

Vineyard Labourer Bible College

Bible Study Module 2

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God. . .”
James 1:5

“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do . . .”
John 14:13

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth . . .”
John 16:13

“Search the scriptures . . . and they are they which testify of me.”
John 5:39

“All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God . . .”
2 Timothy 3:16

“Never should the Bible be studied without prayer.
Before opening its pages we should ask for the
enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, and it will be given.”
Steps to Christ by E. White, page 91 para 1.

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Vineyard Labourer Bible College Training for the Christian Walk

2a - THE CREATOR AND HIS CREATION

1. God through Christ created everything in the heavens and the earth.

- Gen. 1:1, 21, 27. The Creator is how God is first revealed in His Holy Word.
- John 1:1 - 3. Christ was the agent through whom the Father performed His works.
- Col. 1:16. "By Him" [Christ] were all things created.
- Isa. 43:1, 14, 15. Redemption is a work of creation also.
- Rev. 14:6, 7. In a special message to the world for the last days God calls attention to Himself as Creator.

2. God took six literal days to create this earth and the solar system.

- Exo. 20:8 - 11. The seven day week, and the Sabbath are a witness that the "days" of creation were twenty-four-hour periods.
- Gen. 1:1, 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, & 31. List the days of Creation.
- "In Genesis 1, God, through the 'pen' of Moses, is going out of His way to tell us that the 'days' of creation were literal earth-rotation days. To do this, He used the Hebrew word *yom*, combined with a number and the words 'evening and morning'. . . . The only meaning which is possible from the Hebrew words used is that the 'days' of creation were 24-hour days. God could not have communicated this meaning more clearly than He did in Genesis 1." "How Long Were The Days Of Genesis 1?" by Russell Grigg, M.Sc. (Hons.).
- Gen. 2:1. God finished His work on this world and solar system in six days.

3. God has created other world and systems besides our earth.

- Heb. 1:2. "By whom also He made *the worlds*,"
- Heb. 11:3 *The worlds* were framed by God's word.
- Job 38:4 - 7. The morning stars sang together, and the sons of God shouted for joy at the foundation of this world, showing that other worlds were created before this one.

4. In the works of creation God used no pre-existing matter, and still has everything under His control and supervision.

- Ps. 33:6 - 9. Made by the word of the Lord.
- Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, & 26. Notice how God spoke and it was.
- Heb. 11:3. Worlds were spoken into existence.
- M.H. page 414 para. 3. "In the creation of the earth, God was not indebted to pre-existing matter. "He spake, and it was; . . . He commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33:9. All things, material or spiritual, stood up before the Lord Jehovah at His voice and were created for His own purpose. The heavens and all the host of them, the earth and all things therein, came into existence by the breath of His mouth."
- Isa. 40:12, 26. God created, named, and knows the weight of the worlds.
- Job 26:7. God hold the earth is space.
- Heb. 1:3. Christ upholds all things by His power.

5. To exercise rulership over this world and all it contained, and as the crowning act of creation, God created man in His own image.

- Gen. 1:26 - 28. Man was created in the image or likeness of God, and to exercise dominion over this world. The creative act imparted the life with its physical, mental and spiritual qualities.
- Gen. 2:7. The making of man.
- Gen 2:18 - 24. The making of woman.
- Gen. 1:28. God intended man to populate the earth.

6. God made every provision for man's welfare and happiness.

- Gen. 1:29, 30. Man's food.
- Gen. 2:8. Man's home.
- Gen. 2:15. Man's work.
- Gen. 2:25. No clothing was given to man, but they were clothed with garments of light. (See 1S.M. page 270 para. 1.)

7. Evolutionary theory so prevalent in the world today and the Bible account of man's origin are totally different and opposed to one another.

1. Man commenced his existence perfect from the Creator's hands, and a little lower than the angels. He has not been evolving to some higher plane. Gen. 1:31; C.D. Page 117 para. 1; Ps. 8:5.
2. Man was created upright, and has not been gradually evolving a system of nobler ideals. Eccl. 7:29.
3. Man spent his first days in God's presence in the garden God made him, not lifting himself out of his environment as a caveman to better conditions of life. Gen. 2:8, 9.
4. Man's genealogy is headed by Adam, the son of God, not some speck of protoplasm. Luke 3:38.
5. Man is not constantly improving in health and living longer, but is becoming sicker and living a shorter life span than those nearer creation. Gen. 5.
6. Mankind before Noah's flood had knowledge of architecture, shepherding, music, and metals, and there is nothing new under the sun. Gen. 4:17, 20, 21, 22; Eccl. 1:9.

Questions on the Lesson

1. In the first chapter of the Bible how is God revealed?
2. Prove that the Agent through whom the Father wrought in creation was Christ.
3. For when and what is the special message that God has given that calls attention to Himself as Creator?
4. What does the Bible say was spoken into existence in the creation week?
5. Show that the worlds were not formed out of pre-existent material.
6. What remarkable knowledge of His creation does God possess?
7. What made man the noblest work of God's creation in our world?
8. Describe the creation of Adam and Eve.
9. What provisions did God make for man?
10. Give four points in which the Biblical record of the origin of man is diametrically opposed to the evolutionary theory.

MEMORISE:

- Heb. 11:3.
- Ed. pages 16, 17. "All created things, in their original perfection, were an expression of the thought of God. To Adam and Eve nature was teeming with divine wisdom."

For Further Study

1. Can a true Christian be an evolutionist?
2. If the Sabbath had always been kept, would there be any evolutionists?
3. Does the Holy Spirit have creative power along with the other persons of the Godhead? Job 33:4; Ps. 104:30.
4. Are other worlds besides our own inhabited?
5. What is at the centre of everything that God has every created? G.C. pages 677 - 8.
6. Give proof that the days of creation were not long periods of time, but literal twenty-four-hour days.
7. In comparing the human race today with Adam's day, has there been increased evolution or degeneration?
8. Read T.8. pages 258 - 262.

2b - THE MEMORIAL OF CREATION

1. The Creator established a memorial of His creative work in order to preserve the knowledge of His great work of creation.

- Ps. 19:1-4. Nature declares God as it's creator.
- Ps. 135:13. His memorial endureth all generations.
- *Webster* defines a memorial as "That which preserves the memory of something; any thing that serves to keep in memory."
- Gen. 2:1 - 3. God blessed and sanctified the Sabbath day, the 7th day of creation.
- Exo. 20:9-11. The Lord set up the Sabbath as a memorial of creation.
- Mark 2:27. The Sabbath was made for man.
- *Note:* The original Sabbath being a perpetual memorial of God, the Creator calling man to imitate God in the observance of the same, man could not keep the original Sabbath and forget God. Previous to the fall, God designed that man's time should be occupied with pleasant, invigorating, but not wearisome labour. Laborious, wearisome toil came in consequence of sin. While under the fall the Sabbath, therefore, may bring physical rest to both man and the beast of burden in a way not originally intended, physical rest was not its original and primary design or purpose. Cessation from the ordinary labours and occupations of the week was ordained, not because these are wrong or sinful in themselves, but that man might have an appointed time and a frequently recurring period for the contemplation of the Creator and His works.

2. As the work of redemption is also a work of creation, the memorial of God's creation is also a memorial to every converted soul of God's re-creation or redeeming grace.

- Exo. 31:13, 14. Sabbath is a sign that God sanctifies us.
- Eze. 20:12. Sabbath was given as a sign of sanctification.

3. It naturally follows then, that when men forgot the Sabbath they began to lose their knowledge of the great truths of creation and redemption.

- Jer. 10:10 - 12. The true God is known by His creative power.
- G.C. page 437 para. 2. *Evolution* is an illustration of man's forgetfulness of God as the Creator. If the Sabbath had been faithfully kept there could never have been an idolater, an atheist, or an infidel. This would include evolutionists.

Modern higher criticism, with its rejection of the doctrine of sin, and of salvation through Christ, is an illustration of how men have forgotten God as their Redeemer. It is noticeable that neither evolution nor higher criticism finds any sympathy with Sabbath-keepers.

- Eze. 20:20. The Sabbath preserves the knowledge of the true God.
- P.P. page 307 para. 2. "It is to be remembered and observed as the memorial of the Creator's work. Pointing to God as the Maker of the heavens and the earth, it distinguishes the true God from all false gods. All who keep the seventh day signify by this act that they are worshipers of Jehovah. Thus the Sabbath is the sign of man's allegiance to God as long as there are any upon the earth to serve Him."

4. God's memorial of creation is to be kept for eternity.

- Isa. 66:22, 23. The Sabbath will be observed in the new earth.
- Rev. 4:11. God is worshipped as Creator in heaven.
- Ex. 31:16, 17. A perpetual covenant and a sign for ever.
- E.W. page 217. The Sabbath never will be done away.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What knowledge did God seek to preserve? How and why?
2. Give the definition of the word memorial.
3. Show from Scripture why we can say the Sabbath is a memorial.
4. According to Jesus, why was the Sabbath made?
5. The Sabbath reminds us of something other than creation. What?
6. What two primary truths are lost when the Sabbath is forgotten?
7. Why could there never have been an idolater upon the earth if the Sabbath had always been faithfully kept?
8. Prove from Scripture that the Sabbath memorial is an eternal institution.

MEMORISE:

- Exo. 31:16.
- T.6. page 350 para. 1. "The Sabbath given to the world as the sign of God as the Creator is also the sign of Him as the Sanctifier. The power that created all things is the power that re-creates the soul in His own likeness. To those who keep holy the Sabbath day it is the sign of sanctification."

For Further Study

1. Make a list of other divine memorials besides the Sabbath. What do they commemorate?
Suggested texts:- Gen. 9:12-17; Exo. 12:14; 1 Cor. 11:23 - 25; Rom. 6:3 - 5.
2. Which of these memorials should still be commemorated today?
3. What is the difference between a memorial and a type?
4. Is the weekly Sabbath a type? What about the ceremonial Sabbaths?
5. Why did sinless man need a Sabbath?
6. Read G.C. pages 53 - 4, 437 - 8; D.A. pages 281 - 289.

2c - WHAT IS SIN?

1. Every creature owes obedience to God's Laws because God is the Creator and King of the universe. His law is also the basis or foundation of His government. Therefore sin is rebellion against God's law or government.

- Ps. 103:19. The Lord rules over all.
- 1 John 3:4. Who ever sins breaks God's law.
- James 4:17. To know to do good and not do it is sin.
- Prov. 21:4. A proud heart is sin.
- Prov. 24:9. Thoughts of foolishness is sin.
- Rom. 14:23. What is not of faith is sin.
- Isa. 1:2, 19, 20. Rebellion against God and His law is sin.
- James 1:25. Lust precedes sin.
- Ps. 32:5. The Bible uses three different words for sin. They are sin, iniquity, and transgression.

Sin is usually described as missing the mark, or failing to do one's duty.

Iniquity is usually described as perversity, moral evil, crookedness or guilt.

Transgression is usually described as rebellion, departure from God, and hence implying wilful sin.

2. Although God requires us to be wholly just and good, and His law is a perfect standard of righteousness, we have no acceptable reason to rebel against His will.

- Ps. 19:7, 8. The law of the Lord is perfect, sure, right, and pure.
- Ps. 119:142. God's law is truth.
- Ps. 119:172. God's commandments are righteousness.
- Rom. 7:12. The law is holy, just and good.
- *Note:-* From these texts we are able to conclude that sin or transgression of God's law has the opposite attributes of God's law. Therefore, sin is imperfection, insecurity, wrong, impurity, error, unrighteousness, unholy, unjust, and bad.
- 1 John 5:17. All unrighteousness is sin.
- Prov. 14:34. Sin is a reproach.
- Eph. 2:1 - 3. Sins are lust of the flesh and mind.
- Gal. 5:19 - 23. Works of the flesh compared with the fruit of the Spirit.

3. Sin is dethroning God and putting self in His place.

- Isa. 14:12-14. Lucifer thought to exalt himself above God.
- Matt. 6:24. We can only serve one master - God or mammon (riches or anything other than God).
- Rev. 3:20. Sinners will not permit Christ to enter their lives.

4. Sin is compared to all that is fearful and shunned by man. All evils, unhappiness, sickness and death are the result of sin.

- Gal. 5:19 - 21. Sin is moral defilement.
- Luke 5:30 - 32. Sin is a sickness.
- John 8:34. Sin is a taskmaster.
- Rom. 5:12. Sin brought death into this world.
- Rom. 7:18, 23. Sin makes one a captive.

- Rom. 8:21, 22. Sin has affected all of creation.
- Dr. Guthrie thus graphically depicts sin: "It is a debt, a burden, a thief, a sickness, a leprosy, a plague, a poison, a serpent, a sting; everything that man hates it is; a load of curses and calamities, beneath whose crushing, most intolerable pressure, the whole creation groaneth. Name me the evil that springs not from this root, the crime that I may not lay at its door. Who is the hoary sexton that digs man a grave? Who is the painted temptress that steals his virtue? Who is the murderess that destroys his life? Who is the sorceress who first deceives and then damns his soul?- Sin. Who with icy breath blights the fair blossoms of youth? Who breaks the hearts of parents? Who brings old men's grey hairs with sorrow to the grave?- Sin. Who by a more hideous metamorphosis than Ovid ever fancied, changes gentle children into vipers, tender mothers into monsters, and their fathers into worse than Herods- the murderers of their own innocents?- Sin. Who cast the apple of discord on household hearths? Who lights the torch of war and bears it blazing over trembling lands? Who by divisions in the church rends Christ's seamless robe?- Sin. Who is this Delilah that sings the Nazarite asleep, and delivers up the strength of God into the hands of the uncircumcised? ...Who turns the soft and gentle heart to stone? Who hurls reason from her lofty throne, and impels sinners, mad as Gadarene swine, down the precipice into a lake of fire?- Sin."

5. God is holy and pure, because of this sin is foreign to Him and it separates us from His presence. God cannot excuse sin. Death must be the penalty for sin.

- Isa. 59:1, 2. Sin separates us from God.
- Eze. 18:4. The soul that sinneth, it shall die.
- Rom. 6:23. The wages or payment for sin is death.
- Heb. 1:9. Christ hates sin.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What is sin in relation to God's government? What Scriptures support this.
2. What is sin in relation to God's law? What Scriptures support this.
3. Give four Scripture definitions of sin, with references.
4. When we sin who is ruling our lives?
5. What separation does sin bring about?
6. What is the payment for sin?
7. How did Christ regard sin?

MEMORIZE:

- 1 John 3:4.
- S.C. page 30 para. 1. "God does not regard all sins as of equal magnitude; there are degrees of guilt in His estimation, as well as in that of man; but however trifling this or that wrong act may seem in the eyes of men, no sin is small in the sight of God."

For Further Study

1. Write down the difference between sin and crime.
2. Could God in any way be responsible for sin? Why?
3. Read F.W. page 29 - 33.

2d - ORIGIN OF EVIL

1. The devil or Satan is the originator of sin. He is still the motivating power behind all evil today.

- John 8:44. The devil was a murderer and the father of all lies.
- 1 John 3:8. The devil sinneth from the beginning.
- 1 Chron. 21:1; Luke 22:3. Satan is the power behind sin.
- 1 Peter 5:8. Satan is still tempting people.

2. Satan is known by several names in the Bible.

- Rev. 12:9. The dragon, serpent, and devil.
- Rev. 12:10. The accuser of our brethren.
- Isa. 14:12. Lucifer, son of the morning, is another name for Satan.
- Zech. 3:1 (margin). Satan means adversary.
- 1 Pet. 5:8. Adversary.
- John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11. Prince of this world.

3. There was a time when Satan was not evil, but a beautiful, perfect angel called Lucifer.

- Isa. 14:12. Lucifer, son of the morning, fell from heaven.
- John 8:44. The devil abode not in the truth, therefore he was once in it.
- Eze. 28:15. He was created perfect.

4. Before sinning, Satan occupied a position of authority and importance in heaven.

- Eze. 28:12. Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
- Eze. 28:13. He was in the garden of Eden; every precious stone was his covering; he had musical instruments built into his body.
- Eze. 28:14. He was the anointed covering cherub, was on God's holy mountain in heaven.
- Luke 10:18. He was in heaven.
- Isa. 14:13. He sat on a throne.

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5. Satan was not created by God. Satan is what resulted when Lucifer, a perfect and beautiful angel created by God, chose to disobey God and exalt himself.

- G.C. page 492 para. 2. It is impossible to explain the origin of sin, yet we may understand enough to know that God is just and benevolent.
- Eze. 28:16, 17. Lucifer became proud, and his wisdom became corrupt.
- Isa. 14:13, 14. His pride led to self-exaltation, and coveting of God's position.
- Rev. 12:7. Satan's rebellion caused war in heaven.
- 2 Peter 2:4; Rev. 12:4, 7. Numerous angels sided with Satan.

6. Satan and his angels were expelled from heaven because of their sin.

- Rev. 12:8, 9. The devil and his angels were cast out of heaven.
- Luke 10:18. Christ saw Satan fall from heaven.
- Eze. 28:16. He was cast out of the mountain of God.
- Jude 6. Some angels lost their first estate. (Compare with 2 Peter 2:4.)
- Isa. 14:12. Lucifer had fallen from heaven, he was cut down to the ground.
- Matt. 25:41. The everlasting fire was prepared for the devil and his angels.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Who was the originator of sin? Give Scripture references.
2. What does the Bible tell us that Satan means?
3. Show from Scripture that Satan was not always evil.
4. What was his original name, position, and character?
5. Did God create the devil? Give reasons for your answer.
6. Why did Lucifer fall into sin?
7. What happened in heaven because of this fall, and what was the result?
8. Using Scripture, show that the devil had accomplices.

MEMORISE:

- 1 Peter 5:8.
- G.C. page 492 para. 2. "Sin is an intruder, for whose presence no reason can be given. It is mysterious, unaccountable; to excuse it is to defend it."

For Further Study

1. Why did God make a being that was able to sin?
2. Why did God not just destroy Satan when his rebellion first started? (See P.P. pages 41, 42.)
3. Does God take pleasure in forced obedience? Who does? (See P.P. page 34.)
4. Did Satan have any controversy with God's law?

2e - THE FALL OF MAN AND ITS EFFECT

1. When Satan and his associates were banished from heaven they were not confined to this earth. They also tempted the occupants of other worlds that God had created, and at times even returned to visit heaven.

- 2 Peter 2:4. They were cast down to hell or place of darkness. This no doubt has reference to the empty space between the world.
- E.W. page 290 para. 2. "...the inhabitants of other worlds were delivered from his [Satan's] presence and his temptations."
- Job 1:6, 7; 2:1, 2. The sons of God presented themselves to God, and Satan was with them.
- D.A. page 671 para. 2. "Henceforth his [Satan's] work was restricted."
- E.W. Page 39 para. 2. Angels must show a gold card at heaven's gate.

2. When mankind were created, God made them perfect. God gave them a simple test to see if they would obey Him and could thereby live forever.

- Gen. 1:26 - 31. God made man in His image and God said that he was good.
- Gen. 2:15 - 17. Man was told not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
- C.C. Page 13 para. 2. The tree of knowledge was to be a test of the obedience, faith, and love of our first parents.

3. Mankind fell into Satan's deception, and disobeyed God. In so doing Adam gave his dominion of this world to Satan.

- Gen. 3:1 - 6. Man yielded to the enemy.
- 1 Tim. 2:13, 14. Eve was deceived. Adam partook of the fruit knowing what he was doing.
- Job 1:6, 7; 2:1, 2. Satan claimed this world as his territory.
- John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11. Satan was known as the prince of this world.

4. So that we could be acquainted with the reason as to why sin existed in our world, the Bible gives details of man's fall.

- Gen. 2:16, 17. Only at the forbidden tree was Satan able to tempt mankind. Only here was it possible for man to obtain a knowledge of evil.
- Gen. 3:1. Satan disguised himself as a serpent.
- Gen. 3:2, 3. Instead of fleeing, Eve talked with the serpent.
- Gen. 3:4, 5. Satan insinuated that God was not telling the truth, and was being selfish.
- Gen. 3:6. Eve was deceived and ate the fruit. She gave to Adam who ate also. Note the three avenues of temptation.

5. The effects of their sin had enormous consequences upon themselves and the whole earth.

- *They lost their innocence.* Gen. 3:7. Note that it was not until Adam ate the fruit also that they realized that they were naked.
- *They became afraid of God.* Gen. 3:8. They hid themselves from God. When Jesus Christ comes a second time, people will again hide themselves from Him. Rev. 6:15 - 17.
- *They tried to justify their sin, and blame others.* Gen. 3:9 - 13.

- *Sin separated them from God so they could not talk face to face any more.* Gen. 3:8. The same is true when we sin today. Isa. 59:2.
- *Sin robbed man of eternal life.* Gen. 3:19. Man was to return to dust from which he was made.
Rom. 5:12. Because we have all sinned we are all condemned to die.
1 Cor. 15:22. In Adam all die.
- *Sin deprived them of their home.* Gen 3:22 - 24. God drove them from their garden home.
- *The ground was cursed, and work became toilsome because of sin.* Gen. 3:17 - 19.
- *Adam forfeited dominion over this world to Satan.* Gen. 1:28; Job 1:6, 7; 2:1, 2; John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11.
- *Man became a slave to sin.* Rom. 6:16.
- *Sin has caused men to have stony hearts.* Eze. 36:26.

Questions on the Lesson

1. Was Satan and his associates banished to this earth? Give Scripture evidence.
2. How did Satan gain a foot hold in this world?
3. How did Satan become the prince of this world? Give Scripture evidence.
4. What was the forbidden tree to mankind?
5. Who was the serpent in the tree of knowledge of good and evil?
6. Trace the steps of Eve's fall, and how her fall differed from Adam's.
7. What shows that mankind lost their innocence? Is this why we should dress modestly today?
8. How did man after he sinned react to God calling him?
9. What terrible sentence was pronounced upon all mankind because of sin?
10. List 8 different ways that sin effected mankind, giving Scripture references.

MEMORISE:

- 1 Tim. 2:14.
- P.P. page 52 para. 1. "No longer free to stir up rebellion in heaven, Satan's enmity against God found a new field in plotting the ruin of the human race."

For Further Study

1. Compare the avenues of temptation in Gen. 3:6 and 1 John 2:16.
2. Was the test given to mankind a small or hard test? Is any sin small?
3. Read P.P. pages 52 - 62.

2f - THE REDEMPTION OF MANKIND

1. The wages or penalty of sin is death. God could have made man pay the price, but it would mean death for eternity. But God has no pleasure in death, but is a God of love, mercy and justice.

- Rom. 6:23. The wages of sin is death.
- James 1:25. When sin is finished it brings death.
- Eze. 18:32. God has no pleasure in death, but calls us to repentance so we can live.
- Ps. 89:14. Justice, judgement, mercy, and truth are characteristics of God.
- Eph. 2:4. God is rich in mercy and love.

2. A righteous God could never excuse sin, therefore he could not annul the death penalty. The only way that man could be saved is by God providing a substitute, i.e. someone sinless who would die in man's stead.

- Rom. 3:23. All men have sinned, therefore no man could save mankind.
- Jer. 13:23. No man can change himself.
- John 3:16, 17. God sent His Son as a substitute for us.
- Rom. 3:24. Man is saved only by grace or unmerited favour through Jesus Christ.
- Heb. 4:15. Jesus, the Son of God, was tempted in all points yet did not sin.
- Gal. 1:4; 2:20; Eph. 5:25; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6. Jesus Christ gave Himself as a sacrifice for us.
- 1 Peter 3:18. Christ the just, died for us the unjust.
- Isa. 53:4 - 6. Our Substitute bears our sin and its penalty.

3. Although presented to man in the garden of Eden, the plan of redemption had been laid down by God from the foundation of this world. Sin did not take God by surprise. He had foreseen what would happen and made provision for it.

- Gen. 3:15. "And I [God] will put enmity between thee [Satan] and the woman [representing the whole human family], and between thy seed [those who serve Satan] and her seed [those who serve Christ]; it [the seed of the woman, namely Christ] shall bruise thy [Satan's] head, and thou [Satan] shalt bruise his [Christ's] heel."
- 1 Peter 1:19, 20. Christ was ordained the Lamb of God before the foundations of this world.
- Rev. 13:8. Christ, the Lamb, was slain from the foundation of this world.
- Eph. 1:4. God had chosen believers in Christ before the foundation of the world.
- D.A. page 22 para. 2. The plan for our redemption was not an afterthought, a plan formulated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of "the mystery which hath been kept in silence through times eternal." Rom. 16:25, R. V.

4. God had been unfolding to men the promise of a coming Saviour all through the centuries from Adam to Christ.

- John 1:45. Jesus of Nazareth is the one whom the prophets wrote about.
- John 5:39. The Scriptures testify of Christ.
- John 5:46. Moses wrote about Jesus.
- Luke 24:27, 44. All the Old Testament reveals Christ.
- *Note:* We cannot here deal fully with what the Old Testament has to say about Christ for it is too vast a subject. Christ is the theme in all that is spoken of in the Old Testament. Such as:-
 - Individual types of Christ, as Adam. Rom. 5:14.

- Ceremonial types of Christ, as the passover. 1 Cor. 5:7.
- Historic types of Christ, as water from the rock and serpent on cross. 1 Cor. 10:4; John 3:14.
- Prophecies of Christ, as Isaiah 53.

5. In order to become our Substitute it was necessary for Christ to come to this earth as a man, live a sinless life, and die as a sacrifice for mankind.

- John 1:1-3, 14. The Word was God, was made flesh, and came to dwell among men.
- Heb. 2:14 - 17; 1 Tim. 3:16. Christ partook of our nature or flesh.
- Phil. 2:5 - 8. Christ humbled Himself, and was obedient.
- Lev. 22:20. The sacrifice for sin must be without blemish.
- 1 Peter 1:19; Heb 9:14; John 1:29. Christ was the lamb without blemish or spot, which took away the sins of the world.
- 1 Peter 2:21, 22; Heb. 4:15. Christ did not sin.
- Heb. 2:9; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; Rom. 4:25, 5:6, 8. Christ died for every single person.
- Rom. 5:10. Christ's death reconciles us to God.

6. To complete His redemptive work Christ was raised from the dead to be our High Priest and Saviour, and now all who come to Him may receive the gift eternal life.

- Rom. 10:9; Eph. 1:20; 1 Thess. 1:10. The Lord Jesus was raised from the dead and is set at the right hand of God.
- Rom. 4:23 - 25. Jesus was raised for our justification. Paying the penalty for us on the cross could not justify us. Jesus must impute His righteous life to us, and this necessitates His resurrection to life.
- Heb. 4:15. Christ is our High Priest.
- John 14:6. We have access to God through Jesus.
- Rom. 5:17 - 19; John 17:3. Through Jesus Christ we can have eternal life.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What is the wages of sin? Does God have pleasure in this?
2. Why could God not excuse man's sin?
3. From Scripture show that the plan of salvation existed before the foundation of the world.
4. What was God trying to reveal to mankind throughout all the Old Testament?
5. Who was the oldest Bible writer that wrote about Christ?
6. When and where was the way of salvation first revealed to man?
7. Give text to show that Christ became the sinner's substitute. What did this involve.
8. What sort of sacrifice was demanded of Christ and how was this taught to Israel?
9. Why was it necessary for Christ to be raised?
10. How are we reconciled to God?

MEMORISE:

- John 3:16, 17.
- C.T.B.H. page 15 para. 3. "In the plan of redemption a way of escape is provided for all who will avail themselves of it. God knew that it was impossible for man to overcome in his own strength, and he has provided help for him."

For Further Study

1. Why did God not destroy man as soon as he sinned?
2. Why could an angel not redeem man? (See. P.P. pages 64, 65.)
3. What caused the death of Jesus Christ?
4. Read E.W. Pages 149 - 153; and D.A. pages 19 - 26.

2g - HOW TO BECOME A NEW PERSON

1. Every individual who has ever lived can have salvation through the adequate sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

- Heb. 2:9; 1 John 4:14. Jesus died for every man, and to be the Saviour of the world.
- Isa. 53:6. Jesus bore all our iniquities.
- John 1:29. The Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.
- 2 Cor. 5:18, 19. God has done everything possible to reconcile man to Himself.

2. However, only those who *believe on Jesus Christ* can have the salvation that He has purchased. This belief is more than just an acknowledgement. It is an accepting of Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.

- Gal. 3:22. The promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.
- John 3:16; 20:31; Acts 10:43; Acts 16:31; 1 John 5:13. Believe on Lord Jesus Christ to be saved.
- Mark 16:15, 16; John 3:36. Those who don't believe will be lost.
- James 2:19. The devils also believe and tremble.
- Rom. 3:22; Gal. 2:16. True believers also have faith.
- James 2:20 - 26. Faith without works is dead.

3. *Repentance and confession* are the first acts that someone who truly accepts Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour should do. We need to acknowledge that we are guilty sinners in need of Christ's offer of Salvation.

- Acts 2:38. First we must repent.
- Matt. 9:13. Christ came to call sinners to repentance.
- G.W. page 216 para. 2. "If you repent of your sins, it is your duty to make confession of them."
- Lev. 5:5. True confession is always of a specific character.
- Num. 5:6, 7. We are to confess what we have done.
- 1 John 1:9; Ps. 86:5. If we confess our sins we shall be forgiven.
- Repentance is the relinquishment of any practice, from conviction that it has offended God.

4. *Consecration to God or Conversion* must accompany a sinner's confession of sin.

- James 4:7, 8. Submit yourself unto the Lord.
- Rom. 12:1. We are to present ourselves living sacrifices to God.
- Isa. 6:8. A consecrated person will be ready to do anything God asks.
- Luke 14:33. It is necessary to forsake all. Christ's disciples did this. Luke 5:11.
- Mark 10:17 - 22. An example of someone who would not forsake all for Christ.
- Matt. 18:3. Except we be converted we cannot enter heaven.
- John 3:3 - 8. Man needs a rebirth, a birth of water and Spirit.
- 2 Cor. 5:17. The converted man becomes a new creation. (Also see Acts 9:1 - 22; 22:1 - 21; 26:1 - 23.)
- Luke 22:31, 32; 1 John 2:29; 3:14; 4:7; Eph. 2:5. Evidence that a man is converted.
- Conversion is a change of heart, or dispositions, in which the enmity of the heart to God and his law and the obstinacy of the will are subdued, and are succeeded by supreme love to God and his moral government, and a reformation of life.

5. When we have confessed our sins and consecrated ourselves wholly to God, we are to *accept His forgiveness*.

- 1 John 1:9. God has promised to forgive us if we ask.
- Isa. 1:18. Though our sins be crimson or scarlet, they shall be as white as snow or wool.
- Mark 11:24. Our desire when prayed for will be granted if we believe.
- Ps. 119:160. God's word is true from the beginning.
- Titus 1:2. God cannot lie.
- *Note:* If we do not accept that our sins are forgiven, we are actually calling God a liar. As the Bible teaches that God is not a liar, our non-acceptance of His forgiveness puts us at odds with both the Bible and God.

6. Having been freed from our sins and been accepted as children of God, we are now to *obey our Father in heaven*.

- 1 John 3:1, 2. Because of God's love we can become the sons and daughters of God.
- John 14:15, 21. If we love God in return, we will keep His Commandments.
- John 15:10. If we keep His commandments we abide in His love.
- John 8:31. We are Christ's disciples if we continue in His word.
- Gal. 5:6. We are to have faith that works by love.
- Heb. 5:8, 9. Christ is the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him.
- 2 Cor. 10:5. Every thought is to be brought into captivity, to obedience of Christ.

7. Christ has promised to provide us with the strength for obedience when we determine to walk as obedient children.

- Phil. 4:13. We can do all thing that God wants us to do through Jesus Christ.
- Phil. 4:16. God will supply all our need.
- Luke 12:29 - 31. Seek God first and He will supply our food and drink.
- Eph. 3:20. Christ is exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.

Questions on the Lesson

1. For whom and how does Christ's death on the cross make provision?
2. Show from Scripture the necessity of faith on Jesus Christ.
3. Explain what it meant by believing on Christ for salvation.
4. What is the first step in the sinner's approach to Christ?
5. What should accompany repentance?
6. Give one example of full consecration, and one of unwillingness to surrender.
7. When we have sought God's forgiveness what promises may we claim?
8. When we are forgiven, from what are we released?
9. If we love God what will we do?
10. How are we to walk as children of God?
11. What blessed provision is promised to the child of God?

MEMORISE:

- 1 John 1:19.
- G.C. page 129 para. 1. "Nothing but repentance toward God and faith in Christ can save the sinner. The grace of Christ cannot be purchased; it is a free gift."

For Further Study

1. Can we be sure our sins are forgiven?
2. Can we be saved without obedience to God's law?
3. Is it possible to keep the law by ourselves? How can we keep it?
4. Read S.C. pages 23 - 66.

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