardship we are experiencing.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Praising God in hard times does not minimize or deny heaviness of heart. Instead, it redirects our focus on who God is.

## COMMENTARY

If you ask most people, they will tell you it is easy for them to thank God when things are going well, but it's not so easy to praise God when life throws them a curveball. If we're honest with ourselves, it is much harder for us to thank and praise God when we have suffered loss, persecution, or hardship as well.

Our life isn't as stable and certain as we think. Everything else can be taken from us: our job, house, health, ability to communicate, our freedom, and even our life, but our salvation is certain. In Romans 8:1 Paul writes, "*There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans 8:1).

We desperately need to rejoice in God in the midst of trouble. And to that end we want to be encouraged in the fact that God is always for us, so who can be against us? Also, we want to apprehend the truth that Jesus is our peace, our joy, our strength and our salvation.

God is our hope in all situations both good and bad. In fact, there is not one example in Scripture where God failed to keep His promises, and thus be the treasure for His people. And because God is the treasure, we can confidently make a choice to trust in Him, even during trials and difficulties. **O Church of the Living God, we have to trust in our Lord as our Treasure and that He will provide triumph over trouble.**

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*How God's people can find strength to rejoice in the midst of trouble and despair.*

Monday God Is Our Refuge and Strength – Psalm 46:1-3

Tuesday The Name of the Lord Is a Strong Tower – Proverbs 18:10

Wednesday Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled – John 14:27

Thursday God Gives Power to the Weak and Strength to the Powerless – Isaiah 40:29

Friday God Did Not Give Us the Spirit of Fear – II Timothy 1:7

Saturday Let Us Bless the Lord at All Times – Psalm 34:1

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: John 16:32-33** Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

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**LESSON 70**

**NOVEMBER 28, 2021**

**THE INNER MAN: RENEWED DAY BY DAY**

**MOTTO TEXT: II Corinthians 4:17-18** For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

**ENTIRE LESSON: II Corinthians 4:7-18**

7. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.
8. *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we *are* perplexed, but not in despair;
9. Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;
10. Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.
11. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.
12. So then death worketh in us, but life in you.
13. We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;
14. Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present *us* with you.
15. For all things *are* for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.
16. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.
17. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;
18. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

**PURPOSE:** To stress that our inner man, which is the Spirit itself, is renewed day by day.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord” (II Corinthians 3:18).

## COMMENTARY

It is said when a crisis hits, then what we are on the inside will shine forth; however, if we have never taken time to focus on our inner man, then the outside circumstances of life will be too much for us and crush us. Let us not be like the Pharisees that had an external or outward righteousness. They focused on following the law of God to the letter. They tithed even down to their spices, but have omitted the weightier matters of the law (Read Matthew 23:23-24). Inwardly, the Pharisees were proud, self-righteous, and spiritually dead (Matthew 23:27-28).

Jesus' standard of righteousness extended beyond outward conformity to God's law to the inner attitudes of the heart (Matthew 5:21-48). God commands holiness and perfection not only in our outward acts and performance; He demands holy and pure motives from our inner persons, our hearts (I Peter 1:16).

We become more like Christ when we are no longer driven to succeed to impress others or putting emphasis on feeling good about ourselves. We were born and created for God's good pleasure and not for our own pleasure; Jesus shed His blood so that we can live as obedient children that delight in His will and give Pleasure to His heart!

It is written: "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain" (Philippians 2:12-16).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead *men's* bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity" (Matthew 23:27-28).
- Tuesday "The LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD *seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart" (I Samuel 16:7).
- Wednesday "The spirit of man *is* the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly" (Proverbs 20:27).
- Thursday "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all" (Colossians 3:8-11).
- Friday "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man" (Ephesians 3:14-16).

Saturday      “For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members” (Romans 7:22-23).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 37:18-19** The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

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**THEME VIII**  
**THE SAINTS OF THE MOST-HIGH GOD:**  
**STRIVING FOR PERFECTION**

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; ... Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.

Hebrews 6:1; Philipians 1:27

**LESSONS 71 - 80**

**LESSON 71**

**DECEMBER 5, 2021**

**ATTAINING SINLESS PERFECTION “IN” CHRIST JESUS**

**MOTTO TEXT: John 14:16-17** And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

**ENTIRE LESSON: John 14:12-31**

12. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
13. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
14. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.
15. If ye love me, keep my commandments.
16. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
17. *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
18. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
19. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.
20. At that day ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.
21. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.
22. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?
23. Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
24. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.
25. These things have I spoken unto you, being *yet* present with you.
26. But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

27. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
28. Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come *again* unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.
29. And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.
30. Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.
31. But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that God the Holy Ghost not only keeps us free from sin, but really plants us into Christ where there is no sin and enables us to grow on unto perfection (Decree page 38, number 34).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “If any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (II Corinthians 5:17).

### COMMENTARY

**Comforter means one who soothes in a time of pain or grief;** one brings relief, consoles and encourages. By calling the Holy Spirit the Comforter, Jesus made an infallible prediction. He was predicting His people would be suffering discomfort and would be in need of comfort and that there would be a lot of pain and suffering among His people in the last days.

**God Gives us Victory.** “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory” (I Corinthians 15:51-54).

**“O death, where is thy sting?** O grave, where *is* thy victory? The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law. But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (I Corinthians 15:55-58).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

***The abiding Holy Ghost makes the difference in being able to live from sin in this present world, as follows:***

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|-----------|--|
| Monday    | <b>Through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost on the inside,</b> the believer is conformed to the image of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29-30; Galatians 4:19).  |
| Tuesday   | <b>When the Holy Ghost came on the Day of Pentecost,</b> He came as the sound of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting (Read Acts 2:1-4).   |
| Wednesday | <b>We believe in first being sanctified, justified, and holy sanctified</b> and made free from all sins and sinning, and kept free from same by the baptism and inspiring of the Holy Ghost and Fire as on the Day of Pentecost (Decree page 38, number 34). |

- Thursday    **The Holy Ghost saves us from sin.** He washes away our sins. He keeps them washed away continually (I Corinthians 12:13; Decree page 65, para. 1).
- Friday      **John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, said,** “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire” (Matthew 3:1, 11).
- Saturday    **Isaiah said, “When the Lord shall have washed away the filth** of the daughters of Zion...by the spirit of burning” (Isaiah 4:4).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Malachi 3:2-3** Who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

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## LESSON 72

DECEMBER 12, 2021

### JESUS: OUR PROTECTOR IN THE STORMS OF LIFE

**MOTTO TEXT: Mark 4:37-39** And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, **Peace, be still.** And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 107:15-31

15. Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
16. For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.
17. Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.
18. Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death.
19. Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saveth them out of their distresses.
20. He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions.
21. Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
22. And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.
23. They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;
24. These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.
25. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.
26. They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.
27. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.
28. Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.

29. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.  
 30. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.  
 31. Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light when the storms of life overtake us, let us focus our eyes above and thank Almighty God for the opportunity to grow and be shaped in His image.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Let us trust that everything, even the lowest of lows, will serve to better us as believers and strengthen us as followers of Christ. “O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? Or to thy faithfulness round about thee? Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them” (Psalm 89:8-9).

**COMMENTARY**

Crises abound in this world, but as children of an omnipotent, loving Father, we can rely on His steadfast faithfulness to bring us to the other side of every storm. Remember, God is not moved by the storms we face in life and neither should we. Is it not written? “Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness” (Isaiah 41:10).

Like the disciples, we often become so blinded by the storms in our lives that we forget the power and love of the God we serve. Our present circumstances take our attention away from His eternal promises – *His promises to provide for us, to strengthen us, to sustain us until the end.* We wind up running to him in a panic, begging for Him to do something, when in fact He’s been faithfully by our side all along.

If we find ourselves in the midst of a storm today, let us be encouraged as we seek comfort in God’s Word. Know that we can always find peace and safety in our relationship with Him. It is written: “O LORD God of hosts, who *is* a strong LORD like unto thee? or to the faithfulness round about thee? Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them” (Psalm 89:8-9).

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

- Monday     The LORD is our shelter and strength – Psalm 46:1
- Tuesday    The LORD is in control – Psalm 107:29
- Wednesday  The LORD will rescue us – Psalm 34:17
- Thursday   The LORD is our protector – Psalm 91:1-2
- Friday      The LORD gives us strength – Psalm 68:35.
- Saturday    The LORD keeps us in perfect peace – Isaiah 26:3

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 43:1-2** O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called *thee* by thy name; thou *art* mine. When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

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**CHRISTMAS LESSON**  
**THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS:**  
**A HOLY DAY RATHER THAN A HOLIDAY**

**MOTTO TEXT: I John 3:22-23** And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I John 3:1-24**

1. Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.
2. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
3. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.
4. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
5. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
6. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.
7. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.
8. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.
9. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.
10. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.
11. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
12. Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.
13. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.
14. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.
15. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.
16. Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.
17. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?
18. My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
19. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.
20. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

21. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God.
22. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.
23. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.
24. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

**PURPOSE:** To inspire God's people that the Christian journey is a tedious road during our daily walk with Christ.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We should commemorate Christmas as a Holy Day rather than a holiday.

### COMMENTARY

The simple meaning of Christmas is given in the dictionary as a Christian Feast commemorating the birth of Christ. It should be an unselfish feast for the first Christmas gift was Jesus Christ. God unselfishly gave His only begotten Son, the Redeemer, as proof of how to live godly in the flesh among ungodly mankind. Jesus, the Christ, is His incarnate Living Word. This is the best God had. This feast is celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December.

Since Jesus set such a splendid example, why not celebrate Christmas more sanely and religiously? It is more important to celebrate Christ in our lives every day rather than to recognize the one day. Accept our rebirth through the redemptive Savior, so that when our work in this mortal flesh is finished, we will live again. When we give gifts at Christmas it is good to recall the fact that God gave His Son so that Christ could give His life and God can reclaim us. This made mankind's acceptable return from to God. The disobedient and deceptive sinner will not be welcome in eternity with God and His Son. We should dedicate and give our lives to Christ.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | The Lord Himself Will Give a Sign – Isaiah 7:14        |
| Tuesday   | For unto Us A Child Is Born – Isaiah 9:6-7             |
| Wednesday | He Will Save His People from Their Sins – Matthew 1:21 |
| Thursday  | The Temptation of Christ – Matthew 4:8-9               |
| Friday    | Our Great Shepherd – Psalm 23:1; I Peter 2:25          |
| Saturday  | Our Proof that We Love Jesus – John 14:21              |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: John 14:23-24** If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

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**GOD'S PEOPLE:  
SAYING NO TO SIN AND YES TO RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**MOTTO TEXT: Galatians 2:20** I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 6:1-23**

1. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
2. God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
3. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
5. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his resurrection*:
6. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
7. For he that is dead is freed from sin.
8. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
9. Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
10. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
11. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
12. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
13. Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.
14. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
15. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
16. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
17. But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
18. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.
19. I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
20. For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
21. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.

22. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23. For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**PURPOSE:** To confirm that the old life dies that the new may live.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God” (verses 12-13).

### COMMENTARY

How we live, day in and day out, affects our relationship with Almighty God. It’s a stunning truth the Bible teaches plainly. God so cares about us as an earthly father, that He finds happiness in our obedience and grief in our disobedience.

The Bible says that we are already given what we need to live a godly life in the Holy Spirit. He is the same power that raised Christ from the dead, and if He indeed lives in you, He will also help and enable you to live a holy and righteous life to the glory of God.

Pleasing God directly relates to our pursuit of holiness. When we say **no** to sin, and **yes** to righteousness, we do so as two-year-olds bringing pleasure to their father. God is not apathetic to our obedience; ***He has committed His own joy to it.***

Sanctification means “separated from sin unto salvation.” It is being separated from the sinful life and being set apart for a new life in Christ. Paul clearly states in verse 11, “Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” This can be accomplished by mortification, dying to sin, living no longer in sin, putting off the old man, regeneration (newness of life), living unto righteousness, putting on the new man, and ceasing to do evil.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY.

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | True believers, dead to sin and alive in Christ – I Peter 2:24   |
| Tuesday   | How to live holy God’s way – I Timothy 4:7   |
| Wednesday | By one man’s sin death and sin entered into the world. By one man’s obedience, many shall be made righteous – Romans 5:17-19 |
| Thursday  | Whosoever commiteth sin is the servant of sin – John 8:34  |
| Friday    | A New Man – II Corinthians 5:17  |
| Saturday  | Life Out of Death – Galatians 2:19-20  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Hebrews 10:19-21** Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And *having* an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

**NEW YEAR'S LESSON/NEW BEGINNING  
FOR WE ARE FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE  
IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF ALMIGHTY GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 2:9-10** Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 139:1-24**

1. LORD, thou hast searched me, and known *me*.
2. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.
3. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted *with* all my ways.
4. For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but*, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.
5. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.
6. *Such* knowledge *is* too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot *attain* unto it.
7. Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?
8. If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.
9. *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;
10. Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.
11. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.
12. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light *are* both alike *to thee*.
13. For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.
14. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.
15. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, *and* curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.
16. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was* none of them.
17. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!
18. *If* I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.
19. Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.
20. For they speak against thee wickedly, *and* thine enemies take *thy name* in vain.
21. Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?
22. I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.
23. Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:
24. And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

**PURPOSE:** To stress that we didn't just evolve into what we are, we were created in the image and likeness of Almighty God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We have the innate ability to discern right from wrong. God didn't just design us to do our own thing. He created us so we would desire an ongoing relationship with Him.

### COMMENTARY

The human body is a unique design of multiple systems that all work intricately together. The cardiovascular system gives us the energy to move. The muscular system gives us the ability to move, lift, and hold things. The digestive system processes food into energy and discards waste. The immune system keeps us healthy. The hormonal system (with our intricate bone structure) differentiates our gender. The eyes cause us to see. The nose lets us smell. The tongue and mouth lets us eat and taste. The ears enable us to hear. And our skin enables us to feel textures. We have the ability to encounter an incredibly diverse world with an equally amazing diverse body!

We are also blessed with a brain so we can think, process, and create. It is said that the brain is the most complex and orderly arrangement of matter in the universe. Our emotions help us to relate to other people and feel compassion. All of these systems (plus many more) were uniquely designed to make us who we are. It is written: "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

Monday God Planned our Lives before the Foundations of the World – Ephesians 1:4  
Tuesday We Know that All Things Work Together – Romans 8:28-29  
Wednesday Everlasting Love – Jeremiah 31:3  
Thursday Love The Lord With All Thy Heart, Soul and Might – Deuteronomy 6:5  
Friday Plans to Prosper – Jeremiah 29:11  
Saturday David's Sincere Plea to God – Psalm 17:8

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 139:14** I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.

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LESSON 76

JANUARY 9, 2022

### HOW TO TURN GOD'S WORD INTO THE UNLIMITED POWER OF PRAISE

**MOTTO TEXT: I Kings 17:20-21** Elijah cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son? And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

### ENTIRE LESSON: I Kings 17:1-24

1. And Elijah the Tishbite, *who was* of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, *As the* LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.
2. And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

3. Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that *is* before Jordan.
4. And it shall be, *that* thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.
5. So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that *is* before Jordan.
6. And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.
7. And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.
8. And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying,
9. Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which *belongeth* to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.
10. So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman *was* there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.
11. And as she was going to fetch *it*, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.
12. And she said, *As* the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I *am* gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.
13. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go *and* do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring *it* unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.
14. For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day *that* the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.
15. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat *many* days.
16. *And* the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.
17. And it came to pass after these things, *that* the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.
18. And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?
19. And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.
20. And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?
21. And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.
22. And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.
23. And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth.
24. And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou *art* a man of God, *and* that the word of the LORD in thy mouth *is* truth.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that prayer prayed in the name of Jesus, based on the Word of God, is “mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.”

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16).

### COMMENTARY

*How shall we pray so as to receive answers to our prayers? We must do the following:*

1. Believe in the Lord, the One who hears and answers prayers (Hebrews 11:6).
2. Be sure that you are free from sin and that there is no condemnation in your heart because you are doing things that are pleasing to God (Joel 2:12-14).
3. Be definite, do not allow your prayers to be rambling or haphazard; ask exactly for what you want, and do not be afraid of asking for too much. “Ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you” (John 15:7).
4. Expect your prayers, based on the Word of God, to be answered. Have confidence and don’t waver (I John 5:14).
5. Read God’s unlimited promises made to His children and claim them by faith (Deuteronomy 26:18; Romans 4:21).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*Prayer is the master key to the unlimited treasure of God, it behooves us to pray always and to study the Word, and so as to know God’s will in privileges in prayer:*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Persistent prayer will not yield until the answer comes (Psalm 40:1; Luke 18:1).  |
| Tuesday   | Prevailing prayer overcomes all obstacles as it leaps over all impossibilities, sights, or feelings (II Chronicles 14:11).                  |
| Wednesday | Battle prayer is when the devil refuses to let go. They wrestle, yearn and never give up until the victory is won (Genesis 32:24-26).       |
| Thursday  | Quiet prayer of the soul may never be lifted above a whisper, but its consistency with faith shakes the very throne of Heaven (Luke 21:26). |
| Friday    | Intercessory prayer pleads with God for your needs and the needs of others (Job 34:29-30).  |
| Saturday  | Thanksgiving prayer is the act of giving thanks to God; it is a prayer expressing gratitude (Colossians 4:2).                               |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Thessalonians 5:16-18** In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

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LESSON 77

JANUARY 16, 2022

### CHRISTIAN CHARACTER: A MATTER OF THE HEART

**MOTTO TEXT: Colossians 3:23-24** And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 5:1-5; Philippians 4:4-8**

**Romans 5:1-5**

1. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:



2. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
3. And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;
4. And patience, experience; and experience, hope:
5. And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

**Philippians 4:4-8**

4. Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.
5. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.
6. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
7. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
8. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that it is imperative to realize, when we say we are followers of Christ, our character and behavior are reflected in Him.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We demonstrate character and integrity when we do what we say and act out what we believe, if not, we are hypocrites.

**COMMENTARY**

Character is important in shaping who we are in Christ. God takes seriously the issue of character. We see His concern repeatedly in Leviticus, from the sin of Aaron’s sons to His detailed instructions about clean and unclean food, to the purification of a woman after childbirth.

While today, we recognize some obvious medical and biological reasons for His precise directives, we can assume God intended through these texts to teach His leaders and His people an important lesson: Put ‘**being**’ before ‘**doing**’. Get yourself right before you work on anything else.

Far too often we jump to methods and techniques. We put style ahead of substance. We focus on charisma but neglect character.

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*The following beckons us to put our character first:*

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | We are given our gifts, but we must develop our character (Romans 12:6)                         |
| Tuesday   | Our character earns the trust of others (Psalm 9:10).   |
| Wednesday | Only good character gives lasting success with people (Proverbs 11:3).                          |
| Thursday  | Sound character communicates credibility and consistency (II Timothy 1:7).                      |
| Friday    | Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there (II Corinthians 8:12). |
| Saturday  | We cannot rise above the limitations of our character (Psalm 78:41).                            |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Hebrews 13:17** Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that *is* unprofitable for you.

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LESSON 78

JANUARY 23, 2022

**GOD'S PEOPLE:  
PERSEVERING IN THE MIDST  
OF INTENSE PERSECUTION AND WORLD CHAOS**

**MOTTO TEXT: Luke 21:14-17** Settle *it* therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and *some* of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 21:5-24**

5. And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said,
6. *As for* these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.
7. And they asked him, saying, Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign *will there be* when these things shall come to pass?
8. and he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am *Christ*; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them.
9. But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end *is* not by and by.
10. Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:
11. And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.
12. But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute *you*, delivering *you* up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.
13. And it shall turn to you for a testimony.
14. Settle *it* therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer:
15. For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.
16. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and *some* of you shall they cause to be put to death.
17. And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake.
18. But there shall not an hair of your head perish.
19. In your patience possess ye your souls.
20. And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.
21. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the

midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto.

22. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.
23. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people.
24. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that Jesus' purpose was not to satisfy curiosity about the end times. Rather, His responsibility was to instill assurance and faith in His disciples so that they would not fall away during the coming intense persecution and world chaos.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God's people are responsible to persevere in obedience and witness in this evil world, even in the face of persecution and martyrdom.

### COMMENTARY

One of the biggest lies that Satan has promoted is that believing in Christ as Savior will bring a trouble-free life. The pitch goes, "Do you have problems? If you trust in Jesus, He will get you out of them." So, the person trusts in Christ and his problems become worse, not better. The enemy comes to him and says, "See where trusting in Christ got you? You were better off before you became a Christian!"

The Bible *does* promise believers peace and joy, but it does *not* promise the absence of trials, freedom from persecution, or even protection from violent death. It promises peace and joy *in the midst* of such trials as we rely on the Lord and His promises.

So, when the whole world goes crazy around us, we can remain calm and sane by knowing that all things are under God's righteous, sovereign control. Even if we die for our faith, we will live forever with Him. It is written: "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak" (Matthew 10:16-19).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*How can God's people stay sane in the midst of world chaos?*

*It is written:*

- Monday "Remember the former things of old: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; I *am* God, and *there is* none like me." Read Isaiah 46:9-11.
- Tuesday "In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will." Read Ephesians 1:11-13.
- Wednesday "Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. The LORD hath made all *things* for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil" (Proverbs 16:3-4).
- Thursday "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them" (Acts 2:2-3).

- Friday “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all” (I John 1:5).
- Saturday “The LORD *is* righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth” (Psalm 145:17-18).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Mark 13:21-23** And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here *is* Christ; or, lo, *he is* there; believe *him* not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if *it were* possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.

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## LESSON 79

JANUARY 30, 2022

### THE LORD IS GOD TO THOSE WHO WAIT FOR HIM

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 40:31** They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

1. To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
2. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up *that which is* planted;
3. A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;
4. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
5. A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
6. A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
7. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
8. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.
9. What profit hath he that worketh in that wherein he laboureth?
10. I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it.
11. He hath made every *thing* beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that in times of waiting, God stretches our faith in Him to bring about change and growth in our lives.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing” (James 1:4).

#### COMMENTARY

How hard it can be to trust in God’s timing. We are a people who want what we want and would prefer it right now. Sometimes it seems as if we are not even on God’s clock. Yet, there is never a time in which He is not aware of the desires of our hearts. He does, however, know better than we do, whether what we want to happen is necessary or good

for us. Sometimes God's timing may be just the amount we need to see that what we thought we needed, we never did, or that the waiting made the receiving that much better. His timing will always be perfect, even when our trust in it is not.

When we remain hopeful, despite our waiting, God rewards us with renewed strength. Perhaps, we witness His transforming love in another area of our lives, and it renews our hope for another. We can fly above the impatience and keep moving ahead of our worry, as long as we continue to wait in hopeful expectation for God to work.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Wait for the Lord and Be Strong – Psalm 27:14                     |
| Tuesday   | The Lord Is Good to Those Who Wait for Him – Lamentations 3:25-26 |
| Wednesday | Is Anything Too Hard for God? – Genesis 18:14                     |
| Thursday  | Be Still before the Lord and Wait Patiently for Him – Psalm 37:7  |
| Friday    | Wait for the Lord and Keep His Way – Psalm 37:34                  |
| Saturday  | Seek the Lord While He May Be Found – Isaiah 55:6                 |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Hebrews 11:39-40** And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

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**LESSON 80**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2022**

### **SOMETHING FOR US TO DO: HUMBLE OURSELVES UNDER THE MIGHTY HAND OF GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Peter 5:6-7** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

### **ENTIRE LESSON: Luke 18:1-14**

1. And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;
2. Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:
3. And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.
4. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;
5. Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.
6. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.
7. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?
8. I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?
9. And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10. Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.
11. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.
12. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.
13. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.
14. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that when we do not humble ourselves, we are really saying we don't trust God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The fact is that until we humble ourselves, we can never receive the grace of God which is a gift that He only gives to those who are of a humble and contrite nature (Psalm 51:17; Isaiah 57:15, 66:2).

### COMMENTARY

The word 'humility' is defined as a lowering of oneself in relation to others, a state or the act of being humble, a freedom of pride and arrogance, and having a modest opinion or estimate of one's own worth. It is not groveling in front of others, being a doormat, or is a sign of weakness. We should be humble because we have come to know something of God's infinite greatness and our own unworthiness before him. We have come to understand that God is glorious, almighty, infinite, and omnipotent and that we are not.

Moses was said to be the meekest man on earth (Numbers 12:3), but meekness is not weakness, it's actually strength that is under control. The fact is that God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6). Remember, God cannot fill a person who is already full of themselves.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*Why should we, God's people, humble ourselves?*

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Christ Was Humble, and We Should Imitate Him – Philippians 2:5        |
| Tuesday   | Humble Ourselves in the Sight of God that He May Lift Us – James 4:10 |
| Wednesday | God Resisteth the Proud and Giveth Grace to the Humble – James 4:6    |
| Thursday  | Pride Comes Before a Fall – Proverbs 16:18                            |
| Friday    | Cultivate Thankfulness – I Thessalonians 5:18                         |
| Saturday  | Confess Your Faults One to Another – James 5:15                       |

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

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**THEME IX**  
**NO MORE DELAY:**

**NOW IS THE TIME TO SEEK THE LORD WHILE HE MAY BE FOUND**

Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground:  
for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

Hosea 10:12

**LESSONS 81 - 90**

**LESSON 81**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2022**

**NOW IS THE TIME FOR MAKING YOUR ETERNAL RESERVATION:  
NO MORE DELAY**

**MOTTO TEXT: John 3:36** He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

**ENTIRE LESSON: John 3:16-36**

16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
18. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
20. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.
21. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.
22. After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.
23. And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.
24. For John was not yet cast into prison.
25. Then there arose a question between *some* of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying.
26. And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all *men* come to him.
27. John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.
28. Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.
29. He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.
30. He must increase, but *I must* decrease.

31. He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.
32. And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.
33. He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.
34. For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure *unto him*.
35. The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.
36. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him” (I Corinthians 2:9).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** What happens five minutes after the breath leaves the body? The soul of man is immediately caught up into another world where he/she will spend eternity.

### COMMENTARY

The world is the great sea of humanity. In it are all kinds of lost souls ready to enter into judgement without knowing God. Death is not the end of life but a transition from life in time to life eternal. What are the righteous doing while they await the return of the Lord for the rest of His people? They are not sleep in the grave, but are in Paradise, this can be compared to the suburbs of Heaven. Jesus promised the repentant thief on the cross, “Today shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:43-44).

What are the unsaved doing while they await the Great Judgment Day of God? They are not asleep in the grave, but are in a place called Hell; a place of wrath, a cruel place, a place where people are alive and newcomers stir up its inhabitants (Luke 16:19-31; Isaiah 14:9-15; Ezekiel 32:21).

Hell is not the final destination of the wicked, it is somewhat a stopover place where the wicked are tormented day and night until the Great Judgment Day of God. This is when they will be brought out of Hell and judged, then cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone with the devil and his angels, “and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever” (Revelation 20:10-15).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Jesus said, “Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect” (Matthew 24:44).  |
| Tuesday   | “The kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps” (Matthew 25:1-4). |
| Wednesday | Lazarus, a poor beggar and a type of the righteous, died and was immediately carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom, which is a type of Paradise (Luke 16:19-22).  |
| Thursday  | The rich man, who did not have time to serve God in this world, died and was buried. “And being in torments in Hades (Hell), he lifted his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom” (Read Luke 16:19-31).  |



- Friday It is written: "I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD. Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel (Amos 4:11-12).
- Saturday "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still" (Revelation 22:11).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: I Corinthians 3:13** Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

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## LESSON 82

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

### EVIDENCING THE COMING OF CHRIST: ARE YOU READY?

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 24:4-6** Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 24:1-21

1. And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to *him* for to shew him the buildings of the temple.
2. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.
3. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what *shall be* the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?
4. And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.
5. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.
6. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.
7. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.
8. All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.
9. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.
10. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.
11. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.
12. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.
13. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.
14. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

15. When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)
16. Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:
17. Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:
18. Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.
19. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!
20. But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:
21. For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that God is a God of love, a fact that cannot diminish that He is also a Holy God, demanding a holy life.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Many people that go to church today don't even care what the doctrine or beliefs of the church are. They are not looking for a service where they might be convicted of sin, but a service that makes them feel good.

### COMMENTARY

We live in a society that has a hunger and thirst to know the future. Psychics are in every city, many go to investment firms to predict what stocks will be on the rise, some people get a tip sheet to help determine which horse will win a race. In Matthew 24 the disciples came to Jesus and asked Him to give information concerning the future.

One of the signs we see in the world today is the love of many will wax cold. In this evil world, we all must guard our hearts from growing cold, losing the fire. There will also be a great falling away. We are seeing so many giving up, dropping out, and throwing in the towel.

In many churches today, we see just religion as a form of godliness that denies the power of God. For some, Sunday is just a ritual, not a heartfelt experience of praise and worship to Jesus Christ. One deception that we see being preached in our world today is that we can live any way we want, it doesn't matter, God loves us just the way we are. Is it not written? "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities" (Revelation 18:4-5).

God never pours out His wrath without warning because, He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (II Peter 3:9). Are you ready?

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | "And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven" (Luke 21:11).                   |
| Tuesday   | "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring" (Luke 21:25). |
| Wednesday | "Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them" (Jeremiah 10:2).                     |
| Thursday  | "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars" (Revelation 12:1).         |
| Friday    | "And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red   |

dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads” (Revelation 12:3).

Saturday “And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory” (Matthew 24:30).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 3:3** Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

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LESSON 83

FEBRUARY 27, 2022

**GOD’S PEOPLE:  
KEEPING THE FAITH IN THE MIDST OF NATIONAL WICKEDNESS**

**MOTTO TEXT: Zephaniah 3:8** Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination *is* to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, *even* all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Malachi 3:1-15**

1. Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.
2. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner’s fire, and like fullers’ soap:
3. And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.
4. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.
5. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in *his* wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger *from his right*, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.
6. For I *am* the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.
7. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept *them*. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?
8. Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.
9. Ye *are* cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, *even* this whole nation.
10. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it*.

11. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.
12. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.
13. Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken *so much* against thee?
14. Ye have said, It *is* vain to serve God: and what profit *is it* that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?
15. And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, *they that tempt God* are even delivered.

**PURPOSE:** To show how a wicked nation will be judge by Almighty God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Keep the faith that God will preserve you in the midst of moral decline.

### COMMENTARY

Malachi's report of God's Words speaks to those whose love for God has grown cold. God's complaint against Judah was that though He called His people into a relationship with Him, they refused to honor Him. Their worship was defiled. True worship honors and exalts God. Obedience to God was ignored.

God promised to bless the obedient; however, they failed to pay tithes. The temple was God's house and failure to support its ministry was considered as robbing God. The result was a curse.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | The Lord Will Not Acquit the Wicked – Nahum 1:3 |
| Tuesday   | Why Do the Heathen Rage – Psalm 2:1-2           |
| Wednesday | The Day of Judgment – Matthew 11:22-24          |
| Thursday  | Reject Not the Lord – John 12:48                |
| Friday    | Will Not Cease to Pray for You – I Samuel 12:23 |
| Saturday  | Nations Are but Men – Psalm 9:20                |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 58:10-11** The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked. So that a man shall say, Verily *there is* a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth.

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LESSON 84

MARCH 6, 2022

### YOUTH DAY NOW THAT I AM SAVED, WHO AM I? I AM A FAMILY MEMBER OF GOD

**MOTTO TEXT: Hebrews 2:11** For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified *are* all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren.

## ENTIRE LESSON: Hebrews 2:1-18

1. Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let *them* slip.
2. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward;
3. How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*;
4. God also bearing *them* witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?
5. For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.
6. But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him?
7. Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:
8. Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing *that is* not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.
9. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.
10. For it became him, for whom *are* all things, and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
11. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified *are* all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,
12. Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.
13. And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me.
14. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
15. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
16. For verily he took not on *him the nature of* angels; but he took on *him* the seed of Abraham.
17. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.
18. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that only God can open our spiritual eyes that we might see how Christ became human that we might become divine.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The next time you find yourself standing on the edge and cliff of life, as a child of God, remember that God is saying to you today what He said yesterday, “Be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (I Corinthians 15:58).

## COMMENTARY

As a child and heir of God, and a brother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we should strive to pay attention to every decision we make, even the ones that may seem insignificant. Embrace every situation you find yourself in, even the ones that appear to be senseless. They are shaping you, molding you and preparing you for the next decision, the next person and the next situation.

Be free by living your life in the light of God's plan. It is written: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you" (John 15:16).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*Let us search ourselves and honestly answer these questions:*

- Monday As a child of God, look back over the last week of your life. Are you glad God was with you in your activities or are you ashamed of where you took Him? Consider Isaiah 56:12; II Peter 2:8; Hebrews 3:7-8, 13.
- Tuesday Consider yours plans for the coming week, would you be ashamed to invite God (the Father) and Jesus (your big brother) to participate in your plans for tomorrow? Consider Proverbs 27:1; II Kings 7:1-3.
- Wednesday As a child of God and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ, do you want a personal relationship with God? If so, are you willing to make the prayer request to your heavenly Father that is recorded in Psalm 139:23-24?
- Thursday According to Hebrews 4:16, what special privilege is granted to God's earthly sons and daughters?
- Friday According to Proverbs 2:7, 3:5-6, 16:3, how can you live abundantly?
- Saturday According I Chronicles 16:20-22, what is God saying about His anointed ones?

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 1:3-4** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

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## LESSON 85

MARCH 13, 2022

### WARRING AGAINST SIN AND SATAN: STAND STILL AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD

**MOTTO TEXT: 2 Chronicles 20:17** Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you.

## ENTIRE LESSON: II Chronicles 20:1-22

1. It came to pass after this also, *that* the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them *other* beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

2. Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they *be* in Hazazontamar, which *is* Engedi.
3. And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.
4. And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask *help* of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.
5. And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,
6. And said, O LORD God of our fathers, *art* not thou God in heaven? and rulest *not* thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand *is there not* power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?
7. *Art* not thou our God, *who* didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?
8. And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,
9. If, *when* evil cometh upon us, *as* the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name *is* in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.
10. And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;
11. Behold, *I say*, *how* they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.
12. O Our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes *are* upon thee.
13. And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.
14. Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;
15. And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle *is* not yours, but God's.
16. To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.
17. Ye shall not *need* to fight in this *battle*: set yourselves, stand ye *still*, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD *will be* with you.
18. And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with *his* face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.
19. And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.
20. And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

21. And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
22. And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

**PURPOSE:** To prepare soldiers enforcing the power over Satan and his wicked works that was won by Christ on Calvary’s Cross (Matthew 10:17-19).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*” (Ephesians 6:12).

### COMMENTARY

In Ephesians 4:27, the Apostle Paul writes, “Neither give place to the devil.” The word “place” is the Greek word *topos*. It refers to a *specific, marked-off, geographical location*. It carries the idea of a *territory, province, region, zone, or geographical position*. Because the word *topos* depicts a geographical location, this lets us know that the devil is after every region and zone of our lives — *money, health, marriage, relationships, employment, business, and ministry*.

Satan is so territorial that he wants it *all*. But to start his campaign to conquer all those areas of our lives, he must first find an *entry point* from which he can begin his campaign of unleashing his devilish destruction in our lives. We often throw open the door to the devil when we:

- Refuse to let go of old hurts and wounds,
- Refuse to acknowledge what we did wrong,
- Refuse to forgive others for what they did,
- Refuse to stop judging others for their grievances,
- Refuse to admit we were wrong, too,
- Refuse to say, “I’m sorry” when we’re wrong, and
- Refuse to lay down our “rights” for others.

We are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ, so we don’t have to let the devil run all over us. The Bible boldly declares, “Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world” (I John 4:4).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

- Monday “And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in *all things* he might have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:17-18).
- Tuesday “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end” (Jeremiah 29:11).
- Wednesday “The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth” (Psalm 46:7-8).
- Thursday “And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace” (Exodus 14:13-14).



- Friday “And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13).
- Saturday “I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong” (II Corinthians 12:10).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Romans 13:13-14** Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.

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## LESSON 86

MARCH 20, 2022

### IT IS NEAR CLOSING TIME: ARE YOU READY? IF NOT, WHEN?

**MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 10:5-6** And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Revelation 21:9-27

9. And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.
10. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,
11. Having the glory of God: and her light *was* like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;
12. And had a wall great and high, *and* had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are *the names* of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:
13. On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.
14. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.
15. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.
16. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.
17. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred *and* forty *and* four cubits, *according* to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.
18. And the building of the wall of it was *of* jasper: and the city *was* pure gold, like unto clear glass.

19. And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation *was* jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;
20. The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysopterus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.
21. And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it were transparent glass.
22. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.
23. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.
24. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.
25. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.
26. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.
27. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**PURPOSE:** To portray the foolishness of deathbed religion.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

### COMMENTARY

Revelation 21:1-7 is specially to the lazy and lost souls who become dependent on making everything all right with God just before they die. Time is not on the side of the hesitant to turn from unrighteousness. Death does not always come slow; many times, it comes suddenly, without repercussion (Proverbs 29:1; Ecclesiastes 9:12), and at an unaware time.

It is written: “Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity” (Matthew 7:20-23).

It is also written: “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Revelation 21:8).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Don't Commit Any of These Sins If You Are a Christian – I Peter 4:15 |
| Tuesday   | Keep Yourself from Idols – I John 5:20-21                            |
| Wednesday | Contrary to Sound Doctrine – I Timothy 1:9-10                        |
| Thursday  | The Chosen Men of Israel Refused to Believe – Psalm 78:31-32         |
| Friday    | Whoremongers Don't Go this Way – Ephesians 5:1-5                     |
| Saturday  | Be Not Wise in Thine Own Eyes – Proverbs 3:7-8                       |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 21:7** He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

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LESSON 87

MARCH 27, 2022

**DENY YOURSELF, TAKE UP YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW JESUS**

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 16:24-25** Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 16:13-28**

13. When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?
14. And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.
15. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?
16. And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
17. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.
18. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
19. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
20. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.
21. From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.
22. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.
23. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.
24. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
25. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.
26. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?
27. For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.
28. Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that the Bible shows, in order for man to live, self-gratification must not be minimized but killed.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** To deny oneself means to follow the example set forth by the Lord Jesus Himself in coming into this world (Read Philippians 2:5-8).

**COMMENTARY**

A person who is not willing to deny himself cannot claim to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Deny means to completely disown, to utterly separate oneself from someone or something. It is the word Jesus used to describe Peter’s denial of Him while He was being questioned by the high priest (Matthew 26:34). Each time he was confronted about his relationship to Jesus, Peter more vehemently denied knowing Him (Matthew 26:70, 72, 74). He disowned his Master before the world.

To deny self is not the same as self-denial, like giving up chocolate for lent or that extra piece of pie. This denial means to yield to God’s control so completely that self has no rights whatever. That is exactly the kind of denial a believer is to make in regard to himself. He is to utterly disown himself, to refuse to acknowledge the self of the old man.

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

- Monday Measure Christ, the pattern, and follow Him (Ezekiel 43:10-11; Matthew 3:16, 4:1-11).
- Tuesday As servants of Christ, we should put the need of others first and expect to be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3).
- Wednesday Teach sinners how to be washed in the blood. Be kind and sensitive to strangers, you could be entertaining angels unawares (Exodus 22:21-27; Hebrews 13:2).
- Thursday Forgive so that your heavenly Father will forgive you, seek not vengeance; the battle is not yours but the Lord’s (Read Luke 6:29).
- Friday Look out for the well-being and the success of others, with the same concern you have for yourself (Ezekiel 34:16).
- Saturday First seek you the Kingdom of God that you might be blessed. Practice putting God and the need of others before your own. Expect great blessings from God (Matthew 6:33).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 4:21-24** If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

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**LESSON 88**

**APRIL 3, 2022**

**EVERYONE WILL HAVE HIS DAY BEFORE THE JUDGE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 96:12-13** Let the field be joyful and all that *is* there; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 25:31-46**

31. When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
32. And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats:
33. And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
34. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
35. For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:
36. Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.
37. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink?
38. When saw we thee a stranger, and took *thee* in? or naked, and clothed *thee*?
39. Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?
40. And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.
41. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:
42. For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:
43. I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.
44. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?
45. Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me.
46. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

**PURPOSE:** To make us aware that the Day of Reckoning is closer than we think.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** The Judgement Day will surely come. Be ready!

### COMMENTARY

We live in society where many are saying that God is dead, there is no heaven, no Judgment Day, no Resurrection, no hereafter, etc. However, man lives in God's world on God's mercy and tries to deny God the opportunity of having anything to do with mankind and his chosen behavior.

We can call hell by any name we desire; it does not make Hell any cooler. We can believe that God is dead if we desire, yet He is very much alive and will be alive when all of these infidels die who deny His existence. When man dies, after death there is a Judgment and the wicked will be punished and the righteous will be blessed.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Doom of the Beast – Revelation 19:20      |
| Tuesday   | Chasten with the Rod – II Samuel 17:14    |
| Wednesday | The Great White Throne – Revelation 20:12 |
| Thursday  | The Temptation of Jesus – Mark 1:13       |
| Friday    | The Fall – Genesis 3:1                    |
| Saturday  | Christ, the Superior Person – Hebrews 1:4 |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: II Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

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LESSON 89

APRIL 10, 2022

**PALM SUNDAY**

**MAN'S WAY BACK TO GOD BY SELF-EFFORT IS NOT GOD'S WAY**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 55:8-9** For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Romans 5:1-21**

1. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
2. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
3. And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;
4. And patience, experience; and experience, hope:
5. And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.
6. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.
7. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.
8. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
9. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
10. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.
11. And not only *so*, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.
12. Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
13. (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.
14. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.
15. But not as the offence, so also *is* the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, *which is* by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.
16. And not as *it was* by one that sinned, *so is* the gift: for the judgment *was* by one to condemnation, but the free gift *is* of many offences unto justification.

17. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)
18. Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one *the free gift came* upon all men unto justification of life.
19. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
20. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
21. That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that man seeks to be made new again by self-effort and human cultural; God demands a new creation and abandonment of self-effort and works.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Cain and Abel showed that man's way back to God by self-effort is not God's way.

### COMMENTARY

Frequently we read in the Bible a narrative about people unquestionably trusting God. This is an example of God's ways being different than man's ways. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus taught the people many things that went contrary to man's natural ways. Jesus told them that they should present themselves to their enemies in a docile matter.

God asked Gideon to go against an army of 135,000 with a band of only 300 men. Gideon started with 32,000 men, which was still a small number against the enemy. Yet God asked Gideon to pare the army down to just 300, so that when the victory came it was obvious that it was the hand of God.

Jonah is an example of someone who did not agree with God's plan and tried to run away from God's leading. Of course, he did not get very far on his own. Though he jumped on a ship to flee from God's presence, God brought him back by way of a great fish (*which is possible with the docile whale shark*) to the land where God called him.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

***God's ways are beyond human understanding. It is written:***

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | “Behold, God <i>is</i> great, and we know <i>him</i> not, neither can the number of his years be searched out” (Job 36:26).  |
| Tuesday   | “The secret <i>things belong</i> unto the LORD our God: but those <i>things which are</i> revealed <i>belong</i> unto us and to our children for ever, that <i>we</i> may do all the words of this law” (Deuteronomy 29:29).   |
| Wednesday | “ <i>It is</i> the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings <i>is</i> to search out a matter” (Proverbs 25:2).   |
| Thursday  | “Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, <i>that</i> the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? <i>there is</i> no searching of his understanding” (Isaiah 40:28). |
| Friday    | “For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God” (I Corinthians 2:11).  |

Saturday “For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ” (I Corinthians 2:16).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 139:1-6** O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known *me*. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compasses my path and my lying down, and art acquainted *with* all my ways. For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but*, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. *Such* knowledge *is* too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot *attain* unto it.

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LESSON 90

APRIL 17, 2022

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**WHEN I SEE THE BLOOD, I WILL PASS OVER YOU**

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 12:13-14** And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt. And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Exodus 12:14:28**

14. And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.
15. Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.
16. And in the first day *there shall be* an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save *that* which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.
17. And ye shall observe *the feast of* unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.
18. In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.
19. Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.
20. Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.
21. Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover.
22. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that *is* in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.



23. For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite *you*.
24. And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.
25. And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.
26. And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?
27. That ye shall say, It *is* the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.
28. And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

**PURPOSE:** To understand the all-sufficient power of the shed blood of Jesus Christ and what it accomplishes daily for each true child of God.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** All believers should be thankful to the Lord for paying our sin-debt in full. Therefore, Satan has no more dominion to afflict us with sickness and the curse of sin and death. Halleluiah!

### COMMENTARY

The blood of Jesus provides the only solution to our greatest problem. We were born into a fallen world. Even our own will, separated from God, would cause us to be blinded by what the enemy offers us.

Apart from the redeeming power of the blood of Jesus Christ, we are doomed. But God demonstrated His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). The blood of Jesus has the power to release the grip of the great curse, the ramifications for that are immeasurable. It is written: "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:6-7).

It is written: "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And *having* an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water" (Hebrews 10:19-22).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

***Let us explore the Bible and Decree and share what we believe and do firmly teach and preach concerning the shed blood of Jesus Christ:***

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | God's Word, saturated with the shed blood of Christ, saves us from sin, washes away our sins and keeps them washed away continually (Matthew 26:28; Decree page 64). |
| Tuesday   | The blood redeems us from the power and curse of sin and death (Acts 20:28; I Peter 1:18-19)   |
| Wednesday | The blood assures converted believers of forgiveness and frees the conscience from the guilt and penalty of sin (Hebrews 9:14).                                      |

- Thursday The blood opens the door to the new and living way for the redeemed to come boldly before the Lord to find grace and help in time of need (Hebrews 7:26, 10:19-20).
- Friday The shed blood of Christ makes provision for believers to share God's divine nature, which enables them to rule over sin, sickness, disease, poverty and every known illness among mankind (Acts 1:8).
- Saturday As God's adopted children, we have been saved by the blood of Christ and pardoned for our transgressions. The penalty for our actions has been fully paid (Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:5, 7).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Revelation 12:10-11** And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

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## THEME X

### REPENT OF YOUR SINS OR HAVE NO FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

## LESSONS 91 - 105

LESSON 91

APRIL 24, 2022

### THE FIRST ADAM AND THE RUIN OF HUMANITY

**MOTTO TEXT: Revelation 12:9** And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

#### ENTIRE LESSON: Genesis 3:1-19

1. Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
2. And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
3. But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
4. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:
5. For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
6. And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
7. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.
8. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.
9. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou?
10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.
11. And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?
12. And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.
13. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.
14. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
16. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.
17. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life;
18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;
19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light this question asked by Satan in the Garden of Eden, “Hath God said?” Satan attempted to blemish the reputation of God’s Word by insinuating it was uncertain or unreasonable.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good? (Numbers 23:19)

### COMMENTARY

The perfect knowledge of God enables Him to know the hearts of all men without interfering with man’s freedom of choice. We, therefore, conclude that God foreknows the heart of all people and knows whether or not their character will serve His purpose. God placed Pharaoh on the throne, knowing beforehand that he would not let Israel go.

God is holy and is perfect in all His ways. He does not force anyone to behavior, one way or another, against their own choice. God knows, but it is man who chooses to put his choice into action.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*The following are Bible facts that show man’s own choices determine his own destiny, and that the foreknowledge of God did not compel them to behave contrary to their freewill:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | <b>Lucifer and his angels</b> fell from glory because of their own choice to obey or not to obey God’s will (Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:12-14; Luke 10:18; Revelation 12:7-9).  |
| Tuesday   | <b>Adam and Eve</b> sinned and fell from the glory of God because they willfully disobeyed God’s command and ate of the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3; Romans 5:12; I Corinthians 15:21-22).                              |
| Wednesday | <b>Pharaoh’s heart</b> was already hardened before the judgments of God caused it to become more hardened (Exodus 15:9).   |
| Thursday  | <b>Judas</b> was never asked, pressed, nor threatened to carry out his deceitful task. He voluntarily offered to do so for whatever price Christ’s enemies offered him (Matthew 26:14-16; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 22:3-6). |
| Friday    | <b>Jonah</b> refused to warn the people of Nineveh of God’s impending judgment (Jonah 1:1-3).  |
| Saturday  | <b>Ananias and Sapphira</b> lied to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-2).  |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ezekiel 13:6** They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made *others* to hope that they would confirm the word.

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LESSON 92

MAY 1, 2022

**NATIONAL PRAYER DAY  
PRAYER IN A TIME OF DISTRESS:  
DELIVER ME, O LORD, FROM MINE ENEMIES**

**MOTTO TEXT: Psalm 120:1** In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Psalm 143:1-12**

1. Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications: in thy faithfulness answer me, *and* in thy righteousness.
2. And enter not into judgment with thy servant: for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.
3. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath made me to dwell in darkness, as those that have been long dead.
4. Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate.
5. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands.
6. I stretch forth my hands unto thee: my soul *thirsteth* after thee, as a thirsty land. *Selah*
7. Hear me speedily, O LORD: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.
8. Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.
9. Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide me.
10. Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness.
11. Quicken me, O LORD, for thy name's sake: for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.
12. And of thy mercy cut off mine enemies, and destroy all them that afflict my soul: for I *am* thy servant.

**PURPOSE:** To urge prayer and supplication to God in times of affliction and distress.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Be specific in making your requests known to the Lord.

**COMMENTARY**

Prayer is one of the most direct means of man's communication with God. Through prayer, man vents his feelings, consciousness and attitude to God. While man may deceive others through the most intimate conversations and may also be misunderstood by those he confides in, he is denuded by God. There is no misunderstanding before God.

In times of distress, meditate on the greatness of God and call to His attention the power you know He has. No matter what posture, in deeper devotion, the hands are spread

before God because of the thirst of the soul. David expressed confidence in the God of His salvation, saying, "In thee do I trust."

Prayer should not be a mere performance nor vain repetitions of hypocritical men. It is rewarding to pray in times of distress as a servant of God, like David.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | We Have Peace with God – Romans 5:1            |
| Tuesday   | We Have Access to God – Romans 5:2a            |
| Wednesday | We Stand in the Grace of God – Romans 5:2b     |
| Thursday  | We Rejoice in the Glory of God – Romans 5:2c   |
| Friday    | We Develop the Character of God – Romans 5:3-4 |
| Saturday  | We Know the Love of God – Romans 5:5-8         |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 35:1-2** Plead *my cause*, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for mine help.

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**LESSON 93**

**MAY 8, 2022**

### **MOTHER'S DAY BEWARE: ANGER HAS DESTROYED MANY HOMES**

**MOTTO TEXT: Proverbs 25:24** *It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.*

#### **ENTIRE LESSON: James 3:1-18**

1. My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.
2. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.
3. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.
4. Behold also the ships, which though *they be* so great, and *are* driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.
5. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!
6. And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
7. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
8. But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
9. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
10. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

11. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet *water* and bitter?
12. Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so *can* no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.
13. Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.
14. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.
15. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.
16. For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.
17. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
18. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

**PURPOSE:** To reiterate that “the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!” (James 3:5)

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** It is written: “Putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil” (Ephesians 4:25-27).

### COMMENTARY

When we speak whatever comes to our mind, without considering God and others, we are committing spiritual murder with our tongues. Some people have been upset for so long that they don’t even realize they’re angry anymore. We can continue to fuel our angry emotions with wrong thoughts, or we can take a stand and, with God’s help, refuse to allow the situation to get out of control.

Righteous anger is the godly reaction to sin or injustice. God’s wrath is His settled opposition against sin. In fact, most biblical references to anger refer to God’s anger, not to human anger. Jesus was angry without sinning when He encountered unbelief and hypocrisy (Read Matthew 21:12-13, 14-33; Mark 3:5; John 2:14-17).

Think of what would happen if everyone learned to deal with their anger. Child abuse, murder, terrorism and war would not be where it is. Many health problems would clear up. Physicians believe that anger can harm the heart as much as smoking and high blood pressure. It is said the number one predictor in cardiovascular disease is mismanaged anger. Besides high blood pressure and heart diseases, anger can result in many other serious health problems. It is written: “Now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth” (Colossians 3:8).

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*According to the Word of God, let us honestly analyze our anger to determine whether it is righteous, sinful or mixed. It is written:*

- Monday “And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him” (Genesis 4:6-7).
- Tuesday “Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:31-32).

- Wednesday “Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. *Selah* Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD” (Psalm 4:4-5).
- Thursday “And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, *It is* better for me to die than to live. And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, *even* unto death” (Read Jonah 4:4-9).
- Friday “*He that* speaketh truth showeth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit. There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise *is* health” (Proverbs 12:17-18).
- Saturday “For my name’s sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off” (Isaiah 48:9).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: James 1:19-21** Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

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**LESSON 94**

**MAY 15, 2022**

**CRUCIFYING SELF-GRATIFICATION**

**MOTTO TEXT: Colossians 3:5** Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Colossians 3:1-17**

1. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
2. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
4. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
5. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:
6. For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:
7. In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.
8. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.
9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;
10. And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
11. Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.



12. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.
14. And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.
15. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.
16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
17. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

**PURPOSE:** The Bible shows that in order for man to live, self-gratification must not be minimized, but killed.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God's people must be aware of selfishness and deceptive humility. It is said that there is nothing more prideful and destructive than the humility of a proud man. Read Matthew 16:23.

### COMMENTARY

Self-denial is saying **no** to what we want to do and saying **yes** to the will of God. On the night of His betrayal, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane and prayed. Ahead of Him lay His arrest, trial and execution, He prayed, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*." Praying a second time, He said, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done" (Matthew 26:39,42). The spirit of self-denial is heard in His words, *not as I will, but as you will*. Jesus came from heaven to earth, not to do His will, but the will of the Father. Through His death, He was showing us the real meaning and severity of self-denial.

Another example of self-denial is displayed by Mary who would give birth to the Savior of the world. She responded, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). In these words, Mary echoes the sentiments of the Lord's prayer, *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*. She would become pregnant, not through sexual intercourse, but through the intervention of the Spirit. This had never occurred before, so there was no one she could consult who had undergone a similar experience. No support group existed for virgins who conceived miraculously. And, how would she explain her pregnancy to Joseph, the man to whom she was engaged? These were real concerns, nevertheless she chose to do the will of God. That's self-denial.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

***The following are divine guidelines that can be helpful in crucifying self-gratification as we grow in faith by faith in the grace of God:***

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Let us measure Christ ( <i>the pattern</i> ) and follow Him (Ezekiel 43:10-11; Matthew 3:16, 4:1-11).   |
| Tuesday   | As servants of Christ, put the need of others first and expect to be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3).  |
| Wednesday | Teach sinners how to be washed in the blood. Be kind and sensitive to strangers, you could be entertaining angels, unaware (Exodus 22:21-27). |

- Thursday Forgive and your heavenly Father will forgive you; seek not vengeance for the battle is not yours but the Lord's (Luke 6:29).
- Friday Look out for the well-being and the success of others, with the same concern you have for yourself (Ezekiel 34:16).
- Saturday First seek you the Kingdom of God that you might be blessed (Matthew 6:33).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: II Corinthians 7:1** Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

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LESSON 95

MAY 22, 2022

**THE YEAR OF JUBILEE:  
THE ANOINTING HATH DESTROYED THE YOKE**

**MOTTO TEXT: Isaiah 40:1-2** Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Isaiah 40:3-18**

3. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
4. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:
5. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.
6. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh *is* grass, and all the goodliness thereof *is* as the flower of the field:
7. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people *is* grass.
8. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.
9. Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift *it* up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!
10. Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him.
11. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.
12. Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?
13. Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counsellor hath taught him?
14. With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?
15. Behold, the nations *are* as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

16. And Lebanon *is* not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.
17. All nations before him *are* as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.
18. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

**PURPOSE:** The Year of Jubilee is the appointed time when the redemptive plan of salvation is ignited and the warfare for believers are accomplished.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Come unto me, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

### COMMENTARY

The Year of Jubilee is the acceptable year when sins are forgiven, demons are cast out, and all manner of sickness and disease are defeated. It is a time when Christ hath given us power to tread over all the works of Satan (Matthew 8:16-17; Luke 10:19).

We thank God for the Year of Jubilee and the purpose of the Son of God, who was manifested to destroy the works of Satan. Let us pray that the Holy Ghost will work in us and through us to spread the glorious gospel and to do the greater works that we have been commissioned to do. Let us pray earnestly that the House of God will become so ignited with the gospel of God that it will be like a high mountain on fire, which will cause people to come, see God, and tell.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

*We shall give serious consideration of the gospel benefits during the Year of Jubilee:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | This is the acceptable time when true believers can come boldly, in Christ, into the very presence of God and obtain mercy and find grace to help in the time of need (Hebrews 4:15-16).   |
| Tuesday   | This is the appointed time when God wants His people to do the greater works by actually demonstrating the gospel of salvation (Luke 4:16-19).   |
| Wednesday | This is the day when God wants the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century church to do the greater works by actually causing the gospel to come alive that people might both see and hear the gospel and become living witnesses of the gospel of Jesus Christ (Matthew 11:1-6).   |
| Thursday  | The Year of Jubilee is when true believers can expect the healing covenant of God to go forth as the Sun of Righteousness with healing in his wings (Malachi 4:2).   |
| Friday    | It is the year when the Lord has sent His Word to heal and it cannot return to Him void, but it shall accomplish that which He pleases (Isaiah 54:11, 13-14; Psalm 107:20).  |
| Saturday  | “According to the number of years after the jubilee thou shalt buy of thy neighbour, <i>and</i> according unto the number of years of the fruits he shall sell unto thee: According to the multitude of years thou shalt increase the price thereof, and according to the fewness of years thou shalt diminish the price of it: for <i>according</i> to the number <i>of the years</i> of the fruits doth he sell unto thee” (Leviticus 25:15-16). |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Numbers 36:4** And when the jubilee of the children of Israel shall be, then shall their inheritance be put unto the inheritance of the tribe whereunto they are received: so shall their inheritance be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.

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**LESSON 96**

**MAY 29, 2022**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER AS TAUGHT BY CHRIST**

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 18:19-20** Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 6:5-15**

5. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
6. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
7. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.
8. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, **before ye ask him**.
9. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
10. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven.
11. Give us this day our daily bread.
12. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
13. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
14. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:
15. But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that the Lord's Prayer was not a prayer Jesus prayed unto Himself; it was a model prayer which Jesus taught His disciples to use "**when ye pray**."

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).

### **COMMENTARY**

When Jesus first teaches the prayer He says when you pray say, "**Our Father**". So there is a very simple instruction there: these are the words that He gives to us. What the prayer does is to give us a template for other sorts of prayer; it tells us that Christian prayer

is always addressed to The Father. It is always prayed from Jesus' standpoint of our requests being made known to God.

Sincere prayer is modeled to first acknowledge God as the Father of all things, then His place of existence compared to where we are. Recognize the prominence of His name, the expectation of His kingdom in your life (Romans 14:17), and the necessitation of accepting His will in all aspects of our earthly lives. Plea for the daily spiritual sustenance unselfishly. Then ask for forgiveness for your own shortcomings, as you forgive others for theirs. Humble yourselves in His leadership as your request deliverance from the unforeseen evil that will surely be placed along the road that your travel. End by summing up God's ultimate decisive and glorious rule over all things.

All prayer has to be aware of our frailty, aware of the ways in which our lives are at risk. All prayer has to acknowledge our need to be forgiven and our need to forgive. So it's not so much that there would be other ways of praying, but to be inclusive of the words that Jesus instructed the inquired disciples. They were with Jesus, understood the necessity of prayer and wanted to be taught.

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*In this most complete and connected expression of Christ's conception of prayer, we can discern seven voices:*

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | The voice of the Son, "Our Father which art in HEAVEN."  |
| Tuesday   | The voice of the saint, "Hallow be thy name."  |
| Wednesday | The voice of the subject, "Thy kingdom come."  |
| Thursday  | The voice of the servant, "Thy will be done."  |
| Friday    | The voice of the suppliant, "Give us our daily bread."   |
| Saturday  | The voice of the sinner, "Forgive us our debts."<br>The voice of the sojourner, "Lead us not into temptation." |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Luke 10:2** The harvest truly *is* great, but the labourers *are* few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

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**LESSON 97**

**JUNE 5, 2022**

### **THE GREAT "I AM'S" OF JESUS CHRIST**

**MOTTO TEXT: John 8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

**ENTIRE LESSON: John 14:6; Psalm 119:30; Proverbs 14:12; John 16:13, 6:63; Acts 4:12-13; I Timothy 2:5-6; Deuteronomy 20:19**

1. **John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
2. **Psalm 119:30** I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid *before me*.
3. **Proverbs 14:12** There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

4. **John 16:13** Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
5. **John 6:63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life .
6. **Acts 4:12-13** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.
7. **I Timothy 2:5** For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
8. **I Timothy 2:6** Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.
9. **Deuteronomy 30:19** I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

**PURPOSE:** To make known that people cannot be satisfied with anything less than Christ. Jesus said, “I am the living bread which came down from heaven” (John 6:33). “If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever” (John 6:51).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Jesus is our Good Shepherd; we can be absolutely sure that He won’t withhold a single good thing from us. What sweet news that is.

## COMMENTARY

When someone says, “I am...,” it reveals something about their identity. About the core of their being. About what is most important to them and about them. For example, when we say, “I am a Christian,” we are boldly identifying ourselves with Christ, the only begotten Son of God. This most important to us.

When Jesus says, “I am...,” we should pay close attention. He’s pulling back the curtain on His glorious character. He’s telling us something profoundly important, something we don’t want to miss.

We desperately need the Comforter (Holy Ghost) to lead us, guide us, protect us, keep us, and bring all things to our remembrance so we will not wander from His Word. We need the Shepherd (Psalm 23) to vigilantly watch over us as we walk through the Valley and Shadow of Death. And more than anything else, we need the Shepherd who sacrificed His life to save us from sins and sinning; the Shepherd who laid down His life and purchased us to be His own. Jesus is all of those things, and so much more. Through the abiding Holy Ghost, the Comforter, Jesus the Great I AM is always present.

Aren’t you grateful that Jesus is *our loving* Shepherd? He cares about every detail of our lives, no matter how simplistic. Everything we experience must first pass through the loving hands of our Shepherd. It is written: “I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand” (John 10:28).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

### *The “I Am” statements of Christ:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | I am the bread of life – John 6:35, 48           |
| Tuesday   | I am the light of the world – John 8:12          |
| Wednesday | I am the door of the sheep – John 10:7, 9        |
| Thursday  | I am the resurrection, and the life – John 11:25 |

Friday I am the way, the truth, and the life – John 14:6  
Saturday I am the true vine – John 15:1, 5

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: John 8:58-59** Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

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**LESSON 98**

**JUNE 12, 2022**

### **THE BEATITUDES OF JESUS CHRIST**

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 5:12** Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

**ENTIRE LESSON: Matthew 5:1-20**

1. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
3. Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4. Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
5. Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
6. Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
7. Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
8. Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
9. Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
10. Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11. Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
12. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
13. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.
14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.
18. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

19. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
20. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light the blessed rewards living as citizens of Heaven in this ungodly world.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

### COMMENTARY

The Fifth chapter of Matthew begins the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7) which Jesus gave on a hillside near Capernaum that accommodated many. Jesus proclaimed that His attitude toward the law, position, authority and money are not important in His Kingdom, what matters is faithful and exemplary obedience from the heart.

The Sermon on the Mount challenged the proud and legalistic religious leaders of the day. It called them back to the message of the Old Testament prophets who, like Jesus, taught that heartfelt obedience is more important than legalistic observance.

Jesus pulled His disciples aside and warned them about the temptations they would face in this life. Jesus warned them not to seek fame and fortune, but expect mourning, hunger, and persecution. Nevertheless, Jesus assured His disciples that they would gain an everlasting reward in the life to come. There are times when following Jesus is perceived as contempt/disdain by man. Yet, if we don't live by Jesus' Words in this Sermon on the Mount, we will find ourselves using God's message to promote our personal interests.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

#### *Key lessons from the Sermon on the Mount:*

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Humility – James 4:7-10                                 |
| Tuesday   | Meekness and Lowliness – Psalm 51                       |
| Wednesday | Justice and Goodness – John 16:5-11; Philippians 3:7-11 |
| Thursday  | Kindness and Mercy – Ephesians 5:1-2                    |
| Friday    | Pure in Heart – I John 3:1-3                            |
| Saturday  | Faithfulness – II Timothy 3:12                          |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 7:28-29** And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

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**FATHER'S DAY**  
**JESUS: AN EXAMPLE OF TRUE LEADERSHIP**

**MOTTO TEXT: I Corinthians 10:11-12** Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

**ENTIRE LESSON: II Timothy 2:1-26**

1. Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
2. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
3. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
4. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.
5. And if a man also strive for masteries, *yet* is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.
6. The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.
7. Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.
8. Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:
9. Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, *even* unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.
10. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.
11. *It is* a faithful saying: For if we be dead with *him*, we shall also live with *him*:
12. If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:
13. If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.
14. Of these things put *them* in remembrance, charging *them* before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, *but* to the subverting of the hearers.
15. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
16. But shun profane *and* vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.
17. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;
18. Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.
19. Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.
20. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.
21. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.
22. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
23. But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.
24. And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient,

25. In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
26. And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

**PURPOSE:** To make known that a godly husband's leadership in the home must first be firmly rooted in love.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God has called fathers to lead, to lead with great joy and delight, to lead though it may be costly, and to lead with love. Lead your wife, lead your family, and do it all for the glory of God.

### COMMENTARY

There is nothing easy about being a godly father, especially nowadays. It is said that one of the greatest challenges facing many families today is the lack of leadership by the husband. Some husbands don't realize that God has ordained them for this role, while others simply don't understand how they should lead; still others simply refuse to lead.

Jesus is your ultimate example of a leader. He was strong and yet tender as the circumstances required. He could drive the money changers out of the Temple, but hold a child in His arms, or weep over Jerusalem. Therefore, let all that you do as a husband and a leader in your home be done with strength, boldness, and with the tenderness of God's love.

What kinds of qualities are required in a husband who desires to fulfill this high, noble and holy calling? He must have a strong connection with his Heavenly Father, finding his happiness in Christ first, realizing that he can lead effectively only if he maintains an intimate relationship with the Lord. He must be balanced in his commitments and nurturing in his concerns for the mental and emotional needs of each family member. He must be proactive, spotting potential challenges to the welfare of his wife and children and coming up with workable solutions to problems. And he must be characterized by integrity, seeking to be the safest, wisest, and most respected man his family has ever known.

A godly husband and wife work together as a team to develop and grow a family. God's plan was that every home operate under the specific roles of both a husband and a wife and that through this they raise healthy children who honor God with their lives. Ephesians 6:1-3 says, "obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise)." Children are blessed through the honor of their father and mother, working in unison to train them up in the way they should go.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

#### *What does God require of His leaders?*

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | All potential leaders must measure up to the divine test recorded in I Timothy 3:1-7.   |
| Tuesday   | All potential leaders must be like Jesus, whose ultimate goal was to do the will of His Father (John 9:4)   |
| Wednesday | All potential leaders must be willing to study the Word and Decree Book, and be subject to all dedicated leaders who have the rule over them in the Lord (Hebrews 13:17). |

- Thursday All potential leaders must be willing to vow before God and the congregation never to be found guilty of being a busy body or causing confusion in the church (Decree page 80).
- Friday All potential leaders must vow to forever to uphold, defend, maintain and obey the faith, constitution, Government, decree and general rules of this church, and to teach others to do the same (Decree page 80)
- Saturday All potential leaders must be anointed messengers (Acts 6:3).

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Deuteronomy 6:6-7** And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

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**LESSON 100**

**JUNE 26, 2022**

**THE UNGODLY: OFFENDED BY THE TRUTH**

**MOTTO TEXT: Matthew 11:4-6** Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and show John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is *he*, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

**ENTIRE LESSON: John 6:51-71**

51. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.
52. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us *his* flesh to eat?
53. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.
54. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.
55. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
56. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.
57. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.
58. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.
59. These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum.
60. Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard *this*, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?
61. When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?
62. *What* and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?
63. It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

64. But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.
65. And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.
66. From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.
67. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?
68. Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.
69. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.
70. Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?
71. He spake of Judas Iscariot *the son* of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.

**PURPOSE:** To emphasize that when tribulation or persecution comes because the truth is revealed, the rootless is hurt. Let us “take root downward and bear fruit upward” if we want to forever stand (II Kings 19:30).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** If you want to hear the truth, go to the One who is the Truth.

### COMMENTARY

The word ‘offend’ means to hurt the feelings of, to insult, displease or to make angry. Truth is defined as the state of being true of the quality, being in accordance with experience, facts, or the real true state of things. Many have turned away from eternal life because they heard the truth. Scripture testifies that the blame is in the individual who has no root within.

Some people are offended by the truth because the devil has waged a war against God and truth for thousands of years. He fights this war on many fronts, and his primary weapon is planted lies. The devil has been inculcating lies into the human psyche and society for so long that there are lies deeply embedded in every society on earth. The devil resists truth everywhere, because, as Scripture says, *there is no truth in him...he is a liar and the father of lies* (John 8:44). The devil and his demons work hard to deceive people and lead them away from God. It is written: “For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, *if it were possible*, they shall deceive the very elect” (Matthew 24:24). Reader, do not be offended by the truth!

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Who Wants to Be Blessed? - Matthew 11:6         |
| Tuesday   | Why? There Is No Root – Mark 4:17               |
| Wednesday | Handle the Weak Souls with Care – Matthew 17:27 |
| Thursday  | Now, What You’ve Become? – Matthew 16:23        |
| Friday    | Will You Be Moved? – Matthew 13:41              |
| Saturday  | The Wounded Spirit – Proverbs 18:14             |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: II Thessalonians 2:11-12** And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

## GOD'S PEOPLE: HALTED BETWEEN TWO OPINIONS

**MOTTO TEXT: Exodus 32:26** Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the Lord's side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.

**ENTIRE LESSON: I Kings 18:20-46**

20. So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.
21. And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.
22. Then said Elijah unto the people, I, *even* I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men.
23. Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*:
24. And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.
25. And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress *it* first; for ye *are* many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire *under*.
26. And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed *it*, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But *there was* no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.
27. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he *is* a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, *or* peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.
28. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.
29. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that *there was* neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.
30. And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD *that was* broken down.
31. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:
32. And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.
33. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid *him* on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour *it* on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.
34. And he said, Do *it* the second time. And they did *it* the second time. And he said, Do *it* the third time. And they did *it* the third time.
35. And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

36. And it came to pass at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou *art* God in Israel, and *that I am* thy servant, and *that* I have done all these things at thy word.
37. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou *art* the LORD God, and *that* thou hast turned their heart back again.
38. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that *was* in the trench.
39. And when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he *is* the God; the LORD, he *is* the God.
40. And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.
41. And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for *there is* a sound of abundance of rain.
42. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees,
43. And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, *There is* nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.
44. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare *thy chariot*, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.
45. And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.
46. And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

**PURPOSE:** To be aware that many professed Christians today are halted/immobilized between two opinions. They pretend to worship the Almighty God, while they are worshipping the gods of this world.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God doesn't accept the worship of those who practice idolatry and polytheism (*belief in many gods*). Instead of pleasing God, their idolatry worship is a sin to Him. Instead of reaping God's blessings, they will reap His judgment and His curse.

## COMMENTARY

Our text is from the Old Testament's account of Elijah on Mt. Carmel, where he rebuked the children of Israel for worshipping and following the idol Baal. Israel wanted to worship and serve the true God of Heaven and the gods of the heathen simultaneously. But Elijah told them that worship of other gods was unacceptable. The true God of Heaven (Israel's God) does not permit His people to worship idols at all (Exodus 20:1-5).

The story continues with the contest between Israel's God and the false god Baal. Israel's God proved Himself to be the true and living God when He consumed Elijah's sacrifice with fire from heaven. Baal, on the other hand, was unable to answer the prayers of his prophets to consume their sacrifice; Baal was just a god of their imagination and of their own making.

What it means to halt between two opinions? The word "halt" in our text is important. It means to be undecided as if to hop back and forth from one opinion to the other. It also

means to be lame or crippled on one's feet. To be undecided about the identity of the true God, is to be spiritually lame or crippled. Such a spiritually lame condition, when added to man's natural depravity, leaves unregenerate man all the more helpless and hopeless of recovery.

### BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | God is a holy God – Isaiah 6:3, 57:15; I Peter 1:16                                 |
| Tuesday   | God is Omnipotent, all powerful – Jeremiah 32:17, 27; Matthew 19:26; Revelation 1:8 |
| Wednesday | God is Omniscient, all knowing – Isaiah 40:28                                       |
| Thursday  | God is Omnipresent, everywhere at the same time – Psalm 139:7-9                     |
| Friday    | God is Eternal – Psalm 90:2   |
| Saturday  | God never changes – Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8                                       |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Ecclesiastes 7:19-20** Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty *men* which are in the city. **For *there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.***

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LESSON 102

JULY 10, 2022

### DOCTRINE OF IMPUTATION

**MOTTO TEXT: Galatians 3:6-9** Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, *saying*, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

### ENTIRE LESSON: Galatians 3:1-29

1. O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?
2. his only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?
3. Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?
4. Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if *it be* yet in vain.
5. He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, *doeth he it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?
6. Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.
7. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.
8. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, *saying*, In thee shall all nations be blessed.
9. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.
10. For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

11. But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, *it is* evident: for, The just shall live by faith.
12. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.
13. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:
14. That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
15. Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though *it be* but a man's covenant, yet *if it be* confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.
16. Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.
17. And this I say, *that* the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.
18. For if the inheritance *be* of the law, *it is* no more of promise: but God gave *it* to Abraham by promise.
19. Wherefore then *serveth* the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.
20. Now a mediator is not *a mediator* of one, but God is one.
21. *Is* the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.
22. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.
23. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.
24. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.
25. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.
26. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.
27. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
28. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: **for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.**
29. And if ye *be* Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

**PURPOSE:** To strongly emphasize that Christ was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (II Corinthians 5:21).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** Imputation means God credited His righteousness to believers, which they can never obtain by any works of righteousness which they might do.

## COMMENTARY

It is Bible truth that Christ has already paid the penalty for all sins and sinning. The substitutionary work of Christ cannot be imparted until one becomes a believer by accepting and conforming to God's requirements of confession, repentance, and conversion by the Holy Ghost Baptism through faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ.



It is written:

1. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).
2. "Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: To whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Galatians 1:4-5).
3. "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (I Peter 2:24).
4. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit" (I Peter 3:18).
5. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9).

### **BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Through the fall of Adam from righteousness into sin through disobedience many were made sinners (Romans 5:19a).   |
| Tuesday   | Through the obedience of one, even Christ, many shall be made righteous (Romans 5:19b).  |
| Wednesday | We believe that in order for believers to qualify to be made the righteousness of God, God Himself made Christ who knew no sin, to be made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (II Corinthians 5:21). |
| Thursday  | We believe if we remain in Christ we already possess all things pertaining to righteousness and true Holiness (Decree page 38 article 35).   |
| Friday    | We believe that the Holy Ghost sanctifies, justifies, and frees from all sins and sinning, and plants us down into Christ where there is no sin and enables us to grow on unto perfection (Decree page 38 #34).                    |
| Saturday  | We believe the begotten stage in Christ and the Born of God stage are both sinless (Decree page 38 #33).   |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: II Corinthians 5:20-21** Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

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**LESSON 103**

**JULY 17, 2022**

### **BEFORE ENTERING HEAVEN, YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN**

**MOTTO TEXT: John 3:4-5** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

## ENTIRE LESSON: John 3:1-21

1. There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
2. The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
3. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
4. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
5. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
6. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
7. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
8. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.
9. Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?
10. Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?
11. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.
12. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you *of* heavenly things?
13. And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man which is in heaven.
14. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:
15. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.
16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
18. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
20. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.
21. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

**PURPOSE:** To bring to light that we are truly living in a day when churches are filled with professed Christians who have never been Born Again.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** God's solution to living sinless in this world is not being saved *in* our sins, but saved *from* sin, "by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

## COMMENTARY

To be Born Again means to be made all over through the acceptance of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, definitely “Not by any works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost (Titus 3:5).

We believe that when we are begotten of God, we are put down into the body of Christ (the Church, the Bride of Christ). We believe we are to remain carefully in this body until we have developed strength and the time to be born of God. We believe the begotten stage and Born Again stage in holiness are both sinless if we abide in Christ. If we do not abide in Christ, we become a careless untimely birth and cast out of the body of Christ, into the ruin of sin; where we can never hope to develop in spiritual growth in Christ (Decree page 38 #35).

## BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Lost sinners were taught to confess their sins, repent and be baptized with the Holy Ghost, by calling on the name of Jesus (Decree pages 54-55).                   |
| Tuesday   | The blood of Jesus cleanseth us from all sin (I John 1:7-10).   |
| Wednesday | We are justified and made clean through faith in the Word of Christ (John 15:3).  |
| Thursday  | If believers are to live free from sin in the world, they must be filled with the Holy Ghost and Fire (John 1:33-34, 8:34-36; Titus 2:11-14; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16)   |
| Friday    | It is the baptism of the Holy Spirit of God that puts us into the name of Jesus and into Jesus Himself (Decree page 65, para 1).                                    |
| Saturday  | To be saved, men must first be sanctified, justified, and wholly sanctified and made free from all sins and sinning (Acts 1:5-7, 2:1-4, 3:19; Decree, page 38 #34). |

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: II Corinthians 6:17-18** Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

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LESSON 104

JULY 24, 2022

## THE AWESOME DAY WHEN GOD SPOKE ON MOUNT SINAI

**MOTTO TEXT: Deuteronomy 4:32-33** For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and *ask* from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been *any such thing* as this great thing *is*, or hath been heard like it? Did *ever* people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?

## ENTIRE LESSON: Deuteronomy 4:1-20

1. Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do *them*, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

2. Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.
3. Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baalpeor: for all the men that followed Baalpeor, the LORD thy God hath destroyed them from among you.
4. But ye that did cleave unto the LORD your God *are* alive every one of you this day.
5. Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.
6. Keep therefore and do *them*; for this *is* your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation *is* a wise and understanding people.
7. For what nation *is there so* great, who *hath God so* nigh unto them, as the LORD our God *is* in all *things that* we call upon him *for*?
8. And what nation *is there so* great, that hath statutes and judgments *so* righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?
9. Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;
10. *Specially* the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and *that* they may teach their children.
11. And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness.
12. And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only *ye heard* a voice.
13. And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, *even* ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.
14. And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it.
15. Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day *that* the LORD spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire:
16. Lest ye corrupt *yourselves*, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,
17. The likeness of any beast that *is* on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air,
18. The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that *is* in the waters beneath the earth:
19. And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, *even* all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.
20. But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, *even* out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as *ye are* this day.

**PURPOSE:** To remind all that never in the history of the world will that day be forgotten when Israel heard the voice of the Lord God speaking to them out of the midst of the fire, and lived.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** We serve an awesome God that is alive; He is not dead, and He is yet Speaking to this world, and when God speaks everyone had better listen.

**COMMENTARY**

A relationship with Jesus is the most wonderful, awesome, fulfilling, and exciting way to live, even more than we could have imagined. It is the sole reason we exist and goes far beyond salvation itself. God is our Father, Lord, Creator, Shepherd, Light, Best Friend, Passion, and Everlasting Strength.

It has been said that men’s actions shape history. We may speak of man’s freewill, but it rapidly becomes apparent that the only will that really matter is God’s. Man would choose wisely if he chose to always subject his will to his Lord. In this way, both God and man would still play a role in history, but it would be cooperative, rather than a rivalry.

A God who directs the course of human events and sends His Son to become the central figure in human history clearly has invested man’s reality with meaning. This becomes even more evident in the Book of Acts: “And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring” (Acts 17:26-28).

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

*Here, we shall explore what happened on Mount Sinai when the Lord God Himself descended upon it in fire:*

- Monday The events of the third day on Mount Sinai – Exodus 19:16
- Tuesday The people met with God – Exodus 19:17
- Wednesday The greatest earthquake ever felt on the earth – Exodus 19:18
- Thursday The day God’s voice was heard – Exodus 19:19
- Friday The day the Lord descended upon Mount Sinai – Exodus 19:20
- Saturday God’s message to Moses for the People – Exodus 19:21

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Numbers 23:19** God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

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**LESSON 105**

**JULY 31, 2022**

**EYE SERVICE: DISPLEASEING IN THE SIGHT OF GOD**

**MOTTO TEXT: Ephesians 6:5-6** Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

## ENTIRE LESSON: Ephesians 6:1-16

1. Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right.
2. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)
3. That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
4. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
5. Servants, be obedient to them that are *your* masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;
6. Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;
7. With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:
8. Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether *he be* bond or free.
9. And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.
10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.
13. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15. And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

**PURPOSE:** To stress that standing firm on the Word of God can create uneasy moments, even opposition right in God's house. However, we must not fear, for it is written: "Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:7-9).

## COMMENTARY

We find in Romans 6:16 that we are servants to whom we obey. The eye servant never thinks about this. If he did, he would realize that God watches over us continuously, and we must do right continuously to satisfy God.

An eye servant seems also to be a man pleaser, but the God pleasers of the church are always doing God's will. They are not playing church; they are truly about our Father's business. God pleasers want peace with all, therefore they promote peace and goodwill. It is written: "Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

**BLACKBOARD EMPHASIS AND DAILY HOME STUDY**

- Monday     The Beautiful Feet on the Mountain – Isaiah 52:7
- Tuesday    Cannot Hear the Gospel Without a Preacher – Romans 10:14
- Wednesday  How Iniquities Separate God and Man – Isaiah 59:2-8
- Thursday   Treat All Right – I Peter 2:18
- Friday     Let Your Conversation Be Chaste – I Peter 3:2
- Saturday    Fear God in Singleness of Heart – Colossians 3:22

**SUNDAY/MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 4:25-27** Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

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