## EXPERIENCING BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY 2 @

by

Dr. Richard of Altogether Lovely Ministries

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It is the author's purpose to provide Christian Biblical resources that can be used worldwide to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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### # 1 - PROPHECY ABOUT CHRIST'S COMING

### 1) LET'S BEGIN THIS TIME WITH A WORD OF PRAYER:

Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus and only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ your Son. Lord, You are the Eternal One. You know the past, present, and future. Thank you for revealing the truth to us through prophecy. Guide us and enlighten us as we study prophecy today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

### 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Nature gives man corn but he must grind it; God gives man a will but he must make the right choices. - Bishop Fulton J. Sheen -

Real pain can alone cure us of imaginary ills.
- Jonathan Edwards -

A God all mercy, is a God unjust.
- Israel Zangwill -

### 4) <u>LET'S STUDY ABOUT PROPHECIES AND PROPHETS:</u> [3,4,5,6,7]

### DIRECTIONS:

- 1) Take some time and read through the following statements about prophecy & prophets.
  - 1) No other book contains "fulfilled prophecy". This proves again that the Bible is a divine book. No other book even tries to use prophecy for their books would have been discredited by their unfulfilled prophecies.
  - 2) Fulfilled prophecy proves that God is "eternal". That He lives in the past, present, and future and that He is not limited to time.
  - 3) God knew the future regarding Christ's First Coming. All the prophecies regarding Christ, nations, the Jews, Gentiles, etc. have been fulfilled. Other prophecies are yet to be fulfilled. If dozens upon dozens of prophecies were fulfilled; we can rely on the future fulfillment of others (Christ's Second Coming, the restoration of Israel, etc.)

- 4) One person can be lucky and predict a coming event. But in the Bible, God told upcoming events over a period of 1600 years through different people, using different details and events. Fulfilled prophecy is proof of God's divine inspiration of the scriptures. That the Bible is not an assortment of books with various authors but "ONE BOOK WITH ONE AUTHOR GOD"
- 5) The greatest way to tell if a person is a prophet or not is to check if his/her prophecies came true. There are many so-called "prophets" but where are their fulfilled prophecies? (Buddah, Mohammed, Joseph Smith, etc.) The Jews would stone a prophet to death if he/she were not 100% correct.
- 6) Let's study 1 Peter 1:10,11: "Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ (Suffering Servant) and the glories to follow (Glorious King)." The Jewish people missed Christ's 1st Coming because they were not looking for a "Suffering Servant" but a "Glorious King." Christ's 1st Coming was as a Suffering Servant. His Second Coming will be as a "Glorious King."
- 7) The next time someone tells you that they are following a "Prophet", ask them to show you the so-called prophet's "fulfilled prophecy". Then ask them to show you how it lines up with the Scriptures. Many people are following "prophets" and will be deceived by "prophets" but these men/women of God will always "AGREE" with scripture and "NOT DISAGREE" with it.
- 8) True prophecy always points to God and not the prophet. It always glorifies God.

### 5) <u>LET'S LOOK AT ONLY A FEW FULFILLED PROPHECIES</u> REGARDING JESUS CHRIST: [1,3,4,6,7,8,9]

Prophet Fulfilled Prophecy Scripture Christ from the seed of a woman Gen.3:15 Gal.4:4 Moses Christ a descendant of Abraham Gen.12:3 Moses **Matt.1:1** Christ a descendant of Isaac Gen.17:19 Moses Luke 3:34 Christ a descendant of Jacob Num.24:17 **Matt.1:2** Moses Gen.49:10 Christ from the tribe of Judah Moses **Luke 3:33** Christ, heir to the throne of David Isa.9:7 Isaiah Luke 1:32,33 Christ, anointed and eternal Heb.1:8-12 Ps. 45:6,7 **David** Ps.102:25-27 Christ, born in Bethlehem Mic.5:2 Micah Luke 2:4,5,7 The time of Christ's birth Dan.9:25 Luke 2:1,2 Daniel (Fulfilled to the "day" by the Jewish calendar) Christ to be born of a virgin Isa.7:14 Luke 1:26-31 Isaiah The slaughter of children at this time Jer.31:15 Jeremiah Matt.2:16-18 (No other child survived other than Christ) The family's flight to Egypt to escape Hosea 1:1 Hosea Matt.2:14,15 Christ's way prepared Isa.40:3-5 Isaiah Luke 3:3-6 Christ preceded by a forerunner Mal.3:1 Malachi Luke 7:24,27 Christ preceded by Elijah Mal.4:5.6 Malachi Matt.11:13.14

	1		
Christ declared the Son of God	Ps.2:7	David	Matt.3:17
Christ is God	Isa.9:6	Isaiah	John 1:14
Christ's Galilean ministry	Isa.9;1	Isaiah	Matt.4:13-16
Christ speaking in parables	Ps.78:2-4	David	Matt.13:34,35
Christ; the prophet	Deut.18:15	Moses	Acts 3:20,22
Christ; to bind up the brokenhearted	Isa.61:1,2	Isaiah	Luke 4:18,19
Christ's anointing by the Holy Spirit	Isa.61:1	Isaiah	Luke 4:18,19
Christ; rejected by his own people, the Jews	Isa.53:3	Isaiah	John 1:11;
			Luke 23:18
Christ; priest after order of Melchizedek	Psa.110:4	David	Heb.5:5,6
Christ's triumphal entry on a colt	Zech.9:9	Zechariah	Mark 11:7-11
Christ; adored by infants	Ps.8:2	David	Matt.21:15,16
Christ; not believed	Isa.53:1	Isaiah	John 12:37,38
Christ; betrayed by a close friend	Psa.41:9	David	Luke 22:47
Christ: betrayed for 30 pieces of silver	Zech.11:12	Zechariah	Matt.26:15
Christ forsaken by His disciples	Zech.13:7	Zechariah	Mark 14:27
Christ; accused by false witnesses	Psa.35:11	David	Mk. 14:57,58
Christ; silent to accusations	Isa.53:7	Isaiah	Mark 15:4,5
Christ; spat on and struck	Isa.50:6	Isaiah	Matt.26:67
Christ; hated without reason	Psa.35:19	David	John 15:24
Christ's vicarious sacrifice	Isa.53:5	Isaiah	Rom.5:6,8
Christ; crucified with thieves	Isa.53:12	Isaiah	Mk.15:27,28
Christ; pierced through hands and feet	Zech.12:10	Zechariah	John 20:27
Christ; sneered at and mocked	Psa.22:7	David	Luke 23:35
Christ; reproached	Psa.69:9	David	Rom.15:3
Christ would be given gall and vinegar	Psa.69:21	David	Matt.27:34
Christ nailed to the cross	Psa.22:16	David	Luke 23:33
Christ; prayer for his enemies	Psa.109:4	David	Luke 23:34
Soldiers gambled for Christ's clothing	Ps.22:17,18	David	Matt.27:35,36
Christ's intense suffering	Psa.22:14	David	Luke 22:44
Christ; forsaken by God	Psa.22:1	David	Matt.27:46
Christ; no bones broken	Psa.34:20	David	John 19:32-36
No bones were broken on the Passover Lamb	Ex.12:46	Moses	John 19:32-36
Christ's side pierced	Zech.12:10	Zechariah	John 19:34
Christ; buried with the rich	Isa.53:9	Isaiah	Matt.27:57-60
Christ; to be resurrected	Psa.16:10	David	Mark.16:6,7
	Psa.49:15		
Christ; to be ascended to God's right hand	Psa.68:18	David	Mark 16:19
			1 Cor.15:4
			Eph.4:8

### 6) LET'S LOOK AT FUTURE PROPHECIES ABOUT CHRIST:

Jesus' second coming will be in 2 stages. First, at the Rapture when He takes home the "dead in Christ" and His church (1 Thess. 4:16-18). Then at the Revelation (Mal.4:2; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Matt.25:31-46) when He sets up His throne of glory on earth after the Tribulation at His 1,000 year Millennial Reign. [5,6]

Prophecy	Scripture	Prophet	Fulfillment
Christ is to be a Righteous Branch	Jer.23:5-8	Jeremiah	
Christ is to have a Kingdom	Dan.2:44	Daniel	
Christ is to reign on the Throne of David	1 Sam.7:16	Samuel	
	Isa.9:6-7	Isaiah	
Christ will rule the nations with an 'Iron Rod'	Psa.2:6-9	David	
Christ's reign will be Glorious	Psa.72:1-20	David	
	Isa.2:1-4	Isaiah	
	Isa.32:1-4,	Isaiah	
	Isa.32:15-20	Isaiah	
	Zec.14:16-21	Zechariah	

CHRIST' FIRST COMING	CHRIST'S SECOND COMING
A Suffering Servant	A Glorious King
Christ received a "Crown of Thorns"	Christ will receive a "Crown of Glory"
We now look backwards to the "Cross".	We now look forward to the "Crown".
Provided salvation for our soul (Savior)	Our bodies will be changed (Redeemer)
Jesus came "secretly"; born a virgin.	Jesus will come "secretly: at the rapture.
Jesus came "publicly" to Jerusalem.	Jesus comes "publicly" at the Revelation

### 7) LET'S ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT PROPHECY:

a) What do you find most amazing about Christ's fulfilled prophecies?	
loes the fact that God knows the future affect your Christian walk?	
would you say to someone if they asked you about the Bible and prophecy?	
(	

### 8) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

[TEACHER: Each week you may want to vary this time by adding such activities as a) have someone sing a worship song, b) have someone share about a verse, c) have someone share their testimony, or d) have them share what God's doing in their life]

And we have the words of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

- 2 Peter 1:19 -

### 9) LET'S CLOSE THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

Lord God, You are utterly amazing. Father, today our faith has grown in You. You know the future. You hold the world in Your hands. You are trustworthy and we commit our lives to You once again. You are above time. You are "The Eternal One". Lord, we know that what You say, happens. We know that Your Word is trustworthy. Thank you Lord for revealing Yourself to us today. We love You sweet God of all.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### # 2 - THE VIRGIN BIRTH

### 1) LET'S BEGIN THIS TIME WITH A WORD OF PRAYER:

Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus and only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ your Son. Lord, it is amazing how You sent us Your Son. Lord that He would take the form of man and become man. We truly understand how You can sympathize with our shortcomings. Thank you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

### 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Oh, Lord, help me to understand that You ain't gwine to let nuthin come my way that You and me can't handle together.

- Overheard from an elderly slave in the pre-civil war South -

### Some people talk about finding God, as if He could get lost. - Anonymous -

Let those that love us, love us. And those that don't, may God turn their hearts. And, if He cannot turn their hearts, may He turn their ankles so we may know them by their limping! - Irish blessing -

Immersion in suffering has preceded the baptism of the Holy Ghost. C.H.Spurgeon -

Care more for a grain of faith than a ton of excitement. C.H.Spurgeon -

### 4) LET'S STUDY THE "VIRGIN BIRTH" NOW: [3,4,5,7]

- 1) The Virgin Birth is prophesied in Isaiah 7:14 ("Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call the Name Immanuel" - repeated in Matt.1:23). The story is told in Matt.1:18-25 and Luke 2:4-7. Jesus refers to it in John 6:51 when He says He "came down from heaven." Isaiah prophesied it 740 years before it happened, Matthew uses this prophecy to show its fulfillment, and Dr. Luke went to a lot of pain to give us a "believing" doctor's description of this medical phenomenon.
- 2) Mary was never with Joseph, "but before they came together, she was found to be with child though the Holy Spirit." (Matt.1:18). Matt.1:25 says, "But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus."
- 3) The Virgin Birth took place to reveal God (John 1:18); bridge the chasm between God and man (1 Tim.2:5); and to save mankind (Heb.2:14,16).
- 4) The "principle of sin" had come through Adam. This was being passed from father to child since Adam. Jesus needed to come to earth without an inherited sin nature. In this way, He could be the Savior of the world.
- 5) Jesus is the only possible Savior of the world because every other man has had a sin nature. The rest of mankind inherited a sin nature and would have had to die for themselves. Even if a man can live a sinless life, they could only redeem themselves. Christ, because He was sinless, could die for all mankind.
- 6) God could come to earth in two ways. Either by imparting Himself to another man (but then He would enter a sinful man) or by a Virgin Birth through the Holy Spirit.
- 7) The Virgin Birth is an unchanging truth taught in Scripture. The Virgin Birth is necessary for salvation. Even though it is a mystery (all mysteries can't be understood by mankind) we have to accept it by faith. Immanuel means "God with us."
- 8) Jesus Christ was sinless because of the Virgin Birth. He did not inherit a fallen, corruptible human nature. Jesus was without original sin. In fact, Jesus could not have sinned while on earth. If Jesus could have sinned, we would still be wondering now if He is going to sin or not. But we know that "He is without sin". He is able to confidently be called 
  THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD and He will never sin.
- Jesus never came by natural conception but by supernatural conception.

- 10) What was conceived in Mary was of the Holy Ghost (Luke 1:35). The embryo that was deposited in the womb of the Virgin contained no taint of sin. Mary's womb was simply the vehicle for the formation of the human body of Christ. At birth, the "Spirit of Christ" entered into that body and formed the GOD-MAN.
- 11) Four times in the Gospel of John, Jesus is called the "Only Begotten Son of God". This isn't about his "eternal origin" but to His Virgin Birth. There has never been anyone "begotten" like Jesus. The "key word" is "only". For Jesus was the "only" person begotten this way.
- 12) Jesus was "God manifest in the flesh". He was a foreigner (from a different world). He had to be about "His Father's" business. Not Joseph's business but God's.

### 5) LET'S TALK:

DIRECTIONS:
a) Why could God not incarnate Himself in someone like Buddha, Mohammed, or Moses?
b) What amazes you most about the Virgin Birth?
c) Why do you think the Virgin Birth is attacked by liberals, unbelievers, etc.?
d) Read Matthew 1:18-25. What things "stand out" the most to you? Talk on this passage.

### 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

- Isaiah 7:14 -

### 7) LET'S CLOSE THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

Lord, we again see that Your plan of salvation was amazing. You alone could have thought of a way out for a sinful race. Thank you Jesus for saying "yes" to the Father. For coming to earth to die for us. To come in the form of man and to die for us on the cross of Calvary. We love You and worship You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### # 3 - TYPES OF CHRIST

### 1) LET'S BEGIN THIS TIME WITH A WORD OF PRAYER:

Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus and only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ your Son. Lord as we study about You today, let Your Holy Spirit come and speak to us in a deep way. Reveal to us truths that will set us free. We love You for how You continue to build our faith. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

### 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

A simple, childlike faith in a Divine Friend solves all the problems that come to us by land or sea.

- Helen Keller -

We talk about heaven being so far away.

It is within speaking distance of those who belong there.

- Dwight L. Moody -

"The hand, that means to make another clean, must not itself be dirty."
- Gregory -

Be fit for your work and you will never be out of it.
- C.H.Spurgeon -

How dare we pray in the battle if we have never cried to the Lord while buckling on the harness.

- C.H.Spurgeon –

### 4) LET'S STUDY ABOUT "TYPES" & "ANTITYPES" NOW: [5,6]

- 1) In 1 Cor.10:1-11 we see Paul teaching the people from Israel's history. These were examples from the past written for instruction for this time period now. The examples of the Israelite people was their bondage in Egypt to their entering into the promised land. This was a "type" of the Salvation Plan for us now.
- 2) In Hebrews 10:1-18 we see that in Hebrews 10:1 that, "The law is only <u>a shadow</u> of the good things that are coming <u>not the realties themselves</u>, for this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship." The Old Testament types are but "shadows" But all shadows have something "real". The reality is now found in Christ.
- 3) In Matthew 13:52 Christ says, "Therefore every teach of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of its storeroom <u>new treasures</u> as well as <u>old</u>." The "old" are "types of the Old Testament and that "new" stand for the New Testament. The N.T. is enfolded in the O.T. and the O.T. is unfolded in the N.T. St. Augustine says, "The New is in the Old Contained; The Old is by the New explained." Hebrews explains Leviticus, Revelation explains Daniel, the Gospels explain the Passover Isaiah 53 the brazen serpent etc.
- 4) Typology is "picture language". They give us a picture of the real thing. Again, the reality is found in Christ. Most types point to Christ. "the reality is found in Christ" (see Colossians 2:16,17).
- 5) A "Type" is some person, event, or ceremony (structures, furniture, colors, numbers, etc.) that is recorded to "foreshadow" some future person, event, or ceremony. In types, we see the Bible was written by one author; the Holy Spirit.
- 6) The key words are often "as" (type) and "so" (antitype). (see 1 Cor.15:22; Matt.24:37; John 3:14; Matt.12:40). These kinds of types are very clear to the reader. Some "types" are more revelatory as in the picture Gen.24:1-67 where the "church" is revealed Abraham being a type of God; Isaac a type of Christ; Eliezer a type of the Holy Spirit; and Rebekkah a type of the Church.

### 5) LET'S LOOK AT SOME TYPES & ANTITYPES NOW: [6,10]

### THE TYPE

### THE ANTITYPE

***************************************	
GENESIS	
The Original Earth (Gen.1:1)	The New Earth (Isa.65:17; Rev.21:1)
The Chaotic Earth (Gen.1:2)	Renovation of the Earth by Fire
	(Jer.4:23-26; 2 Peter 3:7-13)
The Restored Earth (Gen.1:3-2:3)	The Millennial Earth (Isa.35:1-2; Rev.20:1-6)
Adam (The First Man) (Romans 5:14)	Christ – The Last Adam (1 Cor.15:45)
* Adam "tasted" the fruit knowing he would	* Christ "tasted" death knowing that His bride,
taste death. He showed his love for his bride.	the Church, would experience life.
Eve (The Bride of Adam)	The Church (The Body of Christ)
* of Adam's body before she became his bride	(The Bride of Christ)

0.1.	Th	
Cain	Those who trust in "works" (Jude 1:11)	
Abel (Genesis 4:8,10)	Those who trust in "the Blood" (Hebrews 12:24)	
Enoch (Genesis 5:24)	Translated/Raptured Saints (1 Thess.4:16,17)	
Moses	Resurrected Saints (1 Thess.4:16,17)	
AS it was in the Days of Noah (Genesis 6:9-22)	Coming of the Son of Man (Matt.24:37)	
Noah (Genesis 5:29)	Christ (2 Corinthians 1:5)	
Ark (Genesis 7:16)	Christ's resurrection (1 Peter 3:20,21)	
Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20)	Christ (Hebrews 7:1-17)	
Abraham (Genesis 17:5)	Believer walking by faith (Ephesians 3:15)	
Lot	Believer walking by sight	
Ishmael	The "flesh" seed (Galatians 4:21-31)	
Isaac (Gen.22:1,2)	The "spirit" seed (Heb.11:17-19)	
Esau	The old nature	
Jacob (Gen.32:28)	The new nature (John 11:42; Heb.7:25)	
Isaac (Gen.22:1-14)	Christ	
- child of promise (Gen.15:4)	- child of promise (Isa.7:14)	
- birth pre-announced (Gen.18:10)	- birth pre-announced (Luke 1:30-31)	
- named before his birth (Gen.17:19)	- named before His birth (Luke 1:31)	
- abnormal birth (Gen.11:30)	- abnormal birth (Matt.1:18-20)	
- called an ONLY SON (Gen.22:2)	- called an ONLY SON (John 3:16)	
- kindred persecuted Him (Gen.21:9-10)	- kindred persecuted Him (Matt.27:29)	
- was innocent (Gen.22:2)	- was innocent (Matt.27:24)	
- carried his own wood (Gen.22:6)	- carried His own cross (John 19:17)	
- willingly went to the altar (Gen.22:9)	- willingly went to the cross (John 10:17)	
- forsaken by his father (Gen.22:12)	- forsaken by His Father (Psa.22:1; Matt.27:46)	
- rose from his place of death (Heb.11:17-19)	- rose from His death (Matt.28:6)	
Abraham – wanting a bride for his son. Sent his	God the Father -wanted a bride for his son. Sent	
servant to a far off land to get the bride	His servant (Holy Spirit) to a far off land for the	
(Gen.24:1-67)	bride	
Eliezar (Gen.24:1-67)	The Holy Spirit	
- servant of Abraham (the father)	- servant of God (the Father)	
- mission to get a bride for Isaac	- mission to get a bride for Christ	
- Isaac had to be "typically" offered up first	- Christ had to be crucified first	
- Eliezar talked only about the son	- Holy Spirit talks only about the Son	
- Eliezar was urgent (Gen.24:53-56)	- Holy Spirit is urgent (2 Cor.6:2)	
- Eliezar took gifts with him	- The Holy Spirit brings gifts	
- went back with the bride	- Holy Spirit will return with the bride.	
Rebekkah (Gen.24:1-67)	The Church	
- she believed and yielded to Eliezar	- believes and yields to the Holy Spirit	
- separated herself from her kinsfolk for Isaac	- separated herself for Christ's sake	
- Eliezar explained what was in store for her	- Holy Spirit tells us what's ahead	
- there was no tribulation for Rebekkah	- there will be no tribulation for the Church	
- Isaac went out to meet his bride	- Christ will come to meet His bride	
Joseph (Gen.37-50)	Christ	
- beloved of his father	- beloved of His Father	
- sent to his brothers	- Jesus sent to His brothers, the Jews	
- Joseph's brothers didn't receive him	- Jesus' brothers didn't receive Him	
- Joseph was sold by his brothers	- Jesus was sold by His Jewish brothers	
- unjustly accused and condemned	- unjustly accused and condemned	
- buried in prison	- buried in a tomb	
- resurrected from prison	- resurrected from a tomb	
- exalted to Pharaoh's throne	- exalted to God's throne	
- Joseph dispersed bread from the throne		
- after exalted he got a Gentile bride	- Is "the Bread of Life" to the world	
	- Jesus coming back for a Gentile bride	
- his brothers came to him for bread at famine		

- knew his brothers the first time they came;	- His brothers will turn to him at Tribulation
they didn't know him.	- knew His brothers the first time He came;
- the second time, he made himself known to his	His brothers didn't know Him
brothers	- the SECOND TIME, He'll make Himself
- after Joseph revealed himself, his brothers went	known to His brothers
and proclaimed him to be the savior of the world	- after Jesus reveals Himself, His brothers will
- Joseph established his brothers in Goshen	proclaim Him "Savior"
	- will place His brothers in Palestine
EXODUS	
Egypt	The World
Israel (as a nation)	Christian
- a nation enslaved	- before Christ, enslaved
- redeemed & separated	- redeemed & separated
Pharaoh	Devil
Moses (Num.12:7; Deut.18:15)	Christ (Heb.3:2; Acts 3:20-22)
- his life sought as an infant	- his life sought as an infant
- gave up kingly inheritance	- gave up his kingly inheritance for the cross.
- fasted 40 days	- fasted 40 days
- endured affliction for his brothers	- endured affliction for his brothers
- mediator between God and man	- mediator between God and man
- founded a kingdom	- will establish a kingdom
Aaron (Ex.28:1; Lev.16:15)	Christ (Heb.5:4,5; Heb.9:7,24)
Israel	The Sinner
- cry for deliverance	- cry for deliverance
- a savior (Moses) sent	- A Savior (Jesus) sent
- trials and persecution by Pharaoh (devil)	- trials and persecutions by the devil
- Egyptian compromises (world)	- worldly compromises
- redeemed by blood (Passover)	- redeemed by the blood of the Lamb (Calvary)
- baptized in the cloud and sea	- baptized by water and the Spirit
- sung a new song	- sung a new song
- fed with heavenly food	- fed with the BREAD OF LIFE (JESUS)
- separated from Egypt (world)	- separated from the world ("called to be holy")
- heavenly guidance (pillar of cloud)	- the filling of the Holy Spirit
- wilderness wandering	- for everyone (we chose how long to wander)
THE "5" OFFERINGS	
1) The Burnt Offering (Lev.1)	Christ was the whole burnt offering on the cross
	(Eph.5:2; Heb.9:14; 10:10)
2) The Meal (Grain) Offering (Lev.2)	Christ, the "corn of wheat" (John 12:24)
	- taken through the "mill" at Calvary
	- is the "Bread of Life" offered for His people
3) The Peace Offering (Lev.3)	Christ is our Peace Offering (Rom.5:1; Col.1:20;
	Eph.2:14,16)
4) The Sin Offering (Lev.4:1-5:13)	Christ – our Sin Offering (1 Pet.2:24; 2 Cor.5:21)
(Lev.4:2,3,12)	(Hebrews 13:11,12)
5) The Trespass (Guilt) Offering (Lev.5:14-19)	Christ – our Trespass Offering (2 Cor.5:19;
[also compare: Lev.6:1-7; Isa 53:10]	Col.2:13,14)
THE "7" FEASTS	
1) The Passover (Lev.23:45)	Christ – Christ our Passover (1 Cor.5:7)
- blood redemption from Egypt (the world)	- our redemption from sin (Lamb of God)
2) Unleavened Bread (Lev.23:68)	Christ
- leaven is a type of evil.	- signifies a holy walk (1 Cor.5:8)
- unleavened bread signifies a HOLY WALK	- Christ was "spotless" without sin
3) First Fruits (Lev.23:9-14)	Christ
- was the day after the Sabbath (Sunday)	- rose the first day of the week. The "First
	Fruits" (1 Cor.15:22-23).

4) Pentecost (Lev.23:15-22)	Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4) - 3,000 converts - "First
-wave loaves containing leaven signified "sin"	fruits" of the harvest of the Church (Jam. 1:18)
5) Trumpets (Lev.23:23-25)	Regathering of Israel (Matthew 24:29-31)
-signifies the regathering of Israel	- they will be called back to their own land
	(Jer.16:14-15; 30:10-11; Amos 9:14,15; Isa.11:11)
6) Day of Atonement (Lev.23:26-32)	Christ – our Great High Priest
	- sin offering goat – signifies Christ's death
	- "scape" goat – his carrying away of our sins.
7) Tabernacles (Lev.23:33-43)	Israel's 1,000 year Millennial Rest
	(Amos 9:13-15; Zech 14:16-21)
The Brazen Serpent (Num.21:6-9)	The Uplifted Christ (John 3:14,15)
Cities of Refuge (Joshua 20:1-9)	The City of Petra (Rev.12:1-6)
[also compare: Num.35:6; Heb.6:18]	- God will provide refuge for the Jewish remnant
	during the Tribulation (time of Jacob's trouble)
Daniel's Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3)	The Faithful Jewish Remnant (Rev.3-8)
Nebuchadnezzar's Golden Image (Dan.3:1-30)	Image of the Beast (Rev.13:14-17)
Jonah in the belly of the fish (Jon.1:17)	Christ's death and burial (Matt.12:40)
Transfiguration (Matt.17:1-9; 2 Pet.1:16 18)	The Revelation – Christ coming in glory
Elijah – a type of those "caught out" without	(Zech.14:4) (Matt.24:30; Matt.25:31-46)
dying (2 Kings 2:11)	(2 Thess.1:7-10; Rev.19:1-21)
Moses – type of first resurrection saints (Jude 9)	

### 6) \*\*\*\* FOR FURTHER STUDY (TYPES OF CHRIST) \*\*\* [10]

Ark of the Covenant (Ex 25:16; Ps 40:8; Isa 42:6) Atonement, sacrifices offered on the day **of** (Lev.16:15,16; Heb 9:12,24) **Brazen altar** (Ex.27:1,2; Heb.13:10) **David** (2 Sam.8:15; Eze.37:24; Ps 89:19,20; Philippians 2:9) **Eliakim** (Isa.22:20-22; Rev.3:7) **Golden** candlestick (Ex.25:31; John 8:12) Golden altar (Ex.40:5,26,27; Rev.8:3; Heb.13:15) Jacob's ladder (Gen.28:12; John 1:51) Joshua (Josh.1:5,6; Heb.4:8,9; Josh.11:23; Acts 20:32) Laver of brass (Ex.30:18-20; Zech.13:1; Eph.5:26,27) Leper's offering (Lev.14:4-7; Rom.4:25) Man (Ex.16:11-15; John 6:32-35) Mercy-seat (Ex.25:17-22; Rom.3:25; Heb.4:16) Morning and evening sacrifices (Ex.29:38-41; John 1:29,36) Paschal lamb (Ex.12:3-6,46; John 19:36; 1 Cor.5:7) **Red heifer** (Num.19:2-6; Heb.9:13,14) **Rock of Horeb** (Ex.17:6; 1 Cor.10:4) <u>Samson</u> (Jud.16:30; Col.2:14,15) <u>Scape goat</u> (Lev.16:20-22; Isa.53:6,12) <u>Solomon</u> (2 Sam.7:12,13; Luke 1:32,33; 1 Pet.2:5) **Tabernacle** (Ex.40:2,34; Heb.9:11; Col.2:9) **Table and** show bread (Ex.25:23-30; John 1:16; 6:48) Temple (1 Kings 6:1,38; John 2:19,21) Tree of life (Gen.2:9; John 1:4; Rev.22:2) Vail of the tabernacle and temple (Ex.40:21; 2 Chr.3:14; Heb.10:20) **Zerubbabel** (Zech.4:7-9; Heb.12:2,3)

### 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming - not the realties themselves. for this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. - Hebrews 10:1 -

### 8) LET'S CLOSE THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

Lord God, how You are so perfect. Your ways are perfect. Your grace for us is perfect. It is hard to imagine how wonderfully gracious You have been to us. Lord, thank you for revealing truth to us - to those who diligently seek You. Lord, continue to show us the beauty of Your Word. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### # 4 - CHRIST'S BLOOD (THE SCARLET THREAD)

### 1) LET'S BEGIN THIS TIME WITH A WORD OF PRAYER:

Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus and only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ your Son. We thank you again and again for Your grace, love, and mercy in our lives. Lord, as we study about Your blood that was shed for us, we pray that You will speak to our hearts. We love You for all You've done for us. We will praise Your love forever. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

### 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Only in atheism does the spring rise higher than the source, the effect exist without the cause, life come from a stone, a silk purse from a sow's ear, and a Bach Fugue from a kitten walking across the keys. - James M. Gillis -

> "No man, preaches his sermon well to others if he doth not first preach it to his own heart." John Owen -

Some people treat God like they do a lawyer; they go to Him only when they are in trouble. - Anonymous -

- 4) LET'S STUDY "THE SCARLET THREAD". The Bible is a book of redemption, of salvation, and of deliverance for mankind. Redemption refers to 1) deliverance & 2) the price paid for that deliverance (ransom). Jesus paid the price on the cross. We are redeemed from the penalty of sin, and the power of Satan and evil. The Bible shows us the redemptive plan of God. This is called "THE SCARLET THREAD." [6,7,8]
  - 1) After the Fall, Adam & Eve covered themselves with fig leaves to hide their nakedness and shame (Gen.3:7). But this was not God's way. So God killed an innocent animal (Gen.3:21). This first blood sacrifice was offered by God Himself.
  - 2) In Gen.3:15, God tells how the "Seed of the Woman" will crush Satan's head. It speaks of Jesus at Calvary, His suffering, His "bruised heel", and the bruising of Satan's head.
  - 3) Cain and Abel were born to Adam and Eve. Abel's offering was accepted because it was a blood offering (God creates life) while Cain's offering was the fruit of his own toil (works) (Gen.4:3,4)
  - 4) Cain killed his brother Abel and Abel's blood "cries out to me (God) from the ground." Christ's sacrifice was acceptable to God. Man's murder is jealousy, envy, and guilt and totally unpleasing to God (Gen.4:10).
  - 5) The godly seed continued through Seth (Gen.4:25). But Seth's line intermarried with Cain's line. In Gen.6:1-4, we see wicked spirits marrying the daughters of men. Evil increased greatly and God called Noah to build an ark (Gen.6:5-8). Noah preached righteousness for 120 years but only 4 men and 4 women survived the flood. The righteous seed would now pass through Shem. (The Ark is a picture of God's covering us in Christ).
  - 6) Not much later, the wickedness of man was shown again at the Tower of Babel. God interrupted by "confusing their speech and scattering them over the face of the earth (Gen.11:1-9).
  - 7) Later God called Abraham. In Gen.22, we see the wonderful story of Abraham going to sacrifice Isaac. God saw Abraham's obedience and this typified Christ's death on the cross. In Gen.22:34, "So Abraham called the place THE LORD WILL PROVIDE. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided." That day Abraham killed a ram and shed its blood. This typified the shedding of the Lamb's blood on the Mount of Olives.
  - 8) Throughout the Old Testament, altars were built. The OT points ahead by faith to Christ's crucifixion; Calvary, the altar of the Lamb of God.
  - 9) Isaac gave birth to Jacob. Jacob gave birth to the 12 patriarchs. Joseph's 11 brothers tried to kill him because of jealousy. But God rescued him for a higher calling (Gen.50:20).
  - 10) Moses was born in Goshen, Egypt. God protected him from death also (Gen.2:1-10) by having him put in a papyrus basket and coating it with "tar & pitch" signifying atonement.
  - 11) God rescued the Israelites from the Egyptians in Exodus Chapter 12 (The Passover). The lamb was to be without defect and prepared as a total burnt offering. Some of the blood was to be put on the top and sides of the door (Ex.12:7) and when the Lord saw the blood He "passed over" the Israelites (12:12,13)

- 12) The story of Israel leaving Egypt and finally entering the Promised Land is the story of salvation. They were instructed how to live and what "blood offerings" to give the Lord. It typified Christ's blood offering to come. In Lev.17:11 we see, "For the life of a creature is in the blood and I have given it to you to make atonement for vourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life."
- 13) After the Israelites crossed the Jordan they began to conquer kingdoms. They sent spies to Jericho and Rahab the prostitute protected the spies from death. They promised her that if she hung a "scarlet cord" from her window, they would not kill her or the people in the house (Joshua 2:17-20). Here again, God saw the blood and passed over them. The "scarlet thread" of redemption again.
- 14) The "Scarlet Thread of Redemption" continued with prophecies and types of the coming Lamb (see Prophesies of Christ & Types of Christ in this book). John the Baptist cried out "Look, the Lamb of God; who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29). Jesus prophesied his death and resurrection on 5 different occasions (Matt.12:39-40; 20:17-19; 26:30-32; Luke 18:31-33; John 2:19-22). The altar (cross of Calvary) was prepared. The Lamb (Jesus) was prepared. God's redemptive thread was coming to a close. The blood was shed, God's wrath was appeased, and the sacrifice was perfect. The Scarlet Thread of Redemption was now completed. The Veil was torn in two from TOP to BOTTOM (signifying God coming from heaven down to earth as well as access to God now opened). IT IS FINISHED.
- 15) Now we have forgiveness through the redemptive price of Christ's death; iustification which gives us a restored position of favor with God; and final redemption of our bodies at Christ's Second Coming. In glory we'll see the saints who've washed their robes and made them white in the precious blood of the Lamb.

**NOTE** on the LAMB: Abel's lamb was the first lamb – one lamb for one man.

At the Passover we have one lamb for one family.

On the Day of Atonement we have one lamb for one nation.

At Calvary we have one "LAMB" for one world.

### 5) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S BLOOD:

a) What does the fo	following scripture me	ean to you: "B	ut now in Christ Je	sus you who once
were for away have	e been brought near th	rough the blo	od of Christ." (Eph.	.2:13)
eternal Spirit offer	s 9:14. "How much mored Himself unblemish at we may serve the liv	hed to God, cl		, ,
				·

without blemish or defect".
d) Discuss Romans 5:8,9. "Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us i this: While we were still sinners, Christ died forus."
e) What does the blood of Christ mean to you personally. What would you say to someon who doesn't believe that Christ's blood is sufficient for the forgiveness of sins?

### 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God. - Hebrews 9:14 -

### 7) LET'S CLOSE THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

Lord, thank you for sending Jesus to die for us. We will praise You for all eternity. Oh, the precious blood of Jesus, washes all our sins away. Lord, You've made us whiter than snow. You've removed our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west. Help us to continually to put our faith in the shed blood of Your Son Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

### # 5 - THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

### 1) LET'S BEGIN THIS TIME WITH A WORD OF PRAYER:

Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus and only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ your Son. We thank you for Your precious Holy Spirit that fills us, empowers us, and gives us life. We love You Holy Spirit, sweet Lord of all. Come now and fill us. We need Your power, strength, and freshness. Oh, how we worship and adore You. We love You Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

### 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this Book. Abraham Lincoln -

Morality does not make a Christian, yet no man can be a Christian without it. - Daniel Wilson -

Piety and morality are but the same spirit differently manifested. Piety is religion with its face toward God; morality is religion with its face toward the world. - Tryon Edwards -

### 4) LET'S TALK ABOUT THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE: [1,3,4,7]

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

Someone once told Billy Graham about a church that disciplined an elder for being drunk. Mr. Graham asked, "What would you do with an elder that is not Spirit-filled? Both things are mentioned in the same verse."

1) The Spirit-filled life is living the life of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Christian considers himself "dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:11). We put away all selfish motives, all selfish interests, and we make Jesus our life (2 Cor.5:14,15; Gal.2:20; Col.3:4). We exchange our life for the life of God. We die to self and live for God. The life of Jesus is now being lived through us. No one is able to live the Christian life. Only Jesus lived the Christian life. The Spirit-filled life is laying down our life and asking God to live His life through us. In order to do this we need to ask God to fill
us with His Holy Spirit every day (Luke 11:13) and allow God to live His life through us.
Discuss this:
2) Why are so many people living defeated Christian lives? There are many reasons. Some reasons are lack of knowledge of God's Word, lack of faith in God, pride, fear, worldliness, and secret sin. Anything that we hold onto that is not of God is "sin". In order to be filled with the Holy Spirit we have to be empty of all that blocks the Holy Spirit from coming into our lives in His fullness. Every morning and evening, we need to get down on our knees, and confess anything in our life that is not of God. Anything we hold onto in our lives that is not of God is an "idol". 1 John 5:21 says, "Dear children (he is talking to Christians), keep yourselves from idols." We should be "vessels of honor fit for the master's service".
Share testimonies of when you "turned something over to God" and how He blessed you.

something has happened. The best way to be filled with the Holy Spirit is to have become sick of being filled with yourself. It is the grace of God that shows us how "disgusting" we are on our own. There is nothing good that lives in us, that is in our sinful nature. (Romans 7:18). Once we understand this, we begin to desire to be filled with something better.
Do you wish to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Why?
4) There are no formulas for being filled with the Holy Spirit. Here is a simple formula that will help you. First, realize that God commands us to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph.5:18). Second, that being filled with the Holy Spirit is the only means that we can live the Christian life (Gal.2:20; Acts 1:8). Third, realize how thirsty and hungry you are for God (John 7:37-39; Matt.5:6). Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13). Say a simple prayer like this:
Lord God, I need you. I realize that I have tried to life the Christian life on my own strength.  Lord, no one can live the Christian life but Jesus. Forgive me Father for
Thank you for your forgiveness. I now yield my life to you anew. Come into me with your freshness, your comfort, your power, and your glory. Come and fill every part of my being with you. I hunger for you Holy Spirit. I thirst for you Holy Spirit. I need you Holy Spirit. Thank you for this wonderful filling you are giving me right now. Let me experience you anew everyday of my life so that I can serve you, love you, and tell others about you. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.
This prayer can be said everyday. It is a prayer from the heart. There are many fillings. God desires to continually fill us with His Spirit so that we can live the abundant life.
Do you believe that you are filled with the Holy Spirit? Why?

3) It is important to realize that the filling of the Holy Spirit is different for everyone. Some people have a very emotional and sudden experience. Other people just know that

constantly and continually fill us with His Holy Spirit. He loves to fill us up with Himself.
How can you continually be filled with the Holy Spirit?
6) People give wonderful testimonies of God's leading, anointing, and power from being filled with the Holy Spirit. These Spirit-filled Christians spend time each day in the Word of God, praying, meditating and memorizing scripture, confessing revealed sins, and asking God to continually fill them with His Spirit for service.
Share some experiences that you've had while being filled with the Holy Spirit.

5) It is important be realize that everyday we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Many Christians fail right here. They live on a past experience. They talk about the "time" they got filled with the Holy Spirit. Instead, we can be filled everyday. We can begin to talk about the "times" we continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit by faith. God wants to

### 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. - 1 John 5:21 -

### 8) LET'S CLOSE THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

Lord God, You are so wonderful. I want to continue to be filled with You every day for the rest of my life on Earth and for all eternity. I love Your presence, Your joy, Your peace, Your power, Your life. I love walking in You, experiencing You, and being filled with You. Come and fill me again, right now. Come sweet, sweet Spirit of the Living God. I need You forever and ever. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### #6-PRAYER

### 1) LET'S BEGIN THIS TIME WITH A WORD OF PRAYER:

Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus and only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ your Son. We worship you as Lord of all, and as King of kings and Lord of lords. Come and encourage us this hour. Fill us with your presence and your power. We love you so much. We thank you for the wonderful opportunity of coming here today and learning about prayer. Teach us how to pray Lord. We want to learn to communicate with you more and more. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

### 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

We never become truly spiritual by sitting down and wishing to become so. You must undertake something so great that you cannot accomplish it unaided. - Phillips Brooks -

God judged it better to bring good out of evil than to suffer no evil to exist. - St. Augustine -

> God made man a little lower than the angels, and he has been getting a little lower ever since. - Will Rogers -

### 4) WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE PRAYER OF THE BIBLE?

Look over these prayers of the Bible quickly and find your favorite. Talk to the other group members about why you like it so much. [8,9]

	T
Abijah's army for victory (2 Chr.13:14)	Jacob for deliverance from Esau (Gen. 32:9-12)
Abraham for a son (Gen.15:1-6)	Jehoahaz for victory (2 Kings 13:1-5)
Abraham for Ishmael (Gen.17:18-21)	Jehosphaphat for protection (2 Chr.20:5-12,27)
Abraham for Sodom (Gen.18:20-32)	Jehoshaphat for victory (2 Chr.18:31)
Abraham for Abimelech (Gen.20:17)	Jeremiah for Judah (Jer.42:1-6)
Abraham's servant for guidance (Gen.24:12-52)	Jeremiah for mercy (Jer.14:7-10)
Asa for victory (2 Chr.14:11)	Jesus – the Lord's Prayer (Matt.6:9-13)
Cain for mercy (Gen.4:13-15)	Jesus' thanksgiving prayer (Matt.11:25,26)
Centurion for his servant (Matt.8:5-13)	Jesus at Lazarus' tomb (John 11:41,42)
Christians for Peter (Acts 12:5-12)	Jesus for the Father's glory (John 12:28)
Christians for kings in authority (1 Tim.2:1,2)	Jesus for the Church (John 17:1-26)
Corinthians for Paul (2 Cor.1:9-11)	Jesus for deliverance (Matt.26:39-44; 27:46)
Cornelius for enlightenment (Acts 10:1-33)	Jesus for forgiveness for others (Luke 23:34)
Criminal for salvation (Luke 23:42-43)	Jesus in submission (Luke 23:46)
Daniel for the Jews (Dan.9:3-19)	Jews for safe journey (Ezra 8:21,23)
Daniel for knowledge (Dan.2:17-23)	Jonah for help and mercy (Jonah 2:1-10)
David for blessing (2 Sam.7:18-29)	Joshua for help and mercy (Josh. 7:6-9)
David for help (1 Sam.23:10-13)	Leper for healing (Matt.8:2,3)
David for guidance (2 Sam.2:1)	Levites confessing sin (Neh.9:5-28)
David for grace (Ps.25:16)	Manasseh for deliverance (2 Chr.13:12,13)
David for justice (Ps.9:17-20)	Manoah for guidance (Judges 13:8-15)
Disciples for boldness (Acts 4:24-31)	Moses for Pharaoh (Ex.8:9-13)
Elijah for drought and rain (James 5:17,18)	Moses for water (Ex.15:24,25)
Elijah for the widow's son's resurrection	Moses for Israel (Ex.32:31-35)
(1 Kings 17:20-23)	,
Elijah for triumph over Baal (1 Kings 18:36-38)	Moses for Miriam (Num.12:11-12)
Elijah for death (1 Kings 29:4)	Moses that he might see the promised land
	(Deut.3:23-25; 34:1-4)
Elisha for blindness and sight (2 Kings 6:17-23)	Moses for a successor (Num.27:15-17)
Ezekiel for undefilement (Ezek.4:12-15)	Nehemiah for the Jews (Neh.1:4-11)
Ezra for the sins of the people (Ezra 9:6-15)	Paul for the healing of Publius' father (Acts 28:8)
Gideon for proof of his call (Judges 6:36-40)	Paul for the Ephesians (Eph.3:14-21)
Habakkuk for deliverance (Hab.3:1-19)	Paul for grace (2 Cor.12:8,9)
Habakkuk for justice (Hab.1:1-4)	People of Judah for a covenant (2 Chr.15:12-15)
Hagar for consolation (Gen.21:14-20)	Peter for the raising of Dorcas (Acts 9:40)
Hannah for a son (1 Sam.1:`10-17)	Priests for blessing (2 Chronicles 30:27)
Hezekiah for deliverance (2 Kings 19:15-19)	Rebekah for understanding (Gen.25:22,23)
Hezekiah for health (2 Kings 20:1-11)	Reubenites for victory (1 Chron.5:18-20)
Holy Spirit for Christians (Rom.8:26,27)	Samson for water (Judges 15:18,19)
Isaac for children (Gen.25:21, 24-26)	Samson for strength (Judges 16:29,30)
Israelites for deliverance (Ex.2:23-25; 3:7-10)	Samuel for Israel (1 Sam.7:5-12)
Jabez for prosperity (1 Chr.4:10)	Solomon for wisdom (1 Kings 3:6-14)
Jacob prayed all night (Gen.32:24-30)	Tax collector for mercy (Luke 18:13)
<b>2</b> · ( - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Zechariah for a son (Luke 1:13)
L Company of the Comp	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

### 5) LET'S TALK AND LEARN ABOUT PRAYER: [7]

1) Prayer is talking with God. It should be directed to the Father (Acts 12:5); in the name of Jesus (John 14:13); through the power of the Holy Spirit (6:18). The Bible encourages us to pray every where (1 Tim. 2:8); in the closet (Matt.6:6); and in the temple (church) (Luke 18:10). We should always pray (Luke 18:1); pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17); and be devoted to prayer (Col.4:2). Daniel prayed three times daily (Dan.6:10) which is a good example for all of us to follow. The least we can pray is three times daily (breakfast, lunch, and dinner). This is a great time to continue to be "centered" in Christ.

Give your own definition of prayer. Then talk about your prayer life.				
·				
"Who" and "what"	should we pray for in the following scriptures:			
who and what	should we pray for in the following scriptures.			
1 Kings 3:5-9				
Isaiah 38:1-5				
Daniel 6:18-23				
Matthew 5:38-48				
Matt.6:9-13				
Matt.6:25-34				
Romans 1:10				
Colossians 1:28				
1 Tim.2:1-4				
1 Timothy 5:17				
James 5:13-16				
2) When we pray, v	we should be guided by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26,27). In Hebrews			
	aged to pray with the faith that God exists and that He rewards those			
who diligently seek	him. We should be persistent in prayer (Luke 18:1-8; Luke 11:1-13). In			
	e see that we should come to God in humility and be prepared to repent			
of our sins in order	to have a clear conscience before God.			
After reading the pa	aragraph above, what is the best way to pray?			

3) In order to pray effectively we should pray in the will of God (Matt.26:39). We learn God's will by reading the Bible. It is a good idea to pray to God when reading the Bible and talk to Him outloud in agreement with His Word. We also need to forgive others (Mark 11:25). It is also necessary to pray in believing faith (Mark 11:24; James 1:6,7). It is also very important to keep his commandments (1 John 3:22). Finally, we should abide in Christ (John 15:7); pray in the Holy Spirit (Jude 20); and pray in Jesus' name (John 16:24).

Without looking at the above paragraph, what are "7" ways to pray effectively?

1)				
2)				
3)				
4)				
5)				
6)				
7)				
Write down the pron Matthew 7:7,8	 	Propio Who p	 	
Mark 11:24	 		 	
Luke 11:9-13	 		 	
John 15:7	 		 	
<b>Ephesians 3:12,20</b>				
Philippians 4:6				
Philippians 4:19				
Hebrews 4:16				
1 John 5:14.15				

### 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

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

- Hebrews 4:16 -

### 7) LET'S CLOSE THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

Lord God, what a wonder You are. Lord that we can come to You every day and talk to You. Thank you for the gift of prayer. Lord, You answer prayer. You desire to talk to us, guide us, empower us, and meet our every need. What a personal, loving, caring, giving, relational God you are. Come and fill us with a desire to pray to You every day. Teach us how to pray but more importantly, fill our hearts with Your Holy Spirit so that Your Spirit can pray for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### #7-LEARNING TO PRAY

- 1) WHO WILL PRAY FOR THIS TIME TOGETHER TODAY?
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

We must lay before Him what is in us, not what ought to be in us.
- C.S. Lewis – (on confession)

I cannot imagine how religious persons can live satisfied without the practice of the presence of GOD.

- Brother Lawrence –

There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful, than that of a continual conversation with GOD: those only can comprehend it who practice and experience it - Brother Lawrence –

### 4) LET'S STUDY "JEHOSHAPHAT" PRAYING WHEN HE HAD A NEED. (2 CHRONICLES 20:1-30).

- 1) In verses 1 and 2, King Jehoshaphat and the Israelites were about to be destroyed by three different armies.
- 2) In verse 3, we see that Jehoshaphat was "ALARMED". But it continues, and says that, "Jehosphaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah"
- 3) In verse 4, we see that, "The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord" and that "they came from every town in Judah to seek him."
- 4) In verse 5, we see that Jehoshaphat "stood up in the assembly". There was no shame to stand up before God in front of the people.
- 5) In verses 6-12, Jehosphaphat shows us a wonderful example of praying when in distress (either publicly or privately).

He said THREE important things in verses 6, 7, and 12:

First in verse 6, he said "Are YOU not". He remembered who his God was in the PRESENT. Then in verse 7, he said, "Did YOU not". He knew his God had been faithful in the PAST.

Finally, in verse 12, "Will YOU not". He knew that this same God who had looked after him and his people in the PAST and PRESENT would look after them in the FUTURE.

- 6) In verse 12, Jehoshaphat said, "For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us." It is the wise child of God that recognizes his powerlessness and God's power. Jehoshaphat also said, "We do not know what to do, but our eves are upon vou. These are powerfully wise words for every child of God. Did not Jesus "commit his spirit to the Father" and totally trust God. Did not Jesus say, "Forgive them Father for they don't know what they are doing." It is a wise person who recognizes that his own wisdom is nothing and that it is best to come to Jesus "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3)
- 7) In verse 13, we see all the families standing before the Lord. What a beautiful picture of families standing before God, trusting Him for all their needs. It reminds us of how at the Passover the families waited behind the door as the Angel of Death went through Egypt and killed the firstborn. I'm sure many of these families pictured that it was now their turn to "wait on God". Let's also, stand before God, remembering His faithfulness when our families are in need.
- 8) In verses 14-17, the Holy Spirit comes and the Word of God is spoken. It's always wise to seek God's Spirit and Word when we're in distress. We need to hear God's direction from His Word.
- 9) In verses 18-19, we see the king bowing in humility and the people worshipping. God's Word always causes us to humble ourselves and worship God. It gives us a proper perspective & direction.
- 10) **Finally, in verses 20-30,** we see that the people were obedient to God's word. Obedience is better than sacrifice. We are to step out and trust God and see the giants fall (1 Sam.17).

### 5) LET'S LEARN HOW TO PRAY USING "THREE BIBLICAL EXAMPLES" from 2 Chronicles 20:6,7,12; Nehemiah 1:5,8,9, 11; and 1 Chronicles 17:16,21,26.

### ARE YOU NOT? (Jehosphaphat, Nehemiah, David)

O LORD, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you (2 Chr.20:6)

O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands (Nehemiah 1:5).

Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? (1 Chr.17:16)

### DID YOU NOT? (Jehosphaphat, Nehemiah, David)

O our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? (2 Chr.20:7)

Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name." (Nehemiah 1:8,9)

And who is like your people Israel – the one nation on earth whose God went out to redeem a people for himself, and to make a name for yourself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? (1 Chr.17:21)

### WILL YOU NOT? (Jehosphaphat, Nehemiah, David)

O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you? (2 Chr.20:12)

O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man. (Nehemiah 1:11)

O LORD, you are God! You have promised these good things to your servant. (1 Chr.17:26)

### 6) NOW, USING THE EXAMPLES ABOVE AS A MODEL, WRITE YOUR OWN PRAYER TO GOD.

ARE YOU NOT? (Who is God to you?)
DID YOU NOT? (Who has God been to you? What has God done?)
WILL YOU NOT? (What, in line with His will, can you ask God to do?)

### 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

O our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? - 2 Chronicles 20:7 -

### 8) LET'S CLOSE WITH PRAYER. WHO WILL PRAY?

### #8 - LEARNING TO PRAY

- 1) WHO WILL SAY A WORD OF PRAYER?
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

It is human to err; it is devilish to remain willfully in error. - St. Augustine -

Were I a preacher, I should above all other things preach the practice of the presence of GOD; and were I a director, I should advise all the world to do it: so necessary do I think it, and so easy too. Brother Lawrence -

I would encourage the truly earnest to persevere; if they feel the Word of the Lord like fire in their bones, even stammering may be overcome, and fear, with all its paralyzing results, may be banished. Take heart, young brother, persevere, and God, and nature, and practice, will help you. C.H.Spurgeon -

### 4) LET'S LEARN A METHOD TO PRAY. There is no real "method" to pray. Prayer should be from the heart. This is only a guide. [1]

Let's look at the following prayer formula called "A - C - T - S". ACTS stands for:

- A Adoration this is praising, worshipping, and adoring God from our heart.
- C Confession this is asking God for forgiveness of known and unknown sin.
- T Thanksgiving this is being thankful no matter what our circumstances.
- S Supplication this is praying for others, asking God to meet our needs and requests.

### **ADORATION**

How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth! (Psalm 47:2)

Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113:2,3)

Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! (Psalm 147:1)

### CONFESSION

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. (Psalm 51:2)

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:7)

Then I acknowledge my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" - and you forgave the guilt of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

### THANKSGIVING

Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. (Psalm 106:1)

give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thess.5:18)

There is no one like you, O LORD, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. (1 Chronicles 17:20)

### SUPPLICATION

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6)

Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry for help come to you. (Psalm 102:1)

Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. (2 **Chronicles 7:15)** 

5) LET'S TAKE SOME TIME AND WRITE A PRAYER NOW.
You may use Bible verses, your own thoughts, or parts of this book.
ADORATION
<del></del>
CONFESSION
<u>THANKSGIVING</u>
SUPPLICATION

### 6) LET'S TALK SOME MORE ABOUT PRAYER: a) What do you enjoy most about prayer? b) Are you satisfied with your prayer life? What do you want to change? c) Do you know a Biblical character or someone personally whose prayer life you admire? d) What do you believe is the secret to being a great "prayer warrior"?

### 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus - 1 Thessalonians 5:16, 17, 18 -

### 8) LET'S HAVE (someone's name) CLOSE WITH PRAYER:

## # 9 - A COMMITMENT TO PRAYER

- 1) LET'S BEGIN WITH PRAYER. WHO WILL PRAY, TODAY?
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Insomuch as any one pushes you nearer to God, he or she is your friend. - Anonymous -

Most men forget God all day and ask Him to remember them at night. - Anonymous -

Socrates, being asked what countryman he was, answered, "I am a citizen of the whole world." But ask a Christian what countryman he is, and he will answer, "A citizen of heaven." - William Secker -

## 4) LET'S TALK ABOUT PRAYER: [7]

Matthew 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-52; Luke 22:39-53; and John 18:1-11 gives us the account of Christ praying in the Garden of Gethsemane and His arrest.

- a) In Matthew 26:36 Jesus said, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." Here we see a "PRAYING SAVIOR". Our Lord knew where His power, strength, and perseverance came from. He knew He'd need God's power to complete His mission.
- b) In verse 37, we see that Jesus took Peter, James, and John with Him. These three men give us a picture of "THE CHURCH".
- c) In verse 38, after his soul becoming "sorrowful and troubled" Jesus said to His disciples, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." Jesus was entering into the reality of his mission on earth at the deepest level. He was beginning to experience overwhelming sorrow what the people He would die for. He was asking His CHURCH to keep watch with Him.
- d) In verse 39, we see the "perfect prayer". The same kind of prayer that we say when we say "The Lord's Prayer". "Thy will be done." Jesus said, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." Our Lord knew what the Father was asking Him to do. He was asking if there was anyway out of this excruciating pain set before Him. But He came to do the "will of the Father" and "for the joy set before Him endured the cross" (Hebrews 12:2).
- e) In verse 40, Jesus returns and sees His disciples sleeping. He asks them, "Could you men not keep watch with me one hour?" Jesus was human and He needed the support of His disciples. He was going through His darkest hour and His closest companions were not willing to keep watch with Him. Is this not a continual picture of THE CHURCH. Jesus continues to pray (He's interceding at the right hand of God) and THE CHURCH is not able to "keep watch with him".
- In verse 41, Jesus says, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." This continues to be a warning to THE CHURCH. We must "watch and pray" so we don't fall into temptation. We must constantly be saying "not my will, but yours be done."
- g) In verse 42-43, He prayed the second time. In verse 44, Jesus went away the third time and prayed. Jesus prayed once, twice, three times in this hour of need. Knowing our Lord, He probably saw that He needed to go back for HIS CHURCH just as much as for Himself. THE CHURCH needs to be prayed for.
- h) In verse 45, Jesus says, "Are you still sleeping and resting?" Jesus witness HIS CHURCH for the third time "sleeping and resting". Then He says, "Look the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners." Jesus continues to say, "the hour is near". Now, the hour of His Second Coming is near. We need to be "watching and praying".
- i) In verse 46, Jesus says, "Arise, let us go. Here comes my betrayer." THE CHURCH needs to "ARISE". To stop sleeping and begin praying. The betrayer (enemy) is working. We see here a "BUSY DEVIL."
- j) In conclusion we see three important things here. We see 1) A PRAYING SAVIOR, 2) A SLEEPING CHURCH, & 3) A BUSY DEVIL. Has anything changed?

## 5) LET'S TALK HONESTLY ABOUT OUR PRAYER LIFE: [1]

a) Are you happy with your prayer life? Why or why not? If not, what could you do?
b) Many people say, "I don't have time to pray." How can you make time to pray?
c) Why was Jesus a good example of prayer. Think about His life.
d) Many people believe that it is a command to pray. As true as this is, it is very important that we realize that "God gives us the desires of our heart." God can put a desire to pray in our hearts. Take a few moments and write a prayer to God about your prayer life.

#### Keys to a successful prayer life:

- a) Ask God to give you a desire to pray.
- b) When you pray, have a Bible, pen, and paper with you. Write down what God is saying.
- c) To avoid distractions, find a place & time that you are comfortable with. PROTECT IT.
- d) Don't get too comfortable when praying. Lying down is not a good idea.
- e) Find prayers from the Bible. Write down verses that you could use.
- f) Quote and/or read scriptural promises to God. Thank God for His promises.
- g) Don't be too hard on yourself. Set small, attainable goals. Re-evaluate your prayer goals.
- h) Talk to "prayer warriors" about how they have grown as "men/women of prayer".
- i) Ask people to pray for you for a better prayer life. Have them "lay hands" on you.

## 6) STUDY AND WRITE ABOUT WHAT THESE VERSES MEAN TO YOU PERSONALLY.

a) For he bore the sin of many, and <u>made intercession</u> for the transgressors. (Isa.53:12)
b) He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene (intercede); (Isa.59:16)
c) Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because <u>he always lives to intercede for them.</u> (Heb.7:25)
d) Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died - more than that, who was raised to lit - is at the right hand of God and <u>is also interceding for us.</u> (Romans 8:34) (See Rom: 26,27

## 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. - Heb.7:25 -

## 8) NOW, (name) WILL YOU CLOSE THIS TIME IN PRAYER?

## # 10 - THE FEAR OF GOD

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) <u>LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG</u>:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Preachers are not made; they are born. - Martyn Lloyd-Jones -

No sciences are better attested than the religion of the Bible. - Sir Isaac Newton -

To have a right to do a thing is not at all the same as to be right in doing it. - G.K. Chesterton -

## 4) LET'S LOOK AT "THE FEAR OF GOD". [3,4,7,9]

- The fear of God according to Dr. C.I. Scofield is, "reverential trust with a hatred of evil" (see Scofield's notes for Psalm 19:9). To reverence God is to put Him in a place of high respect or awe. (Deut.4:10; 6:13; Eccl.12:13)
- The "Fear of the Lord" is: godly (Heb.12:28); clean (Psa.19:9); a treasure (Proverbs 15:16); a hatred of evil (Proverbs 8:13); wisdom (Psa.111:10); a fountain of life (Proverbs 14:27); forever enduring (Psalm 19:9).
- 3) We fear God because of: his holiness (Rev.15:4); his goodness (1 Sam.12:24); his forgiveness (Psa.130:4); his works (Job 9:10); his greatness (Deuteronomy 10:12-17); and his coming judgments of believers works and non-believers salvation (Rev.14:7).
- We are commanded to fear God (1 Peter 2:17; Psalm 22:23; Acts 9:31; 2 Cor. 7:1; **Deut.13:4; Acts 10:2)**
- The Fear of the Lord helps us to worship God. As we worship Him in spirit and truth, our hearts begin to experience the awesomeness of who He is.
- The Fear of the Lord helps us to serve him better, keeps us in an attitude of holiness, reverence, and humility, and helps us not to backslide.
- God is pleased when we fear Him. The Fear of the Lord keeps our lives and hearts right with God. (Psalms 147:11; 103:13, 17; 112:1; 145:19; Proverbs 10:27; 16:6; 14:26; Isa.8:12,13; Mal.3:16; Acts 10:35)
- We should love, serve, and fear God. This is sometimes hard to do at the same time, but God brings this about in our hearts through the working of His Holy Spirit.

## 5) LET'S TALK ABOUT "THE FEAR OF GOD".

<ul><li>a) What kind</li></ul>	ls of things do yo	u fear? How can	you change?		
		ar of man will pr is verse. When do		are, but whoever t	rusts in the

c) Deuteronomy 6:13 says, "Fear the LORD your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name." How can "fearing the LORD" help you to serve him better?
——————————————————————————————————————
d) How has God taught you to fear Him more and more? (Proverbs 15:16; 19:23; Psa.86:11)
e) Share an experience of when you worshipped God and you sensed a "Holy Fear of God"?
f) It has been said that "FEAR" is the highest form of worship. That is why the enemy wants us to fear him. It is a form of worship to fear the devil, man, things, situations, etc Ecclesiastes 12:13 says, "Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." Discuss this:

## 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe. - Proverbs 29:25 -

## 7) LET'S CLOSE WITH A PRAYER. WHO'LL PRAY?

## # 11 - JESUS - FRIEND FOREVER

- 1) LET'S BEGIN BY HAVING (name) PRAY FOR US:
- 2) <u>LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG</u>:
- 3) LET'S STUDY SOME QUOTES NOW:

Every successful man I have ever met had come at some time under the dominating power of a great truth."

"The greatest ability is dependability."

"The test of your character is what it takes to stop you."

"You and God make a majority in your community."

- Bob Jones, Sr.

## 4) LET'S STUDY ABOUT "JESUS - FRIEND FOREVER"

i) "Oh, for the days when I was in my prime, when God's intimate friendship blessed louse", (Job29:4) "Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread,	•
ifted up his heel against me". (Psalm 41:9) Have you ever felt this way?	mas
o) "His mouth is sweetness itself; he is altogether lovely. This is my lover, this my friend laughters of Jerusalem". (Song of Songs 5:16). Notice here how "Beloved" is telling triends about her "Lover" (Jesus). What is she saying about Jesus? What do you have ay to others about Jesus?	her

c) "When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." (Luke 5:20). Jesus forgives sins. He forgives the sins of "Friends". Are you Jesus' friend? Have you been forgiven? What does it feel like to be forgiven by Jesus?
d) "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you". (John 15:13-15) Discuss this.
5) <u>USING SOME OF THE FOLLOWING "RHYMES", WRITE A</u> POEM or SONG ABOUT JESUS AS YOUR FRIEND.
(END, BEND, FEND, LEND, MEND, REND, SEND, TEND, VEND, BLEND, FRIEND, TREND)

6) NOW, WRITE WHAT YOU WOULD SAY TO	SOMEONE
ABOUT "JESUS: FRIEND FOREVER".	
	·

## 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

His mouth is sweetness itself; he is altogether lovely. This is my lover, this my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem. - Song of Songs 5:16 -

## 9) LET'S CLOSE WITH A PRAYER. WHO'LL PRAY?

## # 12 - MIDTERM TEST

- 1) WHY DON'T I PRAY TODAY?
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) NOW LET'S TAKE THE Midterm TEST:
- 4) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends". - John 15:13 -

## 5) LET'S CLOSE WITH A PRAYER. I'LL PRAY:

#### # 13 - CHRIST'S MIRACLES

## 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

## 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

## 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

As if we could kill time without injuring eternity!! - Henry David Thoreau -

If man is not made for God, why is he happy only in God? - Blaise Pascal -

I refuse to believe I am a piece of dust scuttering through uncaring space. I believe I count -- that I have work to do - -that there is need of me... With my last breath, I sing a psalm. - Rita Duskin -

## 4) LET'S STUDY ABOUT CHRIST'S MIRACLES: [3.4.7]

- 1) God is higher than our natural laws. He supersedes all natural laws by manifesting Himself supernaturally through miracles.
- 2) In John 2:1-10 we read about Jesus turning the water into wine. In verse 11 it says, "This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him." Jesus "revealed his glory." This is a proof of His Deity; that Jesus Christ was God.
- Throughout the Bible we see many men performing miracles. God worked miracles through these men. But Jesus used his own power to perform miracles.
- 4) When John the Baptist's disciples came, Jesus tried to prove to them that He was the Christ by the signs and miracles He had done (Matt.11:3-6). These were signs that a Jew would recognize the Christ by.
- 5) In John 12:37 it says, "Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him." Miracles were to lead people to faith in Christ. Miracles do not save people; faith in Christ's death and resurrection do.
- 6) God has not changed (Heb.11:8). God still does miracles today. In the past God used miracles to prove that He was God. Now we have the inspired Word of God to prove that Jesus is God. Whatever means God uses to bring people to saving faith in Jesus Christ is God's business. We should not put God in a box. God knows what each person needs.
- 7) If the Bible says a certain miracle happened, we should believe it by faith. If you are having trouble believing it is a good idea to go to God and ask Him to "enlighten" you to the truth of God's Word. If you diligently seek God, He will show you that His Word is absolute truth.

- Colossians 1:17 says, "For by him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him." One of Jesus' greatest miracles was creation. Evolutionists tell wonderful theories of how we got here. Jesus proclaims in Mark 10:6, "But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female." Remember, Jesus is "Eternal Life". He not only states that He did it but He was there to witness His actions. True science witnesses something. Jesus is the Faithful Witness (Rev.1:5)
- John rightly puts it, "Jesus did many other things as well. If everyone of them were written down I suppose even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written." (John 21:25)

## 5) LET'S LOOK AT SOME OF CHRIST'S MIRACLES:

Jesus changed water to wine (John 2:1-11)
Jesus fed 5,000 men plus women and children (Matt.14:13-21; John 6:1-14)
Jesus walked on the water (Matt.14:22-27; John 6:15-21)
Jesus fed 4,000 men plus women and children (Matt.15:32-39)
Caused the fig tree to wither (Matt.21:18-22)
Peter found the coin in the fish's mouth just like Jesus said (Matt.17:27)
Miraculous catch of fish (Luke 5:1-11)
Miraculous catch of fish (John 21:6)
Calmed the winds and the sea (Matt. 8:26-27)
Cast out demons (Matt. 8:16,17; 8:28-32; 8:32,33; 15:22-28; 17:14-18; Mark 1:23-27)
Cured the Centurion's servant who was paralyzed and suffering terribly (Matt.8:5-13; 9:6)
Cured a man who had difficulty moving (John 5:9)
Cured a shriveled hand (Matt.12:9-13)
Cured a spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:12)
Cured a flow of blood (Matt.9:20-22)
Cured dropsy (Luke 14:2)
Healed a fever (Matt.8:15)
Gave speech to the dumb and sight to the blind (Matt.9:27-33)
Gave sight to a man blind from birth (John 9:1-38)
Cured deafness & blindness, healed lameness, cured leprosy, raised the dead (Matt.11:5)
Cured leprosy (Matt.8:3; Luke 17:19)
Cured a paralytic (Matt.9:6,7)
All the sick who touched him were healed (Matt.14:34-36)
Healed every disease and sickness among the people. Cured those with severe pain, demon
possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed. (Matt.4:23-25)
Raised the ruler's dead daughter from the dead (9:18,19, 23-26)
He raised Jairus' daughter from the dead (Luke 7:12-15)
He raised the son of the widow of Nain from the dead (Luke 7:12-15)
He raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:43-44)

He raised himself from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:4; Romans 1:4)

## 6) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S MIRACLES:

# 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

Jesus did many other things as well. If everyone of them were written down I suppose even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written. - John 21:25 -

## 8) NOW, (name) WILL YOU CLOSE THIS TIME IN PRAYER?

## # 14 - CHRIST'S CHARACTER

## 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify; A never dying soul to save, And fit it for the sky - Charles Wesley -

I have sent for you that you may see how a Christian can die. - Joseph Addison - (on his deathbed to his stepson)

Give us a genuine Christianity that may provoke persecution, but will not provoke contempt. - Amzi Clarence Dixon -

## 4) LET'S LOOK AT CHRIST'S CHARACTER: [1,3,4,7]

- 1) Jesus left us an example to follow in His steps (1 Peter 2:21). Romans 8:29 says, "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers." "Being conformed to the likeness of Jesus" means that we should become more and more like Jesus.
- 2) Jesus was and is loving. We can think of how died for us (John 15:13); how He loves the Church (Ephesians 5:25); how he loves sinners (Luke 19:10; Matt.9:13); how he loved his enemies (Luke 23:34); how he loved children (Mark 10:13-16); and how he continues to loves us (Matt.11:28,29; Matt.6:33; 2 Cor.8:9). "God demonstrated his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)
- 3) Jesus was Holy (Luke 1:35; Luke 4:34; 1 Pet,2:21,22; 1 John 3:5; Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 John 3:3; Acts 4:27,30; Rev.3:7); Righteous (Isa.53:11; Heb.1:9); Good (Matt.19:16); Faithful (Isa.11:5; 1 Thess.5:24); True (John 1:14; 7:18; 1 John 5:20); Just (Zech.9:9; John 5:30; Acts 22:14); Guileless (Isa.53:9; 1 Pet.2:22); Sinless (John 8:46; 2 Cor.5:21); Spotless (1 Pet.1:19); Innocent (Matt.27:4); Harmless (Heb.7:26); Resisted temptation (Matt.4:1-10); Obedient to the Father (Psalms 40:8; John 4:34; 15:10); Zealous (Luke 2:49; John 2:17; 8:29); Meek (Isa.53:7; Zech.9:9; Matt.11:29; 1 Cor.4:21; Matt.12:20); Lowly in heart (Matt.11:29); Merciful (Heb.2:17); Patient (Isa.53:7; Matt.27:14); Long-suffering (1 Tim.1:16); Compassionate (Isa.40:11; Luke 19:41; John 11:35; Mark 6:34; John 6:5; John 9:1-38; Luke 4:41; Luke 5:12-15); Benevolent (Matt.4:23,24; Acts 10:38); Loving (John 13:1; 15:13); Self-denying (Matt.8:20; 2 Cor.8:9); Humble (Luke 22:27; Philippians 2:8); Resigned (Luke 22:42); Forgiving (Luke 23:34); Subject to his parents (Luke 2:51); Altogether lovely (Song of Songs 5:16); Prayerful (Hebrews 5:7; Luke 6:12; Mark 1:35; Luke 3:21; John 6:15; Matt.14:19; Matt.6:9-13; Matt.26:42; John 17:9,20; Matt.14:13; Luke 9:28; Luke 22:39-46; Luke 23:46); loving towards lost souls (Luke 19:41,42; Luke 15:5-7; Luke 15:24; Luke 15:4; John 3; John 4; John 1:37-40, 42, 43, 47; John 10:16)

4) LET'S WRITE A PRAYER ABOUT JESUS' CHARAC	TER
AND ASK HIM TO HELP US BE MORE LIKE HIM:	
5) <u>LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S CHARACTER:</u>	
a) What characteristic about Christ do you admire the most? Why? Can you think of a situation in which Christ's character amazed you?	
b) Think of a time in your life when the Holy Spirit helped you become more like	Jesus
Talk about it with the others.	
c) Jesus not only taught how to live but he was an example of it. Many peop	le get
discouraged in their Christianity because they come to the realization that they will	never
be like Jesus on their own effort. Actually, this is the beginning. We can't become like on our own effort. We must "die to self" and allow him to live His life through us. Disc	
and anow min to five institute the to sen and anow min to five ins me through us. Disc	-uss.
<del></del>	

d) How did Jesus show love towards people? Think of different examples.						

## 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. - Mark 6:34 -

## 7) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

## # 15 - CHRIST'S TEACHINGS

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

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

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it but because, by it, I see everything else. - C.S. Lewis -

## 4) LET'S DISCUSS CHRIST AND HIS TEACHINGS: [1,3,4,7]

- 1) Jesus Christ's teachings were not God-inspired but were the "actual" teachings of God Himself. Christ's teachings were divine, supernatural, and spoken with the authority of God.
- 2) No other teacher has impacted the world like Jesus Christ. People worldwide testify to how Christ's teachings have changed their lives, families, societies, and countries.
- 3) Jesus' teachings on human worth and personal rights have impacted not only individuals but societies. For "in Christ" there is neither male or female, slave or free" (Galatians 3:27)
- 4) Christ's teachings have impacted laws regarding health care, education, child labor, social reform, business, science, governments, arts and culture, etc.
- 5) Jesus' teachings on "sin" show us the reason why we have wars, divorce, violence, a personal battle inside of us, hatred, dissension, etc.
- 6) Jesus' teachings on "His shed blood at the cross and His resurrection" give us a way out of our sin problem.
- 7) Jesus' teachings on "heaven and hell" show us the truth about our future.
- 8) Christ's teachings teach us how we got here (through God's creative act), our sinful condition and separation from God, God's plan of salvation, and God's plan for us for all eternity.

## 5) LET'S SEE PEOPLE'S REACTIONS TO JESUS: [11]

- 1) In Matt.2:11, the Wise Men "bowed down and worshipped him."
- 2) In Matt.7:28-29, "When Jesus was finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teachings, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law."
- 3) In Matt.8:27, after he quieted the storm it said, "The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"
- 4) In Matt.9:31 "But they went and spread the news about him all over that region."
- 5) In Matt.9:33, "The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this <u>has ever</u> been seen in Israel."
- 6) In Matt.12:14, after he restored the man's hand. "But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus."
- 7) In Matt.13:2, "Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore."
- 8) In Matt.13:54, "Coming to His hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogues, and they were amazed."
- 9) In Matt.14:33, after He walked on the water. "Then those who were in the boat worshipped him saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God."
- 10) In Matt.15:31, "The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.
- 11) In Luke 4:22, "All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips."
- 12) In Luke 4:32, "They were amazed at his teaching because his message had authority."

# 6) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S TEACHINGS:

a) Which of Christ's teachings amazes you the most? Why?
b) How have Christ's teachings affected your life? How have they changed you?
c) Pretend you are "with Christ as He walked on the earth". What would you ask Him to teach you?
d) Of all of Christ's teachings, what has had the greatest impact on the world we live in?
e) Do you feel you are a "teachable" person? What is Jesus teaching you right now?

## 7) FURTHER STUDY: [8]

#### Christ's "Sermon on the Mount"

In the Sermon on the Mount, Christ first enumerated the eight progressive steps by which men reach the higher attitudes of spiritual life. He next expounded the fundamental truths of the kingdom of God.

4) TT 194 (N.E. 44) . F. (2)	D 1 (7 42)
1) Humility (Matthew 5:3)	Benevolence (5:42)
2) Penitence (Matthew 5:4)	Universal Love (5:43-47)
3) Meekness (Matthew 5:5)	Divine Standard (5:48)
4) Spiritual Hunger (Matthew 5:6)	Giving (6:1-4)
5) Mercifulness (Matthew 5:7)	Prayer (6:5-15)
6) Inward Purity (Matthew 5:8)	Fasting (6:16-18)
7) Peacemaking (Matthew 5:9)	Heavenly Investments (6:19-21)
8) Sacrificial Suffering (Matthew 5:10-12)	Spiritual Vision (6:22-23)
	Undivided Service (6:24)
Influence (5:13-16)	Trustfulness (6:25-32)
Law Eternal (5:17-20)	Primacy of God's Kingdom (6:33)
Self-control (5:21-22)	Charitableness (7:1-5)
Reconciliation (5:23-26)	Stewardship of Truth (7:6)
Inward Purity (5:27-30)	Divine Benevolence (7:7-11)
Marriage Sacred (5:31-32)	Golden Rule (7:12)
Speech Guarded (5:33-37)	Narrow Way (7:13-14)
Nonresistance (5:38-40)	Fruit, Test of Life (7:15-20)
Unlimited Service ((5:41)	Obedience, the Rock Foundation (7:21-27)

[Note from the writer: The "Sermon on the Mount" was used by Christ to teach self-righteous Jews that it was impossible to work their way to heaven. Christ's teachings in the sermon are impossible to keep and were used to reach their self-righteous hearts. (In Matt. 5:20, He told the people their righteousness had to surpass the Pharisees and teacher's of the law. In Matt.5:28, He says if you even look at a woman lustfully you have committed adultery in your heart. In Matt. 5:48, He asked the people to be perfect like His Father in heaven. Impossible. But it is possible if we put our faith in "Christ's perfection".) ]

## 8) FURTHER STUDY: [8]

## Christ's Teaching on "The Prodigal Son"

The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24) is a type of the redeemed sinner. [#1 to #7 show his "downward spiral". #8 to #14 show his restoration process]

Downward Spiral (1-7)		<u> Upward Turn (8-14)</u>		
1] Self-will	(v.12)	14] Rejoicing	(23-24)	
2] Selfishness	(v.13)	13] Reclothing	(v.22)	
3] Separation	(v.13)	12] Reconciliation	(v.20)	
4] Sensuality	(v.13)	11] Return	(v.20)	
5] Spiritual Ruin	(v.14)	10] Repentance	(v.19)	
6] Self-abasement	(v.15)	9] Resolution	(v.18)	
7] Starvation	(v.16)	8] Realization	(v.17)	

9) FURTHER STUDY: "THOMPSON'S CHAIN BIBLE" & "THE FIRST SCOFIELD REFERENCE BIBLE" HAVE COMPLETE LISTS OF JESUS CHRIST'S TEACHINGS. THESE TWO BIBLES ARE WONDERFUL TOOLS FOR ANY CHRISTIAN SERIOUS ABOUT STUDYING CHRIST'S TEACHINGS.

## 10) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

in whom (Christ) are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. - Colossians 2:3 -

## 11) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

## # 16 - CHRIST'S PROMISES

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

I saw about a peck of counterfeit dollars once. Did I go to the window and throw away all my good dollars? No! Yet you reject Christianity because there are hypocrites, or counterfeit Christians. - William E. Biederwolf -

> When you speak of heaven, let your face light up... When you speak of hell - well then, your everyday face will do. - Charles Haddon Spurgeon -

Some people complain because God put thorns on roses, while others praise Him for putting roses among thorns. - Anonymous -

#### CHRIST'S LET'S LOOK AT **PROMISES** TO US. PERSONALLY: [3,4,7]

- 1) If we believe, God promises us: eternal life (John 3:16); to make us his children (John 1:12); salvation for us and our household (Acts 16:31); and endless possibilities (Mark 9;23).
- 2) If we humble ourselves, God promises: greatness in the kingdom of God (Matt.18:4); encouragement and a listening ear (Psa.10:17); exaltation (Matt.23:12); grace (Pro.3:34); that he will lift you up (1 Peter 5:6); and wealth, honor, and life (Pro.22:4).
- 3) If we pray, God promises: that we will receive, find, and have the door opened (Matt.&:7,8); answered prayer (Isa.30:19; Isaiah 58:9); that he will hear our prayer (Isa.65:24; 1 John 5:14,15); complete joy (John 16:23,24); that our prayers will be powerful and effective (James 5:16); reward (Matt.6:6); good gifts (Matt.7:11); nearness, fulfillment of our desires, and help (Psa.145:18,19).

#### NOW WRITE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT GOD'S PROMISES REGARDING:

(Go into groups of three. Have each person do one paragraph. Then compare writings.)

Joy: (Isa.55:12; Isa.89:15,16; Psa.126:5,6; Psa.33:1; 1 Peter 1:8; John 16:22)
<del></del>
<del>-</del>
Contentment: (Heb.13:5; Pro.15:15; 1 Tim.6:6; Pro.3:17,18; Pro.14:30)
God's Protection: (Pro.18:10; Job 11:18,19; Psa.27:1; Psa.112:7; Psa. 121:7, 8; Psa. 91:9,10;
Pro.1:33; Psa. 4:8; Isa. 43:1,2)

## 5) IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THERE ARE OVER 7,000 PROMISES IN THE BIBLE. LET'S TAKE SOME TIME NOW AND TALK ABOUT GOD'S PROMISES:

a) How does it feel when someone breaks a promise they make to you? How do you fe when you break a promise you have made to someone? Can "man" be trusted to keep the promises? Talk about this.
b) Why can you trust God to keep His promises to you? Has God been faithful in the past keep His promises to you? Why can you trust Him now? Can you trust Him for His future promises?
c) What promises have you made to God? Are you keeping your promises?
d) What promises do you have trouble believing God for? (Be honest)

e) Take some time and pray together about God's promises.

## 6) TO STUDY: [10]

- 1) The Gospel contains God Scriptural promises regarding His Son (Romans 1:2)
- 2) We share God's promises in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:6)
- 3) We have the promise of LIFE in Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 1:1)
- 4) The promises were made to Christ (Gal. 3:16,19); Abraham (Gen. 12:3,7; Gal. 3:16); Isaac (Gen.26:3,4); Jacob (Gen.28:14); David (2 Sam.7:12; Psa.89:3,4,35,36; Heb.8:6); the Israelites (Rom.9:4); the fathers (Acts 13:32; 26:6,7); all who are called of God (Acts 2:39); and those who love him (James 1:12; 2:5).
- 5) God's promises are: good (1 Kings 8:56); holy (Psa.105:42); great and precious (2 Peter 1:4); confirmed in Christ (Rom.15:8); "Yes" and "Amen" in Christ (2 Cor.1:20); and fulfilled in Christ (Acts 13:23; Luke 1:69-73).
- 6) God's promises are: through the righteousness of faith (Romans 4:13,16); obtained through faith (Heb.11:33); given to those who believe (Gal.3:22); inherited through faith and patience (Heb.6:12,15; 10:36); performed in due season (Jer.33:14; Acts 7:17; Gal.4:4); and infallible (Josh.23:14; 1 Kings 8:56).
- 7) God is faithful to bring His promises to pass (Heb.10:23). God remembers His promises (Psa.105:42; Luke 1:54,55)
- 8) The results of God's promises are: Christ (2 Samuel 7:12,13; Acts 13:22,23); The Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33; Eph.1:13); The Gospel (Rom.1:1,2); life in Christ (2 Tim.1:1); a crown of life (James 1:12); eternal life (Titus 1:2; 1 John 2:25); adoption (2 Cor.6:18; 7:1); protection in difficult times (Isa.43:2); blessing (Deut.1:11); forgiveness of sins (Isa.1:18; Heb.8:12); the law put in our hearts (Jer.31:33; Heb.8:10); the Second Coming of Christ (2) Pet.3:4); new heavens and earth (2 Pet.3:13); rest (Josh.22:4; Heb.4:1); lead us to the perfecting of holiness (2 Cor.7:1); an inheritance for the saints (Rom. 4:13; Gal.3:18)
- 9) God's children: are children of the promises (Rom.9:8; Gal.4:28); heirs of the promises (Gal.3:29; Heb.6:17; 11:9); can have confidence in His promises (Heb.11:11); can expect them to come true (Luke 1:38, 45; 2 Pet.3:13); can be tempted to doubt (Psa.77:8,10); can plead for the promises in prayer (Gen.32:9,12; 1 Chr.17:23,26; Isa,43:26); can stand firm in his promises (Rom.4:20); can wait for them to pass (Acts 1:4).

## 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" - Hebrews 13:6 -

## 8) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

## # 17 - CHRIST'S DEATH

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Ten armchair theoreticians cannot match one doer. - Anonymous -

When you say a situation or a person is hopeless, you are slamming the door in the face of God. - Reverend Charles Allen -

The man who bows the lowest in the presence of God stands the straightest in the presence of sin. - Author Unknown -

## 4) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH: [3,4,6,7]

Calvary was the expression both of the wrath of God against sin and the mercy of God toward the guilty sinner. God's love is holy and just.

1) On 5 different occasions Jesus prophesied that He would be crucified, buried, and on the third day rise from the dead (Matt.12:39-40; 20:17-19; 26:30-32; Luke 18:31-33; John 2:19-22). Jesus knew His mission was to die for humanity. It was Christ's supreme work on earth. Christ's purpose could be accomplished in no other way. There had to be a substitute for our sin.
2) Christ's death was prophesied by God (Isa.53:8; Zech.13:7; Dan.9:26)
3) Christ's death was determined by God (Isa.53:6, 10; Acts 2:23)
4) There are 6 different meanings to Christ's death:
i) <u>atonement</u> – a covering for sin (Rom. 5:11)
ii) <u>propitiation</u> – gives the idea of the "mercy seat" (1 John 2:2)
iii) <u>substitution</u> – the innocent Jesus took the place of the guilty sinner (John 10:11)
iv) <u>redemption</u> – we were bought with the precious Blood of Christ (1 Pet. 1:18,19)
v) <u>reconciliation</u> – once enemies, we've been brought together as friends (Rom. 5:10)
vi) <u>ransom</u> – a price was paid for our release from sin (Matt. 20:28)
5) Christ was to die by crucifixion (Matt.27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:33; Num.21:8 see John 3:14; Heb.12:2; Gal. 3:13)
6) Christ volunteered to die without being forced (John 10:18)
7) Christ's death shows all of God's attributes. It shows us His love, holiness, justice, mercy, and faithfulness to mankind.
8) Christ's death brought salvation those who receive His forgiveness by faith (1 Tim. 4:10)

# 5) WRITE A "THANK YOU PRAYER" TO JESUS FOR DYING ON THE CROSS FOR YOU:

## 6) WHAT ENSUED"BEFORE" & "DURING" CHRIST'S DEATH?

(Adapted from "The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel - a must read for every Christian & searching individual) [2]

- 1) At Gethsemane, Christ experienced a horrible amount of distress, realizing the amount of pain He was going to endure. Christ began to "sweat blood". This is a medical term called "hematidrosis" which is uncommon but associated with a high degree of stress. The severe anxiety causes chemicals in the body to be released and they break down the capillaries in the sweat glands. This causes blood to come through the sweat. This would have made Christ's skin very fragile and sensitive when He was "flogged".
- 2) Christ's flogging would have consisted of 39 lashes (although if the soldier was in a bad mood, it could have been more). The whip was made of braided leather with metal balls sewn into them. The balls would cause deep wounds that would eventually break open. The whip also had pieces of sharp bone that would "rip" and "cut open" the flesh. The whipping would start around the shoulders, down the back, throughout the buttocks, and onto the back of the legs. The cuts would go into the muscle and produce quivering ribbons of bleeding flesh. These would be exposed. People who were "flogged" often died from these beatings. The pain was "excruciating". They would also experience "hypovolemic shock" meaning "low blood". This shock causes the heart to pump blood not there, lowered blood pressure which causes fainting or collapsing, kidney malfunction that stops the production of urine, and tremendous thirst as the individual craves fluids to replace the blood volume. Jesus staggered as he carried the cross, had to have someone carry it for him, and said, "I thirst." Jesus was definitely in critical condition.
- 3) At the cross, Jesus was laid down, and his hands nailed with 5-7 inch spikes through an area between the wrist (considered a part of the hand in those days) and the palm. The nail would have crushed a large nerve that would have caused an unimaginable amount of pain. They had to invent a new word called "excruciating" to describe the intense pain.
- 4) Christ's arms would have been stretched up to about 6 inches in length because both shoulders would have been dislocated (Psalm 22).
- 5) Crucifixion is an agonizingly slow death by asphyxiation. The muscles and diaphragm of the chest would be in a very stress-ridden position in the inhaled position. The person, in order to relieve the stress, would push up with his feet causing the nail to tear through the feet. The person would go up and down in this process of inhaling and exhaling all the while scraping their lacerated back against the wood of the cross. This would cause complete exhaustion until the person would not be able to push up anymore. Also, the respiratory system would begin to slow down causing an irregular heartbeat and finally, cardiac arrest. Above this, the hypovolemic shock would have caused a rapid heartbeat that would also have lead to heart failure. Fluid would then collect in the membrane around the heart and lungs causing "blood and water" to come out (John 19:34). Jesus died from all this.

[Author's note: Some people say that Jesus died from a broken heart. "He came to His own but His own did not receive Him." Certainly, the psychological stress Christ experienced would be a part of the pain He went through before and during the Cross?

## 7) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH ON THE CROSS

a) The pain that Jesus experienced was so tremendous that they had to invent a new word "excruciating" to describe it. Excruciating literally means, "out of the cross." How does it make you feel that Jesus did this for "you"?
b) Knowing He would go through such tremendous pain (He was God, had read the scriptures, and knew the future), why would Jesus do this for us? (see Romans 5:6-8)
c) We "read" about Christ's sufferings. Take some time to "meditate" on His pai suffering, and death. Then, take some time to talk to Jesus, who died for you.

## 8) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. - 1 Peter 2:23 -

## 9) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

## # 18 - CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

## 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

## 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

## 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

How else but through a broken heart may Lord Christ enter in. - Oscar Wilde -

God doesn't always smooth the path, but sometimes He puts springs in the wagon. - Marshall Lucas -

The seven last words of the dying church are, 'We've never done it that way before.' - Ralph Neighbour -

## 4) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S RESURRECTION: [1,3,4,7]

- 1) The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the fundamental doctrine on which Christianity stands. In 1 Cor.15:12-19, Paul shows that everything is dependant on Christ's bodily resurrection. If Christ has not risen, then Paul's preaching is in vain (v.14); the Corinthian's faith was worth nothing (v.15); the apostles were not really witnesses then (v.15); they were still in their sins (v.17); the dead in Christ have no hope (v.18); and Christians should be pitied (v.19).
- 2) Every other religious leader is dead. Only Christ conquered death.
- 3) Acts continually talks about the resurrection of Christ (Acts 2:24: 3:15, 26: 4:10: 10:40: 13:30-37; 17:31). Paul's epistles talk about the resurrection of Christ (Rom.4:24; 6:4, 9; 7:4; 8:11; 10:9; 1 Cor.6:14; 15:4; 2 Cor.4:14; Gal.1:1; Eph.1:20; Col. 2:13; 1 Thess. 1:10; 2 Tim. 2:8). Other N.T. epistles also talk about His resurrection (1 Pet.1:21; 3:21; Rev.1:5; 2:8). It is shared by writers throughout the New Testament.
- 4) The apostles repeatedly tell that they were evewitnesses (Luke 24:33-36; John 20:19, 26; 21:24; Acts 1:3, 21). Christ's resurrection is mentioned 104 times in the New Testament.
- 5) Christ's resurrection proves that He conquered death. We are saved through His life (Rom.5:11). We can put our faith in the fact that if Jesus Christ conquered "bodily" death that we, by faith, can receive a spiritual body just like He did.
- 6) Every cause has an effect. The effect of Christ's resurrection is an empty tomb, the Lord's Day, the Christian church, and the New Testament. All these things are an effect of Christ's resurrection.
- 7) The evidences of the Resurrection are an empty tomb (Matt.28:6); the testimony of angels (Matt.28:46; Luke 24:5-7); people who talked to Christ after the resurrection (Thomas, Cleopas, Mary, and Peter); Jesus doing physical things (eating, drinking, showing His wounds, etc.); the different appearances He made to people; the testimony of Christians who speak of a relationship with Him; and others (Acts 1:3).

- 8) The trinity was at work in Christ's resurrection. He rose from the dead by the power of the Father (Acts 2:23,24); by His own power (John 2:19; John 10:18); and by the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 3:18).
- 9) Christ's resurrection proves: His deity (Rom.1:4); the existence of God (a living God resurrected Jesus); salvation is possible and complete; that we shall rise too; that He will come again; and that we may experience the power of His resurrection NOW (Phil.3:10)

## 5) CHRIST'S RESURRECTION BODY AND OURS. [1,3,4,6,7]

Christ's resurrection body had "flesh and bones" (Luke 24:39); was glorious (Phil.3:21); was immortal and will never die (Rom.6:9); was a spiritual body (1 Cor.15:44); and as a spirit body had the ability to pass through a solid wall (John 20:19).

Our resurrection body (1 Corinthians 15:35-58). "So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body" (1 Cor.15:42-44, 49)

## 6) CHRIST'S RESURRECTION: EVENTS & APPEARANCES.[5]

#### **Events**

- 1) Early that morning, three women came to the tomb and saw two angels (Matt.28:1-8; Mark 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-8)
- 2) They separated at the tomb. Mary Magdalene went to tell John and Peter (John 20:1). The other two went to tell the other two disciples (Luke 24:9-11)
- 3) Then Peter and John ran to the grave ahead of Mary and returned without seeing the Lord (John 20:3-10)

#### **Appearances**

- 1) Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9; John 20:11-18)
- 2) Then to the women (Matt. 28:9-10)
- 3) Then to Peter (Luke 24:34; 1 Cor.15:5)
- 4) Then in the late afternoon to the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)
- 5) Then in the evening to disciples in the "Upper Room" (John 20:19-24; Luke 24:36-48)
- 6) A week later, to the same disciples with Thomas present (John 20:24-29)
- 7) Later, He appeared to 7 disciples on the shore of the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-25)
- 8) Then to the "Eleven" on a mountain in Galilee (Matt. 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-18)
- 9) Then to the 500 brethren at once (1 Cor.15:6)
- 10) Then to James (1 Cor.15:7)
- 11) Then He ascended to Heaven in the presence of His Disciples from the Mount of Olives (Luke 24:50-53; Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9)
- 12) Then He appeared to Steven (Acts 7:52-56)
- 13) Then he appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6; 1 Cor.15:8)

7)	WRI	<u>ТЕ А Р</u> І	RAYER A	<u>ABOUT</u>	CHRIST	r's resu	JRRECTIC	<u> </u>

## 8) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven. - 1 Corinthians 15:49 -

9) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

## # 19 - CHRIST'S ASCENSION

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

Our prayers are answered not when we are given what we ask but when we are challenged to be what we can be. - Morris Alder -

Man is an able creature, but he has made 32,600,000 laws and hasn't yet improved on the Ten Commandments. - Anonymous -

Hypocrites in the Church? Yes, and in the lodge and at the home. Don't hunt through the Church for a hypocrite. Go home and look in the mirror. Hypocrites? Yes. See that you make the number one less. - Billy Sunday -

## 4) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S ASCENSION: [3,4,5,7]

- 1) Jesus Christ ascended "VISIBLY" AND "BODILY". Jesus departed visibly for the disciples saw Him depart. He departed in His resurrection body.
- 2) The Ascension was prophesied and taught in the Scriptures (Psa. 24; 68:18; 110:1; Luke 9:51; John 6:62; 20:17; 13:1; 15:26; 16:10, 16, 28)
- 3) Paul spoke of Christ's Ascension (Eph.4:8-10; Phil.2:9; 1 Tim.3:16). Peter spoke of it (1 Pet.3:22) and so did the writer of Hebrews (Heb.4:14).
- 4) The Ascension happened 40 days after His resurrection (Acts 1:3)
- 5) The Ascension is talked about in Luke 24:51 and Acts 1:9-11.
- 6) If we believe in Christ's bodily resurrection, then we have no trouble believing in His bodily ascension and therefore, in His bodily return.

## 5) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S ASCENSION:

a) What kinds of feelings do you think the disciples felt as they watched Jesus go up heaven?
b) "As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out f Jerusalem." (Luke 9:51). Discuss this verse especially the word "resolutely".
c) What do you think Jesus felt as He was ascending to be with the Father?

## 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. - Acts 1:9 -

## 7) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

#### # 20 - CHRIST'S EXALTATION

## 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:

## 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:

## 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

We have no right to ask when sorrow comes, "Why did this happen to me?" unless we ask the same question for every joy that comes our way. - Philip S. Bernstein -

> Too often we seek justice for just us. - James Thom -

The most prominent place in hell is reserved for those who are neutral on the great issues of life. - Billy Graham -

## 4) LET'S STUDY CHRIST'S EXALTATION: [3,4,7]

- 1) Christ's exaltation is mentioned by Luke (Acts 2:33; 5:31); by Paul (Rom.8:34; Eph.1:20; Phil.2:9; Col.3:1); Hebrews (Heb.10:12); and Jesus (Matt.22:41-45; Rev.3:21)
- 2) Jesus Christ is now seated at the right hand of the Father (Eph.1:20). Remember Stephen seeing Christ there (Acts 7:56). Jesus said that he would return home again (John 14:28. "I go to the Father".) He fulfilled the prophecy about Himself in John chapter 16.
- 3) The pouring out of the Holy Spirit was proof to the apostles that Christ had been exalted (Acts 2:33). Jesus had promised that the Holy Spirit would come after His ascension (John 16:7). Because the Holy Spirit came, it proved that Christ had been exalted.
- 4) Jesus' exaltation completed his redemptive work (John 20:16,17); enabled His followers to do the promised greater works (John 14:12); allowed Jesus to enter His ministry of intercession; and allowed Christ's ministry of the Holy Spirit to go worldwide.
- 5) Jesus' exaltation glorified the Father (John 17:1); gave Jesus the position of Prince and Sayior (Acts 5:31): allowed Jesus to enter the sanctuary behind the curtain on our behalf (Heb.6:19,20); allowed Jesus to prepare our heavenly home (John 14:2); allowed Jesus to be our High Priest (Heb.9:21-24); and to take His seat (Hebrews 10:12,13).
- 6) Because of Christ's exaltation: He has been crowned with glory and honor (Heb.2:9); gifts have been given to men (Eph.4:8); we can come boldly to the Lord in prayer (Heb.4:14-16); we can be saved to the uttermost (Heb.7:25); we can draw near to Christ (Heb.10:22); we can look at Jesus as our goal (Heb.12:2); we are seated in the heavenly realms "positionally" in Christ Jesus (Eph.2:6); He has filled all things (Eph.4:10); and Christ is now exalted with authorities and powers made subject to Him (1 Peter 3:22).

# 5) LET'S TALK ABOUT CHRIST'S EXALTATION:

TYTIY GO YOU UIIII	k the Father exalted Jesus?
Why did the Holy	Spirit's coming at Pentecost prove that Christ had been exalted?

# 6) FURTHER STUDY: [6,8]

## CHRIST'S HOURS UPON THE CROSS

CI CI I I I CROSS
$BETWEEN 12 NOON & 3 P.M. (6^{TH} - 9^{TH})$
Darkness for three hours (Mark 15:33)
Christ's cry of being forsaken (Matt.27:46)
Christ's cry of thirst (John 19:28)
Christ's "It is finished" (John 19:30)
Christ commits His spirit (Luke 23:46)
AFTER 3 P.M
The earthquake and curtain torn in two
(Matt.27:51)
The tombs break open and many dead seen
(Matt.27:52)
Centurion, "Surely he was the Son of God"
(Matt.27:54)
The confession of the multitude
(Luke 23:48)
The thieves' legs broken (John 19:31-32)
Jesus' side is pierced (John 19:34)
The burial (John 19:38-42)
Tomb sealed and guard posted (Matt.27:66)
THANK YOU LORD JESUS
TIME (II TO E LORD GEOUS
AMAZING GRACE!!

	Christ's Seven Statements on the Cross
1) Luke 23:34:	
2) Luke 23:43:	
3) John 19:26-27:	
4) Matt.27:46:	
5) John 19:28:	
6) John 19:30:	
7)Luke 23:46:	

## 7) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.

- Ephesians 4:10 -

## 8) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

#### # 21 - GOD'S PLAN FOR THE AGES

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

The world we inhabit must have had an origin; that origin must have consisted in a cause; that cause must have been intelligent; that intelligence must have been supreme; and that supreme, which always was and is supreme, we know by the name of God. - Anonymous -

We should give God the same place in our hearts that He holds in the universe. - Anonymous -

> Of what I call God, and fools call Nature. - Robert Browning -

## 4) LET'S STUDY "GOD'S PLAN FOR THE AGES" BY LOOKING AT AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION.

When you read a book, do you look ahead to see what the final outcome is going to be? Maybe some of you here have in the past gone to fortunetellers to see what the future holds for you. Maybe you've wanted to know what kind of job you were going to get, or who your husband or wife was going to be, or if your life would be successful.

As Christians we know that we are not to seek out fortunetellers, spiritists, or astrologers. Lev.19:26 tells us, "Do not practice divination or sorcery." Then Lev.19:31 says, "Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them. I am the Lord your God." You see God in Isaiah 44:24-26 said that, "This is what the Lord says - your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the Lord, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself, who foils the signs of false prophets and makes fools of diviners, who overthrows the learning of the wise and turns it into nonsense, who carries out the words of his servants and fulfills the predictions of his messengers." God foils the signs of false prophets and makes fools of diviners. He overthrows the learning of the wise and turns it into nonsense. He carries out the words of his servants and fulfills the predictions of his messengers.

Now, let's turn to Joshua 21:45. The people of Israel had entered into the Promised Land. Many people think that the Promised Land is heaven but I believe it is for us here and now. It is a "spiritual" condition and not a place. The enemies of Israel had lived there but their spiritual condition was ungodly. The Promised Land is a picture of the spiritual man trusting God and entering into the Spirit-filled and Spirit-led life. God had taken the people out of Egypt (the world), taken them far from the temptations of Egypt (sin), and destroyed the works of Pharaoh in their lives (Satan). This was "Salvation". Then, He took them across the Red Sea. This is a picture of our baptism with Christ. Not an outer cleansing but being baptized in the name of Christ and "identifying" with Christ. Telling the world that I have left it and am now totally Christ's. Then God had them go through a desert experience. They could have arrived in a very short time but the desert experience is something every Christian must go through. It is a time of learning how much we need God and learning to become dependent on Him. We all need this desert experience to become prepared to fight the bigger fights God has for us. It is a Christian's bootcamp. How long we stay in our desert experience depends on our willingness to sanctify ourselves, to obey God, and be willing to die to "self" and the world. Then, God took the people across the Jordan River. This is a picture of entering into the Spirit-filled life. The Spirit-filled life is where the "real" testings begin. But God says, "The Lord your God himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the Lord said". (Deut.31:3). Not only the Lord your God will be with you but he sent Joshua (a type of Jesus) to go with the people. Jesus was with them too. You may say that God is up in heaven while I'm down here going through a tough time. But all through the Bible we see God coming to be with His people and this was no better portrayed than when Jesus became flesh and dwelt among us. After, the Jordan, the people entered the Promised Land. And we know they conquered kingdoms and in the power of God's Spirit took possession of the land. Now, look at Joshua 21:45, "Not one of all the Lord's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled." Joshua 24:13 says, "So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build, and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant." The Spirit-filled life is a land of plenty. It is God's promise as we continue to walk with Him.

Now, you know that you will walk through a desert period as a Christian. It will be a time of spiritual boot camp. You know that God will call you into the Spirit-filled life of trusting Him, being obedient to Him, and letting Him live His life through you. You also know that it is a land of plenty and that "Not one of all the Lord's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled." All God's promises are going to be fulfilled in your life.

Are you curious in your life? Why did God give us this "curious" tendency? God has made us curious and it is for a reason. The reason is that properly executed, curiosity will cause us to seek God. In John, Chapter 4, Jesus gives us a wonderful example of how to use curiosity to witness to someone. In verse 10 he says, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." Immediately the woman at the well became "curious" and asked, "Where can you get this living water?" Her curiosity had been aroused. Jesus had something special and she was curious how she could obtain this. Brothers and sisters, you have "Someone" special. His name is "JESUS". People today are still curious. So we see that this curious tendency can cause people to seek God.

Today, let's see the beauty of God's Word and that we as Christians can know the beginning from the end. Let's do an overview of the Book of Revelation. Revelation is the last book of the Bible. Many people believe it cannot be understood. But we have the Holy Spirit. God has by His grace given us the keys to understanding the end times and His plan for the ages.

In Rev.1:3, it says, "Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it because the time is near." God has promised to bless you if you just read the words of this prophecy. And a further blessing to those who hear it and take to heart what is written.

Now the key verse in Revelation is Rev.1:19, "Write therefore, what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later." What John was to write was first, what he had seen. What he had seen was in Rev.1:9-20. In verse 11 it says, "Write on the scroll what you see..." Then it tells you what John saw.

Then, John is to write "what is now". What was now was the Church Age in Rev.2:1-3:22. Jesus had returned and the Spirit had been sent and the Church had been birthed. John was to write about these 7 churches. These 7 churches are 7 church periods from John's writing of the prophecy in 96 AD up until the end of the Church Age before Jesus comes for his church at the Tribulation. These 7 churches are a prophetic look at the different kinds of churches we have had throughout history.

1) Ephesus	- a backslidden church.	(AD 70-170)
2) Smyrna	- a persecuted church	(AD 170-312 – the time of Constantine)
3) Pergamos	- a licentious church	(AD 312-606)
4) Thyatira	- a lax church	(AD 606-1520 – the time of the Reformation)
5) Sardis	- a dead church	(AD 1520-1750 - Word brought forth but lots to recover)
6) Philadelphia	- a favored church	(AD 1750-1900 – Revivals)
7) Laodicea	- a lukewarm church	(AD 1900 – Christ's return)

(Some or all of the characteristics of these churches are sprinkled throughout history.)

Finally, in Rev.1:19, John wrote, "what will take place later". This is what the rest of the book of Revelation is all about. This is Revelation 4:1 to 22:21.

Very briefly we see in Rev.4:1 John a type of the Church "caught up" to the throne of God. This is a wonderful picture of the Church being caught up to be with the Lord. There are two parts to Christ's second coming. First there is the Rapture where the church is caught up. Then later is the Revelation. First the church is caught up, (see 1 Thess.4:13-18) "For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." The "dead saints' will be caught up first and we who are "alive" the church will be caught up together with them. Notice Jesus does not put his feet on the ground here. He "catches us up in to the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." In chapters 4:1 to the end of chapter 5, John is in heaven.

Then, we begin chapter 6 to the end of chapter 18. This is the time of Jacob's trouble in Jeremiah 30:7. "How awful that day will be! None will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it." Without getting into the Tribulation it will be a time when Israel will be tried by fire, when the ungodly will go through God's wrath, and a time when most will continue to rebel against God but many will be saved. The Church, though, will be raptured out before and we will escape God's wrath during the Tribulation. Turn to 1 Thess.1:10. "and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead - Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath." Again, look at 1 Thess.5:9, "For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ."

God is a God of order. Do you see how nicely put together Revelation is. We see the "what you have seen" in Rev.1:9-20, "what is now" in Rev.2:1-3:22, and "what will take place" later in Rev.4:1-22:21.

Now, let's skip through Rev.4:1-18:24. We're not going to be here for that hell on earth. It doesn't mean we don't care. We care. We want our loved ones to get saved out of that. But for some people, they are going to have to go through the Tribulation to realize that they need God.

Now, in Chapter 19 we begin to see things unfolding. How is your curiosity? Are you wanting to know the end of the story? In 19:1 we see, "After this". After what? After the time of God's wrath. In Rev.19:1-7 we have the Hallelujah chorus. Something is going to happen. It is time for the Marriage of the Lamb. In Rev.19:8-10 we have the Marriage of the Lamb. Our Lord Jesus has been promised to a spotless bride from the "foundations of the world'. He has patiently waited for His bride. The church has been caught up, they have been judged for their works (what they've done good or bad in the body) not for salvation because that was done at the Cross of Jesus Christ.

In Rev.19:11-21 they are coming back with the bridegroom. Jesus had come for them at the Tribulation. Now he is coming with them in the Revelation. Zechariah 14:4 says, "On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south." And this Jesus is going to "Kick some Butt" at Armageddon and throw the beast and false prophet into the "fiery lake of burning sulphur." He is also going to save Israel out of the Tribulation as well as others who have not bowed down to Satan.

In Rev.20:1-6, Jesus sets up his 1,000 year reign on earth. (Isa.11:6-9).

In Rev.20:7-10 we see Satan's doom.

In Rev.20:11-15, the dead are judged at the Great White Throne Judgment. During this time we will have the earth's "renovation by fire" prophesied by Peter in 2 Peter 3:7, "By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly man." God never fixes something that is broken. He didn't fix our hearts, He gave us new hearts. He didn't come to fix the earth but to destroy it by fire that nothing ungodly would remain.

Then in Rev.21:1-Rev.22:21 we see what the new heaven and the new earth will be like.

God in His grace has shown us what is going to happen. He is the "Eternal One". Not one of His promises to Israel failed and not one of His promises to His Church will fail. All we have to do now is to continue to be obedient and yielded to God and to "WATCH & PRAY".

# 5) LET'S LOOK AT THE OUTLINE FOR "THE BOOK OF REVELATION" TO SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE.

- \* Revelation 1:1, "The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place."
- \* In Rev.1:3, "Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it because the time is near."
- \* Key verse of Revelation is Rev.1:19, "Write therefore, what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later."
- \* "What you have seen". What he had seen was in Rev.1:9-20.(v.11 "'Write on a scroll what you see..")
- \* "What is now". In Rev.2:1-3:22 which is the Church Age.
- \* "What will take place later". (Rev.4:1-22:21) From the Tribulation to eternal future..
- \* Rev.4:1-4 we see John "caught up" to the throne of God. This is a wonderful picture of the church being caught up to be with the Lord. There are two parts to Christ's Second Coming.

Part One (1 Thess.4:13-18; 1 Cor.15:51; John 11:25,26) (The Rapture – comes "FOR" his church)

Part Two (2 Thess 1:7-10; Zech.14:3-5) (The Revelation – Christ comes "WITH" his church)

- \* Ch. 6"1-18:24. (Jacob's trouble in Jeremiah 30:7 the Tribulation).
- "How awful that day will be! None will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it." This is the time of God Judgment on Israel. The Church will not be part of the Tribulation.
- (1 Thess.1:10. "and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.")(1 Thess.5:9, "For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.")
- \* Rev.19:1-4 we have the Hallelujah chorus. The excitement of the Marriage in heaven is building.
- \* In Rev.19:5-10 we have the Marriage of the Lamb. This takes place in heaven after the saints are purified. (2 Cor.5:10).
- \* In Rev.19:11-21 The church and OT saints are coming back WITH the bridegroom.. (Zechariah 14:4; 2 Thess.1:6-10) This is the REVELATION when Jesus sets His feet on the earth and Judges the Nations. The Jews will be saved out of the Tribulation. The GENTILE nations will be judged (Matt, 25:31, 32; Rev, 19:13-15) (See also Zech.12:10; John 19:37; Rev. 1:7)
- \* In Rev.20:1-3 Satan is bound for 1,000 years.
- \* In Rev.20:4-6 Jesus sets up his 1,000 year reign on earth. This is mainly for the JEWS. (Isa.11:6-9; Joel 3:18; Isa.2:2-4; Isa. 35:1-2). (The Jews consider this the "Sabbath Rest" or 7th Day.)
- \* In Rev.20:7-10 we see Satan loosed, the Nations rise up and rebel and Satan bound forever.
- \* Rev.20:11-15, the wicked dead are judged at the Great White Throne Judgment in the sky.

At the same time the earth will be renovated by fire. All sin, moral and physical decay will be done away with (2 Pet.3:7; 2 Pet., 3:12,13)

\* Rev.21:1-Rev.22:21 we see the SEVEN new things.

Rev. 21:1	The New Heaven (new atmosphere around earth).
Rev. 21:1	The New Earth (prepared for the Jews – The MEEK Shall inherit the EARTH)
Rev.21:9-23	The New City (Church coming back in the new city – John 14:1-3)
Rev. 21:24-27	The New Nations (The Nations will walk by its light)
Rev.22:1-2a, 3	The New River (Flowing from the throne of God in the New City)
Rev.22:2b	The New Tree of Life (For the healing of the nations)
Rev.22:3-5	The New Throne (Where the New River flows from in the New City)

- \* We don't know how long this time will be but then comes the GREAT ABDICATION. Christ's work is done as the Son of Man for us. (1 Cor.15:24-28) God shall be "All in All".
- \* Then we'll have the "OMEGA AGES". Time will cease and the "eternal ages" will begin. Eternity's still
- \* Rev. 22:6-21 is the Final Testimony and Warnings.

### 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

Write therefore, what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later." - Revelation 1:19 -

# 7) NOW, WHO'LL CLOSE THIS TIME IN PRAYER?

### # 22 - COMPARING GENESIS WITH REVELATION

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

I was at this time living, like so many Atheists or Antitheists, in a whirl of contradictions. I maintained that God did not exist. I was also very angry with God for not existing. I was equally angry with Him for creating a world. - C.S. Lewis -

> We are tomorrow's past. - Mary Webb -

It is the laden bough that hangs low, and the most fruitful Christian who is the most humble. - Anonymous -

### 4) LET'S COMPARE "GENESIS" WITH "REVELATION":

Today let's do a study comparing the Book of Genesis with the Book of Revelation. Genesis is the Book of Origins. It shows us the creation of man, man's fall, God's promised redeemer and gives us types and promises of God's redemption for man. The Book of Revelation is, in verse one, "The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place." Now, let's compare the first three chapters in the Book of Genesis with the last three chapters in the Book of Revelation. In Rev.1:3, it says, "Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it because the time is near." God has promised to bless you if you just read the words of this prophecy. And a further blessing to those who hear it and take to heart what is written. Today we will see God's original workings with man in Genesis contrasted with how He is going to restore man in the last 3 chapters of Revelation.

In Genesis 1:1 it says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

In Rev. 21:1 it says, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea."

This was prophesied in Isaiah 65:17, "Behold, I will create new heavens and new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind." Peter also says in 2 Peter 3:7, "By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of godly men." Then in 2 Peter 3:13, "But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness." The earth in its present form is passing away. "Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away".

In Genesis 1:5, God called the darkness "night."

In Rev.21:25, "for there will be no night there." (There will be no night there)

In Gen.1:16, "And God made two great lights – the greater light (sun) to govern the day and the lesser light (moon) to govern the night. He also made the stars".

Rev. 21:23, "The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives its light, and the Lamb is its lamp."

Gen.2:17, "but you must not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (death – spiritual and physical - entered the world)

Rev.21:4, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, or crying, or mourning, or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (no more death)

Genesis 3:1, "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made." (Satan appears to deceive man).

Rev.20:10, "And the devil who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulphur, where the beast and false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever." (Satan disappears)

Gen.3:6-7, "When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it." (Shown a garden into which defilement entered)

Rev.21:27, "Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Shown a city into which defilement will never enter)

(1 John 2:16, "For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father but from the world.")

Gen. 3:8-10, "Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden." (Walk of God with man interrupted)

Rev.21:3, "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God."(Walk of God with man resumed)

Gen.3:13, "Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me and I ate." (initial triumph of Satan)

Rev.20:10, "And the devil who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulphur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever." (ultimate triumph of the Lamb)

Gen.3:16, "To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." (sorrow multiplied)

Rev.21:4, "He will wipe ever tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (no more sorrow)

Gen.3:17 "To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, "You must not eat of it." "Cursed is the ground because of you, through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life." (the ground is cursed for our sake to show us our need for God)

Rev.22:3, "No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city and his servants will serve him." (no more curse)

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

(Deut.21:23, "you must not leave his body on the tree overnight. Be sure to bury him that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse.")

Gen.2:19 "Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name." (man given dominion)

Gen.3:19 "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return. (man's dominion broken in the fall of the first man, Adam)

Rev.22:5, "They will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever. (man's dominion restored in the rule of the new man Christ)

(Rev.1:5b-6, "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. (we will reign with Him)

<u>Gen.3:23</u>, "So the Lord God banished him from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken." (first paradise closed)

Rev.21:25, "On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there." (new paradise opened)

(2 Samuel 14:14, "Like water spilled to the ground which cannot be recovered, so we must die. But God does not take away life, instead, he devices ways that a banished person may not remain estranged from him.")

<u>Gen.3:24</u>, "After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life" (access to the tree of life disinherited in Adam)

Rev.22:14, "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city." (access to the tree of life reinstated in Christ)

**Gen.3:24** (they were driven from God's presence)

<u>Rev.22:4</u>, "They will see his face, and their names will be on their foreheads. (they shall see His face)

In Hebrews 11:l, it says, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for..." We can rest our lives on the promises in this book. What God revealed to Moses in Genesis is right in line with what God revealed to John in Revelation. Jesus is Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, and the Beginning and the End. You see, Jesus is coming back. He wants to take a bride home with Him. He is preparing a place for us in His Father's house. He will never leave us or forsake us. He is with us to the ends of the world. And the truths in Revelation are substance truths that we can put on faith in. Let's turn to Titus 2:11-14, "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men (justification). It teaches us to say "NO" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, (sanctification) while we wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ" (glorification). Jesus is coming back. "Watch and Pray".

For Further Study: (Proofs that God spoke to Moses and had him write the Pentateuch)

Exodus 24:4, "Moses then wrote down everything the Lord had said."

Exodus 31:18, "When the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, He gave him the two tablets of the Testimony, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God".

Exodus 32:16, "The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets."

Numbers 33:2, "At the Lord's command Moses recorded the stages in their journey."

Deut.31:24, "After Moses finished writing in a book the words of this law from beginning to end."

# 5) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

while we wait for the blessed hope –
the glorious appearing of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.
- Titus 2:13 –

### 6) NOW, (name) WILL YOU CLOSE THIS TIME IN PRAYER?

### # 23 - CLOSING THOUGHTS

- 1) LET'S BEGIN BY HAVING (name) PRAY FOR US:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S STUDY SOME QUOTES NOW:

There are times when God asks nothing of His children except silence, patience, & tears - Charles Seymour Robinson -

The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want. - Small child misquoting the Bible's 23rd Psalm -

I would rather walk with God in the dark than go alone in the light. - Mary Gardiner Brainard -

# 4) LET'S LOOK AT A FEW "CLOSING THOUGHTS":

a) Many people feel that Christianity "devalues" woman as people. They talk about the "lower status" of woman. They say that woman are given lower positions in the church and are to stay home and be "housewives". The difficulty here is that God looks at individuals differently than people do. People see each other by "what they do". God sees individuals as who they are. "There is neither Jew nor Greek (Gentile), slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus". (Galatians 3:28). Talking here about the Christian, God sees males and females as the same. Who they are is who they are "in Christ". But God asks people to function in different roles. Are they lower roles? To mankind they are. But to God they are not. Let us look at the lowest possible role ever. The death of Jesus Christ. The Father asked Jesus to die for this world. Jesus did not have to leave His home in heaven. He knew who He was. He was God. But He chose to take the role of a suffering servant and die on the cross. God has the right to ask us to function in different roles in society because He took the lowest possible role there was. He became obedient unto death. Take some time to talk about this.

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b) God created everything but Himself. He has always been. Evolutionists would have us believe that this well thought-out and planned world came from "nothing" and by "chance". Yet, we believe it was given us by a well-thought out plan by God. "Something" cannot come from "nothing" but "something" can come from "someone". God's creation was declared "GOOD" in Genesis for no evil comes from God but through the "fall of man" and Satan. Jesus said, "Don't you know that in the beginning God created them male and female." What is so marvelous about this statement is that "true science" needs a witness. Jesus is our "Faithful Witness". He was there because He is God. Finally, evolutionists would have us believe that lower forms are evolving into higher forms. Yet, when donkeys interbreed with horses they get a "hybrid". Also, if we were evolving into a higher form, how can you explain death? Shouldn't death be irradiated by now? Discuss this.
explain death? Shouldn't death be irradiated by now? Discuss this.
c) The "Church of Christ" is in much need of revival. Revival happens when an individual has a strong need in his/her life. We must "hunger and thirst for righteousness". Jesus is "our Righteousness." If we come honestly and openly before Jesus with a "needy" heart, He will revive us. Yes, we must pray for revival for others but revival starts with our own heart. The fruit of revival in our hearts is a willingness to be obedient. Revival often brings a sense of our own sinfulness. It will also bring a deep sense of God's presence, glory, and wonder. Finally, unsaved people don't need "revival". They need "salvation" through the blood of Jesus Christ. Backslidden, disobedient, sinful, and lukewarm Christians need revival. Discuss this.

d) God wants to heal people. But a person needs to be wise when they pray for
someone to be healed. God is balanced. He knows the individual. Many times an
outward disease is a result of a deeper spiritual problem. When we pray for
someone to be healed it is important to ask God for wisdom on how to pray. We
must also realize that sometimes God is teaching the person "how to suffer" so that
they will be able to comfort those with the comfort they have received from God. We
must also realize that sometimes God is going to display His glory through a healing.
We must be balanced just as God is. Let us seek God to find out what He is doing in
the individuals life. Let us really listen to God and ask the individual gentle, loving
questions about their spiritual condition, past hurts, etc. God wants to heal the
whole man. Spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically. Talk about this.

5) LET'S BREAK INTO GROUPS OF THREE AND PRAY FOR EACH OTHER NOW. Ask each other their prayer needs and how you can pray for them.

# 6) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

"This is what the Lord says-Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. - Isaiah 44:6 -

# 7) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

### # 24 - FINAL TEST

- 1) LET'S HAVE (name) BEGIN THIS TIME WITH PRAYER:
- 2) LET'S WORSHIP THROUGH SONG:
- 3) LET'S LOOK AT SOME FAMOUS QUOTES NOW:

They that know God will be humble; they that know themselves cannot be proud. - John Flavel -

> The cross is "I" crossed out. - Anonymous -

The Christian church is not a congregation of righteous people. It is a society of those who know they are not good. - Dwight E. Stevenson -

- 4) ALRIGHT, IT'S TIME TO TAKE OUR TEST NOW:
- 5) LET'S MEMORIZE A BIBLE VERSE NOW:

For this is what the Lord sayshe who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabitedhe says: "I am the Lord, and there is no other. - Isaiah 45:18 -

### 6) LET'S FINISH WITH (name) PRAYING FOR US:

#### JUST FOR FUN!!!!!!

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.	Under same management for over 2000 years!
Soul food served here.	Satan subtracts and divides. God adds and multiplies.
Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church.	Don't give up. Moses was once a basket case.
Tithe if you love Jesus! Anyone can honk!	Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due.
Wal-Mart isn't the only saving place!	Prevent truth decay. Brush up on your Bible.
It's hard to stumble when you're on your knees.	What part of "Thou Shalt Not" don't you understand.
A clear conscience makes a soft pillow.	Life has many choices. Eternity has two. What's yours?
The wages of sin is death. Repent before payday.	Never give the devil a ride. He will always want to drive.
Forbidden fruit creates many jams.	Christians, keep the faithbut not from others!
Can't Sleep? Try counting your blessings.	Don't let the littleness in others bring out the littleness in you.
God answers knee-mail.	Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will take you back.

### Personal Evaluation

Rate yourself in the following areas. Use the scale of 1 to 10 (1 being the lowest and 10 the highest). Then make a small note of how you could improve. It's recommended that every six months you go back over this page and read your comments. God bless you and enjoy growing in Christ.

AREA OF GROWTH	EVALUATION (DATE)	PERSONAL COMMENTS
FAITH IN JESUS:		
PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY:		
DESIRE TO WITNESS:		
PRAYER LIFE:		
BIBLE READING:		
MEMORIZATION/ MEDITATION:		
OPENNESS TO PERSONAL CHANGE:		
WILLINGNESS TO ASK QUESTIONS:		
WILLINGNESS TO BE TAUGHT/DISCIPLED:		
OTHERS:		

### HOW TO USE THIS BOOK (FOR THE TEACHER):

The following are a few thoughts on how to teach this book. This book can be used for one on one discipleship, bible studies, and larger group settings. Nobody can tell someone how to teach. Please be aware of how "YOU" teach as an individual. My goal was to give lots of material as well as to provide a teaching tool that would take little preparation and be used by "lay people" to further the kingdom. Each lesson is 1 ½ to 2 hours in duration depending on how God is leading the group. The following are only a few of the many suggestions that you can use to teach this material with:

- I like to start out with a prayer (#1). I usually ask the students ahead of time to pray so they come prepared.
- After prayer, I like to worship (#2). The goal is to soften hearts. I rarely teach here, but allow the students to worship. The harder parts of the songs, I will go over twice. Many times I appoint an up and coming worship leader to prepare this time.
- After prayer, I have the students read the "quotes" (#3). Sometimes, this initiates conversation. I don't spend too much time on this area but you'll find what works for you.
- After "the quotes", we do usually have four different lessons (#4-#7). These help the students grow in Christ, learn how to teach, and further their Biblical language acquisition.
- After the "four different lessons" there is a "Scripture Memory Verse" (#8). This is something that I encourage the students to look at. I also tell them it takes going over an area of scripture 100x in order for you to have the scripture in your heart for a lifetime. [TEACHER: This is a time to also a) have someone share their testimony, b) have someone talk about a Bible verse, c) have someone sing a worship song, or d) have someone share what God is doing in their life]
- Finally, we close with a prayer (#9). When students to pray, I recommend that you have the "new converts" prepare a prayer the day before in order for them to become accustomed to praying. You may also want to break up into groups to practice praying for each other.

#### **Suggestions for Review**

- a) Go over some of the key questions you have covered. (or break up into groups)
- b) Go into study groups. Have each student ask a question they think will be asked.
  - c) Have the students prepare test questions before the test to give each other.

### **Midterm and Final Test Suggestions** (Tests may be substituted with Special Group Outings)

- a) Have the students come to your office for a verbal test. They can:
  - i) share their testimony
  - ii) answer questions (prepared for, unprepared for, or both)
    - iii) share about their love for Jesus
  - iv) answer questions you have given them in advance or without notice.
  - b) Have the students present a Biblical play they have prepared.
    - c) Have the students do a written test.
- It can be multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blanks, or writing paragraphs.
- d) Have the students keep a journal through the semester. You can mark this.

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[11] Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION. NIV. Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

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