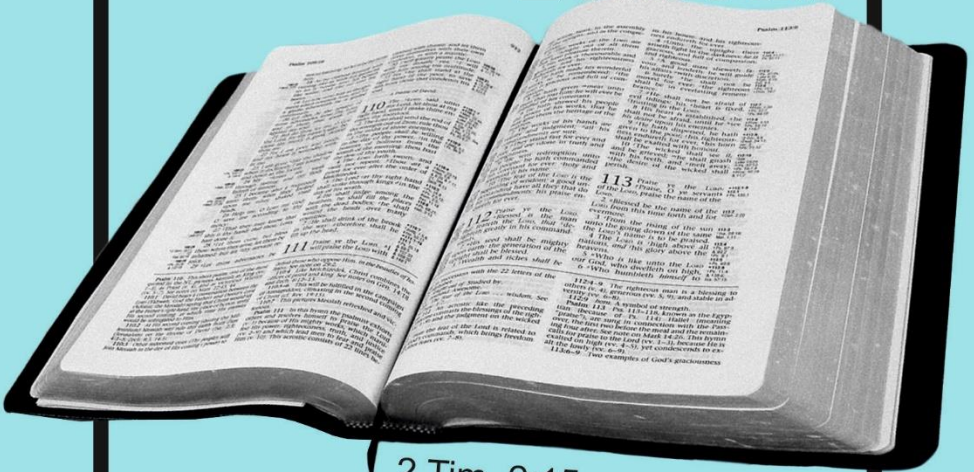


# Bible Study Lessons



2 Tim. 2:15

“Study to show thyself approved unto God”

## For Sabbath School Classes

## For Teens and Adults

# VICTORIOUS

# CHRISTIAN LIVING

## LESSON 1

### MAN, A FREE MORAL AGENT

LESSON READING: Genesis Chapter 2; Deut.32:1-43 Romans Chapter 9; Ephesians Chapter 1.

MEMORY VERSE: "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold it was very good..." Gen.1:27,31)

INTRODUCTION: When God created the world and the universe, He made it beautiful and a happy place to live. All of the universe functioned according to God's perfect laws. There was not a sound of disharmony or discord. All animate and inanimate: creation responded in perfect harmony to the Creator's will. Almighty God was supreme in power, majesty, honour and sovereignty.

Then, God created man. This was the crowning work in all His creative acts. Man was made in the image of God, after His likeness.

The implication of this statement was that man was unlike all other created things- man was made with the sovereign right of free moral agency, that is, he could choose the way he wanted to live and act. All other creatures moved and functioned according to established laws and principles.

By giving man the power of choice, God had in mind that man would have fellowship and communion with his Creator. In fact, God Himself sought fellowship with man. The Bible says that God made man for His glory (Isa.43:7). Paul said we are the "offspring of God" (Acts 17:28,29).

Man could not live an "abundant life" if God had made him an automaton, a person without active intelligence or mechanically behaving and acting according to another's will. Man was not made a puppet. As a son of God, man had the high privilege to communicate with his Creator on the level of free moral agency. Man had the option to live in perfect harmony with God, conversing as friend with friend, giving intelligent expression of his wishes, desires, needs, accomplishments, joy, etc.

In the exercise of his will, however, man was given the opportunity to choose good or evil. God, therefore, had to provide the option of choosing evil. This was done by the presence of the "tree of knowledge of good and evil" in the "midst of the garden" (Gen,2:16,17; 3:3).

Everyone now knows that man chose to disobey God thereby. losing his position with God and dominion over all creation.

But God's purposes and plan for man did not terminate by the intrusion of the devil and the fall of man from his first estate. God provided a means for man's restoration of fellowship with His Creator. This means involved a long term, progressive work of reconciliation including the Old Testament sacrificial system, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; the New Birth of the penitent sinner and finally consummating in the destruction of all evil and the re-creation of all that was affected by the entrance of sin.

We feel that it is important at this juncture to refute a false teaching regarding man's free moral agency. This doctrine is called "Divine Election and Reprobation of Man", Simply stated it means that only certain people have the option to accept God's Plan of Salvation, the rest are doomed to be lost forever. Another term for this teaching is "Predestination".

In the "Doctrinal Standards" of the Christian Reformed church we find this statement, "Election is the unchangeable purpose of God, whereby, before the foundation of the world, He has out of mere grace, according to the sovereign good pleasure of His own will, chosen from the whole human race, which had fallen through their own fault from their primitive state of rectitude into sin and destruction, a certain number of persons to redemption in Christ, whom He from eternity appointed the Mediator and Head of the elect and the foundation of salvation."

So we see, according to this doctrine, only some people can be saved- the ones whom God has chosen and the rest are lost regardless of their choice or desire. This doctrine deprives man of his sovereign right to choose which way he wants to go. In fact, it teaches that God over-rules man's decision thus nullifying the one distinguishing difference between man and all of the rest of creation.

### **QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION**

1. What did God declare as to the nature of His creative works? Gen.1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What was the state of man when he was created? Gen.1:27; Ps. 8:4-6

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did God create man? Isa.43:7; Eph.2:10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What kind of environment did God provide for man? Gen.2:8,15

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. What guideline did God give man for "abundant life"? Vs.16,17

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What indication is there that man was given the power of choice right in the beginning?  
Gen.3:1-6

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, whom did God address first as to their conduct?  
Gen.3:9-11

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Did Adam acknowledge personal responsibility for his disobedience? V. 12

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Did Eve have an opportunity to choose whom she should obey? Gen.3:2,3

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. How was she induced to disobey God? Vs.6,13;2 Cor.11:3

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Did "passing the buck" of responsibility for their disobedience relieve Adam and Eve of the consequences of their action? Gen,3:16-19

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. What prophetic promise did God give man of the ultimate victory of right over wrong and the restoration of man's fellowship with God? Gen.3:15

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13, What is the theory of "Divine Election" (Predestination) and "Reprobation of Man"? See Int. Notes

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

14, How does the Bible interpret "Predestination"? Rom.8:29; 1 Pet.1:1,2

MEMORY VERSE: "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." (Jer 13:23)

INTRODUCTION: A recent book and film entitled "Roots" have captured and captivated the interest of millions of readers and viewers .What is the attraction? Well, there seems to be a search for life's meaning and some are trying to find that in their ancestral "roots". So they are scanning through libraries and archives in search of the history of their progenitors.

But, really, what is at the bottom of this search? We would suggest that it js symptomatic of a deeper search- a search for the meaning of life.

Modern science and technology has brought us an abundance of "things" but there is still a missing ingredient. Something seems to be lacking. One may acquire all the material things he may think he needs and yet there is an emptiness in life. Something is missing. Life is incomplete without this missing ingredient. And so, the search continues.

We would like to ask the question, "What gives meaning to life?" One writer answers the question this way. 'It is not plenteous research, but profound beliefs. It is not abundance of goods, but abiding goals. It is not instant communications, but individual commitment. It is not a mass of facts, but a mastering faith.'" (Samuele Bacchiocchi).

He goes on to say," The sense of disillusionment, emptiness, alienation and meaninglessness experienced by modern thinking individuals cannot be overcome by tracing ancestral roots nor through skillfully developed economic, scientific or political systems, but only through a FAITH that reaches higher than man's achievements."

To find lasting peace of mind and fulfillment in life, man must acknowledge his sinful condition and accept God's provision for a transformation of life. Jesus is "the Way, the Truth and the Life."

### QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. What does the Bible say of the natural state of man? Eph.2:3; Rom.3:10-18; 2 Pet.2:10-12.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Can the unregenerate man have peace of mind? Isa. 57:20,21?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Isaiah say will bring peace? Isa.48:18

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4, What are some of the characteristics of man's sinful nature?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. How must one feel about his sin in order that he may make sincere confession?

Ps.38:18; 2 Cor.7:9,10.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. What is necessary on our part to receive forgiveness? 1 John 1:9; Ps.51:1-10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13. What else are we commanded to do in order that we may be fully cleansed of our sins?

Acts 2:37,38; 3:19; 8:22

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

14. How complete is God's forgiveness? 1sa.43:25; 55:7; Math.6:14,15; Eph.4:32

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

15. What provision did Christ make for our justification? Rom.5:9. Discuss the meaning of "justification".

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

16. What does justification bring to the believer? Rom.5:1

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

17. How does the Bible describe the beginning of a new life? John 3:5; 2 Cor.5:17

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 3

### THE CERTAINTY OF FORGIVENESS & SALVATION

LESSON READING: 1 John 5:1+21; Romans Chp. 8; John 6: 26-63

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

INTRODUCTION: Abundant Christian living cannot be experienced without the positive assurance that one's sins are forgiven and blotted out, never to be remembered anymore.

Perhaps one of the best witnesses we could call on this matter is David, King of Israel. Having acknowledged the enormity and exceeding wickedness of his sin, and having sincerely confessed, he experienced the forgiveness and cleansing that comes from a merciful and loving God. With a heart full of gratitude to God he declared, "For as the heavens is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him." Then in jubilant praise he proclaims, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us."

We are told that in the first century under Roman Law a certificate of the crimes of the prisoner was nailed to the cell door with an itemized list of the offences and the penalty that the guilty party had to pay. When the debt was fully paid he was given another certificate with the words, "ΤΕΤΕΛΕΣΤΑΙ" which was the Greek word for "PAID IN FULL".

When Christ died on the cross and cried out, "IT IS FINISHED", the debt for the sins of the world was paid in full. The death penalty for sin was removed, the barrier between God and man was removed. Sin had erected a barricade between God and man, but the blood of Jesus has provided a remedy whereby that barricade can be removed, That is, of course, on the condition that man acknowledges his need of forgiveness, confesses his sins, receiving the provisions of Christ's death thereby being restored to fellowship with God.

With the songwriter we exclaim:

"Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe

Sin had left a crimson stain

He washed it white as snow."

Oh that men everywhere would believe in the love and grace of God! We must believe that the blood of Christ is able to cleanse from sin. Forgiveness and cleansing is offered to man on the merits of Christ's death alone.



If any part of forgiveness depended on our good works no one could get full assurance of forgiveness because who is to say how much good works will merit forgiveness. Without total assurance of forgiveness one cannot be free from condemnation. In 1 John 3:21 we find these words of assurance, "Beloved, if our heart condemns us not, then have we confidence toward God."

Abundant living cannot be experienced without the confidence of sins forgiven and a conscience free from guilt. In 1 John 1:9 we read, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

PRAISE GOD FOR FREEDOM FROM GUILT!

### QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. How great is God's forgiveness to the penitent sinner? Ps.103:11,12; Micah 7:19; Isa. 55:73 1 John 1:9

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Paul describe the assurance of salvation?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Can a Christian have confidence in God's promises?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What does John say about victorious living?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. How can one have inner peace?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What words of Scripture indicate that a definite experience takes place when one is "born again"? 2 Cor.5:17; 1 John 3:14-22

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7, What promise did Jesus give that assures us of our security in Christ? John 10 :28-30

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Does this mean that a person cannot lose his salvation? Ezek. 18:24; Heb.6:4-6; Rom.11:21,22; 2 Pet.2:20-22

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Can a person know assuredly that he has eternal life? John 5:24; 1 John 5:13

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. What effect will the Word of God have upon those who receive it as truth? 1 Thess.2:13

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. What part does the Spirit of God have in giving the believer a definite witness of adoption into the family of God? Rom.,8:15,16

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 4

### THE POWER OF BELIEVING

LESSON READING: 2 Chron.20:1-22; 1 John 5:1-15; Heb.11.

MEMORY VERSE: "Jesus said unto her,"I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were

dead, yet shall he lives; and whosoever Viveth and believeth in me shall never die. Belfevest thou this?"(John 11:15,16)

INTRODUCTION: Before we comment on the word "belief" we wish to look first at the opposite of belief. Someone

has said,"The negative accentuates the positive." This is especially true of the opposite of belief. Note the implications and ramifications of the following terms which are the opposite of belief:

Disbelief, distrust, doubt, suspicion, fear, jealousy, anxiety, indecision, changeableness, perplexity, uncertainty, agnosticism,

Many of the major mental and physical maladies that plague mankind can be traced to one or more of the above situations. Space does not permit us to quote from leading psychologists who support our view. Even in our affluent society with the advanced scientific medical knowledge, our mental institutions and hospitals are full with patients.

In the realm of the spiritual, unbelief in the one true God has produced a myriad of counterfeit religious systems. And since there is peace of mind and certainty of salvation and eternal life only in Jesus Christ, all other religions are spurious and offer no hope of eternal life.

We now begin to see the importance of belief in the one true Jehovah God. the God of the Bible.

Now let us take a look at some of the words that have similar meaning as "belief": Faith, trust, hope, confidence, assurance, reliance, dependence. What a difference! Just to pronounce these words inspires one with positiveness and joy and gives purpose and direction in life.

In a world that is besought with so much sorrow and sadness, it is so important to have positive faith and belief in the absolute truth invested in Jesus

Christ Who Himself said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." (John 14:6)

The Bible has much to say about belief and unbelief. We will take a look at some of these passages and trust the Holy Spirit will enlighten our minds as to the importance and power of believing.

### QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1, What is unbelief according to Jesus and Paul? John 16:9; Heb.3:12

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. If we do not believe Christ's words, with whom are we classified? John 8:43-47

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the result of not believing the words and works of Jesus? John 12:37-43; John 3:18

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4, What effect will unbelief have on the manifestation of the miraculous power of the gospel? Matt .13:54-58.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can anyone come to God without faith? Heb.11:6

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. How does one obtain faith? Rom.10;14-17

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7, What is the happy result of believing? Rom.10:9,10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. With what words did Jesus give assurance of eternal life? John 3:16

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. How does John confirm Jesus words? 1 John 1:1,10-13

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. How essential is faith (belief) to answered prayer? Matt.21:22; James 1:6-8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 5

### THE POWER OF THE WORD

#### LESSON READING: Psalms Chapter 119

MEMORY VERSE:" But He answered and said, °It is written, Man shall not Jive by bread alone, but by every word

that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"" Matt.4:4

INTRODUCTION: Mankind in general is groping for the answers to so many unsolved problems in our modern society. In spite of the many technological advances and abundance of “things” most people today livelives that are seemingly empty and void of purpose and direction.

The truth is, man cannot live an abundant life without the ingredient offered by the gospel of Jesus Christ. To put it more specific, we quote the words of Jesus,"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

But the problem is that many do not believe the integrity of the Word of God, They do not believe that the Bible means what it says or says what it means. Therefore, in many homes the "dusty old book" lies on the shelf or on the fireplace hearth just like another piece of furniture. It is seldom read and even those who do read it occasionally question its accuracy.

Yet it is a proven fact that man is made in such a way that he needs something more than just physical nourishment. Steak, mashed potatoes and pie do not and cannot feed the soul of man, The soul of man, his spiritual entity, needs spiritual nourishment. That nourishment comes only from God, man's Creator. And one of the best legacies God has given for this nourishment is the Bible- God's Word.

The prophet Jeremiah expresses this truth in the following beautiful language, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of my heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts." (Jer.15:16), We note that Jeremiah was referring to the words of the Lord, not what people say about the Word of God, or what theologians wrote about it, but the pure unadulterated WORD!

David declared, "The words of the Lord are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times." (Ps.12:6).

If we are going to benefit from the Word, we must receive it like the Thessalonians did in Paul's day. This is what the Bible says concerning them," For this cause also thank we God

without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe." (1 Thess.2:13)

If we are going to receive the full benefit of God's Word, we must prize it as a great treasure. The Psalmist declared, "I rejoice at thy word as one that findeth great spoil." (Ps.119:162). We, in the western world need to learn the great value of God's Word from those behind the iron curtain of communism where it is scarce and hard to find, and in many cases people risk their lives to obtain the Bible.

The passage of scripture in Amos 8:11 is very descriptive of our society. It reads, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord." We hear a lot of what people think about God and the "truth" but not very much of the unadulterated Word of God. Therefore, the spiritual needs of man are not met.

The Bible also says that God "magnifies His Word above His name." (Ps.138:2). That is, He sets His Word above His name for He underwrote it. He puts His name underneath His word and guarantees its accuracy.

A check is only as good as its signator. The name of the signator makes a check valid or invalid. God has signed His name to His Word and we can be assured of its validity. This never changes by passing of time or race or geographical location. PRAISE GOD!

### QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. How did Jesus express the importance of absorbing God's Word every day of our lives?  
Matt .4:4

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. With what words did Peter describe the same truth? 1 Peter 2:2

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What power is there in the Word of God? Heb. .4:12,,

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the Word of God compared to in the following scriptures?

A. Ps.119:105

- B. Jer.5:14
- C. Jer.23:29
- D. Matt.13;18-23
- E. Eph.6:17

6. What value did Jesus place on the scriptures? John 5:39

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Are the New Testament writings to be considered part of the canon of Holy Scriptures? 2 Pet. 3: 15; 16; 2 Tim.3:16,17; Rev.22:18,19,

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Give the characteristics of the Word of God as described in the following scriptures:

- A. Ps. 19:8
- B. Ps. 119:11
- C. Ps. 19:7
- D. Ps, 111:7,8
- E. Ps. 119:142,151,160
- F. Isa. 40:8
- G. Eph. 5:26
- H. 2 Pet.1:21

9. Do we have the right to interpret the scriptures so that they will fit into our own concepts? 2 Tim.2:15; 2 Cor.4:2

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is necessary on our part if we are to profit from hearing the Word of God? James 1;22,23

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Name the effects of the scriptures as given in the following passages:

- A. Ps. 107:20

- B. John 8:32
- C. Ps. 119:130
- D. Rom. 10:17
- E. 2 Tim.3:15-17
- F. Titus 1:9
- G. Jer. 15:16
- H. Heb. 11:3
- I. James 1:18



## THE POWER OF CONFESSION (TESTIFY)

LESSON READING: Rom.10:6-21; 1 John 4:1-21; 5:1-21

MEMORY VERSE: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."  
Rom.10:9

INTRODUCTION: More and more people today are discovering the secret of successful victorious Christian living by "confessing" the promises of God's Word, In fact, a person cannot receive salvation without confessing faith in Christ.

Paul said, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" Rom.10:10.

There is a very important principle stated in Paul's declaration: Man believeth with the heart (mind), In other words, God appeals to man's intellect, not to his emotions. Isaiah expresses this truth in these words, "Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow, though they be red as crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isa.1:18)

God has endowed man with the ability to reason, that is, to consider, to deduce, to judge and to make reasonable decisions. Animal creation is motivated by instinct, but God expects man to make decisions by reasoning with his mind.

Believing alone is not enough. Man must act upon that which reason dictates and reason dictates that there is a Master Architect Who planned the universe and placed man upon it to enjoy an abundant life.

Though the entrance of sin has alienated man from God, his Creator, God has provided a plan for the restoration of fellowship between God and man. That plan is revealed through the reading of the Scriptures, the Bible. As a person reads the Bible, the Holy Spirit will quicken the understanding and impart faith to believe the message contained therein. The next step one must take is to confess (speak out) his faith in order

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

LESSON READING: 1 Kings 8:22-61; Luke 11:1-13; John 17; James 1; Acts 4:13-37

MEMORY VERSE; "Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." Phil .4:6

INTRODUCTION: Someone has said, "Prayer is the key that unlocks heaven's storehouse where are treasured the boundless resources of omnipotence." Prayer does not change God. It places us in the channel of blessing and in the frame of mind in which God can consistently and safely grant our requests. Prayer is not the overcoming of God's reluctance, it is taking hold of God's willingness. Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend.

These words are not just spiritual fantasies. The Spirit-filled believer understands these words in the context of experience. Prayer, in the life of the believer is a very personal relationship with God. It is the lifeline of communion and sustaining strength from day to day. It is the gateway into the courts of heaven where we can have sweet fellowship with our Redeemer. It is one means of drawing from heaven's resources for the spiritual manna that is so needful for spiritual growth and maturing.

The Bible is a book that reveals God's plan for the happiness of man, It teaches us that God delights to answer prayer. It abounds in wonderful promises to those who will, in simple faith, ask God to fulfil these promises in their lives. But there are conditions to be met in order that God can grant the realization of these promises. One of these conditions is that we must ask God,

Jesus refers to this in these words, "Seek, and ye shall find, knock, and it shall be opened unto you, ask, and it shall be given unto you." (Matt.7:7)

Again He said, "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." (John 16:24) Did you notice that Jesus said fullness of joy comes from asking and receiving? Therefore, one very important ingredient for an abundant, victorious Christian life is "asking" God to fulfil the promises of His Word in our lives.

Jesus also said that the Father is glorified in the Son when we ask in prayer in the name of Jesus and He can consistently answer our prayers. In John 14:13 we read these words, " And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son, "

One author has written, "Oh, the dearth of real prayer! We have not because we ask not. The churches are powerless, Christians are neither happy nor prosperous in spiritual

matters, our loved ones are unsaved, all because we do not effectually, Scripturally, get hold of God in prayer. Revival, with the enlargement of God's cause, with the widespread blessing of Christians, with the saving of multitudes of precious souls, surely waits on prayer. When we remedy the prayer life of the people of God, we remedy what is wrong with Christians and churches and open the way for every needed blessing."

### QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. What request did the disciples make of Jesus? Luke 11:1

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What prayer did Jesus give His disciples which is a model for us also? Verses 2-4; Matt.6:9-13

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What straightforward command did Jesus give regarding prayer? Luke 18:1,7

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did the apostle Paul admonish the church in this respect? Phil.4:6

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. How often should we pray? Eph.6:18; 1 Thess.5:17

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

Note: We cannot pray all the time in audible prayer but we can always be in an attitude of praise and prayer.

6. If we would receive that which we desire what must we do? John 16:24; Matt.7:7,8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. If we ask in His will how will God reward us? James 1:5

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is an essential element in having our prayers answered? Verses 6,7

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. What is one hindrance to answered prayer? James 4:3

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is another deterrent to answered prayer? Ps. 66:18; Prov. 28:9

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. What definite rule did men of the Bible have regarding prayer? Daniel 6:10; Ps. 55:18

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. What attitude did Jesus manifest in His agonizing prayer? Matt.26:39

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13. How does the Spirit assist us in offering prevailing prayer? Rom.8:26; 1 Cor.14:15

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

14. What prevented Jesus from granting the wish of the mother of James and John? Matt. 20:20-22

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

15. What was the difference in the request of the blind men? Verses 30-34

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

16. Why do we need to watch and pray? Matt.26:41; 1 Peter 4:7

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

17. How must we seek God in prayer? Heb.11:6

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

LESSON READING: Joel 2; John Chpts.14 & 16; Acts 2:1-40; Acts 10:1-48

MEMORY VERSE: "For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Acts 1:5

INTRODUCTION: In Lesson 2 we studied about "beginning A New Life". We saw that even though a person may possess an abundance of "things" his life is incomplete and unfulfilled. Because of man's sinful nature, a "new birth" is necessary to bring purpose and direction in one's life and to experience the peace of mind and joy that our Creator has provided for man.

It is in this "new birth" that the believer receives the "seed" of the Holy Spirit which regenerates his life causing him to turn around (conversion) and walk a different direction. The new birth experience is absolutely necessary if one is to experience an abundant, victorious, successful and fulfilled Christian life.

Furthermore, Jesus said, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." We cannot place too much emphasis and importance on this subject. And let it be clearly understood that the new birth cannot take place without the work of the Holy Spirit. In fact, it is at this time that a person receives the Holy Spirit, But we must understand that this is not the experience of the "baptism in the Holy Spirit". The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a subsequent experience to the new birth. It is not regenerative. Regeneration takes place at the time of the new birth and a person receives a "measure" of the Holy Spirit at that time.

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is an added dimension of the Spirit and power. Its purpose is to "give power to witness" and opens the door to the ministry of the gifts of the Spirit. It gives motivation and anointing to the child of God so that inhibition and fear are removed and one has the boldness to speak the word of the Lord. It gives freedom in worship and motivation in exercising the gift that is given by the Spirit. It gives strength to the "inner man" as one rejoices in the Spirit. Next to salvation, it is the greatest gift God has given to man to be utilized in this dispensation of the Spirit.

Jesus placed great importance on this experience by instructing His disciples not to depart from Jerusalem until they had received this experience. (Lk.24:49) In John 16:7, Jesus said, "It is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you, but if I depart, I will send Him unto you."

Again, in John 7:37-39, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a "river of living water" flowing out of the innermost being and that "he that believeth on Me as the Scriptures have said, SHOULD receive."

Isaiah spoke prophetically of this experience in these words, "And in that day thou shalt say, O lord, I will praise thee....Behold God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid; for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength; and my song, He also hath become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw waters out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon His name, declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name fs exalted. Sing unto the Lord; for He hath done excellent things; this is known in all the earth." (Isa.12:1-5)

We trust that as we study this subject in the context of Scriptural teaching that the student will not only be convinced that it is Biblically based, but that, if he has not already experienced this promise of the Comforter, that he will earnestly seek for it.

### QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. What prophecy did John the Baptist declare regarding a future experience for all who believe in the words of Jesus? Matt.3:11

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. With what words did Jesus substantiate this prophecy? Acts 1:5

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Had the Holy Ghost been given to all believers prior to the day of Pentecost? John 7:39

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many are eligible for this experience today? Joel 2:28,29

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Had the Holy Spirit come while Jesus was here? John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What command did Jesus give His disciples before He went away? Luke 24:49

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did Jesus Further express the importance of this experience? Acts 1:678. :

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. When were these prophecies fulfilled? Acts 2:1-4,16

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 9

### THE POWER OF PRAISE

LESSON READING: 2 Chron.5:1-14; 20:1-22; Josh.6:1-20;; Psalms Chapters  
67,95,96,97,98,150.

MEMORY VERSE: "But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel." Ps.22:3

INTRODUCTION: When Israel returned from the captivity and the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt, Ezra, the

scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood and read all the words of the Law. The people stood up, and when Ezra

blessed the Lord (praised Him) all the people answered "Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands." (Neh.8:4,6).

Then, as Ezra continued reading the Law of God, the people began to mourn and weep. Then he said unto them, "Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy unto the Lord; neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is thy strength." (Neh.8:9,10)

We are living in a day when God is again restoring New Testament Praise and Worship. The admonition of Ezra is applicable today. The church needs to rise above pious conformity to rituals and ceremonies. The old mournful dirge of fallen Christianity will never produce the fruits and gifts of the Spirit. This day is holy, for this is the day the Lord is bringing back to the church the glory of His presence. The power of God is not present in a requiem mass or a grief-stricken rite. The Bible says the Lord inhabits the praise of His people. Ps.22:3..So we must rise above the old conventional forms and ceremonies to a new status of victory and praise.

The church today needs to shake off the dust of the bondage and enslavement that was enforced upon the

laity by the religious hierarchy of the apostate church. Too long have the false shepherds held dominion over

God's heritage. The born-again Christian is not to be enslaved to the regimented, stereotyped forms and rituals of man-made traditions. It is time to declare freedom to God's people. We need to "break forth" into joy and spontaneous praise to God for the abundant life we have in Him. We need to be liberated from fear, doubt, inhibition, discouragement, frustration and fruitlessness, and we shall become as "trees planted by the waters".

(Isa.44:4) The same prophet declares, "Thou

shalt call thy walls salvation, and thy gates PRAISE." (Isa.60:18).

In the rebuilding of the spiritual temple the material we must use when we construct the "gates" is "PRAISE". Now the gates are a type of the place of entry into the presence of God. When we break forth into joy and praise we open the gates of the Sanctuary and let the people into the presence of the Lord. HALLELUJAH! Of course, the devil doesn't want God's people to be strong, so he tries to stop the praises and the rejoicing. And he has many people working for him doing this very thing. But, praise God, many people are discovering the liberty and strength there is in praising the Lord and they will never go back to the old bondage and slavery of the devil.

Perhaps no Bible writer emphasizes the importance of praise and rejoicing as much as David. No doubt, this is why he is called a man after God's heart. Over and over again he admonishes the people of God to praise the Lord. The Psalms are predominately a book of PRAISE. They formed the basis of worship for God's people for centuries. We would urge the student to read the Psalms over and over again. Enter into the spirit of praise with David as you read the beautiful spirit-anointed words he penned and which God has preserved for us today. He counsels us to:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing. Enter into His courts with singing and thanksgiving, and into His gates with praise; be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." (Ps.100)

### **QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION**

1. What is said of praise in regards to God's dwelling place? Ps.22:3

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Upon completion of the temple, Solomon brought the ark of God into its resting place in the Most Holy Place under the wings of the cherubim. What was then done that brought the presence and glory of God into the temple? 2 Chron.5:11-14

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_



4. When Paul and Silas were imprisoned in Philippi, what did they do that brought about their release? Acts 16:25,26

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. What was the result of this miraculous deliverance? Verses 27-33

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Does the Bible command us to praise God or is this matter Optional Ps .113:1-3

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. How are we to enter into the house of the Lord?. 96:1-9; Chapter 100

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. How does the Psalmist speak of all creation in relation to praise? Ps. 148

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. 'Are we, 'permitted to use musical instruments in church while we praise God? Ps. 150

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. How long did David say he would praise God? Ps .146:2

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Did the New Testament saints practice praising God? Luke 19:37; Acts 2:47; 3:6-9; Heb.2:12

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. When Israel was delivered from Egypt and from the pursuing armies of Pharaoh what did they do? Ex.15:1-21.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13. John, the "Revelator" was given a vision of much people in heaven. What were they doing? Rev.19:1-8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## JOY OF THE LORD

LESSON READING: Neh.8:1-12; Ezra 3:1-13; Isa.51:1-23; Luke 2:1-40; Acts 8:5-8

MEMORY VERSE: "Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy unto our Lord; neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength." Neh.8:10

INTRODUCTION: In these days of strenuous living, the Christian can have peace and joy that passeth understanding. When so many are losing the desire to live the normal life, it is essential that the Christian

have the full benefits of all that the Lord has provided by His atonement on the cross. Christ's atonement provided a three-fold blessing. First, we have the: forgiveness of sin and the infilling of the Holy Spirit, then we have the healing of the body, and thirdly, we can have the JOY OF THE LORD!

David tells us that we are to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" (Ps.100). Well, some people tell us that we are supposed to be quiet and orderly in the church. But the Bible says that we are to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. This doesn't mean that we can make any kind of noise. David is referring to the JOY OF THE LORD, rejoicing in the Lord and praising God with a LOUD NOISE (Ps.33:3)

Of course, this will shock some pious people, but it is simply because they have been taught wrongly or they just do not have the salvation that brings the joy of the Lord. Surely we, living after the completed work of atonement, have even more reason to praise the Lord than did David. Let us break loose the circumscribed rituals and break forth into praise that will make the heart of God glad.

The church for which Jesus will come will be a "glorious church without spot or wrinkle" (Eph.5:27). She will be holy. But this means more than mere form, ceremony, ritual or tradition. It means more than a chain around a neck, more than images or idols or candles or incense. It is more than long black robes and collars turned backwards. He is not coming for a robed choir, a social club, or a group of people listening to an intellectual lecture. The Church of Jesus Christ is a group of "called out" ones. They are called out of the world and the worldly systems of nominal profession. They are the ones who have overcome the world, the flesh and the devil. They cast out devils. They heal the sick. They speak in other tongues (Mark 16:17,18). The thing that makes the church glorious is her power. This power comes into operation when the victorious church breaks forth into joy and praise. The joy of the Lord becomes her strength, her power. Dear student, you can be a member of this

church if you only believe and find fellowship with others who likewise believe and appropriate the promises of God.

### QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. What does the Bible say about how we can be strong in the Lord? Neh.8:10; Isa.52:1

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What does Isaiah say of the redeemed of the Lord? Isa, 51:11

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What will be the result when the true gospel is preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit? Acts 8:8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What was John's desire for the church? 1 John 1:4

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can a Christian be joyful in trials and even in poverty? 2 Cor.8:2

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What will be the result of truly believing in Jesus even though we have not seen Him? 1 Pet .1:8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. When a person finds a great treasure what motivates him to sell all he has that he can buy it? Matt .13:44

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. What brings greater joy: the power to cast out devils or to know that our names are written in heaven? Luke 10:17-20

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. In Deuteronomy chapter 28 Moses lists the many blessings accrued from obedience. Then he' gives a long list of curses from disobedience. What is included as one act of disobedience? See Verse 47.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. How does Joel describe the condition of the church when there is no joy? Joel 1:9-12

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. What must we do in order that our joy may be full? John 15:11

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. How are we admonished to praise God? Ps.95:1,23 98:4

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13. What command did Paul give in respect to our attitude at all times? 1 Thess.5:16

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

14. What similar words did he say in Philippians 4:4?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

15. Peter and Paul give some good advice for us as to how we should react in times of tribulation. What was that advice? 2 Cor.7:4; 1 Peter 4:13

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How does Paul describe the "Kingdom of God"? Rom.14:17

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

**"THINK ON THESE THINGS"**

LESSON READING: Proverbs 23; 24; Matt. 5; Rom. 12.

MEMORY VERSE:" Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Phil. 4:8

INTRODUCTION: Another suitable title for this lesson could be, "The Battle For The Mind". There is a battle going on for the attention and control of the mind. Every day and night, modern technology has devised ways and means of bombarding the minds of the masses of humanity. Satan specializes in this area also. He tries every way possible to capture and captivate the mind. Jehovah God also pleads with mankind to give attention to His plan and purposes for the universe. It is important to know that in almost every passage of scripture where the word "heart" is used that it refers to the mind. This is self-evident when we note carefully the context.

The two main words in Hebrew and Greek that are translated "heart" are "LEB" and "KARDIA". The definition is, "The seat of reflective consciousness comprising the faculties of perception and understanding and those of feeling, judging and determining."

There are two aspects of the mind: the SUBJECTIVE, which is the subconscious or, the involuntary reaction to a given situation, or that which we do by habit.

The other aspect of the mind is the OBJECTIVE, which is the conscious or voluntary reaction to any given situation. Now, the subjective aspect of the mind is the result of objective operations of the mind, or, in other words, the result of teaching, training or doing things repeatedly. The results of the activity of the subconscious mind can be either good or evil. The important point here is that we can change our reactions by controlling the mind. Yes, the mind can be brought into subjection by overtly or deliberately exercising the thinking processes of our mind.

When God made man He gave him one distinctive characteristic that distinguishes him from all other created creatures; He gave him a mind that can make decisions. And man will be held responsible for the decisions he makes, in fact, we have to "reap what we sow" many times even in this life.

No doubt we have all heard the following: "A man convinced against his will, is of the same opinion still." And, "Don't confuse me with facts." In other words, we have the ability to

either accept or reject information and knowledge. There is so much truth to the little song that our children sing, "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so."

Someone has said, "The antidote for the modern permissive philosophies is for men and women to deliberately choose to do right." Since the "gateway to the soul" is through the mind, it is so very important that we guard carefully what we entertain into our minds. The Bible says, "As a man thinketh in his heart (mind), so is he." It is very rare that anyone commits an act on the basis of irresponsibility, unless, of course, he is not mentally capable of making a responsible decision.

Someone has coined the phrase, "If you tell a lie often enough, you will get to believe it yourself," But, you see, when you told the lie the first time, you knew it was a lie, But by repeating something often enough you get to do it unconsciously. We must "catch it in the bud" before it blossoms and brings forth fruit. There is so much truth in the passage, "The little foxes are ruining the vineyards. Catch them, for the grapes are in blossom". (Song of Solomon 2:15, Living Bible)

Your whole life will be determined by what you allow your mind to dwell] on; your personality, your manner of conduct, your relationship, your communication, in fact, your success or your failure. Think on these things! :

#### **QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION**

1. What is it that usually determines our actions? Prov.23:47; Matt.12:34; 15:18-20

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Jeremiah describe the "heart"? Jer .17:9,10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where do the "issues of life" originate? Proy.4;23

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What does the "wise man" say about our own understanding? Prov.3:5

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. How does the Bible describe the unregenerate mind? Rom.1:28

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What will happen to our minds if we wholly yield ourselves to God? Rom. 12:1,2; 2 Tim.1:7

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. What appeal does God make to man? Prov.29:26

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. If we refuse to submit our minds to God what will be the result? Prov.28:14

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. How much should we give of our heart to God? Jer.3:10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

10. Note how Paul describes the battle of the mind with the flesh. Have you had any problems in this area? Rom.7:22-25 Ans.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. What prescription does Paul give for this problem? Rom.8:1

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. Are we responsible for our thoughts? Phil .4:8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13. What should we do about the negative things in our past life? Phil. 3:13,14

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

14. What does Paul instruct us to do with our thoughts? 2 Cor.10:4,5

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

15. Whose mind are we to pattern after? 1 Cor.2:16; Phil.2:5

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## MATURING INTO SONSHIP

MEMORY VERSE: "But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Heb.5:14

INTRODUCTION: The Bible calls the beginning of the Christian life a "new birth", In other words, when a person comes to Christ in repentance of sin, is forgiven and adopted into the family of God, that new life is only in its infancy. In order for that new life to be maintained there must be spiritual nourishment.

The new birth is not "turning over a new page". It is not the acceptance of a set of rules and regulations. It is not joining a club or giving assent to theological concepts. It is not going through an investiture ceremony, signing your name in the church record book or shaking the preachers hand.

The new birth is a supernatural implantation of the "seed" of the Holy Spirit which begins or creates new spiritual life with the "spirit" of man. This new life immediately seeks nourishment so that it can grow.

Spiritual growth depends on the following:

- A. Reading and assimilating the Word of God.
- B. Communion with God by prayer and meditation.
- C. Fellowship with other believers.
- D. Continual infilling of the Spirit (a recharging).
- E. Daily self-denial and commitment to God.
- F. Reproducing new life in others by testifying.

The Christian walk is a way of life. It has to do with our manner of living. The early Christians were called the people of "the way". The word "Christian" means "followers of Christ". Peter declared that the "Christ" was the "Son of God"- the Anointed One".

True followers of Christ then, will be the "anointed ones", anointed by the Holy Spirit. They will be the ones who are "filled with the Holy Ghost".

Jesus commissioned His disciples to "tarry until" they were anointed with the "power from on high". No doubt this experience came to them at Pentecost. But it did not cease at Pentecost for the history of the



early church indicates clearly that the experience of the infilling of the Holy Spirit was a prime doctrine of the New Testament church. Spiritual growth cannot be sustained without this very important experience,

When a revival broke out in Samaria as a result of Philip's preaching, Peter and John were sent there to make sure that they had received the infilling of the Spirit. When Paul came to Ephesus he asked the disciples there, "Have you received the Holy Ghost SINCE YE BELIEVED". Too much emphasis cannot be Placed on the importance of every believer being filled with the Holy Spirit.

We are not advocating the type of "charismatic" counterfeiting that we see being practiced in some religious circles today. The genuine must conform to the pattern in the Bible. Men try to manufacture some sort of super power to imitate the power of God so they physically "push over" people and teach them how to speak in "tongues". The Bible says they "spake in tongues AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE", WE mention this because we believe it is very important in our spiritual growth. A counterfeit experience will not produce spiritual growth but the genuine will. And the genuine is very important. That is why the devil tries to imitate and counterfeit the real. But thank God, the real fs still available to every believer.

### **QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION**

1, What did Jesus say about spiritual life and growth? Matt.4:4

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What does Peter say about our spiritual growth? 2 Peter 3:18

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Can a Christian grow in grace and knowledge on a "milk" diet? 1 Peter 2:2; Heb.5:12

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name some of the ingredients in spiritual growth. See 2 Peter 1:5-10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

**THE BELIEVER'S HOPE & DESTINY**

LESSON READING: Job 14; Psalms 90; Rev.21,22.

MEMORY VERSE: "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them that are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." 1 Thess.4:13

INTRODUCTION: The search for peace of mind and fulfilment in life has been man's goal for centuries, but it can only be found in the eternal purposes of Creator God. God's Word, the Bible, clearly defines the way that man can find that peace and fulfilment. The Bible teaches that the origin, purpose and destiny of man is not a temporary existence under the curse of sin, but rather, man was created for the glory of God and to have fellowship with Him throughout the eternal ages.

This is the hope of the believer. Though death brings a temporary cessation to man's existence, the Bible teaches a glorious resurrection in a new body of immortality to last forever. This is the hope of the hereafter. This is the believer's legacy based on the immutable promises of God.

This truth gives hope and direction in this life. Though the believer must also die the natural death, (unless, of course, Christ should return) there is much strength, courage and purpose in life derived from knowing these wonderful facts. This is something that the unbeliever does not have. Therefore, he seeks to find satisfaction in some other way.

So we find man trying to find happiness by indulging in the fleshly desires of the fallen human nature, not just in Epicurian gluttony, a narcotic trip or a hallucinatory "high", or escapism from life's problems in an alcoholic stupor, but also in an unceasing endeavour to fulfil the insatiable desire for power, popularity and prestige and the greed for more and more money and material possessions. But the history of the human race teaches one very clear and obvious truth- satisfaction and peace of mind is not found in the indulgence of the flesh or the superabundance of material things. This is why so many people today have adopted the fatalistic belief of Nihilism- the belief that nothing is worth anything anymore, that there is no such thing as absolute truth, that everyone is free to do what seems good in his own eyes and that society should be destroyed for its own sake. Then there is the philosophy of the ego - the egosensualism which places man in the center of all things and of all purposes in life. Another name for this concept is humanism and situation ethics.

Yes, man has tried all kinds of "gods" to try to satisfy his insatiable thirst for satisfaction, peace of mind and fulfilment, only to find that the thirst is still there. There is still an emptiness and a voidness in life. Like searching for the pot of gold at the end of the

rainbow, a mirage on the desert that when you reach the place where it is supposed to be, there is nothing.

But not so with the true believer. There is purpose in this life for it is the preparation for the life to come, eternal life. Oh what a blessed hope we have. Let us therefore lift up our heads for our redemption draweth nigh.

### QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1, Upon what is the believer's hope based? Rom.15:4; Acts 26:6,7

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

2. With what assuring words did Paul describe his hope at the coming of the Lord ? 2 Tim.4:7,8

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What was Paul's hope, joy and crown in respect to the fruit of his labour? 1 Thess 2:19

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What kind of crown is awaiting the overcomer? 1 Cor .9:25

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

5. How does peter describe this crown?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

6. How does Paul address the matter of growth and increase? 2 Cor.9:10 (Please read vs.6-9 also)

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

7. What is necessary if we are to bear fruit? John 15:2,5

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

8. How does Jude say we can be built up in the most holy faith? Jude 20

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

9. What are some hindrances to growth as given in the following passages: .

A. Acts 18:24-28

B. 1 Cor.3:1-3

C. Eph.4:14,15

D. Heb. 5:11-14

10. In addressing the Diaspora (Jewish believers scattered abroad) who had a rich Hebraic heritage, what test does he apply to their "religion" as to whether it was "Kosher" (genuine) or not? James 1:26,27

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

11. What does James say about partiality? James 2:1-6

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

12. Is it necessary to keep all ten commandments? James 2:8-12

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

13. Is faith alone sufficient for spiritual growth? James 2;14-20,26.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

14. What does the Bible have to say about the quality of our communication? James 1:26;3:5-13; Eph.4:15,29.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

15. Is foolish talking and jesting conducive to spiritual growth? Eph. 5:4

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

16. Does this mean that a Christian must always be of a somber and pious attitude? Eph.5:19

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

17. What is hope described as in the following texts:

A. 1 Peter 1:3

B. Titus 2:13

C. 2 Thess.2:16

D. Heb.7:19

- E. Heb,6:19
- F. 1 Cor.33:13

18. What does hope that is based on God's Word produce in the believer's life as described in the following scriptures?

- A. 1 John 3:3
- B. Rom.8:25
- C. Rom.12:12
- D. Rom.8:24
- E. Heb.6:18,19
- F. F. Col.1:23

19. What is the Christian's hope? Rom.8:22-25

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

20. How will this hope be realized? 1 Thess.4:13-18; 1 Cor.15:51-55

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

21. What kind of body will] the redeemed have at the coming of the Lord? 1 Cor.15:20,23,35,42-44

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

22. Will flesh and blood inherit the kingdom of God? 1 Cor 15:50

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

23. How will this planet be cleansed from all the pollutions of sin? 2 Peter 3:10

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

24. In view of this, what are we admonished to do that we may be able to stand in that day? Verses 11-14

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_