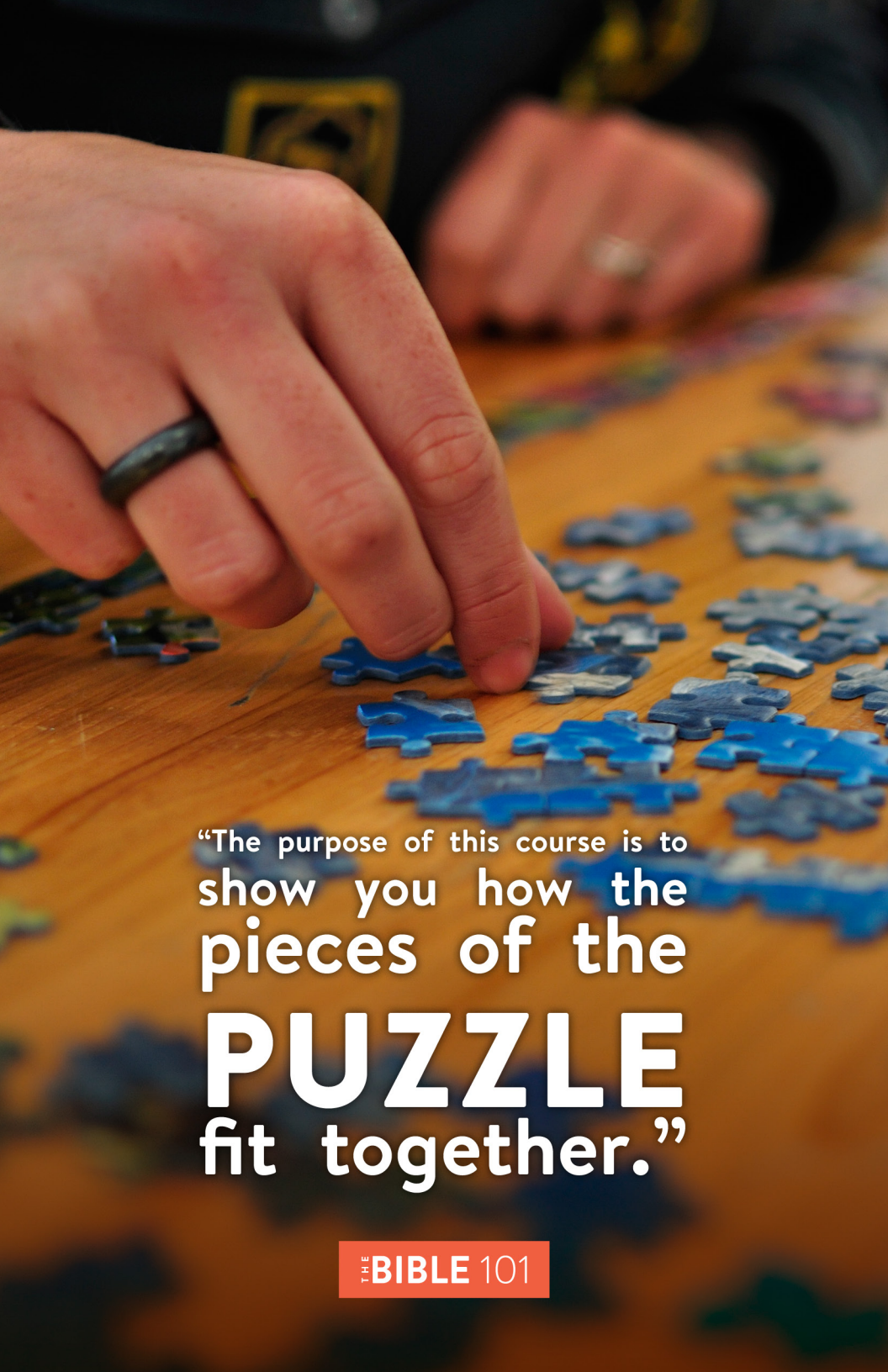


A person with a backpack is walking away from the viewer on a cracked, stone-like path that leads into a massive, towering green wave. The wave forms a tunnel-like structure around the path, with water splashing and creating a bright light at the far end. The sky above the wave is dark and filled with stars.

# THE BIBLE 101

Understanding  
God's message  
to you in the  
Bible.



“The purpose of this course is to  
show you how the  
pieces of the  
**PUZZLE**  
fit together.”

# INTRODUCTION

Have you ever tried to put together a jigsaw puzzle without the picture on the front of the box? You could probably figure out how to connect a few of the pieces, but it would be very difficult to put together the entire puzzle! For many people, this describes their knowledge of the Bible and spiritual things: they have some understanding, but it is often disconnected and disorganized.

Let's face it, the Bible can be an intimidating book. It's very long and difficult to understand at times, especially if you are reading an older translation. As a result, many people never read the entire Bible and most of their understanding of it comes from conversations with friends, preaching they hear at church, and even movies and television. They are left with small fragments of truth, like puzzle pieces, but never really understand how the pieces fit together to form the big picture.

**The purpose of this course is to show you how the pieces of the puzzle fit together.** Each lesson is designed to be about one hour long. When finished, you will have a much greater understanding of the Bible and spiritual things. Make sure you have your Bible, a pen, and this book with you for each lesson. Remember, when you see the Bible icon ■ read the verses indicated in your Bible. Before starting, let us pray this simple prayer together:

Father, thank you for the opportunity to study your Word today. Our hearts are open and our minds are alert. We humbly ask you to open our eyes that we may understand the message you have sent to us, and give us a heart to obey it to the best of our ability. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

# THE **BIBLE** 101

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# PROLOGUE

## DOES GOD EXIST?

Is there a logical reason to believe God exists without proof? The Bible teaches God is a spirit. Our human minds cannot fully understand what a spirit is. The Bible compares a spirit to *air* or *wind*. On a windy day, when you walk outside, you can't actually see the wind, but you know it exists because you can see and feel its effects. So it is with God—we can't actually see Him because He is a spirit, but we can perceive His attributes in the world around us. These four examples provide strong evidence of His existence:

1. **Nature.** The order, balance, and complexity of nature indicate the existence of God. The strongest example is found in a strand of DNA. Every cell in your body contains a microscopic piece of code that is a blueprint of you. Each strand of DNA contains a sequence of four different chemicals that is over 3 billion sequences long! Dr. Francis Collins, director of the Human Genome Project, stated, "It is humbling for me and awe inspiring to realize that we have caught the first glimpse of our own instruction book, previously known only to God." Dr. Collins described DNA as "...an instructional script, a software program, sitting in the nucleus of the cell." Microsoft founder Bill Gates wrote, "DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software ever created."
2. **Testimony.** There are millions that can testify to the life changing power of the Christian faith. Stories of changed lives, broken addictions, forgiveness, healing, and restored relationships are common among Christians today. There is a good reason why so many still believe: It's real and it produces results.
3. **The Bible.** The historical and prophetic accuracy of the Bible is astonishing. Many of the people, places,

and events in the Bible have been verified by historical writers and archeological evidence. The examples are too numerous to list in this book.

4. **Israel.** In 70 AD, Israel was conquered by the Romans and ceased to exist as a nation. The Jewish people were dispersed among the nations of the world for almost 2,000 years, yet they held on to their unique faith and identity. They were hated by people in many of the countries they lived in because God prospered them. This hatred came to a climax during the Holocaust of Nazi Germany, where six million Jews were exterminated in Europe. Just a few years later in 1948, Israel became a nation again. They were immediately attacked by five surrounding Arab nations with fully equipped armies. God miraculously gave them victory and they survived. The nation of Israel stands today as an enduring witness of God's promises.

## DOES GOD REQUIRE BLIND FAITH?

No. God knows we have a process of determining what is true, and He has provided us with the capacity to make an intelligent decision using the following tests:

1. **Experience:** Things you have experienced or observed personally form your most basic understanding of truth.
2. **Knowledge:** Information that is accepted as the experience or observation of others.
3. **Conscience:** The inner sense that allows us to judge what is right and wrong. God gave us our conscience to point us toward Him.

God wants to draw us to Him through all three of these sources: Our **conscience** makes us aware of God, the Bible gives us **knowledge** of God, and when we respond to His plan, we **experience** the results in our lives.

# LESSON 1:

# THE PROBLEM

The world is firmly established; it cannot be shaken.

<sup>2</sup>Your throne, O LORD, has been established from time immemorial. You yourself are forever past.

<sup>3</sup>The mighty oceans have made their home. The mighty oceans roar; the mighty oceans rage on the shore.

<sup>4</sup>But mightier than the seas, the LORD is mightier than the breakers on the shore—the LORD above is mighty.

<sup>5</sup>Your royal decrees command the nature of your realm; holiness forever.

## PSALM 94

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, the God to whom we belong, O God of vengeance, justice be seen!

<sup>2</sup>Arise, O judge of the earth. Sentence the proud; they deserve.

<sup>3</sup>How long, O LORD? How long will the wicked gloat?

<sup>4</sup>Hear their arrogance! How these evildoers

<sup>5</sup>They oppress your people, hurting those you love.

<sup>6</sup>They kill widows and fatherless and murder orphans.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD isn't looking on; and besides, the God of care."

<sup>8</sup>Think again, you fools! When will you finally

<sup>9</sup>Is the one who made you Is the one who forms you?

<sup>10</sup>He punishes the nation who punishes you?

He knows everything; know what you are.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD knows people that they are worthless.

<sup>1</sup>Psalm to be sung. David's Day.

<sup>2</sup>He has made his home in the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>He is praising him, the Most High.

<sup>4</sup>It is good to praise him your unfailing love in the morning,

<sup>5</sup>your faithfulness in the evening, accompanied by the harp and lute and the harmony of the lyre.

<sup>6</sup>You thrill me, LORD, with all you have done for me!

<sup>7</sup>I sing for joy because of what you have done.

<sup>8</sup>O LORD, what great miracles you do! And how deep are your thoughts.

<sup>9</sup>Only an ignorant person would not know the things you have done.

<sup>10</sup>Only a fool would not understand it. Although the wicked flourish like weeds,

<sup>11</sup>and evildoers blossom with success, there is only eternal destruction ahead of them.

<sup>12</sup>They are exalted in the pride of their hearts.

<sup>13</sup>O LORD, do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>14</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>15</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>16</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>17</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>18</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>19</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>20</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>21</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>22</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>23</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>24</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>25</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>26</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>27</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

<sup>28</sup>Do not be silent. Do not be silent.

# LESSON 1: THE PROBLEM

Before we can understand the Bible, we must first understand why we even *need* a Bible. This lesson will cover the book of *Genesis*.

## IS THE BIBLE TRUE?

In this life it can be very difficult to know what is true. There are many voices in the world that give us conflicting advice about how to live our lives; unfortunately, the result is often confusion. This is especially true spiritually. We hear lots of conflicting teaching and preaching about what God expects of us in this life. There are many different religions in the world, and within those religions there are many variations in doctrine and practice. The pursuit of truth leaves many frustrated and confused, and they often give up.

In this course, we will examine the Bible as God's true message to mankind. Many today believe the Bible is flawed and has been changed over the centuries from its original meaning. This is simply not true. If God exists, then it is logical that He has the ability to deliver and preserve a message to us that *is* true. **In order to be a disciple of Christ, we must first accept the Bible is true and it is God's message to us today.**

If you are skeptical, don't worry. Skepticism is a natural reaction to things we cannot observe. In this course, we will examine the Bible in its entirety, and then you must decide whether to accept it or reject it as truth. This is a decision we all must make as we search for truth in this life.

## WHERE DID THE BIBLE COME FROM?

First, let's examine the origins and history of the Bible. The Bible as we know it was written over a period of about 1600 years starting at 1500 B.C. and ending at 96 A.D. The Bible is divided into two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The word *Testament* means a "covenant" or "agreement." The Bible contains 66 individual books and was written by 44 different writers. These writers wrote under the inspiration of God:

You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. 2 Timothy 3:15–17

Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God. 2 Peter 1:20–21

When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. 1 Corinthians 2:13

Dear brothers and sisters, I want you to understand that the gospel message I preach is not based on mere human reasoning. I received my message from no human source, and no one taught me. Instead, I received it by direct revelation from Jesus Christ. Galatians 1:11–12

In ancient Israel, people were very serious about serving God. In those days, the writings God delivered through the prophets were deemed sacred and holy. The writings that were considered scripture were carefully preserved and copied from generation to generation by scribes. Their job was to meticulously copy important documents. The result was a body of ancient manuscripts that were preserved with great accuracy.

From this body of manuscripts, the early Church fathers were able to discern the *canon*, or “sacred collection” of writings, that make up the Bible. This was relatively easy in regards to the Old Testament; it had already been in existence for quite some time and the Jewish priests had already determined which books were considered divinely inspired. This was not the case for the New Testament; it was new at that time. By 400 A.D., the early church councils were

in agreement on the 27 books of New Testament scripture. This was the criteria they used to determine if a book was indeed scripture:

- Was the author an Apostle or someone closely associated with an Apostle?
- Was the book accepted by the church at large as scripture?
- Does the book contradict existing scripture?

It is important to understand that these early manuscripts that were preserved and copied from generation to generation were not written in the English language. The Old Testament was written mostly in Hebrew, and the New Testament was written in Greek. There were three major obstacles at the time that prevented ordinary people from being able to read the Bible:

- **Illiteracy or lack of Translations:** If you couldn't read Hebrew, Greek, or later, Latin, you were not able to read the Bible.
- **Scarcity:** Before printing presses and digital media, copies of the Bible were made by scribes and therefore were costly and less accessible.
- **Institutional Control:** The Roman Catholic church wanted to control the study and distribution of the scriptures for political and financial reasons.

The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1948 and contained copies of manuscripts as old as 200 B.C.

The Bible was translated into the Latin language for about 1,000 years from 500 A.D. to 1500 A.D. This version of the Bible was known as the *Latin Vulgate*. During this time, also known as the middle ages, Latin was the primary language used by educated people. It wasn't until the 1500s that brave men such as John Wycliffe, John Hus,

William Tyndale, and Martin Luther began translating the Bible into other languages. Technology also began to change around 1450 when John Gutenberg invented the printing press. The Bible was the first book published! This was a monumental development in history because it opened the door for millions to personally own and read the Bible in their native language.

In 1611, the King James Version of the Bible was completed. This is the predecessor of the modern Bible. It took seven years to translate it from the original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts! King James I of England commissioned the translation. The King James Version (KJV) has been the most widely used version of the Bible in the past 500 years. Unfortunately, because it was written 500 years ago, it contains the old English dialect which can be very difficult for us to understand today. Recently, the Bible has been translated into several modern English translations such as the NIV, ESV, and NLT. It is very important to use a translation of the Bible **you can understand** and is **translated accurately**.

When you consider the historical evidence, it is reasonable to believe the Bible is an accurate translation of the original writings, and it has been preserved virtually unchanged through the ages of history.

## WHAT IS THE STORY OF THE BIBLE?

Despite having 66 books and 44 different writers, the Bible is one story. The story contains many characters and many plots and sub-plots, but the message of the Bible, in its simplest form, is this: **Jesus is the Son of God who came and died for our sins so we can receive eternal life if we follow Him.**

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

## DEFINITIONS

These definitions will give you a basic understanding of spiritual concepts found in the Bible:

**God:** The creator of the universe, who exists as a spirit that is all-powerful and all-knowing. Also referred to as the *Father*, *Jehovah*, *Lord*, and *Yahweh*.

**Jesus Christ:** God in the form of a human being. Also referred to as the *Messiah*, the *Son of God*, the *Son of Man*, and the *Lamb*.

**The Holy Spirit:** The Spirit of Jesus Christ that lives inside of a born-again believer and gives them power to live the Christian life.

**Angels:** Spiritual beings that serve God and have various functions and responsibilities in the spirit dimension.

**Satan:** A powerful angel that rebelled against God due to the sin of pride. He now exists as the enemy of God and His people. Also referred to as *Lucifer*, *the Devil*, and *the enemy*.

**Demons:** Former angels that rebelled against God with Satan.

**Heaven:** The place where God dwells. It is also a place of comfort and reward for the righteous in the afterlife.

**Hell:** A place of torment for the unrighteous dead, also referred to as *the Grave*, *Hades*, or *Sheol*.

**Lake of Fire:** The final place of punishment for those who have not received salvation through Jesus Christ. Also known as *Gahenna*.

## THE SIN PROBLEM

The very first book of the Bible, *Genesis*, describes in detail how God created the universe in six days. On the sixth day of creation, God created a human being named Adam:

Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.   Genesis 2:7

This gives us a vital clue to who we are as human beings. We are made up of three distinct parts that are interconnected:

- **Body:** Physical human flesh containing bone, muscle, organs, blood, and skin.
- **Soul:** The thoughts, emotions, and will. Your heart.
- **Spirit:** The spiritual energy from God that gives you life and will exist eternally.

Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.  
1 Thessalonians 5:23

Adam was created in a sinless, immortal state. In fact, he was able to see and interact with God in the Garden of Eden. God also created a woman named Eve to serve as a companion for Adam. God told Adam he could eat the fruit of any tree in the garden except for the *Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil*. Adam was warned the punishment for disobedience was death:

But the Lord God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.” Genesis 2:16–17

After that, we see the first appearance of Satan in the Bible. Satan, in the form of a serpent, tricked Adam and Eve into disobeying God by eating the forbidden fruit. This is an event of huge spiritual significance and is referred to as the Fall of Man. After man sinned against God, he no longer enjoyed the wonderful, immortal life he once had. Instead, death and decay entered into the human race and everything mankind had authority over:

Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay.  
Romans 8:20–21

## WHAT IS SIN?

**Sin is any disobedience to God's law or falling short of His righteousness.** People have become indifferent to the seriousness of sin because of spiritual ignorance. This is a grave mistake because the Bible clearly teaches that God will bring all sinners into judgment and final punishment. Because of sin, Adam and Eve and all their descendants were separated from God and doomed to death and eternal judgment. This is our “sin problem.” There are two types of sin we deal with:

- **Inherited sin:** This is our sinful nature we inherited from our great ancestor Adam. (Psalm 51:5)
- **Committed sin:** This is the sin we have actually done ourselves as a result of our sinful nature. (Romans 3:23)

Sin is the root cause of all the problems in the world today. The entire “story” of the Bible is the answer to this problem: The punishment for sin is death.

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. But it was not counted as sin because there was not yet any law to break. Still, everyone died—from the time of Adam to the time of Moses—even those who did not disobey an explicit commandment of God, as Adam did.

Now Adam is a symbol, a representation of Christ, who was yet to come. But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive

it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous. God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:12–21

But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died. So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. 1 Corinthians 15:20–22

God's ultimate plan was to send his Son, Jesus Christ, to die as a substitute for our death.

## GOD'S PLAN

After Adam and Eve sinned, they were separated from fellowship with God and they began the process of aging and dying.

But God already had a plan to save mankind from sin *before* they even fell. **God's ultimate plan was to send his Son, Jesus Christ, to die as a substitute for our death.** God immediately started to enact His plan to save mankind. His first step was to establish the right to bless and protect mankind through righteousness by faith.

■ Read Hebrews 11:1–16

## MEN COUNTED RIGHTEOUS BY FAITH

After the fall, we find Able offering sacrifices God accepted. His brother Cain, offered the wrong sacrifices and was not accepted. In his anger, Cain killed his brother Able. This is the first example of the struggle between good and evil in this world. God is immediately establishing a pattern of worship and sacrifice that pointed to the future sacrifice of Christ.

Later in Genesis, we find that the Earth became completely corrupt with sin and violence. The situation was so bad, it threatened God's plan to establish righteousness. God decided to cleanse the Earth of this wickedness by sending a great flood. God still had a plan to preserve and protect the righteous through the flood. God told Noah to build a large wooden boat called an *ark* to save his family and the animal species of the Earth. This is also a vivid picture of the Jews and non-Jews (*Gentiles*) both receiving salvation in the future.

Noah's Ark  
is a picture  
of Jews and  
Gentiles both  
receiving  
salvation in  
the future.

About 400 years after the flood, God found a man of faith on the Earth named Abraham. God's plan was to use Abraham to start a nation of people He could bless and protect. God would use this nation to teach all the other nations how to worship and serve Him. God would also use this nation as a host to send His son, Jesus Christ in the future. Jesus would have a special plan and purpose to fulfill, and this could not be done in a sinful environment.

## COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

God told Abraham to leave his hometown of Haran and to go to a new area that would be a place of blessing and protection. This is similar to how God calls us to come out from the world and be separated so He can bless and protect us. Abraham obeyed God by faith, and moved to Canaan, an area now known as Israel. **Faith is the key to living the Christian life.** Faith is when we trust what God's word says even when it doesn't appear to be possible, or we don't

fully understand it. God entered into an agreement with Abraham to provide blessing and protection to his descendants (Genesis 17:1-14). The agreement was contingent on Abraham's obedience to God's requirements. At one point, God told Abraham to sacrifice his only son Isaac. This was a test of Abraham's obedience. Abraham obeyed what God said and attempted to sacrifice his son. At the last second, God sent an angel to stop him and provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. This is the first clue we have about God's plan to send His son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins.

Don't lay a hand on the boy!" the angel said. "Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son." Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. Genesis 22:12-13

Faith is  
the key to  
living the  
Christian  
life.

Abraham's son, Isaac, had twin sons: Jacob and Esau. Esau was the firstborn and Jacob was the second born. In ancient middle eastern culture, the firstborn son had a higher ranking and status in the family. This story is unusual because Jacob ends up surpassing his brother, Esau. This story is representative of Adam and Jesus. The "firstborn," Adam, gave up his rightful place by sinning against God. The "second-born," Jesus, received God's favor by being obedient even unto death. This is perfectly stated in this verse:

For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. Romans 5:15

God changed Jacob's name to Israel. Israel then had twelve sons who became the foundation for the nation of Israel. One of Israel's sons that God used in a special way was Joseph. Joseph had a dream that all the world would bow down to him. This angered his older brothers and they decided to fake his death and sell him as a slave to

Egypt. Joseph went through many trials and tests in Egypt, but he stayed true to God in spite of great difficulty and injustice.

God rewarded Joseph with the ability to interpret dreams. Joseph used this gift to interpret a dream for the king and he was promoted to second in command of all Egypt. In this role, Joseph was able to save Egypt and the surrounding people from a great famine because he knew it was coming and prepared for it by storing surplus food. This also explains how the nation of Israel moved from Canaan to the land of Egypt. This concludes the book of *Genesis*.

# LESSON 1 REVIEW

## SECTION 1: THE BIBLE

1. In order to be a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, we must believe the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ and it is God's message to us today.
2. The Bible is a collection of 66 books written by 44 writers under the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
3. Ancient sacred writings were carefully and accurately copied by \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. The Old Testament was written in \_\_\_\_\_, and the New Testament in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The invention of the \_\_\_\_\_ and translation into common \_\_\_\_\_ made the Bible accessible to millions.
6. It is important that you use a Bible translation you can \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_ accurately.
7. Considering the historical \_\_\_\_\_, it is reasonable to believe the Bible is an \_\_\_\_\_ translation of the original writings and has been preserved through the ages of history.
8. The Bible contains one story: Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ who came and died for our sins so we can receive \_\_\_\_\_ if we follow Him.

## SECTION 2: THE SIN PROBLEM

9. Human beings are made up of three distinct parts:  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Through Adam's sin, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ entered into the human race and all creation.
11. Sin is any \_\_\_\_\_ to God's law or falling short of His \_\_\_\_\_, and the punishment for all sin is \_\_\_\_\_.
12. God's plan was to send His Son, Jesus Christ, to die as a \_\_\_\_\_ for our death.

## SECTION 3: GOD'S PLAN

13. God established the right to protect and bless men through \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.
14. God planned to create a nation from Abraham that would bless and teach other nations how to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ God.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ is the key to living the Christian life.
16. God made a \_\_\_\_\_ covenant with Abraham to provide \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to his descendants.

(Answer key below and on page 60)

Answers: 1. disciple, true 2. inspiration 3. scribes 4. Hebrew, Greek 5. printing press, languages 6. understand, translated 7. evidence, accurate 8. Son, God, eternal life 9. body, soul, spirit 10. death, decay 11. disobedience, righteousness, death 12. substitute 13. righteousness, faith 14. worship, serve 15. faith 16. conditional, blessing, protection

# MAP OF EXODUS

1. Passover
2. Leave Egypt
3. Red Sea Crossing
4. The Law at Mt. Sinai
5. The Tabernacle
6. Spies Sent Out
7. Wandered for 40 Years
8. Entered the Promised Land



\* Map is approximate. Actual Exodus route is unknown.

## LESSON 2: THE PLAN

In lesson two, we will explore how God revealed His plan to save the human race through the ancient nation of Israel. This lesson will cover the book of *Exodus* through *Malachi*.

### FREEDOM FROM EGYPT

The book of *Exodus* begins 215 years after *Genesis*. Joseph and his brothers are gone, but their family has grown into a nation of over two million people while in Egypt. The Egyptians feared them and oppressed them with hard labor. God's plan was to bring them back to the land He promised to Abraham in the beginning. God raised up Moses to lead the nation of Israel out of Egypt and back to the "promised land" of Canaan. This journey is a pattern and example of God's plan for salvation in our lives.

Through Moses, God sent ten plagues on the Egyptians before they would release the Israelites to leave. The final plague was the death of the firstborn. Every firstborn child in Egypt died unless their family followed special instructions God gave to Moses. These special instructions were to kill a lamb and apply the blood of the lamb to the door post of their home. These special instructions were another clue to help us understand the mission of Jesus Christ. He would be the "Lamb" slain and His blood would be the payment for our sins. The Jews still observe this tradition today: It's called the Passover.

To this day,  
religious Jews  
all over the  
world still  
observe the  
Passover feast.

Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.

1 Corinthians 5:7

The Israelites left Egypt that night. This is an example of how we must turn away from our sinful lives and decide to follow the plan of God. This is called repentance, which means to "change your thinking." After they left Egypt, God led them to an area in the desert next to the Red Sea. At that same time, the King of Egypt

decided to chase after them with his army to bring them back to Egypt. God told Moses to raise his staff and hand over the sea and the waters parted so they could cross the Red Sea and escape the Egyptian army. The army tried to follow them, but the water fell on them and they drowned. This is a picture of baptism in our life as a Christian. When we are baptized, all the sins we have committed are washed away and we start a new life. (Romans 6:4, Acts 22:16)

The nation of Israel was free, but they were not yet in the promised land. God wanted to lead them there immediately, but because they did not have faith in God, they had to wander in the wilderness for 40 years. God protected and cared for Israel in many miraculous ways during this time. This is a picture of our life as Christians in this world being led by the Holy Spirit. We have come out of Egypt (sin), but we have not yet entered into the promised land (Heaven). The wilderness of this life is very difficult at times, but we must trust that God is leading and guiding us to a better place He has promised: Heaven.

## THE LAW

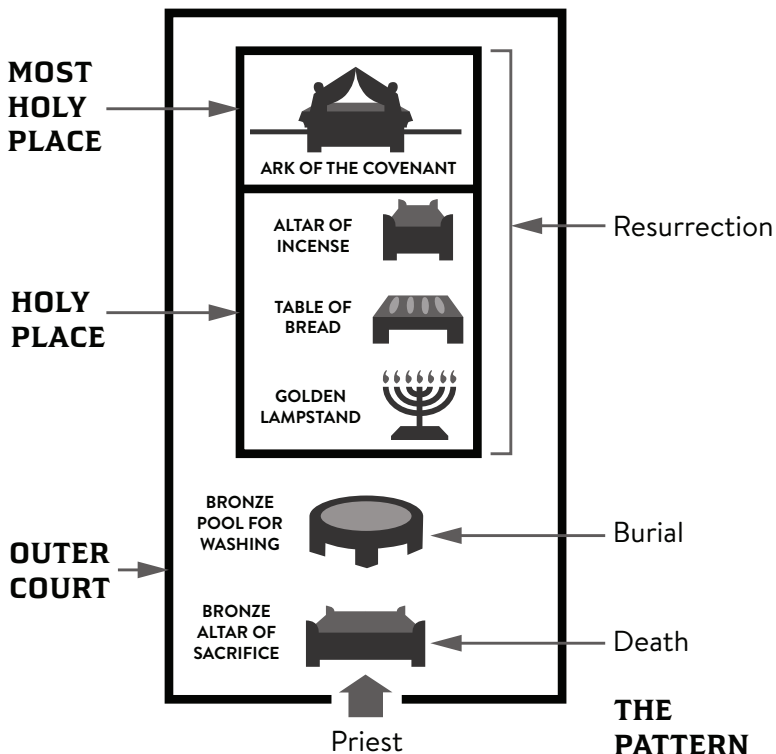
A very important thing happened in the wilderness. God gave special instructions to Moses on how the nation of Israel was to serve Him in their new land. God needed to expand the covenant He had made with Abraham and his descendants: the Covenant would now cover an entire nation! The Covenant God gave to Moses was called the Law. The Law included the first five books of the Bible. The Jews call this the *Torah*. The Law specified the ten commandments, the tabernacle plan, the Ark of the Covenant, and the various rules and regulations for worship and everyday life. God wanted to create a nation of righteousness that would be an example to all the nations of the world. At that time, idol worship had infiltrated the nations of the world, and this was a great sin against God.

## WHY DON'T CHRISTIANS KEEP THE LAW?

A common attack on the scriptures is to point out some of the unusual or harsh verses from the Law in order to discredit the

entire Bible. Sometimes, we struggle to see God in strange dietary restrictions, punishment by stoning, and sacrificing of animals. The important thing to remember is that the Law was designed to govern an entire nation and combined three different types of law: ceremonial, moral, and civil. The Law had to be strict to keep order and instill discipline in a very dangerous time. Christians today are not required to keep the Law because we are under a new covenant. The New Testament will help us understand how Christ fulfilled the Law of Moses, and under the new covenant, God is inside of us, writing His commandments on our hearts. (Hebrews 10:16)

## MAP OF THE TABERNACLE



## THE TABERNACLE IN THE WILDERNESS

A very important part of the Law was the tabernacle in the wilderness. The tabernacle was a portable temple that was used to worship God in the desert. The tabernacle contained the same pattern God established before, but in even greater detail. (See diagram on previous page.) Here is the pattern:

- **Death:** An altar where offerings of animals, grains, and liquids were sacrificed and consumed by fire.
- **Burial:** A pool of water to wash away impurities.
- **Resurrection:** A Holy place where the spirit of God dwelled.

Once a year, the High Priest would enter the Most Holy Place and sprinkle the blood of a goat on the cover of the Ark of the Covenant. This act would atone for the sins of the entire nation for one year. This ritual was a temporary solution, and it pointed to the sacrifice of Christ, which would be the final payment for sin.

📖 Read Hebrews 10:1–18

## JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL INTO CANAAN

After 40 years in the desert, the Israelites were now spiritually ready to re-enter Canaan, the land God promised to Abraham and his descendants. God needed a people who would fully trust in Him and understand keeping the terms of the covenant (Law) were critical to their success in possessing Canaan. The area was not vacant; there were several nations living there and many fortified cities they would have to conquer. Military leadership would be critical. Due to a spiritual error Moses made, God did not permit him to lead the Israelites into Canaan. God raised up Joshua, Moses' successor, to lead them there.

Joshua was a type or reflection of Christ. God brought great victory to the Israelites under Joshua. The most famous battle Joshua led them in was the battle for the city of Jericho. Jericho was a heavily

fortified city that was defeated miraculously by obedience to God and worship. This was a clear sign that God was fighting the battles for the nation of Israel. Shortly after that, they suffered a humbling defeat. God revealed one of the Israelites had disobeyed His command and taken plunder from Jericho. This caused the army to be defeated in a battle. So it is in our Christian life—if we practice willful sin, we remove ourselves from the protection of God’s covenant and become vulnerable to the attack of Satan.

In the end, Joshua led the Israelites to victory and they possessed the promised land. Unfortunately, they failed to conquer and drive out all the nations living there. In the future, this would result in attacks and raids from those nations as well as an ungodly cultural influence caused by intermarriage and idol worship.

The angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bokim and said to the Israelites, “I brought you out of Egypt into this land that I swore to give your ancestors, and I said I would never break my covenant with you. For your part, you were not to make any covenants with the people living in this land; instead, you were to destroy their altars. But you disobeyed my command. Why did you do this? So now I declare that I will no longer drive out the people living in your land. They will be thorns in your sides, and their gods will be a constant temptation to you.” Judges 2:1–3

## ISRAEL RULED BY JUDGES

In the years after they possessed the promised land, the nation of Israel still had no king. They observed the Law as a governing document, and had prophets and priests as spiritual leaders. Unfortunately, people began to do whatever they thought was right instead of obeying the Law. The result was oppression from their enemies. God’s response was to raise up powerful leaders, called judges, to defeat their enemies (Judges 2:16). The most well known judge of this time was Sampson. Sampson was able to inflict great losses to the Philistines who were Israel’s biggest enemy. The people didn’t like this leadership model and eventually wanted a king like the other nations around them. God reluctantly granted their wish and

gave them a king named Saul. Saul started out as a good king, but he eventually started disobeying God. The results were disastrous for the nation. King Saul represents man's rebellious nature. The next king, David, would represent God's righteous nature.

## **KING DAVID THE RIGHTEOUS KING**

King David had tremendous power from God (also called "anointing") to lead Israel to victory in battle. David is well known for slaying the giant Goliath, but that is only the beginning of his list of victories. David finished the job Joshua started and defeated Israel's enemies. In David, we also see a message of God's coming grace. David sinned greatly by committing adultery and murder, but he repented and received forgiveness even though he was under the Law. As Christians, we also receive mercy and forgiveness under God's grace.

## **SOLOMON BUILDS THE FIRST TEMPLE**

When David died, his son, Solomon became king. God's purpose for Solomon was to build a temple for Him to dwell in. Since the time they were in the wilderness, the tabernacle was still being used for the priestly rituals. Solomon had great wealth and was able to build a permanent temple in Jerusalem. That was the first temple. The temple was built in Jerusalem on the site of the modern day Dome of the Rock. Solomon's reign over Israel was marked by peace, prosperity, and prestige. It was truly the "golden era" of ancient Israel.

## **PSALMS AND PROVERBS: WORSHIP AND WISDOM**

King David was also a highly skilled musician and songwriter. He contributed greatly to the book of *Psalms*, a book of lyrics that give praise to God and described the struggle between the righteous and the wicked. David understood the secret to spiritual victory: praise and worship. As Christians we should also realize that worship and thanksgiving are an important part of our devotion to God.

King Solomon was the author of the book of *Proverbs*. *Proverbs* is a book of practical wisdom for everyday life. God gifted Solomon with supernatural wisdom. King Solomon also wrote *Song of Songs*, which is a beautiful book of poetry, and *Ecclesiastes*, a book that teaches us the meaning of life:

That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad. Ecclesiastes 12:13–14

## ISRAEL DECLINES AS A NATION

After King Solomon died, Israel began to decline as a nation. Several different kings came and went. Some were good and followed righteousness, but many were evil and followed after false gods. This may seem difficult for us to understand if idol worship is not a part of our culture. Consider this: the things we are passionate about and sacrifice our time and effort to are our “idols.” In our culture, technology, sports, possessions, pleasure, and entertainment have become the objects of our thoughts and passions. The Israelites found themselves in the same predicament. They began to follow after false gods and idols instead of keeping the requirements of the Law that was given to Moses. God sent many prophets such as Elijah, Jeremiah, and Isaiah to warn the people to turn from their wicked ways, but they did not obey and often killed God's messengers. They also suffered from political strife and as a result, the nation was divided into two kingdoms: Judah in the south, and Israel in the north.

## ISRAEL DEFEATED AND TAKEN CAPTIVE

Eventually, God used other nations to punish Israel for their disobedience. At that time, the Babylonians were the superpower on the Earth. They conquered Israel and Judah and carried the people off to Babylon as captives. This was a time of great sorrow and mourning, because the first temple and the city of Jerusalem were destroyed. Jerusalem is a very special city, because it is the place on Earth God has chosen for His name to be honored.

God was with the Israelites even while they were in captivity in Babylon. In fact, God gave special favor to some of them. Here are a few examples:

- God used Esther to save the Jewish people from extermination.
- God saved the lives of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from being burned alive.
- God made Daniel an authority and saved him from death by lions. He also gave Daniel prophetic revelations about the nation of Israel and the last days.

Today, the Temple Mount is also considered the second holiest site in another religion: Islam.

## ISRAEL RETURNS AND REBUILDS

When the seventy years of exile were complete, God sent Zerubbabel and Ezra back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple and resume worship. This was called the second temple. This is the same temple that would be in existence during the life of Christ, many years later. God also sent Nehemiah to lead the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. This was a very difficult task, because they were opposed by other nations and groups of people in the area. The work was very strenuous and dangerous. After the city was rebuilt, the exiled Jews were able to begin returning to their homeland.

## WHY DIDN'T THE LAW WORK?

Israel's struggle with obedience to the Law was a great disappointment to God. Fortunately, God never intended for the Law to be a permanent solution to the sin problem. It was only a temporary solution. In fact, the Law had some serious limitations:

- It was very difficult to keep.
- It made people want to sin more.

- It addressed the symptoms of sin (behavior), but not the cause (the heart).
- People who were good at keeping the law thought they were superior to others.

God's permanent solution to the sin problem was just on the horizon: Jesus Christ. The books of the prophets contain many predictions of His coming. The apostle Matthew used these scriptures as proof Jesus was the promised Messiah. Here are some examples:

- The virgin birth was prophesied by Isaiah. (Matthew 1:22-23—Isaiah 7:14)
- Jesus' birthplace was prophesied by the prophet Micah. (Matthew 2:4-6—Micah 5:2)
- John the Baptist was prophesied by Isaiah. (Matthew 3:3—Isaiah 40:3)
- Jesus' home town of Nazareth was also prophesied by Isaiah. (Matthew 4:12-16—Isaiah 9:1-2)
- The purpose of Jesus' ministry was prophesied by Isaiah. (Luke 4:16-19—Isaiah 61:1-2)

## WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT?

Between the Old and New Testament, there is a period of 400 years of silence in the scriptures. This period of time was predicted by the prophet Daniel. During that time the world changed and two new nations became world powers: First the Greeks, then the Romans. By the time Jesus Christ was born, Israel had a king named Herod, but they were under the rule of the Roman Empire. Many Israelites were anxiously awaiting the arrival of the prophesied Messiah to deliver them from the oppression of Rome. This political and religious scenario soon became the backdrop of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

## LESSON 2 REVIEW

### SECTION 1: FROM EGYPT TO THE PROMISED LAND

1. The journey of Israel from \_\_\_\_\_ to the Promised Land is a pattern for our \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Leaving Egypt is a picture of \_\_\_\_\_ which means to \_\_\_\_\_ your thinking.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ crossing is a picture of baptism.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ journey is a picture of our \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth as Christians.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ was God's expanded \_\_\_\_\_ with the nation of Israel.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ was a portable temple that contained God's pattern for salvation: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. In the Promised Land, Israel was successful as long as they \_\_\_\_\_ the terms of the Law.

### SECTION 2: THE RIGHTEOUS KINGDOM

8. God sent \_\_\_\_\_ to defeat Israel's enemies in the Promised Land.
9. King Saul was a symbol of man's \_\_\_\_\_ nature.
10. God gave \_\_\_\_\_ tremendous power to defeat the enemies of Israel.

11. King Solomon built the first \_\_\_\_\_ in Jerusalem, replacing the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Psalms is a book of \_\_\_\_\_ that gives praise to God and describes the struggle between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

### SECTION 3: ISRAEL TURNS AWAY FROM GOD

13. Israel began to worship \_\_\_\_\_ and eventually split into two separate \_\_\_\_\_.
14. God punished Israel by allowing the \_\_\_\_\_ to destroy the Temple and take them into \_\_\_\_\_.
15. After \_\_\_\_\_ years in Babylon, the Israelites returned and rebuilt \_\_\_\_\_ and the Temple.
16. The Law was not intended to be a \_\_\_\_\_ solution to the sin problem.
17. The Old Testament prophets \_\_\_\_\_ the coming of \_\_\_\_\_.
18. There is a period of \_\_\_\_\_ years of silence between the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

(Answer key below and on page 60)

Answers: 1. Egypt, salvation 2. repentance, change 3. Red Sea 4. wilderness, life 5. Law, covenant 6. tabernacle, death, burial, resurrection 7. obeyed 8. Judges 9. rebellious 10. King David 11. temple, tabernacle 12. lyrics, righteous, wicked 13. idols, kingdoms 14. Babylonians, captivity 15. 70, Jerusalem 16. permanent 17. predicted, Jesus Christ 18. 400, Old, New Testament

# LESSON 3:

# THE SOLUTION



## LESSON 3: THE SOLUTION

In lesson three, we will study how God sent Jesus Christ as the solution to the problem, and what we must do to take part in it. This lesson will cover the books of *Matthew* through *Acts*.

### WHAT ARE THE GOSPELS?

The first four books of the New Testament are eyewitness accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, referred to as *Gospels*. The four books are very similar, yet each one has its own unique perspective:

1. **Matthew** portrays Jesus as the predicted Messiah and King of the Jewish people. It was written by Matthew, an Apostle and former tax collector.
2. **Mark** portrays Jesus as a humble servant and is thought to be written by Mark, a close associate of the Apostle Peter.
3. **Luke** portrays Jesus' humanity and was written by Luke, a gentile and a close companion to the Apostle Paul. The book of *Acts* is part two of this gospel.
4. **John** emphasizes the deity of Jesus and was written by the Apostle John.

### HOW WAS JESUS BORN?

The events leading up to the birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph are written in detail. Mary, who was a virgin, was impregnated with a child by the Holy Spirit. Of course, her husband to be, Joseph, was shocked and confused by the situation. An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and assured him that Mary's child was conceived by God, not another man.

As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was

conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:20–21

Jesus was born in Bethlehem with many signs and wonders. His family immediately moved to Egypt to avoid being killed by Herod. Later, they returned to Judea and settled in a town called Nazareth.

## WHO WAS JOHN THE BAPTIST?

John the Baptist was a prophet and his purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus' ministry. His ministry and lifestyle were very unusual. He lived in the wilderness and preached repentance and judgment. He was known for baptizing his disciples in water. When John saw Jesus, he immediately recognized Him as the Messiah:

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” John 1:29

Immediately after being baptized by John, Jesus was led into the wilderness for forty days and nights to fast and be tempted by Satan. This reminds us again of the Israelites, who crossed the Red Sea and immediately were tested in the wilderness for 40 years. When Jesus emerged from this time of testing, He was fully ready to begin His ministry and mission.

## WHAT DID JESUS DO?

Jesus' ministry consisted of teaching, healing, and performing miracles. Jesus spent much of His time training the twelve disciples. All but one of these men later became leaders of the Christian church. Jesus also healed many people of sickness, disease, and disabilities such as the blind, lame, deaf, and dumb. Jesus taught in public and was often challenged and persecuted by the religious leaders of the Jewish community.

Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. Matthew 4:23

## WHO WAS JESUS?

Jesus Christ was God manifested as a human being. This is why Jesus was referred to as the Son of God. Let's examine the words and actions of Jesus as proof that He was God in a human body:

- He performed supernatural miracles.
- He had control over nature.
- He never committed sin.
- He made statements only God could make.
- He accepted worship.
- He fulfilled the prophecies of the Messiah.
- He rose from the dead and ascended to Heaven.

It is of utmost importance we understand His identity: Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. He was God manifested in a fleshly body like ours.

All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" Matthew 1:22–23

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, Who do people say that the Son of Man is? Well, they replied, some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets. Then he asked them, But who do you say I am? Simon Peter answered, You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Jesus replied, You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. Matthew 16:13–17

Then the high priest said to him, I demand in the name of the living God—tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God. Jesus replied, You have said it. And in the future you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven. Matthew 26:63–64

## WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

Jesus' primary mission in life was to die as a sacrifice for our sins. This was God's plan all along to fix the sin problem. In the Old Testament, each Hebrew family sacrificed a lamb, roasted it, and prepared a special meal to celebrate the Passover every year. Jesus became the final Lamb that was sacrificed for the sins of all mankind. The crucifixion actually took place on the same day as the Passover. Jesus' death fulfilled His mission to save human beings from death and judgment! God poured out all of the punishment for our sin and shame on Jesus. The prophet Isaiah wrote about this in great detail over 700 years before Christ was even born:

■ Read Isaiah 52:13–53:12 and Psalm 22

The Roman crucifixion was the most excruciating, shameful, and cruel death imaginable. Yet, in the midst of His suffering, Jesus prayed this prayer: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34) Then Jesus cried "It is finished!" and gave up His spirit and died. This was the most important event in the history of the world, because it made a way for us to be saved. Christians today practice the rite of the Lord's Supper, or *Communion*, to honor and remember the tremendous pain and suffering Jesus endured for us.

## WHY DID GOD WANT TO SAVE US?

**God wanted to save us because He loves us.** In fact, the primary characteristic of God is love:

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8

But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4:8

God is a perfect balance of love and justice. His justice required that sinners be punished, but His love required Him to send Christ to die in our place. The Apostle Paul wrote that God's love was too great for us to fully comprehend:

When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Ephesians 3:14–19

## THE RESURRECTION

Jesus' death as a sinless sacrifice is the most important thing that has ever happened in the history of the world. It was inconceivable even to the angels and demons that such a thing was even possible, but it happened. The best part is that Jesus' sacrifice gave Him authority over death and the grave. Death could not legally hold Jesus and it cannot hold those who belong to Him. Jesus went down to the grave and released those who had died in righteousness and took them to Heaven; then He returned to Earth to visit His followers again.

Jesus appeared to His disciples and others after His death. He encouraged them and gave them final instructions before ascending into Heaven. His final instructions were:

- To wait for a special baptism of the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49)
- To establish the church by making disciples. (Matthew 28:19-20)

## WHAT MUST WE DO TO BE SAVED?

Jesus' sacrifice on the cross does not automatically apply to everyone. In order for the blood of Jesus to be applied to our life, we must believe in Him and be born again.

Jesus replied, I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God. What do you mean? exclaimed Nicodemus. How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again? Jesus replied, I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. John 3:3–6

“So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!” Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:36–38

In Acts chapter 2, the Apostle Peter gave us the blueprint for the process of being born again:

- **Repent:** Make a decision to turn away from practicing sin and pursue righteousness, or right living which is pleasing to God.
- **Water Baptism:** Baptism is a declaration of repentance and belief in Jesus Christ followed by immersion in water. This rite symbolizes the death and burial of your old way of living and the beginning of your new life in Christ. All your sins are forgiven.
- **Spirit Baptism:** As you seek God in prayer and worship, He will fill you with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit empowers you to overcome sin and tell others about God. The supernatural ability to speak in tongues (unknown languages) was often associated

with the impartation of this gift, and it has been experienced by millions today.

Being born again spiritually puts us in the family of God. Our spirit which was dead because of Adam's sin is now alive because we belong to Christ. This is yet another fulfillment of the pattern that is the main theme of God's plan: death, burial, and resurrection.

Unfortunately, not all Christians agree about what you must do to be born again. It is important to remember that God is the final judge of who is saved. Our responsibility is to obey the plan of God revealed in scripture with our whole heart. If you have not been born again you should prayerfully consider doing so if you believe this message is true.

## WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

The church is a community of Christians working together to build the Kingdom of God. The book of Acts also gives a detailed history of the formation of the church. There were many miracles and wonders that helped establish the church:

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.  
Acts 2:42-47

Persecution forced the Christians to spread out all over the world, bringing the Gospel with them. There was also a notable conversion of a Jewish religious leader to Christianity: the Apostle Paul.

## LESSON 3 REVIEW

### SECTION 1: JESUS CHRIST

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ are four different accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.
2. Mary was a \_\_\_\_\_ who was impregnated by the \_\_\_\_\_ with a child.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ was a \_\_\_\_\_ and his purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus' ministry.
4. Jesus began His ministry with 40 days of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and was \_\_\_\_\_ by the devil.
5. Jesus' ministry consisted of \_\_\_\_\_, healing, and performing \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Jesus Christ was \_\_\_\_\_ manifested as a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Jesus' primary \_\_\_\_\_ in life was to \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_.
8. God poured out all the \_\_\_\_\_ for our sin and \_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus.

### SECTION 2: SALVATION

9. God wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ us because He \_\_\_\_\_ us.
10. Jesus' death on the cross gave Him authority over \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

11. In order for Christ's sacrifice to apply to us, we must be \_\_\_\_\_ .
12. Being born again is a process of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and being filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ .
13. When we are born again, our \_\_\_\_\_ is no longer dead, but \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually because we belong to Christ.
14. The church is a \_\_\_\_\_ of believers working together to build the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ forced the early Christians to spread out all over the world and share the \_\_\_\_\_.

(Answer key below and on page 60)

Answers: 1. Gospels 2. virgin, Holy Spirit 3. John, Baptist, prophet 4. fasting, prayer, tempted 5. teaching, miracles 6. God, human being 7. mission, die, sins 8. punishment, shame 9. save, loves 10. death, grave 11. born again 12. repentance, baptism, Holy Spirit 13. spirit, alive 14. community, Kingdom 15. Persecution, gospel

# MAP OF SALVATION

1. The Cross
2. Repentance
3. Baptism
4. The Word of God Protects
5. The Spirit Leads
6. Faith is Tested
7. Trust is Learned
8. Physical Death
9. Heaven



## LESSON 4: THE JOURNEY

Just as the nation of Israel had to journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land, we also must journey through the tests of this life before we reach Heaven. (See map on page 44.) God has prepared instructions to help us, just as He did for the Israelites. This lesson will cover the book of *Romans* through *Revelation*.

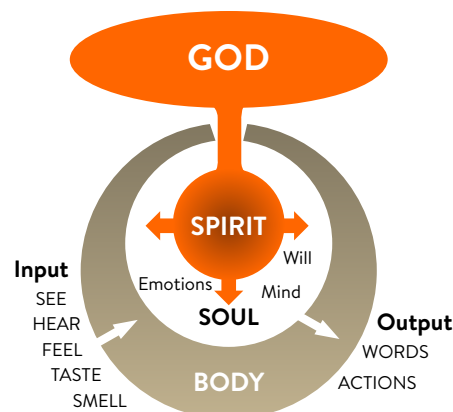
### GROWING AS A CHRISTIAN

The epistles are letters that were written to the churches by the Apostles and early church fathers. These letters contained teaching on the process of becoming a mature Christian. This is called spiritual growth.

The key to spiritual growth is understanding what happens when you are born again and your new identity as a child of God (page 46). Early in this course we learned that man consisted of three parts: **body, soul, and spirit**. When Adam sinned, his body, soul, and spirit became corrupted by sin and were cursed to die. This also applied to all of us, his descendants. When we are born again, our spirit is no longer dead, it is reborn! Our body is still under the curse of sin though, because it has not yet been renewed. Our soul can go either way: If we obey the Spirit, our soul will be renewed. If we follow the desires of our physical body, our soul will be corrupted.

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about



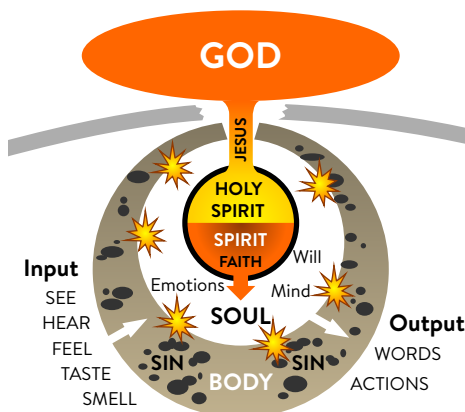
## INNOCENT MAN

This diagram is a picture of Adam and Eve at creation. Their spirit was alive, connected to God, and innocent of sin. This also depicts Jesus Christ, who was sinless. Man was not created to experience death or aging.



## FALLEN MAN

This is a picture of Adam and all the human race after he sinned. Our spirit is dead and separated from God. We cannot perceive the spirit, so our sinful body is our master. Our ultimate fate is to grow old and die, both physically and spiritually.



## BORN AGAIN MAN

When we are born again, our spirit is alive again and connected to God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Our body is still sinful, since it has not yet been renewed. The body and spirit fight for control. Faith is the gate to receiving from the Spirit.

things that please the Spirit. So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. Romans 8:1–14

Our mission in life as disciples is to seek after spiritual things, and put aside the sinful things our bodies desire. There are three basic things our flesh desires:

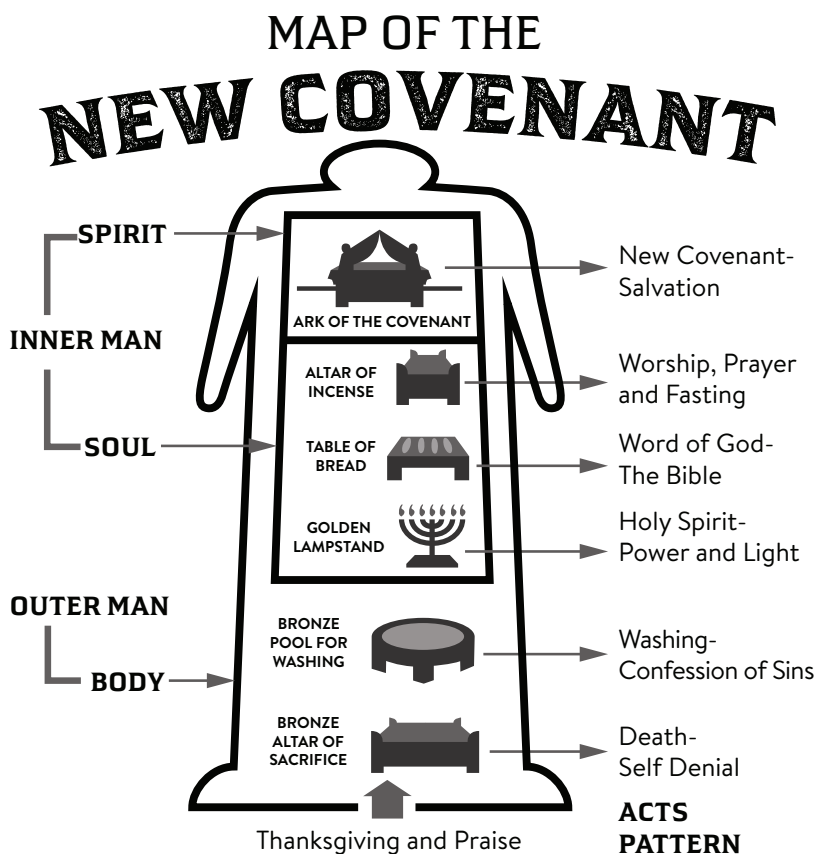
For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.  
1 John 2:16

As disciples, there are several ways we walk in the spirit:

- **Thoughts:** Thinking about God and our identity and purpose in Him: We are His masterpiece, created for good works. (Ephesians 2:10)
- **Prayer:** Talking and listening to God.
- **Worship:** Singing, praising and thanking God.

- **Study:** Reading and learning the scriptures.
- **Fasting:** A set time of abstinence from food and focus on God.
- **Giving:** Supporting the work of God financially.
- **Serving:** Doing things to help others for free.

Remember the tabernacle in the wilderness from lesson two? Under the new covenant, God now dwells inside of us and our body becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit as we see in the diagram below (1 Corinthians 6:19–20):



If we are faithful to seek after spiritual things, we will grow in maturity. As we grow in faith and maturity, we are able to help other Christians do the same. This is called ministry.

God has also given us the ministry of reconciliation. The ministry of reconciliation helps us lead people back into right relationship with God. (2 Corinthians 5:18–21) Ministry may include teaching, praying, serving, or encouraging other Christians. The Holy Spirit also enables us to share God’s message with sinners.

## WHAT ABOUT SIN?

One of the most difficult aspects of the Christian life is dealing with sin. There is a conflict between our sinful body and the Spirit of God that is in us. Our flesh is still corrupted by sin and desires sinful things because our bodies have not yet been renewed. This creates a great conflict with our spirit, which is alive and desires to please God. This conflict takes place in our soul, which contains our thoughts, emotions, and will. Many Christians are frustrated that they still struggle with sin after becoming a Christian. The good news is that God is aware of this, and He made provision for it through grace:

My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world. 1 John 2:1–2

Grace is the undeserved favor of God. Grace helps us overcome sin and covers and protects us when we do sin. Some Christians get confused and believe grace is a license to sin. This could not be further from the truth! Those that use grace as an excuse to willfully sin are deceived. God’s expectation is that we discipline our bodies to not sin. When we fail, God’s grace is available to cover our weaknesses and get us back on track again.

God’s law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God’s wonderful grace

became more abundant. So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:20–21

God has also filled us with His spirit of holiness. The Holy Spirit creates in us a deep desire to be holy, in order to please God. The Holy Spirit also gives us supernatural power to overcome and deny the desires of our sinful bodies. The Holy Spirit works through prayer, worship, and studying the Word of God. This process of overcoming and becoming mature in Christ takes time and effort. It is wise for us to be patient with ourselves and others as we grow and overcome our weaknesses and sins through the Spirit.

When we grow as a Christian, the Holy Spirit will begin to produce results in our life. These results are known as the “fruit” of the Spirit:

- Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23)

It is important to understand that we are not saved as a result of the good works we do. If that were possible, Jesus Christ would not have needed to die as a sacrifice for our sins. Our good works are actually a result of the work of salvation He has done in us. This can be confusing to some if they believe salvation in the afterlife is attained by living a good life on Earth. That is not true—salvation can only be attained through Jesus Christ and our obedience to His plan:

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. Ephesians 2:8–9

The bottom line is this: **salvation is a condition of your heart.** God is able to see our true intentions and motives. He knows when we are really trying or when we're just faking it. We can fool other people sometimes, but we can never fool God. We need to be serious about

our walk with God and make pleasing Him our priority in this life. God's desire is to be our passion and our purpose here on Earth. God is not impressed with those who simply fulfill a religious duty to appear right to others:

Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.    *Philippians 2:12–13*

While it is true we cannot earn salvation, we should be very concerned about showing the results of our salvation: good works.

## THE CHURCH: A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

Have you ever wondered why Christ left after the resurrection? He could have stayed here and continued His ministry but He didn't. Instead, He chose to send His Spirit to fill each believer. (John 16:7–8) When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we do the work of Jesus on this Earth. That is why the church is referred to as the “Body of Christ.” Corporately, the church was designed to possess all the attributes of Jesus. There are five different ministry functions the church is given:

- **Apostles:** Provide foundational doctrine and regional leadership.
- **Prophets:** Provide spiritual guidance and insight.
- **Evangelists:** Provide outreach to the lost.
- **Pastors:** Provide personal care and local leadership.
- **Teachers:** Provide local instruction on doctrine.

■ Read Ephesians 4

There are also many different spiritual gifts God gives to individual believers. A spiritual gift is a supernatural ability given to an individual to help the church. Here are some of those gifts:

- Word of wisdom
- Word of knowledge
- Gift of faith
- Gift of healing
- Working of miracles
- Prophecy
- Discerning of spirits
- Different kinds of tongues
- Interpretation of tongues

It is important that we prayerfully seek to be used in these gifts.

📖 Read 1 Corinthians 12:1–11

## WHY ARE THERE SO MANY DIFFERENT CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS?

One of the problems that has existed since the beginning of the church is false doctrine. This is very similar to the struggles Israel had with idol worship:

Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people. I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. Jude 1:3–4

Satan will always try very hard to corrupt the plan and purpose of God. That is why it is important for us to carefully examine the scriptures to make sure we know the truth. False teachings and error have been introduced to the church over the years. This has

resulted in many different denominations and variations within the church. Here are some examples of false doctrine:

- Unscriptural teachings and traditions of men.
- Salvation earned by works, not grace.
- Sin is permissible under grace.
- Everyone will be saved, regardless of whether they obey the gospel.

We must be vigilant and alert at all times and work to stay balanced in spirit and truth. The Bible teaches God will allow false Christians to remain until they are identified and separated at the final judgment. (Matthew 13:24–30)

## THE FUTURE

The Bible also has much to say about the future of the world. This is referred to as prophecy. The book of *Revelation* is the most well known book containing prophecy, but there are many other prophetic scriptures throughout the Bible. (Matthew 24, Daniel 9)

## WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE?

We are presently in a 2,000 year period of God's grace and favor known as the Church Age. At the end of the Church Age, there will be a seven year period of trouble known as the Tribulation. At some point during this time, Christ will gather all the true believers who are alive and also those who have died. He will bring us up to Heaven in an event known as the Rapture, or the first resurrection. At this time all believers will stand before the Judgment seat of Christ and receive their reward according to what they did as Christians here on Earth. (Revelation 20:4–6, 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

The tribulation will be a terrible time of suffering and punishment. The entire world will be deceived and follow a political leader known as the Antichrist. At the very end, he and his armies will set out to defeat Israel in battle. Christ will return and defeat the Antichrist

in the Battle of Armageddon. Then there will be a period of 1,000 years of righteousness. At the end of this period, Satan will rise up and try to defeat God again. This time, Satan will be defeated for good, and God will cast him into the Lake of Fire. God will also judge everyone who has died in their sins at the White Throne Judgment. This is the second resurrection.

■ Read Matthew 24

## WHAT HAPPENS IN THE AFTERLIFE?

Being aware of the afterlife and preparing for it is the most important thing you will ever do. The Bible speaks very plainly about the afterlife. Those who have been born again will enjoy eternal life in Heaven with God and will have a new body to go with their renewed spirit. (2 Corinthians 5:1-5) Those who have rejected the Gospel will go to Hell or the “grave” immediately after they die. Hell is a place of torment and regret. Their souls will be there until the second resurrection of the dead. After that, every human being that has ever lived will be judged by God, except those who have obeyed the Gospel. After the judgment, they will be cast into the lake of fire, along with the devil and his demons.

And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:11–15

## YOUR DECISION

At the beginning of this Bible study, we discussed the question of what truth is. Sometimes the truth is difficult to accept. Many people are uncomfortable discussing the afterlife because it scares them. Think of it this way: If there was a terrible storm headed your way, wouldn't you want to know so you could take action to save yourself and your family from disaster? It would be foolish to ignore the warnings because it made you feel uncomfortable or afraid.

The good news is that we are still living in the time of God's grace and favor! God warned us about the coming disaster and He has mercifully provided a way for us to escape the judgment that is coming to this world and all who sin. **What will your response be to God's plan?** Will you accept it as truth or will you reject it?

You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it. Matthew 7:13–14

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. Peter 3:9

## YOUR RESPONSE

If you are deciding now to become a Christian, your next step is to follow God's plan and be born again (see page 40). Ask your teacher for assistance. They will pray with you and help you take the next step. Welcome to the family!

If you have already decided to follow Christ, I hope this Bible study has helped you understand God's plan for your life and what happened to you when you were born again. Stay dedicated to spiritual growth and sharing this message with others.

If you still aren't sure you believe this message, you should continue studying and praying earnestly for God's direction in your search for truth. Ask your teacher to help you with any questions that you need to work through before making a decision.

## LESSON 4 REVIEW

### SECTION 1: GROWING AS A CHRISTIAN

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the process of becoming a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian.
2. We walk in the spirit through our \_\_\_\_\_, prayer, worship, study, fasting, and giving.
3. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ between our sinful body and the Spirit of God that is in us.
4. The Holy Spirit creates in us a deep desire to \_\_\_\_\_ God and gives us power to \_\_\_\_\_ sin.
5. The process of \_\_\_\_\_ to be a mature Christian takes \_\_\_\_\_ and effort.
6. Salvation is not attained by \_\_\_\_\_, but through Jesus Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ to His plan.
7. We need to be serious about our walk with God and make pleasing Him a \_\_\_\_\_.

### SECTION 2: THE CHURCH: A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

8. The church is described as the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth.
9. God gives spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ to individual believers to \_\_\_\_\_ the church.
10. Satan uses \_\_\_\_\_ to try to corrupt and defeat the church.

## SECTION 3: THE FUTURE

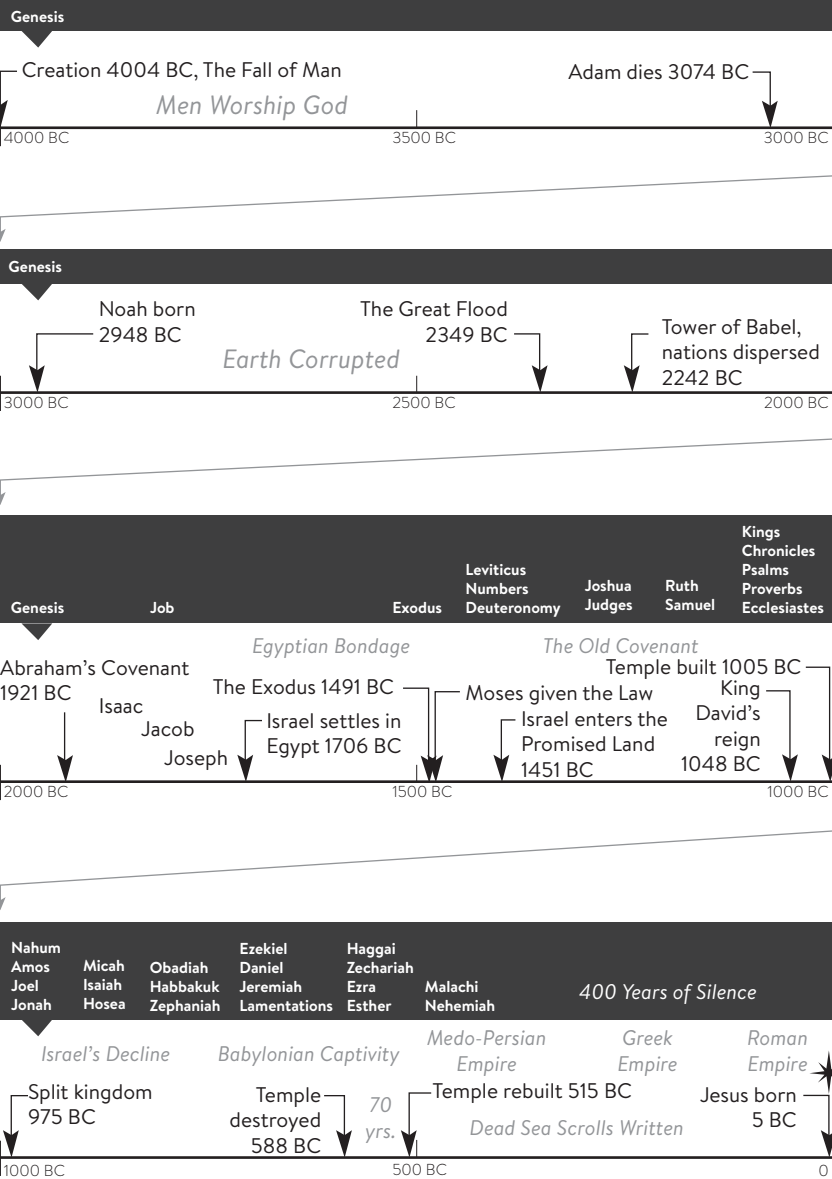
11. We are currently in a time of God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ known as the Church Age.
12. Those that are born again will take part in the \_\_\_\_\_ resurrection and be judged by God for what they did in His \_\_\_\_\_ .
13. Those who reject God will take part in the \_\_\_\_\_ resurrection and be judged at the \_\_\_\_\_ Judgment.
14. The final destination of those that obey the gospel is \_\_\_\_\_ , a place of reward.
15. The final destination for those who reject the Gospel is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ , a place of \_\_\_\_\_ and torment.

(Answer key below and on page 60)

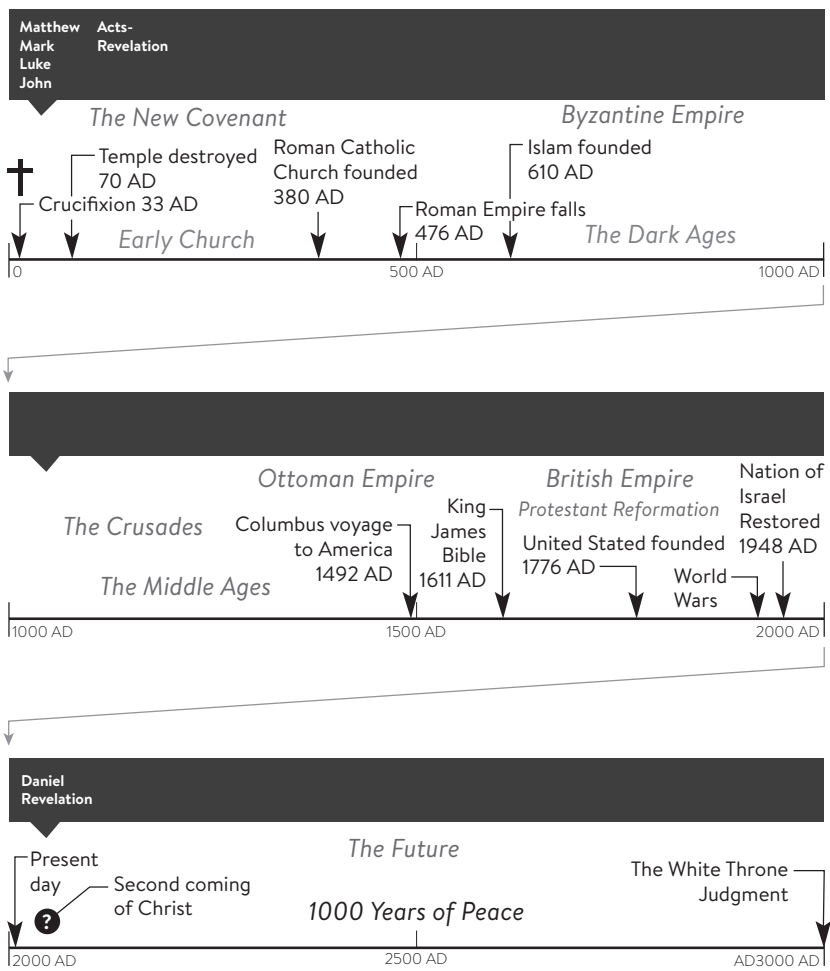
Answers: 1. Spiritual, growth, mature 2. thoughts 3. conflict 4. please, overcome 5. growing, time 6. works, obedience 7. priority 8. body, Christ 9. gifts, help 10. false doctrine 11. grace, favor 12. first, kingdom 13. second, White Throne 14. Heaven 15. Lake, Fire, punishment

OLD TESTAMENT TIMELINE (BC)\*

\* Dates based on the research of Archbishop James Ussher in *Annals of the World*, published in 1654.



# NEW TESTAMENT TIMELINE (AD)



**Note:** Use this timeline to understand the chronology of the Bible in the context of world history. The black fields above the timeline indicate the books of the Bible that correlate to the events below. The dates on the Old Testament timeline are calculated based on Biblical genealogies (e.g., Genesis 5), time intervals (e.g., 1 Kings 6:1), and known historical dates. These dates should be considered approximate. Our current Calendar Era is based on the birth of Christ and was created in 525 AD.

# REVIEW QUESTION KEY

## LESSON 1

1. disciple, true 2. inspiration 3. scribes 4. Hebrew, Greek  
5. printing press, languages 6. understand, translated 7. evidence, accurate 8. Son, God, eternal life 9. body, soul, spirit 10. death, decay 11. disobedience, righteousness, death 12. substitute  
13. righteousness, faith 14. worship, serve 15. faith 16. conditional, blessing, protection

## LESSON 2

1. Egypt, salvation 2. repentance, change 3. Red Sea  
4. wilderness, life 5. Law, covenant 6. tabernacle, death, burial, resurrection 7. obeyed 8. Judges 9. rebellious 10. King David 11. temple, tabernacle 12. lyrics, righteous, wicked  
13. idols, kingdoms 14. Babylonians, captivity 15. 70, Jerusalem  
16. permanent 17. predicted, Jesus Christ 18. 400, Old, New Testament

## LESSON 3

1. Gospels 2. virgin, Holy Spirit 3. John, Baptist, prophet 4. fasting, prayer, tempted 5. teaching, miracles 6. God, human being  
7. mission, die, sins 8. punishment, shame 9. save, loves 10. death, grave 11. born again 12. repentance, baptism, Holy Spirit 13. spirit, alive 14. community, Kingdom 15. Persecution, gospel

## LESSON 4

1. Spiritual, growth, mature 2. thoughts 3. conflict 4. please, overcome 5. growing, time 6. works, obedience 7. priority  
8. body, Christ 9. gifts, help 10. false doctrine 11. grace, favor  
12. first, kingdom 13. second, White Throne 14. Heaven 15. Lake, Fire, punishment

## READY FOR MORE?

Now that you know the story of the Bible, take the next step and read it for yourself. Cut out this bookmark with scissors and keep it in your Bible to check off each book as you read them at your own pace.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE



## THE BIBLE 101 READING PLAN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- ☐ Genesis
- ☐ Exodus
- ☐ Leviticus
- ☐ Numbers
- ☐ Deuteronomy
- ☐ Joshua
- ☐ Judges
- ☐ Ruth
- ☐ 1 Samuel
- ☐ 2 Samuel
- ☐ 1 Kings
- ☐ 2 Kings
- ☐ 1 Chronicles
- ☐ 2 Chronicles
- ☐ Ezra
- ☐ Nehemiah
- ☐ Esther
- ☐ Job
- ☐ Psalms
- ☐ Proverbs
- ☐ Ecclesiastes
- ☐ Song of Songs
- ☐ Isaiah
- ☐ Jeremiah
- ☐ Lamentations
- ☐ Ezekiel
- ☐ Daniel
- ☐ Hosea
- ☐ Joel
- ☐ Amos
- ☐ Obadiah
- ☐ Jonah
- ☐ Micah
- ☐ Nahum
- ☐ Habakkuk
- ☐ Zephaniah
- ☐ Haggai
- ☐ Zechariah
- ☐ Malachi

# THE BIBLE 101

## READING PLAN

### THE NEW TESTAMENT

- ☐ Matthew
- ☐ Mark
- ☐ Luke
- ☐ John
- ☐ Acts
- ☐ Romans
- ☐ 1 Corinthians
- ☐ 2 Corinthians
- ☐ Galatians
- ☐ Ephesians
- ☐ Philippians
- ☐ Colossians
- ☐ 1 Thessalonians
- ☐ 2 Thessalonians
- ☐ 1 Timothy
- ☐ 2 Timothy
- ☐ Titus
- ☐ Philemon
- ☐ Hebrews
- ☐ James
- ☐ 1 Peter
- ☐ 2 Peter
- ☐ 1 John
- ☐ 2 John
- ☐ 3 John
- ☐ Jude
- ☐ Revelation

# GOD'S PATTERN

...Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing. Romans 4:17

## DEATH

## BURIAL

## LIFE

In

### Exodus

Exodus 12, 14, 19

John 1:29

I Corinthians 10:1-5

Acts 7:38



Passover



Cross Red Sea



Mt. Sinai

In the

### Tabernacle

Exodus 25-27

Hebrews 8:5

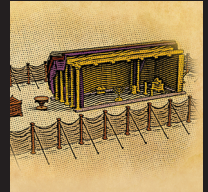
Hebrews 10:19-22



Altar



Pool of Water



Holy Place

In

### Christ

John 19:20

Matthew 27, 28

Acts 13:26-31



Crucifixion



Tomb



Resurrection

### In New Birth

Acts 2:38-39

Hebrews 6:1

Acts 1:8

Romans 6:4



Repent



Baptism



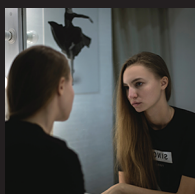
Holy Spirit

### In Spiritual Growth

Romans 12:1-2

Ephesians 5:25-27

Titus 3:4-5



Deny Self



Confess & Renew



Walk in Spirit

THE **BIBLE 101**

LA **BIBLIA 101**

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