

SECTION FOUR

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

The Ministry of Christ

Memory Verse:

***"Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit;
serving the Lord."*** Romans 12:11

In this last Section, we will study:

- **Personal Evangelism** - getting people to trust Christ
- **The Use of Wine and Strong Drink** - Is it right to drink?
- **My Job and Employer** - how to be a Christian at work
- **Creation and Evolution** - which is "scientific?"
- **The Future** - What is ahead for this universe?
- **Discipleship** - Learning to disciple!

MY NAME: _____

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

A Study of How to Turn Hearts to God!

Lesson Sixteen

Memory Verse: *Romans 12:11*

Lesson Verse: *Mark 16:15*

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

I. **Introduction.** What are *your* responsibilities in taking the Gospel to the world?

- A. In order for *you* to get saved, someone was responsible for taking the time to bring the saving message of the gospel to you. Make no mistake about it - no one just "becomes" a Christian. They must be urged to repent, and trust only in Christ as it is declared in the Bible (see *Acts 26:17,18*).
- B. That responsibility of "*preaching the Gospel*" was then passed *upon you*, so that others around you might be saved! That responsibility does not rest only with preachers, and pastors, but with every Christian!
- C. As Christians, we are commanded by the Lord to do *our* part in evangelising the whole world with the gospel (*Matt 28:19,20; Acts 1:8*).
- D. This lesson will focus on equipping you with the key Scripture verses that you can use to lead someone to Christ, as well as practical ways to make the Gospel clearly understood by the hearer.



II. **The Need for the Soul-Winner (*Romans 10*)** - Someone who persuades people about their need for Christ's saving power.

- A. The Soul-Winner is needed because of **the Condition of the World** (*Rom 10:1-3*)
Everyone who is not saved is LOST and without hope.
 1. Everybody is "religious" (Jew, Gentile, heathen, civilized) - working their way to God and heaven! But _____ are saved (*Mt 7:13,14*).
 2. Everybody is born _____ (*Eph 4:17-19*). They are blind and incapable of getting to heaven. It is not "in them" to know how to come to Christ! By nature they are "*the children of _____*" (*Eph 2:3*).
 3. Everybody is _____ - hell-bound (*Mt 23:33*) - In need of being saved!
- B. The Soul-Winner is needed because of **the Power of the of Truth** (*Rom 10:4-8*)
 1. God's Truth makes a person _____ from the condemnation of this world (*John 3:18, 36; 8:32*).
 2. God's Truth directs a sinner to the Saviour - It stops them from trying to get to Christ their own way - they must come God's prescribed way!
 3. God's Truth can be possessed by anyone, anywhere, right in the palm of the hands, and even on the tip of the tongue (*Rom 10:8*).
- C. The Soul-Winner is needed because of **the Simplicity of Salvation** (*Rom 10:9-13*).
A person must:
 1. Believe what God says about their condition - that they are a **sinner**.
 2. Accept Christ's crucifixion as sufficient to pay-off all their sins.
 3. Submit to Christ's Lordship - allowing Him to be Master of their life.
 4. Confess (testify, and then live) the true testimony of this Bible.

5. Never be ashamed of God's plan - You can confidently live now that you have heaven for sure!
 6. It is all wrapped up in a person simply "calling upon the Lord and asking Him to save them from their deserved punishment of hell!"
 7. The idea is that a person needs to see themselves as someone who has broken God's laws, and are like a man who has been caught by the police, and are standing before a judge and about to be judged for their crime, and they have NO way out! Only to find that Someone steps into the courtroom, and offers to take their place in the punishment, and if they will admit their own guilt, and then accept His offer, they can go free! It couldn't be easier!
- D. The Soul-Winner is Needed Because of **The Lack of _____** (Rom 10:14,15; Luke 10:1,2). It has never been a popular job!
1. How will people call on Someone they don't _____ in?
 2. How will they believe on Someone that they never _____ about?
 3. How shall people hear without some sort of a _____?
 4. How shall they preach without other Christians sending them? Supporting them as they go freely - as missionaries, church planters and soul-winners?
- E. The Soul-Winner is needed because it **is the Only Way that Works** (Rom 10:16,17). Truly, not everyone who hears will believe the gospel. But there is no better way! Faith is all that God is looking for (Heb 11:6; Eph 2:8)! And faith ONLY comes by hearing the presentation of the word of God - not through miracles and visions, and gifts!

III. The Work of the Gospel

A. God's Part

1. As a Christian, you must realize that you yourself cannot "save" another person's soul, nor can you by your own power draw that person to the point of salvation - you can't force people to respond.
 2. The Son of God had to first completely pay for their sins through His sacrifice on the cross (2Cor 5:21), as the Lamb of God.
 3. The Holy Spirit must _____ them of their sin (John 16:7-11). People must realize that they are guilty before God (compare 2Tim 4:2).
 4. The Father must _____ them to the point of salvation (John 6:44)
- B. **Your Part.** While salvation can only be done by God alone (John 1:12,13), it is the Christian that God has chosen to use as a tool to bring about a person's salvation!
1. In Matthew 13:3-8, we are the _____ that sows the seed of the word of God in the hearts of hearers (Mt 13:18-23).
 2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 states that we are _____ that must reconcile man to his Creator through salvation
 3. We are to open people's _____ (Acts 26:17,18) - takes a lot of effort!
 4. Patiently *chip away* at people's misunderstandings (2Tim 2:24-26)
 5. **Here are some thoughts:**
 - a. Make sure that you pray before you go and present the Gospel. Let God cleanse you from personal sins, and then empower you to do this most miraculous work! Also, try and always have a partner with you who can pray while you witness, or who can witness while you pray.
 - b. Use well-written Gospel leaflets! Make sure that everyone gets a Gospel leaflet so that they can read it later if they don't get saved right then.
 - c. Use your own testimony of how *you* got saved.

- d. Have a New Testament with you. Mark the important verses (i.e., [Romans 3:10, 23; 6:23; 5:8, 10:13, 17; John 1:11,12](#); etc.).
- e. Keep your breath clean - use breath-mints!
- f. Bring current events into the conversation in order to get them to realize that life is short and that they need a Saving God, not just a *religious system*!
- g. Have set times to go - Participate in church-wide soul-winning. If you don't make time for this, it will never get done, and you are in disobedience to our Lord's greatest command to the Christian!

C. Their Part. What every person on this planet must do to be saved

1. They must believe ([Acts 16:30,31; John 3:16](#)) of their own free will.
2. They must repent ([Mark 1:15](#)) – turn away from their sin unto God ([Acts 20:21](#)).
3. They must accept God's conclusions about them as true and right (that they are lost and sinful and without hope if they don't get born again, [John 3:3](#)). There is no negotiating with the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only way of salvation ([John 14:6](#)), and if not done HIS way, then the person WILL die in their sins ([John 8:24](#)).
4. They must choose to follow Jesus and live as HE lived now ([Matthew 9:9](#)).

IV. The Presentation of the Gospel

A. Work Through The Following Stages of Soul-Winning

1. Conversation/Current Events - Look for ways to get the Scriptures into the conversation (like Jesus did with the woman at the well in [John 4](#)).
2. Convincing - Convince them that the Scriptures are *truth* ([Romans 3:4](#))
3. Convicting (Making Guilty) - Work the Scriptures into their situation so they can be convicted of sin. Get them to _____ the Scriptures ([John 5:39](#)) to see that their own good works and their religion have failed them ([Titus 3:5](#)).
4. Conversion - Press them for a decision, and wait for Conversion ([John 3:3,7](#)) - This is a work only the Holy Spirit can do ([John 16:7-11](#)).
5. Confession- Encourage public Confession ([Rom 10:10,11; Jn 12:42,43](#)), announcing their new faith in Jesus Christ alone!
6. Commitment - Get them to realize that Christ is committed to them, and therefore, they should now be totally committed and loyal to HIM, at the cost of everything else ([John 6:66-68; Mt 10:37,38](#))!

B. What the Hearer Must Realize

1. A person must realize that he is a _____ ([Rom 3:10,23](#)).
2. A person must understand that _____ died for him while he was still a _____, and NOT after he got his life cleaned up ([Rom 5:8](#)).
3. A person must come to God with genuine, godly *repentance* ([Rom 2:4; Acts 20:21; 2Cor 7:10](#)). Emphasize the meaning of *repentance*:
 - a. More than just sorrow. It is MORE than just being sorry.
 - b. But to change your life's direction because you realize you are UNgodly (currently going against God's laws), and are headed for judgment.
4. A person must believe he can only be *justified* (i.e., made righteous in God's sight) by trusting the blood of Jesus Christ to have paid for all his sins ([Rom 5:9; Eph 1:7](#)). God guarantees complete forgiveness to all who come to Him by faith!
5. A person must above all understand that it is *his faith* in the shed blood of Jesus Christ that saves him, and not any additional good works ([Rom 3:25,28](#)).
6. A person must call upon the Lord Jesus and ask Him specifically to save them ([Rom 10:9,10,13](#)). God cannot do it without their request!

C. A Sample Presentation - Get the conversation going

"If you died today, wouldn't you like to know that you would be in heaven?" "If so, let me show you out of the Bible..."

THE ROMAN'S ROAD TO HEAVEN

Who is good? Rom 3:10-12 says "There is _____ righteous, no not one."

Who has sinned? Romans 3:23 says, "For _____ have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Do you realise the eternal cost of your sin? Romans 6:23a states, "For the wages of sin is _____." Your sin is THAT bad!

Nothing you DO can save you. Romans 3:20a says, "Therefore by the _____ of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight."

God's love has made a way! Romans 5:8,9 declares, "But God commendeth his _____ toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

You need to turn from your sin to God now! Repent! Be more than just sorry that you have sinned; you need to turn away from your sin. Fear it, and hate it all.

And then place all your faith in Jesus Christ alone. Romans 10:9 explains, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." And verse 13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved."

That is ALL you have to do – God has done all the rest!

D. The Five Facts of Life

Always remember that there are five basic truths that a sinner needs to realize. Make sure the following facts are well understood by everybody you meet:

1. You are a sinner in the eyes of God.
2. Unless something changes you, you will die as a sinner.
3. You will be judged by Almighty God as a sinner – not as a pretty good person.
4. You will be condemned to hell as a sinner.
5. Your only hope is in accepting what the Lord Jesus Christ did for you.

V. Hindrances to the Presentation of the Gospel

A. Your Life not Being a Good Example - When your walk does *not* match your talk. You may be the only Bible that your co-workers, and family will ever read (2Cor 3:2). Therefore, don't give anybody an excuse from being saved because your "walk" is no different than theirs (2Cor 6:17)! Live what you preach (Rom 2:21-23)!

B. Watch Your Surroundings

1. Get away from disturbances (turn off the TV, radio).
2. Have your partner occupy the attention of any children, or the spouse if they are present in the room.
3. Get somewhere where you can comfortably open the Bible so it can be seen by both you and the other person.

Date Lesson Completed _____

Discipler _____

Answers From Scripture to Show People How to be Saved

A Christian should be familiar with as many verses of Scripture as possible that deal with sin and salvation, and should be able to use these verses responsibly and convincingly. You should be able to quote most of these from memory to anyone at anytime, while others you should at least be able to find in the Bible to show someone.

The Necessity of Absolutely Believing

John 1:12 "But as many as _____ him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that _____ on his name:"

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever _____ in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:18 "He that _____ on him is not _____: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

John 3:36 "He that _____ on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth _____ the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

John 5:24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and _____ on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

John 11:25-26 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that _____ in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall _____ die. Believest thou this?"

Acts 16:31 "And they said, _____ on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

Our Good Works Can't Save Us

Romans 4:5 "But to him that worketh _____, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his _____ is counted for righteousness."

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace are ye saved through _____; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of _____, lest any man should boast"

Titus 3:5 "Not by _____ 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;"

Galatians 2:16 "Knowing that a man is _____ justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the _____ of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."

Repentance

Acts 17:30 "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now _____ all men every where to repent:"

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that _____ should come to _____."

Mark 6:12 "And they went out, and _____ that men should repent."

Hell

Matthew 13:42 "And shall cast them into a furnace of _____: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

Luke 16:23 "And in _____ he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom."

Matthew 25:41 "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into _____ fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:"

Revelation 20:15 "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of _____."

Eternal Security

John 10:28-29 "And I give unto them _____ life; and they shall _____ perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and _____ man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."

Answers From Scripture to Against Religions and Cults

Scriptures to answer the questions of Roman Catholicism.

1. Final authority being ONLY the Bible (Matt 4:4; Rom 3:4; John 17:17; John 8:31,32,36)
2. Mary needed a Saviour (Luke 1:46,47). Mary was a sinner - not sinless (Rom 3:10,23)
3. Jesus had brothers and sisters (Matt 1:24,25; 12:46-50; 13:55,56; Mark 6:3; Gal 1:19)
4. There is no need to pray through Mary, or any saint (1Tim 2:5)!
5. Religion ends up substituting the tradition of men in the place of the commandments of God (Mark 7:7,10)
6. Salvation is NOT by works (Eph 2:8,9; Tit 3:5; Isa 64:5), no matter how good they are.
7. Watch out for anyone who forbids people to *marry* or to eat *meats* (1Tim 4:1-3)
8. All pastors are to be married as a general rule (1Tim 3:2). Peter was married (Mt 8:14)
9. Baptism is NOT important to our salvation (1Cor 1:17) - it is only for after salvation.
10. Jesus hates the Rosary (Matt 6:7), and any other repetitious prayer!
11. There is no purgatory (2Cor 5:8; Heb 1:3; 9:27; Rom 8:1) - either heaven or hell!
12. A person is justified only by faith alone in Christ Jesus (Rom 1:17; Gal 2:16)
13. Jesus finished paying for ALL of my sins on the cross (John 19:30)

Scriptures relating to Protestantism (Many issues are the same as with Catholicism)

1. Self righteousness is the worst sin (1 John 1:8,10; Rom 10:3)
2. Thinking that "*My church is better than others*" is not what matters with God (John 3:3)
3. If someone says "*I keep the 10 commandments*" – show them that is impossible (James 2:10; Tit 3:5). Everyone must repent and be born again to be forgiven.
4. Thinking "*I am part of the elect*" is only true if you are a Jew (Isa 55:6,7; 1 John 2:2)

Scriptures To Deal with a Jehovah's Witness. These people are really confused.

1. Jesus is God come in the flesh (Mt 1:23; 1Ti 3:16; Isa 7:14; Ro 9:5; 1Jn 5:20; Heb 1:8)
2. Jesus is the Jehovah of the Old Testament (Isa 40:3 & Matt 3:3; Dt 10:17 & Rev 19:16; Ps 68:18 & Eph 4:8-10; Ex 3:14 & John 8:56-58)
3. Jesus is equal with God (Philp 2:6-9; Isa 43:10,11; 44:6,8)
4. Jesus is eternal (Micah 5:2)
5. The trinity concept is Scriptural (2Cor 13:14; Gal 4:4-6; Gen 1:26)
6. There is a heaven full of mansions (John 14:1-3) awaiting Christians
7. The 144,000 witnesses of Revelation 12 are real Jewish male virgins (Rev 14:1-5)
8. If a prophet ever makes a false prediction, that person is to be stoned with stones, and disregarded (Dt 18:20-22)
9. When Jesus does come back, every eye shall see Him (Rev 1:7)
10. The Holy Spirit really is a real person (John 16:13)
11. Hell is literal and eternal (Matt 23:33; Rev 14:11; 20:10; Luke 16:23-31)

Scriptures to Deal with a Mormon about salvation.

1. An angel CANNOT present another Gospel than what is already in the Bible (Gal 1:8)
2. Exclusivity of Jesus Christ to salvation (John 14:6; Hos 13:4)
3. You can know that you have eternal life right now based upon the sole authority of the written word of God (1 John 5:11-13)
4. Baptism is not important (1Cor 1:17)
5. Decide the final authority issue (Rom 3:4; John 17:17; John 8:32,36; Matt 4:4)
6. God has no body, but rather is a spirit (John 4:24)
7. Jesus is God come in the flesh (1Tim 3:16)
8. God has always been, and always will be - never created (Ps 90:1,2)
9. Only Satan teaches that man can become like God (Gen 3:5; Isa 14:13,14)
10. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses the sinner from SIN (1 John 1:7)
11. The Gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus for our sins (1Cor 15:1-4)
12. The true church of Jesus Christ never disappeared (Matt 16:18)
13. Disregard genealogies and fables (1Tim 1:4)

WINE AND STRONG DRINK

A Study of the Curse of Drink and the Christian's Response

Lesson Seventeen

Memory Verse: *Romans 12:11*

Lesson Verse: *Proverbs 20:1*

"Wine is a mocker, and strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Proverbs 20:1

I. Introduction

- A. The Bible has never been unclear about the important issues in life. The problem is always that people play ignorant instead of taking the time to "*search the Scriptures*" (*John 5:39*) for **the right answer** about how to live, and what is **right** to do. This is true with what we are about to study.
- B. Wine, and strong drink have plagued mankind from the time of Adam and Eve's fall in *Genesis 3* up to today. It has affected even the best of people - see *Genesis 9:20-22*, where "*Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was **drunken**; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the **nakedness** of his father.*" So began the sad tale of alcohol's influence!
- C. This study will show that the correct use of wine and strong drink is not to be "in moderation" but **only as a medicine** - it is definitely not for social entertainment or pleasure -- "*He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth **wine** and oil shall not be rich*" (*Proverbs 21:17*).
- D. From the very start of this study, let the Scriptures make it very clear that "*Wine **IS** a mocker, and strong drink **IS** raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.*" (*Proverbs 20:1*). It is not an issue of whether wine can "become" a mocker when abused, but that its very nature IS mockery to the Christian life, and that **it deceives all who think they can handle it!**
- E. This study is designed to present *God's view* of wine and alcoholic drink. You will need to fill-in the answers to the questions from the Scriptures presented. Please study **all** the Scriptures presented, and then fill in the blanks.



II. Study Outline on Alcoholic Drinks

A. The Different Kinds of Wine and Alcoholic Drinks

1. Did you know that there are **TWO** types of "wine" in the Bible?
 - a. _____ - squeezed from the grape. Simple grape juice (*Lk 5:37,38*)
 - b. _____ - fermented - alcoholic grape drink (*Lk 5:39*).

The word "wine" in the Bible can refer to either **fermented** (alcoholic), or **unfermented** (pure) grape juice. The word 'wine' is a general term. The surrounding context of each verse tells you **which kind** of wine God is talking about.

2. There is also a drink referred to as "_____ drink" (*Prov 20:1*).
3. Let's look in detail at each of these three drinks:
 - a. The Fruit of the Vine - called, "New Wine" - Juice of the Grape.
 - 1) It is not found in the "vat" but in the "_____ " (*Isa 65:8*). It is fresh from the grape - simple juice with nothing added!
 - 2) God's people **never** drank alcoholic wine (*Dt 29:5,6; 32:14*)!

- 3) God's blessings are found in "_____" wine (Pr 3:9,10), not in fermented drinks. We will study fermentation a little later on.
- 4) Wine is compared to "*blood*" in the Bible, and God's people are supposed to only drink the "_____ *blood of the grape*" (Dt 29:6; 32:14). There should never be anything added.
- 5) New wine is a refreshing beverage not an intoxicating drink (Ps 104:13-15)
- 6) Jesus drank "_____" wine at His last supper (Mt 26:29). **Jesus never drank alcoholic wine, or any strong drink!**

b. Fermented Wine - called "Old Wine" - what we call '*Liquor*'

- 1) Old wine is made by man. It is not natural. Let's look at how fermented wine is made, and what makes it "old":
 - a) It must be allowed to "decay" or spoil (the natural starches in the juice are allowed to break-down into sugars and alcohol).
 - b) The temperature, and sugar content must be regulated. If the decaying process is not carefully controlled, then it will sour, and be bitter, and therefore not enjoyable.
 - c) Yeast ("*leaven*" in the Bible) is added to enhance the decaying process. This is referred to as "mingling" wine with additional ingredients. Mingled wine may have sugars and other seasonings added during the fermentation process to enhance the flavour (Pr 23:29,30) for "special meals"
 - d) When kept under pressure, the resulting *carbon dioxide* from the fermentation is retained in the liquid until opened, producing a "pop" and resulting in all the carbonated bubbles, as well as the "head" on beers.
- 2) Old wine in the Bible is only used **as a drug**, not a refreshing beverage (1Tim 5:23; Luke 10:33,34).
- 3) It is referred to as an "intoxicating" beverage because it has the power to render someone senseless, or with less sense. Paul tells Timothy to "____ *a little wine*", not **drink** a little wine. Use it like you would a modern medicine. Old wine cleanses cuts and bruises, and can be used to purify water under extreme circumstances. People kept it around for "using", not drinking. You would NEVER take glass-fulls of medicines, yet people do with alcohol, and they do it to their hurt!
- 4) Fermented wine is only the beginning of a path that leads to stronger liquor! Alcoholic drink is never satisfying (Hab 2:5)!
- 5) Old wine is only permitted to be drunk in the following situations:
 - a) When about to _____ - to not worry, and be able to ignore pains and past haunting memories (Pr 31:4-7).
 - b) As a medicine, alcoholic wine could be used as:
 - i) A psychological drug (Prov 31:6,7) to calm the overburdened mind - like using a sleeping tablet.
 - ii) A physical drug (1Tim 5:23; Lk 10:34) to ease pains, and clean out wounds.
 - c) **Important note** – there are so many better medicines today than the use of alcoholic drink, that are designed to address pain, or infection, and are controlled in their dispensing so that people can't easily abuse them like they can drink!

- d) So, unless you are living on a deserted island somewhere with no medicines except alcoholic drink, there is no need for alcoholic drink in your home or life – period!
- 6) The love of *old wine* is wrong (Prov 21:17), and is therefore a fleshly lust that “_____ against the soul” (1Peter 2:11) - it keeps the person from ever conquering sin and self, and being able to be filled with the Spirit (Eph 5:18).
- c. Strong Drink
- 1) Strong drink (like whisky and rum) is harder drink than alcoholic wines and beers. These drinks have been referred to as “spirits” due to all the “extra” alcohol that is added to them for a greater “punch.”
 - 2) Hard liquor is a picture of God’s **wrath** and judgment on a nation (Ps 75:8; Mt 26:39; 18:11; Rev 14:9,10). **It is NOT a blessing!**

B. The Results of Drinking

1. If you drink *New Wine* - It refreshes, and makes a person’s heart and health good (Ps 104:15, “*And wine that maketh glad the heart of man*”). Grape juice is good for digestion, variation (variety is the spice of life), supply of vitamins, natural sugar and extra energy intake.
2. If you drink *Old Wine* or *Strong Drink*:
 - a. It numbs the brain making the person “think” that things are great. It is Satan’s counterfeit of new wine, and of the joy of the Lord that comes from enjoying natural foods.
 - b. It impairs your ability to make right decisions (Pr 31:4,5).
 - c. Liquor and **immoral sex** always go hand in hand (Gen 9:20-24; Hab 2:15,16; Lam 4:21). It enhances the *domination* of the flesh!
 - d. Liquor and **violence** go hand-in-hand (Hab 2:5,17).
 - e. Watch how the Lord in **Proverbs 23**, describes the life of someone who spends their time enjoying a few drinks (Prov 23:29-35):
 - 1) They have troubles (woe), and _____, and arguments (contentions) - (Prov 23:29,30)
 - 2) They don't make sense when they talk (they babble, 23:29).
 - 3) They have wounds from fights they don't remember (23:29)
 - 4) They look terrible - not healthy and robust (23:29)!
 - 5) Alcoholic drinks have a **hypnotic** affect when you stare at it for a while (23:31).
 - 6) Ultimately, the drinker finds himself in all sorts of trouble:
 - a) **Bitten** with **addiction** to its poison (23:32)! Its effect is disastrous, not beneficial!
 - b) **Lustful, and remorseful** for all the things you end up doing and saying when you drink (23:33)!
 - c) **Physically sick**: dizzy and unable to stand or walk straight (23:34).
 - d) **Emotionally sick**: blaming everything and everyone around you instead of blaming yourself (23:35)! You will wish it was all a bad dream!
 - e) **Addicted** - dependant upon it, and not able to escape its hold on you! (23:35)!

- f. Liquor and **self-centeredness** go hand-in-hand. Drinking has the habit of becoming more important than even the welfare of your own children (Joel 3:3) - people will end up selling almost anything in order to get a drink!
- g. Liquor and **religion** go hand-in-hand (Isaiah 28:7,8) - almost all the world's religions use either drugs or alcoholic drink to enhance their "spirituality" in the worship of their god.
- h. Drinking in moderation *is possible*, but rarely maintained, and **always** ends in disaster! Just as with anything, it IS possible to do something, and it not hurt you (1Cor 6:12). But that is not the way to tell if you should do it or not! We have to do what is RIGHT by God's standards, and not what we can get away with!
- i. Drinking liquor drives you away from your _____ and family (Hab 2:5) because it never can satisfy the emptiness of the heart!
- j. Drinking liquor is usually pushed upon people (Hab 2:15). People don't normally go after the drink unless it is greatly advertised and pressured upon them (see any conversation at a pub between those who are drinking and those who are just sitting at the bar).

C. What about Beer?

1. Beer is made using basically the same process as that of wine, except, instead of using grapes, barley grain is used.
2. The purpose of drinking beer is the same as that of wine - to help a person "*relax, and unwind.*" A Christian does not need a beer or a glass of wine to help them end a day, anymore than a child does. An adult who looks to ANY drink for help at the end of the day (to relax) is only looking for a cheap substitute to prayer and fellowship with God. **They are carnal, and backslidden, and need to repent!**
3. Even though the alcoholic content of beer is low, that is not a reason to drink it - *most people who do drink beer, drink a lot of it* - not just a sip or two. At the end of the evening, the beer drinker is full of alcohol, and is usually unfit to drive - **and is unfit to be a Christian!**

D. Biblical Warnings about Liquor:

1. Drink is like a "god" to some people (Isa 5:11). **They live for it!**
2. Drink is made out to be a proof of manhood and strength (Isa 5:22).
3. Drink is not to be a social event in your home or anywhere (Hab 2:15).
4. God says wine and drink will make a mockery out of you (Prov 20:1). In other words, the person who drinks, is **dumb, dumb, DUMB!**
5. **Drink is not a disease**, but an act of the will against God (Pr 23:35)!

E. The Usual Reasons for Drinking - why people drink intoxicating liquors:

1. To forget troubles and heartaches - Sometimes God **wants** you to have your troubles, to get you to see you are only "*reaping what you _____*" (Gal 6:7,8). To try to remove God's payback for your sin is to ignore God, and to reap more troubles. Then there are the times when you are called upon to suffer for being in the right (Philippians 1:29). Who would run to a bottle to "cope" with God's blessing (Mt 5:11,12)?

For a Christian to try and use anything other than *Christ* to cope with problems, is like a married man running to a *harlot* to help him cope with his life's problems! *It is just as wicked in God's eyes!*

2. Because they don't have anywhere else to turn

- a. All humans are sinners by nature - we sin naturally. The core of our being is sinful in God's eyes. We are not pure, and holy.
 - b. Our sinfulness is the source of our emptiness, and lustful desires for wrong things.
 - c. The desire for Drink, is just one of many many sins that can take over a person's life.
 - d. So many have been presented with *religion* as the answer to their sins, and sorrows, only to find it too is empty. So they turn to drink. But **only Christ** will satisfy when we turn to Him for the real help we need (*Isa 53:4-6; 55:1,2*).
3. Because they would rather **take the risk with drink**, than with drugs - Don't take *either* risk, since there is sure help with Christ (*Jn 10:10*)!
 4. Because of pressure - friends and family are too important to you if THEY can pressure you into doing what God condemns (*Mt 10:37*)! What if they talk you into stealing, or lying - it is all the same - **you have no excuse, no matter how much pressure you feel!**
 5. Because people think there is no other way to have a good time.

F. The Lie about Drinking in “*Moderation*”

1. Nobody can “handle” fermented liquor in moderation unless the following conditions can be met:
 - a. You have to first *give* a person a drink, which violates *Hab 2:15*. Read it and see that it is wicked to give a friend a drink!
 - b. The person has to first drink “to excess” to find out where their limit is - this then violates the first rule of “drink” because you have to get yourself “drunk” to know when enough is enough!
 - c. The person then has to *keep drinking* in order to develop and maintain their tolerance of drink, so that they can handle more and more without getting drunk.

All of this is just a balancing-act that God never intended the Christian to get into. The Christian stays clear of things that can hinder their ability to serve their Lord!

“*Abstain from all **appearance of evil.**” (1Thes 5:22)*

2. *Moderation* is anybody’s guess because a person does not usually know when they have exceeded their own personal limit of drink until someone else sees it, or they kill someone on the highway!
3. Alcoholic drink affects a person's **alertness**, and yet the apostle Peter says in *1Peter 5:8*, “*Be _____, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*”
4. God expects a Christian to **stop drinking** completely at salvation:

“*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.***” (*1Cor 6:9-11*)

5. None of the listed people are “Christian” in their actions at all! The thing to ask yourself as you re-read the list is: ***Can I do ANY of those things, IN ANY***

AMOUNT and it be right with God? (Read this question again and again until you get the meaning!)

- a. **Fornicators** - Fornication is sex before marriage. If we can drink in moderation, then it is ok when we commit fornication in moderation! **NO!** Fornication is wrong from the start!
 - b. **Idolaters** - Idolatry is completely wrong. A person cannot be a Christian and still have just a few idols (**1Cor 10:14**)! Neither can a Christian hold onto just a few drinks (as we shall see).
 - c. **Adulterers** - Adultery is sex with another partner besides your spouse and is completely wrong - No Christian is right with God if they even commit adultery **ONCE** (**Heb 13:4**)! They must repent, confess, and **FORSAKE** the sin - not just "reduce" it!
 - d. **Effeminate** - Being effeminate is when a man acts like a female, and is beginning down the road to homosexuality. God says that it is wrong for a man to stop being masculine, and says acting like a woman even in moderation is wicked!
 - e. **Abusers of themselves with mankind** - This is homosexuality, and is not condoned in the slightest! It is an abomination to God (**Lev 20:13; Rom 1:26,27**)!
 - f. **Thieves** - Thievery is wicked, and wrong even in the slightest amount for a Christian (**Eph 4:28**)! You cannot separate petty theft from big-time stealing. Stealing is wrong in all amounts!
 - g. **Covetous** - Covetousness is the desire to have something that is wrong for you to have. It is not okay for the Christian to be a little covetous just as long as they don't let it take control of their life - it is just completely wrong (**Ex 20:17**)!
- h. **Drunkards** - Most people when they come to this verse read all the above descriptions correctly, but when they get to the word "**drunkards**" they only imagine that God does not want a Christian to get "plastered" drunk, and that it is OK if they drink *a little*. Sorry! Just as with ALL the other words, **God has no tolerance for the Christian even dabbling in any of this sin!** God considers a person who drinks even "in moderation" the same as a person who gets drunk. To "take" just one item from a store brands you as a "thief." To kill just one person brands you as a **murderer!** To drink just ONE alcoholic drink identifies you in God's eyes (maybe not in people's eyes), but in God's eyes as a **DRUNK!**
- i. **Revilers** - A reviler is a bad tempered man or woman, and God says that the Christian is NOT to lose their temper **at all!**
 - j. **Extortioners** - Extortion is the illegal gain of money. A Christian is never to obtain money illegally, even in "moderation!"
6. None of the above people "**shall inherit the kingdom of God.**" And so the Bible continues, "**And such _____ some of you: but ye are _____** (cleansed from the sins), **but ye are _____, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God**" (**1Cor 6:11**). Christians in Corinth had at some time in the past been sinful in one or more of the above areas, but **NOW**, because of Jesus Christ saving them, they are different - they surely WERE that way, but are NOW washed, sanctified, and justified by Christ - and they were not supposed to try and "cut back" on adultery, idolatry, thievery, homosexuality, or drunkenness. They were supposed to **stop all of it completely**, and live for Jesus Christ - the One who saved them " _____ **their sins**" (**Mt 1:21**), not saved them to be able to remain IN their sins.

G. **Questions from Other Scriptures** - Here are some verses that people quote to prove drinking in moderation for a Christian is permissible:

1. **Ephesians 5:18** The question is, whether the “*excess*” is in being **drunken** (which is usually thought), or in the **wine** itself (see **Pr 20:1**)?
 - a. Look at **1Peter 4:4**. Is it ok if a Christian does just a "little" rioting, as long as it is in moderation? NO! The **riot itself** is excessive, just like *wine itself* is excessive!
 - b. The Christian has been *converted* at salvation from sin's power to the power in the life of Jesus Christ, and therefore, the person's **desires** have been converted - they have been changed from seeking satisfaction in wine, money, rebellion (riot) and pleasures, to seeking the things of God, and especially the Holy Spirit!
 - c. Most "Christians" only dabble in yielding to the Holy Spirit because they want to continue to "dabble" in yielding to the desire for wine, beer and strong drink! God help us to get on one side or the other. Jesus said in **Rev 3:15,16**, "*thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art _____, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*"
2. **1Timothy 3:2,3** The question here is whether “*given*” can only mean “intoxicated” or “addicted” to something. Look at verse 2 where “*given to hospitality*” is not intended to mean “intoxicated” with it, but open, and welcoming it to happen in your daily life. **The Christian is commanded NOT to welcome drink into their life**, nor to be open to drinking AT ALL! In other words, don't even desire it!
3. **1Timothy 3:8** “*...not given to much wine*” is referring to home use where you CAN use old wine in medicinal uses, but the Christian is to be careful not to get used to having it in everything you eat and drink. People can abuse a drug that was meant to aid medicinally, and end up getting addicted to it - like modern kids “sniffing glue!” Glue is good to have around your home - but make sure that you don’t find yourself buying loads of it to sustain someone’s “habit!” The wine here is like the wine of **Romans 14:21**, (“*It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak*”), where the Deacon must be above question, and careful not to allow in his home what would cause others to stumble, including even grape juice. Remember, the same kind of "bottles" that held intoxicating wine, also would at other times hold fresh, grape juice. The problem would be for the new believer to discern whether "deacon so and so" was drinking alcohol, or new wine (the bottles weren't probably labelled).
4. **Titus 1:7** It is the same thing as **1Tim 3:3**, but especially notice the words “*not _____ to filthy lucre*” - if we can drink to moderation, then, as long as we are moderate about it, we can partake of filthy *lucre* (money obtained wrongfully)! The Bible is its own interpreter. The words "not given to" means "not desiring it, and not open to it."
5. **Titus 2:3** “*not given to much wine.*” See **1Tim 3:8** above. The problem here is whether a person is allowed to drink as long as "much" is not consumed. No - The command is that the older women of the passage were to resist the constant pressure of the day to turn to wine, and to teach the younger women GOOD things, to be SOBER, holy - **not how to drink!**
6. **Acts 2:12,13** “*drunk with new wine*” - Those who doubted the supernatural nature of the events of Pentecost came up with some illogical conclusions about why it was happening:

- a. Some said this was “crazy” (saying this event had no meaning).
 - b. Others thought they were **drunk** with “_____ wine,” which is only a derogatory statement. Nobody can get drunk on NEW wine because grape juice does not have any intoxication. It is like saying they were *drunk* because of drinking buttermilk - being unable to handle anything more than milk. The world just brands things that they don't understand as crazy, or immature. That's how they treat most of history, and the Bible.
7. **1Peter 4:3** “*excess of wine*” - This implies that as long as you don't get caught up in drinking wine “to excess” (where you get drunk), then you are right with God. According to **Ephesians 5:18**, the excess is IN the fermented wine to begin with - it is built into wine. The thing that Peter points out in this verse is that these Christians were no longer caught-up in the excess of wine - they had been saved, and their thirst for liquor had been converted to a thirst for God and His Holy Spirit! For further proof, look at verse 4, where the excess is found IN the “*rioting*”! Things that by nature are excessive include: **riot, murder, rape, and drink!!!**
 8. **John 2:1-11** “*the water that was made wine*” - This is usually where everyone refers to when they want to justify their desire to drink alcoholic wine, never imagining for one moment that the wine these people were drinking might actually be just fresh grape juice!
 - a. Can you imagine Jesus showing up three days into a drunken binge, and offering them MORE liquor? Go on, think about it! Jesus would be violating His own rules if He gave His neighbour alcoholic “drink” (**Hab 2:15**).
 - b. Jesus made extra special tasting pure grape juice that was enjoyed by all the members of the wedding party because they still had their discerning senses even though they had been drinking “wine” for three whole days! They were not drunk with fermented alcoholic liquor, but were enjoying refreshing grape juice!
 - c. Jesus never drank wine that was mixed with anything else (**Mk 15:23**), but was always, only fresh from the vine (**Mk 14:25**)!

H. **How To Overcome the Addiction, and Attraction to Liquor** - The following is a list of basic things a person has to do to win over the addiction of alcohol - for a more thorough study, contact your pastor.

1. **Accept** the fact no one is “born an alcoholic,” but rather **we are all born sinners** (**Rom 3:23**), and therefore sin - some by drinking, and others by thieving, etc. Without the salvation that Christ purchased on His cross, there is no victory available over drink or any other sin in your life!
2. **Get saved** (**Mt 1:21; 11:28,29**). You cannot win over addiction without the victorious power of Christ in your life! This cannot be over-emphasized: an alcoholic must not seek to become sober, or become a better husband, or anything but a defeated sinner who surrenders to the saving power of Jesus Christ (**Rom 6:11; 10:13**)! You must come to the living SAVIOUR, and only then will you find rest in your SOUL!
3. **Surrender** your entire life over to the Lordship of Jesus Christ (**Mt 7:24-27**) - Let HIM be the authority that tells you how to live your life - no longer live for your own appetites! Don't be a **slave** to your habits - instead, be a **prisoner** of Jesus Christ from now on (**Eph 4:1**)!
4. **Repent** of drink as a wicked and evil sin against both God, and the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is your body (**1Cor 3:17; 6:19,20**). This means more than being

sorry - it means forsaking the sin of drink, and replacing it with the Holy Spirit of God (Pr 28:13)!

5. **Replace** the drink with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18). Fast and pray through the struggles of depression, anxiety, and nervousness that got you dependant upon drink in the first place! Seek God's Holy Spirit to fill each of those holes in your life that you used to try and fill with alcoholic drink! Progressively saturate your life with God's word in study, and with God's work, as you yield to right living! Remember, sin (even drink) "*shall not have _____ over you.* (Rom 6:14)"
6. **Become accountable** to a mature Christian who will help you through the times you used to rely on the liquor for. **This is a must.** You at least need a godly, Bible-preaching pastor to whom you can rely upon for straight biblical counsel, and rebuke when needed. You also need good friends who will be there when you struggle and want to give in.
7. **Get busy serving the Lord** in your life - quit having so much time to spend drinking, and get out dealing with people about Christ!

III. Brief Summary of Conclusions

- A. There are two kinds of wine - new (fresh squeezed) and old (alcoholic).
- B. God forbids and warns against the distribution of old wine, unless it is only for medicinal purposes.
- C. Jesus never drank old wine - He always drank it new, fresh from the grape.
- D. Drinking wine and strong drink "in moderation" is impossible for a Christian, just like committing adultery in moderation is impossible!
- E. Drinking beer is the same as drinking wine in God's eyes.
- F. The Christian who seeks to be filled with God's *Holy Spirit* MUST **abstain** (stay totally away) from *intoxicating "spirits"*.
- G. There is a CURE for addiction to alcohol - becoming a slave to nothing and nobody outside of Jesus Christ through His perfect word!
- H. Therefore, the only way out of addiction to alcohol is found in repentance, and surrender to Christ on a daily basis, seeking to be filled with the Spirit as you study, and live by the perfect words of the living God - the Bible!

<i>Date Lesson Completed</i> _____	<i>Discipler</i> _____
------------------------------------	------------------------

THE CHRISTIAN AT WORK

A Study of the Christian and His Work Related Responsibilities

Lesson Eighteen

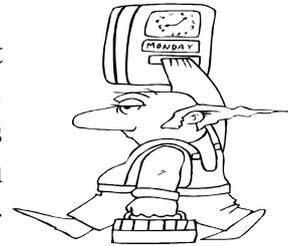
Memory Verse: *Romans 12:11*

Lesson Verse: *1 Corinthians 10:31*

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

I. Introduction

A. The Bible has a great deal to say about how you are to conduct yourself on your job, either as an employee, or an employer. About one-fourth of a person's adult life is spent on a job. It is essential for the Christian to learn how the Lord would have you work, and fulfill your responsibilities there. Be careful not to restrict your Christian testimony to just church and home.



B. This lesson is intended to help you be the type of employee, or employer that God would have you to be.

II. Basic Principles

A. All Christians are Supposed to Work - not be Lazy!

1. We were made **to work** (**Gen 2:15; 3:17-19**). We were not made to have the “easy life.” The easy life comes in heaven, and after hard work!
2. Primarily on a full-time job for a man (**2 Thes 3:10-12**).
 - a. If a man who is able to work, is not working, he ought not to eat! Nobody should pity that man, and that man ought to FAST and seek a job until he gets it – it is that important to his character!
 - b. If a man is not working, his health will only collapse! As will his family!
3. Primarily at home for a woman (**Titus 2:3-5; 1Tim 5:13,14**). And, don't tell me THAT is not work enough!
4. God hates laziness, idleness, and slothfulness (**Pr 6:6-11; Rom 12:11**).
5. If you are not working, and yet not dying in a hospital, then you are sinning against God, against your family, and against yourself! Get a job!

B. All Christians are Servants of the Lord. In other words: “Serve your Lord throughout your entire day at home, and at work”

1. **Romans 1:1** says that the Christian's primary job is to serve _____. So, when we labour at anything, we are to do it for HIM!
2. Serve the Lord mowing grass, building houses, making clocks, digging ditches, designing computers, standing guard – whatever you do, do it as unto the Lord!
3. Serving **God** is a *full-time job* - not just when you go to church (**1Pet 3:15; 2Tim 4:2**). We need to SERVE the Lord Jesus by always doing things for others!
4. Serve the Lord especially at church! The Bible is very clear that every Christian is an integral part of a local church, and that each member's contribution is vital to that local fellowship of believers. God expects every Christian to be involved in doing the Lord's work by witnessing, and caring about the needs of others (**1Cor 12:12,13; Eph 4:11-16**).

C. A Job is What God Gives You so that you *Can* Serve

1. The world says your first responsibility is first to your self! But God says, your first ministry is to your _____ (1Tim 3:1,4,5; 5:8).
2. Your second ministry is to your church family (Gal 6:10; Heb 10:25).
3. Your third ministry is to reach the lost (2Cor 5:18,20).
4. By meeting those responsibilities, your own needs will be met!

Your job in life is meant by God to financially support all of the above ministries. But, without your job, you will be very limited in serving God in the above ministries. Don't let Satan trick you into laziness, and defeat.

D. Your Attitude at Home or at Work is *Critical* to Your Testimony

1. Attitudes toward your job. You should view your job as a *ministry* opportunity, not just a job.
 - a. For most Christians, your fellow workers (or your neighbours) are the greatest exposure you have to unsaved people. Your life may be the only true witness of the Lord Jesus that they may ever see.
 - 1) You are a _____ representing Jesus Christ in a dark world (Matt 5:14-16)
 - 2) Your life should reflect and demonstrate the Bible in living colour (2Cor 3:2)! An "epistle" is just another word for a letter. We are a living letter, written by God for all to read about HIM!
 - b. A mother has the greatest opportunity to present Christ to their children! Don't let anybody demean or mock motherhood!
 - c. You will have a much greater influence on those you spend the most time with. Although total strangers are an opportunity for a witness, those who can see a consistent testimony of a Christian's life are much easier to win.
2. Attitudes toward the company and management you work for:
 - a. Serve in your job as if _____ was your employer (Eph 6:5-8; Col 3:22-24).
 - b. Have a grateful attitude at work! Don't get caught up in the complaining that normally goes on! The same is true among women - don't get caught up complaining to other women about your family, and the work load! That brings a bitter spirit into both your life, into your home, and into the homes of the people you talk to!
 - c. Respect the authority of your employer's position.
 - 1) Obviously no employer will be correct on every point, and you certainly can disagree with them, but you are to submit to their leadership, using it as an opportunity to show them a testimony of the Lord (Titus 2:9,10). *Purloining* means to rob from your employer, as in "pinch", "pilfer", or "pocket" the change.
 - 2) This only goes until they cross clear Biblical lines of right and wrong (Example of being asked to sell liquor, etc.).
 - d. Respect your company's *property*. Care for it as if it was yours. It does not belong to you, so do not "partake" (Lev 19:11)!
 - e. Respect your company's time.
 - 1) Do eight hours of work for eight hours of pay (2Cor 8:21; Col 3:22).

- 2) Be efficient! That means work hard, and at your best! The Biblical word is “diligence.”
 - 3) Also, you are getting paid to work, not witness. Use appropriate times to talk about the Lord (like on breaks, etc.).
- f. You are to do the very best that you can to help the company *succeed* and make your employer look good (Rom 12:11; 1Cor 10:24; Prov 10:4). Joseph is the greatest example of this principle in the Bible. See Genesis 39:1,2,21,22 all the way through to chapter 50 as they record his labours for others, including:
- 1) For his father, Jacob
 - 2) For his master, Potiphar
 - 3) For the prison keeper
 - 4) For Pharaoh!
- g. Mind your own _____ - to a limit (1Thes 4:11)
- h. If you suffer wrongfully on the job, suffer it _____ (1Pet 2:20). This will usually be a testing of your resolve to live like Christ on the job – don’t fail here!
- i. And finally, don't let someone else's laziness affect your work; (2Thes 3:10-13).

E. What About Those Under Your Leadership?

1. Are you treating your people justly and equally? Do you set standards for them which you refuse to keep yourself? (See Col 4:1; Eph 6:8,9)
2. Are you consumed by your own self-interests without considering the needs of those employees around you (Philp 2:3,4)?
3. Are you *defrauding* your employees (taking unfair advantage of them) so that they suffer, and you don't? See James 5:1-5.
4. Even in a position of leadership, you should always maintain the attitude of a _____ (Mark 10:42-45). Remember that Jesus, the Lord of Lords, came to minister, and was a servant!

III. Some Issues to Settle

A. "What if my job conflicts with spiritual things?"

1. There will always be some conflict of priorities between church activities and your work schedule. You cannot quit your job and take time off work because of a few minor conflicts. Remember, your job is a ministry opportunity. However, you must not use your job as an excuse to neglect your responsibilities to your church. Maintain a right balance in this area.
2. When your job responsibilities are contrary to Bible principles, then you must draw the line (Acts 5:27-29):
 - a. Refuse to lie or steal for your employer, or violate other clear commandments of God.
 - b. Guard against temptations on the job (flirting, loafing, complaining, losing your testimony, etc.).
 - c. Don't be influenced by sinful activities around you.
 - d. Refuse to do things that you know are contrary to the Bible
 - 1) Selling _____, or strong drink (Hab 2:15)
 - 2) Manufacturing and selling _____ (Acts 19:24)
 - 3) Selling Pornography, or even things doubtful (Rom 14:23)

- 4) Working on Sunday just so you can get more money.
 3. IDEA – if you just can't find a decent job, that allows you to be a Christian, then you ought to consider STARTING your OWN BUSINESS!
- B. "How do I find the right job that God wants me to have?"**
1. Have you taken the matter to God in prayer (**James 1:5; Philp 4:6,7**)?
 2. Will the new job destroy what God is trying to develop in your life? You may have an area in your life that God may be focusing on through a co-worker or employer, and if you change jobs, you may be escaping God's refining process.
 3. If you are having to move, or being asked to move to another city, is there a church there which can provide for your spiritual needs?
 4. If you have a job, but are looking for a job, ask yourself, "Am I running away from something I should be facing and trying to correct?"
- C. "Can a woman work outside the home?" (Titus 2:3-5) Yes and No.**
1. The godly home takes an immense amount of work! According to **Proverbs 31:10-31**, a godly woman works more than most people realize!
 2. The following conditions need to be met for a woman to work a job:
 - a. If she is not married. Obviously she needs to work if she has no other responsibilities. And, she needs to excel!
 - b. If married and not expecting children. However, this usually hinders the husband and wife from wanting children, which is wrong.
 - c. If absolutely necessary. There are times when the wife does need to work a job, but she needs to allow her husband to be the breadwinner, and be willing to step back home when bills are under control.
- D. "How do I handle persecution on the job?"**
1. Most "persecution" in our culture is a result of the Christian's own ignorance or lack of personal commitment to the Lord. If you are being "persecuted," it is probably for one of two reasons: your behavior is improper, or your testimony is offensive to someone (**1Pet 3:16,17**). If it is the latter, don't worry, that is how the Light of the gospel is perceived by the world - as an offense.
 2. Expect a certain amount of adversity from the world if you are truly serving Jesus Christ (**2Tim 3:12**).
 3. Learn how to commit that adversity to the Lord, and leave it in His hands to resolve (**1Pet 2:18-23**).
- E. "Don't I always deserve a promotion, or a better job?"**
1. Are you trying to be a leader over too many things? Consider the following, whenever a promotion or transfer opportunity presents itself:
 - a. A great Bible principle is, "*He that is faithful in that which is _____ is faithful also in _____*..." (**Luke 16:10**). Be sure that you can handle what you have now well. And then go further.
 - b. The more responsibility that you have, the more potential there is for problems to arise (**James 3:1; Eccl 8:9**).
 - c. The more responsibilities you have, the more time and energy is demanded. Be sure your new responsibilities will not hinder your service for God (not having adequate time for family, church, and your primary ministries; **2Tim 2:4**). Keep a balance in your life.

2. Ambition is: “A strong desire to achieve (accomplish) something.” Like *aspiration*. Ambition is the drive behind human effort. Without ambition, human effort has no goal, or purpose. Effort becomes only tasks, and requires task-masters to complete. The book of Proverbs gives God’s best advice on ambition and life goals.
- a. Wrong Ambitions
 - 1) To only provide for self, and your own happiness (Gen 3:5,6)
 - 2) To **dominate** (3 John 1:9,10; Mark 9:33,34; Luke 20:46)
 - 3) To love _____, instead of labour (1Tim 6:10; Eccl 5:12)
 - b. Right Ambitions (1Tim 6:5-7). People should have right ambition
 - 1) To provide for your _____, and the future (1Tim 5:8; 2Thes 3:10; Prov 13:22). There is nothing wrong with planning, and preparing financially for the future. There is no faith in relying on others when you could have prepared for bad times yourself!
 - 2) To do one’s best (1 Kings 3:7-14), with God’s help.
 - 3) To please _____ (2Tim 2:3-5)
 - 4) To store up _____ in heaven (Matt 6:19,20)

<i>Date Lesson Completed</i> _____	<i>Discipler</i> _____
------------------------------------	------------------------

CREATION AND EVOLUTION

A Study of Where We Came From - Our Origins

Lesson Nineteen

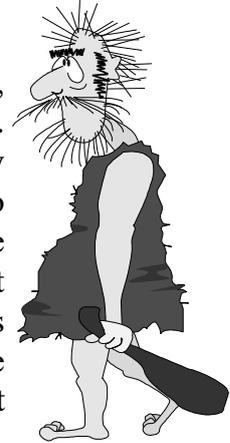
Memory Verse: *Romans 12:11*

Lesson Verse: *Genesis 1:1*

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:1

I. Introduction

- A. At this point in your discipleship training you should realize foremost, that the basis for what you believe is found in God's word, **the Bible**. Before you got saved, your basis for truth and fact were basically vague. You may have had a belief concerning a subject, but with no real support. With God's word in hand though, truth and fact become quite clear! Especially in relation to science! Bible believers do not run and hide behind "*religious views*." We go to the Book of books and see what God says! Because when it comes to facts, the evidence overwhelmingly proves the creation account of the Bible, and not evolution's theory!
- B. This lesson will provide the new Christian with the FACTS to both reinforce his or her faith in the Bible, and also to deal with any scientist who may believe in the theory of evolution.



II. Where Do We Begin?

- A. **Some Presuppositions** (World Views). Either you believe...
1. In the beginning GOD... (an *Almighty Creator*)
 2. In the beginning, DIRT... (an *Almighty Accident*)
- B. **Some Misconceptions**
1. "Evolution is a proven fact." Wrong. Neither evolution, nor Creation is proven, because we cannot now see either theory in operation today. Both ideas are theories that must be accepted by faith. The person's conclusions for their faith must be based upon truth though - the evolutionist *has no proof*, only more theories. The Creationist has the words of the Bible which can be proven in a court to be true. It has been consistently proven there are no false statements in the Bible!
 2. "The Bible, and Religion are just the same." Nothing could be further from the truth. The Bible is God's final word. Religion is man's attempt to replace the need for the Bible.
 3. "The Bible is religious, and therefore not scientific." How that could be true is beyond reason! Yes the Bible is religious, but only because it speaks from outside human perceptions, and it speaks about more than just the future. It accurately describes all major scientific laws of physics without contradiction.
 4. "Only ignorant people believe the Bible." Ignorance is when a person is unaware of something beyond their current understanding. All people therefore are ignorant. But there are those who desire to be willfully ignorant of anything besides what they currently believe to be true - these are usually "scientists."

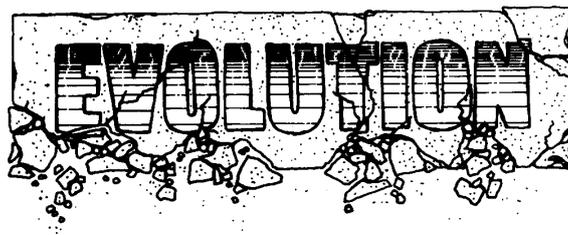
C. Some Definitions

1. What Science is

- a. Science is a body of knowledge that can be demonstrated and observed as fact. If something cannot be proven with observable evidence, then it is only a **theory**, and not *science*. Scientific facts are called **laws**. For anything to become scientific law, it must stand up to two processes: **observability** (it can be seen) and **repeatability** (it can be repeated). Anything that cannot be repeated, or observed now, is only a THEORY - it can never be fact.
- b. A **Scientific Law** is a verifiable fact that has been observed, and repeated, and therefore **proven** to be true. Science is supposed to be based on Laws, not theories. Up until 1880, science was ONLY interested in developing LAWS based upon FACTS. But now science has to be popular, and has been swayed towards focusing on generating theories, while ignoring established facts.

2. **What Evolution is.** Evolution is a *theory* of the origin of all things based upon **a process of continuous “innovative” change**. It states the universe is continually *improving* itself. It may take *billions of years*, but it is supposedly gradually improving! This usually means without allowing for an outside Creator’s help. It represents the acceptance of *anything* that can explain the existence of this universe, as long as it does not allow for the existence of God.
3. **What Creationism is:** Creationism begins with the theory that an intelligent Designer (“God”) created a perfect creation, and that that creation is currently falling apart (not improving). Creationism states that creation was a one time event, and is not now occurring. Biblical creationism takes the Bible literally when it says God created everything in six 24 hour days.

Neither EVOLUTION, or CREATION is an established FACT - neither can be observed, nor repeated - they are BOTH theories. The question is, which theory makes more sense?



III. Where Did The Universe Come From?

Let's face it; the universe is here. The basic problem is *how did it get here?* In order to be scientific, we will have to go by what we can observe and by what we can demonstrate. Let's look at the only four possible explanations of how this earth got here.

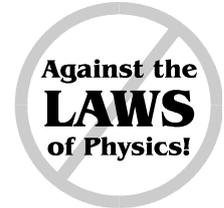
- A. **The universe has always been here.** This theory states that matter is *eternal*, and therefore has just always been here.
- B. **The universe has not always been here.** There was a time, when "naturally," *nothing* produced *something*! This explanation describes matter coming into existence from nothing (by chance), and then *life* coming into existence from *dead* matter (all by *accident*).
- C. **The universe is not really here, but just an illusion.** You just *think* that it is here! This theory pleases Buddhists (who believe life is only an illusion that needs to be “resolved”) and produces more drug addicts.

- D. **The universe started suddenly, when a Creator made it.** This is what Jesus Christ believed ([Mark 13:19](#)), King David ([Ps 8:3; 19:1](#)), the apostle John ([John 1:1-3](#)), and Paul ([Col 1:15-17](#)), to name a few!

There can only be **four** possible explanations for the existence of this universe. Can you come up with any other explanation that is not covered by one of the above four? The first two explanations are the basis for ALL evolution theories. Of the four, which is most scientific (observable) and logical? To settle this, let's look at the proven laws of science, and allow them to determine the answer.

IV. Evolution - A Science Contrary To Evidence ([1Tim 6:20](#))

A. Some Scientific Laws *Against* ANY Form of Evolution.



1. *The Laws of Thermodynamics (Heat Energy).*

- a. *The first law* says energy and matter can be transformed (changed) and altered, but cannot now be created or destroyed. This Law does away with **Theory B**. A universe that accidentally "big banged" *out of nothing* is unscientific since matter can't naturally be created (see [Nehemiah 9:6](#)). Evolution requires you to believe everything "accidentally" came from nothing!



- b. *The second law* states that energy in a closed system¹ will run out. This is called **ENTROPY**. All forms of energy run down like a watch. For example: things do not grow toward order and cleanliness by accident (ask any housewife with kids). Nothing is in the process of "evolving" (getting better, and more advanced, and more powerful), but rather EVERYTHING which can be seen demonstrates *dissipation, disintegration, decay* and *degeneration*. Nothing is "improved" unless it is worked on by an outside force! This Law is stated in [Isaiah 51:6](#), and does away with **Theory A** since if the universe had always been here, it would have "burned-out" long ago! Even though matter and energy cannot disappear, energy is always slowing down - **never increasing** (and never being replaced)! An example is the burning of a fire log. The log burns, and produces heat energy. That energy is then gone from the log, and cannot be produced from the same log anymore.

2. *The Law of Cause and Effect.* To every action, there is an opposite and equal reaction. For every effect that we see in the universe, there had to be an original *cause*. Evolution requires that all of ORDER came from CHAOS being "helped along" - again "accidentally."

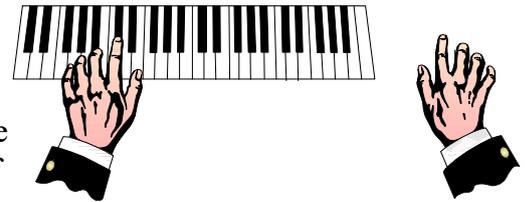
3. *The Law of Biogenetics* demonstrates that life ONLY comes from life! Every living organism comes only from living organisms ([John 1:1-4](#))! Never has life "spontaneously" come from a dead thing.

4. *Mendel's Laws.* Gregor Mendel (1822-1914) proved *scientifically*:

- a. Only *genetic* characteristics are inherited (things that are already coded in the DNA molecules of a gene) - only things that the parent already had "in" themselves, are passed on to the next generation. Nothing *new* can be passed on except for mutations which are 99.9% disastrous to the next generation.
- b. Variations are built-into the DNA code of an organism - this allows for variations in a specific kind of animal - i.e., a dog's genes have many variations already built-in (doberman, terrier, greyhound), just as a cat's genes have many variations, etc.

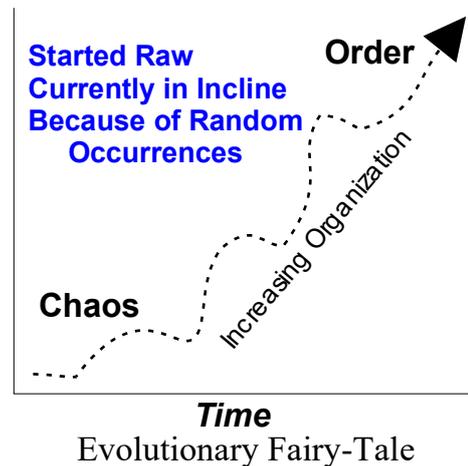
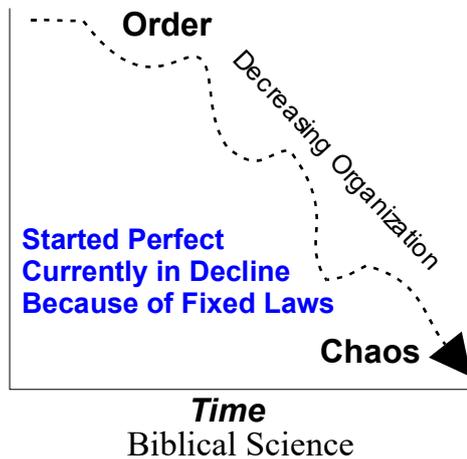
¹By "closed system," it is meant that if no energy is available to improve the state of a object from an outside force, then it is a closed system. All evolutionists believe in a "closed system" of science, or else they would have to accept the fact that God exists and has affected this universe!

- c. Variations outside of the limits of the genetic code **do not occur**. The variations do not include the ability for offspring to turn into anything BUT what the parent was - i.e., a cat ALWAYS produces a cat! Never a *cat-dog*, or a butterfly, or a frog, etc.
- d. No “new” characteristics appear in ANY species (it would be like trying to play keys on a piano that aren't there) except by *mutation* - which ALWAYS means a degradation of the offspring’s quality of life - which is opposite of the evolutionary theory.
- e. All mutations are proven to be destructive to the off-spring, because they are “degenerative” and not evolutionary - the next generation ALWAYS becomes sterile.



B. Some Scientific Laws *Proving* Evolution... NONE!

1. Evolution requires that there would exist some natural force that is “guiding” everything toward higher and higher levels of complexity.
2. This “Law” would be called, a law of “increasing organization.”
3. This “law” does NOT exist anywhere!!!

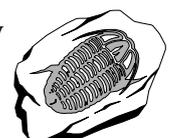


C. **Order Out of Chaos?** Could you believe that a delicate and beautiful Swiss watch could come from an explosion in a steel mill, or that a dictionary could come from an explosion in a print shop? Then how could a rational person believe that all the beauties and perfection of nature result from an explosion of hot gasses back at the "*big bang*?" Only if you are told again and again that it **MUST** have happened!



D. **Find the Fossil Evidence.** The theory of evolution contends that life appeared "spontaneously" on the earth, and that over millions of years, life forms changed and became more complex. Man is assumed to be the product of this process. Fossils, the remains of dead plants and animals, have supposedly left a record of the organisms that once populated the earth.

E. Modern research has shown that in recorded history, species are constantly moving toward *extinction*. Every day, more than 50 species become extinct. If evolution were true, one would expect to see the process provid-



ing examples of emerging species in their "transitional forms." The question arises, "where are the emerging species and their transitional forms?"² The fossil record shows no transitional forms - only fully developed creatures, in all strata!

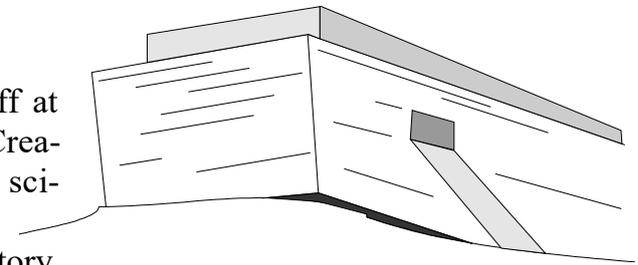
F. **Life is NOT Simple!** No matter where you look, there is infinite complexity to this universe. Evolutionists hope that the universe is very simple, and "just grows upon simple building blocks." Those "simple building blocks" just do not exist!

G. **Conclusion**

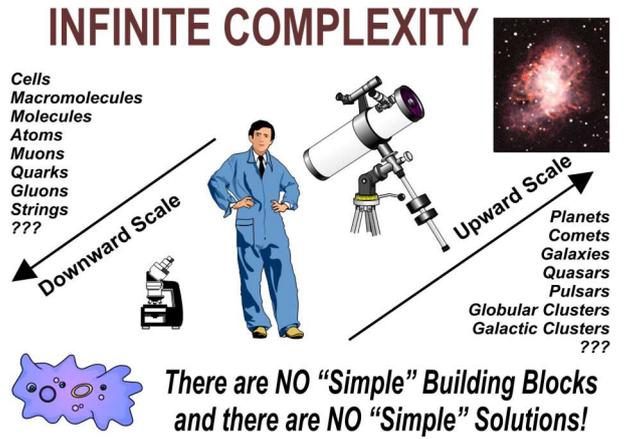
We then are left with **Theories C and D**. Either you believe Genesis 1:1, or lose your mind! Modern scientists simply ignore these facts, and pretend they don't exist. They reject **Theory D** pretending that since it is *religious* and not "scientific" that it is not true!

V. **Noah's Flood - The Key to Geology**

2Peter 3:3-8 tells us that people who scoff at the Bible are "willingly ignorant" of the Creation and the Flood. In order to understand science and the Bible, we must not be ignorant of those two great events in Earth's history.



- A. Over 250 Flood legends from all parts of the world have been found. Most have striking similarities to the Genesis story of a man building a boat to save his family, and the animals.
- B. Noah's ark was only built to float, and safely carry its cargo - not to sail.
- C. The ark has been proven to be large enough to hold all the required pairs of animals, people, and food with room to spare (625ft long, 104 wide, 62 high). It wasn't until 1850 that someone built another ship that big!
- D. God told Noah to bring two of each *kind*, not of each species or variety. Noah only had two of the dog kind which might have only included the wolves, coyotes, foxes, etc. The *kind* grouping is probably closer to our modern family division in taxonomy. This would greatly reduce the number of animals on the ark. Animals have obviously diversified into many varieties in the last 4,500 years since the Flood.
- E. Noah did not have to go and get the animals. God brought them to him (**Gen. 6:20**, "*shall come unto thee*").
- F. The mountains, as we have them today, did not exist until during the Flood when "the mountains arose and the valleys sank down" during the total upheaval of the earth's crust at the time (**Ps. 104:5-9**, **Gen. 8:3-8**).
- G. The water in the oceans right now would cover the earth **8,000 feet deep** if the surface of the earth were smooth.
- H. The continents were not fully separated until 100-300 years after the Flood. The people and animals that came off the Ark had ample time to migrate anywhere on earth by then.



²Concerning transitional life forms. These "transitional forms" of creatures in their evolutionary struggle upward would have had a rough time surviving. What about animals with "half wings," that were not quite ready to fly? They would have a tough time digging for grubs or running from an predator in that state!

- I. The top of Mt. Everest (from 26,000-29,000 feet) is made up of sedimentary rock containing fossils of **seashells** and other ocean-dwelling animals.
- J. Sedimentary rock is found all over the world. Sedimentary rock is laid down only by running water.
- K. Petrified clams in the closed position (found all over the world, including Mt. Everest) testify to their rapid mud-burial while they were still alive. Some petrified clams are as large as 6 feet wide!
- L. Bent rock layers, fossil graveyards, and poly-strata fossils are best explained by a cataclysmic Flood.
- M. People choose to not believe the Flood because it was the judgment of God on sin (2Pet. 3:3-8), which will also occur in the future, but then by fire.

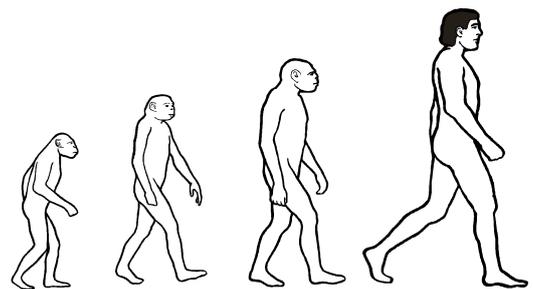
VI. Evolutionary Hoaxes, Scams, and Abuses

A. Dating Methods - Billions? Millions? Or Just Thousands of Years Old?

1. ***Date the fossils by the “strata” they are found in.*** Most scientists believe that layers of the earth’s crust (called *strata*) represent different time periods, and were laid down over millions and even billions of years. In the 1800’s, each layer was labeled by its depth and rock type. Then, the fossils found within each layer were classified by that layer (i.e., Cambrian, Jurassic, Carboniferous, etc).
2. ***Date the strata by what fossils are found in it.*** As time went on, strata were not found to be uniform in layering, and so the fossil type that was found in each strata was used to label the strata. The problem is this: based upon a preliminary assumption in the 1800's that all the strata in the world were laid down uniformly, all fossils and strata are classified based upon each other’s preliminary labeling - i.e., the strata is identified by the fossils it contains, and the fossils are classified by the strata they are found in - circular reasoning! Not science!
3. **The “Flood” ruined everything!** A creationist approaches the problem from the vantage of the world-wide flood of **Genesis 7 & 8**, which sorted the fossils and strata in a *cataclysmic*, not *uniform* fashion. In other words, the flood messed EVERYTHING up!

B. So-Called “Missing Links” of Human Ancestry

1. **Java Man (*Pithecanthropus*)** - In 1890, a skull cap, femur, and two molar teeth were grouped together as belonging to the same person. The skull is that of an ape, but the teeth and the femur bone of a human. What was not published was that they were found 45 feet apart from each other, along with many other bones of clearly apes, humans, and other animals. It was a grocery store of “parts” to construct any animal you wanted! Java man has since been reclassified as human.
2. **Neanderthal Man (*Homo sapiens neanderthalensis*)** - 1856, in Neanderthal, Germany, a skull cap and limb bones were found. It was grouped with a set of skeletons found all over Europe that had the following characteristics: prominent eyebrow ridges, low forehead, long narrow brain case, protruding upper jaw, a strong lower jaw lacking a chin. The overall skeletons were short, and stooped-over. Anthropologists believed it to be a “missing link” between man and ape because it seemed to have shuffled along when walking. However, 150 years later, it is now admitted



that these skeletons were of people that suffered from rickets, and syphilis. Neanderthal Man was just a variation of the modern human kind with disease!

3. **The Piltdown Man** (*Eoanthropus*). In England, in 1912, a human skull cap and an orangutan’s jaw were grouped together, along with a tooth as a hoax to prove another so-called “missing link.” It was believed by the scientific world for over 40 years until tested for age, only to find that the tooth had been filed down to look human, and the jaw bone stained to look as old as the skull cap.
4. **The Peking Man** - all the “evidence” of this ape-man was lost in World War II, and is not available for examination.
5. **The Nebraska Man** (*Hesperopithecus*) - an entire skeleton of an ape-man was constructed based upon a single tooth of a supposed “missing link.” The tooth was discovered to be of a **rare** pig found in Paraguay.
6. **Lucy** (*Ramapithecus*) - once widely accepted as the direct ancestor of humans, it has now been realised that this skeleton is merely an extinct type of orangutan - not an early human.

And they call all this "SCIENCE?"

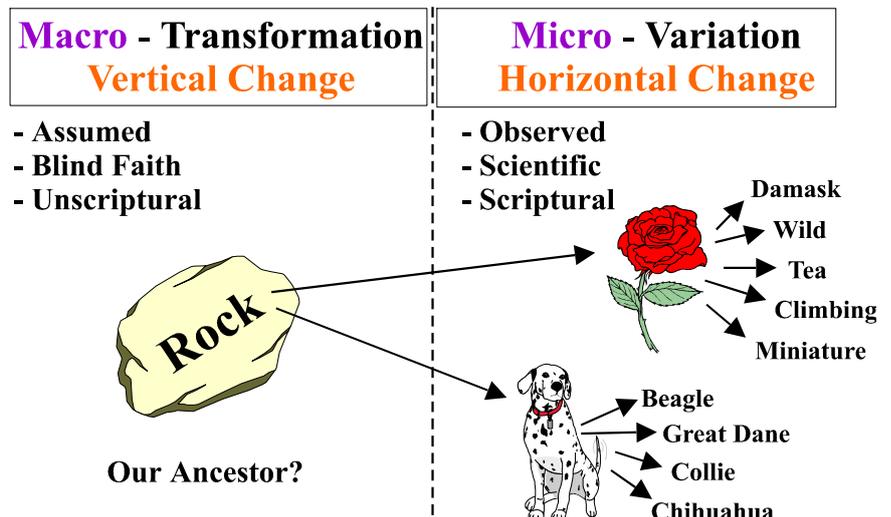
VII. Biblical Explanations

A. Creation.

Creation came about exactly as the Bible says it did in Genesis 1:1, where God simply created everything out of nothing. God was the **First Cause** - we are the **Effect!** From that initial creation material, God personally moulded and fashioned the worlds and each creature therein (**Gen 2:7,19; Heb 11:3**). The initial creation was instantaneous, but the resulting "finish work" took six literal days to finish. Why six days? Not because God had a speed limitation, but rather to show a pattern for man's work-week (**Ex 20:9-11**). After the sixth day, God stopped working (**Gen 2:2**), and the universe has been carrying on the work of maintaining itself since then (**Gen 1:21,22,27,28**). There is nothing new now being created (**Eccl 1:9**), which is exactly what Albert Einstein discovered (about 3,500 years too late)!

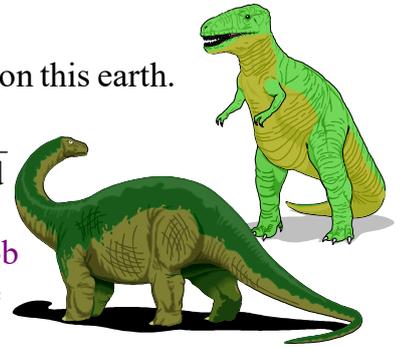
B. Macro verses Micro Evolution

1. The evolutionist believes in something called MACRO (or BIG) evolution that allows for things to change “vertically” from one species to a higher level. This is also called “transformation.” This change process is assumed, has never been observed, and is totally unscriptural.
2. The creationist believes in something called MICRO (or small) evolution that allows for organisms to change “horizontally” from black to red, and to white, but still be the same species. This is called “variation,” and it is observed, is scientific, and is scriptural.



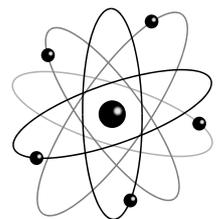
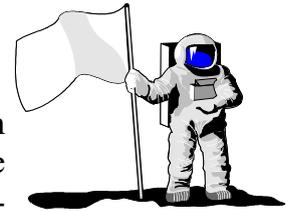
C. The Dinosaurs.

1. *Their existence.* According to the Bible, Dinosaurs did exist on this earth.
 - a. The first type of dinosaur is referred to as _____ (Job 40:15-24) and was a land-based animal that would match a *Diplodocus*.
 - b. The other dinosaur is referred to as _____ (Job 41:1-34). It was a water-based animal. It is probably the basis for all the legends about *dragons*.
 - c. All the bones that "scientists" have unearthed and attached together to represent animals, were alive mainly before Noah's flood (only 4,500 years ago). Remember, all of them became extinct at the same time pointing to a *cataclysmic* event.
2. *Their demise.* The cataclysmic event was the _____ of Genesis chapters 7 - 9 where water _____ the earth (Gen 7:19) killing every breathing thing that was not on the ark. At the end of the flood, all the water was drawn into now deeper oceans and the polar regions!
3. Most of the dinosaurs that got off the ark were extinct within the next 1,000 years due to the changes that occurred in the earth's atmosphere following the flood (a thinner atmosphere, with no water-canopy above the atmosphere that was present before the flood).
4. Another reason for their disappearance is that the dinosaurs were hunted by mankind - would *you want* one around your home?



D. Calculating The Age of the Universe

1. ***Moon Dust.*** Exploration of the moon has provided us with more evidence of the trustworthiness of the Bible, and the flaws in evolutionary thinking. Scientists know that many millions of tons of cosmic dust fall each year on both the earth and the moon. We don't notice it here because of erosion. But there is almost no erosion on the moon. So, the dust piles up continually on the moon's surface. If, as evolutionists believe, the universe is billions of years old, the accumulation of dust there should be great, amounting to many feet in depth. Prior to the first moon landing, most scientists predicted that the loose lunar dust could be between 50 and 100 feet in depth, presenting serious difficulties for the moon craft. When man finally reached the moon, it was discovered that the dust was between 1/4 inch and 3 inches deep. Since there is no method by which the dust could be carried away, the shallowness of it means it has not been accumulating for long. That, in turn, means the age of the moon and earth must be measured in *thousands* of years, not millions or billions supposedly required for evolution to have taken place.
2. ***Half-lives.*** This is the study of the present rate of decay of an element. You track how fast something is decaying, and calculate back how long it has been since it was 100 percent. Uranium is constantly breaking down into helium, yet the atmosphere has such a small amount of helium that the earth couldn't be older than a couple of hundred million years old - not 4 and a half billion!
3. The **earth's magnetic field** is decaying at a rate that only 30,000 years ago, it would have been so strong it would have pulled in the moon!
4. The **continents** erode too quickly for them to be billions of years old.
5. The **oceans** should be super saturated with salt if billions of years old.



6. **Comets** only last 10,000 years – they could not be billions of years old!
7. **Human Artifacts throughout the Geologic Column.** Man-made artifacts - such as a hammer in Cretaceous rock, a human sandal print with a trilobite in Cambrian rock, human footprints and a handprint in Cretaceous rock – point to the fact that all the supposed geologic periods actually occurred at the same time in the recent past.
8. The **pressure of oil and natural gas** is so high that it could not have been underground for millions of years - only for several thousand years, or else the pressure would have “leaked out” long before now!
9. **Population Statistics.** World population growth rate in recent times is about 2% per year. Normal growth rate throughout human history would be about half that number with wars, disease, famine, etc. wiping out approximately one third of the population on average every 82 years. So, starting with just eight people, and applying these growth rates since the Flood of Noah's day (about 4,500 years ago) would give a total human population at just under six billion people. Yet, an evolutionary view will run into major difficulties, because, if you started with one "couple" just 41,000 years ago, it would give us a total population of 2×10^{89} people! The universe does not have space to hold so many bodies.
10. **Design in Living Systems.** A living cell is so awesomely complex that its interdependent components stagger the imagination and defy evolutionary explanations. A minimal cell contains over 60,000 proteins of 100 different configurations. The chance of this assemblage occurring by chance is 1 in $10^{4,478,296}$ (this number is an absolute impossibility).
11. **Design in the Human Brain.** The human brain is the most complicated structure in the known universe. It contains over 100 billion cells, each with over 50,000 neuron connections to other brain cells. This structure receives over 100 million separate signals from the total human body every second. If we learned something new every second of our lives, it would take three million years to exhaust the capacity of the human brain. In addition to conscious thought, people can actually reason, anticipate consequences, and devise plans - all without knowing they are doing so.

E. Inherent Age

1. When God created man, Did He create him as an adult or baby? When He created the chicken, He did not create an egg, for it would have required a Hen to protect and hatch it. When God created the earth, He created a fully mature world that **looked** "billions of years old," and yet was only a few seconds old! This universe may look old, but it is only because God created everything *mature* and ready to reproduce themselves, from the simple atomic and genetic levels all the way up to the most complex of galaxies (**Gen 1:11,12,21,22**)!
2. This explains why the universe is so immense, since your starting point is no longer a "big-bang" but rather **God**. If the big-bang started everything, then you would have to have hundreds of billions of years to have spread everything out as far as it now is. With creation, God just simply set everything in its place, demonstrating the immensity of the power of God (**Ps 8:1-9**)!

- F. **The Biblical Record.** The Bible gives all those names and ages of people from **Genesis chapter 5** on for a reason. If you take the time, you can count back from King Solomon (lived around 1,000 years before Christ's birth, **B.C.**), and see that creation took place around 4,000 years BC! We are living around 2,000 years AD (after His birth), making for a total age of **just 6,000 years**, not 4.5 billion years!

VIII. Some Final Conclusions

A. The Fight Against God

1. When you teach Creation, you are attacking the very foundation of the unbeliever. His basis for why he lives the way he does is rooted in their rejection of God. Creation points all men back to accountability to this all powerful Being called God, and convinces them of their sinfulness!
2. **Romans 1:18-23** states that God's existence is proved by this earth being here, and a person has to corrupt his thinking and ignore a Creator in order to go his own way. **Verse 25** says they "_____ " the truth of God into a lie. For example: notice that Jesus' birthday is changed into a celebration of Santa Claus (a lie), and the resurrection is changed into Easter bunnies (a lie), and so on!

B. The Fruits of Evolution

1. No human theory launched upon mankind has made such an impact as Darwin's theory of evolution. It simply *eliminated* all absolute moral values, and man's accountability to God. Evolution accepts man only as an animal, responsible only to himself. It provides the framework for a spiritual *quagmire* - suicide, animalistic murders, perverted sexual behaviour, drugs, divorce, abortion, lying, stealing, rape, child abuse, homosexuality, and a host of other ills that violently affects our world.
2. What difference does it make? Well, if God does not exist; if He did not create us, then man is truly no more than an animal. There will be no day of judgment. There is no life after death. There are no absolute moral values - no rights and wrongs. If Darwin's "*survival of the fittest*" is true, then we have no moral restraint to prevent the adoption of Adolph Hitler's philosophy of eliminating "sub-human" races and undesirable people. According to evolution, "undesirable" racial or ethnic groups, old people, crippled people, mentally retarded people, unwanted babies in mothers' wombs, the poorly educated, the weak and sick, and any other undesirable being should be eliminated because they can only be viewed as a burden to society. They use resources that could give the more "highly evolved" among us more pleasure.
3. There is however a sure solution for these problems - a return to the solid foundation of the Bible (and its morality), and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Apart from this solution, there is no hope for this world. *Certainly evolution offers none.*

C. The Fruit of Scientific Creationism

1. ***All people are of immense value to God.*** "*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.*" **John 3:16**
2. ***Every human being is separated from God*** by an immense universe filled with deterioration caused by sin. God is NOT this universe, but is outside it, and if He created it, then He is GREATER than it!
3. ***This Creator has intervened in history*** several times (at the creation, with the flood, in the birth of Jesus Christ, etc). Especially when our Creator took on Himself a human body 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem to save lost sinners by paying for their sins with His blood!
4. ***The Bible is scientifically accurate*** and demonstrates a trustworthy authority in all of life (**Psalm 119:160**). You can therefore TRUST it in ALL matters of which it speaks!

D. The Real “Big-Bang” (2Peter 3:6-14) - Yet to Come!

1. Forget about the evolutionary "Big Bang" - it is a hoax!
2. What every person must prepare for is the FUTURE coming Big Bang, where EVERYTHING will burn with melting heat, so that even the "_____ shall melt with fervent heat" (2Peter 3:10).
3. Not only is everything going to melt, it will "pass away with a great _____" - a BIG BANG! God said this 2,000 years ago (2Peter 3:15)!
4. If EVERYTHING in the universe is going to be done away with (Matt 24:35), then what kind of persons ought we to be (2Peter 3:10-14)?
 - a. Having a holy _____ - what we say, and how we say it (2Pet 3:11).
 - b. A godly life (2Pet 3:11).
 - c. Looking forward to the coming of God to rule (2Pet 3:12).
 - d. Diligently living in peace (rest, not anxious), without _____ and _____ - the world ought to see a big difference in your life!

<i>Date Lesson Completed</i> _____ <i>Discipler</i> _____

THE FUTURE

A Study of Heaven, Hell, and Eternity

Lesson Twenty

Memory Verse: *Romans 12:11*

Lesson Verse: *Isaiah 46:9,10*

"...I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"
Isaiah 46:9,10

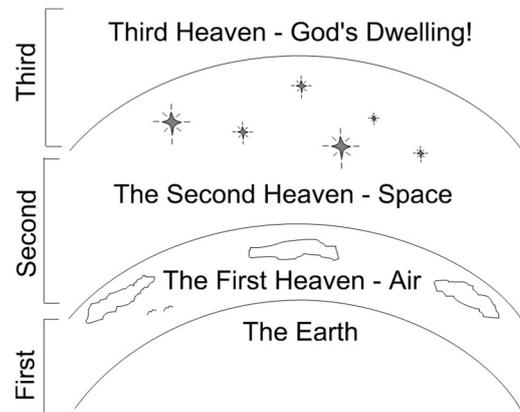
I. Introduction

As you read and study the word of God, you undoubtedly will come across many Scriptures that refer to *future* events. These passages are called *prophetic*, and are very precious to the Christian because they clearly demonstrate that our God has everything under control, and all things will work out just as He has planned! Nothing will surprise the Lord! He knows the end from the beginning (**Rev 22:13**). On top of that, He has revealed all of important history and future events in one unique, supernatural Book, the Bible (**1Cor 2:9,10; 2Pet 1:20,21**)! In this lesson we will briefly study the incredible subjects of **heaven, hell, and the future!**

II. A Look At Heaven

A. **There are actually *three* Heavens.** The word 'heaven' means, the open space above you. The word 'firmament' means the sky.

1. **The First Heaven - Genesis 1:6-9,20** "*And God called the firmament Heaven...*" This 'heaven' refers to the earth's atmosphere, and is just above us and around us. It consists of air, and the clouds. The birds fly around in this heaven. It does not extend very far up above the earth's surface.
2. **The Second Heaven - Genesis 1:14-17.** The second heaven is filled with the planets, stars, comets, galaxies, supernovas and nebulas that are beyond our atmosphere, and yet do not reach to God. The second heaven is the Universe itself. What we call "outer space."
3. **The Third Heaven - This is where God dwells (Matt 6:9; Ps 113:4,5).** It is not anywhere near this planet (**Acts 7:48-50**). It is outside of this universe, and separate. It is where born again believers go when they die or are taken to at the time of the rapture (**1 Thes 4:15-17; John 14:1-3**).



B. What is Heaven Like?

1. Heaven is a *real* place (**Rev 4:1-3; Col 3:1,2**). It is not a "state of mind," or state of "non-existence" (ie, Buddhist "nirvana")
2. It is a *holy* place (**Ps 20:6**). "*Now I know that the LORD saveth his anointed; He will hear him from his _____ heaven...*" There is no sin nor sinner there.
3. Heaven is a *joyful* place (**Luke 15:7,10**). There is joy among the _____ over sinners that repent here on earth.
4. Heaven is a *place of no trouble*. It has no death, sorrow or pain, "*And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more _____, for the former things are passed away*" (**Rev 21:4**).

5. Its size is *immeasurable* (Jer 31:37). It is bigger than this universe, because it is actually outside of this universe – and this universe is immeasurable!
6. Our home in Heaven is in *an entire city* (Heb 11:16) called the _____ Jerusalem (Rev 21:2,15-27). A furlong is $\frac{1}{8}$ mile. So, it is 1,500 by 1,500 by 1,500 miles! Truly, there is a lot of room in God's heaven!



III. What About Hell?

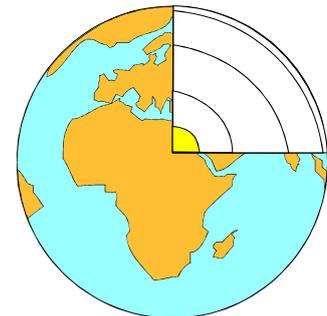
A. **Definition:** The Bible says *hell* is a place where the devil, his angels, and unbelieving people will spend eternity without God. They will suffer eternal punishment and separation from God.

1. There are 162 references to hell in the New Testament alone, which speaks of the doom that awaits the unbeliever, and over 70 of these references were made by Jesus himself! References include: Mt 13:41,42; 5:29,30; 10:28; 11:23,24; 16:18; Jam 3:6; Rev 20:13,14.
2. Old Testament references include: Deut 32:22; Ps 9:17; Ps 55:15; 86:13; Prov 9:13-18; 15:24; Isa 5:13,14; 14:12-15.

B. Why did God create Hell?

1. God created hell because He is holy and cannot allow *sin* in His Heaven.
2. Those who do not accept Christ's gift and trust completely in Him are destined to go to hell because they are still in their sins (John 3:18,36; 1Cor 15:16,17).
3. Therefore, hell was created for Satan, his angels, and all unbelieving persons (Mt 25:41; Rev 20:10).

C. **Where is Hell?** This *lake of fire* is a fire that exists in another dimension, and is located below us, **IN** the earth (Isa 14:12,15; Mt 12:40). Ephesians 4:9 states that Jesus _____ into the centre of the earth before He arose.



D. **Characteristics of Hell** (Read Luke 16:19-31)

1. It is REAL. It has a location (centre of the earth), and an eternal effect on all who dwell in it.
2. It is not volcanic lava, but is much like it. Lava shows us that there is something burning just a few miles under our feet.
3. It is _____ (Rev 14:11) - it is for ever, like heaven
4. It is a place of _____ (Luke 16:24) - not annihilation (Mt 23:33).
5. It is a place of darkness, pain, suffering, and isolation (Jude 7).
6. It is bottomless (Rev 9:2)! It has no bottom, only sides (because it is at the centre of a sphere)!
7. Those who died in Sodom and Gomorra are STILL suffering God's "_____ of eternal fire" in hell (Jude 1:7).
8. Everyone in hell is a would-be soul-winner (Lk 16:27,28)!
9. Hell is an unnecessary place for people if only they will put their complete faith and trust in Christ's all sufficient death on the cross - it was only made for the devil and his angels, not for any human!
10. Therefore, hell is NOT the grave, but a horrible place that no man should go to, and from which Jesus died to save people from!

E. **Jesus died to save sinners from Hell!** Jesus did not come only to bring sinners to a wonderful place called Heaven, but more importantly, to save them from the real place

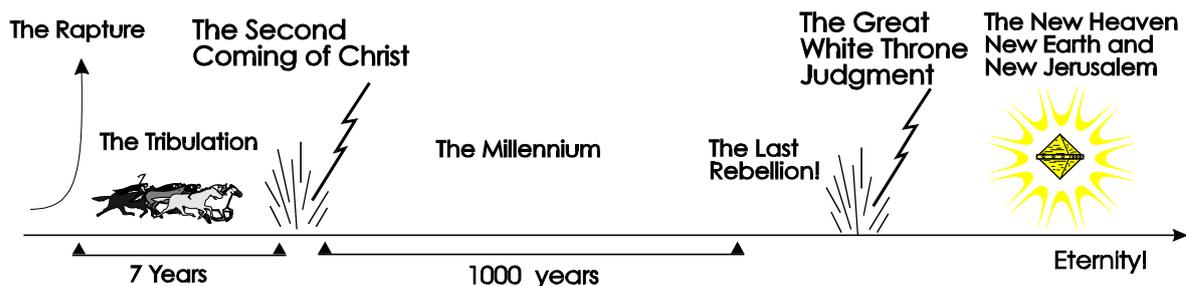
called Hell ([John 3:16](#))! A person needs to get saved TODAY because *tomorrow* may be too late ([2Cor 6:1,2](#))!

F. How Long Will The Lost Be In Hell?

1. The Bible says that all in hell will be there “for _____” ([Rev 20:10](#)).
2. Will God give persons in hell an opportunity to escape; a second chance? _____
3. When is the opportunity for people to be saved from hell ([2Cor 6:1,2](#))? _____.
4. Let us be busy reaching the lost by preaching the gospel of salvation *now*, while people have the chance!
5. This is God’s reason for Christianity's existence - *to warn people of hell!*

IV.A Brief Outline of Coming Future Events - *What's Ahead For the Universe? God created this universe ([Gen 1:1](#)) and for sure God will end it ([2Pet 3:10,11](#))! The study of the future comes mainly from Revelation, Daniel and Isaiah. Here is a brief outline...*

- A. The Soon *Rapture* (catching away) of true Christians to heaven
- B. The Seven Years of Tribulation (Tribulation means, terrible trouble)
- C. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ - at the battle of *Armageddon*
- D. The Millennial Kingdom of Christ on Earth (His 1,000 year rule here)
- E. The Final End of this World - at the battle of Gog and Magog
- F. The Great White Throne Judgment of all the unsaved of history
- G. The New Heaven and New Earth that will never pass away!



V. A Brief Study of Future Events

A. Some Background Facts

1. The Bible is full of prophecies related to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to this world. Jesus has already come once – as a baby, born in a manger, and destined to die on a cross 2,000 years ago.
2. However, that **FIRST** coming did **not** fulfil one-fourth of the prophecies about the Messiah. The remaining prophecies relate to a **second** coming where He, as King of Kings will yet reign on earth.
3. The Jewish people are God’s people – whether they believe or not. They, as descendants of Abraham, are special to God. That does not mean they are saved, but that they are special to God and are always part of His plans in this world.
4. Christians are neither Jews, nor Gentiles ([Gal 3:11](#)). No matter what we were before conversion, we are now totally new creatures in God’s kingdom.
5. We do not replace Israel, but have a special relationship with Jesus as His BRIDE.
6. Ever since the time of Abraham, the Jewish people have been the main focus of God’s work in this world.
7. When Jesus was born, He preached to and ministered to the Jews first ([Matt 15:22-24](#); [Rom 1:16](#)). Since the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah, the Gospel has extended into all the world, and to all people.

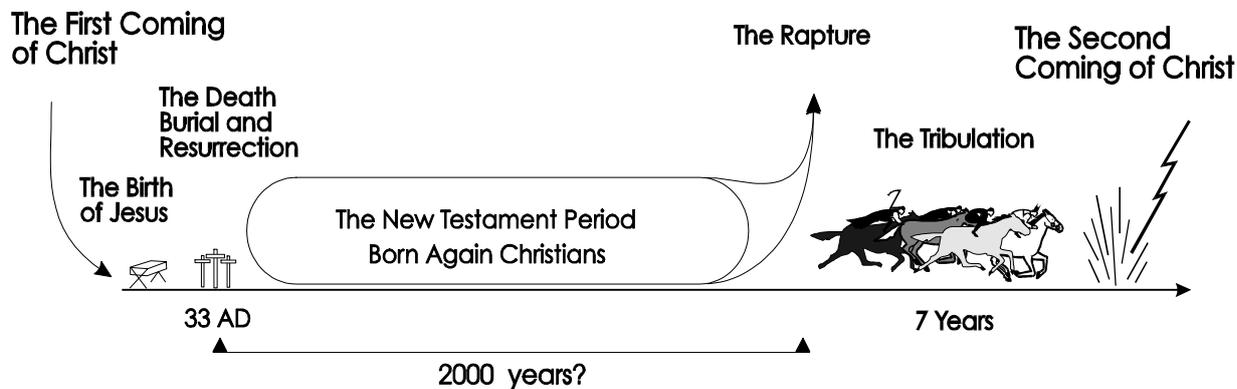
8. But someday soon, Christians will disappear in an event called the Rapture, and God will focus once again on the Jewish people, and save them during the Tribulation.

B. The Rapture of Christians

1. When Jesus comes the second time, He comes in two parts.
 - a. The first part is referred to as *the Rapture*, or the "catching away" of Christians to heaven!
 - b. The second part (of the second coming) is His actual physical return to earth to rule and reign as King of kings and Lord of lords
 - c. This may sound complicated, but that is because it is! But be patient! It is part of an awesome future that is just ahead of us!
2. Let's examine the following Scriptures that describe a catching away of God's people BEFORE God's judgment:
 - a. **1Thes 4:13-18** refers to Christ's people someday soon being "caught up" into the air and taken to heaven with Jesus.
 - b. **Philp 3:20,21** describes is a "changing" of our bodies for heaven as we go up.
 - c. **John 14:1-3** Jesus says He will come back to "receive" His church to heaven like a Groom comes for His Bride at a wedding.
 - d. **1Cor 15:51,52** describes it as all happening "in the _____ of an eye".
3. There are several example of "Raptures" in the Bible. Including:
 - a. **Gen 5:21-24; Heb 11:5** Who was "taken up"? _____
 - b. **2 Kings 2:11** Who went UP? _____
 - c. **Gen 19:15,16,22** Who was pulled out of Sodom before judgment fell? _____
 - d. **Gen 7-9** Who was protected from the judgment of the flood? _____
 - e. _____ Each time, God "took" someone out of the way, so He could judge
4. Only a few signs will give any kind of signal that the Rapture is about to happen:
 - a. Israel has to be in her land again – and they have been since May 14, 1948!
 - b. Europe (Rome) will take control of the land of Israel "for their safety and peace", just like Rome was in control at Christ's first coming.
 - c. The world will *start* experiencing all the troubles of the coming tribulation, in an ever increasing manner (**Mark 13:3-10**).
5. We are NOT in the Tribulation yet. It is only the preparation for it
 - a. Jesus said in **Mat 24:6** "... see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not _____." And in **Mat 24:8** "All these are the _____ of sorrows."
 - 1) When Jesus uses the word SORROW, He is talking about the sorrow and pain of a woman who is about to give birth to a child!
 - 2) In the same way, the world is having the beginning pains before the coming Tribulation
 - 3) Obviously the world has always had wars
 - 4) And always battled diseases, and earthquakes and famines
 - 5) And that is why so many people constantly mock at Jesus' words
 - 6) But Jesus is saying MUCH more than just a list of normal troubles and disasters...

- 7) Jesus is saying that these events and about 100 more will grow in number EXPONENTIALLY – like the pains leading up to a birth!
 - 8) Jesus said these signs would appear like birth pains ([Matthew 24:3-8](#)).
 - 9) Birth pains, or labour contractions, are sharp pains which INCREASE in intensity and frequency in the moments leading up to birth.
 - 10) They become MORE frequent and have greater strength leading up to the big moment.
 - 11) So it is with world events leading up the coming judgment of God!
- b. What is so different about today?
 - c. We, right now, are experiencing an increase in:
 - 1) **Wars and rumours of wars** – there have been more wars in the past century than in all of history combined
 - 2) **Famines** – they will continue to increase, no matter how hard people try and protect crops
 - 3) **Diseases/Pestilences** – more and more epidemics and pandemics (HIV, H1N1, SARS, Covid19, etc).
 - 4) **Earthquakes** – ALL OVER THE WORLD, not just in normal hot spots
 - 5) **Persecution of Christians** - the most persecuted people group today are Christians – and it is going to get worse
 - 6) **The Rise of a United Europe** - a revived Roman Empire will come to power in the end times ([Daniel 2:36-45](#), [Daniel 7](#), [Revelation 17](#)).
 - 7) **The Rise of a Global Government** ([Rev 13:1-7](#)) that will rule over “*ALL kindreds, tongues [languages], and nations*” on the face of the earth.
 - 8) **The imposition of ONE Religion** on the entire world ([Rev 13:8](#))
 - 9) **And the control of everyone economically** ([Rev 13:16-17](#)) through a numbering system called the “Mark of the Beast” ([Rev 13:16-18](#)).
 - 10) All of this is in place right NOW!
 - d. So, things will not get better and better like politicians keep promising – they will only “_____ worse and _____” ([2Tim 3:13](#))
 - e. Christianity itself will start to fall apart, and become almost powerless in the world ([2Thes 2:3](#); [Luke 18:8](#))
 - f. Do YOU see any of the above happening? **Yes / No?**
6. Does anyone know when the Rapture will happen? ([Matthew 25:13](#)). **Yes / No**
 7. So, What happens AT the moment of the Rapture?
 - a. Without any real warning, Jesus will break through the clouds from heaven and be visible only to Christians ([1Thes 4:16](#); [Titus 2:11-13](#))
 - b. Born again Christians will hear the sound of a trumpet, a **shout** from heaven saying “*come ____ hither*” ([Rev 4:1](#)) (only Christians will hear this).
 - c. All the bodies of Christians who have died since Jesus’ resurrection, will break out of their graves (no matter how long they have been dead and decayed) , and they will come back to life, and fly straight to Jesus as a resurrection of the New Testament believers ([1Thes 4:16](#)).
 - d. All the Christians who are alive at that moment, no matter where they are, will ascend straight to Jesus, being changed in an instant on their way up, leaving everything behind them ([1Thes 4:17](#)).
 - e. And so shall we “_____ *be with the Lord.*”
 - f. The whole world will just continue as it always has.
 - g. They probably won’t even wonder what happened to us!

8. *Who* and *what* shall be left behind after Christians are taken home to heaven?
- All your possessions (house, clothes, money, gold, silver, investments, car, your job). So, "*Lay up for yourselves _____ in _____.*" (Mt 6:20)
 - Your and my *unsaved* family and friends will be left behind.
 - All the unsaved will be left behind under a ***one world*** government, lead by the anti-christ with a one-world religion, and a one-world currency forming a cash-less society as seen in Rev 13:11-18. (The anti-christ will be leading the world against God and Israel).



C. The Tribulation

- This is a **seven year** period of troublesome time that will begin right after the Rapture of Christians to heaven.
 - During this time, the antichrist (also called *the Beast*) will actually take over the entire world (Rev 13:1-9).
 - There will be at least two more world wars that will be fought during this time.
 - The Jewish people will be severely persecuted again and have to run for their lives to escape the anti-christ's wrath.
 - And there will be plagues and sufferings like there have never been (Mt 24:21)!
 - The time of the Tribulation is referred to as "*_____ trouble*" (Jer 30:7).
 - The Tribulation is directed at the Jews, to get them to repent. Not at Christians.
 - The Tribulation is directed at the world, to judge it with God's wrath.
 - There are no Christians living now who will go through the Tribulation (1Thes 5:9)!
- The Great Deception (2Thess 2:1-12)
 - At the time of the Rapture, God will send "*strong _____*" into the world to make people believe only lies.
 - No one left here on earth will believe the Bible, or Jesus at all.
 - They will ALL start to follow the antichrist, believing HE is the promised Messiah, and that Jesus was a fraud.
- How Long will the Tribulation last? Seven years
 - Daniel's last week of Man's History, each day a year
 - Seven years of ever increasing Hell on Earth
 - Until the day of Christ's Second Coming! Called Armageddon!
- There are Actually Two Tribulations (Mat 24:29, 21)
 - The seven years are divided into two halves of 42 months each (3 ½ years)

- b. The first half is the build-up to the crowning of the antichrist in a rebuilt Jewish temple, in Jerusalem. It is simply called the Tribulation when an antichrist shall rise to political power
 - c. Right until the Middle of the week of years comes the *Abomination of Desolation* (Mt 24:15-22) when the antichrist will set himself up as "_____" on the throne of the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies in the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem (2Thes 2:3,4).
 - d. The second half is the wrath of God, mixed with the wrath of Satan, and poured out on the entire world. This is the beginning of the GREAT Tribulation!
5. Right in the middle of the seven years, *144,000 Jewish Gospel witnesses* will boldly testify of the Gospel during the last half of the Tribulation, and will turn many people to repentance (Rev 7:1-8; 14:1-5). Note that these are *male, virgin Jews*, and not people from the Jehovah's Witnesses!
 6. While all that is happening on the earth, here is what's occurring in heaven:
 - a. Christians are receiving their **rewards** for serving Him (2Cor 5:10; 1Cor 3:10-15). This is called *the Judgment Seat of Christ*.
 - b. Then follows a grand feast called the *Marriage Supper* when Christians will be united with Jesus Christ in heaven (Rev 19:1-9).

D. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Rev 19:11-15) – Armageddon

1. As far as sinners are concerned, the most important subject in the Bible is that of Salvation, and Jesus Christ's *first* coming as Saviour to die on the cross. Yet, as far as God is concerned, the most important subject is Jesus Christ's *second* coming as Sovereign King to literally rule and reign on earth for 1000 years with Satan defeated, and paradise RESTORED.
2. This "*day*" is THE MOST discussed topic in the Bible. It is the day when good finally wins over evil; when everything that is wrong is made right; when God personally takes care of the Devil! This "day" is always referred to in the Bible as a BATTLE with great devastation and calamity. It is called, *the day of the Lord* (Joel 1:15; 2:1,2)!
 - a. This battle takes no more that 24 hours to complete!
 - b. The battle involves *burning up the _____* (Mal 4:1-3)
 - c. The battle will be fought in *Armageddon*, the Valley of Jehosephat (Rev 16:16; Joel 3:9-16; see also Micah 4:3).
 - d. The battle is in reaction to Jerusalem being taken over by the antichrist (Zech 14:1-9).
 - e. The "deceiver" of the world (the antichrist) will be captured and "*cast alive into a _____*" (Rev 19:20), Satan himself will follow later.

PRINCIPLE: THERE WILL BE NO PEACE ON EARTH UNTIL THE PRINCE OF PEACE COMES BACK, AND BY A FINAL DECISIVE BATTLE, BRINGS REAL PEACE!!!

3. Thank God none of us will have to endure such an event – all because of GRACE!

E. The Millennial (1,000 year) Kingdom of Heaven on Earth (Rev 20:1-4).

1. This is a time that Christ will rule and reign on the earth for _____ years.
2. During this time, there will be real peace on this earth.
3. The entire earth will be like, Paradise restored (Isaiah 11:4-9)!
4. Satan will be bound in Hell for the duration of Christ's kingdom (Rev 20:1,2).

5. And all the saints will rule and reign *with* Christ on the earth at this time (Luke 19:12-27; 1Cor 6:1-3).
6. What will YOU probably be doing during Christ's kingdom?
7. Your reward will be based upon your efforts NOW!

F. The End of this World

1. There is one final battle, bigger than Armageddon even. It is called the Battle of "_____ and Magog" (Rev 20:7-11).
2. During the Millennium, man has been allowed to return to paradise, and yet, he will still desire to go back to his "old sinful ways", just as the children of Israel wanted to "go back to Egypt!"
3. It is at the end of the 1,000 year reign of Christ that Satan will do his finalé by leading a final rebellion.
4. He will fail, and will finally, and completely be cut off from ever "infecting" this universe again, by being thrown into the "*lake of _____*", where he will be tormented for how long? _____

G. The Great White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11-15).

1. It is at this judgment that all of humanity, from wicked Cain to those born in the Millennium who rejected God's salvation, will stand before God (Gen 4:8; 1John 3:12) to be judged according to their works.
2. At this judgment, all the unsaved people will give an account of their "works" to see how well they match up with Christ's work on the cross. God will allow everyone to have their say, and try and justify their sins. But of their name is not written in the Lamb's Book of "_____", they will face God's righteous judgment for ever!
3. They will realize that there is no comparison, and will then be cast into the Lake of Fire to join *their god, Satan*, while Christians will spend all eternity with *their God*! A person's eternal end is determined by *who* their God is (Eph 2:1-7).

H. The New Heaven, New Earth, and the New Jerusalem (Rev 21:1-3, 22:1-5)!

1. No longer will God be separated from man because of sin! The barriers between heaven and earth are done away, and God and man will forever be together in a new universe not infected with sin!
2. The new earth will be perfect and eternal – it will never pass away.
3. And the New Jerusalem will be the Christian's home for ever, full of mansions with room for everyone (John 14:2,3)!

VI. What Should We Do While We Are Waiting For Jesus to Come Back?

- A. Realize that Jesus could return right now! So we should live for him 100%.
- B. We should live holy and godly
- C. We should be expecting Him to come for us any minute
- D. We should be listening for His shout, and the sound of a loud trumpet from the sky
- E. Ask God to use you to save your relatives, and to make you a soul winner!
- F. Paul said in 2Tim 4:8 "*Henceforth there is laid up for me a _____ of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his _____.*"
- G. Jesus says in Rev 22:20, "*...Surely I come _____.* Amen. Even so, _____ Lord _____." Make that your prayer as well!

Date Lesson Completed _____

Discipler _____

DISCIPLESHIP

A Study of The Ministry of Discipleship - Feeding Hungry Hearts

Lesson Twenty One

Memory Verse: *Romans 12:11*

Lesson Verse: *2Timothy 2:2*

"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."
2Timothy 2:2

I. Introduction

- A. There is no shortage of Biblical materials in our Western world: Bibles, books, tapes, Gospel tracts, study helps, and the like are found in plentiful supply. If there is a missing ingredient, it is the process of *Biblical discipleship*, i.e., a loving, caring, selfless Christian, who is committed to teach another person "*all things whatsoever Jesus commanded*" (*Matt 28:20*).
- B. The purpose of this lesson is to acquaint the Christian with the principles and importance of Biblical discipleship. Revival, evangelism, discipleship and missions are the life-blood of the church, and are all energized only by effectual, fervent prayer, in a spirit of charity.
- C. Up to this point, you have been *discipled*. With the completion of this study lesson, you will see the importance for you to go and yourself become a *discipler*!

II. Discipleship's Purpose

- A. As you now know, all Christians are not disciples! Discipleship, like salvation involves a conscious decision to follow the Saviour, no matter what the cost (*Lk 14:26-33*). You became a Christian when the word of God was extended to you through someone who cared to tell you about the gospel. Becoming a disciple of Jesus was the next step for you after you got saved. But now the Lord extends His word through you to reach others, and to disciple them.
- B. There are five primary goals that serve to fulfill the Biblical command of what we call the "Great Commission" of *Matthew 28:19,20*. They are the very purpose of us being on earth, and are as follows:
 - 1. Evangelize the **lost** (*Acts 1:8; 26:18; Mark 16:15*) - bring them to repentance, and total dependence upon Christ.
 - 2. Establish growing **churches** by gathering together regularly to worship God, and minister to one another (*Acts 11:19-26*). This means more than Christians just getting together for fellowship, but as a unified body of believers, set on growing, and living the Christian life!
 - 3. Build-up (strengthen) the disciples of Christ (*Mt 28:18-20; Eph 4:11-16; 2Tim 2:2*). This is discipleship's role!
 - 4. Bring churches and disciples to **Christ-likeness** (*Rom 8:29; Gal 4:19*) - become mature! This takes a lot of time, and personal experience.
 - 5. Bring **glory** to God (*Rom 11:36; 1Cor 10:31; Isa 43:7*). All that we as Christians do is to bring glory to God!

III. Where Discipleship Fits in a Christian’s Life

- A. Although Christ certainly evangelized and established His church, He never built what we would call a "big" church during His ministry, for it was not His immediate intention to do so. His goal was to leave behind **twelve men** that could do what He had done, and reproduce it on a world-wide scale until He returned (Jn 14:12).
- B. In the establishment of New Testament churches, Paul the apostle understood and taught this principle when he said, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same _____ **thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also**" (2Tim 2:2). The command being, what you have learned and lived, now must be taught to someone else!
- C. Jesus said in Matthew 28:20, "_____ **them to observe all things...**" This is not only to be from the pulpit, but rather by way of a personal, people-oriented process, *one-on-one*! It cannot only be done by the Pastor!
- D. Let’s compare what Discipleship IS, and what it is NOT:

Discipleship is NOT...	Discipleship IS...
an activity	an attitude
a programme	a philosophy – a way of thinking
a series of book-lessons	a way of life
education only	edification and exhortation
instructions only	your life, a living example
a handbook	a heart to heart ministry
a rapid formula	a long lasting relationship

- E. Discipleship is intended to establish all new Christians in the following Four *Foundations* of the Christian life:
 1. In the _____ of God (Matthew 4:4)
 2. In fellowship with other _____ (Hebrews 10:25)
 3. In the structure of the New Testament _____ (1Cor 12:27)
 4. In the ministry for Christ (Romans 12:11)

You may remember, the above four areas were covered in the previous pages of this Discipleship Study Guide.

IV. What Discipleship Accomplishes

- A. Discipleship establishes the new Christian in the foundational truths of Biblical Christianity (the principles you have learned over the previous lessons).
- B. Discipleship provides the new Christian with a caring, comforting friend to help him through the difficulties of spiritual transformation from baby to mature. You have been helped along by your discipler, but are now becoming ready to fill the role of a caring and comforting discipler yourself.
- C. Discipleship affords the new Christian additional spiritual protection through the counsel and prayer support of a mature Christian.
- D. Discipleship provides mutual accountability between you and your new disciple, which will help keep you motivated, and will motivate your disciple to grow in Christ, and walk in faith.
- E. Discipleship provides personal Christian fellowship, which you know to be so important for a new Christian to have.
- F. Discipleship provides encouragement while the world goes out of its way to attack and discourage all young disciples of the Lord.

- G. Discipleship also brings the new Christian to "perfection" or maturity in Christ, so that he or she also becomes a discipler of the Lord Jesus.

V. How Discipleship Works

- A. Christ started with 12 students. Those twelve men took Christ's words to the world and turned it " down" (Acts 17:6).
- B. If every Christian, who has repented of their sins, and asked Christ to save them (Rom 10:13), would become a disciple in order to become a Discipler, then the world could be turned to Christ in just 65 years. Watch:

Year 1 You get saved and get into a Bible preaching church, and get under a Discipler, or Mentor. You start with just **2** (you and your Discipler) - that is all you need!

Year 3 You finish being discipled, and then win someone else to Christ, and get them into church, and begin to train them. Your previous discipler also goes and turns someone to Christ, and starts discipling them. Now there are **4** Christians.

Year 5 You encourage your disciple to reproduce himself, and you go and get another person saved, and in discipleship. There would then be **8** Christians. Not a lot to show for 5 years, but watch.

Year 7 There would now be **16**, strong, dedicated, Christians who would be the basis for a very strong and vibrant church, reaching out and affecting the world for Christ!

- C. This goes on with everyone, every two years winning someone else to Christ, training them in the Bible, and then encouraging them to win someone and train them, and so on, until year 65, when **8,589,934,592** will have been reached!
- D. The above number is based upon *every* Christian doing his or her part, and on every Christian living more than 65 years! Obviously, that won't happen, but truly, we can do what Christ said must be done, even with 6 billion people on this planet - but only if we would set out to do it with all our heart (Dt 5:29; Luke 1:37)!

VI. What Discipleship Involves

Luke 9:23 can be correctly called **the Disciple's Motto**, and expresses what Discipleship involves for both the discipler and the disciple.

- A. "*If man...*" - Your Desire - especially if you are a Christian!
- B. "*will come after me...*" - Your Decision - It is up to you if you will or not
- C. "*let him himself...*" - Your Denial - *Make the necessary time*
- D. "*take up his cross daily...*" - Your Dedication to the cross instead of a crown.
- E. "*and me...*" - Your Determination to keep your eyes on Jesus, no matter how hard the path becomes.

VII. So, How Can You Be a Discipler?

- A. **Teach a Sunday School Class in church.** No matter what age group you teach, you will be making investments into lives that will last an eternity.
- B. **Be a committed friend to a new Christian.** Listen to them and work with them through their struggles in prayer, and discussion, always encouraging them that they are not alone, and that with a full confidence in Christ, they cannot fail!
- C. **Provide helpful materials.** Use select videos and maybe cassette tapes that have helpful information for new Christians. Get these from your church, or maybe purchase them yourself, so that you have them on hand.

- D. **Use this or another Discipleship Course.** You have worked all the way through these lessons, so you at least are familiar with the material. You would need to go back through the material before each time you meet with a spiritually hungry Christian. If you are not confident in understanding certain things, then, pray and search out the answers, or call on the Pastor.
- E. **Have your own Bible Study.** Ask the pastor to help you start up a simple Bible study in your home, or at work during breaks. There may be an opportunity for you to regularly get together with another young Christian in God's word, feeding them, and training them in living the Christian life. Hey, if you have the time, use it wisely *for the Lord!* Don't leave it only to the pastor, or his wife!

VIII. The Final Challenge is *to You!*

Just as you have been disciplined...

Go, and do thou likewise!

Lead someone to Christ, and then disciple THEM!

<i>Date Lesson Completed</i> _____	<i>Discipler</i> _____
------------------------------------	------------------------

Section FOUR Test

The Ministry For Christ

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

SCORE: _____

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

1. Write out *word-perfect* **Romans 12:11** _____
2. There are three parts to Christ's Great Commission in **Matthew 28:18,19**. List them:
 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____
3. There are many reasons why Christians are commanded to take the Gospel to this world. List one: _____
4. When you are witnessing to a person, what is the Holy Spirit trying to do in their heart?

5. When you go soul-winning, list some things that you should have on hand:

6. What must the sinner realise about themselves before they can be saved?

7. What are the two things that a sinner must do in their heart to be saved?
 1) _____ 2) _____
8. Concerning employment, the Christian is really, always serving who?

9. Is it important how a Christians acts and reacts on the job? _____. Explain why:

10. Are there limits to what a Christian can be asked to do on a job (i.e., selling liquors, manufacturing idols, lying for the boss, etc.)? _____. Explain how you know where to draw the line?

11. Should you expect to draw persecution on the job when you hide your Christianity?

12. List the two kinds of wines in the Bible: 1) _____, 2) _____
13. According to **Proverbs 20:1**, what mocks the drinker? Drunkenness, or the wine itself?

14. God compares leaven (yeast) to what? _____
15. God says that a Christian is to use alcoholic wine for what general purpose (that is, if they have no other resource available)? _____
16. A Christian can drink as long as it is in moderation: **True**, or **False** (circle one)
17. Can an alcoholic get complete victory over alcoholism? **Yes**, or **No** (circle one)
18. According to **Romans 6:14**, "*sin shall not have _____ over you.*"
19. Define *ambition*: _____
20. Can Christians have right ambitions? _____
21. Define the word evolution: _____
22. What event do evolutionists believe started this universe? _____

THE FIRST PRINCIPLES Discipleship

23. There are many scientific laws that totally disprove evolution. Give one of those laws:

24. How many days did it take to fashion this entire universe? _____

25. List something new that can be *created* right now? _____

26. How old is this earth, if we go according to the biblical record? _____

27. Dinosaurs are described best in what book of the Bible? _____

28. List the three heavens: 1) _____ 2) _____

3) _____

29. A Christian's place in heaven is in a city called the _____ Jerusalem.

30. Explain why did God create hell? _____

31. Give a brief description of hell: _____

32. What Scripture can best be used to describe hell? _____

33. How long will the lost be in hell? _____

34. What is the next event that the Christian is to be looking forward to? _____

35. How long will the Tribulation last? _____

36. Who are the 144,000 witnesses in the Tribulation? _____

37. Explain the Judgment Seat of Christ: _____

38. The Second Coming of Christ is referred to as the Battle of _____

39. The Second Coming is also referred throughout the Old Testament as "*the day of the _____*."

40. What period of time follows the Tribulation, and the Second Coming of Christ?

41. How long will the Millennium last? _____

42. Who will rule the world during the Millennium? _____

43. At the end of the world, there is a final judgment called the Great _____ Throne judgment. Who will be there? _____

44. There will be three new things after the end of the world. What are they?

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

45. Once a person has been discipled, it is now their privilege and purpose to become a what? _____

46. When Christ sent out his disciples, they basically turned the world _____ down. How many people had been discipled by Christ? _____

47. If every born again Christian did their part in soul-winning, and discipling, is it possible to reach the world in our lifetime? _____

Well Done!

FINAL REVIEW

Let's check to see whether you have grown spiritually since we began this Study Course...

1. Have you been born again, the Bible way? **Yes, No.** When? _____
2. Have you been baptized? **Yes, No.** When? _____
3. Have you read your Bible all the way through yet? **Yes, No.**
4. What Book in the Bible are you reading currently? _____
5. Are you committed to reading your Bible through every year? **Yes, No.**
6. Do you believe the King James Bible is the *preserved* word of God in the English language? **Yes, No.**
7. Have you memorized the four main memory verses listed so far? **Yes, No.**
8. Please give the four main memory verse locations: 1) _____ 2) _____
3) _____ 4) _____
9. How many Scriptures would you guess have you memorized so far? _____
10. Are you faithful in attending church (every Sunday possible)? **Yes, No.**
11. Are you setting aside time for, and actually praying almost every day? **Yes, No.**
12. Is God answering your prayers? **Yes, No.**
13. List a recently answered prayer: _____

14. Is there anyone in your life you are currently having problems with? **Yes, No.**
15. Are you letting that person hold you back from serving the Lord with your whole heart and life? **Yes, No.**
16. Is your home-life developing, and becoming more Christian? **Yes, No.**
17. Are you tithing? **Yes, No.**
18. Have you led anyone to Christ since starting this discipleship course? **Yes, No.**
19. Name one person you have led to Christ recently _____
20. Name a person that you are burdened about their salvation _____
21. Have you started to disciple anyone since you completed this discipleship course? **Yes, No.**
22. Have you determined what God's will is for your life? **Yes, No.**
23. If yes, what is it? _____
24. Have you found something to do as a ministry in church? **Yes, no.** If so, what is it?

**You have now completed the entire First Principles Bible Study Course!
Praise God!**

You have come a long way for Christ!

**Never Stop Growing!
Read your Bible
Faithfully attend Church meetings
Evangelize
Pray about everything
and do everything you do
will all your might!**

MEMORY AND LESSON VERSE LIST

A List of All Memory Verses Given in This Study Guide

The following list is provided to help you remember both the Scripture verses and their theme that was the basis for each of the lessons in this Discipleship series. Please take the moment and make sure that you have all of the following verses memorized, and that they are copied onto your Scripture memorization cards for later review. These verses will come in handy so many times in the future, and when used as the weapons that God intended them to be against temptations and doubts, they will establish you as a true light in this dark world.

Lesson Number	Subject	Memory Verse	Lesson Verse
1	Biblical Salvation	Matthew 4:4	1 John 5:12
2	Eternal Security	<i>The Word of God</i>	1 John 5:13
3	Believer's Baptism		Acts 2:41
4	The Word of God		Hebrews 4:12
5	Bible Study Techniques		2Timothy 2:15
6	The New Testament Church		Hebrews 10:25
7	Bible Memorization	<i>Fellowship With Other Believers</i>	Psalms 119:11
8	Knowing God		1Peter 1:8
9	Praise and Worship		Psalms 9:1,2
10	The Lord's Supper		1Cor 11:26
11	Prayer	1 Corinthians 12:27	Psalms 5:2
12	The Will of God	<i>The Structure of the Church</i>	Romans 12:1,2
13	Spiritual Warfare		1Cor 10:13
14	The Christian Family		Genesis 1:27
15	Finances		Philp 4:19
16	Personal Evangelism	Romans 12:11	Mark 16:15
17	Wine and Strong Drink	<i>The Ministry of Christ</i>	Proverbs 20:1
18	My Job and Employer		1Cor 10:31
19	Creation and Evolution		Genesis 1:1
20	The Future		Isaiah 46:9
21	Discipleship		2Timothy 2:2

This completes the **First Principles** Discipleship Lesson Course. The next stage of your growth involves either the study of individual Books of the Bible, or the next series of Lessons called **Practical Doctrine**. Contact your pastor or Discipleship Director for more information and his recommendation.