Introduction to the

New Testament II

SOUTHEAST GEORGIA SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE LESSON ONE

> 2nd Semester-January 2023 Philippians - Revelation

Introduction to the Pauline Epistles

#	Epistle	Place of Writing	Time of Writing		Main Theme
1	1 st Thessalonians	Corinth	A.D. 52-53	(2 nd Trip)	The Lord's Second Coming
2	2 nd Thessalonians	Corinth	A.D. 52-53	(2 nd Trip)	The Lord's Second Coming
3	1 st Corinthians	Ephesus	A.D. 57	(3 rd Trip)	Solving Problems e.g. (Divisions)
4	2 nd Corinthians	Macedonia	A.D. 57	(3 rd Trip)	Christian Ministry
5	Galatians	Corinth	A.D. 58	(3 rd Trip)	Justification by Faith
6	Romans	Corinth	A.D. 58	(3 rd Trip)	Salvation through Christ
7	Ephesians	Rome	A.D. 61-63	(1 st Captivity)	Church (Body of Christ)
8					
9	Colossians	Rome	A.D. 61-63	(1 st Captivity)	Christ (Head of the Church)
10	Philemon	Rome	A.D. 61-63	(1 st Captivity)	Appeal for Onesimus
11	Titus	Ephesus	A.D. 63-64		Church Order
12	Hebrews	Italy	A.D. 63-64		Christ's Heavenly Priesthood
13	1 st Timothy	Macedonia	A.D. 64-65		Pastoral Duties
14	2 nd Timothy	Rome	A.D. 67-68	(2 nd Captivity)	Farewell Discourse

Paul's Letters To Churches: Named after WHERE the letters were sent... • Romans... Rome Philippians... Philippi Paul's Letters To Individuals: Named after <u>WHO</u> received the letters: • 1 & 2 Timothy... To Timothy • Titus... To Titus • Philemon... To Philemon

Paul:

An Apostle

A Pharisee

A Missionary

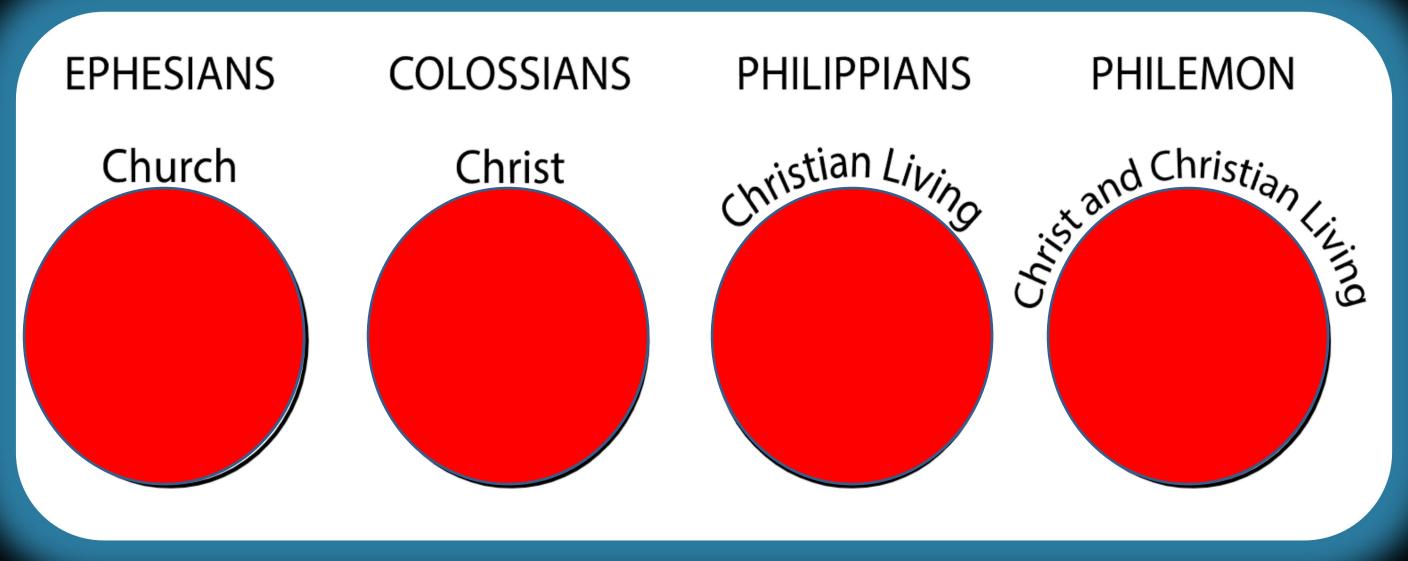
A "Scripture Writer"

Features of Paul's Letters

"Paul"... 1st word of each letter

- Prayers for His Readers
 - Answers Questions
 - Addresses Issues
 - Things To Believe
- His Particular Greetings

The Prison Epistles









PHILIPPIANS Rejoicing in Christ

AUTHOR

The Apostle Paul

•Writing from Rome near the end of his 2nd year of imprisonment.

•He is sending these men to Philippi:

•*Timothy* (2:19)

• Epaphroditus (2:25)



DATE

A.D. 62-63

To the *church* at Philippi (1:1)

Philippians 1:1

Paul and Timotheus, the <u>servants</u> of Jesus Christ, to all

the <u>saints</u> in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi,

with the <u>bishops</u> and <u>deacons</u>:



THEME

"BOOK OF JOY IN JESUS CHRIST"

* This book is Paul's *love letter* to the Philippians.

• It is *informal, affectionate, and personal*. (1:3-8; 4:1)

* This book is written to encourage believers to give Christ His proper place in life and so find joy in Him.

* Happiness is not the goal. Christ is the goal!

PHILIPPIANS Rejoicing in Christ

OUTLINE

- I. Christ, Our <u>Life</u> (Ch. 1) 1:21
- II. Christ, Our Pattern (Ch. 2) 2:5
- III. Christ, Our <u>Goal</u> (Ch. 3) 3:8,10
- IV. Christ, Our Sufficiency (Ch. 4) 4:6-7, 13, 19

KEY WORDS

• Joy, Rejoice, Rejoicing, Rejoiced – 18 times

•*In Christ* – 8 times



KEYVERSE Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice."

SPECIAL FEATURES

- 1. No Old Testament quotes in this epistle.
- 2. No doctrine specifically dealt with.
- 3. Sixty-five (65) vocabulary words used only in Philippians.

PHILIPPIANS

Rejoicing in Christ

- 4. It is practical teaching, not a doctrinal treatise.
- 5. It is more personal than Ephesians.
- 6. It is more peaceful than Galatians.
- 7. Three famous stories attached to this book (from Acts 16):
 a.Lydia, Seller of Purple 1st convert in Europe
 b.Paul & Silas in Prison
 c.Conversion of Philippian Jailor



CHRIST IN THE BOOK

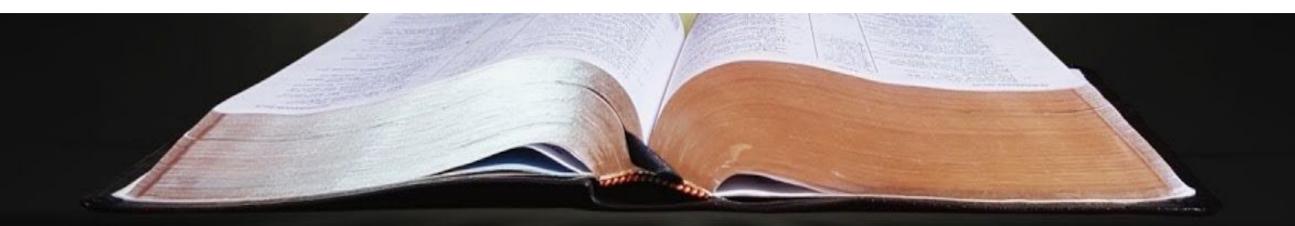
- 1.The Servant (2:7)
- 2.The Highly Exalted One (2:9a)
- 3. The One with a Name above every Name (2:9b)

END OF JESSON 1

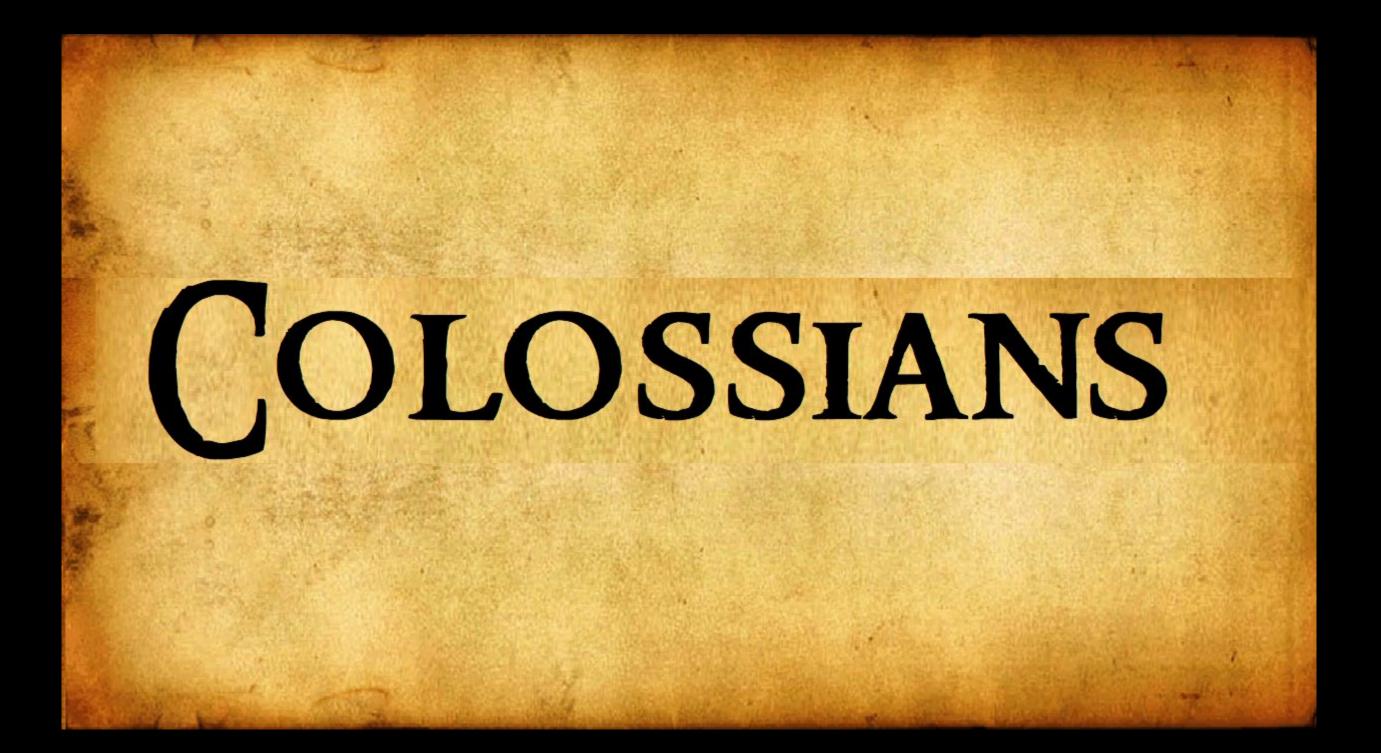
New Testament Survey II

Southeast Georgia School of the Bible

LESSON TWO







The City

Colosse was one of 3 cities located about 100 miles inland from Ephesus.

The other two cities were Laodicea and Hierapolis (Col. 4:13, 16).



The Church

Colosse probably would never have been mentioned in the New Testament had it not been for the church there.

The city is not named in the book of Acts because Paul did not start the Colossian church, nor did he ever visit it.

Paul heard of their faith (Col. 1:4, 9), but had never seen these believers personally (Col. 2:1).

The Crisis

Paul wrote this letter because a crisis had occurred that was about to destroy the ministry of the church.

What threatened the peace and purity of the Colossian church?

The Crisis

It was a combination of Eastern philosophy and Jewish legalism, with elements of what Bible scholars call <u>Gnosticism</u>.

This term comes from a Greek word *gnosis*, which means "to know." (An *aqnostic* is one who does not know.)

The Crisis

This false teaching of Gnosticism was a combination of:

- Mysticism... ** belief that a connection can be obtained with God through thought and meditation.
- Jewish Legalism
- Eastern Philosophy
- Pagan Astrology
- Asceticism... **extreme self-denial meant to produce spirituality. It is common in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam.
- And even a touch of Christianity.

- Do heavenly bodies have any influence over our lives?
- Is there a relationship between diet and spiritual living?
- Does God speak to us immediately, in our minds, or only through His Word, the Bible?
- Do the Eastern religions have something for a Christian?

These questions sound very contemporary. Yet they are the very issues Paul dealt with in his epistle to the Colossians about A.D. 60-61. -In the United States, there are 1,688 daily newspapers and about 1,200 (71 %) carry astrology columns.



An estimated 40 million people are addicted to astrology.

The Colossians lost the sense of: •God's Transcendence...

✓ God is <u>ABOVE</u> His Creation

Isaiah 57:15 "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity..."

Colossians 1:16-17 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

The Colossians lost the sense of: •God's Immanence...

✓ God is <u>WITHIN</u> His Creation

Isaiah 57:15 "... I <u>dwell</u> in the high and holy place, <u>with him</u> also that is of a contrite and humble spirit..."

Colossians 1:27 "To whom God would <u>make known</u> what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is <u>Christ in you</u>, the hope of glory:"

Ephesians 4:6 "One God and Father of all, who *is* <u>above all</u>, and <u>through all</u>, and <u>in you all</u>."

The Colossians lost the sense of: God's Pre-Eminence...

✓ God is <u>SUPERIOR TO</u> His Creation

Colossians 1:18 "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that <u>in all</u> <u>things</u> he might have the <u>preeminence</u>."

Pre-eminence... superiority in rank, dignity, or importance : outstanding, supreme, superior in prominence or in excellence; distinction above all others in quality and position.

AUTHOR Paul (1:1)

- To the church at Colosse (1:2)
- To be shared with church at Laodicea (4:16)
- Another of Paul's prison epistles

DATE About A.D. 61

Written in Rome

Delivered by Tychicus & Onesimus (4:7-9)

- Probably along with Ephesians and Philemon

COLOSSIANS Christ Is All, and in All

THEME "COMPLETE IN CHRIST"

*There are two great truths in this book:

1. All The Fullness Of God Is In Christ. (1:15-19; 2:9; 3:11b)

a. Nothing can be added to Him.

b. In all things He must have PREMINENCE!

2. All The Fullness Of Christ Is For Us.

- a. 1:28 "perfect in Christ Jesus"
- b. 2:10 "ye are complete in him."
- c. 2:8 Beware of any philosophy that is "not after Christ"
- d. What can be added that a believer does not already have in Him?

OUTLINE... See Baxter's *Explore the Book* outline

KEY WORDS

*A//

14 times in 11 verses (Chapter 1)

*Knowledge

*Wisdom

*Full / Fullness

*Perfect

SPECIAL FEATURES

*Paul preaches the Person of Christ in answer to false philosophy:

- 1.Jewish legalism (2:11; 3:11; 2:14, 16-17)
- 2.Asceticism (2:20-23)
- 3. Angel worship (2:18-19)

4.Glorification of human knowledge (2:3-4, 8, 18b) *Paul presents the <u>answer</u> and <u>solution</u> (ch. 1) before

discussing the <u>problem</u>.

KEY VERSE Colossians 2:8 "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

COLOSSIANS Christ Is All, and in All

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

- 1. The Hope of Glory (1:27)
- 2. The Treasure of Wisdom and Knowledge (2:3)
- 3. The Fullness of God (1:19-2:9)
- 4. The Spoiler of Principalities & Powers (2:15)

END OF LESSON 2

Introduction to the

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LESSON THREE



THE BOOKS OF 1 & 2 THESSALONIANS



1 THESSALONIANS

Jesus Is Coming Again

AUTHOR

The Apostle Paul (1:1; 2:18)

*Paul and Silas planted the church in Thessalonica in Acts 17:1-10

DATE A.D. 52

The earliest of Paul's epistles, probably written from Corinth during his 2nd Missionary Journey.

1 THESSALONIANS

Jesus Is Coming Again

THEME "BOOK OF HOPE IN CHRIST"

*The doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ, when properly understood, brings two precious possessions to the believer: 1.Comfort

2.Hope

*The main purpose for this epistle is to correct misconceptions of the Second Coming.

OUTLINE... Baxter's *Explore the Book* outline

Salutation <u>1:1</u>

LOOKING BACK: HOW THEY WERE SAVED (1-3)

(a) EXEMPLARY CONVERSION (Ch. 1) Knew Gospel power (v. 5), Examples (v. 6,7), Witnesses (v. 8-10).
(b) EXEMPLARY EVANGELISM (Ch. 2). In motive (v. 1-6), in conduct (v. 7-12), in message (v. 13-16).
(c) EXEMPLARY AFTER-CARE (Ch. 3).

Concern (v. 1-5), Follow-up (v. 6-8), Fervent prayer (v. 9-13).

LOOKING ON: HOW THEY SHOULD LIVE (4-5)

(a) CONDUCT AND CALLING (4:1-12). - In the light of the Father's will.

(b) COMFORT AND CHALLENGE (4:13-5:1). - In prospect of the Lord's return.

(c) CONCORD AND CONSTANCY (5:12-24) - In keeping with Christian fellowship.

Requests and benediction (5:25-28).

1 THESSALONIANS

Jesus Is Coming Again

KEY WORDS

- Coming Four times
- *Comfort* Four times
- •*Hope* Four times

KEY VERSES

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

1 THESSALONIANS

Jesus Is Coming Again

SPECIAL FEATURES

- 1. There are no Old Testament quotes in this epistle, probably because most Thessalonican believers were *Gentiles*.
- 2.We find the greatest Bible teaching on the Rapture in 1 Thess. 4:13-18
- *Rapture* means "a *snatching* away or a *catching* away"

There are **<u>2 Phases</u>** of the Second Coming of Christ:

- **Rapture** His coming in the clouds **for** the saints.
- **Revelation** His coming to earth to reign **with** the saints.
 - Compare this passage to Revelation 4:1.

The 2 Phases of the End Time and the Return of Christ

1 st Phase (Rapture)	2 nd Phase (Revelation)
Christ comes to claim His bride, His Church	Christ returns with His bride
Christ comes in the air	Christ returns to the earth
The tribulation begins	The millennial kingdom is established
Translation is imminent	A multitude of signs precede
A message of comfort is given	A message of judgment is given
The program for the Church is emphasized	The program for Israel and the world is emphasized
Translation is a mystery	Revelation is predicted in both Testaments
Believers are judged	Gentiles and Israel are judged
Israel's covenants are not yet fulfilled	All of Israel's covenants are fulfilled
Believers only are affected	All people are affected
The Church is taken into the Lord's presence	Israel is brought into the kingdom

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

*The Coming Christ

His coming is **IMMINENT**

- It could happen at <u>ANY</u> moment. (5:1-6)

THE BOOK of 2 THESSALONIANS

2 THESSALONIANS

Christ Has Not Come Yet

AUTHOR

Paul

•Writing still from Corinth only a few months after the first epistle DATE A.D. 52

THEME "BOOK OF WAITING AND WORKING"

- *Waiting Patience (3:5)
- *Working Perseverance (3:7-12)

*These believers thought their persecution was the Tribulation (2:2)

*Paul's message: "Work while you wait!"

2 THESSALONIANS

Christ Has Not Come Yet

OUTLINE

1.Comfort – from the hope of Christ's return (Ch. 1)

2.Caution – on the time of Christ's return (Ch. 2)

3.Command – in the light of Christ's return (Ch. 3)

KEY WORDS

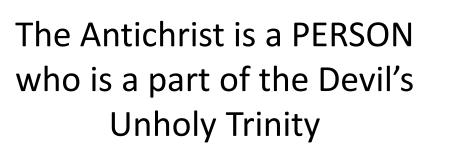
- Work(ing) Seven times
- *Revealed* Four times

KEY VERSE

2 Thessalonians 2:15

"Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." Names of the Antichrist in 2 Thessalonians:

- 1.That Man of sin
- 2.The Son of perdition (Hell)
- 3.The Wicked (one)
- 4. The Mystery of Iniquity
- Characteristics of the Antichrist:
 - 1.He is Satan-controlled.
 - 2.He opposes God.
 - 3.He exalts himself above God.



The Beast

Anti-Christ

The Unholy Trinity

Dragon

Anti-God

False Prophet

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

1.The Coming Judge (1:6-9)

2.The One Whose name we bear (1:12)

3.The Lord of peace Himself (3:16)

A Contrast Between 1 and 2 Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians
Coming <u>for</u> saints	Coming <u>with</u> saints
Rapture (<u>in air</u>)	Revelation (on earth)
Nature of Christ's coming	Time of Christ's coming
Nurse's tenderness	Father's discipline
Commendation	Condemnation
Coming of Christ	Coming of Anti-Christ

Another Contrast Between 1 and 2 Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians
How the Thessalonians received the Word of God	Mentions their progress in faith, love, and patience
Teaches the imminent return of the Lord	Corrects false teaching about His coming
Comforts and encourages the saints	Assures coming judgment on Christ's foes
Concerns the Church	Concerns Satan, Anti-Christ, the world
Presents great passage on end time (4:13-18)	Present great passage on end time (2:1-2)
Presents the <u>Day of Christ</u> (4:13-18)	Presents the Day of the Lord (2:2)

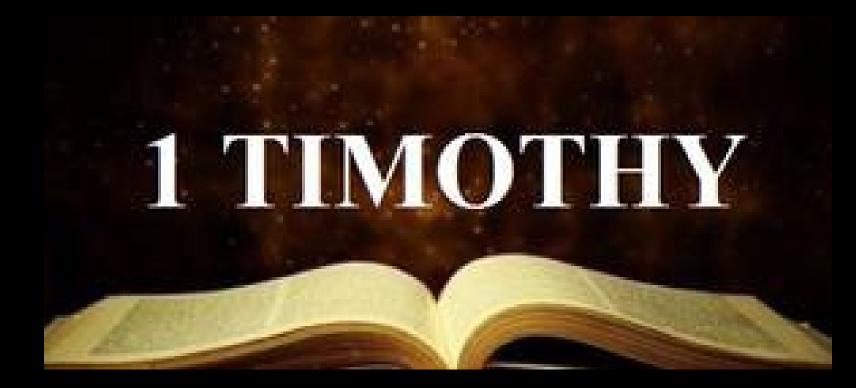
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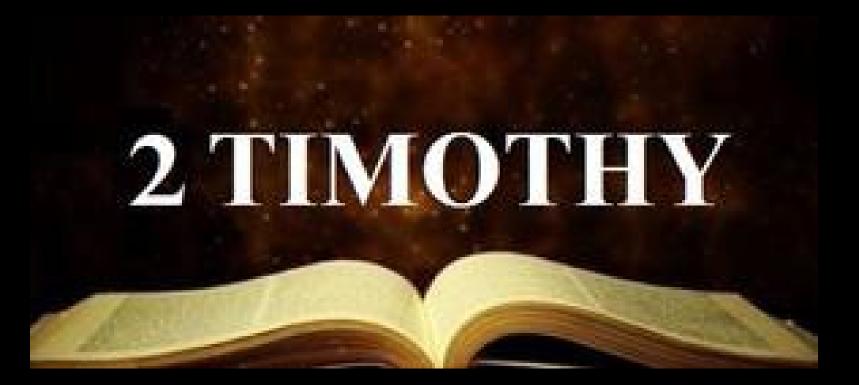
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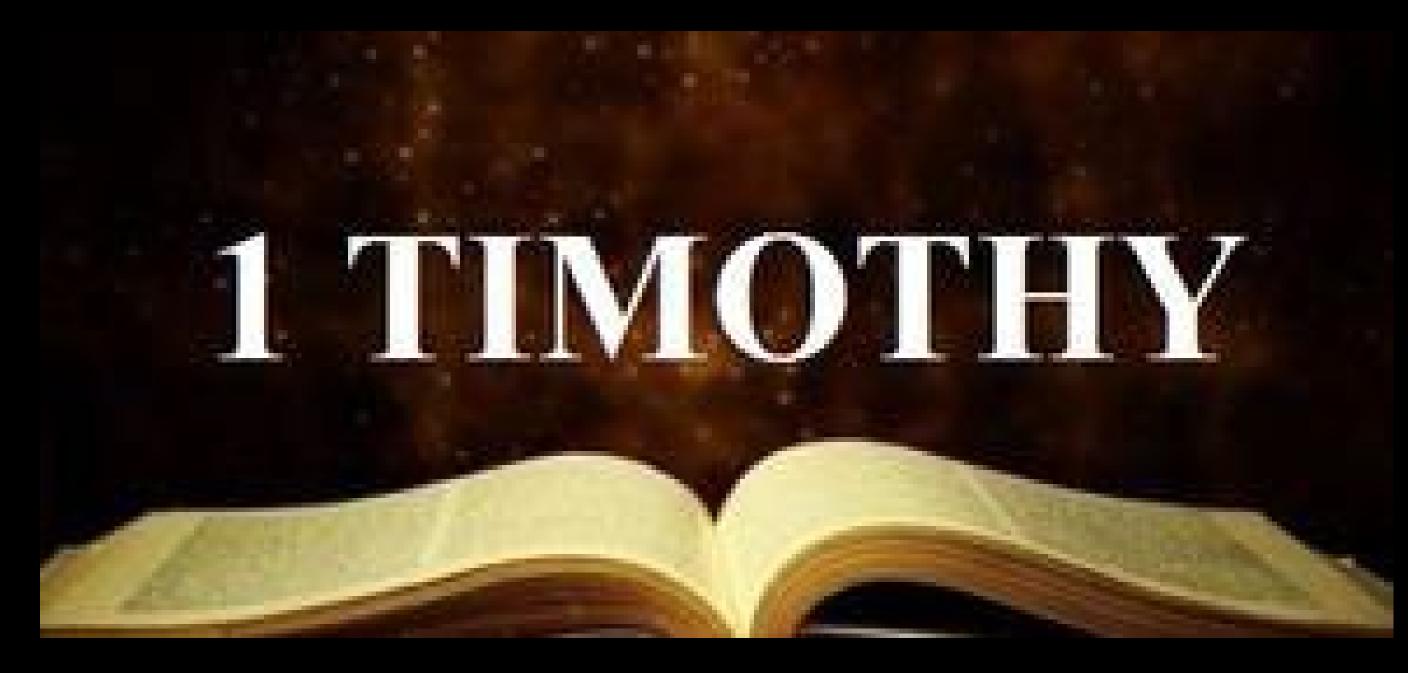
New Testament II

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LESSON FOUR









Godliness and Pastoral Care

AUTHOR

Paul

DATE

•Writing to Timothy, whom he left in Ephesus to care for the churches. (1:1-3) AD 62-63

- Writing from Macedonia

1 TIMOTHY

Godliness and Pastoral Care

THEME

"INSTRUCTION FOR THE PASTOR AND THE CHURCH"

- Paul gives specific instructions for:
 - 1. Pastors (3:1-7)
 - 2. Deacons (3:8-13)
 - 3. Men (2:1-8)
 - 4. Women (2:9-12; 5:14-16)
 - 5. Servants (6:1)
 - 6. Masters (6:2)
 - 7. Rich people (6:17-19)

OUTLINE

*Baxter's Explore the Book for outline

1st TIMOTHY

The local "Church" and its "Minister." A CHARGE, <u>1:18; 6:13,20</u>, - "Guard the deposit." Preliminary explanation <u>1:1-17</u>. The "charge" introduced <u>1:18-20</u>.

1. THE ASSEMBLY AND ITS CONDUCT 2-3

(a) CONCERNING <u>ORDER</u> (2). The men and public prayer (1-8). *The women and public mien (demeanor)* (9-15). (b) CONCERNING OFFICE (3). *Qualifications of elders* (1-7). Qualifications of deacons (8-14). 2. THE MINISTER AND HIS CONDUCT (4-6). (a) TO THE ASSEMBLY IN GENERAL. 4 A "good minister" in faithful teaching (1-11). A "good minister" in exemplary living (12-16). (b) TOWARD PARTICULAR CLASSES (5; 6). Older and younger (1-12), widows (3-16). *Elders* (<u>17-25</u>), *Servants* (<u>6:1-8</u>), *Rich* (<u>9-19</u>). Closing appeal 6:20,21.

OUTLINE KEY WORDS

- •Charge (6 times)
- •Godliness (8 times)
- Doctrine (8 times)
- Faithful (5 times)

KEY VERSE 1 Timothy 3:15

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

SPECIAL FEATURES

1.Timothy was Paul's most intimate friend and co-laborer. (1:2,18)

- a. His Salvation & Call (Acts 14:19-20) & (6:1-5)
- b. His Youth (4:12)
 - Timothy is about 30-35.
 - Paul is about 60-65.
- c. His Christian life (6:11, 20)
- 2.Two "faithful sayings"
 - 1:15 salvation by faith in Christ
 - 4:9 service by faith in Christ

3. The antidote for false teaching: (Ch. 4)

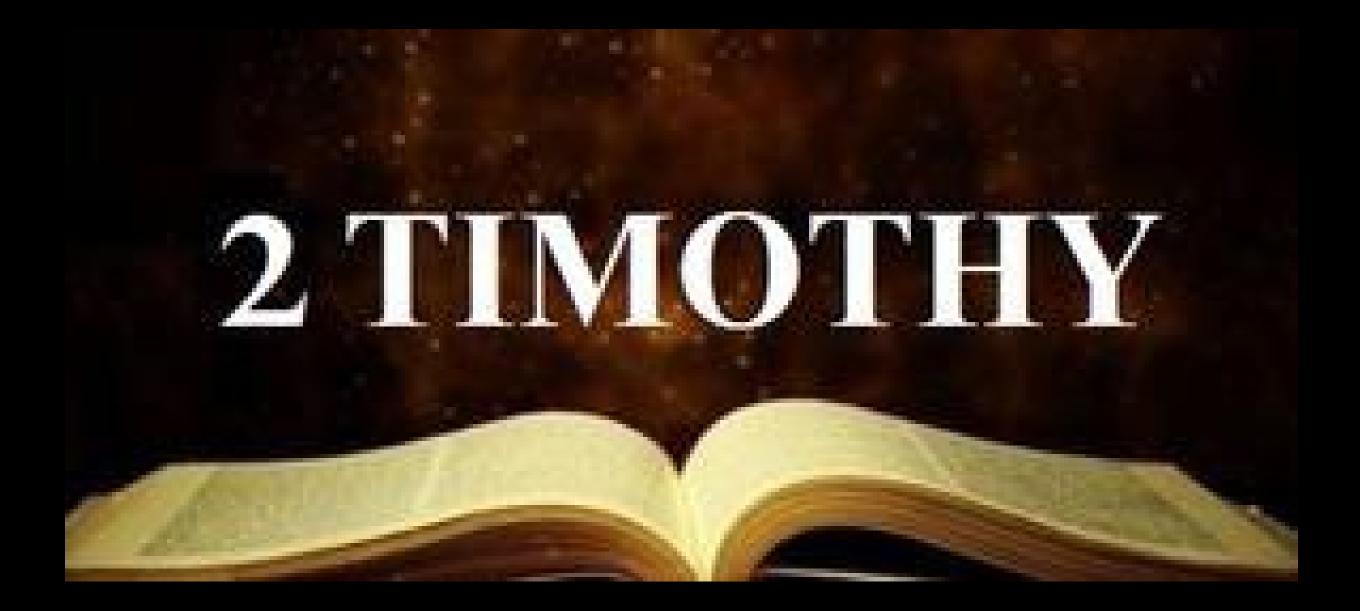
- Personal godliness
- Sound doctrine

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

1.The Mediator (2:5)

2. The Mystery of godliness (3:16)

3.King of kings & Lord of lords (6:15)



2 TIMOTHY

Faithfulness to the Word of God

AUTHOR

Paul

DATE

•Writing his final epistle from a prison in Rome AD 63-64

THEME

"BOOK OF FINAL INSTRUCTIONS"

- This epistle is filled with tones of urgency, tenderness, and triumph.
- There are **<u>5 Main Instructions</u>**:
 - 1.Do not fear afflictions (Ch. 1)
 - 2.Commit the faith to others (Ch. 2)
 - 3.Continue in perilous times (Ch. 3)
 - 4.Preach the Word (Ch. 4:1-5)
 - 5.Come to me shortly (Ch. 4:6-11)

OUTLINE

1.Present Testings (Ch.1-2)... "Be strong" (2:1)

2.Future Troubles (Ch. 3-4)... "Watch thou in all things" (4:5)

KEY WORDS

Endure (4 times) Suffer (4 times) Charge (2 times) Word (Scriptures) (4 times)

KEY VERSE

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."

SPECIAL FEATURES

1. Metaphors for the Minister (2:3-6)

- a.Soldier discipline and obedience
- b.Athlete sacrifice and knowledge of rules
- c.Farmer faith, work, and patience
- 2. Ministry of the Minster (2:2)
- a.Paul Timothy Faithful Men Others 3.<u>Message</u> of the Minister (4:2)
 - a.The Scriptures are all-sufficient. (3:16-17)

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

The Righteous Judge (4:8)

*Though Paul would soon be judged by wicked Nero, he knew that Christ was his righteous Judge.

END OF LESSON 4

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LESSON FIVE



THE BOOK of TITUS





AUTHOR

Paul... Writing to Titus, "Mine own son" (1:4)

DATE A.D. 62

THEME "GOOD WORKS"

"High doctrine with low conduct is intolerable to New Testament Christianity." – J. Sidlow Baxter

1.Works speak louder than words. (1:16)
2.Works make our faith attractive. (2:1, 7-10)
3.Works do not bring salvation; they are a fruit of salvation. (3:5-8, 14)
*Belief does affect Behavior!

OUTLINE

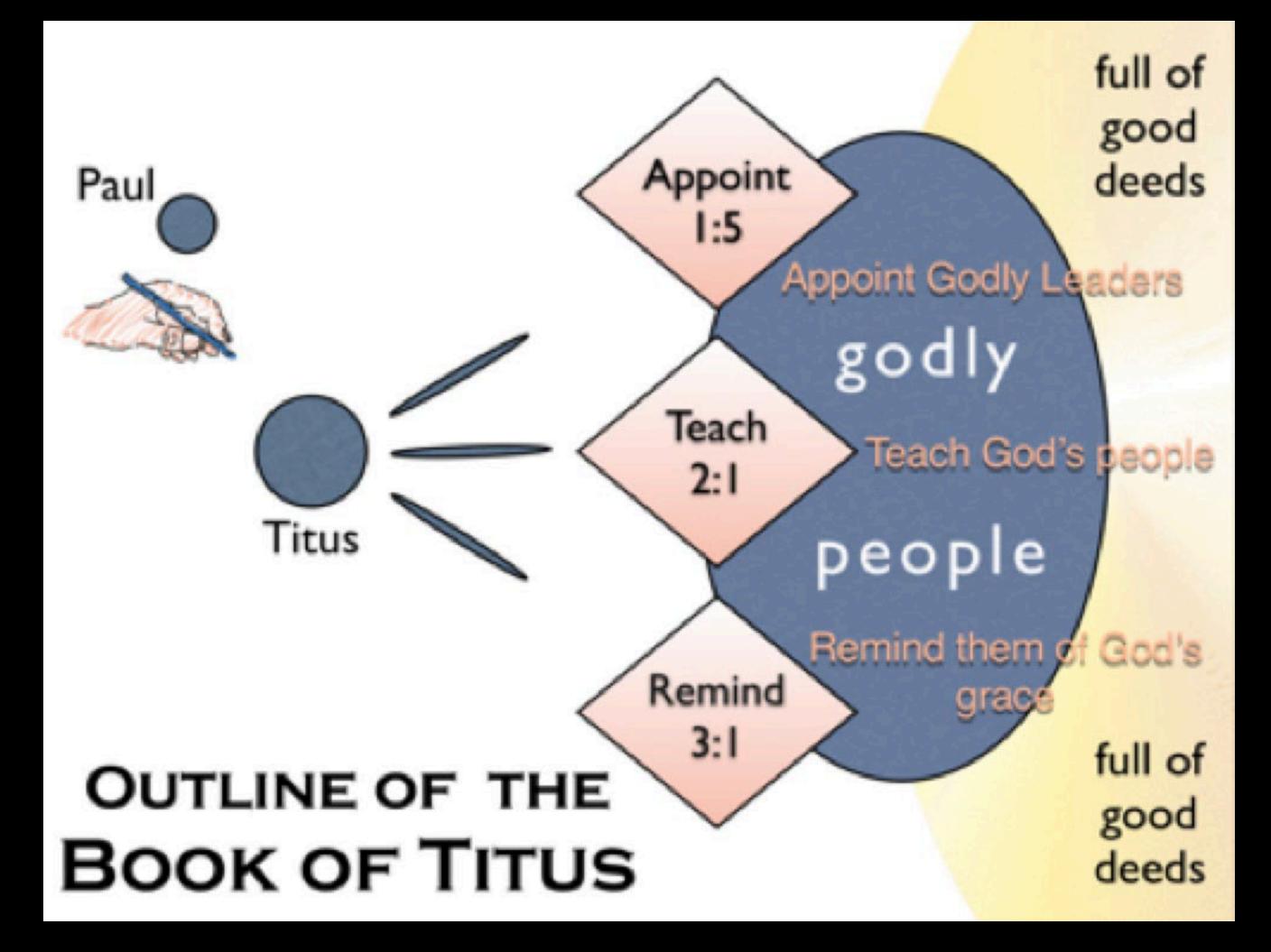
1.Order in the Church (Ch. 1)

2.Order in the Home (Ch. 2:1-8)

3.Order in the World (Ch. 2:9-3:15)

KEY WORDS

Good works



SPECIAL FEATURES

1. Titus completes the messages of 1, 2 Timothy

- a. 1 Timothy 6:20 Protect the gospel
- b. 2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the gospel
- c. Titus 2:11-12 Practice the gospel

2.Titus reveals the timeless work of grace (2:11-13)
a.Grace in the <u>past</u> – Salvation
b.Grace in the <u>present</u> – Separation
c.Grace in the <u>future – Second Coming of Christ</u>

KEY VERSE Titus 1:5

"For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:"

TITUS

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

1.Our Blessed Hope (2:13)

2.Our Redeemer (2:14)

3.Our Justifier (3:6-7)

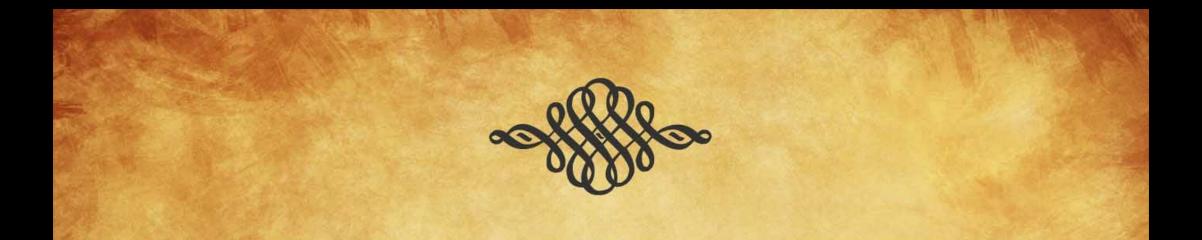
END OF JESSON 5

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LESSON SIX



the book of **PHILEMON**

Background & Cast of Characters

<u>Writer</u>: Paul...v. 1. The fact that Paul is the principal author becomes clear with the repeated use of "I" from v. 4 and the rest of the letter.

<u>Recipient</u>: Philemon "our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer," v. 1.

- Philemon is a wealthy Christian who lives in Colossae and who likely heard the Gospel during Paul's ministry in Ephesus. Though clearly a personal letter to Philemon, Paul intends it to be read to the entire church that meets in Philemon's home.
- Apphia "our beloved Apphia," ... It seems she was Philemon's wife.
- Archippus "our fellowsoldier," and "the church in thy house." v. 2. He was perhaps Philemon's son; or a family friend; or the minister of the family; ... (Dean Alford.)
- Onesimus, one of Philemon's slaves. He had run away, possibly having stolen money or property from Philemon. Through the providence of God, he has met Paul (who refers to him as his "son") and become a Christian. The formerly *"unprofitable"* or *"useless"* Onesimus has become *"profitable"* or *"useful"* (the meaning of his name), both to Paul & Philemon, v. 11, so Paul sends him back.

PHILEMON

Request for Forgiveness

AUTHOR

Paul

•Writing to <u>Philemon</u>, a well-to-do Christian friend living near Colossae; the church met in his house.

DATE A.D. 61

Written from prison in Rome

THEME

"BOOK OF FORGIVENESS & RESTORATION"

- Onesimus, Philemon's household slave, had stolen money and ran away to Rome.
- Paul led him to Christ and sent him with Tychicus back to his master.
- 1. Forgiveness based on a satisfactory Payment. (V. 18)
- 2. Restoration based on a new Position.(V. 15-16)

PHILEMON

OUTLINERequest for Forgivenessa.Paul's Praise of Philemon (vs. 1-7)vs. 5 – "Hearing of thy love and faith"b.Paul's Plea for Onesimus (vs. 8-17)Vs. 17 – "Receive him as myself"c.Paul's Pledge & Assurance (vs. 18-25)Vs. 19 – "I will repay it"

KEY WORDS Love (V. 5, 7) Beseech (V. 9, 10)

3 Key People

Philemon-





Philemon"The Man In The Mansion"

- He was a Gentile.
- He was a saved man.
- He was a rich man.
 - He was a family man.
 - He was a good man.

Onesimus-"The Man In The Mess"

- He is a runaway slave.
- He is a redeemed saint.
- He is a returned servant.

Paul-"The Man In The Middle"

He was a prisoner. He was a friend. He was a reconciler. He was an Intercessor

Paul's Ideal: The Gospel Transforms and Reconciles

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Therefore, if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Paul's Hope: Real Healing of a Broken Relationship

Paul's hope was that not only would men be reconciled to God but that all people... *Jews & Gentiles *Slaves & Masters *Males & Females would also be reconciled to God and to each other and that their relationships would be healed.

Paul's Actions: The Task of Reconciliation Is Not Passive

As much as he would have liked Onesimus to stay with him, Paul knows that as Christians both the runaway slave and the aggrieved owner had to address their broken relationship.

•Paul takes the bull by the horns and reaches out to both men, even offering himself to right any wrong Onesimus has done to Philemon.

•Paul explains the transformation in Onesimus' life and asks Philemon in love – making clear that it is an "ask," not a demand – to take him back not as a slave but as a beloved brother.

The Task of Reconciliation Is a Risky and Costly One

For reconciliation to occur, all three characters – Onesimus, Philemon, and Paul - must take risks.

•For reconciliation to occur, all three characters must make significant sacrifices.

•And no one knows how it will turn out. We still don't.

The Task of Reconciliation Is a Risky and Costly One: <u>Onesimus</u>

- To reconcile with Philemon, he is going to have to give up the freedom he now enjoys. If he returns to his master, he risks a return to his old life of enslavement.
- Worse still, as a runaway slave, he risks death by crucifixion if Philemon doesn't embrace Paul's plea to welcome him back as a Christian brother.
- Remaining with Paul is safer, but Onesimus' Christian faith calls him to confront the circumstances that caused him to run away.

The Task of Reconciliation Is a Risky and Costly One: <u>Philemon</u>

•He has been wronged. He has a right to punish Onesimus and return him to a life of slavery (or in the extreme, put him to death).

•Paul knows that for the sake of a reconciled relationship, Philemon should be humble and forgiving, rather than stubbornly standing on his rights.

•But if Philemon does as Paul asks, will he be seen as a weak slave-owner caving in to Paul's highly counter-cultural request?

The Task of Reconciliation Is a Risky and Costly One: <u>Paul</u>

- •Paul is willing to sacrifice the comfort of the relationship he has with the man he calls "son" by sending Onesimus back to Philemon.
- •He also is willing to make good out of his own resources anything that Philemon is owed as a result of Onesimus' wrongdoing.
- •In seeking to heal a broken relationship, he becomes the "middleman" who is in danger of being hurt by one side or the other, or both.

•He will be seen as a troublemaker, advocating forgiveness and mercy when brutal punishment is the law of the land. And what happens if Philemon says, "no way, Paul"? Paul will suffer crushing disappointment in his Christian brother, and will be tormented by Onesimus' agonizing cry, "I told you this wouldn't work!"

Summary

•Every Christian involved in seeking reconciliation takes a big risk and is liable to pay a high price.

•Someday (perhaps already?), each of us as Christians will be in the position of Onesimus, Philemon, or Paul. We will be the wrongdoer, the injured party, or the brave soul trying to bring the other two together.

•But let's reach out with one hand to Onesimus, and with the other to Philemon.

•Doesn't this remind you of Jesus on the cross, sacrificing himself to reconcile sinners like us to our Father in Heaven, in real life and in real death?

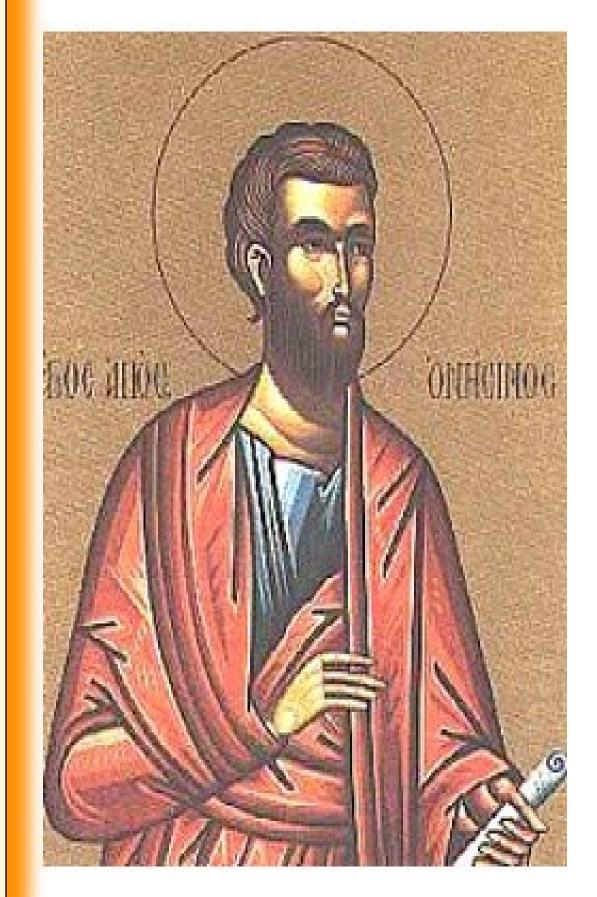
•The book of Philemon gives us a pattern for appealing to our Christian brothers and sisters about issues of disagreement.

• While Paul never criticizes Philemon for owning slaves, he gently reminds him that Onesimus is now a brother in Christ and that truth should now define their relationship.

 It is probable that Philemon freed his returned slave, as he heeded Paul's instruction that, under the covenant of grace, both master and slave have equal standing in the body of Christ.

• Reconciliation is worth the risk and the sacrifice, and it works.

•50 years after Paul wrote to Philemon, the bishop of Ephesus was a man named **Onesimus**!



KEY VERSE Philemon 10 & 11

"I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:" The story of Onesimus and Philemon is a beautiful picture of the distinction between LAW and GRACE.

Both Roman Law and the Mosaic Law of the Old Testament gave Philemon the right to punish a runaway slave.

But the covenant of GRACE through the Lord Jesus allowed both master and slave to fellowship in love on an equal basis in the family of God.

SPECIAL FEATURES

1. This is the shortest of Paul's epistles.

2.Every appeal made is based on love between friends.

Philemon's Acceptance of

Onesimus as a brother in Christ helped lay the foundation for the abolitionist movement centuries later—

~Master and Slave are equals in Christ~

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

Paul's appeal is a type of Christ's Intercessory work for us as our High Priest...

He pleads our new position in Him and secures our forgiveness by placing our debt on His account!

Paul's Payment of Onesimus's debts parallels Christ's payment for our sins.

END OF JESSON 6

Introduction to the

New Testament II

Southeast Georgia School of the Bible

LESSON SEVEN

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

JESUS IS BETTER

AUTHOR

Some have supposed: Paul, Apollos, Luke, or others... Some arguments for Paul:

- ✓ He was a Jew (the author obviously related well to the Jewish mindset)
- He was an Apostle (Apollos and others were not)
- Ending... "They of Italy salute you." we know Paul ended up in Rome
- ✓ The early church believed he was the author
- ✓ The characteristic closing of the epistle (13:25; cp. 2 Thess. 3:17-18)
- The expression "the just shall live by faith"—This expression is an Old Testament quote (Hab. 2:4) which is used 3 times in the New Testament (Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38).
- Peter's statement in 2 Pet. 3:15-16—Here Peter states that Paul had written to the same people he was addressing, the Jews of the dispersion (1 Pet. 1:1; 2 Pet. 3:1). Peter then refers to Paul's letter as Scripture.
- It was written from Italy (13:24) by a friend of Timothy (13:23) who was in prison at the time (10:34).
- ✓ This ties in with Paul's imprisonment as recorded in Acts 28.

DATE

Approx. A.D. 67-70 (exact time is unknown)

Probably written from Rome ("they of Italy salute you")

THEME "JESUS CHRIST IS BETTER"

This book is sometimes called "The *Fifth* Gospel Record" because it tells of:

1.Christ's FINISHED work on earth, and

2.Christ's CONTINUING work in heaven

The overall theme is approached in 1:4 –

"...being made so much better ... "

Christ is infinitely "better" than all things! He is better than...

- 1. Angels (1:4-14)
- 2. The Heavens and The Earth (1:11-12)
- 3. Moses (3:3)
- 4. Aaron (5:4)
- 5. Melchizedek (7:17)
- 6. The Law (7:19; 10:1)
- 7. The Former Testament (7:22; 9:15)
- 8. The Sacrifices of the O.T. (10:4)
- 9. The Priests of the O.T. (10:11-12)
- 10. His Enemies (10:13)

Outline of the Book Jesus the Better Way

- The Better Name of Christ (1:1 4:13)
 - Key verse: 1:4
- The Better Ministry of Christ (4:13 10:18)
 - Key verse 8:2,6
- The Better Way of Christ (10:19 13:25)
 - Key verse: 10:20

KEY INDIVIDUALS

- **1. Aaron,** Israel's first High Priest, contrasted here with the superior priesthood of Jesus
- 2. Melchizedek, King and Priest of Salem (Jerusalem) to whom Abraham paid tithes
- **3.** Abel, who by faith offered up the proper blood sacrifice
- 4. Cain, brother of Abel who murdered him after God had refused his bloodless sacrifice
- 5. Enoch, who by faith pleased God and was removed from earth without dying
- 6. Noah, who by faith built the ark and saved his family during the universal flood
- 7. Abraham, who by faith went out, offered up Isaac, looked for a heavenly city
- **8.** Sarah, who by faith conceived a son in her old age
- 9. Isaac, who by faith predicted the future for Jacob
- **10. Jacob,** who by faith blessed his 12 sons on his deathbed
- **11. Joseph,** who by faith ordered his bones be carried back to the Promised Land
- **12. Moses' parents,** who by faith protected their child 3 months from Pharaoh's wrath

KEY INDIVIDUALS

13. Moses, who by faith chose to identify with his people, observed the Passover, and led Israel out of Egypt, and parted the waters of the Red Sea **14.** Rahab, who by faith hid two Israelite spies and survived the destruction of Jericho **15. Esau,** godless twin brother of Jacob who sold his birthright for a single meal **16.** Joshua, who by faith parted the Jordan River and led Israel into the Promised Land **17. Gideon,** who by faith defeated a huge enemy army with but 300 men **18.** Barak, who by faith defeated an enemy army who possessed 900 chariots of iron **19. Samson,** who by faith slew 1000 Philistines with the jawbone of an ass **20. Jephthah**, who by faith (after making a rash vow) defeated the Ammonites **21.** David, who by faith became Israel's greatest king **22. Levi**, who by faith provided Israel with their line of priests **23. Timothy,** who by faith became one of the apostle Paul's greatest associates

KEY VERSE

Hebrews 8:1

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens."

KEY WORDS

Better (13 times), priest (26 times), faith (32 times), blood (22 times), "Let us" (13 times)

SPECIAL FEATURES

- 1. This book is the Holy Spirit's commentary on the Pentateuch especially the book of Leviticus.
- 2. There are 86 references to the Old Testament (Jewish believers in mind)
- 3. Paints a grand portrait of Christ with the Old Testament as the backdrop.

*This reveals once again that God's Word and God's Truth possesses the attribute of oneness (it is one living body of truth).

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

Christ is both our Great Sacrifice and our Great High Priest! (9:11-12)

Titles For And Types Of Jesus In Hebrews

✓ God's Son (1:2; 6:6)

✓ His Firstborn (1:6)

✓ God (1:8)

✓ Lord (1:10)

✓ Jesus (2:9)

✓ Captain of our Salvation (2:10)

✓ The Seed of Abraham (2:16)
✓ Merciful and Faithful High Priest (2:17)
✓ The Apostle (3:1)
✓ Christ Jesus (3:2)
✓ Great High Priest (4:14a)
✓ Jesus, the Son of God (4:14b)

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

Christ is both our Great Sacrifice and our Great High Priest! (9:11-12)

Titles For And Types Of Jesus In Hebrews

- \checkmark A Priest after the order of Melchizedek \checkmark Sin bearer (9:28)
 - (6:20; 7:11, 15, 17, 21)
- ✓ The Forerunner (6:20)
- ✓ Our Lord (7:14)
- ✓ A holy, harmless, undefiled and separate High Priest (7:26)
- ✓ Minister of a heavenly sanctuary (8:2)
- ✓ Mediator of the New Covenant (8:6)

- ✓ The One seated on God's right hand (10:12)
- ✓ The Alpha and Omega of our Father (12:2)
- ✓ The Judge of all (12:23)
- ✓ A Consuming Fire (12:29)
- ✓ Great Shepherd of the flock (13:20)

The book of Hebrews overviews the superiority of Jesus over both men and angels (as the Son of God), and His high priestly superiority over Aaron, concluding with a challenge for modern day pilgrims to live the victorious life of faith as did those Old Testament heroes such as Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, etc.

-Dr. Harold Wilmington

*Baxter's Explore the Book for outline

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

CHRIST THE "NEW AND LIVING WAY."

Key words, "better" and "perfect." Focal passage <u>10:19-22</u>

1. JESUS - THE NEW AND "BETTER "DELIVERER (1-7).

Jesus the God-Man - better than angels (1; 2). Jesus the new Apostle - better than Moses (3)Jesus the new Leader - better than Joshua (4:1-13). Jesus the new Priest - better than Aaron (4:14-7).

2. CALVARY - THE NEW AND "BETTER" COVENANT (8:1-10:18)

The New Covenant has better promises (<u>8:6-13</u>). The New Covenant opens up a better sanctuary (<u>9:1-14</u>). The New Covenant is sealed by a better sacrifice (<u>9:15-28</u>). The New Covenant achieves far better results (<u>10:1-18</u>).

3. FAITH - THE TRUE AND "BETTER" PRINCIPLE (10:19-13).

Faith the true response to these "better" things (<u>10:19-39</u>)
Faith has always been vindicated as such: examples (11).
Faith is now to endure, patiently looking to Jesus (<u>12:1-13</u>).
Faith is to express itself in practical sanctity (<u>12:14-13:21</u>).
Parting words <u>13:22-25</u>.

END OF JESSON 7

Introduction to the

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LESSON EIGHT





AUTHOR

James, "The Brother of Christ" (same mother) (Gal 1:19) Writing to scattered Jewish believers (1:1)

Who Was James?

"James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ" (James 1:1) is the way he introduced himself. There were several men who bore this name in New Testament history.

- James, the son of Zebedee and brother of John. He and his brother John were nicknamed by Christ "sons of thunder" (Mark 3:17; Luke 9:51–56). James was the first of the disciples to give his life for Christ. He was killed by Herod in AD 44 (Acts 12:1–2).
- James, the son of Alphaeus. He was another of the Apostles (Matt. 10:3; Acts 1:13), but very little is known about him. He is sometimes called, James, the Less.
- James, the father of Judas the disciple. He is an even more obscure man. This Judas was called "the son of James" to distinguish him from Judas Iscariot.
- James, the brother of our Lord. He seems to be the most likely candidate for author of this letter. He does not identify himself in this way; humbly, he calls himself "a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ."

James - A Leader of the Church In Jerusalem

- Paul called him "a pillar," in Galatians 2:9.
- It was James who moderated the church conference described in Acts 15.
- When Peter was delivered from prison, he sent a special message to James (Acts 12:17)

 When Paul visited Jerusalem, it was to James that he brought greetings and the special "love offering" from the Gentiles (Acts 21:18–19).

Tradition tells us that James was martyred in AD 62.

The story is that the Pharisees in Jerusalem so hated James' testimony for Christ that they had him cast down from the temple and then beaten to death with clubs.

The story also relates that James died, as did his Savior, praying for his murderers,

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

DATE A.D. 40-45

One of the earliest, if not the earliest epistle

THEME "FAITH FOR OUR DAILY WALK" Two Purposes:

1.To teach the Christian behavior (1:19; 2:1-4; 3:17;4:4-7)2.To demonstrate our faith by our works (2:14-26)

-The book of *Practical Christianity*

-<u>Conduct</u> is as important as <u>Creed</u>!

OUTLINE Baxter's *Explore the Book* Outline JAMES : THE PROOFS OF FAITH

- PROOF 1 ENDURANCE OF TEMPTATION (1)
- PROOF 2 IMPARTIAL BENEVOLENCE (2)
- PROOF 3 CONTROL OF THE TONGUE (3)
- PROOF 4 GODLINESS IN ALL THINGS (4-5:6)
- Final encouragements (5:7-20)

ARGUMENT AND THEME

The argument of the epistle is that true Christian faith must express itself in practical goodness.

There is no contradiction between Paul and James. James is not arguing for good works as a <u>MEANS</u> to salvation, but as a <u>PRODUCT</u> of salvation.

KEY WORDS

• Faith (16 times)

•Work(s) (16 times

"Justified By":

- Romans 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith ... Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God ...
- Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, ...
- Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ
- Titus 3:7 That being justified by his grace, ...
- James 2:21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, ... ? James 2:25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works,...?

KEY VERSE James 1:22 "But be ye doers of the word, ad not hearers only, deceiving your own selves"

SPECIAL FEATURES

- 1. This book is the "Proverbs" of the New Testament
- 2. Compare with Paul's epistles:
 - -Paul emphasizes JUSTIFICATION before God.
 - -James emphasizes **DEMONSTRATION** before men.
- 3. James is the *Amos of the New Testament*
- 4. There are fifty-four (54) imperatives in 100 different verses

5. Key Passages:

- -The Tongue (3:1-12)
- Prayer (5:13-18)

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

- 1. The "Lord of Glory" (2:1)
- 2. The One we patiently wait for (5:7-8)

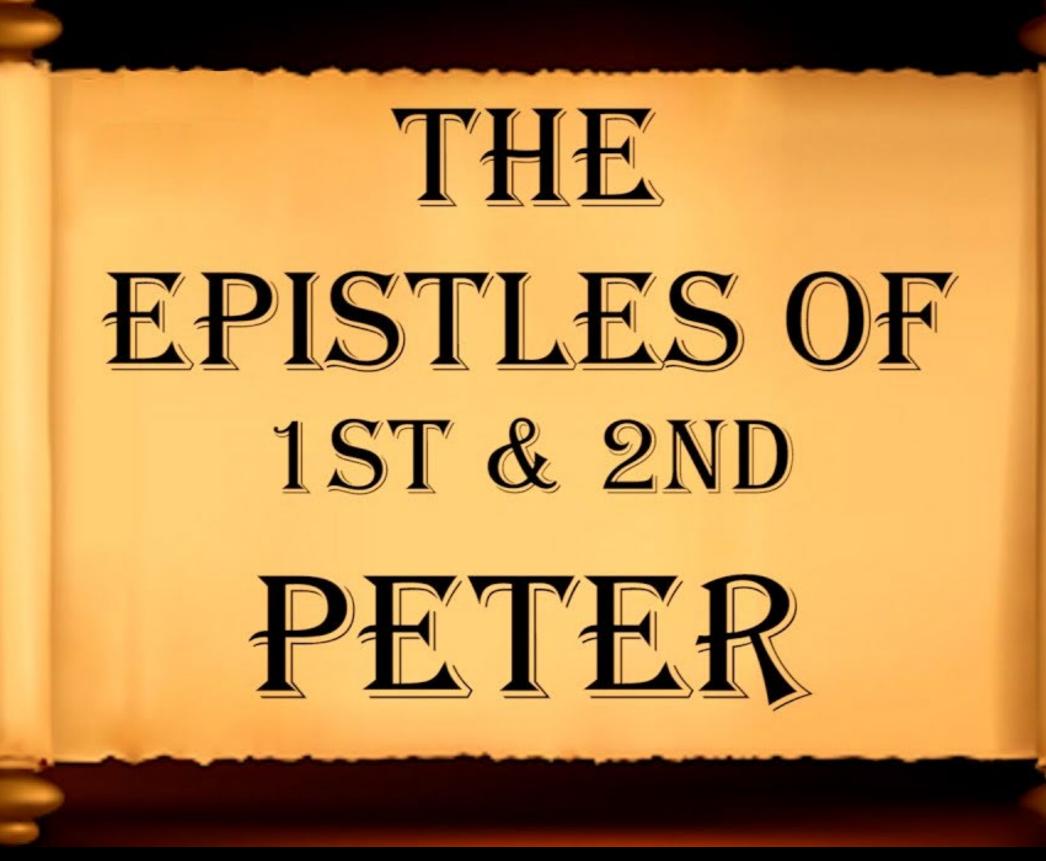
END OF JESSON 8

Introduction to the

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LESSON NINE





AUTHOR

The Apostle Peter... "The Apostle of Hope"

- <u>Paul</u>, "The Apostle of Faith"...
- John, "The Apostle of Love"

Luke 22:31-34 – "Strengthen thy brethren"...

• 1 Peter and 2 Peter do just that!

DATE A.D. 64-65

•Written near the end of Peter's life

Believers were being scattered by increasing Roman persecution



THEME "HOPE FOR SUFFERING SAINTS"

Rome, under Nero, was seeking to stamp out Christianity (4:16; 4:12-13; 5:8-9) How do we have a **LIVING** hope? "*Where there's life, there's hope*!"

1.Because of the <u>Resurrection</u> (1:3)

2.Because of our <u>Reservation</u> (in Heaven) (1:4)

a.We are strangers on earth with no eternal claim here

3.Because of the <u>Return</u> of Christ (1:5-7)



OUTLINE

Introduction (1:1-2)

- I. The Life of Faith (1:3-25)
- II. The Life of Holiness (2:1-3:9)
- III. The Life of Victory (3:10-4:19)
- IV. The Life of Sacrifice (5:1-7)
- V. The Life of Conflict (5:8-11)

Conclusion (5:12-14)



1 PETER:

Christ Our Hope And Example Amid Trial

1-THE LIVING HOPE – AND WHAT GOES WITH IT 1:3-2:10

The "Living <u>Hope</u>" and our reaction thereto 1:3-21 The "Living <u>Word</u>" and our reaction thereto 1:22-2:3 The "Living <u>Stone</u>" and our relation thereto 2:4-10 **2-THE PILGRIM LIFE – AND HOW TO LIVE IT 2:11-4:11**

As citizens, servants, married 2:12-3:7

As regards outsiders, and enduring suffering 3:8-4:6

As regards other believers, and mutual service 4:7-11

3-THE "FIERY TRIAL" – AND HOW TO BEAR IT 4:12-5:11

"Rejoice" and *"commit"*: the Lord's return is near 4:12-19 Elders are to be examples in view of His return 5:1-4 All are to be humble and vigilant – glory beyond! 5:5-11

KEY WORDS

*Trial *Joy *Hope *Grace *Glory *Suffer

KEY VERSE

1 Peter 1:7

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:"



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Great Themes/Subjects in I Peter:
 - 1. The Suffering of Christ (1:11; 2:21, 23; 3:18; 4:1 & 13; 5:1)
 - 2. The Word of God (1:23-2:2)
 - 3. Marriage (3:1-7)
 - 4. The Second Coming (5:4)
 - 5. Comfort and Suffering (5:7)



CHRIST IN THE BOOK

- 1.The One who suffered for our sins (1:19; 2:21,24)
- 2.The Living Stone (2:4-6)
- 3. The Chief Corner Stone (2:4-6)
- 4. The One who is precious (2:2)
- 5.The Chief Shepherd (5:4)





Comparison of 1st & 2nd Peter

1 Peter	Theme	2 Peter
1:10-12	Inspiration of the Old Testament	1:19-21
1:2	Doctrine of election	1:10
1:23	Doctrine of the new birth	1:4
2:11-12	Need for holiness	1:5–9
3:20	Noah and his family protected	2:5
4:2-4	Immorality and judgment	2:10-22
4:7-11	Exhortation to Christian living	3:14-18
4:11	Doxology	3:18

AUTHOR... Peter

- Wrote the 1st epistle to encourage believers because of perils WITHOUT
- Writes the 2nd epistle to warn them of perils WITHIN

DATE A.D. 66-67

• This book is **Peter's Farewell** (1:13-15)

THEME

"THE COUNTERFEIT AND THE COMING OF CHRIST"

Main purpose for writing:

- 1. To re-affirm the truthfulness of the Apostle's message (1:12,16)
- 2. To warn against the Apostasy (2:1-2; 3:17)

3. To assure them that Christ will come again (3:8-9,11)



OUTLINE

1. The Christian's Growth (1:5-8, 10-11) "A fruitful knowledge of Christ"

2.The Christian's Peril (2:1-3, 15-17) "False teachers"

3.The Christian's Hope (*3:4a, 9,15)

Our hope is in Christ who is coming again and who will keep His promise.

KEY WORDS

- Knowledge (7 times)
- Remembrance (4 times)
- Prophecy (4 times)



2 PETER:



The True Knowledge And The Sure Hope

1-THE TRUE "KNOWLEDGE" – IN WHICH TO GROW (Ch. 1)

- How "these things" are to be "abounded" in 2-11
- Why "these things" are to be "remembered" 12-21

2-THE FALSE "TEACHERS" – WHO WERE TO COME (Ch. 2)

- Their havoc and their own destruction 1-9
- Their excesses and peril to believers 10-22

3-THE SURE "PROMISE" – FOR AGE-END DAYS (Ch. 3)

- The promise upheld against scoffers 1-9
- The promise a challenge to believers 10-18

KEY VERSE



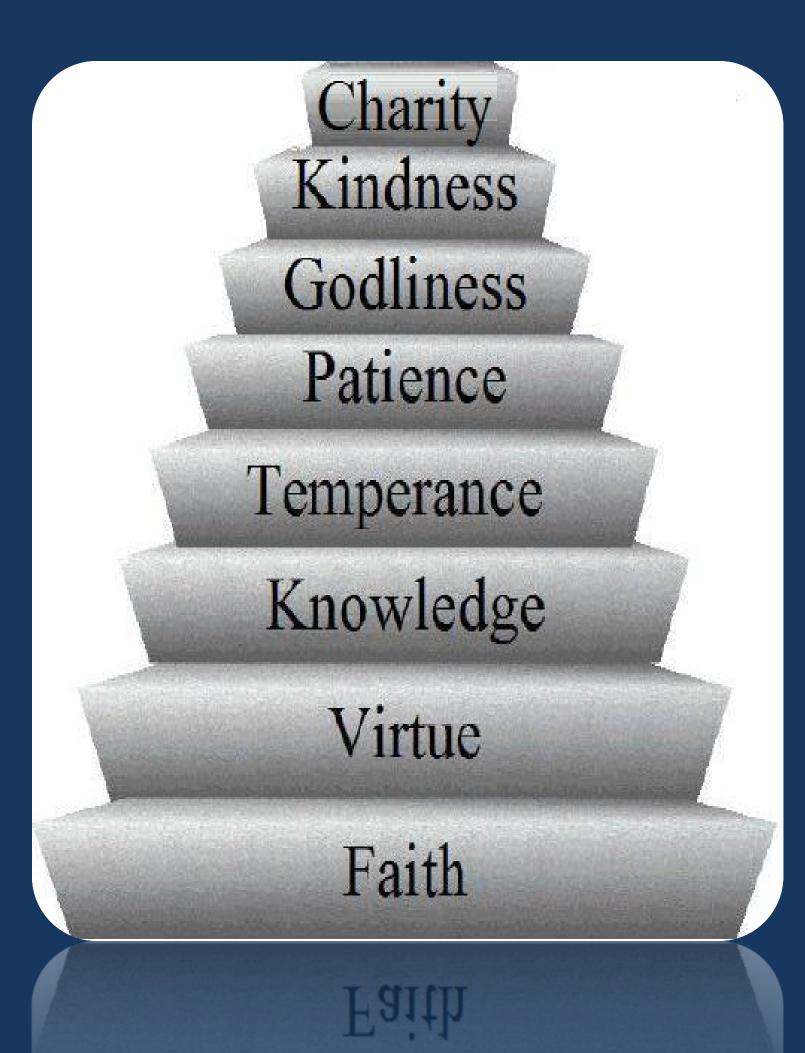
2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."

SPECIAL FEATURES

1. Key teaching on the Inspiration of Scripture (1:16-21)

2. Key teaching a Living a Fruitful Christian Life (1:5-9)



2 Peter 1:5-9

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRIST IN THE BOOK



1. He is the "Day Star" (1:19)

An amplification of "until the day dawn." "Day star" occurs nowhere else in the New Testament.

Christ calls Himself "the bright and morning star" - Rev. 22:16.

2. He is the Eternal God (3:8)

... cp. Psalm 90:4

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

END OF LESSON 9

Introduction to the

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LESSON TEN









1 JOHN

AUTHOR

Fellowship of God and His Children

- John, son of Zebedee (Matt.4:21)
 - •One of the "sons of thunder" Mark 3:17
 - And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:
 - "The Beloved Disciple"
 - •"the disciple, whom Jesus loved" John 20:2; 21:7,20
 - •Served as the pastor in Ephesus
- DATE A.D. 85-90
 - John is probably the **only** living Apostle at this time

THEME

"BOOK OF FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND ASSURANCE OF ETERNAL LIFE"

Four main purposes of this book:

- 1.To Promote Joy (1:4)
- 2.To Prevent Sin (2:1)
- 3.To Protect Saints (2:26)
- 4.To Provide Assurance (5:13)



Baxter's Explore the Book Outline

1 JOHN: SEVEN CONTRASTS

TRUTH VERSUS ERROR: HOW TO "KNOW" AND "ABIDE." Key Phrase - "Hereby we know"

- 1. The Light vs. the Darkness 1:5-2:11
- 2. The Father vs. the World 2:12-2:17
- 3. Christ vs. the Antichrist 2:18-2:28
- 4. Good Works vs. Evil Works 2:29-3:24
- 5. The Holy Spirit vs. spirit of Error 4:1-4:6
- 6. Love vs. Religious Pretense 4:7-4:21
- 7. The God-born vs. Others 5:1-5:21

KEY WORDS

- -Father (13 times)
- -Children (11 times)
- -Fellowship (3 times)
- -Spirit (8 times)
- -Love (23 times)

KEY VERSE 1 John 1:7

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

SPECIAL FEATURES

1 John is a sequel to his Gospel account (John 20:31; 1 John 5:13)

- 1 John gives the "Birthmarks of a Believer":
 - 1. Obedience (2:3-6)
 - 2. Love (3:14-19)
 - 3. Truth (4:1-6)
 - 4. Holy Spirit (4:13)
 - 5. Witness within (5:9-13)

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

1. Christ is the "Word of life" -(1:1)

2. Christ is our righteous Advocate with the Father (2:1)

3. Christ is the One who has come in the flesh (4:2-3)



AUTHOR

John, the elder

(Apostle, Elder (1 Peter 5:1), and Elder in age

*Writing to a Christian mother ("the elect lady") *Some say this is representative of the Church

DATE A.D. 90

Written from Ephesus

THEME "CONTINUING IN THE TRUTH"

John exhorts the elect lady to:

1.Walk in love and ...

2.Watch for those who seek to pervert the truth. (vs. 6-7)

KEY WORDS

- Truth
- •Love
- Commandment

KEY VERSE 2 John 2

"For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever."



Baxter's Explore the Book Outline

2 JOHN: CONTINUANCE IN THE TRUTH

PRACTICAL ASPECT: WALK IN LOVE (1-6)

(Love to the brethren is the center-test of Christian practice.)

The Divine Insistence on love v.5

The Human Expression of love v.6

DOCTRINAL ASPECT: WATCH AGAINST ERROR (7-13)

(The person of Christ is the center-test of Christian doctrine.)

Warning against false Teaching v.7-9

Warning against false Charity v.10-11

SPECIAL FEATURES

•The ultimate test of the truth - - The Person of Jesus Christ (vs.7-11)

• Our love for one another is a love that is grounded in the truth (vs.1)

- Love without truth is no love at all

•True definition of <u>love</u> = <u>obedience to God's Word</u> (vs. 6a)

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

Christ is the One whose commandments we should walk in and obey





AUTHOR

John, the ELDER (the Apostle John)

• Writing to his friend, Gaius

DATE A.D. 90

Written from Ephesus

THEME "WALKING IN THE TRUTH"

1. The <u>SIGN</u> of walking in truth is...

*FAITHFULNESS – vs. 5

2.The <u>SECRET</u> of walking in truth is...

*FERVENT RELATIONSHIP with Christ – vs.2



- •Truth
- Walk
- Works

KEY VERSE 3 John 4

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

SPECIAL FEATURES... Three Main Characters:

1.<u>Gaius</u>(V. 2-6)

- -Well beloved
- -Spiritually prosperous
- -Faithful and charitable
- -Hospitable
- 2.<u>Diotrephes</u> (V. 9-10)
 - -Loves preeminence
 - -Speaks malicious words
 - -Opposes leadership / inhospitable
- 3.<u>Demetrius</u> (V. 12)
 - -Good report of all men

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

• Christ is the supreme example of the One who is good and did good unto others (v. 11)

Psalm 119:68

Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes.

3 John 11

Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

END OF LESSON 10

Introduction to the

New Testament II

Southeast Georgia School of the Bible

LESSON ELEVEN



JUDE "Earnestly Contending for the Faith"

AUTHOR

Jude, the half-brother of the Lord Jesus (Matt.13:55; Mk.6:3)

- Called himself "the servant of Jesus Christ"

DATE A.D. 68-70

THEME "DUTY AND DANGER"

1.0ur DUTY (V. 3)

- -"Earnestly contend for the faith..."
- How? (vs. 20-23)
- 2.Our DANGER (V. 4)
 - -"Men crept in unawares"
 - Vs. 11
 - Cain... religion based on works, without blood atonement
 - Balaam... prostituted a divine gift for material gain
 - Korah (Core)... led a rebellion against Moses' authority



Baxter's Explore the Book Outline

THE EPISTLE OF JUDE

Greeting, verses <u>1,2</u>.

<u>WHY TO CONTEND - APOSTATE TEACHERS (3-16).</u>

- Their subtle perversions: Two basic denials (<u>3-4</u>).
- Their certain doom: Three historic examples (5-7).
- Their impious ways: Three historic examples (8-11).
- Their utter falsity: six awful metaphors (<u>12-13</u>, R.V.).
- Enoch's prophecy: Coming destruction (14-16).

HOW TO CONTEND-OUR TRUE RESOURCES (17-23)

- Realize that the apostasy has been foretold (17-19).
- "Build," "pray in the Spirit," "keep," "look" (<u>20,21</u>).
- Show compassion towards certain who contend (22).
- Others seek urgently to rescue, but keep pure (23).

Jude's Doxology: Coming consummation.

KEY WORDS
Ungodly (6 times)
Remember
Judgment

KEY VERSE Jude 3

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

SPECIAL FEATURES

- •Jude serves as a corridor from the Church Age into the Revelation of Christ
- •Reference to many Old Testament events & people. Writing to Jewish believers
 - 1. Israel... "them that believed not"
 - 2. Fallen Angels... "which kept not their first estate"
 - 3. Sodom & Gomorrah... "giving themselves over to fornication"
 - 4. Michael, the Archangel... "contending with the devil"
 - 5. Moses... "the body of Moses"
 - 6. Devil... "the Lord rebuke thee"
 - 7. Cain... "way of Cain" (religion based on works, no blood atonement)
 - 8. Balaam... "error of Balaam" (prostituted a divine gift for material gain)
 - 9. Korah (Core)... "gainsaying of Core" (led rebellion against Moses' authority)
 - **10.** Enoch... "prophesied" of the coming apostates

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

- -Christ is the One who preserves His own (vs. 1)
- -Christ is the One who is denied by false teachers (v. 4)
- -Christ is the One who keeps us from falling (v. 24)

END OF LESSON 11

Introduction to the

New Testament II

Southeast Georgia School of the Bible

LESSON TWELVE

AUTHOR

John, writing while exiled on the isle of Patmos, on the Lord's Day... John also wrote the Gospel of John, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John (A total of 5 books of the New Testament)

DATE A.D. 95-96

Long after the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus, the Roman general... this means that the events of the Revelation are not describing the Fall of Jerusalem.



Revelation 1:19

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

Key Themes:

Salvation

✓ Faithfulness

Victory / Overcoming
 Judgment



The "Key" to the interpretation of the **Book of Revelation is** its "Threefold **Division**" found in Rev. 1:19.

I. Things Past "The Things <u>WHICH THOU HAST SEEN</u>."

II. Things Present "The Things <u>WHICH ARE</u>."

III. Things Future "The Things <u>WHICH SHALL BE HEREAFTER</u>."

I. Things Past "The Things WHICH THOU HAST SEEN." The Vision of Christ in the midst of the "Candlesticks."

Chapter One



Rev. 1:12-13 "And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle."

II. Things Present "The Things WHICH ARE." The Seven Churches. Chapters Two and Three

E-S-P-T-S-P-L

Seven Churches of Revelation

- Chapters 2-3

- Ephesus
- Ø Smyrna
- ergamos
- O Thyatira
- Sardis
- 6 Philadelphia
- Laodicea

7 Churches of Asia

Revelation 1:20 ... <u>The SEVEN STARS</u> are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven <u>churches</u>.

1 Pergamos 2 Thyatira 3 Sardis 4 Smyrna **5** Philadelphia 6 Ephesus 7 Laodicea



Seven Churches of Revelation

- Chapters 2-3

- Ephesus
- 2 Smyrna
- ergamos
- O Thyatira
- Sardis
- O Philadelphia
- Laodicea

Island of Patmos: where John received the vision



III. Things <u>Future</u> Chapters 4-22 "The Things <u>WHICH SHALL BE HEREAFTER</u>." Beginning with the 4th chapter unto the end of the Book.

Rapture
Judgment Seat of Christ
The Great Tribulation
Battle of Armageddon
Second Coming
Millennium
Great White Throne Judgment
New Heaven
New Earth
New Jerusalem

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Revelation 1:1-3

1-<u>The Revelation of Jesus Christ</u>, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant <u>John</u>:

2-Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

3-<u>Blessed</u> *is* he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time *is* at hand.

How do we interpret the book?

4 Major Views:

✓ **Preterist**... Describes events in John's time and are about to happen.

✓ **Historical**... A sketch of history from the time of Christ to our own day.

✓ Idealist... Focuses attention on theology of the book and directs attention away from seeing the book as a guide to future events.

 Futurist... It stresses that most events described in the Revelation are events that will occur in the very last days of human history.

THEME

"LAST THINGS"

- •Last days of church age (4:1)
- Last week of prophecy for Israel (Tribulation)
- Last days of Gentile domination on earth
- •Last days of Satan's deception (20:1-7)
- •Last judgment of the wicked (20:15)
- •Last days of this earth (21:1)
- •Last promised words of the Lord Jesus (22:20)

A panorama of church history can be found in these 7 letters.

EPHESUS—CARELESS CHURCH... A.D. 30-100

Abandoned their first love—turned devotion into duty. And that was the general state of the church at large in the first century: they had left their love, devotion turned to duty, careless!

SMYRNA—CRUSHED CHURCH... A.D. 100-300

Church history shows that the 2nd and 3rd centuries hosted 10 great waves ("10 days") of persecution...the 10 Roman persecutions, from Nero to Diocletian.

PERGAMOS—<u>COMPROMISING</u> CHURCH... A.D. 300-500

Now the church moved out of the catacombs and into the cathedrals. But they compromised with the world.

THYATIRA—**CORRUPTED** CHURCH— A.D. 500-1500

Works salvation was their theme, and the Gospel of Grace was corrupted. It's the Roman Catholic Church of the Dark Ages. "Jezebel" spirit. "There is no question that, whether Jezebel was a real person or not, she typified a "System" and that "System" was the "Papal Church." (Clarence Larkin)

SARDIS—CRIPPLED CHURCH— A.D. 1500-1700

The Reformation and Martin Luther brought about a remnant who escaped the clutches of Thyatira. But though they once again found grace they held onto enough of their past liturgy to cripple their future.

PHILADELPHIA—CONSISTENT CHURCH— 1700-1900

The revival period...a church for which the Lord did not have one word of rebuke. The best days of Christianity since the early days happened right here.

LAODICEANS—COOLED OFF CHURCH— 1900-present

Luke-warm church—1900-present...we live in this period of church history.

You and I live in the Laodicean church age, but we can be a Philadelphia church during this Laodicean age. (other combinations also exist)

OUTLINE... J. Sidlow Baxter's *Explore the Book* outline:

1. FIRST MOVEMENT (1-5).

The Enthronement of Christ in Heaven.

2. SECOND MOVEMENT (6-20).

The Great Tribulation and the Wrath of God.

The Enthronement of Christ on Earth.

3. THIRD MOVEMENT (21-22).

The Enthronement of Christ in the New Creation.

KEY WORDS

1. God.

The word "God" occurs <u>99 times</u> in Revelation and in every chapter.

2. Lamb.

This is the most common title for Jesus in Revelation, being used <u>28 times</u>.

3. Behold.

This expression serves as a reminder that seeing, hearing, tasting, touching and smelling are repeatedly referenced in the book. The term, "behold" or "look" is found about <u>30 times</u>.

4. Throne.

The word "throne" is found <u>40 times</u> in Revelation. What a comfort it is to know the Lamb of God is on the throne and He will take care of His own.

5. Overcome.

Found <u>17 times</u> in Revelation. We are "more than conquerors" through Him who loved us (Rom. 8:37-39).

6. Satan (Dragon, Devil).

Occurs some <u>30 times</u> in the book. Satan fights furiously in Revelation, but ultimately, all his efforts are futile, and he is doomed to defeat and failure.

7. Nations.

Found <u>22 times</u> in Revelation. The Lord's people consist of folks from every tribe, tongue, people and nation (Rev. 5:8-14). The Gospel is for all!

What a glorious truth! Oh, what a Savior!

SPECIAL FEATURES

REVELATION moves back and forth between scenes in Heaven and scenes on earth...

• *Pre-tribulation* – The rapture of the church will take place before the tribulation. (Rev. 4:1, 1 Thess4:13)

• *Pre- Millennial* – Christ returns to earth before the 1,000-year reign. (The <u>king</u> must arrive before we can have a <u>kingdom</u>.)

• *Tribulation* – This is the 7-year period in which God will judge the unbelieving world and work to bring Israel to Himself.

The 7 churches were literal local churches but represent the entire church age.

- 7 churches
- 7 spirits
- 7 lampstands
- 7 stars
- 7 seals on the scroll
- 7 horns of the Lamb
- · 7 cycs of the Lamb
- 7 angels
- 7 trumpets
- 7 thunders
- 7 heads of the dragon
- 7 heads of the beast
- 7 golden bowls
- 7 kings

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

- -Christ is the Alpha and Omega (1:8)
- -Christ is the One who has the keys of hell and of death (1:18)
- -Christ is the Lion of the tribe of Judah (5:5-6)
- -Christ is the Root of David (5:5-6)
- -Christ is the Lamb of God (5:5-6)
- -Christ is the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS (19:11-16)
- -Christ is the One who is coming quickly (22:20)

<u>Ch. 1</u>. The Son of Man amid the Seven Candlesticks.

- Christ in Heaven operating thru His Church on earth.
- <u>Ch. 2-3</u>. The Letters to the Seven Churches.
 - Church on earth functioning for Christ in Heaven.
- <u>Ch. 4</u>. The Heavenly Throne and the Worship.
 - The place of supreme authority.
- <u>Ch. 5</u>. The Lamb and the Seven-sealed Book.
 - Christ, the Lamb, in supreme control.

THE SECOND MOVEMENT (Ch. 6-20)

		<u>Chapters vixi.</u>	<u>Chapters xii xix.</u>	
		The seven seals. Parenthetical:	The seven persons (xii., xiii.). Parenthetical: (xiv.):	
		(1) Israel remnant sealed	(1) Israel remnant sealed.	
		(2) Blessedness of saints in heaven.	(2) Blessedness of the saints.	
Chapters	VIII., IX.	SEVEN TRUMPETS. 1. On the earth.	<u>SEVEN VIALS (xv., xvi.).</u> 1. On the earth.	
6-11		2. On the sea.	2. On the sea.	
		3. On the rivers.	3. On the rivers.	
		4. Sun, moon, stars.	4. Sun.	
		5. Darkness, scourge.	5. Darkness, scourge.	
		6. Euphrates : armγ.	6. Euphrates : kings	
		 7. "Nations angrγ" ; 	7. "Nations fell" ;	
		"Wrath" ; "Great	"Wrath"; "Voices";	
		voices" ; "Time no	"Thunderings"; "It	
		more."	is done."	
	x. xi.	Parenthetical:	Parenthetical (xviixviii.):	
		Jerusalem in the "Great	Babylon in "Wrath of	
		Tribulation".	God."	
	xi. 15	End of seventh trumpet.	After seventh vial (xix.)	
		1. "Kingdom of the Lord."	 "Lord God reigneth." 	
		2. The 24 elders worship.	2. The 24 elders worship.	
		3. "Wrath" is come.	"Armageddon."	

Chapters

12-19

THE FINAL (3rd) MOVEMENT (Ch. 20-22)

Chapter 20.

- Vs. 1-6 The Millennial Reign of Christ.
 - 1,000 years mentioned 6 times
- Vs. 7-10 The Final Outrage and Doom of Satan
 - Gog & Magog for the last time
 - The Unholy Trinity
 - The Beast and the False Prophet and Satan
- Vs. 11-15 The Final Judgment of Man (Great White Throne)



And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. Revelation 20:1-3

And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison... Revelation 20:7



And the devil ... was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. **Revelation 20:10**



"And the devil ... was cast into the lake of fire... and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."



And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.



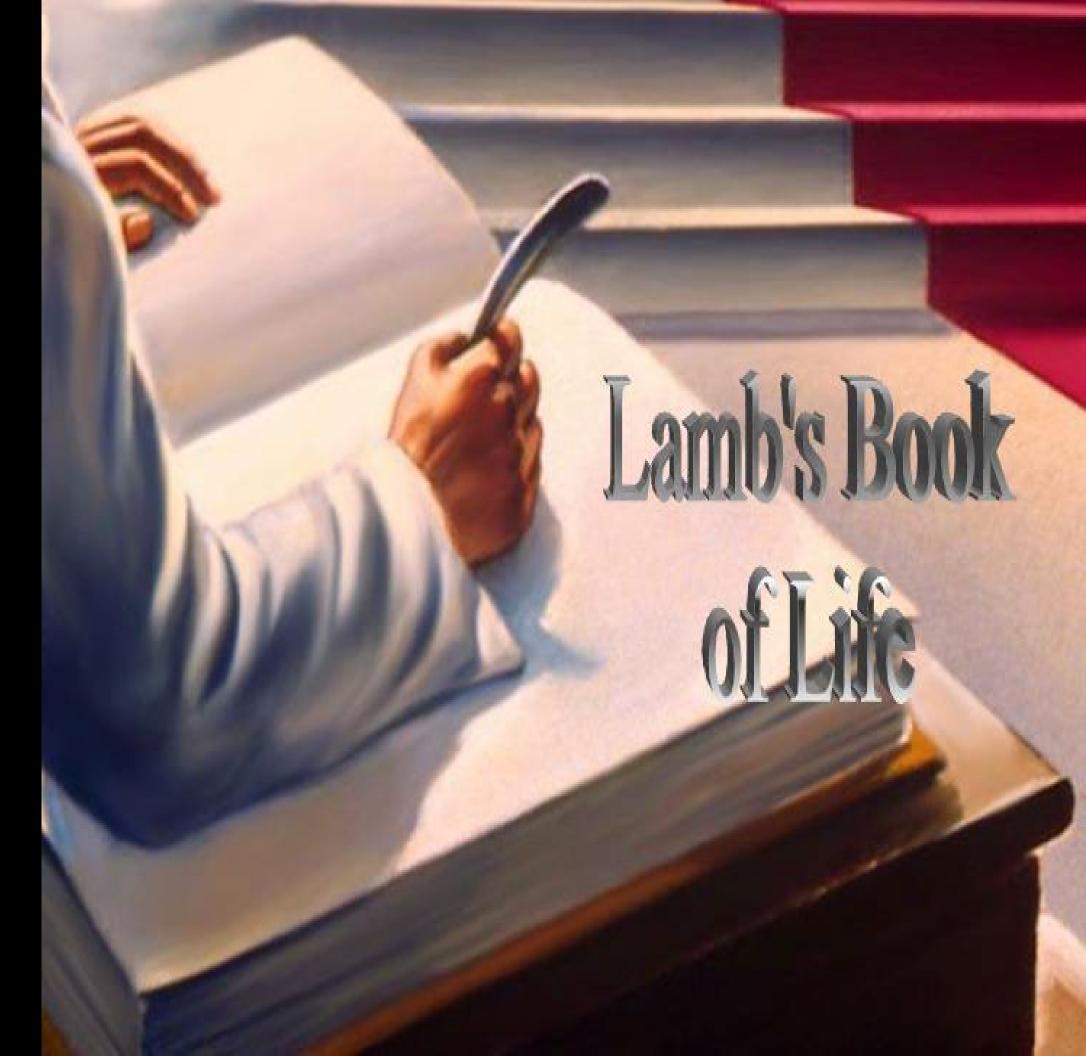
And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God;

...and the books were opened



Twork by Pat Marvenko Smith @1982, 1992

...and another book was opened, which is the book of life:...



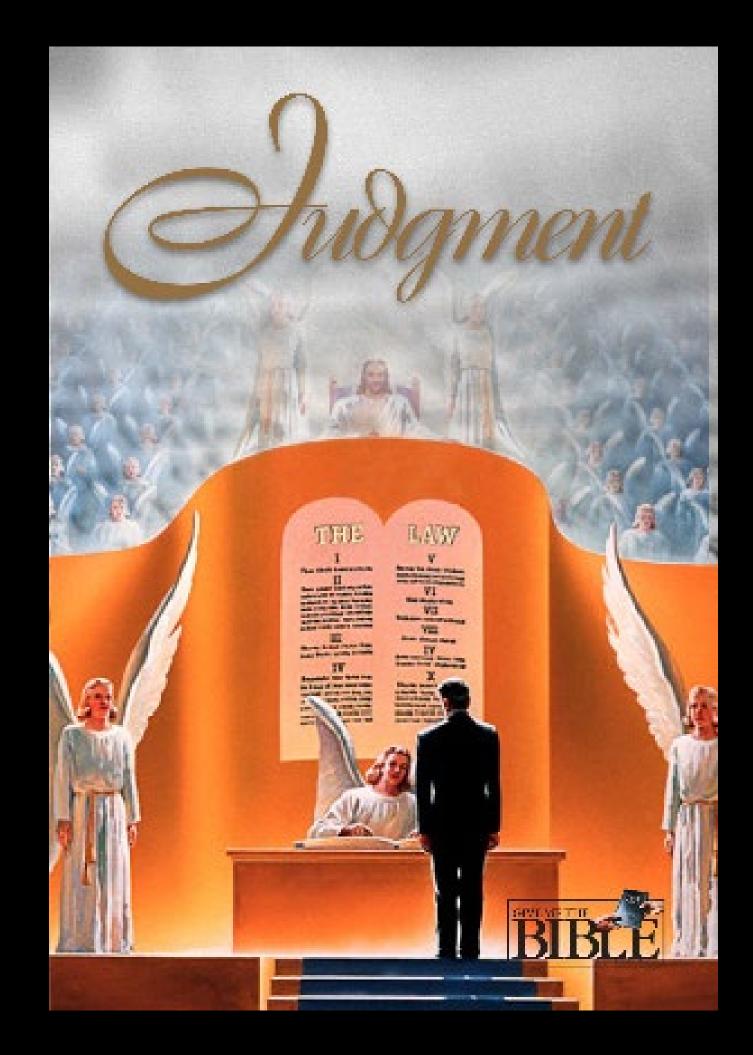
"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it;"

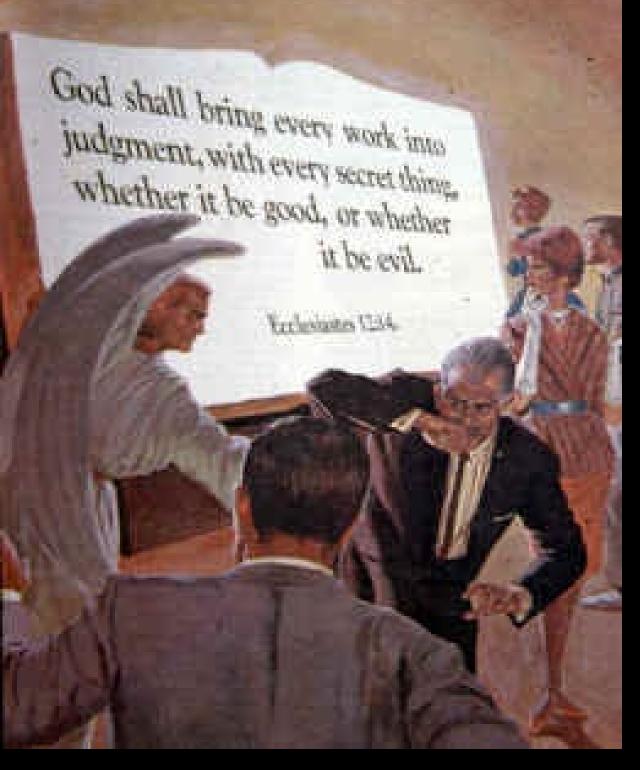


"...and Death and Hell delivered up the dead which were in them:..."

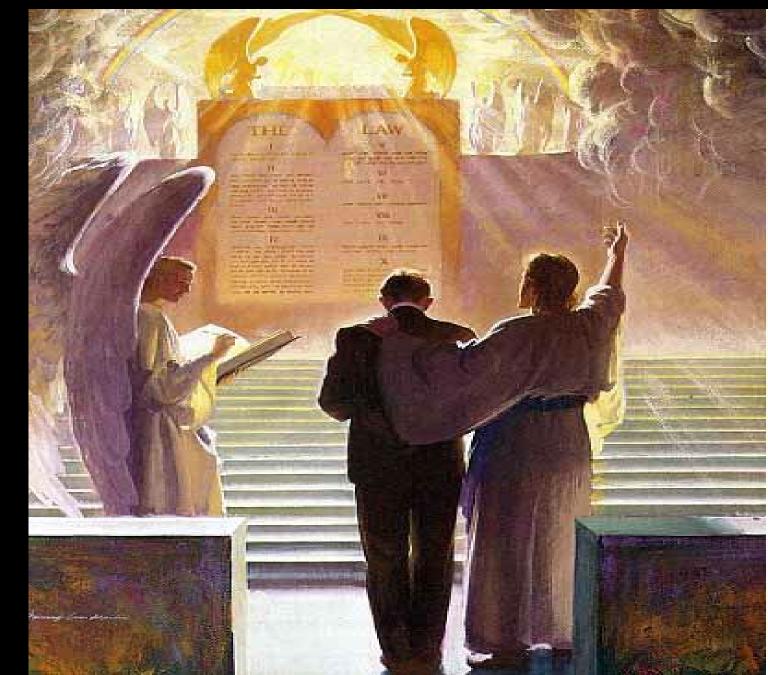


...and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books...





Ecclesiastes 12:14 "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil." "...and they were judged every man according to their works."

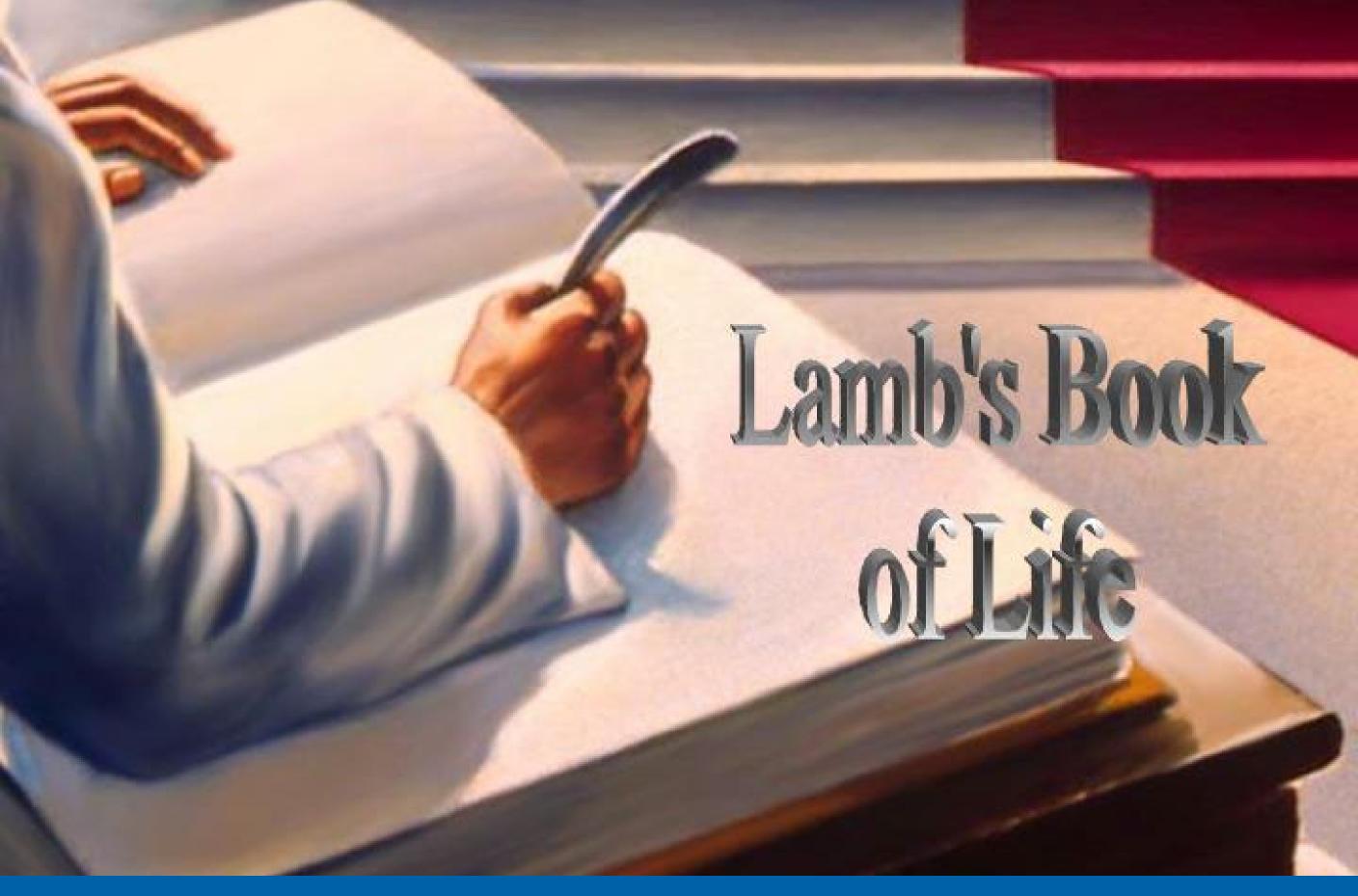


And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.





"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."



Is Your Name Written in the Book?

THE FINAL (3rd) MOVEMENT (Ch. 20-22) <u>Ch. 21-22</u>... ✓ The New Heaven ✓ The New Earth ✓ The New Jerusalem New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:2

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Where Will You Be?



At The Judgment Seat of Christ? OR At The Great White Throne Judgment?

Why do people

go to Hell?

The state of

Why do people

go to Hell?

Because...

their Names Are Not Written in the Book!

Why are people cast into the Lake of Fire?

<u>Because their Names Are Not Written in the</u> <u>Book of Life!</u>

We could list sin after sin after sin that we think would send a person to Hell.

<u>But the truth is</u>, if someone rejects Christ as Savior by not believing in Him... they will not have their name "written in the Book of Life".

And if their name is not in that "Book", they will be cast into the Lake of Fire. The only way to get your name written in the Book of Life is by trusting in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior...

"<u>Sirs, what must I do to be saved?</u>"

"And they said, <u>Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and</u> <u>thou shalt be saved,..."</u> But the real "KEY" to everything is Jesus and whether or not a person knows:

•<u>WHAT THEY HAVE SEEN</u>

Have they seen by faith the Lord Jesus Christ as the One who died for them and rose again?

ALESUST

•<u>WHO THEY ARE</u>

Are they truly a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ?

• WHERE THEY WILL BE HEREAFTER

•.....Where will they be in the *hereafter* (eternity)?

END OF LESSON 12