The background of the cover is a photograph of an ancient rock-cut temple facade. The structure is carved into a dark, textured rock face. It features two levels of columns. The lower level has six columns supporting a wide, shallow pediment. The upper level has a similar structure with a pediment and columns. The columns are decorated with intricate carvings. The overall scene is lit with warm, golden light, highlighting the textures of the rock and the details of the architecture.

# **Foundations for Discipleship**

*Dr. William E. Bell, Jr.*

**Student Workbook**

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## ***Systematic Theology Course***

Dr. William E. Bell

### **INTRODUCTION**

This comprehensive course on the Doctrines of the Scriptures represents a complete study necessary for building a secure Biblical foundation into your life as a disciple of Jesus Christ. The Foundations For Discipleship Course consists of nine volumes, each of which is subdivided into twelve 45-minute audio units. Each unit is accompanied and supplemented by a downloadable study guide.

Listen carefully to each audio message, and follow along in the printed material. Make notes on your printed study guide as needed, to help you grasp and retain the material. This will become your own personal notebook and can be used in training others. When needed, replay sections that you did not grasp the first time. It may be that the information is entirely new to you and needs to be run past you again, or perhaps you find that your mind wandered a bit. The great advantage of digital material over a live lecture is this flexibility of time, place and replay capabilities.

The normal pace is one unit per week with the entire course taking two years to complete. The pace may be accelerated cautiously if you desire, but should be kept modest enough so not to hinder comprehension. Ideally, the course would be done in a small-group setting where each participant works through a specific unit on a given weekend. The Bible study group would then meet during the week to listen to that weeks audio unit again together accompanied by a time of sharing notes, discussion and prayer together.

### **Doctrinal Statement**

- The Bible alone and the Bible in its entirety is the Word of God written and is thus inerrant in the original manuscripts.
- There is only one true God, and He exists eternally in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Jesus Christ is God the Son incarnate, born of a virgin, and sinless. He died a substitutionary, sacrificial death for man's sin, was raised bodily from the tomb, ascended bodily into heaven, and will return bodily in glory to this earth.
- Salvation is entirely by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, apart from any human merit.
- The Christian life is substantially as taught in Volume 1, Units 5-6 of the organization's training material, and I do not subscribe to nor do I participate in any of the "distortions" therein discussed.
- The local church is at the very heart of God's program for this age, and I am an active, participating member of such an assembly.

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# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## *Systematic Theology Course*

**Dr. William E. Bell**

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# **Introduction – The Great Commission**

## *Volume 1 - Unit 1*

### **I. The Great Commission**

**Matthew 28:18-20** – “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen.”

**Mark 16:15** – “And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

**Acts 1:8** – “But ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

### **II. World Statistics – 2002 Population: 6.3 Billion**

#### **World Religious Populations**

Roman Catholics	1,057,328,093
Independents	385,745,407
Protestants	342,001,605
Orthodox	215,128,717
Anglicans	79,649,642
Jews	14,434,039
Muslims	1,188,242,789
Hindus	811,336,265
Chinese folk-religionists	384,806,732
Buddhists	359,981,757
Ethno-religionists	228,366,515
Atheists	150,089,508
New-Religionists	102,356,297
Sikhs	23,258,412
Spiritists	12,333,735
Baha'is	7,106,420
Confucianists	6,298,597
Jains	4,217,979
Shintoists	2,761,845
Taoists	2,654,514
Zoroastrians	2,543,950
Mandaeans	38,977

<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/clock2.html>

# The New Testament Strategy

## Volume 1 - Unit 2

### III. The New Testament Model

#### A. Jesus

1. *Selection* of a "hard-core" beginning group.
2. *Association* with them.
3. *Obedience* from them.
4. *Teaching* them--by precept and demonstration
5. *Delegation* of responsibility.
6. *Supervision* of performance.
7. *Reproduction* in other people.

#### B. Paul

1. Summary of the strategy - *Spiritual Multiplication*

II Timothy 2:2 - "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

2. Implementation of the strategy.

# **Nature of Christian Salvation - Part 1**

## *Volume 1 - Unit 3*

### **I. The Creation of Man**

#### A. Purpose

1. Fellowship (John 4:23, Revelation 3:20)
2. Dominion (Psalm 8:4-8)

#### B. Method (Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

#### C. Time

### **II. The Fall of Man**

#### A. The Test (Genesis 2:16-17)

#### B. The Temptation (Genesis 3:1-5)

#### C. The Disobedience

1. Eve - Deceived (Genesis 3:6a)
2. Adam - Deliberate (Genesis 3:6b)

#### D. The Punishment

1. The Serpent (Satan) (Genesis 3:14-15)

- a. Lowly position
- b. Enmity with man

2. Eve (Genesis 3:16)

- a. Sorrow of childbearing
- b. Subjection to the man

3. Adam (Genesis 3:17-19)

- a. Curse upon natural creation
- b. Arduous toil for physical survival
- c. Physical death for all human beings

E. Continuing Implications for Adam's Descendants

- 1. Curse upon natural creation ----- → man's lack of dominion → man vs. creation. (Hebrews 2:8)
- 2. Mortality ----- → physical death. (Romans 5:12, Hebrews 9:27)
- 3. Spiritual death ----- → the second death. (Revelation 20:14)
- 4. Adamic nature ----- → personal sins. (Romans 3:23)

**III. The Divine Dilemma**

A. God's Holiness, Justice, Veracity Demand Punishment. (Ezekiel 18:20, Romans 6:23)

B. God's Love Desires Fellowship.

## **Scripture Memory** *Addendum to Unit 3*

Beginning with this unit, we will all undertake a modest program of Scripture memory. Mature Christians everywhere testify to the benefits of having strategic portions of the Bible committed to memory. The purpose is simply to have certain key verses and passages immediately available when needed to stabilize our own lives and to assist in counseling others.

Experience has shown that overly ambitious programs start well but seldom are continued over the long haul. Since systematic review is essential to the retention of the verses, we must be realistic in evaluating the time and effort available from the typical busy person. Therefore, we are requiring only one verse per week. (Occasionally, two verses will be taken together to complete a thought.) The verses will pertain to the material currently being studied and will thus help to fix some key concepts in the mind. Specific verses will be selected for each unit, starting at this point and continuing through Volume 8. At the completion of Volume 8 (approximately 2 years), 94 verses will have been memorized, covering key doctrines and techniques of the Christian life.

**Suggested Techniques.** Don't be afraid to memorize. Even if you have been out of school for years, even if you may be well along in years, you can do it. It really isn't very difficult. Take the verse selected each week and read it over several times in the original context in which it occurs. This will help you to see the verse as an integral part of a passage - not just as an isolated proof text. Then attach the reference to it and read it over several times. (Some find it helpful to say the reference before and after the verse.) For example, taking our first verse, say: "Colossians 2:9 - For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily - Colossians 2:9. " Say this over and over again until you can repeat it without looking at the verse. Then say it many more times until it begins to get fixed in your mind. Go on about your other business, but try to say it again a few minutes later - and again periodically as you think of it during the day. If you have trouble, go back and look at it again and repeat the process. Review the verse many times a day for the first week. This will fix the verse in your mind and will also turn your attention periodically to the truth of the verse and thus help to keep us occupied with Christ each day.

Do the same thing with the verse for the following week, and (very important!) review last week's verse each day as well. In time you will find that some of the older, more familiar verses will need to be reviewed only two or three times a week - and eventually weekly or even less, but the newer verses will need daily review. The review is essential. Knowing a verse for a week is fine, but it is infinitely better to know it permanently. This is our goal - and retention comes only with systematic review. Your sponsor will help you at this point. He will check you out on your verses each week (and you might check to see that he knows them, too!).

As already indicated, our first memory verse has to do with the deity of Jesus Christ, and it will receive further comment in Unit 4.

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE 1: Colossians 2:9 – “For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”**

**Nature of Christian Salvation - Part 2**  
*Volume 1 - Unit 4*

**IV. The Solution--The Atonement of Christ A. His Person**

A. His Person

1. Humanity

a. The evidence (Hebrews 2:14)

b. The necessity

2. Deity (Colossians 2:9)

a. The evidence

b. The necessity

3. The Hypostatic Union (I Timothy 3:16)

Jesus Christ = The God-Man

B. His Work

1. His death, viewed as:

a. Redemption (Rom. 3:24)

b. Propitiation (Rom. 3:25)

c. Substitution (I Peter 3:18)

d. Reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:18-19)

2. His resurrection (I Corinthians 15)

a. Evidence

b. Significance

C. The Appropriation (Acts 16:30-31)

1. The Means: Faith

2. The Object: Jesus Christ

D. The Results

1. Forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7)

2. Imputation of Christ's Righteousness (II Corinthians 5:21)

3. Justification (Rom. 3:28)

a. Before

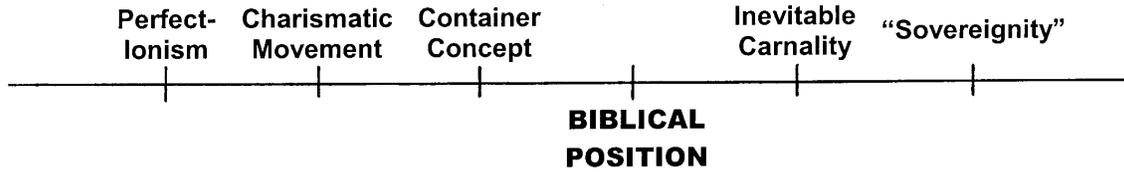
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Balance	∞		



# The Christian Life - What It Is Not

## Volume 1 - Unit 5

### I. The Spectrum



### II. The Distortions

#### A. Sovereignty

1. Psalm 76:10
2. Ephesians 1:11

#### B. Perfectionism

1. I John 3:6-10 (King James)
2. But cf. (compare) I John 1:8, 10.

#### C. Inevitable Carnality - Romans 7:15-25

#### D. The Charismatic Movement

1. The Baptism of the Spirit - The Second Work of Grace
  - a. What is it?

b. Who can get it?

c. When?

## 2. The Sign of the Baptism - The Gift of Tongues

### a. The Current Phenomena

(1) Nature

(2) Purpose

(3) Recipients

### b. The New Testament Phenomena

(1) Nature

(2) Purpose

(3) Recipients

### c. Evaluation of Current Phenomena

(1) Dissimilarities in nature, purpose and recipients

(2) Revelational aspect of the gift

(3) Counterfeits

(4) The concept of temporary gifts

(5) Conclusion

### 3. The Power of the Spirit-Filled--The Gift of Healing

#### a. Healing in the Atonement?

(1) Matthew 8:17--cf. Isaiah 53:4

(2) But also cf. II Corinthians 12:1-10

#### b. New Testament Purpose of Healing

(1) Mark 2:1-12

(2) Acts 2:22

(3) Hebrews 2:3-4

#### c. The Nature of Christian Suffering

### E. The Container Concept

#### 1. The Concept and Its Illustrations

#### 2. The Scriptures

a. Galatians 2:20

b. Colossians 2:27

c. Philippians 1:21

### 3. The Contradictions and Misconceptions

a. Philippians 4:13

b. Hebrews 4:16

c. I Timothy 6:12

d. I Timothy 1:18

e. II Timothy 2: 3-4

f. Ephesians 6:10f. (f. = "and following")

### 4. The Evaluation

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your spiritual service, and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

1. Note the slight change from the King James--"spiritual" for "reasonable". The Greek word here is *logikos* and has the sense of that service which the priests used to render in the tabernacle and later in the temple. The thought is that Christians today are to present themselves to God as the counterpart of the animal offerings of the Old Testament.

2. Keep on reviewing your previous verses.

**The Christian Life - What It Is**  
*Volume 1 - Unit 6*

**I. The Surrender (Romans 12:1)**

A. Why?

B. How?

**II. The Transformation (Romans 12:2)**

A. Why?

B. How? -- The Renewal of the Mind

**III. The Renewal of the Mind (Romans 12:2)**

A. Occupation with Christ--Living in the Word (II Corinthians 3:18, Colossians 3:16)

B. The Work of the Indwelling Spirit (II Corinthians 3:18)

**IV. The Daily Test**

A. Obedience ----- → Growth, Blessing (Rom. 6:16-23)

B. Disobedience ----- → Suspended Growth, Broken Fellowship

*Remedy:* Confession of Sin (I John 1:9)

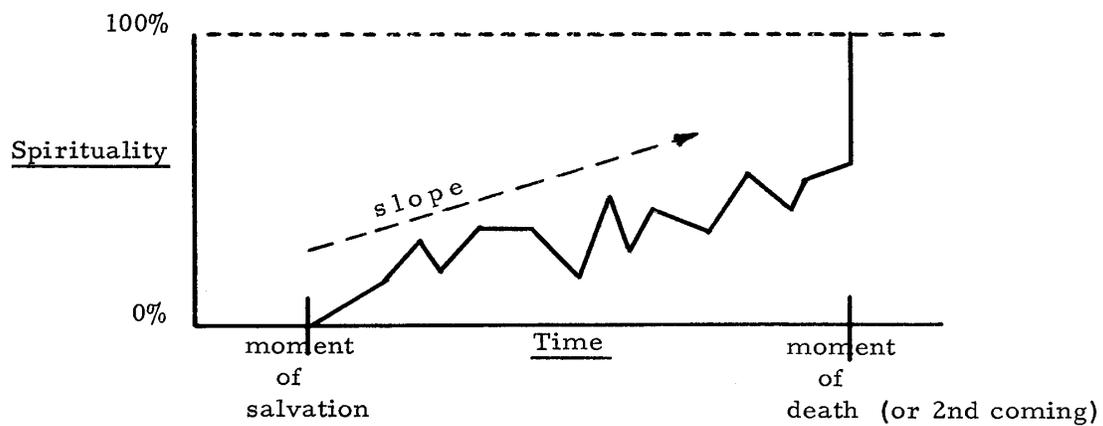
C. Illustration

## V. The Goal

A. Immediate: Maturity (Ephesians 4:13-15)

B. Ultimate: Made Like Christ (Romans 8:29)

## VI. Graphic Illustration



SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I John 1:9 – “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

# **Is It OK for a Christian to\_\_\_? - Part 1**

## *Volume 1 - Unit 7*

### **I. The Check List**

A. Specific Scripture

B. The Christian's Body = Temple of the Holy Spirit

1. The Doctrine (I Corinthians 6:19, 3:16, Rom. 8:9)

2. The Implications

a. Physical

b. Mental

C. Spiritual Headship

1. Husband - Wife

a. The Doctrine (Ephesians 5:22-33, Colossians 3:18-19, I Peter 3:1-7)

b. The Implications

2. Parents - Children

a. The Doctrine (Ephesians 6:1-3, Colossians 3:20-21)

b. The Implications

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 6:19-20 – “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”

\*Note the change from "Holy Ghost" to "Holy Spirit". The word "ghost" is not a suitable rendering today, because it has the connotation of Halloween and spooks. The Greek word pneuma is better rendered by our word "spirit".

**Is It OK for a Christian to\_\_\_? - Part 2**  
*Volume 1 - Unit 8*

3. Elders - Congregation

a. The Doctrine (Acts 20:28, I Tim. 5:1, 19, Hebrews 13:7, 17, I Pet. 5:2-5)

b. The Implications

4. Government - Citizens

a. The Doctrine (Rom. 13:1-7, I Tim. 2:1-4, Tit. 3:1, I Pet. 2:13-17)

b. The Implications

5. Masters - Slaves

a. The Doctrine (Ephesians 6:5-9, Colossians 3:22--4:1, I Timothy 6:1-2, Tit. 2:9-10, I Pet. 2:18)

b. The Implications

D. The Weaker Brother

1. The Doctrine (Rom. 14:1 - 15:13, I Corinthians 8 - 10)

a. The Stronger Christian

b. The Weaker Christian

2. The Implications

## E. The Glory of God

1. The Doctrine (I Corinthians 10:31)

2. The Implications

## **II. Some Illustrations**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSES - I Corinthians 10:31 – “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

**Prayer & the Devotional Life - Part 1**  
*Volume 1 - Unit 9*

**I. WHO?**

A. Who May Pray?

1. Only priests have access to God (Hebrews 4:14-16, 10:19-22).
2. Universal priesthood of believers (I Pet. 2:9, Revelation 1:6)

B. To Whom?

1. To the Father
2. In the name of the Son
3. In the power of the Holy Spirit

**II. WHAT?**

A. Confession (I John 1:9, Psalm 66:18, Isaiah 59:1-2)

B. Worship and Praise (I Kings 8:23f., Matt. 6:9)

C. Thanksgiving (Luke 17:17, Phil. 4:6)

D. Petitions - For Others and Self (Phil. 4:6)

Prerequisites for Answers:

1. In Christ's Name (John 14:13-15, 16:24)

2. According to God's Will (I John 5:14)

a. How do we know?

(1) The Word (John 15:7)

(2) The Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26-27, Ephesians 6:18, Jude 20)

b. Examples

3. Glory to God (John 14:13-15, James 4:2-3)

4. Ask in Faith (Mk. 11:24, Matt. 21:22, James 1:6) - How to increase faith? - Romans 10:17

5. Accompanied by Obedience (John 14:15, I John 3:22)

### **III. WHEN?**

A. General Answer - Always (I Thessalonians. 5:17, Ephesians 6:18)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 16:24 - "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name; ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

**Prayer & the Devotional Life - Part 2**  
*Volume 1 - Unit 10*

***(III. WHEN? Cont.)***

B. Specifics on when to pray

1. Morning
2. In the Word
3. When we sin
4. Before difficult situations
5. After answers and victories

**IV. WHERE?**

A. General Answer - Anywhere

B. Specifics (Matt. 6:6)

**V. WHY?**

A. God's Command (John 16:24)

B. God Answers - Necessary for:

1. Victory over Satan (Ephesians 6:18)

2. Obtaining things from God (James 4:2)

C. Biblical Examples

1. Apostles (Rom. 1:9)

2. Christ

a. On earth (Mk. 1:35, Luke 6:12)

b. Now (Hebrews 7:25)

**VI. No Answer?**

A. Sin

1. Unbeliever (See Section I.)

2. Marital problems (I Pet. 3:7)

3. Unforgiving attitude (Mk. 11:25)

4. Selfishness (James 4:2-3)

5. Disobedience (I John 3:22)

B. Not God's Will (Now, at least) - Examples:

1. Marriage partner

2. Healing - Why Christian Suffering?

- a. Sin (I Corinthians 11:30)
- b. To produce dependence on God (II Corinthians 12)
- c. To glorify God (Job, John 11:4, 1 Pet. 1:7, 4:12-14)
- d. To build Christian maturity (Jam. 1:2, Rom. 5:3, 8:28-29, 1 Pet. 5:10)
- e. To comfort others (II Corinthians 1:3-4)
- f. To promote longing for glorified body (Rom. 8:22-23)

#### C. Dependent on Volition of Others

- 1. Salvation of lost
- 2. Behavior of saved/lost

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I John 5:14-15 – “And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us, and if we know that He hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.”

# **Sharing Your Faith - The Theology of Evangelism**

## *Volume 1 - Unit 11*

### **I. The Great Commission - Obedience**

### **II. The Great Commission - Rationale**

#### A. Universalism

##### 1. Typical (but otherwise diverse) advocates

a. Nels Ferre

b. James Pike

c. Paul Tillich

d. Karl Barth

##### 2. The premise

a. Similarity of religions

b. Religion - culturally oriented

c. No finality - syncretism

#### B. The Biblical View of Non-Christian Religions

##### 1. Old Testament

a. Cain (Genesis 4)

b. Abram (Genesis 12f.)

- c. Egypt (Exodus 12:12)
- d. First commandment (Exodus 20:3-4)
- e. Joshua and the Canaanites (Book of Joshua)
- f. Elijah and Baal (I Kings 18)
- g. Daniel and comrades in Babylon (Dan. 3, 6)
- h. Isaiah and apostate Judaism (Isaiah 1)

## 2. New Testament

- a. Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3)
- b. Jesus as Bread (John 6)
- c. Jesus as Light (John 8)
- d. Jesus as the Door (John 10)
- e. Jesus as the Way (John 14:6)
- f. Peter and the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:12)
- g. The One Mediator (I Tim. 2:5)
- h. Paul at Athens (Acts 17)

i. Paul at Ephesus (Acts 19)

j. Paul and the Galatian Heresy (Gal. 1:9)

C. Truth in Other Religions?

1. Creation accounts

2. Flood accounts

3. Golden Rule

D. What About Those Who Haven't Heard?

1. Natural Revelation (Rom. 1:18f.)

2. Special Revelation

a. Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-39)

b. Cornelius (Acts 10)

c. Corinthians (Acts 18:10)

E. The Destiny of the Unbeliever

1. Mark 9:43 -48

2. Revelation 20:10-15

**III. Conclusion**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 14:6 – “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me.”

# **Sharing Your Faith - How To Do It**

## *Volume 1 - Unit 12*

### **I. How Are People Won to Jesus Christ?**

#### A. By the Conviction of the Holy Spirit

1. John 16:7 -11

2. Acts 1:8

#### B. Through the Message of the Gospel - Contained in the Word of God

1. Romans 10:17

2. I Peter 1:23

3. II Timothy 3:15

#### C. Using the Instrumentality of Men

1. Great Commission

2. Romans 10:13-15

### **II. The Strategies to be Employed**

#### A. Mass Evangelism

1. Biblical Examples

- a. Jesus and the multitudes
- b. Peter at Pentecost (Acts 2)
- c. Paul at Antioch (Acts 13)

## 2. Modern Examples

- a. Area-wide crusades (multiple-church support)
- b. Local church crusades
- c. Specialized efforts directed toward

(1) Children

(2) Youth

(3) Students

(4) Athletes

(5) Businessmen

Etc.

## B. Personal Evangelism

### 1. Biblical Examples

- a. Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3)

b. Jesus and individual disciples (Matt. 9:9)

c. Philip and the eunuch (Acts 8:26-39)

d. Paul and the jailor (Acts 16:25-34)

## 2. Techniques

a. Depend on the Holy Spirit (Pray).

b. Be absolutely honest (No gimmicks).

c. Some suggestions as to how to get started

(1) World events - where will it all end?

(2) Do you have any interest in spiritual things? (or - in philosophy?)

(3) May I tell you about the greatest thing that ever happened to me?

d. Make the issue clear (Use Scripture).

(1) The need of man

(2) God's provision in Christ

(3) Appropriation by faith

e. Be sensitive to the response.

(1) Hostile, withdrawn - don't force it.

(2) Interested, but obviously not ready for commitment - sow the seed and stop.

(3) Under conviction and apparently ready -encourage commitment now.

### 3. Follow-up

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## *Systematic Theology Course*

**Dr. William E. Bell**

### **VOLUME 2** 37

#### **The Doctrine of the Church**

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# **Introduction to the Church**

## *Volume 2 - Unit 1*

### **I. Definition of Terms**

A. "Church" ("kirk") from kuriakos ("belonging to the Lord").

B. Greek Word: ekklesia - "a called-out assembly".

1. Old Testament (Septuagint, LXX) Usage - about 100 times: 86 times =  
Congregation of Israel (Hebrew qahal)

2. New Testament Usage:

a. A civil assembly (Acts 19:32, 39, 41)

b. All who belong to Christ, i. e. the "universal church" (Matthew  
16:18, Ephesians 1:22, 5:23-32)

c. A local congregation (Revelation 2-3, Galatians 1:2)

### **II. The Founding of the Church**

A. When? At Pentecost:

1. Matthew 16:18 - ". . . I will build . . . "

2. Acts 1:5 - Baptism with Holy Spirit to be soon.

3. Acts 2- Baptism with Holy Spirit occurs (cf. Acts 11:15-16).

4. I Corinthians 12:13 - Baptism with Spirit = Means of entrance to Body of Christ.

5. Colossians 1:24 - Body of Christ = the Church.

6. Therefore, the church began on Pentecost.

B. Who? First, Believing Israelites - Later, Believing Gentiles Also

1. The Commonwealth of Israel (Ephesians 2:11-3:12)

2. The Good Olive Tree (Romans 11:16-24)

3. The Marriage Feast (Matthew 22:1-14)

4. The Flock of God (John 10:16)

5. The Seed of Abraham (Galatians 3:16, 29)

6. Secular Illustrations:

a. The United States of America

b. The Birth of a Child

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE – Matthew 16:18 – “Thou art Peter, and upon this rock (the apostles) I will build my church, and the gates of hades (the grave itself) shall not prevail against it.”

# **Organization & Government of the Church**

## *Volume 2 - Unit 2*

### **I. What is a Local Church?**

An assembly of professing believers in Jesus Christ, organized as a spiritually gifted team to implement the great commission and to love and care for one another.

Note:

A. Profession

B. Organization

C. Implementation

1. To make disciples

2. To baptize

3. To teach

4. To take care

### **II. Who are the Leaders?**

A. Elders (presbuteroi) or Bishops (episkopoi)

1. Elder = Bishop (Acts 20:17, 28, Titus 1:5, 7)

2. Function

- a. Rule (I Timothy 5:17, Acts 20:28)
  - b. Teaching and guarding the truth (I Timothy 5:17, Acts 20:28, Titus 1:9)
  - c. Supervision of finances (Acts 11:30)
3. How Many? Several in each church (Acts 14:23, 20:17 - cf. Revelation 2:1, Philemon 1:1)
4. Qualifications (I Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9)
- a. Blameless
  - b. Husband of one wife
  - c. Vigilant
  - d. Sober
  - e. Of good behavior
  - f. Hospitable
  - g. Apt to teach
  - h. Not given to wine
  - i. No striker
  - j. Not greedy for money
  - k. Patient
  - l. No brawler
  - m. Not covetous
  - n. Not a novice
  - o. Having a good testimony in the community

## B. Deacons (diakonoι)

1. Function: To assist elders (originally, the apostles) in administering aid to the needy, sick, etc. (Acts 6:1-6)

2. Qualifications (I Timothy 3:8-13)

a. Same essential moral qualifications

b. No mention of teaching, ruling

c. Addition of "not double-tongued", wives' qualifications

3. Deaconesses? (Romans 16:2, I Timothy 3:11)

## III. What is the Organization?

A. Episcopal? (Apostolic Succession)

B. Federal (Presbyterian)? (Acts 14:23, Titus 1:5, Hebrews 13:7, 17, I Corinthians 5, I Timothy 5:20)

C. Congregational? (I Corinthians 1:10, Philemon 1:27, Matthew 28:19-20, I Corinthians 11:2, 20, Acts 6:3, 5, 15:2, 30, II Corinthians 8:19, Matthew 18:17, I Corinthians 5, II Thessalonians 3:14f.)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Acts 20:28 – “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers (bishops) to feed (shepherd, pastor) the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.”

# **Ordinances of the Church**

## *Volume 2 - Unit 3*

### **I. Ordinances vs. Sacraments**

### **II. The New Testament Ordinances**

#### A. Baptism

##### 1. Definition of baptizo

a. Primary meaning - "Immerse"

b. Secondary meaning - "Identify with" (I Corinthians 10:2, Matthew 3:11, 20:22)

##### 2. The Christian Ordinance of Water Baptism

a. Who?

(1) Is baptized

(a) Infants? -

"Christian circumcision"

"Household" baptism

(b) Believers? - N. T. evidence; Church history;  
Spiritual birth, not physical

(2) Baptizes

b. What?

(1) A symbol, evidence of commitment

(2) Prerequisite for salvation?

c. When?

d. Where?

e. Why

f. How?

(1) Immersion?

(a) Primary meaning of baptizo

(b) Meaning of the symbol

(c) Early church practice

(2) Sprinkling /Pouring?

(a) Secondary meaning of baptizo (cf. Hebrews 9:10)

(b) Meaning of the symbol

(c) Immersion improbable in some passages

## B. The Lord's Supper

### 1. Who?

- a. Participants
- b. Administrator

### 2. What?

- a. Sacrifice (transubstantiation)?
- b. Memorial? (I Corinthians 11:24-25)

### 3. When?

- a. Daily? (Acts 2:46)
- b. Weekly? (Acts 20:7)
- c. Other?

### 4. Where?

### 5. Why?

- a. Remembrance of Christ's death (I Corinthians 11:25)
- b. Proclamation of the gospel (I Corinthians 11:26)
- c. Anticipation of 2nd coming (I Corinthians 11:26)
- d. Recognition of our oneness in Christ (I Corinthians 10:17)

### 6. How?

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSES - I Corinthians 11:26 – “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show (proclaim) the Lord's death till He come.”

## **Function of the Church** *Volume 2 - Unit 4*

### **I. A Recruitment and Training Center - *The Great Commission***

A. Make Disciples

B. Baptize Them

C. Teach Them (cf. II Timothy 3:16-17) - Ephesians 4:7-16 - Equipping the saints for the work of the ministry

1. The "cadre"
2. The saints
3. The ministry
4. The growth
5. The unity in love

### **II. A Worship and Praise Center** (I Corinthians 14:26, Ephesians 5:19-20, Col 3:16)

### **III. A Center for Meeting Material Needs** (Acts 4:34f., 6:1-7, 11:27-30, Romans 12:13, II Corinthians 8-9, Philemon 4:10f.)

### **IV. A Center for Spiritual Encouragement, Restoration and Discipline**

A. Encouragement (Hebrews 10:25, I Thessalonians 4:18, Romans 12:15)

B. Restoration (Galatians 6:1, II Timothy 2:25)

C. Discipline (I Timothy 5:19-20, 6:3-5, Titus 1:10-13, I Corinthians 5, I Tim 1:20)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Matthew 28:19-20 – “Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age.”

## **Creation (Genesis 1-2)**

### *Volume 2 - Unit 5*

#### **Units 5-12: Survey of the Old Testament Timeline**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Approximate Dates</b>
Beginnings - Creation	2,000 B.C.
Patriarchal	2,000-1,500 B.C.
Exodus	1,500-1,400 B.C.
Conquest of Canaan	1,400-1,390 B.C.
Judges	1,390-1,050 B.C.
United Kingdom	1,050-931 B.C.
Divided Kingdom	931-722 B.C.
Single Kingdom	722-586 B.C.
Babylonian Captivity	586-516 B.C. (606-536)
Restoration	516-400 B.C. (536-400)

#### **I. Genesis 1:1-2**

A. In the beginning

B. God

C. Created (bara)

1. Divine activity

2. Production of that which did not previously exist

D. The heaven(s) and the earth

#### **II. When? How?**

A. Gap Theory

1. Definition

a. Creation

b. Catastrophe

c. Renovation

2. Advantage

Old earth, recent man

3. Disadvantages

a. Hebrew text

b. No confirmation in geology

c. No clear scriptural support

B. Day-Age Theory (Concordance Theory)

1. Definition - Each "day" = Geologic Age

2. Advantages

a. Old earth acceptable

b. Concordance

3. Disadvantages

- a. Concordance superficial
- b. "Day" usually = 24 hours
- c. Extinction of animals
- d. Cause of death

### C. Revelatory Day Theory

1. Definition - "Days" = Revelation, not Creation

2. Advantages

- a. Old earth acceptable
- b. Removes chronological problems

3. Disadvantages

- a. Highly speculative
- b. No scriptural support

### D. Phenomenal Language Theory

1. Definition

- a. Description = How Things Appear to the Eye

b. 6 days = Literary Framework

2. Advantage - Removes "scientific problems" from Genesis

3. Disadvantage - Does it do justice to Genesis 1?

#### E. Recent Creationism Theory

##### 1. Definition

a. Rejects uniformitarianism

b. Recent creation of "mature" earth

c. Catastrophism

2. Advantage - Takes Genesis 1 as straight historical account

3. Disadvantage - Conflicts with majority view of modern science

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSES - Genesis 1:1 – “In the beginning God created the heaven(s) and the earth.”

# **Evolution, The Fall of Man**

## *Volume 2 - Unit 6*

### **I. Evolution**

A. Uniformitarianism - Principles of Geology, Chas. Lyell

B. Biological Uniformitarianism (Evolution)

1. Definition

2. Historical Background

3. Darwin's Theory

a. Inheritance of acquired characteristics

b. Natural selection

4. Arguments for Evolution

a. Recapitulation

b. Vestigial organs

c. Similarity of species

d. Paleontology (fossils)

5. Evidence against Evolution

- a. Cannot be proved
- b. No conclusive evidence
- c. Cannot be demonstrated in laboratories
- d. 2nd law of thermodynamics
- e. Common sense
- f. The Biblical account

## **II. The Fall of Man (Genesis 3-4)**

A. The Genesis Story

B. Historical Event or Theological Myth?

- 1. Too simple?
- 2. Does not fit evolutionary theory
- 3. Evidence of historicity
  - a. Straight historical narrative
  - b. New Testament usage
    - (1) Christ
    - (2) Paul

c. Justification of simplicity

d. The Geneological evidence

C. The Results of the Fall (cf. Volume 1, Units 3-4)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Romans 5:12 – “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all sinned.”

Note the deviation from the Authorized Version in the last word. All sinned at a point of time (Greek aorist tense) in Adam. The reference in this verse is not to our personal sins, but to the one sin of Adam, in which we all shared, from God's viewpoint.

## **Flood to Abraham**

### *Volume 2 - Unit 7*

#### **I. The Flood (Genesis 6-9)**

##### A. The Cause

1. Breakdown of separation?
2. Angelic hypothesis
  - a. Sons of God = angels (Old Testament)
  - b. New Testament evidence
    - (1) Jude 6-7
    - (2) II Peter 2:4
    - (3) I Peter 3:19
  - c. Objection - Matthew 22:30

##### B. The Extent

1. Depth (Genesis 7:19-20)
2. Duration (Genesis 7:11, 8:14)
3. Biblical geology (Genesis 7:11)

4. Size of the ark (Genesis 6:15)
5. Need for the ark
6. Total destruction of human race (Genesis 6:11-13, I Peter 3:20, II Peter 2:5)
7. Anthropology - flood legends
8. Flood - creation - 2nd coming (II Peter 3:3-7)

### C. The Implications

## **II. The Confusion of Tongues and Spread of the Nations** (Genesis 10-11)

### A. The Tower of Babel

### B. The Confusion of Languages

### C. The Table of Nations

1. Japheth - Europe and Asia
2. Ham - Africa, Arabian Peninsula
3. Shem - Fertile Crescent

## **III. Abraham** (Genesis 12-25)

### A. Descent

B. Ur

C. Abrahamic Covenant

1. Summary

a. Great nation

b. Personal blessing

c. Protection

d. Blessing for all families of earth

2. Abraham's faith (Genesis 15:6)

3. Fulfillment

	<i>Historic View</i>	<i>Dispensational View</i>
a. Great nation	Historically, Jews, and believers of all ages	Historically, Jews, and future Jewish nation in Palestine in millennium
b. Canaan	Historically, and future in New Jerusalem	Historically, and future in Palestine in millennium
c. Personal blessing	Historically	Historically
d. Protection	Historically-until Christ-now applies to the church	Historically, now, and in the future
e. Blessing for all families	Christ, and in Body of Christ forever	Christ, and in exaltation of Israel as a nation in millennium

## CRUX: Relationship of Israel to the Church

(1) Summary of Historic View

(2) Summary of Dispensational View

(3) Personal View

(a) Romans 11:16f.

(b) Ephesians 2: 11f.

(c) Galatians 3:16, 29

(d) Romans 2:28-29, 9:6, Revelation 2:9, 3:9,  
Philemon 3:3, James 1:1, I Peter 1:1

(e) Hebrews 8-9

(f) Revelation 21:9-14

(g) Hebrews 11:40

(h) Hebrews 11:8f.

(i) Historical argument

Note: The two views mentioned in this study are equally "orthodox", i. e. they are both held by Christians totally committed to Christ and to the inerrancy of the Word. Even if we may differ in our understanding of Biblical interpretation at this point, let's not allow such a difference to interfere with our essential purpose in Group II. Absolute agreement is expected only in those essential areas noted in our doctrinal statement.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Genesis 15:6 – “And he (Abraham) believed in the Lord, and He counted it to him for righteousness.”

**Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Mt. Sinai**  
*Volume 2 - Unit 8*

**I. Isaac** (Genesis 25-26)

A. The Name

B. The Life Span

C. His Place in History

**II. Jacob** (Genesis 27-36)

A. Selection Over Esau (Genesis 25:23)

B. The Stolen Birthright (Genesis 27)

1. The double portion

2. Spiritual and political headship

C. Jacob Becomes Israel (Genesis 32)

**III. Joseph** (Genesis 37-50)

A. Importance

1. Completes Jacob's story

2. Link between family and nation

3. Link between Canaan and Egypt

4. Type of Christ?

B. His Life

1. Haran - Hebron (Genesis 37)

2. Servitude in Egypt (Genesis 39-41:45)

3. Power in Egypt (Genesis 41:46 - chap. 50)

**IV. Introduction to Moses**

A. Scholar in Egypt (40 years)

1. Birth

2. Adoption

3. Education (Acts 7:22)

4. Momentous decision (Hebrews 11:24-27)

B. Shepherd in Midian (40 years)

The burning bush (Exodus 3)

C. Savior of His People (40 years)

1. Confrontation with Pharaoh

2. The plagues

a. Purpose: To discredit Egyptian gods (Exodus 12:12)

b. Authenticity

(1) Intensification

(2) Prediction and removal

(3) Discrimination

(4) Order, severity

(5) Uniqueness of last plague

c. The last plague - the Passover

(1) The historical incident

(2) The typical significance (I Corinthians 5:7)

3. Egypt to Sinai (Exodus 13-18)

a. The Red Sea

b. The manna (Exodus 16, John 6:32f.)

c. Water from the rock (Exodus 17:6, John 7:37f., I Corinthians 10:4)

d. Arrival at Sinai (Exodus 19:1-2)

4. At Sinai (Exodus 19 - Numbers 10)

a. Divisions of the Law

(1) Commandments (Exodus 20)

(2) Judgments (Exodus 21-23)

(3) Ordinances (Exodus 25 - Leviticus)

b. Purpose of the Law

(1) Constitution of Israel

(2) Preparation for Messiah's coming

c. Limits of the Law

(1) To Israel

(2) From Sinai to the cross

d. Agencies for Implementing the Law

(1) National priesthood

(2) National feast days (Leviticus 23)

(3) National sanctuary (tabernacle)

(4) National offerings

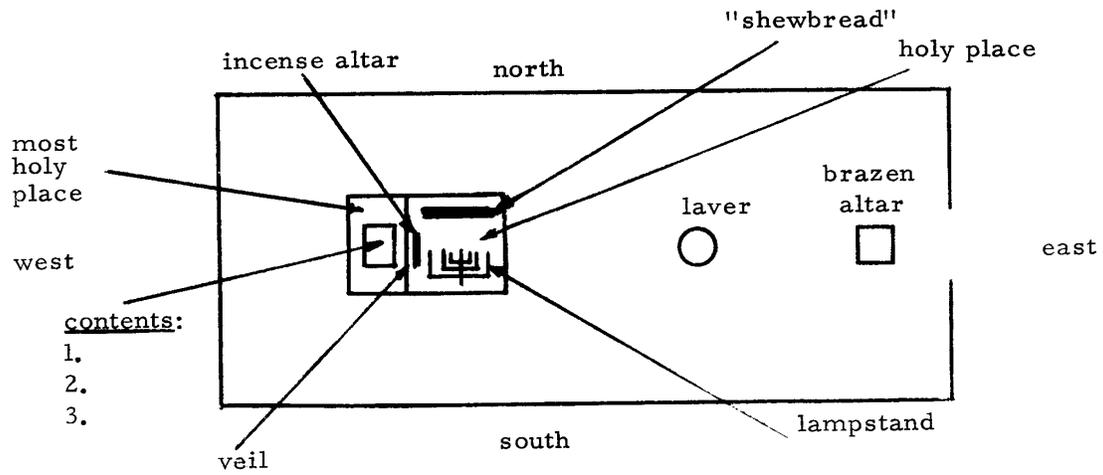
SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Galatians 3:24 – “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

# Tabernacle, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth

## Volume 2 - Unit 9

### I. The Tabernacle

#### A. Physical Description



#### B. The Significance

1. To Israel
2. To Christians Today

### II. In. the Desert (Numbers 11-21)

- A. Kadesh-Barnea (Numbers 13)
- B. Moses Strikes the Rock (Numbers 20)

### III. The Plains of Moab (Numbers 22 - Deuteronomy)

A. A New Generation

B. Deuteronomy - The "Second Law"

#### **IV. The Conquest of Canaan (1,400-1,390 B.C.)**

A. Canaanite Religion

1. Ras Shamra Tablets (Ugarit) a. El b. Baal (I Kings 18) c. Anath d. Astarte (Ashtaroth)

2. God's Sovereign Reaction

B. Invasion of Canaan (Joshua 1-5)

1. Spies

2. Jordan Passage

C. Subjection of Canaan (Joshua 6-12)

1. Central Canaan (6-9)

a. Jericho

b. Ai (Aachen)

2. Southern Canaan (10) a. Amorite League

b. Joshua's "Long Day"

3. Northern Canaan (11) - King of Hazor

D. Distribution of Canaan (Joshua 13-22)

1. Levites

2. Caleb

**V. The Judges** (Judges, Ruth, I Samuel 1-7)

A. Nature of the Period

1. Transition Period

2. Unsettled Conditions

3. Character of the Judges

a. Military dictators

b. Champions of legal and political rights

c. Local heroes

d. Not dynastic

4. The 8 Prominent Judges (of 14 total)

a. "Military"

(1) Othniel

(2) Ehud

(3) Deborah

(4) Gideon

(5) Jephthah

(6) Samson

b. "Special"

(1) Eli

(2) Samuel

5. The Chronology

B. The 6 Cycles of Judges

1. Mesopotamians (Jud 3:7-11)

2. Moabites (Jud 3:12-30)

3. Canaanites (Jud 4-5)

4. Midianites (Jud 6-8) - Gideon

5. Ammonites (Jud 11)

6. Philistines (Jud 13-16, I Samuel 4-5) - Samson

C. The Civil Wars

1. Usurpation of Abimelech (Jud 9)
2. Ephraim and Gilead (Jud 12)
3. War With Benjamites (Jud 19-21)

D. Judgeship of Eli (I Samuel 1-4)

E. Judgeship of Samuel (I Samuel 5-7)

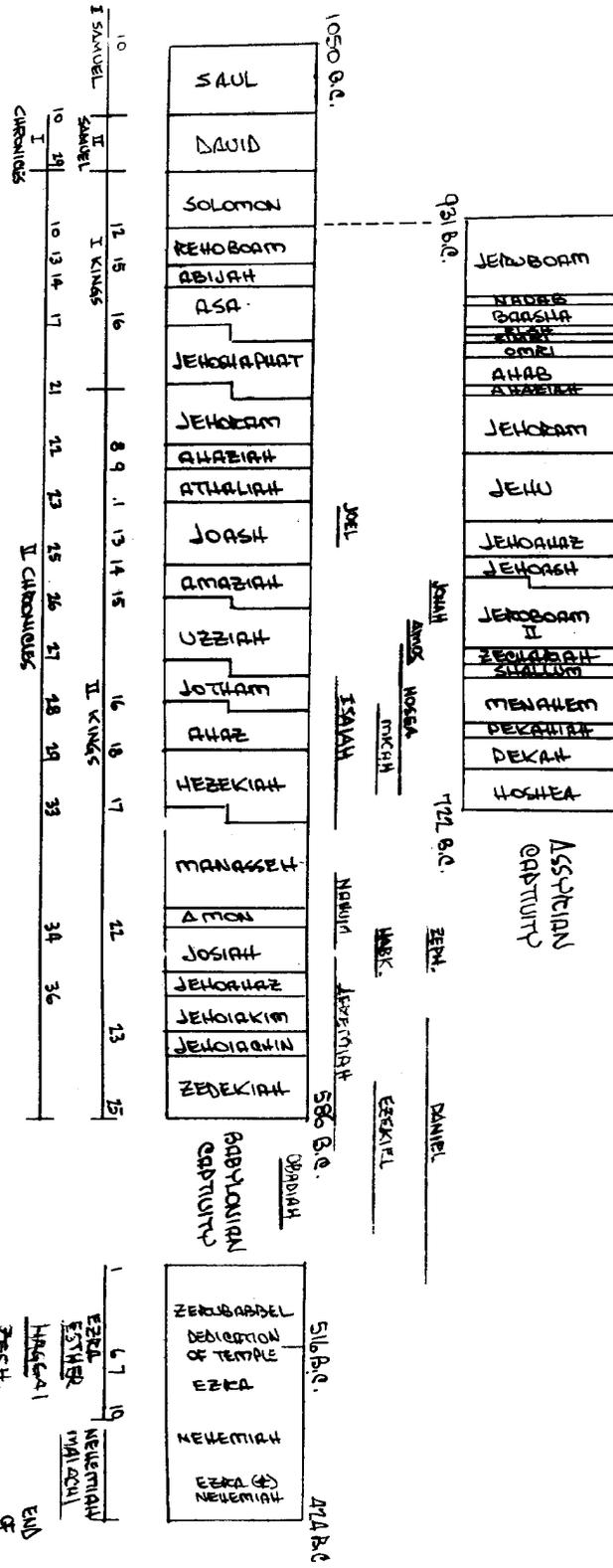
F. The Story of Ruth

1. "Appendix" to Judges
2. The Kinsman Redeemer (Leviticus 25)
  - a. Kinsman (Hebrews 2:14-15)
  - b. Uncomplicated in the need (Hebrews 4:15)
  - c. Able to redeem (Hebrews 7:25)
  - d. Willing to redeem (Hebrews 12:2)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Judges 21:25 – “In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.”

Note: This verse summarizes the period of the Judges, and the chaotic conditions parallel our own day when people are intent on "doing their own thing", with no concern for God's Word.

# KINGS AND PROPHETS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH



**United Kingdom, The Divided Kingdom**  
*Volume 2 - Unit 10*

**I. The United Kingdom (1,050-931 B.C.)**

A. Scripture Summary

1. I Samuel 8-31 (Saul)
2. II Samuel (David)
3. I Kings 1-11 (Solomon)
4. I Chronicles
5. II Chronicles 1-9
6. Psalms (most)
7. Proverbs (most)
8. Ecclesiastes
9. Song of Solomon

B. Psalms

C. Proverbs

D. Ecclesiastes

E. Son of Solomon

F. Contemporary History - Degeneracy of Great Empires

G. Saul

1. Achievements

- a. Partially unified tribes
- b. Protected Israel's borders from invasion
- c. Upheld Mosaic Law - sometimes (I Samuel 14:32f.)
- d. Maintained simple court
- e. Blazed path for monarchy

2. Failures (Self-will)

- a. I Samuel 13
- b. I Samuel 14
- c. I Samuel 15
- d. I Samuel 28 - Spiritism always condemned! Look these up:

(1) Leviticus 19:26, 31

(2) Deuteronomy 18:9-14

(3) 11 Kings 17:17, 21:6

(4) Isaiah 8:19-20

(5) I Chronicles 10:13

(6) Isaiah 47:13

(7) Jeremiah 10:2

### 3. Evaluation

## H. David

### 1. Outline of Life

- a. Shepherd (I Samuel 16-17)
- b. In Saul's court (I Samuel 18-19:10)
- c. In wilderness as fugitive chieftain (I Samuel 19:11-chap. 31)
- d. On the throne (II Sam)

### 2. Achievements

- a. Captured Jerusalem (Jebus)
- b. Welded tribes together

c. Devoted himself to spiritual needs of people

d. Extended kingdom geographically

### 3. Calamities

a. Bathsheba (II Samuel 11)

b. Absalom (II Samuel 13-18) - (cf. also Sheba, II Samuel 20, and the pestilence, II Samuel 24)

### 4. Evaluation

### 5. Davidic Covenant (II Samuel 7, I Chronicles 17, Psalms 89)

a. A posterity which would never perish

b. A son who would:

(1) Build God a house (Hebrews 3:6, I Timothy 3:15, I Peter 2:4-6, Ephesians 2:19-22, I Corinthians 3:16, 6:19)

(2) Reign on David's throne forever (Luke 1:31-33) –  
Solomon; Messiah

## I. Solomon

1. Continued centralization of government

2. Man of diplomacy (alliances)

3. Promoted commerce, trade
4. Built temple on Mt. Moriah
5. Evaluation

## **II. The Divided Kingdom (931-722 B.C.)**

### A. Scripture

1. I Kings 12 - II Kings 17
2. I Chronicles 10-29
3. Jonah, Amos, Hosea (North)
4. Joel, Isaiah, Micah (South)

### B. Causes for Division

1. Rehoboam's Foolishness (I Kings 12)
2. Background Issues

### C. Comparison of 2 Kingdoms

1. North: Larger, Stronger, Just Cause
2. South: Jerusalem, 8/20 Righteous Kings, Single Dynasty, Topography

D. Relationship of 2 Kingdoms

1. Mutual Hostility (c. 50 years)
2. Alliance (c. 80 years)
3. Renewed Hostility (c. 80 years)

E. Jeroboam

F. Ahab (vs. Elijah - I Kings 18)

G. Jehu

H. Jeroboam 11

I. The Fall of the Northern Kingdom - 722 B.C. (II Kings 17)

J. Rehoboam

K. Jehoshaphat

L. Uzziah

M. Ahaz

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Leviticus 19:31 – “Regard not them that have familiar spirits (demons), neither seek after wizards (fortune-tellers), to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God.”

# **Writing Prophets of The Divided and Single Kingdom**

## *Volume 2 - Unit 11*

### **I. The Writing Prophets, Divided Kingdom**

- A. Joel (9th century B.C. - to Southern Kingdom)
- B. Jonah (8th century B.C. - from Northern Kingdom)
- C. Amos (8th century B.C. - to Northern Kingdom)
- D. Hosea (8th century B.C. - to Northern Kingdom)
- E. Isaiah (8th century B.C. - to Southern Kingdom)
- F. Micah (8th century B.C. - to Southern Kingdom)

### **II. The Single Kingdom (722-586 B.C.)**

#### A. Scripture

- 1. II Kings 18-25
- 2. II Chronicles 30-36
- 3. Jeremiah
- 4. Lamentations
- 5. Habakkuk
- 6. Zephaniah
- 7. Nahum

#### B. Why the Survival?

- 1. Loyalty to God
- 2. Revivals

3. Isaiah, Hezekiah
4. Single Dynasty
5. Geography
6. Sovereign Purpose of God

#### C. Outstanding Kings

1. Hezekiah - Destruction of Sennacherib's Army
2. Manasseh
3. Josiah

#### D. The Fall of the Kingdom (606-586 B.C.)

#### E. Writing Prophets

1. Nahum (7th century B.C.)
2. Zephaniah (7th century B.C.)
3. Habakkuk (7th century B.C.)
4. Jeremiah-and Lamentations (c. 627-580 B.C.)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Lamentations 3:22-23 – “It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

# **Babylonian Captivity, The Restoration**

## *Volume 2 - Unit 12*

### **I. The Babylonian Captivity (586-516 B.C. or 606-536 B.C.)**

#### A. Scripture

1. Ezekiel
- 2, Daniel
3. Obadiah
4. Jeremiah (overlap)

#### B. The City of Babylon

#### C. Benefits to the Jews

1. Revival of Monotheism
- 2, New Respect for Law of Moses
- 3, Birth of the Synagogue
- 4, Revival of Personal Religion and Responsibility
- 5, Quickening of Messianic Hope

#### D. Writing Prophets

1. Daniel (c. 605-536 B.C.)

a. Personal history

b. Summary of book

(1) Chapters 2, 7

Babylon

Media-Persia

Greece

Rome

Messianic kingdom

(2) Chapter 9 - 70 "weeks"

(3) Chapters 11-12 (cf. I Thessalonians 4:13-18, I Corinthians 15:51f.) - End-time events, return of Messiah, resurrection, etc.

2. Ezekiel (c. 593-550 B.C.)

a. Fall of Jerusalem (1-24)

b. Doom for Other Nations (25-32)

c. Glorious Restoration (33-48)

3. Obadiah (6th century B.C.)

## **II. The Restoration (536-c. 400 B.C.)**

A. Historical Background

B. Return Under Zerubbabel (Ezra 1-6)

C. Esther (Between Ezra 6, 7)

D. Haggai (c. 520-500 B.C.)

E. Return Under -Ezra (458 B.C.) (Ezra 7-10)

F. Return Under Nehemiah (445 B.C.)

G. Zechariah (c. 520-480 B.C.)

1. Eight Night Visions (1-6)

2. Judgment on Gentiles, Deliverance of Israel at Messiah's Return, Great Blessings in Messiah's Kingdom (9-14)

H. Malachi (c. 430-420 B.C.)

The 6-Point Indictment:

1. Israel doubted God's love.

2. Israel despised God's name (polluted sacrifices).

3. Israel tolerated divorces and foreign marriages.
4. Israel wearied God by charging injustice.
5. Israel robbed God of tithes and offerings.
6. Israel charged that it doesn't pay to serve God.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Zechariah 4:6 – “This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.”

Note: This was the secret of Zerubbabel's success in the rebuilding of the temple, and it is the secret of success for anyone who wants to succeed in the Lord's work today.

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## *Systematic Theology Course*

**Dr. William E. Bell**

### **VOLUME 3** 80

#### **New Testament Survey**

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**Inter-testamental Period (425-5 B.C.)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 1*

**I. Scripture**

A. Daniel 8, 11

B. Zechariah 9

C. Hebrews 11 (?)

**II. Extra-Biblical Sources**

A. Old Testament Apocrypha (Maccabees, particularly)

B. Josephus

C. Herodotus

D. Dead Sea Scrolls

**III. The Six Epochs**

A. Persian Period (539-331 B.C.)

1. Peaceful, uneventful

2. Rise of Sanhedrin

3. Elevation of High Priest's office

B. Grecian Period (331-323 B.C.) - Alexander the Great:

1. Dealt kindly with Jews
2. Increased Jewish dispersion
3. Universalized Greek language
4. Universalized Hellenic (Greek) culture

C. Egyptian Period (323-198 B.C.)

1. Alexander's empire collapses:
  - a. Ptolemy - Egypt
  - b. Seleucus - Syri
  - c. Cassander - Macedonia
  - d. Lysimachus - Western and Central Asia Minor and Thrace
2. Translation of Septuagint (LXX) in Alexandria
3. Strife between Syria and Egypt
4. Egypt defeated - 198 B.C.

D. Syrian Period (198 - 168 B.C.) - "Israel's Darkest Hour"; Antiochus IV Epiphanes (Epimanes?):

1. Sold some Jews as slaves

2. Destroyed walls of Jerusalem
3. Plundered temple - made it shrine to Zeus
4. Set up altar of Zeus on brazen altar - sacrificed sow - "abomination of desolation"
5. Set up pagan altars throughout country
6. Made observance of heathen festivals compulsory
7. Outlawed Judaism

#### E. Maccabean Period (168-63 B.C.)

1. Modin incident (Matthias)
2. Judas
3. December 25, 165 B.C. - cleansing of temple ("hanukkah")
4. Corruption sets in
5. Sects:
  - a. Pharisees
  - b. Saducees

#### F. Roman Period (63 B.C. - 70 A.D.)

1. Pompey conquers - 63 B.C.
2. Herod appointed (37-4 B.C.)

**The Life of Christ – Part 1**  
**Introduction, Pre-existence and Incarnation**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 1 (cont.)*

**IV. Sources**

A. The Gospels

B. Secular Sources

1. Tacitus

2. Suetonius

3. Pliny

4. Lucian

5. Josephus

6. Talmud

**V. Introduction to the Gospels**

A. Not "Biographies"

B. Unique Purposes

1. Mark - Summary of apostolic preaching

2. Matthew - Connects Christ to Old Testament

3. Luke - Researched history of Christianity from beginning to Rome

4. John - Against Gnosticism - to produce belief - more "theological"

## **VI. Pre-existence and Incarnation (John 1:1-18)**

A. "Word" = logos

1. Greeks - "Rational principle by which universe exists"

2. Jews - "The speech of God", "the expression of God's thought"

B. "In the Beginning" - Eternal existence (deity)

C. "Was" vs. "Became"

Verses 1-2 - continual existence, past time (eimi, imperfect tense)

Verse 6 - action at a point of time (ginomai, aorist tense)

Verse 14 - action at a point of time (ginomai, aorist tense)

D. Hypostatic Union - Union of 2 natures (hypostases) of Christ

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE** - John 1:1, 14a – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . . And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.”

Note at the Beginning of the Study of the Life of Christ: If you would like to have a valuable tool for the study of the Life of Christ, you might secure a copy of “A Harmony of the Gospels” by A. T. Robertson.

**Life of Christ – Part 2**  
**Birth & Childhood of John the Baptist & Jesus**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 2*

**I. Announcement to Zacharias of Birth of John** (Luke 1:5-25)

Gabriel's appearance

**II. Announcement to Mary of Birth of Jesus** (Luke 1:26-38)

A. Gabriel Again

B. Virgin Birth

1. Clearly taught

2. Essential to Christianity

**III. Visit of Mary to Elizabeth** (Luke 1:39-45)

**IV. The Magnificat of Mary** (Luke 1:46-56)

**V. Birth and Childhood of John/Baptist** (Luke 1:57-80)

**VI. Announcement to Joseph of Birth of Jesus** (Matthew 1:18-25)

**VII. Birth of Jesus** (Luke 2:1-7)

A. The Time - c. 5 B.C. (Dionysius Exiguus)

B. The Census

C. Quirinius (Cyrenius)

D. December 25?

E. Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)

**VIII. Praise of Angels, Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)**

A. Why the Shepherds?

B. The Message

**IX. Circumcision of Jesus (Luke 2:21)**

**X. Presentation in the Temple, Adoration of Simeon, Anna (Luke 2:22-38)**

A. Purification of the Mother (Leviticus 12)

B. Redemption from the Priesthood (Exodus 13:2, 12, 15, Numbers 3:11-13)

**XI. Visit of the Magi or Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12)**

**XII. Massacre of the Infants (Matthew 2:13-28)**

**XIII. Egypt to Nazareth (Matthew 2:19-23, Luke 2:39)**

**XIV. Childhood of Jesus at Nazareth (Luke 2:40)**

**XV. Visit to Jerusalem at Age 12 (Luke 2:41-50)**

**XVI. The 18 Years at Nazareth (Luke 2:51-52)**

**The Life of Christ – Part 2 (cont.)**  
**Ministry of John the Baptist, Introduction of Jesus to His Ministry**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 2 (cont.)*

**XVII. The Time and Setting**

**XVIII. The Message - Differing Interpretations:**

A. Dispensationalism

1. Offer of the kingdom
2. Rejection of the kingdom
3. Postponement of the kingdom
4. The "Parenthesis Church"

B. The Historic View

1. Announcement of the kingdom
2. Spiritual kingdom
3. Israel's rejection excludes rejectors only - does not postpone kingdom
4. Kingdom associated with baptism with the Spirit
5. Kingdom now in existence

**XIX. Baptism of Jesus by John** (Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-23)

A: Purpose

B. Mode

**XX. Temptations of Jesus** (Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13)

A. Purpose

B. Reality

C. Meaning

1. Stones into bread
2. Jump from pinnacle of temple
3. Worship Satan

**V. John Identifies Jesus as the Messiah (John 1:29)**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 1:29 – “Behold the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world.”

**Life of Christ – Part 3**  
**Early Ministry**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 3*

**I. The Early Galilean Ministry (John 2:1-11)**

- A. The Miracle
- B. The Purpose
- C. The Result
- D. Incidental Aspects

**II. The Early Judean Ministry**

A. First Cleansing of the Temple (John 2:13-22)

- 1. The first of two cleansings
- 2. The racket
- 3. Christ's response

B. Interview with Nicodemus (John 2:23-3:21)

- 1. The man
- 2. His mission
- 3. Discourse on the new birth

**III. In Samaria, En Route to Galilee (John 4:1-42)**

- A. The Route and Circumstances
- B. The Woman at the Well

**The Life of Christ – Part 3 (cont.)**  
**The Great Galilean Ministry (Part 1)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 3 (cont.)*

**IV. Rejection at Nazareth, New Headquarters in Capernaum**

- A. The Message (Mark 1:14-15)
- B. Second Miracle at Cana (John 4:46-54)
- C. The Rejection at Nazareth (Luke 4:16-31)
- D. In the Synagogue at Capernaum (Mark 1:21-28, Luke 4:31-37)
- E. In Peter's Home (Matthew 8:14-17, Mark 1:29-34, Luke 4:38-41)

**V. The First Tour of Galilee with the 4 Fishermen**

- A. Healing of Leper in "One of the Cities" (Matthew 8:2-4, Mark 1:40-45, Luke 5:12-16)
- B. Healing of Palsied Man (Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 2:1-12, Luke 5:17-26)
- C. Call of Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13, Mark 2:13-17, Luke 5:27-32)

**VI. The Sabbath Controversy**

- A. In Jerusalem at Passover (John 5:1-47)
- B. In Galilee (Matthew 12:1-8, Mark 2:23-28, Luke 6:1-5)
- C. In Synagogue in Galilee (Matthew 12:9-14, Mark 3:1-6, Luke 6:6-11)

## **VII. The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7, Luke 6:17-49)**

A. Scene

B. Audience

C. Significance of Message

1. How to be a Christian?
2. Interim ethics?
3. Standards of the kingdom?
4. Constitution of the millennium?

D. Outline (Matthew)

1. Beatitudes (5: 3 -16)
2. Relationship of Jesus' message to the Law (5:17-48)
3. Practical instructions (6:1-7:12)
  - a. False. piety (6:1-8)
  - b. Trust vs. anxiety (6:19-34)
  - c. Living in love (7:1-12)

4. Challenge to dedicated living (? :13-29)

a. Narrow way vs. broad way (7:13-14)

b. Good tree = good fruit (7:15-20)

c. Kingdom for doers, not just hearers (7:21-27)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Matthew 6:33 – “seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.”

**Life of Christ – Part 4**  
**The Great Galilean Ministry - Part 2; Special Training of the 12**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 4*

**I. John/Baptist and His Doubts** (Matthew 11: 2-19, Luke 7:18-35)

**II. The Second Tour of Galilee** (All 12 Disciples)

A. The "Unpardonable Sin" (Matthew 12:22-37, Mark 3:19-30)

1. Israel's national sin?
2. Final rejection of Christ?

B. Scribes, Pharisees Demand a Sign (Matthew 12:38-45)

C. Parables of the Kingdom (Matthew 13, Mark 4:1-34, Luke 8:4-18)

1. Sower/seed
2. Seed growing of itself (Mark 4:26-29)
3. Wheat and tares
4. Mustard seed
5. Leaven and lump
6. Hid treasure
7. Pearl of great price

8. Dragnet

D. Stilling of the Tempest (Matthew 8:18, 23-27, Mark 4:35-41, Luke 8:22-25)

E. Healing of the Demoniac (Matthew 8:28-34, Mark 5:1-21, Luke 8:26-40)

**III. The Third Tour of Galilee** (Matthew 9:35-11:1, Mark 6:6-13)

**The Life of Christ – Part 4 (cont.)**  
**Special Training of the 12 in Districts Around Galilee**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 4 (cont.)*

**IV. Reasons for Withdrawals**

- A. Herod Antipas
- B. Fanaticism of "Followers"
- C. Hostility of Jewish Rulers
- D. Need of Rest
- E. Intensified Training of the Disciples

**V. First Withdrawal** (Matthew 14:13-15:20, Mark 6:30-7:23, Luke 9:10-17, John 6-7:1)

- A. Feeding of 5, 000
- B. Jesus = Bread of Life
- C. Attempt to Make Jesus King by Force
- D. Storm at Sea - Christ Walks on Water

**VI. Second Withdrawal - Tyre and Sidon** (Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30)

**VII. Third Withdrawal - North and East** (Matthew 15:29-38, Mark 7:31-8:9)

- A. Healing of Deaf and Dumb Man

B. Feeding of 4, 000

**VIII. Fourth Withdrawal - Bethsaida, Caesarea Philippi** (Matthew 16:5-28, Mark 8:13-9:1, Luke 9:18-27)

A. The Question Of Jesus' Identity

B. The Answers

C. The Significance

**IX. The Transfiguration - Mt. Hermon** (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8, Luke 9:28-36)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 6:35 – “And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that comes to me shall never hunger, and he that believes on me shall never thirst.”

**Life of Christ – Part 5**  
**The Later Judean, Perea Ministries; Passion Week - Part 1**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 5*

**I. The Later Judean Ministry**

- A. Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:11-52)
- B. The Woman Taken in Adultery (John 7:53-8:11)
- C. Jesus = Light of the World (John 8:12-59)
- D. Jesus = Good Shepherd (John 10:1-21)

**II. The Later Perea Ministry**

- A. Pharisees vs. Jesus (Luke 15:1-32)
  - 1. Parable of lost sheep
  - 2. Parable of lost coin
  - 3. Parable of lost (prodigal) son
- B. Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)
- C. Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-44)
- D. Teaching on Marriage and Divorce (Matthew 19:1-12, Mark 10:1-12, cf. I Corinthians 7)
  - 1. Immorality
  - 2. Desertion

**The Life of Christ – Part 5 (cont.)**  
**Passion Week (Part 1)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 5 (cont.)*

**III. "Triumphal Entry" - Sunday** (Matthew 21:1-11, 14-17, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:29-44)

**IV. Barren Fig Tree Cursed - Monday** (Matthew 21:12-13, 18-19, Mark 11:12-18, Luke 19:45-48)

**V. Second Cleansing of Temple - Monday** (cf. II, for Scriptures)

**VI. Sanhedrin Challenges Jesus' Authority - Tuesday** (Matthew 21:23-22:14, Mark 11:27-12:12, Luke 20:1-19)

A. Parable of 2 Sons

B. Parable of Wicked Husbandmen

C. Parable of King's Marriage Feast

**VII. Jesus Denounces Scribes and Pharisees - Tuesday** (Matthew 23:1-39, Mark 12:38-40, Luke 20:45-47)

**VIII. Olivet Discourse - Tuesday Afternoon** (Matthew 24-25, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-36)

A. Destruction of Jerusalem (70 A.D.)

B. Second Coming of Christ

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 8:12 – “Then spoke Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

**Life of Christ – Part 6**  
**Passion Week - Part 2 & 3**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 6*

**I. Supper at House of Simon/Leper - Tuesday Night** (Matthew 26:6-13, Mark 14:3-9, John 12:2-8)

**II. Judas Bargains to Betray Christ - Tuesday Night** (Matthew 26:14-16, Mark 14:10-11, Luke 22:3-6)

**III. The Last Supper - Thursday Night** (Matthew 26:17-29, Mark 14:12-25, Luke 22:2-20, John 13-17)

- A. Place and Occasion
- B. Washing of Disciples' Feet
- C. The Eucharist (New Covenant)
- D. The Upper Room Discourse

**IV. Jesus in Gethsemane - Late Thursday Night** (Matthew 26:30, 36-46, Mark 14:26, 32-42, Luke 22:39-46, John 18:1)

**V. Arrest, Trial, Crucifixion, Burial - Friday** (Matthew 26:47-27:66, Mark 14:43-15:47, Luke 22:47-23:56, John 18:2-19:42)

- A. Judas Leads Soldiers to Christ
- B. Peter and Malchus
- C. Examination Before Annas

D. Quick Examination by Caiphas and Sanhedrin

E. Peter's Denial

F. Formal Trial Before Sanhedrin

G. Suicide of Judas

H. Before Pilate (1st Time)

I. Before Herod Antipas - Tetrarch of Galilee

J. Before Pilate (2nd Time)

K. Mockery of Soldiers

L. To Golgotha

M. Crucifixion

**The Life of Christ – Part 6 (cont.)**  
**Passion Week – Part 6**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 6 (cont.)*

**VI. The Crucifixion - "7 Last Words": 9 -12**

A. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)

B. "This day shalt thou be with me in Paradise. " (Luke 23:43)

1. Instantaneous salvation
2. Salvation by faith alone
3. Bare essential of salvation -simple faith
4. Never too late (before death)
5. Never too sinful
6. No soul sleep
7. Heaven = paradise
8. Salvation does not eliminate temporal suffering

C. "Woman, behold thy son . . . Son, behold thy mother. " (John 19:26-27)

12-3 (Darkness)

D. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

(Matthew 27:46, Mark 15:34)

E. "I thirst. " (John 19:28)

F. "It is finished!" (John 19:30)

G. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

## **VII. Accompanying Phenomena**

A. Veil rent

B. Earthquake

C. Resuscitation of some saints (Matthew 27:52f.)

## **VIII. Proof of Death and Burial**

A. Legs of Thieves Broken

B. Spear Thrust into Christ

C. Burial in Joseph's Tomb

D. Women Observe Burial

E. Soldiers Appointed to Guard Tomb

## **IX. Significance of Christ's Death**

A. Redemption (Purchased from Slave Market)

B. Propitiation (God's Attributes Satisfied)

C. Substitution (Christ Took Our Place)

D. Reconciliation (Fellowship with God Restored)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 19:30 – “When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said, It is finished, and He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit.”

**Life of Christ – Part 7**  
**Resurrection of Christ; Establishment of the Church in Jerusalem**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 7*

**I. The Historicity of Christ's Resurrection**

A. The Empty Tomb

1. Swoon theory
2. Wrong tomb theory
3. Wild animals theory
4. Enemies stole the body theory
5. Friends stole the body theory
6. Resurrection

B. The Historical Evidence

1. Eyewitness testimony
  - a. Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18)
  - b. The "other women" (Matthew 28:9-10)
  - c. 2 disciples, road to Emmaus (Mark 16:12-13)
  - d. Peter (Luke 24:33-35, I Corinthians 15:5)

e. 10 disciples, Thomas absent (Mark 16:14, Luke 24:36-43, John 20:19-25)

f. 11 disciples, including Thomas (John 20:26-31, I Corinthians 15:5)

g. 7 disciples beside Sea of Galilee (John 21)

h. More than 500 on appointed mountain in Galilee (Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:15-18, I Corinthians 15:6)

i. James (I Corinthians 15:7)

j. Ascension appearance (Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:44-53, Acts 1:9-12)

k. Post-ascension appearances

2. Existence of Christian church

3. Celebration of Sunday

4. Martyrdom of apostles

5. Existence of the New Testament

6. Fulfilled witness to the Old Testament

7. Logical part of Christianity

## **II. The Theological Significance of Christ's Resurrection**

- A. Authenticates Claims of Christ (Romans 1:3-4)
- B. Ratifies Efficacy of the Atonement (Romans 4:25, 8:34)
- C. Assures Believers of Needed Power (Ephesians 1:19-22, Philemon 3:10)
- D. Assures Believers of their Resurrection (John 14:19, I Corinthians 15:17-23)
- E. Assures World of Certainty of Judgment (Acts 17:31)

ACTS — WITH THE PAULINE CHRONOLOGY AND CORRESPONDENCE EMPHASIZED

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		11-26	THE CHOICE OF MATTHIAS			
		21-41	THE DAY OF PENTECOST			
		21-47	THE STATE OF THE EARLY CHURCH			
		3	THE LAME MAN HEALED — PETER'S 2 <sup>ND</sup> MESSAGE			
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**The Establishment of the Church in Jerusalem (Acts 1:1-8:3)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 7 (cont.)*

**I. The Ascension (Acts 1)**

**II. Pentecost (Acts 2)**

A. The Baptism with the Holy Spirit - The Birthday of the Church

B. The Gift of Tongues

C. Peter's Sermon

**III. Selection of First Deacons (Acts 6)**

**IV. Stephen (Acts 7)**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 15:20 – “But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.”

**Expansion of the Church in Palestine**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 8*

**I. The 5 Journeys - (Acts 8:4-12:25)**

A. Phillip (8:5-40)

1. Samaria
2. The desert (Ethiopian Eunuch)

B. Saul (9:1-30)

1. The road to Damascus
2. In Damascus
3. In Arabia

C. Peter (9:32-11:18)

1. The prayer of Cornelius
2. The vision in Joppa
3. The sermon in the house of Cornelius
4. The explanation in Jerusalem

D. Barnabas (11:19-30)

1. To Antioch

2. To Tarsus (for Saul)

E. Barnabas and Saul (11:26-30, 12:25) - "Famine Visit"

## **II. The Epistle of James**

A. Date - c. 45 A.D.

B. Summary of Content

**Paul's First Missionary Journey (Acts 13:1-14-28)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 8 (cont.)*

**I. The Organization of the Mission (13:1-3)**

**II. Cyprus (13:4-12)**

**III. Pamphylia (13:13)**

**IV. Antioch (13:14-50)**

**V. Iconium (13:51-14:5)**

**VI. Lystra (14:6-20)**

**VII. Derbe (14:21)**

**VIII. Steps Retraced - Elders Appointed (14:21-25)**

**IX. Return to Syrian Antioch (14:26-28)**

**X. The Epistle to the Galatians - c. 48 A.D.**

**XI. The Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15)**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Galatians 5:1 – “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”

**Paul's Second Missionary Journey**  
**(Acts 15:41-18:22)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 9*

**I. Personnel Changes**

**II. Galatia and Troas (15:41-16:8)**

**III. Greece**

A. Philippi (16:11-40)

B. Thessalonica (17:1-9)

C. Berea (17:10-14)

D. Athens (17:15-34)

E. Corinth (18:1-17)

F. I Thessalonians - c. 51 A.D.

G. II Thessalonians - c. 51 A.D.

**IV. Return via Ephesus (18:18-22)**

**Paul's Third Missionary Journey - Part 1**  
**(Acts 18:23-21:16)**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 9 (cont.)*

**I. Galatia and Phrygia (18:23)**

**II. Ephesus (19:1-20:1)**

A. The Ministry

B. The Corinthian Correspondence

**III. Back to Jerusalem via Greece (20:2-21:16)**

**IV. The Epistles**

A. I Corinthians - c. 55 A.D.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Acts 17:11 –“These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Note: The Berean attitude should be ours today. Check the teaching of all men with scripture to see if it is so.

**Paul's Third Missionary Journey - Part 2**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 10*

*(IV. The Epistles - continued)*

B. II Corinthians - c. 55 A.D.

C. Romans - c. 56 A.D.

Paul at Jerusalem, Caesarea, Rome  
*Volume 3 - Unit 10 (cont.)*

**I. At Jerusalem** (Acts 21:17-23:30)

A. Rescued from Jewish Mob (21:17-40)

B. Defense before the Jews (22:1-21)

C. Before the Roman Captain (22:22-29)

D. Before the Sanhedrin (22:30-23:10)

E. The Jewish Plot (23:11-30)

**II. At Caesarea** (Acts 23:31-26:32)

A. Felix

B. Festus (25:1-26)

**III. The Journey to Rome** (Acts 27:1-28:6)

#### **IV. At Rome (Acts 28:6-31)**

A. Paul's Status

B. The Prison Epistles - c. 60-61 A.D.

1. Ephesians

2. Philippians

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Philippians 4:13 – “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

ROMANS

1-1			
1-17	Introduction		
1-18	1-18	1-18	Universal need of righteousness
	What it is	3-20	Righteousness available by faith through Christ's atonement
		3-31	This righteousness anticipated in Old Testament
		4	Results of justification by faith
		5-1	The source of sin & death (Adam) vs. the source of righteousness & life (Christ)
		5-11	
	5	5-12	
		5-21	
		6-1	The question stated
		6-2	Answer: No!
		6-3	Identification with Christ
		6-13	Transition: Under Grace - not law
	How it affects conduct	6-14	
		6-15	What "not under law" does <u>not</u> mean: license to sin
		6-23	What "not under law" <u>does</u> mean: higher degree of morality
		7-1	Answer to seeming disparagement of the law
		7-6	
		7-7	
		7-25	
		8-1	Higher conduct secured in Christ through Holy Spirit
		8-39	
	8	3	
		9-1	Introduction: Paul's sorrow because of Jews' rejection of Christ
		9-5	
		9-6	His veracity: God's promises not abrogated
		9-13	
		9-14	His justice: Sovereignty is not unjust
		9-29	
		9-29	
		9-30	Israel itself to blame for rejection by God
		10-13	
		10-14	Israel's unbelief not excused by lack of opportunity
		10-21	
		10-21	
		11-1	Israel's rejection by God is not complete
		11-10	
		11-11	Israel's rejection by God is not final
		11-24	
		11-25	Israel faces a bright future
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		11-36	Concluding doxology: The magnitude of God's mercy & wisdom
	11		
		12-1	In his direct relationship to God as a human being
		12-2	
		12-3	As a spiritually gifted member of the body of Christ
		12-8	
		12-9	As a member of society
		12-13	His relationship to other Christians
		12-14	His relationship to pagan society
		12-21	
		13-1	In his relationship to civil government
		13-7	
		13-8	The motivating principles of Christian conduct
		13-14	
		14-1	General statement of the problem and the principles of conduct
		14-5	
		14-6	Extended consideration of the principles of conduct
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		16	Epilogue

**Paul at Rome, Further Experiences, Martyrdom**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 11*

*(B. The Prison Epistles -continued)*

3. Colossians

4. Philemon

**V. Paul's Acquittal, Further Travels, Epistles**

A. Ephesus?

B. Crete?

C. Spain?

D. Epistles

1. I Timothy - c. 62 A. D,

2. Titus - c. 62 A.D.

**VI. Paul's Re-imprisonment, Martyrdom**

A. Circumstances

B. Last Epistle - II Timothy - c. 64 A.D.

C. Execution under Nero - c. 64 A.D.

**Peter's Later Ministry**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 11 (cont.)*

**I. Travels**

- A. Corinth? (I Corinthians 1:12)
- B. Northern Asia Minor (I Peter 1:1)
- C. Rome? (I Peter 5:13)

**II. Writing**

- A. Furnished Information for Mark?
- B. I Peter - c. 62-64 A.D.
- C. II Peter - c. 64-68 A.D. (cf. Jude - c. 65-70 A.D.)

**III. Martyrdom**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - II Timothy 4:2 – “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

**Hebrews, The Johannine Epistles**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 12*

**I. The Epistle to the Hebrews - c. 63-64 A.D.**

**II. The Johannine Epistles - c. 95-96 A.D.**

A. I John

B. II John

C. III John

**The Book of Revelation - c. 95-96 A.D.**  
*Volume 3 - Unit 12 (cont.)*

SCRIPTURE. MEMORY VERSE - Revelation 21:4 – “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away.”

# THE REVELATION

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	5	28-11	SMYRNA
	6	12-17	PERGAMUM
	7	18-21	THYATIRA
	8	1-6	SARDIS
	9	7-13	PHILADELPHIA
	10	14-22	LAODICEA
	4	4 DESCRIPTION OF HEAVEN + ITS OCCUPANTS	
	5	5 THE ENTHRONED CHRIST + THE 7-SEALED BOOK	
6	6	6	6 THE 7 SEALS
7	6-2	1ST SEAL	MAN ON WHITE HORSE
8	6-3-4	2ND SEAL	RED HORSE
9	6-5-6	3RD SEAL	BLACK HORSE
10	6-7-8	4TH SEAL	PALE HORSE
11	6-9-11	5TH SEAL	MARTYRS
12	6-12-17	6TH SEAL	COSMIC PORTENTS
13	7 PARENTHETICAL VISION OF THE REDEEMED		
14	7-1-8	ON EARTH	144,000
15	7-9-17	IN HEAVEN	144,000
16	8-5	7TH SEAL	INTRODUCTION OF 7 TRUMPETS
17	8-7	1ST TRUMPET	EARTH FROM HEAVEN
18	8-8-9	2ND TRUMPET	SEA BECOMES BLOOD
19	8-10-11	3RD TRUMPET	RIVERS + LAKES BECOME BITTER
20	8-12-13	4TH TRUMPET	DARKENING OF SUN + MOON
21	9-1-2	5TH TRUMPET	1ST WOE
22	9-13-21	6TH TRUMPET	2ND WOE
23	10	PARENTHETICAL VISIONS OF THE ANGEL + THE BOOKLET	
24	11	THE MEASURING OF THE TEMPLE	
25	11-3	THE TWO WITNESSES	
26	11-4	THE TWO WITNESSES	
27	11-9	11-5-19	7TH TRUMPET
28	11-15-19	3RD WOE	THE TIME OF CHRIST'S COMING
29	12	12 THE WOMAN + THE DRAGON	
30	13	13 THE TWO WILD BEASTS	
31	13-10	FROM THE SEA	
32	13-11-18	FROM THE EARTH	
33	14	14 VISION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN HEAVEN	
34	14-1-3	144,000	
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41	16-2	1ST BOWL	GRIEVOUS SORES
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45	16-10-11	5TH BOWL	DARKNESS
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53	20-4-6	20 THE MILLENNIUM	
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56	21-22-25	21 THE NEW HEAVENS - THE NEW EARTH - THE NEW JERUSALEM	
57	22-5	22 EPILOGUE + BENEDICTION	
58	22-6	22 EPILOGUE + BENEDICTION	
59	22-21	22 EPILOGUE + BENEDICTION	

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## *Systematic Theology Course*

**Dr. William E. Bell**

### **VOLUME 4** 122

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# **General & Special Revelation**

## *Volume 4 - Unit 1*

### **I. The Question of Epistemology**

A. The Term - From epistomai, "to know, understand"

B. The Question

C. The Christian Answer

1. General (Natural) revelation

2. Special revelation

### **II. General Revelation**

A. What It Is

1. Scriptures

a. Psalms 19:1-2

b. Acts 14:17

c. Romans 1:19-20

2. The strength of the evidence

B. Its Limits

C. Its Relationship to Special Revelation (What about the heathen in Lapland who never heard the gospel?)

1. Negative response - no excuse (Romans 1:20)
  
2. Positive response - additional (special) revelation
  - a. Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8)
  - b. Cornelius (Acts 10)
  - c. Corinthians (Acts 18:10)

### **III. Special Revelation**

A. Liberalism

B. Neo-Orthodoxy

C. Historic Christian Orthodoxy

1. The concept
  
2. The church fathers

### **IV. Bibliography**

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Wenham, J. W., *Christ and the Bible*, InterVarsity.  
Young, E. J., *The Word is Truth*, Eerdmans.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Psalm 19:1 – “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork.”

# **Definition & Importance of Biblical Inerrancy - Part 1**

## *Volume 4 - Unit 2*

### **I. Definition**

God so supernaturally directed the writers of scripture that without waiving their human intelligence, literary style, or personal feeling, His complete and coherent message to man was recorded with perfect accuracy, the very words of the original scripture bearing the authority of divine authorship.

A. Sometimes Called Inerrancy.

B. Sometimes Called Verbal, Plenary Inspiration.

1. Verbal - the very words inspired.

2. Plenary - all the words inspired.

### **II. What Inerrancy Does Not Demand**

A. Mechanical dictation

B. That the writers of scripture be sinless or that they be free of many of the erroneous views of their day - but God did not permit their imperfections to infiltrate the scripture they wrote.

C. That the New Testament writers always quoted the Old Testament verbatim, or even that they quoted the Hebrew text at all.

Acts 15:17 (from Amos 9:11-12)

AV (LXX, substantially) – “that the residue of men may seek after the Lord . . . ”

Masoretic (Hebrew) Text - "that they (Israel) may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the nations that are called by my name."

D. That the Biblical writers always used conventional grammar and syntax.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - II Peter 1:21 – “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were borne along by the Holy Spirit.”

## Definition & Importance of Biblical Inerrancy - Part 2

*Volume 4 - Unit 3*

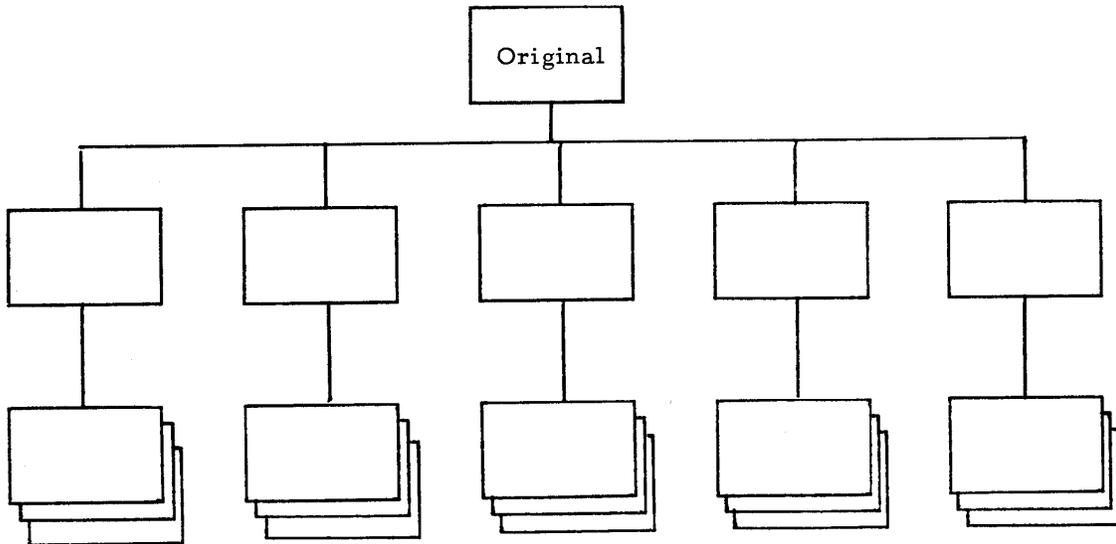
### *(II. What Inerrancy Does Not Demand cont.)*

E. That the Biblical writers did not use figures of speech, phenomenal language, poetic forms, common expressions of the day, etc.

F. That genealogies and chronologies were always presented in the full and orderly manner that scholars would use today.

G. That parallel accounts of the same event must be verbally identical.

H. That translations or copies of the original manuscripts be inerrant. (But textual criticism has given us an extremely accurate text today - particularly in the New Testament.)



### **III. What Inerrancy Does Mean**

That we can trust the scriptures absolutely and not be deceived - theologically, historically, geographically, or scientifically.

#### **IV. The Importance of Inerrancy - *The Question of Ultimate Authority***

A. Reason

B. Church

C. Revelation

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - II Timothy 3:16 –17 – “All scripture is God-breathed and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be full-grown, completely equipped for every good work.”

**Evidence for Inerrancy: The Biblical Testimony**  
*Volume 4 - Unit 4*

**I. The Old Testament Writers**

A. Moses

1. Exodus 4:10-12

2. Exodus 34:27

3. Deuteronomy 4:2

4. Deuteronomy 18:20

5. Hundreds of references, such as "Thus says the Lord", "The Lord said", "The Lord spoke", "The saying of the Lord", "The word of the Lord", etc.

B. Isaiah - Some 20 times claims that his words are the word of the Lord (e. g. Isaiah 1:10).

C. Jeremiah - Almost 100 times - "The word of the Lord came unto me . . ." or similar statement (e. g. 1:2, 4, 11, etc.).

D. Ezekiel - About 60 times claims that his words are God's words (e. g. 3:10-11).

E. Daniel 10:9

F. The Minor Prophets

1. Hosea 1:1

2. Joel 1:1
3. Amos 3:1
4. Obadiah 1:1
5. Jonah 1:1
6. Micah 1:1
7. Nahum 1:12
8. Habakkuk 2:2
9. Zephaniah 1:1
10. Haggai 1:1
11. Zechariah 1:1
12. Malachi 1:1

G. David - Psalms 119:89

## **II. The New Testament Writers**

A. II Timothy 3:16-17 - Theopneustos

B. II Peter 1:20-21

C. I Peter 1:23-25 (Isaiah 40:6-8)

D. Hebrews 4:12

E. James 1:18

F. Acts 4:25, 28:25

### **III. Jesus Himself**

A. Treated the Old Testament Narratives as Statements of Fact.

B. Used the Old Testament as the Court of Appeal in Matters of Faith and Conduct.

1. Matthew 5:17-20

2. Matthew 23:2-3

3. Matthew 22:29

4. Matthew 22:31-32

5. Matthew 4 - "It is written . . . "

C. Viewed the Old Testament as Predictive of Himself.

1. John 5:39

2. Luke 24:27

3. Luke 4:21

4. Luke 18:31-33

5. Mark 14: 21

6. Luke 22:37

7. Matthew 26:53-56

D. Expressly Stated the Authority of the Old Testament and of His Own Words.

1. John 10: 3 5

2. Matthew 5:17 -18

3. Mark 13:31

E. Pre-authenticated the New Testament Scriptures, Which Would Be Written by  
(Or Under the Supervision of) His Chosen Apostles.

1. John 14: 2 6

2. John 16:12-14

3. Matthew 16:18f. (cf. 18:18, John 20:23)

4. John 20:21

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 10:35 – “The scripture cannot be broken.”

# **Evidence for Inerrancy: The Christological Argument - Part 1**

## *Volume 4 - Unit 5*

### **I. Circular Reasoning?**

### **II. The Historical Reliability of the Gospels**

*Note: I am here reproducing (in summary form) a paper which I presented to the national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Santa Barbara, California.*

*The plan is to subject the New Testament documents to the same canons of criticism that are used to evaluate any other ancient document. The methodology to be used is taken from a standard text on the historical method, used in many graduate schools in courses in historical research: *Understanding History* by Louis Gottschalk, Professor of History, The University of Chicago, Alfred A. Knopf, Publisher, New York, 1964. Dr. Gottschalk categorizes the evidence as external and internal.*

#### **A. External Evidence**

1. Is the document genuine? Does it actually come from the time period represented? What do we know of the author? Etc. No real problem here. Even the most liberal of critics credit Paul with several epistles, agree that Luke wrote the third gospel. No question that these documents arose from actual people writing in the first century A.D.

2. Do we have the original document or accurate copies? This is the problem of textual criticism. We now have approximately 5,000 N. T. manuscripts (not all complete, of course), and textual criticism has established an extremely accurate text. (Cf. works of Tacitus -only 2 manuscripts, Thucydides - only 8 manuscripts.) Sir Frederick Kenyon, foremost authority on ancient manuscripts: "Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the New Testament may be regarded as finally established. "

#### **B. Internal Evidence**

Gottschalk: "To him (the historian) any single detail of testimony is credible - even if it is contained in a document obtained by force or fraud, or is otherwise impeachable, or is based on hearsay evidence, or is from an

interested witness - provided it can pass four tests: (1) Was the ultimate source of the detail (the primary witness) able to tell the truth?, (2) Was he willing to tell the truth?, (3) Was he accurately reported with regard to the detail under examination?, and (4) Is there any independent corroboration?"

1. Was the primary witness able to tell the truth?

a. Nearness

(1) In space. Eyewitness best. Geographical nearness. 3 of the gospels give eyewitness accounts. Luke did research among eyewitnesses. Even re John's gospel -Israel Abrahams, noted rabbinical scholar: "My own general impression, without asserting an early date for the Fourth Gospel (many do today), is that the Gospel enshrines a genuine tradition of an aspect of Jesus' teaching which has not found a place in the Synoptics. "

(2) In time. Chronological nearness, i. e. how soon recorded after the event? N. T. attestation excellent here. Manuscripts begin shortly after end of first century. Complete manuscripts from 4th century. (Cf. Caesar's Gallic War, earliest manuscript. 900 years later. Tacitus, 2 manuscripts, 9th and 11th centuries. Herodotus, 1, 300 yrs. to earliest manuscript.)

b. Competence. Degree of expertness, state of mental and physical health, age, education, memory, narrative skill, etc. Again, no doubts re N. T. writers. Take Luke, for example. Sir Wm. Ramsay (and others since) found Luke to be careful scholar, accurate historian. -Paul, great rabbinical scholar, etc.

c. Degree of attention. Possibility of distraction, deception, unbalanced account, etc. Was witness aware of what was really happening? No historical evidence has ever been brought forward to demonstrate any such thing re New Testament writers. Everywhere there is evidence of genuine eyewitness testimony, local color, etc.

d. Danger of leading or loaded questions. Forced or guided testimony is suspect. No evidence of any such thing in N. T. Luke states that he did careful, original research - after the fact.

e. Reasoning in a circle? Gottschalk applies mainly to unsigned documents, assigning them to certain witnesses on questionable bases. No real problem in N. T. Gospels are all unsigned, but doesn't affect historical witness.

f. Egocentrism. Overplaying one's own role in a historical event. Just the opposite in N. T. usually. Note anonymous gospels, etc. Writers frequently present themselves in bad light.

## 2. Was the primary witness willing to tell the truth?

a. Interested witness? Stands to profit from deliberate perversion of truth. Some have charged this - cf. Hermann Reimarus (1694-1768), disciples decided to perpetuate "a good thing" in spite of Christ's death. Evidence is strongly against such a view. None ever recanted - even when facing martyrdom. Psychologically impossible. Their "best interest", humanly speaking, would have been to renounce Jesus as Christ.

b. Bias? Unknowing perversion of truth, arising from religion, politics, race, nationality, region, family, other ties. Natural bent of an orthodox Jew would have been against Jesus - cf. Saul of Tarsus. Becoming a disciple involved ostracism from Jewish community. Thus if there was bias, it would have been against Jesus. Belief meant nothing but trouble.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Mark 13:31 – “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

## **Evidence for Inerrancy: The Christological Argument - Part 2**

### *Volume 4 - Unit 6*

#### *(2. Was the primary witness willing to tell the truth? – cont.)*

c. Intended hearers. Desire to please, displease. Political rallies, war dispatches, etc. No evidence of this in N. T. writings. Take Luke, again. Did he try to please Theophilus? Tried to show him the real nature of Christianity, but did not trim the message. Luke-Acts hardly designed to "please" either Jews or Romans. Christ as Lord (kurios), not Caesar, etc.

d. Literary style. Cliches, slogans, "picturesque speech" may distort facts. Most N. T. documents written in the very plainest of speech. Cf. Mark, - short, terse, to the point. Paul, no "excellency of speech", etc.

e. Laws and conventions. Fear of libel, courtesy, tact, diplomacy, etc. Hardly the case with N. T. Cf. Jesus' and Paul's denunciation of Jews, pagan gods, etc. "Narrowness" of Christianity - hardly tactful. John 14:6.

#### 3. Is the primary witness accurately reported with regard to the detail under examination?

Basically, this has to do with the transmission of information to secondary sources when there is no eyewitness testimony. Much of N.T. witness is eyewitness testimony. Even Mark reported Peter's eyewitness testimony (per Papias, et al -generally accepted as true). No problem here.

#### 4. Is there independent corroboration? Historian prefers independent testimony of at least 2 witnesses, but frequently not available, so other tests are made:

a. What of author's reputation for veracity? Cf. Ramsay's evaluation of Luke, etc.

b. Independent witnesses? Synoptic problem makes this complicated, but all agree that some of the material is independent.

c. Lack of self-contradiction. Many authors contradict themselves. N. T. writers do not.

d. No contradiction from other sources. Secular sources, when available, have corroborated N. T. documents. Cf. F. F. Bruce, *The New Testament Documents - Are They Reliable ?*

Per Gottschalk, conditions which are particularly favorable to truthful reporting:

1. Indifferent witness, or, better still, information which is prejudicial to the witness. N. T. writers are not indifferent to their material, but they are frequently prejudicial to themselves and the other primary witnesses. Cf. accounts of Peter's denial (even in Mark, "Peter's gospel"), Paul's persecution of disciples, disciples' inability to comprehend Jesus's message, their selfishness, etc. Strong historical evidence.

2. The incidental and the probable. Information incidental to the main point is likely true, since writer is not emphasizing it. Cf. Jesus's statement in John 10:35 concerning the truthfulness of scripture - one of our key passages re His attitude toward scripture, yet not His major point in the passage.

3. That which is common knowledge at the time is probably true, because could be easily contradicted. Paul to Agrippa: ". . . these things were not done in a corner. " (Acts 26:26) Over 500 witnesses to resurrection, most still alive 25 years later (I Corinthians 15:6).

One final test, per Gottschalk: Is the testimony in conformity with known historical and scientific facts? Historically, no problem. But scientific facts? Herein lies the whole problem. We now "know" that miracles do not happen, that there are no evil spirits, etc., i. e. the supernatural cannot be considered as a source of phenomena. Therefore, regardless of the historical, unimpeachable testimony of the N. T., the unbelieving historian

must attempt some alternate interpretation in order to avoid the supernatural. The problem is not historical - but philosophical. Here is where the convicting work of the Holy Spirit is essential to break through the naturalistic a priori stance.

Additional note: With regard to the matter of Jesus's attitude toward scripture (apart from the truthfulness of Christianity generally) the historical evidence is clear and compelling. This is our present point.

### **III. The Christological Problem**

#### A. The Historical Evidence

#### B. The Scholarly Agreement

1. H. J. Cadbury
2. F. C. Grant
3. John Knox
4. Adolph Harnack
5. Rudolph Bultmann

#### C. The Inevitable Question

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 14:26 – “But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

## **Evidence for Inerrancy (Other)**

*Volume 4 - Unit 7*

### **I. Continuity**

### **II. Fulfilled Prophecy**

### **III. Archeology**

- A. Ur
- B. Belshazzar
- C. Moses and Writing
- D. The Hittites

### **IV. Unique Content**

- A. Man's Depravity
- B. Plan of Salvation
- C. Graphic Portraits of Great Men

### **V. Agreement With The Facts of Life**

- A. Depravity
- B. Life and Death.
- Etc.

### **VI. Ability To Change Lives Bar The New Birth**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Hebrews 4:12 – “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a critic of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

**Dealing with Biblical Difficulties - Part 1**  
*Volume 4 - Unit 8*

**I. Numerical**

- A. II Kings 8:26 - II Chronicles 22:2
- B. I Kings 4:26 - II Chronicles 9:25
- C. Terah's Age
- D. Jacob's Family
- E. Israel in Egypt

**II. Historical**

- A. The Hittites
- B. Belshazzar
- C. Date of the Exodus (I Kings 6:1)
- D. Luke 2
- E. "In the time of Abiathar" (VIA 2:25f.)
- F. "In Isaiah the Prophet" (Mark 1:2)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Isaiah 40:8 – “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God shall stand forever.”

## **Dealing with Biblical Difficulties - Part 2**

### *Volume 4 - Unit 9*

G. The Time of the Last Supper (Lu22:7-15, John 19:14, 31)

### **III. Doctrinal and Moral**

A. Destruction of the Canaanites (Deuteronomy 20:16-18, Joshua 6:17)

B. Imprecatory Psalms (55, 59, 69, 79, 109, 137)

C. Slavery

D. Capital Punishment

E. Polygamy and Divorce (Matthew 19:3f.) - Did Jesus Contradict the Old Testament?

### **IV. Scientific**

A. Creation vs. Evolution

B. Miracles

C. Evil Spirits (Mark 1:25, Luke 11:20)

### **V. "Borrowings" From Other Traditions**

A. Babylonian Creation Account (Enuma elish)

1. "Waste and void" in both

2. Similar order of events - from watery chaos to deity at rest
3. Number 7 prominent - 7 days, 7 tablets (cantos)
4. But - monotheism vs. gross polytheism, spirit and matter confused in Enuma elish

#### B. Babylonian Flood Account (Epic of Gilgamesh)

1. Deluge divinely planned
2. Impending catastrophe revealed to the hero (Utnapishtim, Noah)
3. Flood connected with defection in the human race
4. Hero and family delivered
5. Huge boat - vehicle of deliverance
6. Special blessings on the hero afterward
7. But monotheism vs. polytheism, morality vs. immorality

#### C. Golden Rule

1. Hinduism
2. Buddhism
3. Confucianism

4. Taoism
5. Zoroastrianism
6. Judaism
7. Greek philosophy
8. Christianity

#### D. Supernatural Origin and Nature of Founder

1. Buddhism (Gautama)
2. Taoism (Lao-tze)
3. Jainism (Mahavira)
4. Zoroastrianism (Zoroaster)
5. Gnosticism ("Redeemer")
6. Christianity (Jesus)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Acts 24:14 – “But this I (Paul) confess unto you (Felix), that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets.”

# **Canonicity - Old Testament**

## *Volume 4 - Unit 10*

### **I. Definition**

A. Greek kanon - Hebrew aq neh

B. Athanasius - c. 350 A.D.

### **II. The Masoretic Text - 24 Books, 3 Divisions**

A. The Law (5)

1. Genesis

2. Exodus

3. Leviticus

4. Numbers

5. Deuteronomy

B. The Prophets (8)

1. The former prophets (4) a. Joshua b. Judges c. Samuel d. Kings

2. The latter prophets (4)

a. Major (3)

(1) Isaiah

(2) Jeremiah

(3) Ezekiel

b. Minor (1)

Hosea through Malachi (the book of the 12)

C. The Writings (11)

1. Poetical (3)

a. Psalms

b. Proverbs

c. Job

2. Five Rolls/Scrolls (5)

a. Song of Solomon

b. Ruth

c. Lamentations

d. Ecclesiastes

e. Esther

3. Historical (3)

a. Daniel

b. Ezra-Nehemiah

c. Chronicles

(Josephus: 22 - combined Jeremiah -Lamentations, Judges-Ruth.)

**III. When Collected?**

A. Complete At Least a Century Before Christ.

B. New Testament Evidence of 3-Part Canon Complete in Time of Christ

1. Luke 24:44

2. Matthew 7:12

3. Matthew 23:35 (Luke 11:51)

4. II Corinthians 3:14

C. Josephus (c. A.D. 90) Mentions 3-Fold Division.

D. Confirmation at Jewish Council of Jamnia (c. 90 A.D.)

E. Apocrypha Excluded

1. Never recognized in Hebrew scriptures (in some 4th century LXX manuscripts).

2. Not quoted in New Testament.

3. Content

4. Christ

#### **IV. Ultimate Authority - Christ**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Luke 24:44 – “And He said unto them, These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.”

**Canonicity - New Testament**  
*Volume 4 - Unit 11*

**I. The Basic Problem**

**II. The Original Need**

- A. Heresies
- B. Persecution
- C. Absence of Apostles

**III. The Criteria is Inspiration - Evidenced by**

- A. Apostolic Origin
- B. Recognition by Leading Church (es)
- C. Agreement with Apostolic Doctrine

**IV. Recapitulation**

- A. Gospels
  - 1. Synoptics
  - 2. John
- B. Acts

C. Pauline Epistles

D. Hebrews

E. Catholic Epistles

1. I John

2. II, III John

3. I Peter

4. II Peter

5. James

6. Jude

F. Revelation

## **V. When Were Our 27 Books Formally Recognized?**

A. Eastern Church - 367 A.D., 39th Paschal Letter of Athanasius

B. Western Church - 397 A.D., 3rd Council of Carthage

Why were some questioned?

1. Doubtful authorship (Hebrews, II Peter)

2. Little known - written to private individuals, remote groups (II, III John)

3. Doubt as to content (Revelation, Jude, James)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Jude 3 – “It was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once-for-all delivered unto the saints.”

# **English Translations**

## *Volume 4 - Unit 12*

### **I. The Problem of Translation**

### **II. The Use of Translations**

### **III. Prominent Translations:**

A. Authorized (King James) Version

B. Revised Standard Version

C. American Standard Version

D. New American Standard Version

E. New English Bible

F. Amplified Bible

G. Living Bible

H. Phillips

I. New International Version

J. C. B. Williams'

K. Wuest's Expanded Translation

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 17:17 – “Sanctify them through Your truth; Your word is truth.”

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## **Systematic Theology Course**

**Dr. William E. Bell**

### **VOLUME 5** 150

#### **The Doctrine of God**

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# **Existence of God**

## *Volume 5 - Unit 1*

### **I. The Biblical Statements**

### **II. The Traditional Proofs**

- A. Ontological (Anselm)
- B. Cosmological (Aquinas)
- C. Prime Mover (Aquinas)
- D. First Cause (Aquinas)
- E. Teleological or Design (Aquinas)
- F. Moral (Kant)
- G. Personal Experience

### **III. Grounds for Disbelief**

- A. Uniformitarianism, reflected in:
  - 1. Geology (Chas. Lyell)
  - 2. Biology (Chas. Darwin)
  - 3. Sociology (Emile Durkheim)

#### 4. Psychology (Sigmund Freud)

### B. The Problem of Evil and Pain

1. Atheistic existentialism

2. Epicurean dilemma

3. Dualism

4. Deism

5. Illusion

6. Charismatic theory

7. Scriptural view

### IV. The Christian Hypothesis

$$\frac{1}{10^{10}} \times \frac{1}{10^{10}} \times \frac{1}{10^{10}} \longrightarrow \frac{1}{\infty} = 0$$

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Psalm 14:1 – “The fool has said in his heart, There is no God.

# Essence of God - Part 1

## *Volume 5 - Unit 2*

### **I. Definition**

That which underlies all outward manifestation. The reality itself, whether material or immaterial. The substratum.

### **II. The Qualities**

A. Spirituality - God is a spiritual substance. Key verse: John 4:24 - What does this mean?

1. He is immaterial and incorporeal.

Luke 24:39

What about hands (Isaiah 65:2)?

What about feet (Genesis 3:8)?

What about eyes (I Kings 8:29)?

What about ears (Nehemiah 1:6)?

Anthropomorphisms.

2. He is invisible. Deuteronomy 4:15-19

Exodus 33:20

John 1:18

Romans 1:20, Colossians 1:15, I Timothy 1:17

I Timothy 6:16

But did not some men see God? Jacob (Genesis 32:30) Moses (Exodus 3:6) Isaiah (Isaiah 6:1)

a. Saw His reflection - not His essence. (Exodus 33:20-23)

b. God manifests Himself in physical form. (John 1:32, Genesis 16:7-14, 22:11-18, Exodus 3:2-5)

Will the redeemed see God some day?

Matthew 5:8

Revelation 22:4

3. He is alive.

a. "The living God" (Joshua 3:10, Psalms 84:2, Matthew 16:16, I Thess 1:9)

b. God lives vs. heathen idols which are dead (Psalms 115:3-9)

4. He is a person. A person has:

a. Intellect

Acts 15:18

Romans 11:33-34

b. Sensibility

John 3:16

Genesis 6: 6

Deuteronomy 1:37

Exodus 20: 5

Psalms 111:4

c. Will

Romans 9:11

Romans 9:15

II Peter 3:9

I Corinthians 1:21

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 4:24 – “God is spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

## Essence of God - Part 2

### Volume 5 - Unit 3

B. Self-existence - God has the ground of His existence in Himself. He is not dependent for His existence on anything outside of Himself.

The name JEHOVAH (YAHWEH):

1. The one true God. (Isaiah 45:18)

2. The sacred tetragrammaton:

יהוה = Yahweh  
יהוה = Adonai

3. The Masoretic device (illustrated in English -roughly)

D N (Adonai)  
uh o a

Y H W H (Yahweh)  
uh o a

4. The meaning of the name (Exodus 3:14, 6:3)

C. Immensity - God's infinity in relation to space. Not limited or circumscribed by space. Space, rather, is dependent on Him.

I Kings 8:27

Isaiah 6 6:1

D. Eternity - God's infinity in relation to time - without beginning or end. He is the cause of time. Free from all succession of time.

Genesis 21:33

Psalms 90:2

Psalms 102:27

Isaiah 57:15

I Timothy 6:18

John 1:1

God sees the past and the future as vividly as the present!

Isaiah 46:10

E. Unity

1. Singular unity. God as set apart from other beings.

I Kings 8:60

I Corinthians 8:6

Deuteronomy 6:4

Exodus 15:11

2. Intrinsic unity. Freedom from division into parts.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Deuteronomy 6:4 – “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.” (*Note: LORD in this verse is the name Yahweh.*)

**Attributes of God**  
**Omnipresence, Omniscience, Omnipotence**  
*Volume 5 - Unit 4*

**I. Definition**

The qualities that inhere in the essence - a closer description and analysis of the essence. Attributes are not different parts of God - but descriptions of the various ways in which the divine essence exists and operates.

A. Omnipresence

1. Definition - God's infinity in relation to His creation and creatures.

2. Contrast:

Immensity - God transcends all space and is not subject to its limitations (transcendence).

Omnipresence - God fills every part of space with His entire being (immanence).

3. Heresies to avoid

a. Pantheism: The being of God is the substance of all things.

b. Deism: God is present in creation but not in nature. He acts from a distance.

4. Classic scriptures

Psalms 139:7-12

Jeremiah 23:24

## 5. Application

### B. Omniscience

#### 1. Definition

##### a. Knowledge: God knows all things:

actual or possible

past, present, or future

hidden or revealed (to man)

perfectly

from all eternity

immediately

simultaneously

exhaustively

b. Wisdom: "That perfection of God whereby He applies His knowledge to the attainment of His ends in a way that glorifies Him most. " (Berkhof)

#### 2. Classic scriptures

Proverbs 15:11

Psalms 147:5

Isaiah 46:10

Romans 4:17

Hebrews 4:13

Psalms 139:1-6

Matthew 11:21

Matthew 11:23-24

3. Independent of omnipotence, foreordination

4. Application

### C. Omnipotence

1. Definition - God is able to do whatever He wills to do. This will is always in harmony with His perfections.

God cannot:

look upon iniquity (Habakkuk 1:13)

deny Himself (II Timothy 2:13)

lie (Hebrews 6:18)

commit sin (Jas 1:13)

## 2. Classic scriptures

Genesis 17:1

Job 42:2

Matthew 19:26

Jeremiah 32:27

Psalms 115:3

## 3. Voluntary limitations

II Peter 3:9

Matthew 23:37

## 4. Application

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Jeremiah 32:27 – “Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is there anything too hard for me?”

**Attributes of God**  
**Immutability, Holiness**  
*Volume 5 - Unit 5*

D. Immutability

1. Definition - God is unchangeable in:

essence

attributes

consciousness

will

2. Classic scriptures

James 1:17

Malachi 3:6

Hebrews 13:8

3. The problem of "repentance"

Genesis 6:6

Exodus 32:14

a. Anthropopathism

b. Conditional promises

4. Application

## E. Holiness

1. Definition - God is absolute perfection in all His attributes, absolutely separate from moral evil and sin. Purity of being -purity of willing.

### 2. Classic scriptures

Isaiah 57:15

Habakkuk 1:13

I Peter 1:15-16

The entire OT sacrificial system

Isaiah 6

### 3. Application

Isaiah 59:2

Hebrews 12:14

Romans 3:10

Romans 3:23

Hebrews 12:28

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Isaiah 6:3 – “Holy, holy, holy (infinitely holy) is the LORD of hosts.”

**Attributes of God**  
**Righteousness, Justice, Truth**  
*Volume 5 - Unit 6*

F. Righteousness and Justice

1. Definition - That phase of the holiness of God which is seen in His treatment of the creature. He is absolutely fair and always right. (Impossible for Him to do anything wrong or unfair.)

Righteousness: The institution of moral laws and standards.

Justice: The implementation of those laws and standards, i. e. rewards and punishment.

2. Classic scriptures

Ezra 9:15

Nehemiah 9:8

Psalms 145:17

II Timothy 4:8

Genesis 18:25

Romans 2:11

3. Areas of justice

a. Rewards

I John 1:9

II Timothy 4:8

Nehemiah 9:7-8

b. Punishment

Revelation 16:5

Revelation 20:11-15

c. Sovereign choice

Romans 9:14

4. Application

G. Truth

1. God is genuine

I John 5:20

Isaiah 45:8f.

Isaiah 40:18f.

2. God is reliable (trustworthy, faithful).

Hebrews 6:18

I John 1: 9

I Corinthians 10:13

John 17:17 - God's written word also.

3. God sees things as they really are.

Cf. omniscience.

Galatians 6:7

Hebrews 4:13

4. Application

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Genesis 18:25 – “. . . shall not the judge of all the earth do right?”

**Attributes of God**  
**Goodness**  
*Volume 5 - Unit 7*

H. Goodness - Omnibus term - including:

Love

Mercy

Grace

1. Love

a. Definition - God is infinite affection, i.e. has a continuous, infinite concern for the well being of others.

I John 4: 8, 16

b. Within the Trinity

Matthew 3:17

John 17:24

c. Toward believers

John 14:21

John 17:23

d. Toward the world of sinners

John 3:16

Romans 5:8

e. Principal manifestation

I John 4:9-10

John 3:16

2. Mercy

a. Definition - God's goodness manifested toward those in misery or distress. (Synonymous with compassion, pity, lovingkindness.)

b. Classic scriptures

Ephesians 2:4

James 5:11

3. Grace

a. Definition - God's goodness manifested toward the undeserving (unmerited favor).

b. Common grace

(1) Longsuffering in punishing sin

II Peter 3:9

Romans 2:4

(2) General care of His creatures (benevolence)

Psalms 145:9

Psalms 145:15

Matthew 5:45

(3) Restraint of sin

II The s 2:6

Romans 13

(4) Provision of salvation

John 3:16

Romans 5:8

John 16:8-11

c. Efficacious grace - God's special grace toward "the elect"

Romans 8:29-30:

foreknowledge

predestination

calling

justification

glorification

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Ephesians 2:8-9 – “For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God - not of works, lest any man should boast.”

Note: In the statement - " . . and that not of yourselves . . ", that refers to salvation, not faith.

# **The Trinity**

## ***Volume 5 - Unit 8***

### **I. Definition**

There are three eternal distinctions in the one divine essence, known as:

Father

Son

Holy Spirit

### **II. The Term Itself**

-Greek trias - first used by Theophilus of Antioch

-Latin trinitas - first used by Tertullian

Doctrine not dependent on terminology!

### **III. Heresies – *Every Heresy Denies the Doctrine of the Trinity!***

A. Tritheism

B. Sabellianism

C. Unitarianism

### **IV. Origin of the Doctrine**

## V. Biblical Support

### A. Old Testament Intimations

1. Elohim

2. Plural pronouns of deity Genesis 1: Z6

3. A plural Jehovah

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Zech 3:Z

4. A distinct Spirit of God

Genesis 1:1-Z

Genesis 6: 3

### B. New Testament Teaching

1. Christ's baptismal scene

Matthew 3:16-17

2. Baptismal formula

Matthew 28:19

3. Apostolic benediction

II Corinthians 13:14

4. Apostolic salutation

Revelation 1:4f.

5. Christ's announcement of the coming Holy Spirit John 14:16

6. Revealed deity of each

a. Father

Romans 1: 7

Galatians 1:1

b. Son

John 1:1

Colossians 2:9

John 8:58

c. Holy Spirit

Acts 5:3-4

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - II Corinthians 13:14 – “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

# **Works of God - The Divine Decrees - Part 1**

## *Volume 5 - Unit 9*

### **I. Definition**

God has an eternal purpose for everything that happens. The ultimate goal: His own glory.

### **II. Classic Scriptures**

Isaiah 14:24, 26-27

Ephesians 1:11

Ephesians 3:11

I Peter 1:20

Revelation 13:8

Ephesians 1:4

II Timothy 1:9

### **III. The Order of the Decrees**

#### **A. To Create**

Hebrews 11:3

Genesis 1:1

Psalms 33:6-11

B. To Permit Sin (Establish Volition) John 4:23

C. To Overrule Sin for Good Genesis 50:20, Psalms 76:10

D. To Save Some from Sin

E. To Reward His Servants and Punish the Disobedient

#### **IV. The Doctrine of Election and Predestination**

A. Predestination

1. Definition (proorizo) - God has determined from eternity past the destiny of the elect, i.e. to be a part of the family of God and ultimately to be conformed to the image of Christ.

2. Classic scriptures

Ephesians 1: 5

Ephesians 1:11

Romans 8:29-30

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Romans 8:29-30 – “For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He did predestinate, them He also called, and whom He called, them He also justified, and whom He justified, them He also glorified.”

**Works of God - The Divine Decrees - Part 2**  
*Volume 5 - Unit 10*

B. Election

1. Definition - God, in eternity past, has chosen certain individuals to be eternally His and to enjoy a predetermined future in His presence.

2. Classic scriptures

Ephesians 1:4

Colossians 3:12

I Peter 1:2

Matthew 20:16, 22:14

Matthew 24:22, 24, 31

I Thessalonians 1:4

3. The basis

a. Calvinism

(1) Total depravity

(2) Unconditional election

(3) Limited atonement

(4) Irresistible grace

(5) Perseverance of the saints

b. Arminianism

(1) Prevenient grace

(2) Conditional election

(3) Unlimited atonement

(4) Resistible grace

(5) Possible fall from grace

c. Strengths and weaknesses of the major views

d. A proposed mediating hypothesis

(1) The volitional mechanism

(2) The choice of the "positive"

(3) The "jamming" of the mechanism

(4) The efficacious call

(5) The eternal security of the elect

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Ephesians 1:4 – “He has chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.”

# **Origin & Nature of Man - The Naturalistic View**

## *Volume 5 - Unit 11*

### **I. The Evolutionary View**

1. Non-life
2. Single cell
3. Multi-cellular organisms
4. Invertebrates
5. Vertebrates (fishes)
6. Amphibians
7. Reptiles
8. Mammals and birds
9. Primates
10. Man

The last step:

- a. Propiopythecus (30 million years ago)
- b. Dryopithecus (19 million years ago)

- c. Ramapithecus (12 million years ago)
- d. Australopithecus (4 million years ago)
- e. Homo erectus (1 million years ago)
- f. Homo sapiens (500, 000 years ago)

## **II. The Human Fossil Evidence**

### A. Australopithecus

- 1. Taung skull
- 2. Natron mandible
- 3. Swartkrans

### B. Homo erectus (Pithecanthropus erectus)

- 1. Peking man
- 2. Java man
- 3. Heidelberg man

### C. Homo sapiens

- 1. Cro-magnon man
- 2. Neanderthal man

3. Rhodesian man

4. Swans comb man

D. The Uncertainties

E. The Overlapping and Contradictory Dates

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Genesis 1:26 – “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . .”

**Origin, Nature, & Destiny of Man - The Biblical View**  
*Volume 5 - Unit 12*

**I. Special Creation**

**II. The Age of Man**

**III. The Image of God (Genesis 1:26-27)**

A. Intellect

B. Sensibility

C. Will

D. Original Holiness

E. Immortality

F. Lord of Creation (Genesis 1:26, Psalms 8:5-6)

**IV. The Material Part of Man**

A. Body = Prison House of Soul

B. Body = Whole Man

C. Body = Partner of Soul

I Corinthians 6:19-20

II Corinthians 5:10

Philemon 1:20

Thus: Romans 12:1-2

## **V. The Immaterial Part of Man**

### A. Composition

#### 1. Unity (Holism)

Genesis 2:7

Ezekiel 18:4

Psalms 23:3

Psalms 25:1

Etc.

Evaluation:

#### 2. Trichotomy

-Body

-Soul

-Spirit

I Thessalonians 5:23

Hebrews 4:12

### 3. Dichotomy

Genesis 41:8 - Psalms 42:6

Luke 1:46-47

Mark 12:30

Eccl 3:21

I Corinthians 5:3, III John 2

### 4. Solution?

<b>BODY</b>
-------------

<b>SOUL</b>	<b>∴</b>	<b>SPIRIT</b>
-------------	----------	---------------

## B. Transmission

1. Pre-existence

2. Creationism

Hebrews 12:9

Ecclesiastes 12:7

### 3. Traducianism

Evaluation:

## VI. God's Purpose for Man

John 4:23-24

Revelation 21:3

## VII. The Fall

A. Curse upon natural creation ----- → man's lack of dominion ----- → man vs. creation (Hebrews 2:8)

B. Mortality ----- → physical death (Romans 5:12, Hebrews 9:27)

C. Spiritual death ----- → the second death (Revelation 20:14)

D. Adamic nature ----- → personal sins (Romans 3:23)

## VIII. God's Salvation vs. Adam's Sin

A. Curse on nature ----- → Lifted, New Heavens, New Earth (II Peter 3:13), man's dominion restored (Hebrews 2:6f.)

B. Mortality ----- → Immortality (I Corinthians 15:51f.)

Physical death ----- → Resurrection (I Corinthians 15:23)

C. Spiritual death -----→ Reconciliation (Ephesians 2:1)

Second death -----→ No condemnation (Romans 8:1)

D. Adamic nature -----→ Control now (Romans 6:6)

-----→ Removal eventually (Revelation 21:27)

Personal sins -----→ Forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Genesis 2:7 – “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.”

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## **Systematic Theology Course**

**Dr. William E. Bell**

### **VOLUME 6** 186

#### **The Doctrine of Christ**

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# Historicity of Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ as Jehovah

## *Volume 6 - Unit 1*

### I. The Historicity of Jesus Christ

#### A. Pagan Writers

##### 1. Tacitus (Annals, XV, 44)

Concerning Nero . . . "But not all the relief that could come from man, not all the bounties that the prince could bestow, nor all the atonements which could be presented to the gods, availed to relieve Nero from the infamy of being believed to have ordered the conflagration. Hence, to suppress the rumor, he falsely charged with the guilt, and punished with the most exquisite tortures the persons commonly called Christians, who were hated for their enormities. Christus, the founder of that name, was put to death as a criminal by Pontius Pilate, procurator of Judea, in the reign of Tiberius: but the pernicious superstition, repressed for a time, broke out again, not only through Judea, where the mischief originated, but through the city of Rome also . . . "

##### 2. Suetonius (The Lives of the Caesars:)

Nero: "Punishment was inflicted on the Christians, a class of men given to a new and mischievous superstition. "

Claudius: " . . . the Emperor Claudius expelled from Rome the Jews who were constantly causing tumults on the instigation of one Chrestus. "

##### 3. Pliny (In a letter to the Emperor Trajan)

"They affirmed, however, the whole of their guilt or their error was that they were in the habit of meeting on a certain fixed day before it was light, when they sang in alternate verses a hymn to Christ, as to a god, and bound themselves by a solemn oath, not to any wicked deeds, but never to commit any fraud, theft, or adultery, never to falsify their word, nor to deny a trust when they should be called on to deliver it up . . . "

##### 4. Lucian (The Passing of Peregrinus)

" . . . the man who was crucified in Palestine because he introduced this new cult into the world

Furthermore, their first lawgiver persuaded them that they are all brothers one of another after they have transgressed once for all by denying the Greek gods and by worshipping that crucified sophist himself and living under his laws. "

#### 5. Mara Bar Serapion (To his son)

"Or (what had) the Jews from the execution of their wise King, who at that time was taken away from them in the kingdom? . . . The Jews were destroyed and undone, and driven out of their realm, and now live dispersed everywhere . . . The wise King is not dead, by virtue of the new law he has given. "

### B. Jewish Writers

#### 1. Flavius Josephus (Antiquities)

The High Priest Ananus "had the brother of Jesus who was called Christ, named Jacobus, and some others, accused of transgression of the laws, and stoned. " (XX 9, 1)

"Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was (the) Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians so named from him are not extinct at this day. " (XVIII 3, 3)

#### 2. Jewish Talmud

Scattered references regarding Jesus as the son of an adulteress, a transgressor in Israel who practiced magic, a traitor, the founder of a godless sect, one who led the people astray, one who was hanged on Passover Eve, and one whose disciples healed the sick in his name. (Cf. Talmudic Tract Bab. Sanhedrin f. 43a; f. ( 7a, etc.)

C. Other World Religions

D. New Testament Witness

E. Consensus

## **II. The Person of Jesus Christ**

A. Deity

1. Jesus as Jehovah

a. The sacred name

b. The claims of Jesus

(1) The "I Am" (John 8:58)

(2) The Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:11, 22:13, Isaiah 44:6)

(3) The Light (John 8:12, cf. Psalms 27:1, Isaiah 60:19-20)

(4) The Shepherd (John 10:11, cf. Psalms 23:1, Ezekiel 34:15)

(5) The Bridegroom (Mark 2:19, Matthew 25:1-13, cf. Hosea 2:16, Isaiah 62:5)

(6) The Forgiver of Sins (Mark 2:10, Luke 5:21, cf. Jeremiah 31:34, Psalms 130:4)

c. Statements of New Testament writers

(1) Matthew 3:3 (cf. Isaiah 40:3)

(2) Luke 1:76 (cf. Malachi 3:1)

(3) John 19:37 (cf. Zech 12:10)

(4) I Peter 2:7-8 (cf. Isaiah 8:13-14)

(5) Romans 14:10-11 (cf. Philemon 2:10, Isaiah 45:23)

d. Objections

(1) John 1:1 ("a God" ?)

(2) Revelation 3:14 ("arche")

We are suggesting something a little different in this volume. The memory assignment for the first 7 units will be the 7 verses of Philippians 2:5-11, which incorporate most of the key doctrines of Christology. Make a 7-week project of it. Note several translation changes which bring out the meaning of the original text more fully.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Philemon 2: 5-11 – “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although he was in the form of God, thought it not something to be equal with God, but emptied himself, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto the extent of death, even a cross-death. Wherefore, God also has highly exalted him, and given him the name which is above every name (i.e. Jehovah), that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (i. e. Jehovah), to the glory of God the Father.”

**Deity of Jesus Christ - Continued**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 2*

2. Other Scriptures on the Deity of Christ

- a. John 1:1f.
- b. John 10:30
- c. John 14:9
- d. John 20:28
- e. Hebrews 1:3 ("character")
- f. Colossians 1:15 ("eikon")
- g. Hebrews 1: 8
- h. Philemon 2:6-7 ("morphe", "sche'ma")
- i. Isaiah 9:6
- j. Titus 2:13
- k. Colossians 2: 9 ("theotes ")
- l. Romans 9: 5

3. The Doctrine of the Trinity

(SCRIPTURE MEMORY - Keep working on Philemon 2:5-11)

**Humanity of Jesus Christ; The Hypostatic Union**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 3*

*(II. The Person of Jesus Christ - Continued)*

B. Humanity

1. Born of Mary
2. Normal growth (Luke 2:52)
3. Human appearance (John 4:9)
4. Human infirmities (except sin)
  - a. Hunger (Matthew 4: 2)
  - b. Thirst (John 19:28)
  - c. Weariness (John 4:6)
  - d. Sleep (Matthew 8:24)
  - e. Sadness (Matthew 23:37, John 11:35)
  - f. Temptation (Hebrews 4:15)
  - g. Death (John 19:30)
5. Specific statements of incarnation
  - a. John 1:14
  - b. Hebrews 2:14

c. Hebrews 10: 5

d. Philemon 2: 5 -11

e. I John 4:2-3 (Docetism: Christ *appeared* to have a human body.)

## C. Hypostatic Union

### 1. Definition

a. "hypostasis" (Gr.) "nature, substance, essence"

b. Chalcedon

Christ is . . . “acknowledged in two natures, inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of the natures being in no wise taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one person and one subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons.”

c. Summary

- Undiminished deity
- genuine humanity
- joined in one person
- forever

### 2. Heresies

a. Monophysites

b. Monothelites

### 3. The 8 Major Passages

a. Philemon 2: 6 -11

b. John 1:1-14

c. Romans 1:2-5

d. Romans 9: 5

e. I Timothy 3:16

f. Hebrews 2: 7 -14

g. I John 1:1-3

h. Galatians 4:4-5

### 4. The Crucial Significance

a. Redemption

b. Priesthood

c. Prophetic ministry

d. Kingly office

e. Restoration of man

(SCRIPTURE MEMORY - Keep working on Philemon 2:5-11)

# Kenosis; The Doctrine of Impeccability

## Volume 6 - Unit 4

### (II. The Person of Jesus Christ – Continued)

#### D. The Kenosis

1. Definition - "kenoo" = "to empty"

2. Background

3. Of What Did Christ Empty Himself?

a. The "insignia of majesty" (John 17:5) - temporary

b. Unlimited use of divine attributes for His own benefit - temporary

(1) Omnipotence

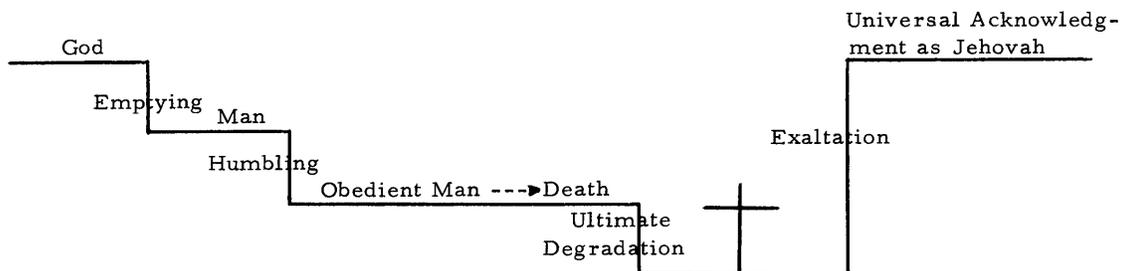
(2) Omniscience

(3) Omnipresence

c. His "equality" with the Father (Philemon 2:6, Matthew 20:28, I Corinthians 15:28) - permanent

d. His non-corporeal existence (Hebrews 10:5, etc.) - permanent

4. Diagram of the Passage



E. The Doctrine of Impeccability (Could Christ have sinned?)

1. The Options

a. Peccability

b. Impeccability

2. The Evidence for Impeccability

a. Immutability

b. Omnipotence

c. Omniscience

3. The Problem of the Reality of the Temptations (Hebrews 4:15, James 1:13)

(SCRIPTURE MEMORY - Keep working on Philemon 2:5-11)

**Pre-incarnate Work of Christ; His Earthly Ministry**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 5*

**III. The Work of Jesus Christ**

A. Preincarnate

1. Creation (John 1:3, I Corinthians 8:6, Colossians 1:16, Hebrews 1:2, 10)

2. Theophanies

a. The Angel of Jehovah

(1) Identified as Jehovah (Genesis 16:7-13, Exodus 3:1f.,  
Jud 13:9-22)

(2) Yet distinct from Jehovah (Lev 1:12-13, 3:1-2, Genesis  
24:40)

(3) Identified as the preincarnate Christ

(a) The visible God of the New Testament

(b) Absence of Angel of Jehovah after the  
incarnation

(c) Sent by the Father

(d) The nature of the Father and the Spirit (John  
1:18)

b. Other appearances

(1) To Abraham (Genesis 18:1-33)

(2) To Jacob (Genesis 32:24-32)

(3) Other

## B. Earthly Ministry

1. He announced a kingdom (Mark 1:15).
2. He was announced as the Lamb to be slain to establish the kingdom (John 1:29).
3. He was observed by men for 3 1/2 years - even as Passover lamb was observed - to insure its perfection.
4. His ultimate mission was to die (Matthew 20:28).

(SCRIPTURE MEMORY - Keep working on Philemon 2:5-11)

**Atonement of Jesus Christ - Part 1**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 6*

*(III. The Work of Jesus Christ - continued)*

C. His Death

1. False Concepts

- a. The Accident Theory
- b. The Martyr Theory (Socinians - Unitarians)
- c. The Moral Influence Theory (Schleiermacher, Ritschl)
- d. The Governmental Theory (Grotius, Moon)

2. Scriptural Significance

a. Ransom (Redemption)

(1) Definition: To deliver a person or thing by paying a price.

(2) Scripture

(a) Romans 7:14

(b) Romans 3:24

(c) Ephesians 1:7

(d) I Peter 1:18-19

(e) Passover lamb (Exodus 12)

(f) Hosea

(g) Kinsman - redeemer (Leviticus 25, Ruth)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Continue work on Philemon 2:5-11. (You should be about through by now!)

**Atonement of Jesus Christ - Part 2**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 7*

*(2. Scriptural Significance continued)*

b. Propitiation

(1) Definition: Christ satisfies all of God's attributes.  
(EVERY OTHER "THEORY OF ATONEMENT"  
IGNORES SOME ATTRIBUTE OF GOD!)

(2) Scripture

(a) Romans 3:25

(b) I John 2:2

(c) The "mercy seat" - "hilasterion" (Hebrews 9:5,  
Romans 3:25)

c. Substitution

(1) Definition: The death of an innocent victim in place of  
the guilty sinner.

(2) Scripture

(a) I Corinthians 5:7

(b) Isaiah 53:4-6

(c) I Peter 2:24

(d) I Peter 3:18

(e) II Corinthians 5:21

(f) The Old Testament sacrificial system (typology)

d. Reconciliation

(1) Definition: Christ's death terminates the enmity between God and man caused by man's sin.

(2) Scripture

(a) II Corinthians 5:18-20

(b) Romans 5:10

(c) Colossians 1:20-21 (cf. Ephesians 2:16)

(3) Illustration

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - You should now have completed your memorization of Philemon 2:5-11. We will move ahead to other verses in the next unit.

**Extent of Jesus Christ's Death;  
The Terms of Salvation - Part 1**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 8*

*(III. The Work of Jesus Christ - continued)*

*(C. His Death – cont.)*

3. The Extent of Christ's Death - (For Whom Did Christ Die?)

a. The Options

(1) Limited Atonement (Particular Redemption)

(a) Double jeopardy

(b) Divine election

(2) Unlimited Atonement

(a) I John 2:1-2

(b) John 3:16

(c) II Co r 5:19

(d) I Timothy 2:6

(e) I Timothy 4:10

(f) Titus 2:11

(g) Hebrews 2:9

(h) II Peter 3:9

(i) II Peter 2:1

#### 4. The Terms of Salvation (How does one appropriate the benefits of Christ's death?)

##### a. The Problem Stated

(1) Believe (Acts 16:31)

(2) Repent, be baptized (Acts 2:38)

(3) Confess, believe (Romans 10:9-10)

(4) Call (Romans 10:13)

(5) Trust (Hope) (Romans 15:12)

(6) Become a disciple, i. e. a "follower" (Luke 9:61)

(7) Come after me, deny self, take up cross (Matthew 16:24)

(8) Repent, be converted (Acts 3:19)

##### b. Relation of Repentance to Faith (Belief)

(1) Metanoeo

(2) Metamelomai

(3) Metanoeo in salvation passages

(a) Mark 1:15

(b) Acts 3:19

(c) II Corinthians 7:10

(d) Hebrews 12:17

(e) Acts 20:21

(4) Repentance (metanoeo) = a change of mind and attitude toward God (and Christ), resulting in a change of life direction (conversion) and a new dependence (faith in Christ).

Repentance - integral part of faith -cf. John the Baptist (Matthew 3:2, John 1:7)

No mention of metanoeo in Gospel of John - noun or verb - yet cf. 20:31.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I John 2: 2 – “And he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

**Terms of Salvation - Part 2**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 9*

*(4. The Terms of Salvation – continued)*

c. Relation of Confession to Faith (Belief)

(1) Meaning of "confession" (homologeō)

(2) Romans 10:9-10

(3) Luke 12:8

d. Relation of "discipleship" to faith (belief)

(1) A popular view, making distinction

(2) Viewed as synonyms

(a) Acts 11:26 (= Christian)

(b) Concordance study

(c) Christ's singular demands - Matthew 16:24f.

-Luke 14:25-33

-Luke 18:18-30

e. Relation of Water Baptism to Salvation

(1) The problem passages

(a) Mark 16:16

(b) Acts 2:38 (cf. Acts 3:19, 5:31, 10:42-48, 11:15-17)

(c) Acts 22:16

(d) I Peter 3:21

(2) Final arguments

(a) New Testament writers contradictory?

(b) No command to be baptized in Gospel of John (yet cf. 20:31).

(c) Thief on cross

(d) I Cor 1:14, 4:15

f. The Meaning of "Faith" (or "Believe")

(1) Believe = "trust", "rely on"

(2) Illustration

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Acts 16:31 – “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.”

**Resurrection of Jesus Christ; Historicity**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 10*

*(III. The Work of Jesus Christ - continued)*

D. His Resurrection

1. Historicity

a. The Modern Attitude

b. The Empty Tomb

(1) Swoon theory

(2) Wrong tomb theory

(3) Wild animals theory

(4) Enemies stole the body theory

(5) Friends stole the body theory

Psychologically impossible

- Martyrdom

- Collusion

(6) Resurrection

c. The Eyewitness Testimony

(1) Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18)

(2) The "other women" (Matthew 28:9-10)

(3) 2 disciples, road to Emmaus (Mark 16:12-13, Luke 24:13-32)

(4) Peter (Luke 24:33-35, I Corinthians 15:5)

(5) 10 disciples, Thomas absent (Mark 16:14, Luke 24:36-43, John 20:19-25)

(6) 11 disciples, including Thomas (John 20:26-31, I Corinthians 15:5)

(7) 7 disciples beside Sea of Galilee (John 21)

(8) More than 500 on appointed mountain in Galilee (Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:15-18, I Corinthians 15:6)

(9) James (I Corinthians 15:7)

(10) Ascension appearance (Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:44-53, Acts 1:9-12)

(11) Post-ascension appearances

d. Existence of Christian Church

e. Celebration of Sunday

f. Change in Apostles; Their Martyrdom

g. The New Testament

h. Fulfilled Witness to the Old Testament - (1) One illustration - Micah 5:2

i. Logical Culmination of Christian World View

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 15:3-4 – “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again (and is still risen) the third day according to the scriptures.”

Note: In the Greek text, "rose again" is the perfect tense, indicating completed action with continuing results. Both "died" and "was buried" are in the aorist tense, indicating simply completed action at a point in time, with no reference to continuing results.

# **Resurrection of Jesus Christ; Significance; Nature of the Resurrection Body**

## *Volume 6 - Unit 11*

*(D. His Resurrection - cont.)*

### 2. Significance

- a. Authenticated the claims of Christ (Romans 1:4)
- b. Ratifies the efficacy of the atonement (Romans 4:25, 8:34)
- c. Assures the believer of needed power (Ephesians 1:19-22, Philemon 3:10)
- d. Assures the believer of his own resurrection (John 14:19, I Corinthians 15:17-23)
- e. Assures the world of the certainty of judgment (Acts 17:31, John 5:22)

### 3. The Nature of the Resurrection Body

- a. Identified as the same body that was entombed
  - (1) Retained nail prints (John 20:25-29)
  - (2) Retained wound in the side (John 20:25-29)
  - (3) Christ recognized by his disciples (unless temporarily veiled)
  - (4) Christ could eat (Luke 24:42-43)

(5) The body was material - could be felt (Mt 28:9, Luke 24:39, John 20:17)

(6) The body was visible to the natural eye.

(7) The body could breathe (John 20:22)

(8) The body possessed flesh and bones (Luke 24:39-40)

b. Yet the body was changed

(1) Apparently not restricted by distance and ordinary means of transportation

(2) Entered closed rooms without difficulty (Luke 24:36, John 20:19)

(3) Able to appear and disappear (Luke 24:17)

(4) Apparently didn't need rest or sustenance (could eat - but didn't have to)

(5) A glorious body (Acts 7:56, 9:3-6, Revelation 1:12-30) -but temporarily veiled during 40 days

c. Our resurrection body will be like His. (Philemon 3:21)

d. Cf. I Corinthians 15:35f.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 14:19 – “Because I live, you shall live also.”

**Ascension of Jesus Christ; His Present Work; His Future Work**  
*Volume 6 - Unit 12*

*(III. The Work of Jesus Christ - continued)*

E. His Ascension

1. Where Was He During the 40 Days?
  - a. Spirit (soul) goes to the Father (Luke 23:43, 46)
  - b. Body is buried, for 3 days (Luke 23:53)
  - c. "Preached" to the spirits in prison (I Peter 3:18-20)
  - d. The necessity for the visible ascension
2. The Event (Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:6-12)
3. The Arrival in Heaven (Acts 2:33-36, 7:55-56, 9:3-6, etc.)
4. Where is Heaven? (Hebrews 4:14, "through the heavens")
5. The Theological Significance
  - a. Renewal of preincarnate glory (John 17:5)
  - b. Bestowal of new honor and glory - as a result of His work (Philemon 2:9 - "wherefore", Isaiah 53:12 - "therefore" . . . "because")

c. Entrance of resurrected humanity into heaven guarantees our own entrance (Hebrews 6:20)

d. Beginning of His present work

## F. His Present Work

### 1. The Work of Exercising Lordship

a. A reality now (I Peter 3:22, Ephesians 1:20-22)

b. But limited temporarily (Psalms 110:1, I Corinthians 15:23-28)

### 2. The Mediatorial Work of the Great High Priest (Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25, 9:24)

a. Meaning: Christ prays for us.

b. What does He pray for? (John 17)

(1) Our eternal salvation (and fellowship) (John 17:11, 15)

(2) Our sanctification (John 17:17, 19)

(3) Our oneness (John 17:21-23)

(4) Our eventual presence in heaven with Him (John 17:24)

c. Not perpetual sacrifice (Hebrews 9:28, 10:10, 18)

d. One mediator (I Timothy 2: 5)

### 3. Earthly Ministry Through His Church (Acts 1:1-2)

#### G. His Future Work

1. The second coming
2. The resurrection of dead believers
3. The transformation of living believers
4. The translation (rapture) of both from the earth
5. The binding of Satan
6. The institution of the millennial kingdom on earth
7. The defeat of the final rebellion (Gog, Magog)
8. The final incarceration of Satan in the lake of fire
9. The dissolution of the present heavens and earth
10. The resurrection of the unrighteous dead
11. The judgment of the great white throne
12. The final incarceration of unbelievers in the lake of fire
13. The new heavens and the new earth, the New Jerusalem
14. The deliverance of the kingdom to the Father
15. The eternal state

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Hebrews 7:25 – “Wherefore he is able also to save them completely that come unto God by him, because he lives forever to make intercession for them.”

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

## **Systematic Theology Course**

**Dr. William E. Bell**

### **VOLUME 7** 216

#### **The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**

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# **Personality of the Holy Spirit**

## *Volume 7 - Unit 1*

**I. Name That Implies Personality "Comforter" (paraklatos) - John 14:16, 16:7**

**II. Masculine Personal Pronouns - John 16:7-15**

**III. Linked With Father and Son in the Trinity**

A. Matthew 28:19

B. II Corinthians 13:14, etc.

**IV. Personal Characteristics Ascribed**

A. Knowledge and Communication (Intellect) I Corinthians 2:10-11

B. Sensibility (Emotion)

1. Ephesians 4: 30

2. Hebrews 10:29

C. Will

I Corinthians 12:11

**V. Personal Actions Ascribed**

A. He Speaks

Revelation 2:7

B. He Makes Intercession

Romans 8:26

C. He Calls Missionaries

Acts 13:2

D. He Teaches

John 16:13

E. He Convicts of Sin, Righteousness, Judgment

John 16:8f.

F. He Issues Commands

Acts 8:29

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 14:16 – “And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter (Helper), that He may abide with you forever.”

**Deity of the Holy Spirit**  
*Volume 7 - Unit 2*

**I. He Is Called God**

A. Acts 5:3-4

B. Exodus 16:7, 17:7- cf. Hebrews 3:7-9

C. I Corinthians 3:16

D. II Timothy 3:16 (cf. II Peter 1:21)

**II. He Possesses Divine Attributes**

A. Omnipotence

1. I Corinthians 12:11

2. Romans 15:19

B. Omnipresence

Psalms 139:7-10

C. Omniscience

1. I Corinthians 2:10-11

2. Isaiah 40:13-14 (cf. Romans 11:34)

D. Holiness

### **III. He Performs Divine Works**

A. Creation

1. Genesis 1: 2

2. Psalms 104:30

B. Regeneration

John 3:5-8

C. Resurrection

Romans 8:11

### **IV. He Is a Part of the Trinity**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 3:16 – “Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

**Work of the Holy Spirit in Relation to the World**  
*Volume 7 - Unit 3*

**I. Creation**

A. Genesis 1:2

B. Psalms 104:30

**II. Restraint of Sin**

A. Genesis 6:3

B. II Thessalonians 2:7

C. Psalms 76:10 (?)

**III. Reproof of Sin, Righteousness, Judgment**

John 16:8-11

**IV. Inspiration of Scripture**

A. II Timothy 3:16

B. II Peter 1:21

**V. Preparation of Christ for His Atoning Work**

A. Virgin Conception

1. Luke 1: 3 5

2. Hebrews 10:5-7

## B. Anointing at Baptism

Luke 3:22

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - John 16:8 – “And when He is come, He will convict (convince) the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.”

# **Regeneration, The Baptism with the Spirit**

## *Volume 7 - Unit 4*

### **I. Regeneration**

A. Definition - The impartation of eternal life. (Passage from spiritual death to spiritual life.)

B. Spoken of as:

1. A new birth

a. John 3: 3 -7

b. Titus 3:5

2. A resurrection

Ephesians 2: 5

3. A new creation

II Corinthians 5:17

### **II. The Baptism with the Spirit**

A. Definition - The eternal presence of the Holy Spirit within every Christian (since Pentecost) which identifies the Christian with Christ and His Body.

B. The Fact of Indwelling

1. I Cor 6:19

2. I Cor 3:16

3. Ephesians 2:19-22

### C. The Universality of Indwelling

1. Romans 8:9

2. I Corinthians 12:13

3. Jude 19

4. I Corinthians 1:5-7

5. A resulting inference: not related to spirituality or to spiritual gifts

### D. The Occasion of Indwelling

1. Romans 8:9, I Corinthians 12:13

2. The seeming exceptions

a. Acts 2

b. Acts 8

c. Acts 19

3. Conclusion: not a "second blessing".

## E. The Factors in Spirit Baptism

### 1. The factors in any baptism

a. The Subject (baptizer)

b. The Object (baptized)

c. The Element

d. The Result

### 2. Examples

a. John's baptism (cf. Christian water baptism)

Matthew 3:11-12, etc.

b. Baptism with fire

Matthew 3:11-12, etc.

### 3. Spirit baptism (baptizo en pneumati)

a. Matthew 3:11

b. Mark 1: 8

c. Luke 3:16

d. John 1:33

e. Acts 1:5

f. Acts 11:16

g. I Corinthians 12:13

#### 4. Conclusion

a. The Baptizer - Jesus Christ (cf. Acts 2:33)

b. The Baptized - the believer

c. The Element - the Holy Spirit

d. The Result - identification with Christ and His Body

#### F. Practical Significance

##### 1. The earnest of our inheritance

a. Ephesians 1:14

b. II Corinthians 1:22

##### 2. The source of all spiritual power and gifts

##### 3. The seal of God's ownership and eternal care

a. Ephesians 1:13 -14

b. Ephesians 4: 3 0

c. I Corinthians 1:22

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 12:13 – “For with one Spirit have we all been baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have all been given to drink of one Spirit.”

Note: The changes in translation here are crucial for the proper understanding of the verse.

**Spiritual Gifts**  
**Introduction**  
*Volume 7 - Unit 5*

**I. Definition**

The supernatural endowment of believers with specific abilities, enabling them to serve the Body of Christ effectively. They are sovereignly bestowed in grace, and are all totally undeserved.

A. "Sovereignly bestowed"

I Corinthians 12:11

B. "Totally undeserved"

I Corinthians 1:5-7 (cf. 3:1-4)

**II. The Analogy of the Body - *I Corinthians 12, Romans 12:3-8***

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 12:11 – “But all these works that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing (apportioning) to every man individually as He will.”

**Spiritual Gifts**  
**How to Recognize, Permanent vs. Temporary Gifts**  
*Volume 7 - Unit 6*

**I. How to Recognize Your Spiritual Gift (s)**

A. Know What the Gifts Are

1. Romans 12:3 -8
2. I Corinthians 12-14
3. Ephesians 4:11f.

B. Analyze Your Own Area(s) of Competence

1. What do you think you do best?
2. What do others think you do best?
3. What do you like to do? (Philemon 2:13)
4. Be willing to try and see.

C. Develop and Use Your Gift(s) for Maximum Benefit to the Body.

**II. Permanent vs. Temporary Gifts**

A. The Historical Evidence (cf. B. B. Warfield, Counterfeit Miracles)

B. The Possible Explanations

1. Carnality (with ultimate restoration)

2. No longer needed in God's plan

C. The Evidence

### **III. The Gifts**

#### ***Permanent***

1. Teaching
2. Pastor-teacher
3. Ministering (helping, showing mercy)
4. Administration (ruling)
5. Evangelism
6. Exhortation
7. Giving
8. Faith

#### ***Temporary***

1. Apostleship
2. Prophecy (knowledge)
3. Discerning spirit
4. Tongues
5. Interpretation of tongues
6. Miracles
7. Healing

### **IV. The Permanent Gifts**

- A. Teaching
- B. Pastor-teacher
- C. Ministering (helping, showing mercy)
- D. Administration (ruling)
- E. Evangelism
- F. Exhortation
- G. Giving
- H. Faith

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 12:7 – “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man for the common good.”

# **Gift of Tongues - Part 1**

## *Volume 7 - Unit 7*

### **I. The Temporary Gifts**

#### A. Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues

Six Crucial Questions:

1. What was the nature of the New Testament gift of tongues?
  - a. Foreign languages (Acts 2)
  - b. Direct revelation (I Corinthians 14:14-16, Acts 2:4)
2. To whom was it given? (I Corinthians 12:11, 27f.)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 12:30 – “Not all have the gifts of healing, do they? Not all speak with tongues, do they? Not all interpret, do they?”

Note: The construction in the Greek text assumes a negative answer to these questions and thus should be rendered this way.

**Gift of Tongues - Part 2**  
*Volume 7 - Unit 8*

*(A. Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues - continued)*

3. On what basis was it given?
  - a. Sovereign (I Corinthians 12:11)
  - b. Not a function of spirituality
  - c. Not tied to baptism with the Spirit
  
4. For what purpose was it given?
  - a. Sign to unbelievers (I Corinthians 14:21-22, Acts 2)
  - b. With interpretation = prophecy (local church, I Corinthians 14)
  - c. Private, devotional (I Corinthians 14:28)
  
5. Is the gift extant today?
  - a. Temporary category (cf. dissimilarities with N. To gift)
  - b. Problem of revelation (Jude 3)
  
6. If not, what is the current phenomenon? (I Corinthians 14:14-16, Matthew 24:24, Revelation 13:13f.)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - I Corinthians 14:22 – “Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not . . .”

# **Gifts of Miracles, Healing, Other Temporary Gifts**

## *Volume 7 - Unit 9*

### *(I. The Temporary Gifts – cont.)*

B. Apostleship

C. Prophecy (knowledge)

D. Discerning Spirits

E. Miracles, Healing

#### 1. Purpose of miracles

a. Mark 2:10-11

b. Acts 2:22

c. Hebrews 2: 3 -4

d. II Corinthians 12:12

#### 2. Is it God's will that all Christians be physically well all the time?

a. The classic example (II Corinthians 12:7f.)

b. Why do Christians suffer?

(1) Sin (I Corinthians 11:30)

(2) To produce dependence on God (II Corinthians 12:7f.)

(3) To glorify God (Job, John 11:4, I Peter 1:7, 4:12-14)

(4) To build Christian maturity (James 1:2, Romans 5:3, 8:28-29, 1 Pet 5:10)

(5) To comfort others (II Corinthians 1:3-4)

(6) To promote longing for glorified body (Romans 8:22-23)

c. Healing in the atonement? (Matthew 8:17, cf. Isaiah 53:4)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - II Corinthians 12:9 – “And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

# **Filling of the Holy Spirit - Part 1**

## *Volume 7 - Unit 10*

### **I. Definition**

The control of the life of a believer by the indwelling Holy Spirit when that life is yielded to Him.

### **II. The Key Scripture - Ephesians 5:18**

*plarousthe*

- A. Imperative Mood
- B. Permissive Middle Voice
- C. Present Tense
- D. Plural Number
- E. The Meaning of "Fill" - The Contrast with Drunkenness

### **III. How Do You Get It?**

- A. Cf. Ephesians 5:18f., Colossians 3:16f.
- B. Romans 12:1-2, II Corinthians 3:18

### **IV. The Evidence of Filling**

- A. Ephesians 5:18f.
  - 1. Spiritual encouragement for fellow believers (5:19a)

2. Private devotional life (5:19b)
3. Thankful attitude (5: 20)
4. Subjection to divinely-prescribed authority (5:21-6:9)
  - a. Wives to husbands (5:21-33)
  - b. Children to parents (6:1-4)
  - c. Slaves to masters (6:5-9)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Ephesians 5:18 – “Stop getting drunk with wine, wherein is debauchery, but continually permit the Spirit to control you.”

## **Filling of the Holy Spirit - Part 2**

*Volume 7 - Unit 11*

### ***(IV. The Evidence of Filling - continued)***

#### B. Galatians 5:22-23

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Longsuffering
5. Gentleness (kindness)
6. Goodness
7. Faith(fulness)
8. Meekness (humility)
9. Temperance (self-control)

### **V. Filling vs. Spirituality**

#### A. Filling does NOT equal Spirituality

Spirituality = Maturity

#### B. Scripture

1. I Corinthians 2:6 (teleios)
2. Hebrews 5:14 (teleios) - cf. 5:13, milk for infant
3. I Corinthians 3:1 - Spiritual (pneumatikos) vs. infant
4. I Corinthians 14:20 (teleios vs. children)
5. Ephesians 4:13-14 (teleios vs. children, cf. "grow up")
6. The spiritual (pneumatikos) man:
  - a. Judges (discerns) all things (I Corinthians 2:15)
  - b. Understands the things of the Lord (I Corinthians 14:37)
  - c. Restores sinning Christians (Galatians 6:1)

## **VI. Filling vs. Perfectionism (Cf. Warfield, Perfectionism)**

A. I John 1:8, 10

B. I John 3:4f.

## **VII. Absolute or Relative?**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Galatians 5:22-23 – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self-control.”

**Filling of the Holy Spirit - Part 3**  
*Volume 7 - Unit 12*

**VIII. Extraordinary Experiences**

A. Examples

1. Charles G. Finney
2. D. L. Moody
3. George Whitefield
4. John Wesley
5. Jonathan Edwards
6. Evan Roberts
7. David Brainerd
8. Others

B. What Is This?

1. Counterfeits?
2. "The Baptism"?
3. Special empowering

## C. Summary

1. Genuine (some)
2. Not normative

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Galatians 5:16 – “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

# **FOUNDATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

*Systematic Theology Course*

**Dr. William E. Bell**

## **VOLUME 8** 241

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# **Who Are the People of God - Part 1**

## *Volume 8 – Unit 1*

### **I. Who Are the People of God?**

#### A. Old Testament and New Testament Relationship

1. Matthew 21:33-41,43
2. Isaiah 5:1-7
3. Matthew 19:27-28
4. I Peter 2:9 (Exodus 19:5)
5. Matthew 22:1-14; Luke 14:16-24
6. Romans 11:13-24

**Who Are the People of God - Part 2**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 2*

*(A. Old Testament and New Testament Relationship – continued)*

6. Romans 11:13-24 (cont.) (Jeremiah 11:16, Hosea 14:6)
  
7. Ephesians 2:11-19
  
8. Ephesians 3:3-6
  
9. Galatians 3:13-16 (Genesis 12:2-3)

**Who Are the People of God - Part 3**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 3*

*(A. Old Testament and New Testament Relationship – continued)*

9. Galatians 3:13-16 (cont.)

B. Illustration

C. Two Viewpoints

1. Dispensationalism

2. Historic view

**II. Summary**

**Panorama of World Empires - Part 1**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 4*

**I. The Vision of Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2)**

A. Daniel Recounts Dream

1. Statue with a head of gold
2. Breasts and arms of silver
3. Belly and thighs made of brass
4. Legs made of iron
5. Feet and toes made of iron and clay

B. Daniel Interprets Dream

1. Gold is the Neo-Babylonian Empire
2. Silver is the Empire of Media-Persia
3. Brass is the Greco-Macedonian Empire
4. Iron is the Roman Empire
5. Iron and Clay represent ten kingdoms

**II. The Vision of Daniel (Daniel 7)**

## A. Daniel's Dream

1. A lion with eagle's wings – Babylon
2. A flesh devouring bear – Media-Persia
3. A leopard with four wings and four heads – Greco-Macedonia
4. A strong, dreadful beast – Roman Empire
5. Ten horns on the beast – ten kingdoms to follow the Roman Empire
6. The little horn

## B. Summary

**Panorama of World Empires - Part 2**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 5*

(A. *Daniel's Dream – continued*)

6. The little horn – continued
  - a. Military superiority
  - b. Cooperation of other nations

**III. John's Vision**

A. The Beast (Revelation 13)

1. Composite of beasts in Daniel 7
  - a. World ruler
  - b. Recognized as Deity
2. Roman Empire
3. Little horn – anti-Christ (II John, III John)
4. Deadly wound

B. The Beast (Revelation 17)

1. Same beast with a woman sitting on top

2. Anti-Christ characterized by false miracles
  
3. Scripture is the final criterion for truth
  
4. Seven heads
  - a. Five fallen empires – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Media-Persia, Greco-Macedonia
  
  - b. Present empire – Rome
  
  - c. One to come out of which arises the Anti-Christ
  
5. Ten kings

# **The Second Coming and Related Events - Part 1**

## *Volume 8 – Unit 6*

### **I. The Beast (Revelation 17)**

#### A. Seven Heads and Ten Horns

1. Rome
2. Empires of antiquities

#### B. Woman

1. Mystery, Babylon the Great
2. System or worldview of Rome

#### C. Gains Power

1. Use of force
2. Cooperation of other nations
3. Seems most likely to fulfill ambitions of the woman
4. Destroys the woman

### **II. Seventy Weeks of Daniel (Daniel 9)**

#### A. Vision of the Angel Gabriel

#### B. Four Hundred and Ninety Years

1. Seven weeks (49 years)
2. Sixty-two weeks (434 years)
3. One week (7 years)

- a. Separated from the other weeks
- b. Begins with a covenant
- c. The covenant is broken after 3 ½ years
- d. Anti-Christ begins his reign

## **Summary**

### C. Characteristics of End Time

- 1. Political movement
- 2. Monolithic organizational religious body
- 3. Rule of Anti-Christ

### D. Culmination of End Time

- 1. Second coming of Jesus Christ (Revelation 19)
- 2. The defeat of the beast
- 3. Further information (II Thessalonians 2)

**The Second Coming and Related Events - Part 2**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 7*

**IV. Paul's Explanation (II Thessalonians 2)**

A. Conjunction *kai*

B. Addresses Results of False Teaching

1. Causing instability
2. Causing people to quit working
3. Causing disorderliness

C. Addresses the False Teaching

1. Events before the Lord returns

- a. Falling away
- b. Man of sin revealed
  - 1) Rebuilding the temple is not necessary
  - 2) The restrainer is removed
    - a) The Holy Spirit
    - b) Civil government

2. Christ returns and the Anti-Christ is defeated

- a. One event (*parousia*)
- b. Teaching of two second comings – John Nelson Darby

**The Second Coming and Related Events - Part 3**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 8*

- V. Personal Inductive Study
  - A. Harmony of the Gospels
  - B. Chronological Study
  - C. Two Second Comings?
  
- VI. Second Coming for Believers (I Thessalonians 4)
  - A. Question About Those Who Die Before the Second Coming
    - 1. Feast of First fruits (I Corinthians 15:17-23)
    - 2. Dead in Christ raised first
      - a. Soul goes to the presence of God at death (II Corinthians 5)
      - b. Body goes to the grave
      - c. They will be reunited at the second coming
    - 3. Shout of the archangel
    - 4. Sound of the trumpet
    - 5. Caught up in the air (I Corinthians 15:50-51)

**The Second Coming and Related Events - Part 4**  
*Volume 8 – Unit 9*

B. Question of Those Alive at Second Coming (I Corinthians 15:50-57)

1. Paul's references to death as "sleep"
  - a. Positive connotations of rest
  - b. Associated with awaking from the sleep
2. Corruptible bodies
3. Resurrection bodies
  - a. The dead will receive theirs at the second coming of Christ
  - b. The living will receive theirs without death at the second coming of Christ
4. Welcoming party
5. Comfort

**VII. When Will It Happen? (I Thessalonians 5)**

- A. The Unbelieving World Not Prepared
- B. Christians Need to Watch
- C. Signs of the Second Coming

1. Movement toward a one-world government
2. Movement toward a great monolithic religious system
3. Development of nuclear energy
  - a. Nuclear weapons will wipe out populations
  - b. Biblical description fits nuclear fission (II Peter 3:10-12)
4. Closer to the great apostasy than ever before
5. Little significance to the events in the Middle East today in light of prophecy

# **What Happens at Death - Part 1**

*Volume 8 – Unit 10*

## **I. Seventh Trumpet (Revelation 11:15-18)**

A. Dead Will Be Raised

B. Judgment Seat of Christ (Romans 14:10, II Corinthians 5:9-10)

1. Not a judgment concerning sin or the validity of salvation (Romans 8:1)
2. A question of reward (I Corinthians 3:5-15)

## **Second Coming of Christ**

C. Rapture of Church – Welcoming Party

D. Judgment Seat of Christ

## **II. Millennium (Revelation 20)**

A. Differing Views

1. Actual period of time following the second coming (Premillennialism)
2. No thousand year reign of Christ (Amillennialism)
3. Christ returns after the millennium (Postmillennialism)

## **What Happens at Death - Part 2**

*Volume 8 – Unit 11*

### B. Reasons for Premillennial View

1. Revelation chapters 19 and 20 are chronologically sequential
2. Satan still deceives the nations, so is not already bound (II Corinthians 4:4)
3. The two resurrections
4. Gog-Magog rebellion (cf. Ezekiel 38-39) occurs after the second coming

### C. What Will Happen?

1. According to dispensationalists, a return to Old Testament Judaism
2. Promises of Old Testament fulfilled in New Jerusalem (cf. Hebrews 11:8-16)

### D. What Is the Purpose of the Millennium?

1. The judgment seat of Christ
2. Evangelistic activity (cf. Isaiah 66)
3. An interim period or transition
4. Populated by believers and unbelievers
5. Believers before the second coming will reign with Christ

## **IV. Second Resurrection (of Unbelievers)**

# **The Great White Throne and the Eternal State**

## *Volume 8 – Unit 12*

### **I. Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15)**

A. For Unbelievers

B. No One Will Escape

C. Given Opportunity to Show Righteousness

1. On the basis of own works

2. On the basis of accepting Christ by faith

D. Cast into Lake of Fire for Eternity

### **II. The Eternal State (Revelation 21-22)**

A. The Curse on Nature Lifted

B. The Tabernacle of God

1. Shekinah glory in the Old Testament

2. Holy Spirit in the New Testament

3. Very presence of God in the New Jerusalem

## **The New Jerusalem**

C. Old and New Testament Saints Present

D. Holy of Holies Expanded Infinitely

E. Absolute, Total Protection

F. God in the Midst of His People

G. God and the Lamb Are the Light of the City

H. Water of Life, Salvation

I. Most Beautiful, Most Desirable Place

## **Summary**

## **Questions**