

SECTION ONE

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

The Word of God

Memory Verse:

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

To understand, and memorize this Scripture verse, read Matthew Chapter 4, verses 1 through 4, asking yourself:

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

Knowing the answers to these three questions will help you easily understand each portion of Scripture you read - there is no better way to learn!

In this Section, you will study the following Subjects:

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

BIBLICAL SALVATION

Lesson One

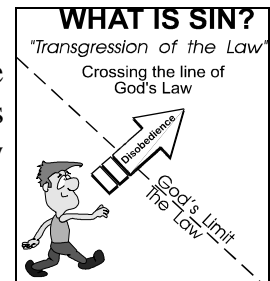
Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

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

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

I. Introduction

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



II. Is Anyone “Good?”

- A. The *spiritual* condition of **everyone** is described as what? Look in **Romans 3:10**, and **23**, where we are described as _____.
- B. What does the Bible say “**sin**” is? (**1 John 3:4**) _____
 _____ . To “*trans-gress*” is to “cross a line” that God laid-out showing what is right and wrong. When we cross **His** laws (break through them), we sin. We call it “breaking God’s laws.” Everybody could be doing something, but if God said NOT to do it, and we go ahead anyway, then we have sinned.
- C. God says, “*There is _____ righteous; no not one*” (**Romans 3:10**).

III. God’s Absolute Laws of Right and Wrong



- A. Most everyone agrees we all break a few of God’s laws here and there, but almost nobody believes they are enough to keep us out of heaven. The Bible says otherwise!
- B. God laid out the requirements for entrance into His heaven in a simple list, and that requirement is perfection - having NO sin in us at all
- C. If you think you don’t sin, then God says you are _____ (**1 John 1:8**)!
- D. To be classified as a sinner does not only mean being a *murderer*, or a *thief*, but it means when a person does ANY sin (**James 2:9,10**; like stealing, cursing, rebelling, hating, dishonouring, coveting, etc.). Therefore, anyone who sins at all, is a **sinner** in God’s eyes, and needs to be saved.
- E. Compare this truth to a tree – a small tree can be known for what it is, even when it has no fruit. The fruit (let’s say, apples) comes later, but it produces apples because it is an APPLE tree. A sinner *sins* because he is a *sinner*.
- F. If you want to try and prove that you don’t sin, take the following test:

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

- G. The above list is not anything new. What do we call this list? Not the Ten Suggestions, but God's Ten _____. You find this list in every Bible in **Exodus chapter 20, from verses 1 through 17.**
- H. Note that if you ticked NEVER in number 6 above, remember that God says "*Whoever _____ his brother is a _____: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.*" (**1John 3:15**)
- I. If you ticked NEVER in number 7 above, remember that Jesus said, "*But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to _____ after her hath committed _____ with her already in his heart.*" (**Matthew 5:28**).
- J. Even if you only ticked a few of the above **NEVERS**, then you are a pretty good person in man's eyes, but in God's eyes, you still are a **SINNER** (a law breaker) and you have proven God to be correct, and ought to now realise the truth that you need something to save you from the coming penalty on sin.

IV. The Need for Salvation

- A. Ok, so we are sinners – we break God's laws. So what? Well, there is a **BIG** penalty for all our sins. What is that **penalty**? _____ (**Romans 6:23**).
- B. "Wages" are what we earn - they are the result of our actions. Every sin we commit, we earn **DEATH**. Not what we want is it?
- C. Death may be the end of life, but not the end of a person's existence. What lies ahead of every person is **eternity**. If a person dies in their sins, they are condemned to an **eternity** in hell.
1. The Bible says *hell* is a place where Satan, his angels, and all unbelieving people will spend **eternity** suffering eternal punishment and separation from God.
 2. It is no joking matter: There are 162 references to hell in the New Testament alone, and 70 of these were made by Jesus himself! They include: **Matthew 13:41,42; 5:29,30; 10:28; 11:23,24; 16:18; James 3:6; Revelation 20:13,14.**
- D. **But WHY did God create Hell?** God created hell because He is a righteous and holy God and cannot allow *sin* in His Heaven. Since all men are sinners, **Jesus** came into the world to save man from hell's punishment by living a perfect sinless life, die a substitutionary death, be buried and then raised again by God. All this so sinners could receive the free gift of eternal _____ (**Rom 6:23**) and thus have free access to heaven. It is by Jesus' *finished work* on the cross that sinners such as you and I are allowed into Heaven. But those who do not accept Christ's gift and trust only in Him are destined to go to hell because they are still in their sins (**John 3:18,36; 1 Cor 15:16,17**).

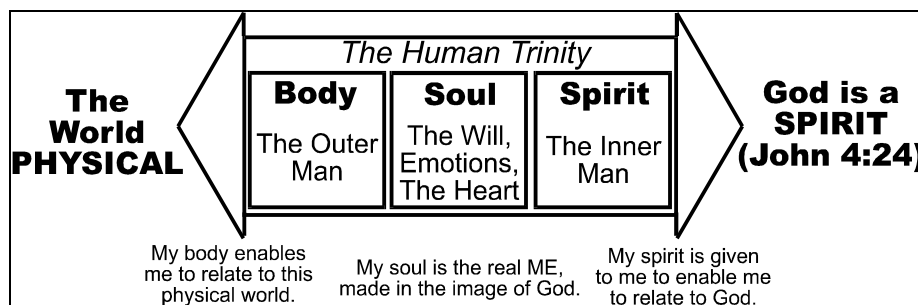
V. The Way of Salvation is found in a Person, Not a Religion

- A. What did God provide for us when His Son died?
1. "_____ *life*" (**John 3:16,17**), instead of an eternity in hell!
 2. But to get it, we must be "*born _____*" (**John 3:3,7**).
 3. Read **Romans 6:23** again. Thankfully, God doesn't just show us our condition, and abandon us – He offers us a free "_____." The "_____ *of God*" (which cannot be earned) is the opposite of the wages of our sin!
 4. Specifically, that free GIFT is called, "_____ *life*."
- B. It is given to us freely, requiring a *committed choice* on our part **to accept it**.
- C. It is provided **FREE** to you through the willingness of Jesus Christ to take your and my place in death and judgment on the cross! There is no other way to heaven than *through Jesus alone* (**John 14:6**)!

- D. **Ephesians 2:8,9**, says it is **impossible** for a sinner to save themselves from the penalty of their sin through *good works*!
1. Notice it is “*not of _____, lest any man should boast.*”
 2. Notice also that it is “*not by works of _____...*” (**Titus 3:5**)
 3. It is only obtained by surrender - allow Jesus to do all the saving of your soul - no longer trying to do all the right things to earn heaven. Stop working at being good, and accept what Jesus did for you in your place.
- E. **One great truth to appreciate** - The theme of the Bible from start to finish is all about “*the _____ of God which taketh away the _____ of the world*” (**John 1:29**). **Jesus** is our sin-substitute so that we can be saved!

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

- A. Our first birth is our **PHYSICAL** birth (read all of **John 3:1-7**):
1. The first birth is a **water** birth (**John 3:5**). It is not baptism. We start in water. Every human is born out of a *water sack* in the womb.
 2. Your first birth comes from your *physical* parents. Their “flesh” produced your _____ (**John 3:6**). It is only a human life – not eternal.
 3. Take a look at the chart below. You are the box in the middle, between the physical world around us, and God.
 - a. Your body is what God gave you to interact with this world
 - b. Your spirit is what God gave you to interact with Him
 - c. Your soul is the real you – the part that feels, wishes, dreams, and chooses
4. The real you (your soul) is in the centre – using your body to interact with, and relate to this world. Your soul uses your spirit to interact with God.
 5. We are spiritual beings as much as we are physical beings.



6. What is the Soul?
 - a. The soul is part of the trinity of man (**1Thes 5:23**). Each part is vital, but Jesus said the _____ is the most important (**Mt 16:26**)
 - b. It is called the *hidden* or the *inner man* (**1Pet 3:3,4; 2Cor 4:16-18**)
 - c. The soul is the source of your emotions, your will, the ability to reason, and understand. It is your awareness of yourself.
 - d. In other words, your soul is **the real you** – what you really are, what you think, how you feel, and why you feel that way.
 - e. It is separate from the body – an immaterial, invisible part of you (**2Cor 4:18**).
7. Everything would be fine, except the part of you that is supposed to be able to communicate with God (your spirit) is DEAD. Sin by our first parents killed that part of us on the inside (**Gen 2:17**). The only way to *regenerate* the spirit is by being born again, but this time, on the inside!

B. The second birth is your **SPIRITUAL** birth (John 3:5,6):

1. This birth can only come from God. John 4:24 says that “*God is a _____.*” He is not *flesh* like we humans are. According to John 3:6, His Spirit will produce _____ in the life of a sinner if they would just fully believe on His Son, Jesus Christ (John 7:37-39)!
2. The second birth involves trusting God’s _____ to be **true** (1Peter 1:23). You *can* fully and completely trust the death of Jesus Christ to be your payment for your sin, **because** God said in His word you could, and that He would give you as a free gift, eternal salvation - eternal life!
3. If you didn’t have God’s perfect word to trust, how could you know what to believe at all? Everyone’s guess would be as good as another’s.

C. Therefore, there are only two “births” that a person can experience.

1. The first birth gives only temporary life - it came from temporary parents. It ends in death because of sin (Rom 5:12).
2. The second birth is only experienced by a person who turns to Christ for **salvation from** sin. It *never ends* because it came from an eternal Parent.
3. The first birth makes you physically a child of your parents. The second birth makes you spiritually and eternally a child of ____ (John 1:11,12).

D. A person desperately needs Jesus Christ, because without Him, there is **no other** _____ to God (John 14:6). Can’t look to Allah, or Buddha, etc!

1. It is SIN that _____ all of humanity from God (Isaiah 59:2).
2. If a person dies without having their sin paid-off by faith in what Jesus Christ did on the cross, there is only one destiny for them (John 3:36; Matthew 23:33; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10-15).
 - a. What is that destiny? _____
 - b. That’s why God calls upon everyone everywhere to _____ (Acts 17:30) and be saved when? _____ (2 Corinthians 6:2)

E. Salvation is NOT a "process" - it is **instantly** given (Luke 18:9-14). There is always a process to the humbling of a person, but when they know they are lost, and in need of forgiveness, once salvation is asked for, it is instantly, and totally given as a free gift by God – because of Christ (Romans 6:23)!!!

F. What must a person do in order to be saved from hell (born again)?

1. _____ (Acts 20:20,21; 2 Peter 3:9). Repentance is a determined **choice** to turn away FROM sin, and turn TO Jesus Christ for salvation. It is being **very sorry** for your sin, and hating it! This is different from “*penance*” which is you trying to PAY for your sinfulness. You cannot do anything to pay for sins - **only Jesus can!**
2. _____ (John 1:11,12; John 5:24; Acts 16:30,31).
 - a. What does it mean to “*believe on Jesus?*”
 - 1) Not just agree with the Bible with our head (even “*the devils also _____, and tremble*”; James 2:19)
 - 2) But to understand from the heart that the only payment that God will accept for your sins is the death of Jesus Christ in your place (1 John 2:1,2; 5:4,5).
 - 3) To accept His payment for your sins is when you allow Him to come into your heart and save you FROM your sins!

- b. The word “**propitiation**” in 1 John 2:2, means “*full payment.*” God had to do more than just “forgive” sins, He had to completely pay-off all the broken laws that had mounted up against us, and that is what Jesus’ death did - it paid *in full* all our sin debt!
- G. Read carefully Romans 10:13,17. Can you be **sure** Christ will save you if you ask Him to do so? **Yes**, or **No**
1. Would you agree that if **God said it - that should settle it?** Then believe it! That is all Jesus asks of us – just believe with all our heart!
 2. Faith is “*confidence*” in God’s promise, that He will never lie to you! He promises in His word over and over that He can and will save you!

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

VII. The Four ‘R’s of Salvation - Learn these well!

- A. **Realize** you are a sinner, and without the necessary righteousness to earn your entrance into heaven (Romans 3:23). None of us are good enough to go as we are! We have to be **changed** from condemned to forgiven. Remember that God’s law proves that we sin, and proves that we are in eternal trouble with God because of our sin!
- B. **Recognize** that you cannot save yourself, and that you need God's specific intervention (Titus 3:5). None of us have the ability to pay off our sins, no matter how much we try! No one can ever be "good enough!"
- C. **Repent** of your old life, and all the sin that filled it (become disgusted with your sin and flee from it to God), and give all that you are to the One who loves you and gave Himself for you on the cross (2 Corinthians 7:10). You can’t truly repent unless you see yourself as a sinner separated from God by your own sin, and realize the only eternity for you is in hell (John 3:36).
Once you have repented, you are then empty, and ready to...
- D. **Receive** the free gift of eternal life from God by *faith*, asking in prayer for God to save you because of Jesus (John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8,9; Romans 10:13)! You need to ask *specifically* to be saved - don’t be vague or shy with God! And remember: you can ask simply because Jesus Christ paid for it, for you!

Nothing could be simpler, and yet eternity hangs in the balance!

VIII. The Completion of A Person’s Salvation

- A. Is salvation ever dependent upon our ability to live *perfect* and *holy* lives? (see Galatians 3:11) **Yes** or **No**? Remember, salvation is NOT a “continual” process, but rather **a one-time event**, that changes your destiny forever! Just like your first birth was a one time event, so also is your second birth!
- B. Who is it that *intercedes* (helps us) with God on behalf of a Christian who yields to temptation in a time of weakness? (1 John 2:1,2) _____. Even a Christian can sin. A Christian is not perfect, only forgiven.
- C. We therefore can **never** *lose* our salvation once we have been born again! (Romans 8:37-39; John 10:27-29; Jude 24).
- D. Let’s examine why not!

1. Because we have been **Adopted** into God's family - taken from being condemned sinners, and made into *children of God*, and heirs of everything that God has (**Romans 8:15-17**)! We are in God's *family* now!
2. Because we are **Forgiven** - **all** our sins (past, present and future) were paid-for completely at the cross by Jesus Christ! There is NO further payment necessary for us to pay (**Ephesians 1:7; Acts 26:18**)!
3. Because we have been **Justified** - we *exchange* our sinfulness for the righteousness of Jesus Christ (**Acts 13:38,39; 2 Corinthians 5:21**)!!!

IX. Dealing With Sin Once You Are Already Saved

- A. Can a Christian be happy while *disobeying* God? **Yes** or **No**?
1. Notice how it will affect us (**Psalm 32:2-5**) When you keep silent about your sin (**Iniquity** is another word for sin):
 - a. You will *age* faster.
 - b. God's _____ will be hard against you, not blessing you.
 - c. You will basically "dry up" like a desert.
 2. See in **Hebrews 12:5-11** where God always endeavours to make us mature, and holy in our lives by _____ us when we sin.
 - a. Chastening means "correcting" NOT punishing. God brings trouble into your life to get you back "*on the strait (hard path) and narrow*"
 - b. God chastens His children because He _____ them.
 - c. If a person never experiences God's **chastisement**, it is evident that person never became a Christian at all and is a _____ (**Heb 12:8**) – God calls them *illegitimate* – not the real thing – a faker).
- B. What should a believer do when they sin? (**1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13**) _____ and _____. To "confess" means to **agree** with God about the sinfulness of your life, and especially specific acts where you broke His direct commandments!

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

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

Date Lesson Completed _____ Discipled _____

ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER

Lesson Two

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

Lesson Verse: *1 John 5:13*

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

I. Introduction - "Now that I am saved, can I ever *LOSE* my salvation?"

Once a person has settled the question of salvation as the Bible declares it - *by grace through faith in the Saviour Jesus Christ* - it is imperative that he understands the security of that new relationship with God.

II. What Jesus Said About Your Salvation

- A. In *John 6:37*, Jesus promises that "...him that cometh to me I will in no wise _____." To "cast out" would be to reject, or cast away a sinner who comes to Christ for salvation. Jesus promises *never* to do that!
- B. *John 10:27-29* makes it clear that no man can cause you to lose your salvation. It is God that saves, and He is greater than man. Notice that Jesus gives a person _____ life, and that they shall _____ perish!
- C. Your salvation is completely **by God's grace** through your simple child-like faith, and *not by works*. It is a *gift* from God. No one can lose his salvation because **no one can earn it!** It is *freely given* on the merit of Christ's righteousness (*2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 2:8,9*), not on the basis of our own goodness (*Isaiah 64:6*). Either Christ paid for ALL your sins, or He didn't (*Hebrews 10:17*), and if He did, then when you accepted His salvation, your eternity was settled forever (see again *1 John 5:11-13*)!

III. Is There Anything That Can Separate Us From God? *Romans 8:38,39* says that **NONE** of the following can separate us from God!

- **Death** - you can't lose it when you die.
- **Life** - you can't lose it while alive.
- **Angels** - they can't take it from you.
- **Principalities** - the government and rulers can't take it away from you.
- **Powers** - no spiritual power, including the devil himself can cause you to lose it. Spiritual powers are big, but not big enough.
- **Things present** - nothing happening right now can take it away.
- **Things to come** - nothing in the future (including sins) can make you lose it.
- **Height** - nothing above you.
- **Depth** - nothing below you.
- **Nor any other creature shall be able to _____ us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Therefore, **NOTHING** can separate a believer from the love of God once we become a Christian. *Yet a Christian does still sin*. So, what effect does it have?

- A. Sins separate us in *fellowship* - not in *relationship*! Just as you can never break the relationship between a child and his or her parents, the same is true when we become a child of God (*John 1:12,13*).
 1. Your relationship with God is now a Father/son relationship by the new "birth" (*John 3:3*). Jesus teaches us to call God, "our _____" (*Matthew 6:9*) because, by your faith in Christ, *that's just what He is!*

2. Your salvation is *sealed* for all eternity with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30). To “seal” something is to “secure” it like you would a down-payment on a house, or like a package for shipping is “sealed.” The Holy Spirit is our *seal* showing that _____ owns us, and will not let anything “spoil” us (1 Corinthians 6:19,20)! Jesus will **NEVER** leave you, nor _____ you (Hebrews 13:5)!
 3. Best of all, your name is written down in heaven (Luke 10:20; Rev 20:14,15) - your reservation for your trip has already been made!
- B. A Christian can sin, and is _____ if he thinks he does not (1 John 1:8).
1. Sin, if not confessed to God *as sin* (not just a “mistake”), and if not repented of, will cause God to have to *chastise* you, (1 John 1:9; Hebrews 12:6-8), and not answer your _____ (Psalm 66:18).
 2. If your sinning goes on for very long, the Lord may just cause you to die early (check it out) because you are not living for Him (1 Corinthians 11:30-32). God is responsible for His children, and will not let us get away with sin like we used to before we were adopted into His family!

IV. What If You Don't Feel Saved?

- A. Examine your heart to see if you trusted Jesus Christ to **save** you, or are still *working* your own way to heaven (2 Corinthians 13:5). A “reprobate” is a faker, or a fraud. More people only “hope” they are Christians because they have prayed a prayer, or go to a certain church, or whatever. If you are saved, it will be because as a sinner, you simply repented and trusted Christ!
- B. Determine in your heart, that eternal life is NOT based upon *feelings*, but only on the factual truth of the word of God and your acceptance of it (1 John 3:19,20; Titus 1:2). At some point you are going to have to just believe what God said, and settle it! (1 John 2:25)

V. Things That Give Us Assurance of Salvation

Things that will develop automatically in your life now that you personally know and trust Jesus Christ!



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

Date Lesson Completed _____	Discipler _____
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BELIEVER'S BAPTISM

Lesson Three

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

Lesson Verse: *Acts 2:41*

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

I. Introduction

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

II. What is Believer's Baptism?

- A. **The meaning of the word 'Baptism.'** Let's look at what it actually means.
 1. Baptism simply means, "*to put something INTO something else*" - as in "immerse," "bury," or "submerge."
 2. Notice that 1 Corinthians 12:12,13 shows the sinner being taken from a life that had been "*IN sins*" (Eph 2:1,5), and being placed INTO Jesus Christ Himself (see also 2 Corinthians 5:17)! God didn't just give you eternal life - He actually placed you INTO eternal life Himself, which is Jesus Christ!
 3. So, there are two baptisms that need to occur in every person's life:
 - a. Spiritual baptism which happens when we are saved (placed into Jesus Christ when we ask to be saved from our sins).
 - b. Water baptism, which happens after we get saved (placed into water to show the world we are burying our old life).
 4. Answer the following questions:
 - a. Spiritual baptism is referred to as being immersed into _____.
 - b. What are we baptized *into Christ* by? (1 Cor 12:13) _____
 - c. In the Bible, baptism means what? 'sprinkling,' 'dipping,' 'pouring,' or 'immersion?' (circle the correct answer).
- B. **The importance of 'Spiritual Baptism'.** The placement of a sinner's life into Christ is what actually saves that sinner. As far as we are concerned, we are only trusting Christ to cleanse us from all sin. As far as God is concerned, we are actually being immersed into, and surrounded by our Saviour! This is the most important baptism. If you didn't get placed into Christ, then you never got saved!
- C. **The importance of 'Water Baptism'.** We have learned about Spiritual Baptism. The Bible also talks about 'water baptism.' Let's find out about it.
 1. It only occurs to those capable of 'believing' on the Lord Jesus for salvation. Therefore, only those that _____ can be baptized (Acts 8:26-39). This excludes all baby baptisms, because they can't believe! **There is not one record of**

the baptism of a baby in the Bible. Water baptism ALWAYS follows a sinner's salvation where they have been Spiritually baptized into Christ.

2. It symbolizes what happened 'inside' when a person was saved - "I died to sin (its guilt, power, and its penalty), my old life is therefore dead and buried, and I was raised to a new life IN Christ."
3. **Romans 6:3-6** describes baptism as a 3-fold *memorial*:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

See **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, where, the whole Gospel is contained in these three events, and that a person is SAVED if he or she simply trusts them to be sufficient to pay for their sins!

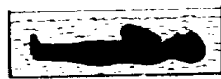
4. So, this water baptism *identifies* or *associates* the believer no longer with the old life of sin, but with Jesus Christ and His death, burial, and resurrection. It is in the same way that a uniform associates a worker with the company they work for!
5. Water baptism presents a public testimony to the world that one has accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and that they are willing to live a different life now for the Lord Jesus (**Acts 2:41**; **Romans 10:11**)!
6. So, when immersed into water in baptism, does this "wash away our sins?" (see **Ephesians 2:8,9**; **Galatians 3:11**) _____. What saves the sinner then? (see also **Ephesians 1:7**; **1John 1:7**; **Colossians 1:20**) Only the _____ of Christ can wash away our sins!
7. The apostle Paul's whole focus in life was the preaching of the Gospel - not in baptizing (**1 Cor 1:13-18**)! Not to say water baptism is not important, but that it was *secondary* to salvation - not part of salvation!

III. How Should A Person be Baptized?

- A. Just like Jesus was baptized: Jesus was not sprinkled, or poured upon, but rather *immersed* into the water. **Matthew 3:16** says, "He (Jesus) ...went **UP** straightway _____ of the water..." He had been IN it.
- B. Like ALL New Testament believers were baptized: (**Acts 8:38,39**) "... they went down both into the water... and when they were come UP out of the water..." Note that there is NO exception to this in all the Bible examples.
- C. A new Christian should be baptized in the only way that adequately pictures Christ's death, burial, and resurrection to save the sinner (See again **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, and **Romans 6:1-6**).



Death



Burial



Resurrection

IV. Why Get Baptized?

- A. Because it *testifies* to the world that you are different now (2 Corinthians 5:17), and that you are aligning your life with what the Bible says, and not with what this world and its religions say.
- B. Because my greatest example to follow was baptized. Who is this example? (Matt 3:13-16) _____
- C. Because it was the *normal practice* of the Christians in the New Testament (Acts 2:41; 8:38; 9:17,18; 10:48; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 19:4,5).
- D. Because it is God's *command*: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, _____ them..." (Matt 28:19,20). Jesus said, "If ye _____ me, keep my _____" (John 14:15).

Baptism is God’s test of a person’s sincerity of faith. If a person is not willing to go on record as having been saved by the grace of God through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, then they really are not coming to Christ for salvation, but for their own purpose. God doesn’t just want “lip service” (Matthew 15:8). He wants to know if we are really serious! We already know that He is really serious - He already *died* in our place! Will you *live* for Him?

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

V. What If I Was Baptized Already Before I Got Saved?

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

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

Date Lesson Completed _____ Discipler _____

THE WORD OF GOD

Lesson Four

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

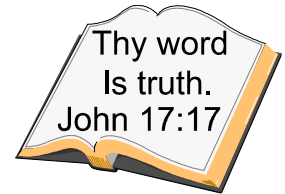
Lesson Verse: *Hebrews 4:12*

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

Hebrews 4:12

I. Introduction

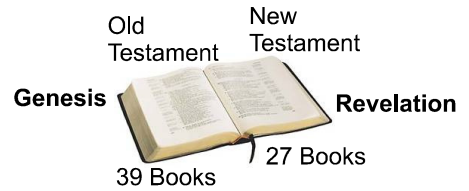
- A. What separates **Bible**-Christianity from all other types of Christianity is its claim to an absolute, written authority from God (*John 17:17*). Most "Christians" only *use* the Bible, but do not believe it completely. Having the word of God is essential because the basis by which a Christian is to govern his or her life is only found in the pages of the Holy Bible!
- B. The purpose of this lesson is to help the Christian to know what it is that they hold in their hands, and how they can trust it as *the very words of God* (*1 Thessalonians 2:13*)! We don't just "believe" the Bible is God's word, anybody can PROVE it just by checking out the accuracy of its prophecies.



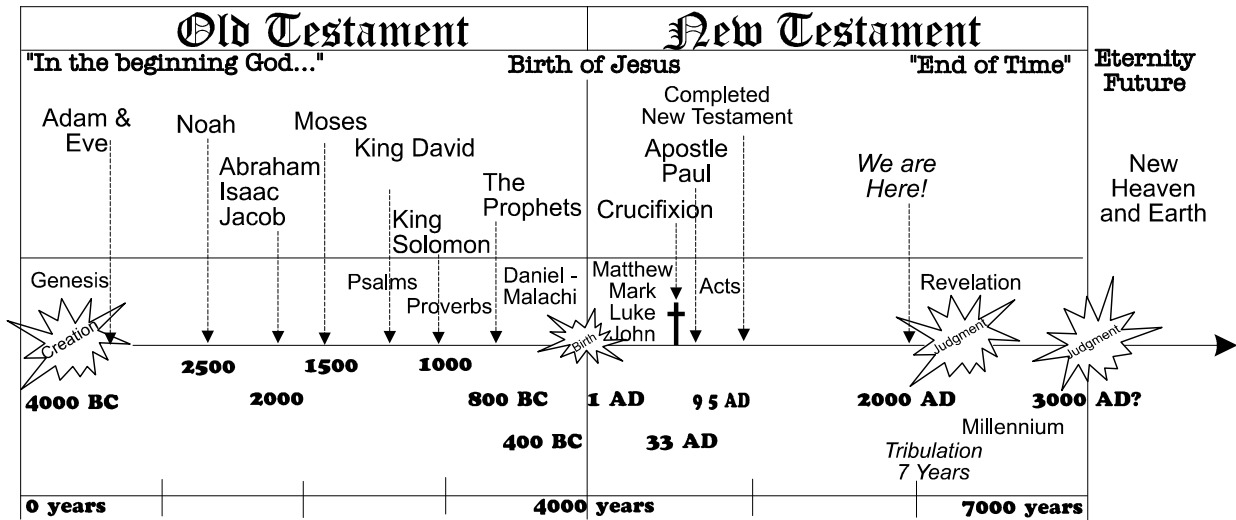
II. Bible Facts

- A. The human authors wrote each portion of the Bible by the "_____ of God" (*2 Tim 3:16*). This means God "breathed" (spoke) His very words into the human authors of the Bible as they wrote it - they were not invented by human imagination. They came directly from God (*Mt 4:4*)!
- B. The Bible therefore came not by the _____ of man (*2 Peter 1:21*), and yet God chose to use over 40 human authors to pen the books of the Bible. So, no one just sat down and decided to write a book for the Bible. It was always directed, and controlled by God. Let's look at some of the "sub-authors" that God used to pen this Book of books:
 1. *Deut 31:24-26* _____
 2. *Luke 20:42* _____
 3. *Proverbs 1:1* _____
 4. *Isaiah 1:1* _____
 5. *Romans 1:1,7* _____
 6. *1 Peter 1:1* _____
- C. According to Jesus Christ, _____ and _____ will pass away, but NOT God's word (*Matthew 24:35*).
- D. The Bible is superior to all philosophy because it was not given by man's _____ but by the teaching of the _____ (*1 Corinthians 2:13*).
- E. The Bible is **ONE** Book made up of **66** separate books. In the Council of Trent (1563), the Catholic church added 7 more books called the Apocrypha, but they are not inspired like the other 66, and cause great confusion.
- F. The Bible is now **completed**. It was finished in about 95 AD, when the apostle John completed the book of *Revelation*. No one can add anything to it through personal revelations, visions, or prophecies, and no one can take away from it (*Rev 22:18,19*) - anyone with any additional prophecies than contained in the Bible is of the devil!

G. Overall, the Bible is divided into two main sections. The **first** section is called the _____ (2 Cor 3:14). The **second** section is called the _____ (2 Cor 3:6). A “testament” is a written *testimony* about God’s will in the form of a covenant (agreement).



H. The Bible is perfect, having no error because it is both *inspired*, and _____ by God (Ps 12:6,7). God wrote the Scriptures through men (that’s *inspiration*, 2Tim 3:16), and then bound Himself to keep His word from error (that’s *preservation*, Mt 24:35)! That means God’s word is still here today - it has not been lost or corrupted, or else Jesus was a liar!



Outline of History - According to God in His Bible

III. What The Bible Is

- A. It is God's revelation of the origin and destiny of all things (Isa 46:9,10).
- B. It is God's *will* or *testament* to people of all ages, revealing the plan of God for mankind here and now, and in the next life.
- C. It is a record of how God dealt with man in the past, present and future.
- D. It contains the message of eternal salvation for all who believe in Christ, and eternal _____ for all who reject that Gospel (John 3:36).
- E. It is the most remarkable Book ever! Of its divine library of 66 books, there is history, biography, poetry, proverbial sayings (true sayings), hymns (songs), laws, parables (stories that teach truth), riddles, allegories (symbolic language), prophecies, records of birth, and death, mysteries, adventure, recipes, blessings, cursings, and all other forms of human expression!
- F. **Psalm 119** deals particularly with the subject of the Scriptures in great detail as it explains their importance in the life of the believer.
 - 1. The Bible refers to *itself* in Psalm 119 using eight different words:
 - a. **The** _____ - God’s definition of right and wrong (vs 1)
 - b. **The** _____ - a record of what God thinks (vs 2)
 - c. **God’s** _____ - a record of how God works (vs 3)
 - d. _____ - Truths that apply to life - principles (vs 4)
 - e. _____ - fixed truths of God (5)
 - f. _____ - clear commands and instructions (6)
 - g. _____ - God’s conclusions about various subjects (vs 7)
 - h. **The** _____ - the very words of God (vs 9)

2. Psalm 119 teaches that the Bible is eight things to every believer:
 - a. It provides *spiritual cleansing* (Psalm 119:9; Ephesians 5:25,26). The word of God cleanses the life of the believer as we obey it!
 - b. It is like having *wealth* and riches to the one who has it (119:14)!
 - c. A *companion* and friend to the one who lives in it (119:24)!
 - d. A *song* to sing (119:54) - it fills the heart with such joy!
 - e. _____ (119:103) as _____.
 - f. A _____ (119:105,130)
 - g. A *heritage* - something passed on like an *heirloom* (119:111).
 - h. *Great spoil* and treasure (119:162)
3. The Psalm also declares that God charges the believer with eight responsibilities concerning the Scriptures:
 - a. To *love* them (119:97,159) - How much do YOU love the Bible?
 - b. *Prize* them (119:72,127) as you would infinite **treasure**!
 - c. *Memorize* them (119:11) - learn God's words as He wrote them.
 - d. _____ on them (119:15,23,48,78) - understand each word!
 - e. *Study* them (119:12,18,26,27) - See *2 Tim 2:15*!
 - f. *Trust* them (119:42) Faith comes by hearing this Bible (Rom 10:17)
 - g. *Obey* them (119:8) - See *James 1:22*! Live this Bible every day!
 - h. *Declare* them (119:13) - tell others of God's word on life!
- G. There are four things God wants us to learn from the Bible (2 Tim 3:16,17):
 1. **Doctrine** - learn what is right and true
 2. **Reproof** - learn what is not right in our life, and in the world
 3. _____ - learn how to **get** right - most important
 4. **Instruction** in righteousness - learn how to **stay** right
 5. These four foundations prepare you so that "...*the man of God* (the mature Christian) *may be* _____, *thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*"

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

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

V. How We Got Our Bible - A Brief History Lesson

- A. The Bible is the written record of the very words that proceeded from the _____ of God (Matthew 4:4). They are referred to as the *Scriptures*, the *Law*, *God's Word*, and *the Book*. We get our word "**Bible**" from the Greek word 'Biblios', which simply means "the Book."
- B. The Old Testament was written mainly in the **HEBREW** language, from 2000 years before the Birth of Christ (BC) to about 350 years BC. The Hebrew (which is read from right to left) for **Genesis 1:1** looks like,

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ

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

**ΟΥΤΩΣ ΓΑΡ ΗΓΑΠΗΣΕΝ Ο ΘΕΟΣ ΤΟΝ ΚΟΣΜΟΝ ΩΣΤΕ ΤΟΝ
 ΥΙΟΝ ΑΥΤΟΥ ΤΟΝ ΜΟΝΟΓΕΝΗ ΕΔΩΚΕΝ ΙΝΑ ΠΑΙΣ Ο ΠΙΣΤΕΥΩΝ
 ΕΙΣ ΑΥΤΟΝ ΜΗ ΑΠΟΛΗΤΑΙ ΑΛΛ ΕΧΗ ΖΩΤΗΝ ΑΙΩΝΙΟΝ**

- D. Aren't you glad we can read God's words in our own language?!
- E. Through 3,000 years, God has preserved over **5,200** Greek and Hebrew copies and portions of His word! These are what our Bible is translated from.
- F. From those copies, God combined His words into ONE Book at around 100 AD, and scattered it into all the major languages, with more and more people even today getting copies of the word of God in their language! The Bible is THE most published and read book in the world, of all time!
- G. The *English Bible* is the result of some 1,300 years of life-threatening work, starting back in 700 AD (only some of the publications are listed below).

1. In 1382, a man named **John Wycliffe** (1330-1384) translated the first complete Bible into English. For this, he was *excommunicated*, and after death, his bones were *burned* by order of the pope! An example of his translation of John 3:16:

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

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

3. In 1535, **Myles Coverdale** (1485-1568) completed the first printed Bible (all others were *hand copied*, or printed without moveable type).

4. In 1539 the **Great Bible** was published. It was called *Great* because of its large size. This Bible was placed into every church, and a chain placed on it so that it could not be removed, but freely read from.

5. In 1560, the **Geneva Bible** was produced by scholars in Geneva, Switzerland because in England, Catholic *Queen Mary* had ascended the throne and forbid access to the Bible, and its publication.

6. The Roman Catholic church came out with it's **Rheims** New Testament in 1582, and **Douay** Old Testament in 1609. They were translated for the express purpose of backing up the dogma and teaching of the church instead of presenting the truths of Christ.

7. In 1604, **King James** the First, authorized 47 men to produce a complete translation of the Bible without Catholic influence in it. It was completed in 1611, and is

CHAP. XXXVII. means.

2 Ioseph accuseth his brethren. 1 He dreameth and is hated of his brethren. 28 They sel him to the Ishmaelites. 34 Izaak bewaileth Ioseph.

1 **I**Aakób now dwelit in the land, wherein his father was a stranger, in the lād of Canaan.

2 These are the ^a generacions of Izaakób, when Ioseph was seuenrent yere olde: he kept shepe with his brethre, & the childe was with the sonnes of Bilhah, and with the sonnes of Zilpah, his fathers wiues. And Ioseph broght vnto their father their euil ^b saying.

3 Now Iſi aél loued Ioseph more then all his sonnes, becaufe he begate him in his

^a That is, the storie of ſuche things as came to him and his familie, as chap 51
^b Or, flander. b he coplained of the euil wordes & injuries, which they spake & did agaynst.

Genesis 17 from Geneva Bible

referred to as the **King James Version** (KJV), or **Authorized Version** (AV) of 1611, and still today is God's preserved word for the English speaking people. The King James Bible has gone through **seven editions**, the last one being in **1769**, correcting spelling errors, and making very minor changes so that it is completely accurate and faithful to the texts of the original languages from which it was translated.

- H. Since 1611 there have been over 200 attempts to falsely “modernize” the Bible. These attempts include the **New International Version** (NIV), **New American Standard Version** (NASV), **Good News Bible**, etc. But none are as accurate, or honest in their translation, or have the effect on people’s hearts like the **King James!**

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

- A. **Its Unity.** Over 40 authors wrote the 66 books of the Bible in different lands (*Job* in Mesopotamia, *Moses* in Jordan, *Paul* in Rome and Greece, *John* in Turkey, *Peter* in Babylon), and at different times, covering a period of over 2,100 years (from 2000 B.C. to 95 A.D.), and yet never contradicting each other! Try to duplicate that! No matter what you have been told, none of the writings were “sanctioned” by some church council, or commanded to be written by some church leader. They were all written by the direct inspirational hand of _____ (2 Tim 3:16), and preserved from any human error, in spite of the fact that myriads of religious efforts were made to destroy both the prophets and their message!
- B. **Its Influence on the World.** No other book has so influenced the course of human events like the Bible - it has never been imposed upon a people. No matter what culture a person lives in, one thing has always been true - *Religion* has always been forced upon people on a collective basis, while Biblical Christianity has always been **chosen** on an individual basis. This one piece of “literature” has brought about the greatest nations, and greatest freedoms no sword or any other means could! Notice the effect the word of God had upon the people of first century A.D. (*Acts* 8:4; 17:6), the people of the Reformation, the Renaissance, and compare those people’s lives with the effects of the Dark Ages (when the Bible was banned from being read or believed), and the effects of Humanism, Stalinism, Marxism, and all other forms of tyrannical dictatorship (all banned the Bible)! Since the Bible’s truths are individual in nature, no dictator, pope or prince can allow it to turn their subjects away from complete devotion to THEM, so they ban it! Don’t let someone take away your access to God’s written word!
- C. **Its Supernatural Preservation.** Whole kingdoms and religions have sought in vain to destroy the influence of the Scriptures, and yet it still reigns victorious, and indestructible (*Matt* 24:35). It has, and always will out-last all religions and kingdoms of this world, simply because, it is God’s pure word (*Ps* 12:6,7)!
- D. **Fulfilled Prophecy.** One of the most important areas of proof that God wrote the Bible involves the fact that almost 3,300 verses of prophecy have been fulfilled *to the letter*. These prophecies were predictions made hundreds and even thousands of years before their fulfilment:
1. The prediction in *Micah* 5:2 of the birthplace of _____ was made 700 years before the event - see *Matt* 2:1-6).
 2. Jesus would be born of a virgin, "*Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel*" (750 BC - *Isaiah* 7:14)
 3. Jesus would be rejected by His own people, "*He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him*" (750 BC - *Isaiah* 53:3).

4. Jesus would heal people, "*The eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped... The lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing*" (Isaiah 35:5,6).
 5. Jesus would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver "*Give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price **thirty pieces of silver***" (500 BC - Zechariah 11:12,13).
 6. Jesus would be whipped and spit upon, "*I gave my back to the **smilers**, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and **spitting**.*" (750 BC - Isaiah 50:6).
 7. His hands and His feet would be pierced by nails, "*They **pierced** my hands and my feet.*" (Ps 22:16), "*and they shall look upon me whom they have **pierced***" (500 BC Zech 12:10). Normally criminals were stoned.
 8. Jesus would be in the grave for 3 days and 3 nights, "*For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; **so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.***" (Matthew 12:40). The *Book of Jonah* was written 850 years before Christ.
 9. Jesus would rise from the grave, "*But God will redeem (resurrect) my soul from the power of the grave*" (written 1000 years BC - Psalm 49:15)
 10. Not one detail has failed, and there are over 300 more yet to be fulfilled! Deut 18:20-22 says God promises that everything His prophets speak will be fulfilled, and if not, then they were *false* prophets, and should die! No human authored book would dare to make so many predictions, so far in advance, and subject its authenticity to such chance - yet God did!
- E. **Scientific Accuracy.** The Bible describes the earth as a _____ (like a *sphere*, Isaiah 40:18,22), suspended in space (Job 26:7) hanging upon _____. And it told us this without the aid of an orbiting satellite. The Bible expressed this as FACT over 2,200 years before Columbus discovered it was right! The Bible also explains the division of the languages into *confusion* at the Tower of _____ (Genesis 11:1-9). It reveals that there are "paths," or currents in the seas (Psalm 8:8). Again, Columbus "discovered" that this was true when he sailed to the New World on one ocean *current*, and then back to Spain on another. The Scriptures in Psalm 102:24-27, and Hebrews 1:10-12 declare *the Second Law of Thermodynamics* (which states that everything wears out)! It also reveals the process by which all of life occurred on this planet (Genesis 1 and 2), and *much, much more!* You can't beat the Bible, no matter how much education you obtain - it's always years ahead of science!
- F. **Historical Accuracy.** Noah's flood (Genesis 6-9) is attested to by Babylonian tablets written in 650 B.C., as well as in 250 ancient world histories. Most of the places named in the Bible have been identified through archaeology, thus validating the historical accuracy of the Bible again and again! The same cannot be said however about other religious books.
- G. **Claims of the Bible Itself.** Over 3,800 times the writers of the Bible claim God spoke what they wrote (i.e., "*thus saith the Lord*"), and that what we hold in our hands is the very words of God (2 Tim 3:15,16; 1 Thes 2:13)

The Bible is God's word - Read it; Believe it; Study it; Obey it; Preach it!

Date Lesson Completed _____	Discipler _____
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BIBLE STUDY TECHNIQUES

A Study of the Importance and Methods of Bible Study

Lesson Five

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

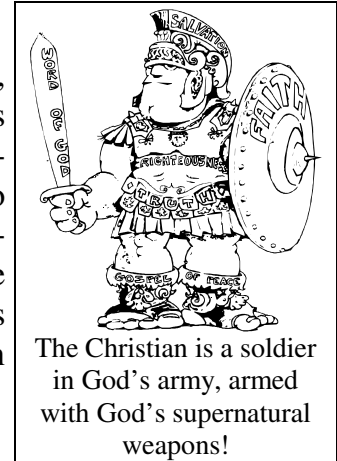
Lesson Verse: *2 Timothy 2:15*

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

2 Timothy 2:15

I. Introduction

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



The Christian is a soldier in God's army, armed with God's supernatural weapons!

II. The Bible as the Christian's Weapon

- A. The Apostle Paul lists all the spiritual weapons available to the Christian in *Ephesians 6:11-17*, and refers to them as the "*whole _____ of God.*"
- B. Notice also that every Christian is to be capable of using "*the _____ of the Spirit*", which is the _____ of God (*Eph 6:17; Heb 4:12*)!
- C. The Bible is the Christian's primary *offensive* weapon against sin in his life, and against the temptations that the world attacks with. The only way however, for the Bible to be the effective weapon it was designed by God to be, is for the Christian to *study* it, and put it into their life through *memorization*! You can't use a weapon you are not familiar with!

III. Reasons for Bible Study by the Individual

- A. It is **commanded**..." _____ *to shew thyself approved unto God* " (*2 Tim 2:15*). This verse is not a suggestion!
- B. Another reason is because it is **profitable** for the Christian (*2 Tim 3:16; Psalm 1:1-3*) - not monetarily, but spiritually. The benefits are eternal!
- C. It gives the Christian **victory**! As a powerful weapon, the Bible will give you victory over sin, and temptation (*Psalm 37:31; 119:11*).
- D. The Bible is a *guiding* _____ to the Christian (*Psalm 119:105*). It provides instructions on *how* to go through life, *where* to go, *why* go a certain path, and even *when* to go (*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*).
- E. Special blessings are promised for those who _____, _____, and _____ the things written in the Bible (*Revelation 1:3*) - *not what another man says, or even what your church says!*
- F. The Bible is the *only* means to test religious teaching - "*If they speak not according to **this** _____ it is because there is no _____ in them*" (*Isaiah 8:19,20*). God gave His word to be the only basis for truth (*John 17:17*).
- G. What source did Christ use three times to defeat Satan? _____ (*Matthew 4:4,7,10*). So, it is important to know it well enough to use it!

IV. Some Procedures for Bible Study

- A. Study it *daily*. "They _____ the word with all _____ of mind, and searched the Scriptures _____" (Acts 17:10,11). The people in Berea did not simply believe even the Apostle Paul, but rather tested what he said by the word of God!
- B. Study it *obediently*. "Be ye _____ of the word and not _____ only" (James 1:22). The goal of Bible study is wrapped up in finding what the Bible says about a subject, and then doing what it says to do!
- C. Study it *contextually* (Isa 28:9,10). The Bible is not a list of do's and don'ts that can just be extracted at random, but rather a revealing description of God and His will that must be read *in context* - a verse is understood only in light of the meaning of the surrounding verses. See for example what happens when you read Matt 27:5 with Luke 10:37! The wrong kind of Bible study can be deadly, because you start making the Bible say what YOU want it to say - and that is how cults are established!
- D. Study the Bible *systematically*. Study it by reading it through once every year. To read through the Bible in a year, you need to read an average of four chapters a day, which will take you about 20 to 30 minutes.
 1. As you study your Bible, use a sharpened pencil, and record your thoughts in the margin of your Bible, or in a good notebook!
 2. Take notice of things in your Bible that stand out, and make you think. Verses like:
 - a. **S**ins to avoid (Col 3:5,6,8,9; 2:8; 1 Cor 6:9,10);
 - b. **P**romises to claim (Jer 33:3; Philp 4:13,19);
 - c. **E**xamples to follow (1Pet 2:21-23); and
 - d. **C**ommands to obey (Matt 28:19,20; Eph 5:18; 4:31,32).
 3. Mark those verses using multi-coloured pencils, or lightly-coloured pens, and marking them like: **Blue** for Promises; **Red** for Warnings; **Green** or **Yellow** for Important Information; **Orange** for Prophecy; and any two-colour combination for other special identification. This helps you find the verses later when you need them.

V. Types of Bible Study

Every believer should have a quiet time and every Christian family should have a family Bible time, and every Christian is to be in church, learning the Bible through preaching and teaching.

- A. **The Quiet Time** - King David said: "I will _____ in thy precepts" (Psalm 119:15; 1:1-2). A quiet time is a Christian's personal time of talking to and listening to God through prayer and reading the words of God, the Bible. To have a *Quiet Time* you need to:
 1. Choose a convenient time - decide when is the best time, and have it. Don't *wait* for a convenient time because it probably will never come!
 2. Be consistent - form a habit of doing it *every day*. You are going to have to make it as important as _____ and sleeping is (Job 23:12).
 3. Make sure you develop the following ingredients of a Quiet Time:
 - a. Begin with **prayer**, asking God to speak to you, and show you His will for you daily (Psalm 119:18).

- b. **Read** your Bible - like you would any other book, reading at least one chapter each time. If you are going to read through the Bible in one year, you will need to read at least four chapters a day.
- c. When you find something that has special meaning to you, **underline** those verses with your pencil, or light colored markers, and then copy a few select ones to the small pocket-sized note cards to memorize them later.
- d. **Write** out your thoughts and conclusions in a notebook so that you can begin to apply the Scripture to your life. Think about how the verses relate to your life. Ask yourself **5** questions as you read:

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

- e. As you read, when you notice something confusing, or very special, take time after you have finished reading the current chapter, to go back and **study** out the portion of Scripture for more insights. Get your Concordance out and look up *key words* to see what else the Bible has to say on that subject. Remember, the Holy Spirit may be trying to get your attention about something. If your Bible has cross-references in the margins, look those up too. Be sure to write down what you found in your notebook.
- f. Finish in **prayer**, **thanking** God for speaking to your heart in such a wonderful, and personal way!

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

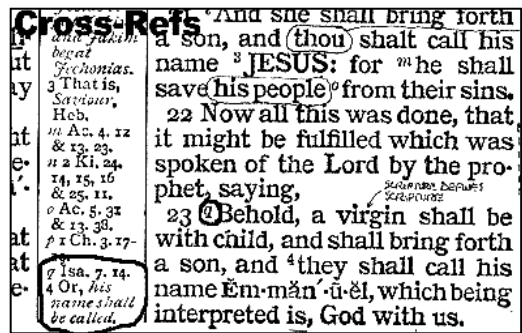
1. Pastors are to _____ the _____ (2 Tim 4:2). That means, a man is supposed to get in front of people, and boldly declare the truth from the Bible about sin, righteousness, the coming judgment, and Jesus the Lamb of God who can save any and all who come to God by Him!
2. To those who are saved, preaching in church is the _____ of God (1Cor 1:18), and is a wonderful time for the Disciple to learn and grow.
3. Don't be ashamed of straight-talk preaching, when it comes from the Bible! It is more important than all the worship of all the religions put together because, it is God's way of saving sinners (1Cor 1:17,18,21)!
4. As Christians, we are to receive the word with _____ like a thirsty man receives water (James 1:21). Never become unteachable, or unreachable, because preaching prepares you to serve and disciple others later! It takes a humble heart to receive instruction.
5. Church members are to be _____ of the word and not _____ only, taking what they have heard from the Bible, and conforming their lives to it (James 1:22).
6. **Bible study groups** are great places to learn the Bible. Remember to make sure, when looking for a group, that it is under the authority of a local church (i.e., that it is sponsored by a Bible believing church and pastor). Not everything that calls itself a Bible Study really is one.



Evangelist Billy Sunday preaching to crowds of 20,000 people!

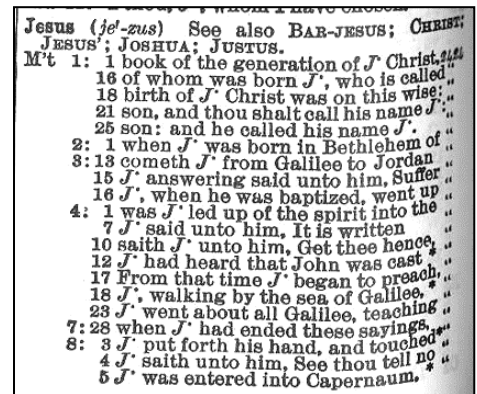
VI. Bible Study Tools - Things that can help you learn more in your Study Time

A. **Bible Cross-References.** Most Bibles have some sort of Cross Referencing system either in the center column, or embedded in each verse. Use these references to help you understand what other portions of Scripture say about the subjects in the verse you are reading. An example might be found in **Matthew 1:23**, where a little note would direct you to see that the virgin birth was promised in **Isaiah 7:14**. If your Bible does not have a similar system, then consider buying one that does because it is so helpful and easily accessible when you are reading and studying the Bible.



B. **Study Bibles** - Beyond the cross-referencing system, there are many Bibles that have *Study Notes* along with the Scripture that are designed to give the student more in-depth information about each verse and subject. These Bibles are very good to have, and are more often than not, the only Bible helps you need. Be sure to only use the notes as opinions, and not as absolute. They are not always going to be right!

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



D. **Bible Atlas** - This is a handy set of maps of the lands in the Middle East where all the events of Scripture took place. They help you understand distances and terrain that people would have had to deal with back then.

E. **Commentaries, Study Guides and Bible Dictionaries**

1. The last thing a Christian may want to obtain for their library of tools is a set of Bible Commentaries and Study Guides. Commentaries usually are large volumes of writings by authors on each and every verse in the Bible. They bring together archaeology, history, various languages and other helpful tools into the understanding of Scripture.
2. Be aware that commentaries can be very destructive to the faith of young Christians. Many authors do not believe the Bible is the preserved word of God. They usually spend more time **questioning** the Scriptures instead of *commenting* on them! So, look hard for ones that help you grow in grace, and not in criticism of God's word.

F. *Study Guides* are outlines of notes on Scripture. These are not as extensive as commentaries, but often more practical.

G. *Bible Dictionaries* are reference books that contain definitions of words and proper names as found in the Bible, helping the student better understand the meaning and context of verses.

H. There is a load of computer based Bible software available that can search and sort through every word and phrase in the Bible, as well as provide you access to hundreds of thousands of pages of research materials and commentaries. You have NO EXCUSE for not studying the Bible today!

VII. Concerning The Apocrypha

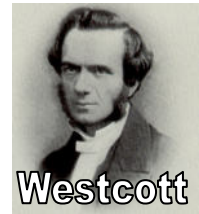
- A. The books called ‘Apocrypha’ (which mean *extra writings*) were later added to the Bible by Catholic “church councils,” and only show their ungodly desire to make the Bible into a complex, and contradicting book, instead of the perfect, and supernatural one that it always has been! Neither Jesus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

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

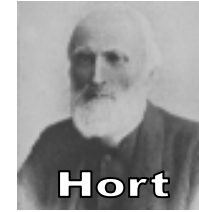
Satan's primary attack has always been against the foundation of the Christian faith, the Bible. His goal has always been to question and “_____” the Bible, so that its message gets changed (**Gen 3:1**; **2Cor 2:17**). What has happened is this: God wrote one Bible, and Satan seeks to "corrupt" its message by constantly redefining words, and ultimately, removing them, and even entire verses from what God said! These "revisions" are called "modern" translations for the modern world, but are nothing more than satanic "bibles" that keep sinners blind, and lost. A study of Satan's methods will only strengthen your faith in the Bible as the very word of God!

A. The Two Greek Manuscript Sets of the New Testament

1. The basis for all the different versions of the Bible are founded in the existence of TWO sets of differing Greek "manuscripts": the Majority text, and the Westcott and Hort text. Take note of these names. It is from these two groups of documents, that bibles are translated from.
2. The differences between these two documents are so profound, that they cannot be ignored as a non-issue. They attack the Deity of Jesus Christ (that He is God); the importance of faith **before** baptism (as presented in Acts 8:36-38); and they water down the clear teachings that are present only in the King James Bible.
3. The *Majority Text* is a group of about 5200 portions of Scripture in Greek that through the past 2,000 years has been accepted by Christians as authentic, and true. What follows is an example of what a passage in the Majority Text looks like, along with the English underneath. Note that **verse 37** is present and marked in the figure. This is important because verse 37 disappears in the Westcott and Hort text!



Westcott



Hort

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

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

4. The second primary Greek text is the *Westcott and Hort Text*. It is a set of **two** Greek manuscripts called the *Vaticanus* and *Sinaiticus*. Vaticanus showed up in a Vatican Library in 1481, and Sinaiticus was found in a Monastery on Mt. Sinai in 1844. These manuscripts were taken to be *older*, and *more accurate* (watch statements like that) than all the rest of the 5000 manuscripts of the Majority Text! Westcott and Hort rejected the authority of the Majority Text and chose rather to accept these *Roman Catholic* texts that now bears their name.
5. Notice the missing verse in the following *Westcott and Hort* text:

What happened to verse 37?

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

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

6. Did you notice what is *doctrinally* affected if you accept the Westcott and Hort over the Majority text? Satan will go to any length to confuse people by getting them to think **baptism** is the important thing, and not trusting in Christ alone (2Peter 3:15,16; 2Cor 2:17; 4:2)! The clear goal of Satan is to simply make a Bible contradict itself. If he can do that in the mind of a reader, then that reader will not trust it completely, and it makes God confusing, and ultimately a liar (1Cor 14:33)! One thing ought to be clear to the Bible believer, God is not the author of _____

B. The English Versions From the Two Manuscript Sets

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

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

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

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

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

THE CORRUPTION LIST!

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

The Bible-believer settles once and for all whether we have the word of God, or not! ***If we do, then we live by it!*** If not, then God is a liar, and let's eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die, and who cares! But as we have seen, God does care - proven in the giving of the Son of God, and the very word of God!

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

When the Bible believer examines the facts, the King James Bible of 1611 is found to be superior to any other English Bible because of the following four main reasons: its Source, its Honesty, its Fruit, and its Enemies.

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

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

B. The Honesty and Accuracy of the Translation (2Cor 2:17; 2Pe 3:14-16)

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

C. The Fruit of its Reading (Matthew 7:20)

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

D. The Enemies of the Translation

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

X. Basic Bible Fundamentals.

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

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

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

10. **The Exile, and the Return from Exile.** The Book of **Esther** is a description of how God protected the Jewish people during captivity, and the Books of **Ezra** and **Nehemiah** describe the return of the people from Babylon back to their homeland.
11. **The Old Testament.** This set of 39 Books in the Bible contains the history of the world from Creation, up to about 400 years before the birth of Jesus. It was written in Hebrew, and pointed toward Christ.
12. **The Birth, and Life of Christ - His First Coming.** God became flesh and dwelt among us on earth 2,000 years ago. He lived a sinless life for 33 years, and then died as our substitute for sins on the cross to pay off our sin-debt to God. Everyone of His day wanted Jesus to rule as King, but His first coming was not to rule, but to save (**Matthew – John**)!
13. **The New Testament.** This set of 27 Books in the Bible records the life of Christ, and presents the truths and freedoms that can transform any sinner into a true saint.
14. **The Rapture.** A catching away (**1Thes 4:16,17**) of the Christians from the earth just before the beginning of the time called the Tribulation. It occurs so fast that people won't know what happened!
15. **The Tribulation.** Seven years of disasters and troubles that will rock the very foundations of this planet (**Revelation 6-19**). It will result in 1/3rd of the population of the earth dying.
16. **The Second Coming of Christ.** Christ Jesus, and all Christians are coming back again! Jesus promised that He will defeat Satan, and will establish a true kingdom of heaven on earth (**Revelation 19**). We don't know when it will happen, but look for it everyday expectantly!
17. **The Millennium.** This is the 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ on this earth, who will return the earth back to what it was like in the Garden of Eden (**Revelation chapters 20,21**).
18. **The New Heaven and New Earth.** Once the Millennium is over, God will destroy this entire universe by fire, and start over with a perfect universe, and earth, with no more sin, or Satan around (**Rev 21 & 22**).

B. The Main People of the Bible

1. **Adam and Eve** (**Gen chapters 2,3**). These were the first humans on earth, and from them are all humans, and because of their disobedience to God, we have death, and sin, and separation from God.
2. **Cain and Able** (**Gen 4**). Here were two brothers, sons of Adam and Eve. Abel worshipped God with the sacrifice of lambs, and Cain with his own good efforts. When God only appreciated Abel's lamb, Cain ended up killing his brother out of envy, and became the first murderer!
3. **Noah** (**Gen 6-9**). Noah was the only man who followed and obeyed God in his day - the rest of the world was caught up in wickedness and violence. He was commanded to build a huge ark that would carry both himself, his family, and two of each kind of animal through the coming world-wide flood.
4. **Nimrod** (**Gen 10**). Nimrod began again false worship, and open rebellion to God's word. He built Babylon, and attracted all the world to worship his false gods, which are the basis for ALL the world's religions still (including Catholicism), except for Biblical Christianity!
5. **Abraham** (**Gen 12-25**). The father of the race of people called Israel, or the Jews. It was his faith in God that moved God to choose to use him to bring the prom-

ised Messiah into the world. It was his people that God would use to pen the Scriptures, and keep them from error.

6. **Isaac (Gen 21-35)**. The miraculous born son of Abraham. This boy was the promised son of Abraham, and was born when Abraham was 100 years old, and his wife Sarah was 90!
7. **Jacob (Gen 25-49)**. He is one of Isaac's sons. He is a trouble-maker, but gets converted, whose name gets changed to *Israel* by God because he finally surrenders to the Lord.
8. **The Children of Israel**. These are the descendants of Jacob/Israel, and are the people of God.
9. **Moses the Lawgiver**. God protects Moses from birth, when he is taken in by Pharaoh's daughter, and made into the adopted son of the king of Egypt. Moses later discovers that he is a Jew, and renounces his position so that he can be with his people which at the time were slaves. Moses ultimately leads Israel out of Egypt, and to the land promised them called Canaan, which is modern Palestine, where Israel is today. God uses Moses to pen the first five Books of the Bible, which are referred to as "the Law" of Moses (**Lk 24:44**).
10. **Joshua**. He leads Israel into their Promised Land, and defeats all the kingdoms of the land, allowing Israel to possess it in peace (see **the Book of Joshua**).
11. **The Judges**. These are leaders whom God uses to bring Israel back to God each generation after Moses and Joshua because they would spiritually drift away. They were before the time of kings in Israel (see **the Book of the Judges**).
12. **The Kings**. God set Israel up as a kingdom with Saul as its first king. After him was king David, followed by Solomon. After them, the kingdom splits in two, and each kingdom lasts for no more than 400 years before being taken captive by other countries.
13. **Job**. One of the most important books in the entire Bible, is that of **Job**, which deals with the reason for suffering, and tragedy, and shows God's hand in everything we go through.
14. **Daniel the prophet**. There were many prophets used by God to write much of the Bible, but Daniel stands out among them. He is used to write about the coming Messiah (Jesus), and the end times.
15. **Jesus the Saviour**. Jesus is the whole theme of the Bible - from the first lambs slain in the Garden of Eden, God has been pointing sinners to the only substitute acceptable - that of an innocent Lamb. God became flesh, gave His life freely on the cross, and was buried, but then after three days, rose again, and ascended to heaven victorious over both sin and death! That makes Him our only way to heaven, by faith!
16. **Satan, the devil**. Satan's name used to be *Lucifer*, an arch-angel, who turned away from God seeking to de-throne the Lord. He was kicked out of heaven, but still works destruction in God's creation. He only seeks to destroy what God has created, and set himself up as God. He is doomed to burn forever with his followers in the lake of fire (**Rev 20:10**)!
17. **Devils**. Devils are what we call "demons" and were created by Satan to help him work against all that God does in the world.
18. **Angels**. Angels are spiritual beings that minister for God here on earth. They only do what God wants done, not what we want done.

C. The Main Themes of the Bible

1. **The Depravity of Mankind**. At the start of the Bible, God shows that mankind, even in the most perfect of environments, will choose to go their own sinful way

instead of God's way (**Isaiah 53:6**). God however, will not give-up on the work of redeeming us from sin's power and price. All humans, at their best, are still sinful, and unable to enter heaven, no matter how hard they try (**Psalm 39:5; Isaiah 40:17**). They **MUST** be "born-again" where their sins are completely forgiven, and their names are written in heaven, all by faith in Jesus Christ!

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

<i>Date Lesson Completed</i> _____	<i>Discipler</i> _____
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Section ONE Test

The Word of God

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

(Each mark = 2 points) SCORE: _____ out of 43 total

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 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. According to the Bible, who is the Author of truth? _____
2. Truth is provided to this world by what Book? _____
3. Write out *word perfect*, **Matthew 4:4** _____

4. The word '*disciple*' means what? _____
5. What is the spiritual condition of *every* human? _____
6. Give the reference of a verse that describes the **penalty** of sin? _____
7. Explain what '*repentance*' means? _____

8. According to **Ephesians 2:8,9** a sinner is saved by God's *what*? _____
9. If a person does not get "saved," their *eternal destiny* according to the Bible is **where**?

10. How many births are required for a person to get into heaven? _____
11. How many sins were forgiven at the cross when Jesus died? _____
12. Can a Christian be happy while living in disobedience to the word of God? ____
13. If a person is saved by God's grace, what is it that **KEEPS** a person saved?

14. When a Christian sins, what gets *broken* between them and God? Their **Relationship**, or their **Fellowship** (circle one)?
15. Is there anything that can separate a Christian from the love of Christ? _____
16. When a sinner gets saved, they become a child of who? _____.
17. What is it that actually "*seals*" (preserves) the Christian's salvation for all eternity?

18. List an obvious proof that a person has gotten saved _____

19. What does the word 'Baptize' mean? _____

20. Should babies be baptized? _____
21. What two things must have taken place before a person can be baptized?
 1) _____, and 2) _____
22. Water baptism symbolizes three events. Please list them: 1) _____,
 2) _____, and 3) _____.
23. Does it matter whether a person gets baptized the right way or not? _____
24. What is it that separates Bible Christianity from all other forms of Christianity?

25. According to **2 Timothy 3:16**, "*all* _____ *is given by inspiration of God*"

26. Explain what does the word “inspiration” in 2 Timothy 3:16 mean? _____

27. The Bible has how many books in it? _____
28. The Bible is divided into two main sections. List them:
1) _____ 2) _____
29. Not only is the Bible “*inspired*,” but it is also what? _____
30. The Old Testament was written in what language? _____
31. The New Testament was written in what language? _____
32. Write out *word perfect* 2 Timothy 2:15 _____

33. What *source* did Jesus use to defeat the temptations of the devil?

34. Describe the Christian’s *Quiet Time* _____

35. What does the word ‘Apocrypha’ mean? _____
36. How can you tell the differences between *true* Scripture, and the Apocrypha?

37. Satan’s primary attack has always been against *whose* word? _____.
38. How many basic *groupings*, or ‘sets’ of Greek Manuscripts are there? (not the total number of copies, but the different groups of copies) _____.
39. What verse is missing in Acts 8 in the “Westcott and Hort” Manuscript? _____.
40. What difference does that verse make to a person’s salvation? _____

How are you doing?

- Have you been born again? **Yes, No.** When? _____
- Have you been baptized? **Yes, No.** When? _____
- Have you read your Bible all the way through yet? **Yes, No.**
- What Book in the Bible are you reading currently? _____
- Are you attending church every week? **Yes, No.**
- Are you enjoying this study of the Bible? **Yes, No.**
- Do you have a King James Bible of your own? **Yes, No.**

Well Done!

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