Mastering the Basics

This book is dedicated to the African People whose hunger for the Word of God has brought it forth.

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Mastering the Basics Lesson 1

Why Teach Doctrine?

Why Teach Doctrine? There are many that feel that it is unnecessary, even divisive, to teach doctrine. Nothing could be further from the truth. Bible doctrine is the truth of God's Word, which needs to be taught. Jesus said, "My doctrine is not mine, but His that sent Me" (Jn. 7:16). Paul said to Timothy, "But thou has fully known my doctrine, [and] manner of life…" (2 Tim. 3:10). Doctrine should lead to life, practice, and application. As believers we are told to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). The Apostle Paul said, "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine… And shall turn away their ears from the truth" (2 Tim. 4:3-4).

<u>Three Sources of Doctrine</u>. There are three sources of doctrine: (1) God. (2) Man. (3) Satan. In Matthew 16:13-23 we see all three sources revealed. When Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said, "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven" (v.v. 16-17). This was the doctrine of God coming to Peter.

When asked the same question, many people said Jesus was John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or some other prophet (v. 14). This was the doctrine of man, that is, only human thinking. Jesus said that traditions and doctrines of men make the Word of God of none effect (Mk. 7:7-9,13). Believers are warned not to be carried about by every wind of doctrine (Eph. 4:14).

In verses 21-23, Peter rebuked Jesus for saying He was going to the cross. Jesus replied, "Get thee behind me Satan..." (Mt. 16:23). This was a doctrine of Satan. The Apostle Paul states that "in the latter time some will depart from the [Christian] faith and give heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons" (1 Tim. 4:1). Proper understanding of God's Word is the only way to correct the false teaching of man and the doctrines of demons.

<u>Doctrine Must Be Sound</u>. Sound doctrine is revealed as (1) The doctrine of God (1 Tim. 6:1-3; Titus 2:10). (2) The doctrine of Christ (Heb. 6:1). (3) The Apostles' doctrine (Acts 2:42). Contained within these doctrines are: Repentance from dead works, Faith toward God, Baptisms, Laying on of Hands, Resurrection from the dead, Eternal Judgment (Heb. 6:1-2), the words of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Tim. 6:3), the Kingdom of God (Luke 4:43), godliness (1 Tim. 6:3), love (1 Cor. 13:1-2), and all that the scriptures reveal that is profitable to be taught; that is, for doctrine (2 Tim. 3:16).

<u>A Personal & Intimate Relationship with God</u>. The purpose of all Bible doctrine is that man may come to know God in a personal and intimate way, as revealed in Jesus Christ (Jn. 17:3; Acts 9:5).

Questions

- 1. Read John 7:16. Jesus said, My doctrine is not mine, but: a. His that sent me [God's]. b. the Pharisee's. c. the Jewish Rabbi's.
- 2. Read 2 Timothy 3:10. The way the Apostle Paul lived and his: a. doctrine was fully known to others. b. teaching CD's was fully known to others. c. appearance was fully known to others.
- 3. Read James 1:22. Doctrine will not benefit unless there is: a. application (it has to be applied). b. meditation. c. a teaching degree.
- 4. Read Jude 3. As believers we are to: a. earnestly contend for the Christian faith which was once delivered unto the saints. b. read Christian books continually. c. go to church on Sunday.
- 5. Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4. The Apostle Paul said there will be a time when many shall turn away their: a. ears from the truth. b. money from the offerings. c. children from the family.
- 6. Read Matthew 16:13-23. What are the three sources of doctrine? a. God, man, and satan. b. priest, clergy and laity. c. preachers, prophets & evangelist.
- 7. Read Acts 2:42. As disciples of Jesus, we are to continue steadfastly in the a.. devils doctrine. b.. man's doctrine. c. apostles' doctrine.
- 8. Read Hebrews 6:1-2. The doctrine of Christ consist of: a. repentance from dead works, faith toward God, baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. b. the trinity, rapture and the end times.
- 9. Read 1 Timothy 6:3-4. We are to teach and consent to the words of: a. man. b. satan. c. your pastor. d. our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 10. Read 1 Timothy 6:3. The words of the Lord Jesus Christ and His doctrine is according to: a. ungodliness. b. the Law. c. godliness.
- 11. Read Titus 2:7-10. In doctrine we should display: a. Corruptness. b. works of the law. c. uncorruptness; that is, we don't want anyone to look down on God's message because of their behavior (the Message Bible, v.7).
- 12. Read Luke 4:43. The doctrine of Christ involves preaching a. The kingdom of God. b. asking Jesus into your heart. c. prosperity.

- 13. Read 2 Timothy 3:16. All scripture is profitable for: a. doctrine. b. reading. c. edification.
- 14. Read John 17:3. The purpose of Bible doctrine is that man may come to: a. know God. b. a higher education. c. know more about religion.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read John 7:16**. [16] Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.
- 2. **Read 2 Timothy 3:10**. [10] But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,
- 3. **Read James 1:22**. [22] But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.
- 4. **Read Jude 3**. [3] Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.
- 5. **Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4**. [3] For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; [4] And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.
- 6. Read Matthew 16:13-23. [13] When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? [14] And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias: and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. [15] He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? [16] And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. [17] And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. [18] And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. [19] And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. [20] Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ. [21] From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. [22] Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. [23] But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an

offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

- 7. **Read Acts 2:42**. [42] And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- 8. **Read Hebrews 6:1-2**. [1] Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, [2] Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
- 9. **Read 1 Timothy 6:3-4**. [3] If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; [4] He is proud, knowing nothing...
- 10. **Read 1 Timothy 6:3**. [3] If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;
- 11. **Read Titus 2:7-10**. [7] In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, [8] Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. [9] Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again; [10] Not purloining, but showing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.
- 12. **Read Luke 4:43**. [43] And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.
- 13. **Read 2 Timothy 3:16**. [16] All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- 14. **Read John 17:3**. [3] And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Answer Key - Lesson 1 Why Teach Doctrine?

- 1. Read John 7:16. Jesus said, My doctrine is not mine, but: a. <u>His that sent me [God's]</u>. b. the Pharisee's. c. the Jewish Rabbi's.
- 2. Read 2 Timothy 3:10. The way the Apostle Paul lived and his: a. <u>doctrine</u> was fully known to others. b. teaching CD's was fully known to others. c. appearance was fully known to others.

- 3. Read James 1:22. Doctrine will not benefit unless there is: a. <u>application (it has to be applied)</u>. b. meditation. c. a teaching degree.
- 4. Read Jude 3. As believers we are to: a. <u>earnestly contend for the Christian faith which was once delivered unto the saints</u>. b. read Christian books continually. c. go to church on Sunday.
- 5. Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4. The Apostle Paul said there will be a time when many shall turn away their: a. <u>ears from the truth</u>. b. money from the offerings. c. children from the family.
- 6. Read Matthew 16:13-23. What are the three sources of doctrine? a. <u>God, man, and satan</u>. b. priest, clergy and laity. c. preachers, prophets & evangelist.
- 7. Read Acts 2:42. As disciples of Jesus, we are to continue steadfastly in the a.. devils doctrine. b.. man's doctrine. c. <u>apostles' doctrine</u>.
- 8. Read Hebrews 6:1-2. The doctrine of Christ consist of: a. <u>repentance from dead works</u>, faith toward God, baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the <u>dead</u>, and <u>eternal judgment</u>. b. the trinity, rapture and the end times.
- 9. Read 1 Timothy 6:3-4. We are to teach and consent to the words of: a. man. b. satan. c. your pastor. d. <u>our Lord Jesus Christ.</u>
- 10. Read 1 Timothy 6:3. The words of the Lord Jesus Christ and His doctrine is according to: a. ungodliness. b. the Law. c. godliness.
- 11. Read Titus 2:7-10. In doctrine we should display: a. Corruptness. b. works of the law. c. <u>uncorruptness</u>; that is, we don't want anyone to look down on God's message because of their behavior (the Message Bible, v.7).
- 12. Read Luke 4:43. The doctrine of Christ involves preaching a. <u>The kingdom of God</u>. b. asking Jesus into your heart. c. prosperity.
- 13. Read 2 Timothy 3:16. All scripture is profitable for: a. <u>doctrine</u>. b. reading. c. edification.
- 14. Read John 17:3. The purpose of Bible doctrine is that man may come to: a. know God. b. a higher education. c. know more about religion.

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Mastering the Basics Lesson 2

What was the Message of Jesus?

What was the Message of Jesus? While the kingdom of God was the central message of Jesus, many modern-day evangelists have virtually ignored it. A gospel of American invention has replaced the New Testament message of the "gospel of the Kingdom." Many evangelists and even professors of Bible colleges would be hard-pressed to expound on the "gospel of the Kingdom." Yet it is one of the first words from Jesus and the last message He spoke before returning to heaven (Mk.1:14-15; Acts 1:3).

When John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness he said, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt. 3:1-2). His hearers understood he was referring to the future age prophesied by the Old Testament prophets. It would be a time when the Messianic King would defeat the enemies of Israel and usher in the Messianic Age of an everlasting kingdom of peace and prosperity. The long awaited expectation had arrived in Jesus.

Jesus told the crowds, "I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: because that is why I was sent" (Luke 4:43). The 12 Apostles also traveled with Him and were commissioned by Him to preach the same message as He did (Mt. 10:1,7-8). They went out and preached that people should repent (Mk. 6:12), showing the connection of accepting the rule of God (kingdom) by the call of repentance. They also confessed their sins and were baptized as they believed in the Messianic King-Jesus (Mt. 3:1-2,6,8; John 4:1; Acts 19:4-6). Jesus tried to explain that He had to be a suffering Messiah to overthrow Satan's authority legally and permanently (Luke 24:26; Col. 2:15). Later 70 others were commissioned to preach the kingdom message also (Lk. 10:1,9).

The gospel of the Kingdom has to be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then the end will come (Mt. 24:14). In the interim Christ's disciples would be the witnesses of the Messiah King. The gospel of the Kingdom is not an invitation to "invite Jesus into your heart," neither is it centered on heaven awaiting believers at death. It's focus is on accepting the rule of God by rejecting Satan's, receiving the grace of the cross that results in personal relationship with God (Acts 26:18-20), for its by grace that we are saved (Eph. 2:5). The kingdom is received through the New Birth (Jn. 3:3, 5). The kingdom is the realm in which one accepts God's rule (1 Thess. 1:9). It is a realm in which one must enter now (Col. 1:13-14), yet it is a realm in which one will enter in the future (Mt. 25:31,34). In this age there is death; in the kingdom of God, eternal life (Mk. 10:29-30). In this age the righteous and wicked are mixed together (Mt.

13:47-51). In the future all wickedness and sin will be destroyed (Mt. 13:41). At present, Satan is viewed as the "god of this age," in the future kingdom, God's rule will have destroyed Satan and righteousness will displace evil (2 Cor. 4:4-5; Rev. 11:15; Mt. 13:36-43).

Have you accepted the offer of God's kingdom? Have you turned from darkness to light? Have you turned from the authority of Satan unto the authority of God? Have you received the gift of forgiveness and the inheritance of eternal life? If not, repent for the kingdom of God (rule of God) has arrived.

God calls upon all men everywhere to submit voluntarily to His rule. Thus the kingdom now is said to be in a mystery form (Mk. 4:11), and is not seen by natural observation. When God however, asserts His rule universally, the kingdom will appear in glory and will manifest to all (Daniel 2:44).

Questions

- 1. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 1:3. One of the first words of Jesus and the last message He spoke before returning to heaven was: a. things concerning tithing. b. things concerning the order of worship. c. things pertaining to the kingdom of God.
- 2. Read Matthew 3:1-2. When John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness he said: a. Ask Jesus into your heart. b. God has a wonderful plan for your life. c. Repent [have a change of heart & mind] for the rule of God has come.
- 3. Read Acts 26:18. Vine's Greek dictionary under the subject of the "kingdom" states the following: "Since this earth is the scene of universal rebellion against God, the kingdom of God is the sphere in which at any given time, His rule is acknowledged." The "kingdom of God" has the idea of a group of people that would accept His rule. Look at Acts 26:18, In preaching the "kingdom of God," whose authority are we rejecting and whose authority are we accepting?
- 4. Read Luke 4:43. Jesus told the crowds that the reason that He had been sent was to proclaim: a. the four spiritual laws. b. the prosperity message. c. the kingdom of God.
- 5. Read Matthew 10:1, 7-8. The twelve Apostles traveled with Jesus and were commissioned by Him to preach a. the law of Moses. b. the 10 commandments. c. the same message as He did.
- 6. Read Mark 6:7,12. A person shows that they accept the rule of God [kingdom], by: a. repentance. b. joining a local church. c. reading the Bible.

- 7. Read Acts 8:5,12; Matthew 28:19-20. Philip the evangelist preached the kingdom of God and Jesus as the Messiah king. People responded to his preaching by identifying with Christ through the act of: a. asking Jesus into their heart. b. joining the local church. c. baptism.
- 8. Read 1 John 3:8, Colossians 2:15. Satan's authority was overthrown legally and permanently by: a. the work of the cross. b. by an animal sacrifice. c. praying without ceasing.
- 9. Read Luke 9:59-60; Luke 10:1,9. Those that follow Jesus are commissioned to preach: a. inspirational messages. b. the philosophies of man. c. the kingdom message.
- 10. Read Matthew 24:14. The gospel of the _____ shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
- 11. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:9; Acts 26:18. The gospel of the kingdom is not an invitation to "invite Jesus into your heart," neither is it centered on heaven awaiting believers at death. It's focus is on accepting the rule of God by rejecting: a. Satan's rule. b. your wife's authority. c. your local church's teachings.
- 12. Read Mark 6:12. The Apostles preached that people must: a. ask Jesus into their heart. b. repent, that is accept God's rule by turning to God and His authority. c. attend a local church.
- 13. Read 2 Peter 3:13. According to God's promise, we look for: a. a new car. b. an abundance of money. c. new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 1:3. Mark 1:[14] Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. Acts 1: [3] To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:
- 2. **Read Matthew 3:1-2**. [1] In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, [2] And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- 3. **Read Acts 26:18**. [18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

- **Acts 26:20** [20] But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.
- 4. **Read Luke 4:43**. [43] And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.
- 5. **Read Matthew 10:1, 7-8**. [1] And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. [7] And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. [8] Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.
- 6. **Read Mark 6:7,12**. [7] And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; [12] And they went out, and preached that men should repent.
- 7. Read Acts 8:5,12; Matthew 28:19-20. Acts 8: [5] Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. [12] But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Matthew 28: [19] Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: [20] Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
- 8. **Read 1 John 3:8, Colossians 2:15**. **1 John 3:** [8] He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. **Colossians 2:** [15] And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- 9. **Read Luke 9:59-60; Luke 10:1,9**. **Luke 9:** [59] And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. [60] Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. **Luke 10:** [1] After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. [9] And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.
- 10. **Read Matthew 24:14**. [14] And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
- 11. **Read 1 Thessalonians 1:9; Acts 26:18**. **1 Thessalonians 1:** [9] For they themselves show of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye

turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; Acts 26: [18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

- 12. **Read Mark 6:12**. [12] And they went out, and preached that men should repent.
- 13. **Read 2 Peter 3:13**. [13] Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Answer Key - Lesson 2 What Was the Message of Jesus?

- 1. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 1:3. One of the first words of Jesus and the last message He spoke before returning to heaven was: a. things concerning tithing. b. things concerning the order of worship. c. things pertaining to the kingdom of God.
- 2. Read Matthew 3:1-2. When John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness he said: a. Ask Jesus into your heart. b. God has a wonderful plan for your life. c. Repent [have a change of heart & mind] for the rule of God has come. [I have interpreted the kingdom of God as the rule of God for the following reasons: The word "kingdom" is made up of two words, "king" meaning "absolute ruler; one who rules or presides over." "Dom" meaning "domain, the territory He rules, that is, His subjects"].
- 3. Read Acts 26:18. Vine's Greek dictionary under the subject of the "kingdom" states the following: "Since this earth is the scene of universal rebellion against God, the kingdom of God is the sphere in which at any given time, His rule is acknowledged." The "kingdom of God" has the idea of a group of people that would accept His rule. Look at Acts 26:18, In preaching the "kingdom of God," whose authority are we rejecting and whose authority are we accepting? We are turning from the authority of Satan unto the authority of God [also called repentance, see Acts 26:20], that we might receive the forgiveness of our sins.
- 4. Read Luke 4:43. Jesus told the crowds that the reason that He had been sent was to proclaim: a. the four spiritual laws. b. the prosperity message. c. the kingdom of God.
- 5. Read Matthew 10:1, 7-8. The twelve Apostles traveled with Jesus and were commissioned by Him to preach a. the law of Moses. b. the 10 commandments. c. the same message as He did.
- 6. Read Mark 6:7,12. A person shows that they accept the rule of God [kingdom], by: a. repentance. b. joining a local church. c. reading the Bible.

- 7. Read Acts 8:5,12; Matthew 28:19-20. Philip the evangelist preached the kingdom of God and Jesus as the Messiah king. People responded to his preaching by identifying with Christ through the act of: a. asking Jesus into their heart. b. joining the local church. c. <u>baptism</u>. [Early New Testament believers expressed their faith in Christ by an act of water baptism. This was an act of faith that identified them as becoming Christ's disciple (Matthew 28:18-20).
- 8. Read 1 John 3:8, Colossians 2:15. Satan's authority was overthrown legally and permanently by: a. the work of the cross. b. by an animal sacrifice. c. praying without ceasing.
- 9. Read Luke 9:59-60; Luke 10:1,9. Those that follow Jesus are commissioned to preach: a. inspirational messages. b. the philosophies of man. c. the kingdom message.
- 10. Read Matthew 24:14. The gospel of the <u>kingdom</u> shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
- 11. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:9; Acts 26:18. The gospel of the kingdom is not an invitation to "invite Jesus into your heart," neither is it centered on heaven awaiting believers at death. It's focus is on accepting the rule of God by rejecting: a. Satan's rule. b. your wife's authority. c. your local church's teachings.
- 12. Read Mark 6:12. The Apostles preached that people must: a. ask Jesus into their heart. b. <u>repent</u>, that is accept God's rule by turning to God and His rule. c. attend a local church.
- 13. Read 2 Peter 3:13. According to God's promise, we look for: a. a new car. b. an abundance of money. c. new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

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Mastering the Basics Lesson 3

What did Paul Preach to the Gentiles?

What did Paul Preach to the Gentiles? When Jesus went about preaching the message, "Repent, for the kingdom of God or the rule of God was at hand," the Jews seemed to understand it. When Paul taught the same message to Gentiles he used the word "Lord" instead of the word "King." "King" was a foreign term in Gentile usage, but they understood completely "Caesar is Lord." He is deity, he is maximum authority, he is the boss. Christian gentiles said, "No, Caesar is not Lord, Jesus is Lord!" He is Deity, He is our authority, He is our boss, He is God (Acts 26:18; Romans 1:1,3; John 20:28).

The Apostle Paul said, "That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9 NASV).

On the day of Pentecost the Apostle Peter said the same thing. This Jesus that you have crucified, God has raised, and has made Him both Lord and Messiah (Acts 2:36). The call for response was the same as when Jesus and John preached the kingdom message. Repent, have a change of heart and mind, turn from darkness to light, for Satan's authority unto God's and be baptized – identifying with the Messiah Jesus. You also shall receive God's promised Holy Spirit.

Christ's death, burial and resurrection was the foundation that secured God's right to have absolute authority over those who had turned to God. Romans 14:9 says, "This is why Christ died and came to life again, to establish his lordship over dead and living..." (New English Bible). The Apostle Paul stated that as believers we "are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Cor. 6:20).

The gospel message contains the good news that God has redeemed man, [freed and released them from the clutches of Satan] to serve the living and true God (1 Thessalonians 1:9). Which master do you serve, whose authority are you under? Have you turned from darkness to light, from Satan's authority unto God's that you may receive the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 26:18)?

The preaching of the gospel of the kingdom is the only message that brings the righteousness of God [being made right with God, as a gift, through Jesus blood], and the truth of being under God's authority and rule [holiness], into the lives of men and women who have decided to become Jesus disciples.

Questions

- 1. Read Luke 6:46. The word "Lord" means: a. master. b. ruler. c. boss. d. king. e. the one who has the right to control your life. f. deity. g. all of the above.
- 2. Read Acts 2:36. God has made Jesus, the one who was crucified to be both: a. a good man & a good teacher. b. to be Lord & the promised Messiah (Christ). c. a Pharisee & a scribe.
- 3. Read Acts 2:37. When people heard that Jesus was the Lord (Master) and Messiah, they were: a. glad. b. sad. c. pricked in their heart, that is, convicted deeply.
- 4. Read Acts 2:38. What did the Apostle Peter tell the people to do: a. repent. b. be baptized. c. receive forgiveness through Jesus. d. receive the Holy Spirit. e. all of the above (that is, a.,b.,c., & d.). f. ask Jesus into their heart.
- 5. Read Acts 26:18-20. Repentance means: a. Having a change of heart toward God. b. turning from spiritual darkness to the light. c. turning from Satan's authority to God's authority. d. turning to God & proving you have turned by the good works that you do. e. all of the above.
- 6. Read Romans 14:9 & 1 Cor.6:19-20. Christ death, burial, and resurrection was the foundation that secured God's right to have absolute authority over those who have turned to God. True or False.
- 7. Read 1 John 3:8; Acts 10:38 & Colossians 1:13-14. The gospel message contains the good news that God has redeemed man, that is, freed and released them from the clutches of Satan. True or False.
- 8. Read Romans 6:17-18,22. The preaching of the gospel of the kingdom is the only message that brings: a. health & wealth together. b. justification [being made right with God as a gift through Jesus blood] and sanctification [holiness being set apart unto God] together. c. religions together.
- 9. Read Acts 28:28-31. What message did the Apostle Paul preach?

Scriptures to use with Questions

1. **Read Luke 6:46**. [46] And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

- 2. **Read Acts 2:36**. [36] Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.
- 3. **Read Acts 2:37**. [37] Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?
- 4. **Read Acts 2:38**. [38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- 5. **Read Acts 26:18-20**. [18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. [19] Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: [20] But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.
- 6. **Read Romans 14:9 & 1 Cor.6:19-20**. **Romans 14:** [9] For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. **1 Cor.6:** [19] What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? [20] For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.
- 7. Read 1 John 3:8; Acts 10:38 & Colossians 1:13-14. 1 John 3: [8] He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Acts 10: [38] How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Colossians 1: [13] Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: [14] In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
- 8. **Read Romans 6:17-18,22**. [17] But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. [18] Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. [22] But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
- 9. **Read Acts 28:28-31**. [28] Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it. [29] And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among

themselves. [30] And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, [31] Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Answer Key – Lesson 3 The Preaching of Paul to the Gentiles

- 1. Read Luke 6:46. The word "Lord" means: a. master. b. ruler. c. boss. d. king. e. the one who has the right to control your life. f. deity. g. <u>all of the</u> above.
- 2. Read Acts 2:36. God has made Jesus, the one who was crucified to be both: a. a good man & a good teacher. b. to be Lord & the promised Messiah (Christ). c. a Pharisee & a scribe.
- 3. Read Acts 2:37. When people heard that Jesus was the Lord (Master) and Messiah, they were: a. glad. b. sad. c. pricked in their heart, that is, convicted deeply.
- 4. Read Acts 2:38. What did the Apostle Peter tell the people to do: a. repent. b. be baptized. c. receive forgiveness through Jesus. d. receive the Holy Spirit. e. all of the above (that is, a.,b.,c., & d.). f. ask Jesus into their heart.
- 5. Read Acts 26:18-20. Repentance means: a. Having a change of heart toward God. b. turning from spiritual darkness to the light. c. turning from Satan's authority to God's authority. d. turning to God & proving you have turned by the good works that you do. e. <u>all of the above</u>.
- 6. Read Romans 14:9 & 1 Cor.6:19-20. Christ death, burial, and resurrection was the foundation that secured God's right to have absolute authority over those who have turned to God. <u>True</u> or False.
- 7. Read 1 John 3:8; Acts 10:38 & Colossians 1:13-14. The gospel message contains the good news that God has redeemed man, that is, freed and released them from the clutches of Satan. <u>True</u> or False.
- 8. Read Romans 6:17-18,22. The preaching of the gospel of the kingdom is the only message that brings: a. health & wealth together. b. justification [being made right with God as a gift through Jesus blood] and sanctification [holiness being set apart unto God] together. c. religions together.
- 9. Read Acts 28:28-31. What message did the Apostle Paul preach? <u>The kingdom of God, the truths concerning the Lord Jesus Christ & His redeeming work, that is, the salvation of God that is sent to even the Gentiles.</u>

Mastering the Basics Lesson 4

The Cost of Discipleship

Jesus call was a call to discipleship. The word "disciple(s)" is used 273 times in the New Testament. The word "Christian(s)" is used only 3 times in the New Testament. The reason that many people will not accept that "disciples" and "Christians" are suppose to be the same person (See Acts 11:26) is that discipleship cost you something but salvation is free. The truth is, that Jesus always called for the whole of our life for all of our life. The free gift that accompanied His call was eternal life, provided by redemption, the provision of His sacrifice, forgiveness as an act of pure grace. But as stated before, Jesus call was for the whole of our life for all of our life (1 Cor.6:19-20).

Jesus said, "the kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field" (Matthew 13:44). Again Jesus said, "the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it" (Matthew 13:45).

The price is the same for all, everything we have (See Luke 14:33). The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hid in a field, when discovered we sell all to have the field with its treasure. Jesus is like the pearl of great price which man is willing to give all to have (See Matthew 19:21).

The Bible tells the story of a rich young ruler who came to Jesus with a question concerning eternal life (Mt.19:16-29; Mk.10:17-30; Lk.18:18-30). Jesus ask him to give up his covetousness [which is idolatry, Col.3:5] so that he might follow Him. The rich man refused and walked away from Jesus without eternal life (Mark 10:22-24). Another way to say this is, that the man refused to repent. He chose rather to follow his own life and his own ways (Luke 13:3).

If you want this pearl of great price, this kingdom of heaven, you must have a change of mind and a change of heart. This change is toward God and unto His authority and away from Satan and his authority. God wants to grant you repentance that leads unto life (Acts 11:18).

Juan Carlos Ortiz, a pastor from Argentina, relates the truths of discipleship this way: "The Bible says the kingdom of God is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of real worth, he sells everything he has and buys that pearl. Of course, according to traditional thinking, man is the pearl of great

price and Jesus the merchant who sells everything to make the purchase. Now I understand that He is the pearl of great price, and man the merchant.

So when man finds Jesus, it costs him everything. Jesus has joy, peace, healing security, eternity. Man marvels at such a pearl and says, "I want this pearl. How much does it cost?"

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The seller says, "It's too dear, too costly."
"But how much?"
"Well, it's very expensive."
"Do you think I could buy it?"
"Oh, of course. Anybody can."
"But you say it's too expensive. How much is it?"
"It costs everything you have - no more, no less - so anybody can buy it."
"I'll buy it."
"What do you have? Let's write it down."
"I have $10,000 in the bank."
"Good, $10,000. What else?"
"I have nothing more. That's all I have."
"Have you nothing more?"
"Well, I have some dollars here in my pocket."
"How many?"
"I'll see: 30, 40, 50, 80, 100, 120 – 120 dollars."
"That's fine. What else do you have?"
"I have nothing else. That's all."
"Where do you live?"
"I live in my house."
"The house too."
"Do you mean that I must live in my car, then?"
"Have you a car?"
"I have two."
"Both become mine. Both cars. What else?"
"Well, you have the house, the cars, the money, everything."
"What else?"
"I have nothing else."
"Are you alone in the world?"
"No, I have a wife, two children...."
"Your wife and your children too."
"Too?"
"Yes, everything you have. What else?"
"I have nothing else, I am left alone now."
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"Oh, you too. Everything. Everything becomes mine: wife, children, house, cars, money, clothing, everything. And you too. Now you can use all those things here but don't forget they are mine, as you are. When I need any of the things

you are using you must give them to me because now I am the owner." (Call to Discipleship by Juan Carlos Ortiz, pgs.42-43).

Richard P. Belcher stated, "If one were to suggest that the time would come when a group of evangelical Christians would be arguing for a salvation without repentance, without a change of behavior or lifestyle, without a real avowal of the lordship and authority of Christ, without perseverance, without discipleship, and a salvation which does not necessarily result in obedience and works, and with a regeneration which does not necessarily change one's life, most believers of several decades ago would have felt such would be an absolute impossibility. But believe it or not, the hour has come" (A Layman's Guide to the Lordship Controversy by Richard P. Belcher, p.71).

Eternal life is offered without works, as a free gift, as an act of pure grace through the redeeming work of our Savior. But it is also true that Jesus purchased the whole of our life, for all of our life (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), so glorify God in your body and in your spirit which is God's.

Questions

- 1. Read James 1:22. The word "disciple" comes from the Greek word "Mathetes" and means a learner that imitates their teacher, indicating thought accompanied by endeavor or effort. According to James 1:22, a true disciple not only hears God's Word but also: a. applies it. b. makes CD teaching tapes from it. c. forgets what he hears. d. sells it at the Bible book store.
- 2. Read Acts 11:26. The a. Pharisee's b. disciples. c. Catholics d. Protestants e. none of the above were called Christians first in Antioch.
- 3. Read Luke 14:26,33 & 2 Timothy 4:7-8. Jesus always called for the whole of our life for all of our life. True or False.
- 4. Read Mark 8:34 & John 10:27-28. Many times Jesus simple invitation was to: a. Repeat a prayer after me. b. Attend church regularly. c. Follow Me.
- 5. Read Mark 10:28-30 & Matthew 19:27-29. Those that accept Jesus invitation to "follow Him" will in the age to come receive the free gift of: a. all medical expenses paid. b. anything they want. c. advice on how to use their money. d. Eternal life.
- 6. Read Luke 5:27-28. Jesus spoke only two words to the tax-collector Matthew: "Follow Me!" And Matthew obeyed. Matthew "paid a great price, perhaps a higher price than any of the other disciples. A fisherman who followed Jesus could always go back to fishing. But a tax collector who left was finished, because the next day Rome would have someone else to take his place. Yet Matthew forsook everything immediately. He didn't say, "Well, I'm coming Lord —

but, hey, I could finance this whole operation if You'd just let me grab these bags!" He turned his back on it all, forsaking everything he had" (The Gospel According to Jesus, p.62). Luke 5:28 states, Matthew left: a. his mother b. his new car c. all to follow Jesus.

7. Read Acts 3:19; 17:30-31; 20:20-21; 26:20. No one who neglects to call people to repentance is preaching the gospel of Jesus correctly. It was one of the first words of John the Baptist's and Jesus (Mt.3:1-2; Mk.1:14-15) and the response that all the apostles were looking for (Acts 3:19; 17:30-31; 20:20-21; 26:20). The only people eligible to receive salvation are those who realize they are sinners and are willing to: a. pretend they are good. b. go to church. c. give to charity. d. repent.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read James 1:22**. [22] But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.
- 2. **Read Acts 11:26**. [26] And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.
- 3. Read Luke 14:26, 33 & 2 Timothy 4:7-8. Luke 14: [26] If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. [33] So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. 2 Timothy 4: [7] I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: [8] Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
- 4. Read Mark 8:34 & John 10:27-28. Mark 8:[34] And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. John 10: [27] My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: [28] And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
- 5. **Read Mark 10:28-30 & Matthew 19:27-29**. **Mark 10**:[28] Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee. [29] And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, [30] But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. **Matthew 19**:[27] Then

answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? [28] And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. [29] And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

- 6. **Read Luke 5:27-28**. [27] And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me. [28] And he left all, rose up, and followed him.
- 7. Read Acts 3:19; 17:30-31; 20:20-21; 26:20. Acts 3:[19] Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; Acts 17: [30] And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: [31] Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. Acts 20: [20] And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shown you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, [21] Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 26: [20] But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

Answer Key - Lesson 4 The Cost of Discipleship

- 1. Read James 1:22. The word "disciple" comes from the Greek word "Mathetes" and means a learner that imitates their teacher, indicating thought accompanied by endeavor or effort. According to James 1:22, a true disciple not only hears God's Word but also: a. <u>applies it</u>. b. makes CD teaching tapes from it. c. forgets what he hears. d. sells it at the Bible book store.
- 2. Read Acts 11:26. The a. Pharisee's b. <u>disciples</u>. c. Catholics d. Protestants e. none of the above were called Christians first in Antioch.
- 3. Read Luke 14:26, 33 & 2 Timothy 4:7-8. Jesus always called for the whole of our life for all of our life. True or False.
- 4. Read Mark 8:34 & John 10:27-28. Many times Jesus simple invitation was to: a. Repeat a prayer after me. b. Attend church regularly. c. Follow Me. The word "follow" means: "to come or go after, to move in the same direction, to come or go with, to be governed by, to obey or comply with, to accept the guidance or leadership of [lordship]."

- 5. Read Mark 10:28-30 & Matthew 19:27-29. Those that accept Jesus invitation to "follow Him" will in the age to come receive the free gift of: a. all medical expenses paid. b. anything they want. c. advice on how to use their money. d. <u>Eternal life</u>.
- 6. Read Luke 5:27-28. Jesus spoke only two words to the tax-collector Matthew: "Follow Me!" And Matthew obeyed. Matthew "paid a great price, perhaps a higher price than any of the other disciples. A fisherman who followed Jesus could always go back to fishing. But a tax collector who left was finished, because the next day Rome would have someone else to take his place. Yet Matthew forsook everything immediately. He didn't say, "Well, I'm coming Lord but, hey, I could finance this whole operation if You'd just let me grab these bags!" He turned his back on it all, forsaking everything he had" (The Gospel According to Jesus, p.62). Luke 5:28 states, Matthew left: a. his mother b. his new car c. all to follow Jesus.
- 7. Read Acts 3:19; 17:30-31; 20:20-21; 26:20. No one who neglects to call people to repentance is preaching the gospel of Jesus correctly. It was one of the first words of John the Baptist's and Jesus (Mt.3:1-2; Mk.1:14-15) and the response that all the apostles were looking for (Acts 3:19; 17:30-31; 20:20-21; 26:20). The only people eligible to receive salvation are those who realize they are sinners and are willing to: a. pretend they are good. b. go to church. c. give to charity. d. repent. Repentance is a change of heart that causes people to turn to God and His ways and away from Satan and his ways. In this act people receive God's grace resulting in the forgiveness of their sins.

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Mastering the Basics Lesson 5

Jesus Is Lord

The Lordship of Christ involves the daily submission and surrender of our entire lives to the authority and leadership of God through Jesus Christ. Through "Lordship" we recognize the sovereign right of God to rule over us through Jesus Christ our King.

In the early church, Jesus Christ was preached as Lord and King (Acts 2:36; 17:6-7). It is interesting to note that Jesus was referred to as "Savior" only two times in the book of Acts while His "Lordship" was referred to ninety-two times. The apostles frequent evangelistic preaching as well as the epistles refers to His "Lordship" hundreds of times. The evidence that the Greek word *kurios* [lord} historically denotes rulership is overwhelming. Whether speaking of God the Father or Jesus His Son, *kurios* [lord] properly understood means supreme rulership as well as deity (Luke 6:46).

John MacArthur, Jr., in his book "The Gospel according to Jesus" states, "He [Jesus] is called Lord [kurios] no less than 747 times in the New Testament. The book of Acts alone refers to Him 92 times as Lord, while calling Him Savior only twice. Clearly in the early church's preaching, the lordship of Christ was the heart of the Christian message."

"The centrality of Jesus' lordship to the gospel message is clear from the way Scripture presents the terms of salvation. Those who dichotomize [to divide into] between believing on Christ as Savior and yielding to Him as Lord have a difficult time with many of the biblical invitations to faith, such as Acts 2:21: "Every one who calls on the name of the **Lord** shall be saved"; or Acts 2:36: "Let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him **both Lord and Christ** – this Jesus whom you crucified"; or Acts 16:31 "Believe in the **Lord** Jesus, and you shall be saved"; and particularly Romans 10:9-10: "That if you confess with your mouth **Jesus as Lord**, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved."

"All of these passages include indisputably the lordship of Christ as part of the gospel to be believed for salvation. We saw that Jesus' lordship includes the ideas of dominion, authority, sovereignty, and the right to govern. If those things are implicit in the phrase "confess...Jesus as Lord" (Romans 10:9), then it is clear that people who come to Christ for salvation must do so in obedience to Him, that is, with a willingness to surrender to Him as Lord" (pgs. 206-207).

We conclude this teaching with these thoughts. "Salvation is not in a plan but in a Person, the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation becomes a vital experience when the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ is received. Christ must not be divided in our preaching of the gospel. To receive Him is to receive Him as Lord and Savior, King as well as Prophet and Priest, Sovereign [ruler] as well as God. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit places the born-again soul into the Kingdom of God (Jn.3:3,5). If the Kingdom of God is "the rule of God," can one be in the Kingdom without being under the King's rule?" (Lordship Salvation: some crucial questions & answers by Robert Lescelius, p.46).

Generally speaking, people who present Jesus as only Savior to be accepted by faith, preach a message that is absent of any real commitment unto Him or His authority. The gospel message of salvation is not an offer of a discourse about Christ, but is a offer of Christ, the whole person and not just an offer of one of his offices or titles.

Questions

- 1. Read Luke 6:46. Through the "Lordship" of Jesus we recognize the sovereign right of God to: a. help us. b. speak to us. c. rule over us through Jesus the King.
- 2. Read Acts 17:6-7. In the early church, Jesus Christ was preached as Lord and: a. teacher. b. friend. c. King.
- 3. Read Acts 5:30-31& Acts 13:23-24. It is interesting to note that in the book of Acts, Jesus "Lordship" was referred to ninety-two times and Him being "Savior" was referred to: a. 90 times. b. 500 times. c. two times. d. none of the above.
- 4. Read Acts 2:36 & Luke 6:46. The Greek word *kurios* translated "Lord," means: a. shepherd. b. Son of Man. c. supreme rulership and authority, as well as deity.
- 5. Read Acts 2:21,36; 16:31 & Romans 10:9-10. Those who divide between believing on Christ as Savior and confessing Him as Lord have a difficult time with many biblical: a. examples. b. parables. c. stories. d. invitations to the Christian faith.
- 6. Read Acts 16:31. Salvation is not in a plan but in: a. doing good works. b. loving one another. c. a Person (the Lord Jesus Christ).
- 7. Read John 1:12. Christ must not be ______ in our preaching of the gospel. To receive Him is to receive Him as Lord and Savior, King as well as Prophet and Priest, Sovereign [ruler] as well as God.

8. Read Matthew 2:6. If the Kingdom of God is "the rule of God," can one be in the Kingdom without being under the King's _____?

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read Luke 6:46**. [46] And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?
- 2. **Read Acts 17:6-7**. [6] And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; [7] Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.
- 3. **Read Acts 5:30-31& Acts 13:23-24**. **Acts 5:** [30] The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. [31] Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. **Acts 13:** [23] Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus: [24] When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.
- 4. **Read Acts 2:36 & Luke 6:46**. **Acts 2:** [36] Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. **Luke 6:** [46] And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?
- 5. Read Acts 2:21,36; 16:31 & Romans 10:9-10. Acts 2: [21] And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. [36] Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Acts 16: [31] And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. Romans 10: [9] That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. [10] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
- 6. **Read Acts 16:31**. [31] And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- 7. **Read John 1:12**. [12] But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- 8. **Read Matthew 2:6**. [6] And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Answer Key – Lesson 5 Jesus Is Lord

- 1. Read Luke 6:46. Through the "Lordship" of Jesus we recognize the sovereign right of God to: a. help us. b. speak to us. c. <u>rule over us through Jesus the King</u>.
- 2. Read Acts 17:6-7. In the early church, Jesus Christ was preached as Lord and: a. teacher. b. friend. c. King.
- 3. Read Acts 5:30-31& Acts 13:23-24. It is interesting to note that in the book of Acts, Jesus "Lordship" was referred to ninety-two times and Him being "Savior" was referred to: a. 90 times. b. 500 times. c. two times. d. none of the above.
- 4. Read Acts 2:36 & Luke 6:46. The Greek word *kurios* translated "Lord," means: a. shepherd. b. Son of Man. c. <u>supreme rulership and authority, as well as deity</u>.
- 5. Read Acts 2:21,36; 16:31 & Romans 10:9-10. Those who divide between believing on Christ as Savior and confessing Him as Lord have a difficult time with many biblical: a. examples. b. parables. c. stories. d. <u>invitations to the Christian faith.</u>
- 6. Read Acts 16:31. Salvation is not in a plan but in: a. doing good works. b. loving one another. c. <u>a Person (the Lord Jesus Christ).</u>
- 7. Read John 1:12. Christ must not be <u>divided</u> in our preaching of the gospel. To receive Him is to receive Him as Lord and Savior, King as well as Prophet and Priest, Sovereign [ruler] as well as God.
- 8. Read Matthew 2:6. If the Kingdom of God is "the rule of God," can one be in the Kingdom without being under the King's <u>rule</u>? <u>No, He is King, Christ,</u> Governor and Ruler (Matthew 2:1-6).

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Mastering the Basics Lesson 6

Jesus Is King

The gospel presented in Scripture is the gospel of the Kingdom. It presents Jesus as Lord, as King, as the maximum authority. The gospel of the Kingdom is Christ-centered not man centered. As Juan Carlos Ortiz stated, "There are two masters in this world, and each has a kingdom. We were born into the kingdom of darkness. We were natural citizens of the kingdom of selfishness. It is a place where everyone does his own will. That is the way Satan runs his kingdom, "in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind" (Ephesians 2:3).

We lived as we liked. We did as we pleased. What difference did it make? The kingdom of darkness is like a wrecked ship that is sinking fast. When the captain knows his ship is lost, he goes to the passengers and says, "Listen, those in second class can go to first class; you're free to do what you want. Anyone who wants to drink, help yourself at the bar; it's all free. If you want to play soccer in the dining room, go ahead. If you break the lamps, don't worry."

The passengers say, "What a nice captain we have! We can do whatever we like on this ship."

But they will all be dead in a few minutes.

In the kingdom of darkness, you can have all the drugs, lust, and cheating you want. Nevertheless, you are lost. You think you are the king. You are led by the selfish spirit of your kingdom. But it is only a matter of time.

What is salvation? It is to be "delivered...from the domain of darkness, and transferred...to the kingdom of His beloved Son" (Colossians 1:13). It is not getting free of the kingdoms altogether. It is moving from the rulership of Satan to the rulership of Jesus Christ.

In this new Kingdom, you cannot do whatever you like. You are part of the Kingdom of God. He is King. He rules." [Disciple by Juan Carlos Ortiz, pgs.28-29].

The problem of modern day evangelism is that there is no emphasis on kingdoms, there is no emphasis on authority, there is no emphasis on masters. "Ask Jesus into your heart," "Ask Jesus to be your Savior," "Repeat this prayer after me," does not emphasize the turn from darkness to light, the turn from

Satan's authority to God that is necessary for one to receive the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 26:18).

There must be a racial change, a new birth, a new nature that accompanies repentance and the accepting of God's rule. "It is my belief that the mission of Jesus was to invade this present evil age with His kingdom rule, the age to come. Those who chose to receive the proclamation of the rule of God are, in fact, the Church" [The Church is Not the Kingdom! Week 3, SBL Ministries, p.1].

"The Kingdom of God does not accept naturalized citizens. You have to be born into the Kingdom. Suppose the laws of the United States were like that. And I came along to the immigration office and said, "I want to be an American."

"Where were you born?" they would ask me.

"[Entebbe, Uganda, East Africa]."

"Then you cannot be an American," they would explain, "because all Americans are born on American soil."

"Oh, but sir, I really want to become an American."

"Where were you born?"

"[Entebbe, Uganda, East Africa]."

"Well, I just told you that the only way to be an American is to be born in the United States of America."

"Oh, sir, how can I do it? I really truly want to be an American."

"Well, the only thing you can do would be to die and be born again, and this time be sure to be born in America. That's the only way. We don't accept visitors. We don't accept visas anymore. You have to be born here."

So how can a man change citizenship from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God?

Jesus brought the solution. His death on the cross and His resurrection really means this: Any slave who looks to the cross in faith is allowed to count that death as his own death. He dies: Satan loses him.

Then comes the resurrection. By it we are transferred into the new Kingdom. This is just as important as the cross. We die to one king and are born under the rule of another." [Disciple by Juan Carlos Ortiz, p.30]. If we would interpret the word "Christ" as "anointed to rule, king," we would not fail to see His "kingship" throughout the entire New Testament (Luke 23:2).

Questions

1. Read Mark 15:25-28. Jesus was declared to be a criminal by the Roman government because he: a. was said to be a king. b. was a good teacher. c. didn't pay his taxes.

- 2. Read Luke 23:1-3. From a Jewish perspective the word "Christ" means: a. a farmer. b. a teacher. c. a tax-collector. d. a king.
- 3. Read Acts 17:6-7. The Apostle Paul was accused by Jewish opposition of preaching Jesus as: a. a great religious leader. b. a healer. c. another king other than Caesar. d. a good man.
- 4. Read Revelation 15:3. The Lord God Almighty is the: a. King of the Saints. b. King of the unbelievers. c. King of the Gentiles.
- 5. Read Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14. The Old Testament Hebrew word *Malak* means "to reign, or be king." Basically the word means "to fill the functions of ruler over someone" The Greek word *kurios* that is used in the New Testament and is translated "Lord" 667 times means "supreme in authority." Which English word in Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14 is the equivalent of the Greek word *kurios* in these verses?
- 6. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. The everlasting King whose government shall not come to an end will be called: a. The Prince of Peace. b. The everlasting Father. c. the mighty God. d. Counsellor. e.Wonderful. f. all of the above.
- 7. Read Hebrews 1:8-9. The scepter [a staff borne by a king as an emblem of authority] of God's rule is: a. love. b. joy. c. peace. d. righteousness.
- 8. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 20:21. How can a man change citizenship from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God?
- 9. Read Luke 16:13; John 13:13-15; Matthew 23:10. What master have you chosen?
- 10. Read Colossians 1:13-14. We have been bought, purchased and freed to come into the Kingdom of God through Jesus': a. teaching. b. blood. c. example.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read Mark 15:25-28**. [25] And it was the third hour, and they crucified him. [26] And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS. [27] And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. [28] And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.
- 2. **Read Luke 23:1-3**. [1] And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. [2] And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he

himself is Christ a King. [3] And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answered him and said, Thou sayest it.

- 3. **Read Acts 17:6-7**. [6] And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; [7] Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.
- 4. **Read Revelation 15:3**. [3] And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.
- 5. Read Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14. Acts 25: [26] Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord. Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before thee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I might have somewhat to write. Revelation 17: [14] These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.
- 6. **Read Isaiah 9:6-7**. [6] For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. [7] Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.
- 7. **Read Hebrews 1:8-9**. [8] But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. [9] Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.
- 8. **Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 20:21**. **Mark 1:** [14] Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. **Acts 20:** [21] Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 9. Read Luke 16:13; John 13:13-15; Matthew 23:10. Luke 16: [13] No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. John 13: [13] Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. [14] If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. [15] For I have given you an example, that ye should do

- as I have done to you. **Matthew 23:** [10] Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.
- 10. **Read Colossians 1:13-14**. [13] Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: [14] In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Answer Key – Lesson 6 Jesus Is King

- 1. Read Mark 15:25-28. Jesus was declared to be a criminal by the Roman government because he: a. was said to be a king. b. was a good teacher. c. didn't pay his taxes.
- 2. Read Luke 23:1-3. From a Jewish perspective the word "Christ" means: a. a farmer. b. a teacher. c. a tax-collector. d. a king.
- 3. Read Acts 17:6-7. The Apostle Paul was accused by Jewish opposition of preaching Jesus as: a. a great religious leader. b. a healer. c. another king other than Caesar. d. a good man.
- 4. Read Revelation 15:3. The Lord God Almighty is the: a. <u>King of the Saints</u>. b. King of the unbelievers. c. King of the Gentiles.
- 5. Read Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14. The Old Testament Hebrew word *Malak* means "to reign, or be king." Basically the word means "to fill the functions of ruler over someone" The Greek word *kurios* that is used in the New Testament and is translated "Lord" 667 times means "supreme in authority." Which English word in Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14 is the equivalent of the Greek word *kurios* in these verses? King. This implies that the New Testament word "Lord" and "King" are basically synonymous or similar in meaning. To confess Jesus as Lord is to confess Him as King (Romans 10:9-10), as well as God.
- 6. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. The everlasting King whose government shall not come to an end will be called: a. The Prince of Peace. b. The everlasting Father. c. the mighty God. d. Counsellor. e.Wonderful. f. all of the above.
- 7. Read Hebrews 1:8-9. The scepter [a staff borne by a king as an emblem of authority] of God's rule is: a. love. b. joy. c. peace. d. <u>righteousness</u>.
- 8. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 20:21. How can a man change citizenship from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God? By repenting of our sins, turning to God for mercy and forgiveness, and putting faith toward the Lord (Master), Jesus (Saviour), Christ (our anointed King).

- 9. Read Luke 16:13; John 13:13-15; Matthew 23:10. What master have you chosen? Hopefully you have chosen Christ.
- 10. Read Colossians 1:13-14. We have been bought, purchased and freed to come into the Kingdom of God through Jesus': a. teaching. b. <u>blood</u>. c. example.

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Mastering the Basics Lesson 7

Jesus Is Saviour

"The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a <u>Prince [King] and a Saviour</u>, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins" (Acts 5:30-31).

"What is a Saviour? Suppose you are drowning. There you are, out in the middle of the ocean. Suppose someone were to throw you a book, Three Easy Lessons on How to Swim. Would he be a Saviour? No! Perhaps he could be called an "Educator."

"Now suppose a man got out of his boat, jumped in alongside you, and demonstrated various swimming strokes. Showed you just how you ought to do it. Would he be a Saviour? Of course not. He would merely be an "Example."

"A Saviour is one who takes you safely all the way to shore! When God says He gives eternal life, and that He will never cast you out or lose you, He means it; because, He is the true Saviour! If you do not trust Christ to take you all the way to heaven, then you have not trusted Him as your Saviour" (Handbook of Personal Evangelism by Ray Stanford, Richard & Carol Seymour, pgs. 25-26).

"Jesus Himself interpreted His mission as one of salvation, saying "For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). The term presupposes a danger, a disaster, from which the rescuer snatched the one whom he helped. The term in both the Old Testament (Isa. 53) and the New Testament suggests deliverance from the worst affliction and trouble known to mankind – deliverance from sin [and Satan]" (Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia, H.L. Drumwright, Jr., Vol.5, p. 291).

George Eldon Ladd in his book "The Gospel of the Kingdom," states, "What is the Gospel of the Kingdom? What means the announcement that the Kingdom of God has come near? It is this: that God is now acting among men to deliver them from the bondage to Satan" (p. 47).

The Old Testament and the New Testament indeed prophesied that the Messiah was to be a Saviour. The word "Messiah" translated into Greek as *christos* (in English it is "Christ"), means "anointed." It primarily signifies an anointed king. It was expected of God's anointed king to deliver his subjects from their enemies. This is why the New Testament stated that a Saviour was to be born that would deliver us from the hands of our enemies (Luke 1:67-75; 2:11). The real enemy was not flesh and blood but spiritual forces. Through Christ's redeeming act

upon the cross he legally destroyed the works of the devil (1 John 3:8; Colossians 2:14-15). The good news is that we have a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. He has dealt with Satan, sin and the flesh. Have you confessed Him as your Lord and accepted Him as your Saviour? (Romans 10:9-10). He wants to take you safely all the way into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Questions

- 1. Read Acts 5:30-31. God exalted Jesus to be: a. a Prince [King] b. a Saviour. c. all of the above.
- 2. Read Acts 5:30-31. Jesus as a Prince and Saviour offers to us: a. repentance. b. the forgiveness of sins. c. all of the above.
- 3. Read again the first four paragraphs in our lesson. A "Saviour" is: a. an educator. b. an example. c. a rescuer or deliver. d. none of the above.
- 4. Read Matthew 1:21; 1 John 3:8; James 4:7; Romans 7:24-25; 8:12. Jesus as our "Saviour" delivers us from: a. sin. b. Satan. c. the flesh. d. none of the above. e. all of the above.
- 5. Read 1 John 3:8. God is now acting among men to deliver them from the bondage to: a. food. b. religion. c. Satan d. women.
- 6. Read John 4:42. Jesus is the Saviour of: a. monkey's. b. the whale's. c. the world, that is, mankind.
- 7. Read Colossians 2:13; Romans 6:17-18,13; 1 John 3:2; Romans 8:21-23). "The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the ideas of *deliverance*, *safety, preservation, healing and soundness.* Salvation is the great inclusive word of the Gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts" [of the Saviour] (Scofield Ref. Bible, p.1192).

The believer has been saved from the guilt and penalty of sin (Colossians 2:13). True or False.

The believer is being saved from the habit and dominion of sin (Romans 6:17-18, 13). True or False.

The believer is to be saved in the sense of entire conformity to Christ (1 John 3:2; Romans 8:21-23). True or False.

8. Read Luke 1:67-75; 2:11. The New Testament stated that a Saviour was to be born that would deliver us from the hands of: a. our friends. b. our relatives. c. our enemies.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read Acts 5:30-31**. [30] The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. [31] Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.
- 2. **Read Acts 5:30-31**. [30] The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. [31] Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.
- 3. Read again the first four paragraphs in our lesson.
- 4. Read Matthew 1:21; 1 John 3:8; James 4:7; Romans 7:24-25; 8:12. Matthew 1: [21] And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 1 John 3: [8] He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. James 4: [7] Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Romans 7: [24] O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? [25] I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin. Romans 8: [12] Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.
- 5. **Read 1 John 3:8**. [8] He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.
- 6. **Read John 4:42**. [42] And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.
- 7. Read Colossians 2:13; Romans 6:17-18,13; 1 John 3:2; Romans 8:21-23. Colossians 2: [13] And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Romans 6: [17] But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. [18] Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. [13] Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 1 John 3: [2] Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. Romans 8: [21] Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. [22] For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth

in pain together until now. [23] And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

8. **Read Luke 1:67-75; 2:11**. **Luke 1:** [67] And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, [68] Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, [69] And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; [70] As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: [71] That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; [72] To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; [73] The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, [74] That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, [75] In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. **Luke 2:** [11] For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Answer Key – Lesson 7 Jesus Is Saviour

- 1. Read Acts 5:30-31. God exalted Jesus to be: a. a Prince [King] b. a Saviour. c. all of the above.
- 2. Read Acts 5:30-31. Jesus as a Prince and Saviour offers to us: a. repentance. b. the forgiveness of sins. c. <u>all of the above</u>.
- 3. Read again the first four paragraphs in our lesson. A "Saviour" is: a. an educator. b. an example. c. <u>a rescuer or deliver</u>. d. none of the above.
- 4. Read Matthew 1:21; 1 John 3:8; James 4:7; Romans 7:24-25; 8:12. Jesus as our "Saviour" delivers us from: a. sin. b. Satan. c. the flesh. d. none of the above. e. <u>all of the above</u>.
- 5. Read 1 John 3:8. God is now acting among men to deliver them from the bondage to: a. food. b. religion. c. <u>Satan</u> d. women.
- 6. Read John 4:42. Jesus is the Saviour of: a. monkey's. b. the whale's. c. the world, that is, mankind.
- 7. Read Colossians 2:13; Romans 6:17-18,13; 1 John 3:2; Romans 8:21-23). "The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the ideas of *deliverance*, *safety, preservation, healing and soundness.* Salvation is the great inclusive word of the Gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts" [of the Saviour] (Scofield Ref. Bible, p.1192).

The believer has been saved from the guilt and penalty of sin (Colossians 2:13). True or False.

The believer is being saved from the habit and dominion of sin (Romans 6:17-18, 13). <u>True</u> or False.

The believer is to be saved in the sense of entire conformity to Christ (1 John 3:2; Romans 8:21-23). True or False.

8. Read Luke 1:67-75; 2:11. The New Testament stated that a Saviour was to be born that would deliver us from the hands of: a. our friends. b. our relatives. c. our enemies.

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Studies of the King & His Kingdom

Mastering the Basics Lesson 8

The Doctrine of Christ: Repentance

What is Repentance? Repentance is a gift that God grants people who want to come to Him and be saved. It is a new attitude, a change of mind, a change of heart THAT RESULTS in one turning from sin, to God and to His ways.

In Matthew 3:8 John the Baptist said, "Bring forth fruit that is consistent with repentance [let your lives prove your change of heart]" (Amplified Bible). And the apostle Paul said in his preaching to the Gentiles "that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance" (Acts 26:20; NASV). From these scriptures we can see that "repentance" is "a change of heart, a change of mind" and that good works are the FRUIT of that changed heart.

"Vine's Expository Dictionary" states that "repentance" (Gk. METANOEO) "signifies to change one's mind or purpose, always, in the New Testament, except in Luke 17:3, 4, of repentance from sin" (p. 952). It further states, "In the New Testament the subject chiefly has reference to repentance from sin, and this change of mind involves both a turning from sin and a turning to God. The parable of the prodigal son is an outstanding illustration of this. Christ began His ministry with a call to repentance, Matt. 4:17, but the call is addressed, not as in the Old Testament to the nation, BUT TO THE INDIVIDUAL" (p. 953).

The "Expository Dictionary of Bible Words" states, "The Old Testament word that expresses the biblical concept of repentance is SUB. This verb is found over a thousand times in the Old Testament...in the 164 uses of this word in a covenant context, it indicates turning from evil to God, from evil ways to God's ways, or from God to idols. SUB is that commitment to a faith and way of life that involves turning from a previous way, and this is to `repent.' ... repentance itself, as it is illustrated in the Old Testament, is essentially the `about face' of a new commitment" (p. 522).

"In the New Testament, METANOEO and METANOIA are used in the same way as SUB in the Old Testament - to emphasize a change of mind and attitude. To repent is to make a decision that changes the total direction of one's life" (lbid., p. 522).

"Repentance in both the Old Testament and the New Testament provides a perspective on faith. For faith in a biblical sense is commitment, not merely 'belief about.' One who repents has faith, for it is faith in God that is expressed when we carry out a decision to turn from our old ways and to commit ourselves to God's ways" (lbid., p. 522).

"The New International Dictionary of N.T. Theology" states, "Repentance is no longer obedience to a law but to a PERSON. The call to repentance becomes a call to discipleship. So repentance, faith and discipleship are different aspects of the same thing" (Vol. 1, p. 358).

"There are many passages in which the term METANOEO does not appear, but in which the thought of repentance is clearly present. Examples are: `Unless you TURN and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven' (Matt. 18:3). `So therefore, whoever of you does not FORSAKE all that he has cannot be my disciple' (Lk. 14:33). It is the spiritually poor, the little ones and the helpless, who receive the promise of the Kingdom of God (Mt. 5:3; 18:10, 14)" (Ibid., Vol.1, p. 358).

"The early Christian preaching continued the call for repentance (See Mk. 6:12 and the sermons in Acts). This early preaching linked repentance with, the call to faith (Acts 20:21), the demand to be baptized (Acts 2:38), the promise of the forgiveness of sins (Lk. 24:47), and salvation (Acts 11:18). Conversion is turning from evil (Acts 8:22; Rev. 2:21) to God (Acts 26:20). In Acts 3:19 and Acts 26:20 METANOEO (repentance) and EPISTREPHO (conversion) are placed side by side. This shows that the two concepts are related. The fact that this group of words does not occur often in the Pauline writings (6 times) and not at all in the Johannine (apart from Revelation), does not mean that the idea of conversion is not present...Both Paul and John convey the idea of conversion (turning) by that of faith. Paul speaks of faith as 'being in Christ,' as the 'NEW CREATION,' as 'PUTTING ON THE NEW MAN,' as the 'DYING AND RISING OF A MAN WITH CHRIST.' The Johannine literature represents the new life in Christ as the 'NEW BIRTH,' as the passing from DEATH TO LIFE and from DARKNESS TO LIGHT" (Ibid., Vol. 1, p. 359).

From these statements we see that in the call to conversion that sometimes the word "repent" is only used. At other times the word "believe" is only used. At still other times they are both used together (Acts 20:21). But both words involve a change of heart towards God. Repentance is the first response of man to the gospel that is demanded by God. It must always accompany true faith. Without repentance, faith alone as described in James 2, would be dead faith, that is, mental assent that cannot save.

Repentance Defined. Again, as already stated, repentance in the New Testament denotes an inner decision, a change of heart, a change of mind. The Old Testament word denotes an outward action of turning back or turning around. By putting the two together we see that repentance involves a change of heart, a change of mind that results in a turning around to move in a completely new direction. This change of direction can be summed up by the words of Jesus, "FOLLOW ME!" (Mt. 4:19; 8:22; 9:9; 16:24; 19:21; Mk. 2:14; 8:34; 10:21; Lk. 5:27; 9:23, 59; 18:22; Jn. 1:43; 10:27; 12:26; 21:19). "Follow" means to come

or go after; move behind and in the same direction; to come or go with; to accept the guidance or leadership of; to adhere to the cause or principles of; to be governed by; obey; and comply with.

An Example. The prodigal son of Luke 15:11-32 is a good example of repentance. He had turned his back on his father and his home to waste his life in sin and riotous living. Eventually he came to himself and made a decision to arise and go back to his father and home. He first had the change of heart, he then acted by carrying out his decision. He returned to father and home acknowledging, "Father I have sinned!"

In our sinful condition we have all turned our back upon God our Father and heaven our home. We must stop, and have a change of mind, a change of heart, a change of direction. This essential act is called "repentance" and is the first move we must make to be reconciled to God.

Repentance is not an Emotion. Concerning Esau, Hebrews 12:17 states, "...he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully WITH TEARS." This is evidence that strong emotion is not necessarily proof of repentance. Many people because of a strong sales approach, respond to a gospel call but never come to the change of heart, and change of mind that is necessary to receive God's salvation. Shedding a tear sometimes indicates a person is sorry they were caught in a situation, but they may never have had a change of mind towards their actions.

Repentance Begins With God. Scriptural repentance begins with God, not with man. John 6:44 states, "No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him..." (Jn. 6:44). For this reason the supreme crisis of every human being comes at the moment of the Spirit's drawing to repentance. When a person says, "Yes" to that drawing it will lead to saving faith. If rejected it will leave a person to continue in his own sinful way. That's why the scripture states, "Today if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts..." (Heb. 3:8). And again, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation..." (Heb. 2:3). Apart from God's grace and the drawing of His Spirit, man left to himself is incapable of repentance. But when the Spirit is drawing through the ministry of the gospel, it is a necessity that man respond at that time. To have the attitude that the thief on the cross waited till the last moment and I can wait, may have the most serious consequences.

Repentance Is Made Complete By Man's Response. Although repentance is initiated by God it is made complete by man's response. For this reason God's decree is that "all men everywhere must repent" (Acts 17:30). All scripture is absolutely unanimous on this point, "except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Lk. 13:3, 5).

Questions

- 1. An accepted definition of repentance is: "an inner change of mind, resulting in an outward turning back, or turning around, to face and to move in a completely new direction" (Foundation Series, p.104). True or False.
- 2. Read James 2:19. "Without exception, throughout the entire New Testament, repentance is the first response to the gospel that God demands. Nothing else can come before it, and nothing else can take its place. True repentance must always precede true faith. Without such repentance, faith alone is a mere empty profession" (Foundation Series, p.109). True or False.
- 3. Read Acts 17:30-31. "In many places today the simplification of the gospel message has been taken one step too far. The message often preached today is: 'Only Believe.' But that is not the message of Christ. Christ and His apostles preached: 'Repent and believe.' Any preacher who leaves out the call to repentance is misleading sinners and misrepresenting God' (Foundation Series, p. 109). True or False.
- 4. Read Acts 3:19. Before a persons sins can be blotted out they must first: a. go to church. b. pay their tithes. c. do good works. d. repent and be converted.
- 5. Read Jeremiah 18:8 & Malachi 3:7. Turning [also known as conversion], is described in the Old Testament as turning from evil to the Lord. True or False.
- 6. Read Isaiah 55:7. A person that returns to God will receive: a. forgiveness. b. chastisement. c. scolding.
- 7. Read Romans 10:9-10. Conversion involves a change of: a. friends. b. churches. c. Lords.
- 8. Read Acts 26:20. As Christians are we to continue in repentance? Yes or No. "But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent [present tense: and continue in repentance] and turn [present tense: and continue to turn] to God, and do [present tense: and continue to do works or deeds that prove their repentance] works meet for repentance" (Acts 26:20).
- 9. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Colossians 1:22-23. Is saving faith a one-time act or is it a continuing faith? [14] ¶ Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye (*present tense*: repent and continue to repent as often as the situation or need arises), and believe (*present tense*: believe and continue to believe) the gospel (Mark 1:14-15).

10. Read Mark 6:12 & Luke 24:46-47. The apostles went out and preached: a. to ask Jesus in your heart. b. to come to church on Sunday. c. that you should repeat this prayer after me. d. that men should repent.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. Repentance is: "an inner change of mind, resulting in an outward turning back, or turning around, to face and to move in a completely new direction" (Foundation Series, p.104).
- 2. **Read James 2:19**. [19] Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.
- 3. **Read Acts 17:30-31**. [30] And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: [31] Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.
- 4. **Read Acts 3:19**. [19] Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
- 5. **Read Jeremiah 18:8 & Malachi 3:7**. **Jeremiah 18:** [8] If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. **Malachi 3:** [7] Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?
- 6. **Read Isaiah 55:7**. [7] Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- 7. **Read Romans 10:9-10**. [9] That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. [10] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
- 8. **Read Acts 26:20**. [20] "But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent [present tense: and continue in repentance] and turn [present tense: and continue to turn] to God, and do [present tense: and continue to do works or deeds that prove their repentance] works meet for repentance."
- 9. **Read Mark 1:14-15 & Colossians 1:22-23**. **Mark 1**:[14] ¶ Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the

kingdom of God, [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye (*present tense*: repent and continue to repent as often as the situation or need arises), and believe (*present tense*: believe and continue to believe) the gospel. **Colossians 1**: [22] In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight: [23] If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

10. Read Mark 6:12 & Luke 24:46-47. Mark 6: [12] And they went out, and preached that men should repent. Luke 24: [46] And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: [47] And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Answer Key – Lesson 8 The Doctrine of Christ: Repentance

- 1. An accepted definition of repentance is: "an inner change of mind, resulting in an outward turning back, or turning around, to face and to move in a completely new direction" (Foundation Series, p.104). True or False.
- 2. Read James 2:19. "Without exception, throughout the entire New Testament, repentance is the first response to the gospel that God demands. Nothing else can come before it, and nothing else can take its place. True repentance must always precede true faith. Without such repentance, faith alone is a mere empty profession" (Foundation Series, p.109). <u>True</u> or False.
- 3. Read Acts 17:30-31. "In many places today the simplification of the gospel message has been taken one step too far. The message often preached today is: 'Only Believe.' But that is not the message of Christ. Christ and His apostles preached: 'Repent and believe.' Any preacher who leaves out the call to repentance is misleading sinners and misrepresenting God' (Foundation Series, p. 109). <u>True</u> or False.
- 4. Read Acts 3:19. Before a persons sins can be blotted out they must first: a. go to church. b. pay their tithes. c. do good works. d. repent and be converted.
- 5. Read Jeremiah 18:8 & Malachi 3:7. Turning [also known as conversion], is described in the Old Testament as turning from evil to the Lord. <u>True</u> or False.
- 6. Read Isaiah 55:7. A person that returns to God will receive: a. <u>forgiveness</u>. b. chastisement. c. scolding.
- 7. Read Romans 10:9-10. Conversion involves a change of: a. friends. b. churches. c. Lords.

- 8. Read Acts 26:20. As Christians are we to continue in repentance? Yes or No. "But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent [present tense: and continue in repentance] and turn [present tense: and continue to turn] to God, and do [present tense: and continue to do works or deeds that prove their repentance] works meet for repentance" (Acts 26:20).
- 9. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Colossians 1:22-23. Is saving faith a one-time act or is it a continuing faith? It is a continuing faith. [14] ¶ Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye (*present tense*: repent and continue to repent as often as the situation or need arises), and believe (*present tense*: believe and continue to believe) the gospel (Mark 1:14-15).
- 10. Read Mark 6:12 & Luke 24:46-47. The apostles went out and preached: a. to ask Jesus in your heart. b. to come to church on Sunday. c. that you should repeat this prayer after me. d. that men should repent.

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Studies of the King & His Kingdom

Mastering the Basics Lesson 9

The Doctrine of Christ: Saved by Grace

"For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17).

As stated in a previous lesson, It was expected of God's anointed King (the Messiah) that He would deliver His people from their enemies and give knowledge of salvation by the remission of their sins (Luke 1:71-77). The means of accomplishing this task, in the scriptures, is called "grace."

"Grace," is the free, unmerited, undeserved favor of God toward the undeserving and the ill-deserving. It is not merely that we didn't deserve good, we actually deserved evil, and in the place of evil God offers us good. The only explanation for this is grace. There is nothing in ourselves for which we can find any reasons for God's offer of love, mercy and favor, it is God's own grace that causes Him to do it.

There are several great facts about the grace of God. First of all, it's free. It can never be earned. No one ever earns the grace of God (Romans 11:6). Secondly, it is sovereign or independent. God is entitled to do whatever He wills with His grace. He owes no one any account or explanation of His grace. The gospel really is a manifestation of His grace (Acts 20:24), the free unmerited favor toward those who didn't deserve favor but did deserve judgment and condemnation. Most religious people think they must do something to earn God's grace and even worse, they think they have done something that has earned them God's grace. They are totally wrong in both respects. Most religious church goers think because they've set so long in church or Sunday school that God owes them some grace. He doesn't. God will faithfully reward good but that's not grace. Grace is on a whole different plane, we must be willing to humble ourselves and accept it without trying to be good enough to receive it.

There are certain facts about grace that are clearly revealed in the New Testament. First of all, grace has only one channel, it is Jesus Christ. God offers grace to no one in any situation apart from Jesus Christ (John 1:17; 14:6). Secondly, grace is offered to only one kind of person, that is the humble (Proverbs 3:34; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5; Luke 18:13-14). Thirdly, there is only one means by which grace is appropriated and that is faith. Ephesians 2:8 states, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Even the faith is given you by God, so you can't even boast of that. So God offers you grace, only through Jesus Christ, it is offered to the humble, and it is appropriated only by faith.

Having made a little study of the word "grace" [charis], we are now in a position to understand the word "charisma," which is simply the word for "grace" [charis] with the two letters "ma" added on. The effect of adding on these two letters is to make a definite specific noun out of a general abstract noun. "Grace" is essentially what we call an abstract noun but "charisma" is grace made definite, specific, and effective. It is some particular form, operation or manifestation of the grace of God. "Charis" is grace, but "charisma" is grace made specific, made available in a certain way, in a certain form, in a certain operation. Normally "charisma" is translated "gift" but in two instances its translated "free gift" (Romans 5:15-17). There are seventeen instances where the word "charisma" is used in the New Testament.

One of the first places that "charisma" is used in the New Testament is in Romans 5:17. "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:17). I want to point out to you that the free gift that Paul speaks about here is "righteousness." It is tremendously significant that the first actual specific form of grace mentioned in the New Testament is "righteousness." Again, I find that the majority of professing Christians fail to realize that we are offered righteousness as a gift. We cannot earn it or work for it (Roman 11:6). It is offered freely as a gift through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ (Romans 3:24). Any other righteousness other than Jesus Christ's is to low of a level. The only righteousness that will admit us into the kingdom of heaven is the righteousness of God, offered to us as a gift through Jesus Christ.

The first thing that God does when we humble ourselves to approach Him for mercy, is to make us righteous (John 14:6; 2 Corinthians 5:21). The tax-collector in Luke 18:13, "would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner." The scripture goes on to tell us that this man went to his home justified, righteous, forgiven, just as if he had never sinned (Luke 18:14). I think the majority of Christians have never grasp this fact. One thing the devil fights against as powerfully as anything else is the person that realizes that he has been made righteous as a gift. The devil will keep you by any measure he can, in some measure under guilt and condemnation and keep you feeling very religious about it at the same time. The majority of people would feel almost embarrassed or presumptuous to call themselves righteous, because they think they have to earn it. The scripture emphasizes that it is a grace gift. You either receive it as a gift or you just don't have it (Romans 5:17; Galatians 2:21).

Questions

1. "Grace," is the free, unmerited, undeserved favor of God toward the: a. good & faithful. b. undeserving and the ill-deserving. c. blameless & mature.

- 2. Read Romans 11:6. Grace can: a. be earned. b. never be earned. c. be worked for.
- 3. Read Romans 9:15. God owes no one any account or explanation of His grace. True or False.
- 4. Read Acts 20:24. The gospel really is a manifestation of God's grace. True or False.
- 5. Read Romans 3:24. We are justified [made righteous] freely as an act of God's: a. holiness. b. justice. c. power. d. grace.
- 6. Read Romans 9:14. When God gives man what he deserves, that is an act of: a. justice. b. compassion. c. grace. d. mercy.
- 7. Read Romans 4:4; 9:15. When God gives man what he does not deserve, that is an act of: a. justice. b. his power. c. grace.
- 8. Read Romans 3:22 & 2 Corinthians 5:21. What kind of righteousness does God offer to those who believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ? a. the righteousness of man. b. the righteousness of God. c. the righteousness of the Pharisee's.
- 9. Read Romans 5:17. Those that receive abundance of grace, also receive righteousness as a: a. gift. b. debt to be paid. c. hope for the future.
- 10. Read Ephesians 2:5, 8-9. No one will ever be saved except by the grace of God. True or False.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. "Grace," is the free, unmerited, undeserved favor of God toward the undeserving and the ill-deserving.
- 2. **Read Romans 11:6**. [6] And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.
- 3. **Read Romans 9:15**. [15] For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.
- 4. **Read Acts 20:24**. [24] But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.
- 5. **Read Romans 3:24**. [24] Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

- 6. **Read Romans 9:14**. [14] What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.
- 7. **Read Romans 4:4; 9:15**. **Romans 4**: [4] Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation (NIV). **Romans 9**: [15] For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.
- 8. Read Romans 3:22 & 2 Corinthians 5:21. Romans 3: [22] Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 2 Corinthians 5: [21] For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
- 9. **Read Romans 5:17**. [17] For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.
- 10. **Read Ephesians 2:5, 8-9**. [5] Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) [8] For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: [9] Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Answer Key - Lesson 9 The Doctrine of Christ: Saved by Grace

- 1. "Grace," is the free, unmerited, undeserved favor of God toward the: a. good & faithful. b. <u>undeserving and the ill-deserving</u>. c. blameless & mature.
- 2. Read Romans 11:6. Grace can: a. be earned. b. <u>never be earned</u>. c. be worked for.
- 3. Read Romans 9:15. God owes no one any account or explanation of His grace. True or False.
- 4. Read Acts 20:24. The gospel really is a manifestation of God's grace. <u>True</u> or False.
- 5. Read Romans 3:24. We are justified [made righteous] freely as an act of God's: a. holiness. b. justice. c. power. d. grace.
- 6. Read Romans 9:14. When God gives man what he deserves, that is an act of: a. justice. b. compassion. c. grace. d. mercy.
- 7. Read Romans 4:4; 9:15. When God gives man what he does not deserve, that is an act of: a. justice. b. his power. c. grace.

- 8. Read Romans 3:22 & 2 Corinthians 5:21. What kind of righteousness does God offer to those who believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ? a. the righteousness of man. b. the righteousness of God. c. the righteousness of the Pharisee's.
- 9. Read Romans 5:17. Those that receive abundance of grace, also receive righteousness as a: a. gift. b. debt to be paid. c. hope for the future.
- 10. Read Ephesians 2:5, 8-9. No one will ever be saved except by the grace of God. True or False.

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Studies of the King & His Kingdom

Mastering the Basics Lesson 10

The Doctrine of Christ: Faith toward God

The concept of faith is central to Biblical teaching. "The response of men to the arrival of the reign of God in their midst in the Person of Jesus Christ was to be that they should "repent and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15). The kingdom comes whether men hear or refuse to hear, but the claim which it makes is faith." (Encyclopedia of the Bible, Vol.2, p.484). This faith is centered in the Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel. "There is therefore at least to some extent an intellectual content to faith. Its moral content is emphasized by it close association with repentance." (Ibid., p.485). The construction of the Greek word for "believe" is many times used with Jesus as its object. "The expression undoubtedly suggests not only intellectual credence, but also moral commitment to the person of Christ."

"Faith is connected with repentance (Acts 11:21; 20:21) and has moral consequences (Acts 24:24-25). It leads to forgiveness (Acts 10:43; 26:18), cleansing (Acts 15:9) and justification (Acts 13:39). It was the result of God's calling (Acts 13:48) and was due to His grace (Acts 18:27). It was accompanied by the gift of the Spirit (Acts 10:43-44; 11:17; 19:2). It might be induced by a miracle (Acts 5:12-16; 13:11-12), by the Scriptures (Acts 17:11-12) or by the preaching of the Gospel (Acts 4:2,4; 18:8). It sometimes involved healing (Acts 3:16; 14:9-10). Baptism is the sign of beginning the new life of faith (Colossians 2:11-12; Galatians 3:26-27) and wherever it is spoken of, faith is assumed to be present" (Ibid. pgs. 487,489).

The Bible is clear that faith holds a prominent role in the receiving of salvation (Ephesians 2:8). It is equally clear that there must be a balanced relationship between faith and its expression in good works (James 2:14-18). The Bible indicates that it is wrong to disturb the balance of good works expressing a life of faith (James 2:26). Man is not saved by dead faith (James 2:-20), nor by works of the law (Galatians 2:16), but by saving faith in the object of God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 4:22-25; Acts 20:21). Saving faith is more than mental assent. It involves trusting someone, giving over yourselves to them (Acts 16:31 The Amplified Bible). This is the kind of faith that a Christian has in God and His Christ.

Questions

1. Read Mark 1:15. The response of individuals to the arrival of the reign of God (the kingdom) was that they should: a. sell their house. b. get a new job.

- c. go to college. d. repeat a prayer after someone. e. repent and believe the gospel.
- 2. Read Acts 11:21 & Acts 20:21. Faith is connected with: a. charity. b. church attendance. c. repentance.
- 3. Read Acts 24:24-25; Hebrews 11:24-25; Acts 26:18-20. "Faith" has moral consequences. True or False.
- 4. Read Acts 10:43; 26:18. "Faith" leads to forgiveness. True or False.
- 5. Read Acts 15:9. "Faith" leads to cleansing. True or False.
- 6. Read Acts 13:39. "Faith" leads to justification. True or False.
- 7. Read Acts 13:48. "Faith" was the result of God's calling. True or False.
- 8. Read Acts 18:27. "Faith" was due to God's grace. True or False.
- 9. Read Acts 10:43-44; 11:17; 19:2. The gift of the Spirit accompanied the believer's faith. True or False.
- 10. Read Acts 5:12-16; 13:11-12. Many times faith was the result of a miracle. True or False.
- 11. Read Acts 4:2,4; 17:11-12; 18:8. Faith resulted from the Scriptures or by the preaching of the Gospel. True or False.
- 12. Read John 2:23; 4:48. Faith results from people being healed. True or False.
- 13. Read Mark 16:16. Whenever baptism is spoken of, faith is assumed to be present. True or False.
- 14. Read James 2:18. Faith can be seen by works of faith that proceed from it. True or False.
- 15. Read Acts 16:31 The Amplified Bible. Saving faith is more than mental assent. It involves trusting someone, giving over yourselves to them. True or False.

Scriptures to use with Questions

1. **Read Mark 1:15** [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

- 2. **Read Acts 11:21 & Acts 20:21. Acts 11:** [21] And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord. **Acts 20:** [21] Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3. Read Acts 24:24-25; Hebrews 11:24-25; Acts 26:18-20. Acts 24: [24] And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. [25] And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee. Hebrews 11: [24] By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; [25] Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Acts 26: [18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. [19] Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: [20] But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.
- 4. **Read Acts 10:43**; **26:18**. **Acts 10:** [43] To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. **Acts 26:** [18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.
- 5. **Read Acts 15:9**. [9] And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.
- 6. **Read Acts 13:39**. [39] And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.
- 7. **Read Acts 13:48**. [48] And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.
- 8. **Read Acts 18:27**. [27] And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:
- 9. **Read Acts 10:43-44; 11:17; 19:2**. **Acts 10:** [43] To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. [44] While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. **Acts 11:** [17] Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what

was I, that I could withstand God? **Acts 19:** [2] He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

- 10. Read Acts 5:12-16; 13:11-12. Acts 5: [12] And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. [13] And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. [14] And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) [15] Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. [16] There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. Acts 13: [11] And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. [12] Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.
- 11. **Read Acts 4:2,4; 17:11-12; 18:8**. **Acts 4:** [2] Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. [4] Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand. **Acts 17:** [11] These 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. [12] Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few. **Acts 18:** [8] And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.
- 12. **Read John 2:23; 4:48**. **John 2:** [23] Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. **John 4:** [48] Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.
- 13. **Read Mark 16:16**. [16] He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- 14. **Read James 2:18**. [18] Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works.
- 15. **Read Acts 16:31 The Amplified Bible**. [31] And they answered, Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ [give yourself up to Him, take yourself out of your own keeping and entrust yourself into His keeping] and you will be saved, [and this applies both to] you and your household as well.

Answer Key - Lesson 10 The Doctrine of Christ: Faith toward God

- 1. Read Mark 1:15. The response of individuals to the arrival of the reign of God (the kingdom) was that they should: a. sell their house. b. get a new job. c. go to college. d. repeat a prayer after someone. e. repent and believe the gospel.
- 2. Read Acts 11:21 & Acts 20:21. Faith is connected with: a. charity. b. church attendance. c. <u>repentance</u>.
- 3. Read Acts 24:24-25; Hebrews 11:24-25; Acts 26:18-20. "Faith" has moral consequences. <u>True</u> or False.
- 4. Read Acts 10:43; 26:18. "Faith" leads to forgiveness. <u>True</u> or False.
- 5. Read Acts 15:9. "Faith" leads to cleansing. <u>True</u> or False.
- 6. Read Acts 13:39. "Faith" leads to justification. <u>True</u> or False.
- 7. Read Acts 13:48. "Faith" was the result of God's calling. True or False.
- 8. Read Acts 18:27. "Faith" was due to God's grace. True or False.
- 9. Read Acts 10:43-44; 11:17; 19:2. The gift of the Spirit accompanied the believer's faith. <u>True</u> or False.
- 10. Read Acts 5:12-16; 13:11-12. Many times faith was the result of a miracle. <u>True</u> or False.
- 11. Read Acts 4:2,4; 17:11-12; 18:8. Faith resulted from the Scriptures or by the preaching of the Gospel. <u>True</u> or False.
- 12. Read John 2:23; 4:48. Faith results from people being healed. <u>True</u> or False.
- 13. Read Mark 16:16. Whenever baptism is spoken of, faith is assumed to be present. True or False.
- 14. Read James 2:18. Faith can be seen by works of faith that proceed from it. <u>True</u> or False.
- 15. Read Acts 16:31 The Amplified Bible. Saving faith is more than mental assent. It involves trusting someone, giving over yourselves to them. <u>True</u> or False.

Studies of the King & His Kingdom

Mastering the Basics Lesson 11

The Doctrine of Christ: Identity with Christ through Water Baptism

Upon examination of the word "baptize" we find it is not actually an English word, but a Greek word written in letters of the English alphabet. If we write out the Greek in English letters, this gives us "baptizo." Then with a change of the "o" to an "e," we have the word "baptize."

In Strong's Exhaustive Concordance we see the primary meaning of the word "baptizo," "to make fully wet." Strong's gives the meaning of the verb "bapto" as "to cover wholly with fluid, hence to dip."

On the day of Pentecost 3000 souls responded to the gospel and were baptized (Acts 2:41). If the twelve apostles baptized and it took 2 minutes a person to perform the act, that would mean that each apostle baptized eight and one-half hours that day. It was commonly known and understood by believers and unbelievers that all those that put saving faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, Messiah and Saviour would immediately be baptized.

In modern day evangelism I think we have substituted repentance, faith, water baptism and discipleship for reciting a little prayer. The first command for all mankind is repentance toward God, faith in the Lord (Master) Jesus (Saviour) Christ (the anointed King) and water baptism (Acts 17:30; 20:21; 2:38). The apostles even included baptism in the call to faith (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16). "One can hardly read the New Testament without noticing the heavy stress the early church placed on baptism. They assumed that every genuine believer would embark on a life of obedience and discipleship. That was nonnegotiable. Therefore they viewed baptism as the turning point. Only those who were baptized were considered Christians. That is why the Ethiopian eunuch was so eager to be baptized (Acts 8:36-39).

Unfortunately, the church today takes baptism more casually. It is not unusual to meet people who have been professing Christians for years but have never been baptized. That was unheard of in the New Testament church. Unfortunately, we have lost the focus on initial obedience" and a faith that works, that is, that expresses itself in actions (Faith Works by John MacArthur, Jr., p. 208).

Look at the early New Testament church and compare it to our practice today;

Mark 16:15-16

Acts 8:35-38

Acts 16:14-15

Acts 2:36-41

Acts 9:3-6; 17-18 cp.22:12-16

Acts 16:30-34

Because of the practice of our own traditions God is again calling the church to act as did the early New Testament church and respond to the gospel of the kingdom.

Questions

- 1. Read Acts 2:38. How many are to repent as a condition to receive the forgiveness of their sins? a. some of them. b. everyone of them [you]. c. part of them.
- 2. Read Acts 16:31; 8:37; Mark 16:16. How many are to believe with all their heart on the Lord [Master] Jesus [Saviour] Christ [anointed King] so that they might be saved? a. some people. b. everyone. c. only a few individuals.
- 3. Read Acts 2:38; 10:48; Mark 16:16. How many individuals that have repented of their sins and believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ, are to be baptized? a. some. b. all. c. or none.
- 4. Read Acts 2:38 and Mark 16:16. Can an infant repent? Can an infant believe? Can an infant meet the scriptural requirements for baptism? Yes or No.
- 5. Read Acts 16:33; 10:43-48; 22:16. According to the New Testament, when a person turned to God through repentance and faith they were to immediately be baptized? True or False.
- 6. Read Acts 2:38; 8:16; 19:5. Baptism identifies a person with: a. the first Baptist church. b. the Catholic church. c. the Assemblies of God. d. the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7. Read the following scriptures and compare it with our practice today: Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:36-41; Acts 8:5,12,14-15; 35-38; Acts 9:3-6, 17-18 compare with Acts 22:12-16; Acts 10:43-48; Acts 16:14-15, 30-34; Acts 19:1-6. Discuss among yourselves what changes need to take place.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read Acts 2:38**. [38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- 2. **Read Acts 16:31; 8:37; Mark 16:16**. **Acts 16:** [31] And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. **Acts 8:** [37] And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered

and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. **Mark 16:** [16] He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

- 3. Read Acts 2:38; 10:48; Mark 16:16. Acts 2:[38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 10: [48] And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. Mark 16: [16] He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- 4. **Read Acts 2:38 and Mark 16:16**. **Acts 2:** [38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **Mark 16:** [16] He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- 5. Read Acts 16:33; 10:43-48; 22:16. Acts 16: [33] At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized (NIV). Acts 10: [43] To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. [44] While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. [45] And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. [46] For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, [47] Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? [48] And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. Acts 22: [16] And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.
- 6. Read Acts 2:38; 8:16; 19:5. Acts 2: [38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 8: [16] (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Acts 19: [5] When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- 7. Read Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:36-41; Acts 8:5,12,14-15; 35-38; Acts 9:3-6, 17-18 compare with Acts 22:12-16; Acts 10:43-48; Acts 16:14-15, 30-34; Acts 19:1-6. Mark 16: [15] And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. [16] He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Acts 2: [36] Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. [37] Now when they heard this,

they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? [38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. [39] For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. [40] And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. [41] Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. Acts 8: [5] Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. [12] But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. [14] Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: [15] Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: [35] Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. [36] And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? [37] And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. [38] And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. Acts 9: [3] And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: [4] And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? [5] And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. [6] And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. [17] And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. [18] And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. Acts 22: [12] And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, [13] Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. [14] And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. [15] For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. [16] And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. **Acts 10:** [43] To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

[44] While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. [45] And they of the circumcision which believed were

astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. [46] For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, [47] Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? [48] And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. Acts 16: [14] And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. [15] And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us. [30] And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? [31] And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. [32] And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. [33] And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. [34] And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house. Acts 19: [1] And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, [2] He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. [3] And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. [4] Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. [5] When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, [6] And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Answer Key – Lesson 11 The Doctrine of Christ: Identity with Christ through Water Baptism

- 1. Read Acts 2:38. How many are to repent as a condition to receive the forgiveness of their sins? a. some of them. b. everyone of them [you]. c. part of them.
- 2. Read Acts 16:31; 8:37; Mark 16:16. How many are to believe with all their heart on the Lord [Master] Jesus [Saviour] Christ [anointed King] so that they might be saved? a. some people. b. <u>everyone</u>. c. only a few individuals.
- 3. Read Acts 2:38; 10:48; Mark 16:16. How many individuals that have repented of their sins and believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ, are to be baptized? a. some. b. all. c. or none.

- 4. Read Acts 2:38 and Mark 16:16. Can an infant repent? Can an infant believe? Can an infant meet the scriptural requirements for baptism? Yes or No.
- 5. Read Acts 16:33; 10:43-48; 22:16. According to the New Testament, when a person turned to God through repentance and faith they were to immediately be baptized? <u>True</u> or False.
- 6. Read Acts 2:38; 8:16; 19:5. Baptism identifies a person with: a. the first Baptist church. b. the Catholic church. c. the Assemblies of God. d. the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7. Read the following scriptures and compare it with our practice today: Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:36-41; Acts 8:5,12,14-15; 35-38; Acts 9:3-6, 17-18 compare with Acts 22:12-16; Acts 10:43-48; Acts 16:14-15, 30-34; Acts 19:1-6. Discuss among yourselves what changes need to take place.

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Studies of the King & His Kingdom

Mastering the Basics Lesson 12

The Doctrine of Christ: Baptized with the Holy Spirit

There are many different ways to describe the experience of being "saved" in terms that the Bible uses. For example in John 3:3 it is referred to as being "born again"; in Matt.18:3 as "conversion"; in Mark 16:16 as "believing and being baptized"; in Col. 2:13 as having been "forgiven" of all trespasses; in Rom. 6:23 as having received "eternal life"; and in Rom. 8:9 as having received "the Spirit of Christ." Although many terms are used, they all basically mean the same thing.

In like manner, the experience which is subsequent to and distinct from salvation is described as: "the baptism with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5); being "filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4); "the Holy Spirit falling on" someone (Acts 11:15); and having "received the Holy Spirit" (Acts 19:2). These are synonymous terms referring to one and the same thing.

There are many examples in the New Testament of the difference between salvation by the quickening of the Spirit, and the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. For example: In John 20:22, Jesus' disciples received the Holy Spirit but a few days later were actually baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4). The Samaritans, in Acts 8:12, believed upon Christ and were baptized and saved, yet were baptized with the Holy Spirit several days later (See Acts 8:16-17). In Acts 19:1-7, the apostle Paul found several disciples who had believed upon Christ, but had not received the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Verse 6 states that "...when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."

Dr. R. A.Torrey, the first president of Moody Bible Institute, wrote: "It is evident that the baptism with the Holy Spirit is an operation of the Holy Spirit distinct from and additional to His regenerating work...A man may be regenerated by the Holy Spirit and still not be baptized with the Holy Spirit. In regeneration, there is the impartation of life by the Spirit's power, and the one who receives it is saved: in the baptism with the Holy Spirit, there is the impartation of power, and the one who receives it is fitted for service..." (The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit, by R. A.Torrey, pgs. 174, 176).

Now that you've received Jesus as Lord, King, Master and Ruler of your life, are you willing to receive what He has for you? Do you believe this promise is valid for you today? (If not, read Acts 2:38-39 and 1 Cor. 1:7, which states that the Holy Spirit and His gifts are all valid and in operation for us today until the second coming of Jesus Christ.) Do you need power to witness? (Acts 1:8 states

that you "shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you.) Are you afraid of manifestations of the Holy Spirit such as tongues? Mark 16:17 says, "These signs shall follow them that believe; they shall speak with new tongues..." Do you believe this is for you? Jesus said, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?"

Will you pray and ask Jesus to do His part by baptizing you with the Holy Spirit? Will you do your part, that is, receive the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues? Acts 2:4 says "they spoke...as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Are you going to RECEIVE? Are you going to SPEAK and worship God in another language?

Are you ready to receive? Then pray a prayer similar to this one: "Father, thank you that Jesus died for all my sins and arose from the dead. I renounce Satan and all his works. I confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord, King, Master, and the Boss of my life. My life belongs to Him. Lord, you promised to baptize me with the Holy Spirit. I will receive power to witness and speak in new tongues. Lord baptize me now and I will speak with new tongues as you form the words for me now. Lord, empower me for Your service, I worship you now ... In Jesus Name." (Luke 11:13).

Questions

- 1. Read Luke 24:49-51; Acts 1:4-5. The baptism with the Holy Spirit was one of the first major experiences that the disciples of Jesus received after He ascended into heaven. True or False.
- 2. Read Acts 1:8; 8:1,4. After receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit the church went forth in explosive power giving witness to the resurrection of Jesus and the preaching of the kingdom of God. True or False.
- 3. Read Acts 2:39. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is for believers today to experience. True or False.
- 4. Read John 14:16-17. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is not for unbelievers. True or False.
- 5. Read Matthew 3:11. Jesus is the one who baptizes people with the Holy Spirit. True or False.
- 6. Read Acts 2:38; 3:19. To receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit our hearts must be properly prepared through repentance. True or False.

- 7. Read Acts 19:19; 26:18-20; 1Thessalonians 1:9. Repentance is a turn from darkness to light. If you have ever been involved in the occult [Satanism, Witchcraft, non-Christian religions, etc.] then renounce these things before you seek the baptism with the Holy Spirit. If you are now going to seek supernatural guidance from God by His Holy Spirit, renounce all occult influences in Jesus' Name. True or False.
- 8. Read Acts 5:29-32. Do not seek the baptism with the Holy Spirit if you do not want to be holy (set apart to God) and obey Him. True or False.
- 9. Read Galatians 3:2,14; Hebrews 11:6. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is a gift provided by God's grace and received by faith. True or False.
- 10. Read 1 John 5:14-15; Luke 11:9-13. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is received by asking. True or False.
- 11. Read Mark 16:17; 1 Corinthians 14:22. "In the experience of the baptism in or infilling of the Holy Spirit, "tongues" functions as a sign of the Holy Spirit's presence. Jesus prophesied it as a sign (Mark 16:17), Paul referred to it as a sign (I Cor. 14:22), and Peter noted its uniformity as a sign-gift in confirming the validity of the Gentiles' experience in the Holy Spirit. (Compare Acts 10:44-46 with 11:16,17 and 15:7-9). Thus, speaking with tongues is a properly expected sign, affirming the Holy Spirit's abiding presence and assuring the believer of an invigorated living witness. It is not viewed as a qualification for fullness of the Holy Spirit, but as one indication of that fullness" (Spirit Filled Life Bible, p. 1852). True or False.
- 12. Read 1 Corinthians 14:2, 14, 16-17. When a person speaks in tongues he is: a. speaking to God. b. praying with his spirit. c. blessing [that is, praising] God. d. giving thanks to God. e. all of the above.
- 13. Read Acts 2:4; 4:31; Ephesians 5:18-19. There will always be only one "baptism with the Holy Spirit" but there can be many fillings with the Holy Spirit. True or False.

Please check your answers with the correct answers at the back of the book.

Scriptures to use with Questions

1. Read Luke 24:49-51; Acts 1:4-5. LK 24: [49] And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. [50] And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. [51] And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. Acts 1: [4] And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye

have heard of me. [5] For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

- 2. **Read Acts 1:8; 8:1,4**. **Acts 1:** [8] But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. **Acts 8:** [1] And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. [4] Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.
- 3. **Read Acts 2:39**. [39] For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.
- 4. **Read John 14:16-17**. [16] And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; [17] Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
- 5. **Read Matthew 3:11**. [11] I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:
- 6. **Read Acts 2:38; 3:19**. **Acts 2:** [38] Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **Acts 3:** [19] Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
- 7. Read Acts 19:19; 26:18-20; 1Thessalonians 1:9. Acts 19: [19] Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. Acts 26: [18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. [19] Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: [20] But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. 1

 Thessalonians 1: [9] For they themselves show of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;
- 8. **Read Acts 5:29-32**. [29] Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. [30] The God of our fathers raised

- up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. [31] Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. [32] And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.
- 9. **Read Galatians 3:2,14; Hebrews 11:6**. **Galatians 3:** [2] This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? [14] That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. **Hebrews 11:** [6] But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- 10. Read 1 John 5:14-15; Luke 11:9-13. 1 John 5: [14] And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: [15] And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him. Luke 11: [9] And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. [10] For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. [11] If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? [12] Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? [13] If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?
- 11. **Read Mark 16:17; 1 Corinthians 14:22**. **Mark 16:** [17] And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; **1 Corinthians 14:** [22] Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.
- 12. **Read 1 Corinthians 14:2, 14, 16-17**. [2] For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. [14] For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. [16] Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest? [17] For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.
- 13. **Read Acts 2:4; 4:31; Ephesians 5:18-19**. **Acts 2:** [4] And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. **Acts 4:** [31] And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. **Ephesians 5:** [18]

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; [19] Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

Answer Key - Lesson 12 The Doctrine of Christ: Baptized with the Holy Spirit

- 1. Read Luke 24:49-51; Acts 1:4-5. The baptism with the Holy Spirit was one of the first major experiences that the disciples of Jesus received after He ascended into heaven. True or False.
- 2. Read Acts 1:8; 8:1,4. After receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit the church went forth in explosive power giving witness to the resurrection of Jesus and the preaching of the kingdom of God. True or False.
- 3. Read Acts 2:39. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is for believers today to experience. <u>True</u> or False.
- 4. Read John 14:16-17. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is not for unbelievers. True or False.
- 5. Read Matthew 3:11. Jesus is the one who baptizes people with the Holy Spirit. <u>True</u> or False.
- 6. Read Acts 2:38; 3:19. To receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit our hearts must be properly prepared through repentance. True or False.
- 7. Read Acts 19:19; 26:18-20; 1 Thessalonians 1:9. Repentance is a turn from darkness to light. If you have ever been involved in the occult [Satanism, Witchcraft, non-Christian religions, etc.] then renounce these things before you seek the baptism with the Holy Spirit. If you are now going to seek supernatural guidance from God by His Holy Spirit, renounce all occult influences in Jesus' Name. <u>True</u> or False.
- 8. Read Acts 5:29-32. Do not seek the baptism with the Holy Spirit if you do not want to be holy (set apart to God) and obey Him. <u>True</u> or False.
- 9. Read Galatians 3:2,14; Hebrews 11:6. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is a gift provided by God's grace and received by faith. <u>True</u> or False.
- 10. Read 1 John 5:14-15; Luke 11:9-13. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is received by asking. <u>True</u> or False.
- 11. Read Mark 16:17; 1 Corinthians 14:22. "In the experience of the baptism in or infilling of the Holy Spirit, "tongues" functions as a sign of the Holy Spirit's presence. Jesus prophesied it as a sign (Mark 16:17), Paul referred to it as a

sign (I Cor. 14:22), and Peter noted its uniformity as a sign-gift in confirming the validity of the Gentiles' experience in the Holy Spirit. (Compare Acts 10:44-46 with 11:16,17 and 15:7-9). Thus, speaking with tongues is a properly expected sign, affirming the Holy Spirit's abiding presence and assuring the believer of an invigorated living witness. It is not viewed as a qualification for fullness of the Holy Spirit, but as one indication of that fullness" (Spirit Filled Life Bible, p. 1852). True or False.

- 12. Read 1 Corinthians 14:2, 14, 16-17. When a person speaks in tongues he is: a. speaking to God. b. praying with his spirit. c. blessing [that is, praising] God. d. giving thanks to God. e. all of the above.
- 13. Read Acts 2:4; 4:31; Ephesians 5:18-19. There will always be only one "baptism with the Holy Spirit" but there can be many fillings with the Holy Spirit. True or False.

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Studies of the King & His Kingdom

Mastering the Basics Lesson 13

The Doctrine of Christ: Laying on of Hands

The laying on of hands is one of the foundational doctrines of Christ the anointed King. It is a part of what is called "the foundation" (Hebrews 6:1). The foundational teachings of Christ were taught by the apostles in almost every sermon that is recorded in the book of Acts. For instance, repentance (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 5:31; 8:22; 11:18; 17:30; 20:21; 26:20), faith (Acts 6:7; 13:8; 14:22; 15:9; 20:21; 24:24; 26:18), baptisms (Acts 1:5; 2:38,41; 8:12-13,16 ,36; 9:18; 10:47; 11:16; 16:15,33; 18:8; 19:5; 22:16), laying on of hands (Acts 5:12; 6:6; 8:17-18; 9:17; 13:3; 14:3; 19:6,11; 28:8), resurrection of the dead (Acts 2:31; 4:2,33; 17:18,32; 23:6; 24:15,21), and eternal judgment (Acts 17:30-31; 24:25), are foundational to almost every sermon recorded in the New Testament (Hebrews 6:1-2). They are a basic response to gospel of the kingdom teaching.

In the doctrine of the "laying on of hands," one person(s) lays their hands upon another person(s) in view of some definite spiritual purpose. These are the purposes recorded in the New Testament: the impartation of spiritual blessings to individuals, especially children (Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16), imparting the baptism with the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17-19; 9:17; 19:6), imparting spiritual gifts (1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6), separation for service or ministry (Acts 6:5-6; 13:3), the raising of the dead (Matthew 9:18,25), spiritual deliverance (Luke 4:40,41; 13:11-13), physical healing (Matthew 8:2-4,14-15; 20:34; Mark 1:41; 6:5; 7:32-33; 8:23,25; 16:18; Luke 4:40; 13:13; 22:50-51; Acts 9:10-12,17; 28:8; James 5:14), and various miracles (Acts 5:12; 14:3).

Hebrews 6:5 speaks of those who have tasted of the powers of the age to come. A taste is not a banquet. It is a realization of a experience yet to come. Each and every time that a miracle takes place through the "laying on of hands" it compels us to conclude that the blessing of the future kingdom have become objects of present experience in this present evil age. It is a taste of the Kingdom which Christ will bring at His second return when it will be fully realized that He reigns an all enemies are put under his feet, the last enemy to be destroyed is death (1 Cor. 15:25-26). In the laying on of hands, Satan's authority has be replaced by God's spiritual authority. People experience and realize a new domain of rule, an impartation of the powers of the age to come (Hebrews 6:5).

The "laying on of hands" accompanies the preaching of the gospel of the Kingdom and is especially recognized as people are healed and delivered from evil spirits (Mark 16:15-18; Luke 4:40-41; 13:11-13). Impartation of the baptism with the Holy Spirit, accompanied by the laying on of hands, empowers Christ's disciples to be witnesses of Him (Acts 1:8). Healings and various miracles also

imparted through the laying on of hands, affirms God's reign and redemptive blessings are for those who in this age have become the disciples of the Messiah-King.

Questions

- 1. Read Hebrews 6:1-2. The laying on of hands is one of the foundational doctrines of Christ the anointed King. True or False.
- 2. Read Hebrews 6:1-2 with the book of Acts in mind. The foundational teachings of Christ were taught through the apostles in almost every sermon that is recorded in the book of Acts. True or False.
- 3. Read 2 Timothy 1:6. In the doctrine of the "laying on of hands," one person(s) lays their hands upon another person(s) in view of some definite spiritual purpose. True or False.
- 4. Read Mark 16:15-18,20. Jesus told His disciples: a. to preach the gospel to everyone. b. to baptize converts. c. to cast out devils. d. to speak with tongues. e. to lay hands on the sick so that they would recover. f. all of the above are inferred in the scriptures.
- 5. Read Acts 9:10-12, 17-18. When Ananias was sent to Paul to lay hands upon him, what things happen at this time. a. he was healed and received his sight. b. he was filled with the Holy Spirit. c. he arose and was baptized. d. all of the above.
- 6. Read Acts 9:10. Ananias was not an apostle, he was a disciple, a student, a layman. It was he who did the laying on of hands to heal Paul, to impart God's Holy Spirit and to baptize an apostle. True or False.
- 7. Read Acts 19:11-12. God did special miracles by the hands of Paul. This resulted in: a. large offerings coming in. b. constructing a new church building. c. diseases departing from people and evil spirits leaving them.
- 8. Read Acts 8:14-17. When Peter and John laid their hands on those who had believed on the Lord Jesus and were baptized: a. they started to think differently. b. they started to tithe at the church. c. they received the Holy Spirit.
- 9. Read Acts 13:1-4. Were hands laid on Saul and Barnabas before they were sent out as missionaries and apostles? Yes or No. Who were the ones' laying hands on them? a. the congregation. b. the pastor. c. the prophets and teachers in the congregation that had spiritual authority.

- 10. Read 2 Timothy 1:6; 1 Timothy 4:14; Romans 1:11. What was bestowed upon Timothy through the laying on of hands? a. ten years of added life. b. deliverance from the flesh. c. spiritual gifts.
- 11. Read 1 Timothy 5:22. In 1 Timothy 5:22 we are taught: a. not to be quick or hasty in ordaining someone, without testing their character. b. don't participate in other people's sins. c. keep yourself pure. d. all of the above.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read Hebrews 6:1-2**. [1] Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, [2] Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
- 2. **Read Hebrews 6:1-2** with the book of Acts in mind. [1] Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, [2] Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
- 3. **Read 2 Timothy 1:6**. [6] Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.
- 4. **Read Mark 16:15-18, 20**. [15] And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. [16] He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. [17] And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; [18] They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. [20] And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.
- 5. Read Acts 9:10-12, 17-18. [10] And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. [11] And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, [12] And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. [17] And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. [18] And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

- 6. **Read Acts 9:10**. [10] And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.
- 7. **Read Acts 19:11-12**. [11] And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: [12] So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.
- 8. **Read Acts 8:14-17**. [14] Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: [15] Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: [16] (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) [17] Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.
- 9. **Read Acts 13:1-4**. [1] Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. [2] As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. [3] And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. [4] So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.
- 10. Read 2 Timothy 1:6; 1 Timothy 4:14; Romans 1:11. 2 Timothy 1: [6] Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. 1 Timothy 4: [14] Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Romans 1: [11] For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;
- 11. **Read 1 Timothy 5:22**. [22] Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

Answer Key – Lesson 13 The Doctrine of Christ: Laying on of Hands

- 1. Read Hebrews 6:1-2. The laying on of hands is one of the foundational doctrines of Christ the anointed King. <u>True</u> or False.
- 2. Read Hebrews 6:1-2 with the book of Acts in mind. The foundational teachings of Christ were taught through the apostles in almost every sermon that is recorded in the book of Acts. True or False.

- 3. Read 2 Timothy 1:6. In the doctrine of the "laying on of hands," one person(s) lays their hands upon another person(s) in view of some definite spiritual purpose. <u>True</u> or False.
- 4. Read Mark 16:15-18,20. Jesus told His disciples: a. to preach the gospel to everyone. b. to baptize converts. c. to cast out devils. d. to speak with tongues. e. to lay hands on the sick so that they would recover. f. <u>all of the</u> above are inferred in the scriptures.
- 5. Read Acts 9:10-12, 17-18. When Ananias was sent to Paul to lay hands upon him, what things happen at this time. a. he was healed and received his sight. b. he was filled with the Holy Spirit. c. he arose and was baptized. d. <u>all of the above</u>.
- 6. Read Acts 9:10. Ananias was not an apostle, he was a disciple, a student, a layman. It was he who did the laying on of hands to heal Paul, to impart God's Holy Spirit and to baptize an apostle. <u>True</u> or False.
- 7. Read Acts 19:11-12. God did special miracles by the hands of Paul. This resulted in: a. large offerings coming in. b. constructing a new church building. c. diseases departing from people and evil spirits leaving them.
- 8. Read Acts 8:14-17. When Peter and John laid their hands on those who had believed on the Lord Jesus and were baptized: a. they started to think differently. b. they started to tithe at the church. c. they received the Holy Spirit.
- 9. Read Acts 13:1-4. Were hands laid on Saul and Barnabas before they were sent out as missionaries and apostles? Yes or No. Who were the ones' laying hands on them? a. the congregation. b. the pastor. c. the prophets and teachers in the congregation that had spiritual authority.
- 10. Read 2 Timothy 1:6; 1 Timothy 4:14; Romans 1:11. What was bestowed upon Timothy through the laying on of hands? a. ten years of added life. b. deliverance from the flesh. c. spiritual gifts.
- 11. Read 1 Timothy 5:22. In 1 Timothy 5:22 we are taught: a. not to be quick or hasty in ordaining someone, without testing their character. b. don't participate in other people's sins. c. keep yourself pure. d. <u>all of the above</u>.

Mastering the Basics Lesson 14

The Doctrine of Christ: Resurrection of the Dead

"The most startling characteristic of the first Christian preaching is its emphasis on the resurrection. The first preachers were sure that Christ had risen, and sure, in consequence, that believers would in due course rise also. This set them off from all the other teachers of the ancient world. Clearly the resurrection is of the very first importance for the Christian faith." [The New Bible Dictionary. P.1086].

What does the doctrine of the resurrection have to do with me? – everything! Jesus states, "The hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28-29). The point is that an hour is coming – that is, it will be future – in which all people that are in the graves will be resurrected bodily. The power to bring forth this resurrection will be the voice of the Son of God, and all people will come forth. Those that have done good – that is, those who have repented, turned to God, gone a new direction- will have a resurrection to eternal life. But those that have done evil, who have refused to repent, will be raised unto a resurrection of damnation – that is, they will perish.

For those who are raised unto the resurrection of eternal life, the Scriptures say that their bodies will be raised and changed into spiritual bodies (1 Cor. 15:44). Their earthly, flesh and bone bodies will be raised and changed into heavenly bodies (1 Cor. 15:49). The body of corruption – that is, subject to perishing and dying – will put on incorruption (i.e., it can no longer die or perish – 1 Cor. 15:42,53-54). Their bodies of dishonor, shame, or disgrace will be raised into glorious bodies (1 Cor. 15:43). The body of weakness, subject to feebleness or infirmity, will be raised in power (1 Cor. 15:43). The mortal body – that is subject to death – will be raised into immortality – that is, everlasting life. The vile body – that is, the body of humiliation – will be changed and fashioned into a glorious body (Phil. 3:21).

For those who will be raised into a resurrection of damnation, this resurrection will be followed by eternal judgment. The end result will be that they perish.

"The plainest statement on the resurrection [in the Old Testament] of the individual is undoubtedly that in Daniel 12:2, 'many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.' This clearly envisages a resurrection both of the righteous

and of the wicked, and it sees also eternal consequences of men's action" (lbid., p. 1086).

"Jesus speaks of 'the resurrection of life' but also of 'the resurrection of damnation (i.e. judgment)' (John 5:29). The plain New Testament teaching is that all will rise, but that those who have rejected Christ will find the resurrection a serious matter indeed. For believers the fact that their resurrection is connected with that of the Lord transforms the situation. In the light of His atoning work for them they face resurrection with calmness and joy" (Ibid., p.1088).

For Christians, the body is to be raised and transformed so to be suitable for the life of the age to come, His future manifested kingdom and eternal life (Matthew 13:36-43; 47-51; 25:34,46; 1 Cor. 15:50-53).

Questions

- 1. Read John 5:28-29. What resurrection(s) does Jesus speak of? a. the resurrection of life [or unto eternal life]. b. the resurrection of damnation [or unto eternal punishment]. c. both a. & b.
- 2. Read Daniel 12:2. What resurrection(s) does Daniel 12:2 describe? a. a resurrection unto everlasting life. b. a resurrection to shame, disgrace, dishonor and everlasting contempt. c. both a. & b.
- 3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:44. Through the resurrection the believers natural body will be raised and changed into: a. an animal's body. b. a body of water. c. a spiritual body.
- 4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:42. The body we have now is said to be: a. beautiful. b. powerful. c. corruptible, that is, subject to decay, ruin or destruction.
- 5. Read 1 Corinthians 15:42. The believer, through the resurrection shall rise in: a. weakness. b. corruption. c. incorruption, that is, unending existence and immortality.
- 6. Read 1 Corinthians 15:43. The physical body is likened to planting a seed. It is planted in: a. dishonour. b. weakness. c. both a. & b. It springs up and rises in: a. glory. b. power. c. both a. & b.
- 7. Read Romans 8:23; Ephesians 1:13-14. For the true believer in Christ the mortal body will be raised (1 Cor. 15:44), put on (1 Cor. 15:53-54), be changed (1 Cor. 15:51 & Phil. 3:21), be fashioned (Phil. 3:21), be quickened (Rom. 8:11), be redeemed (Rom. 8:23), and will manifest all that it means to be a child of God (Rom. 8:19,23). This "change" is referred to as: a. the redemption of the body. b. the redemption of the purchased possession. c. both a. & b.

- 8. Read Revelation 20:12-15. The resurrection-body of the wicked is not described in scripture. They will be judged according to what they have done (Rom. 2:5-11) and cast into the lake of fire. This is referred to as: a. a bad situation. b. enjoying all my old friends. c. the second death.
- 9. Read 1 Corinthians 15:53; 2 Corinthians 5:4. The true child of God will through the resurrection put on: a. incorruption. b. immortality, that is, deathlessness & life. c. both a. & b.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read John 5:28-29**. [28] Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, [29] And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.
- 2. **Read Daniel 12:2**. [2] And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.
- 3. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:44**. [44] It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.
- 4. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:42**. [42] So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:
- 5. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:42**. [42] So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:
- 6. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:43**. [43] It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:
- 7. **Read Romans 8:23; Ephesians 1:13-14. Romans 8:** [23] And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. **Ephesians 1:** [13] In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, [14] Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.
- 8. **Read Revelation 20:12-15**. [12] And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. [13] And the sea gave up the dead

which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. [14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. [15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

9. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:53; 2 Corinthians 5:4**. **1 Corinthians 15:** [53] For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. **2 Corinthians 5:** [4] For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

Answer Key – Lesson 14 The Doctrine of Christ: Resurrection of the Dead

- 1. Read John 5:28-29. What resurrection(s) does Jesus speak of? a. the resurrection of life [or unto eternal life]. b. the resurrection of damnation [or unto eternal punishment]. c. both a. & b.
- 2. Read Daniel 12:2. What resurrection(s) does Daniel 12:2 describe? a. a resurrection unto everlasting life. b. a resurrection to shame, disgrace, dishonor and everlasting contempt. c. both a. & b.
- 3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:44. Through the resurrection the believers natural body will be raised and changed into: a. an animal's body. b. a body of water. c. <u>a spiritual body</u>.
- 4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:42. The body we have now is said to be: a. beautiful. b. powerful. c. <u>corruptible</u>, that is, subject to decay, ruin or destruction.
- 5. Read 1 Corinthians 15:42. The believer, through the resurrection shall rise in: a. weakness. b. corruption. c. <u>incorruption</u>, that is, unending existence and immortality.
- 6. Read 1 Corinthians 15:43. The physical body is likened to planting a seed. It is planted in: a. dishonour. b. weakness. c. <u>both a. & b</u>. It springs up and rises in: a. glory. b. power. c. both a. & b.
- 7. Read Romans 8:23; Ephesians 1:13-14. For the true believer in Christ the mortal body will be raised (1 Cor. 15:44), put on (1 Cor. 15:53-54), be changed (1 Cor. 15:51 & Phil. 3:21), be fashioned (Phil. 3:21), be quickened (Rom. 8:11), be redeemed (Rom. 8:23), and will manifest all that it means to be a child of God (Rom. 8:19,23). This "change" is referred to as: a. the redemption of the body. b. the redemption of the purchased possession. c. both a. & b.
- 8. Read Revelation 20:12-15. The resurrection-body of the wicked is not described in scripture. They will be judged according to what they have done

- (Rom. 2:5-11) and cast into the lake of fire. This is referred to as: a. a bad situation. b. enjoying all my old friends. c. the second death.
- 9. Read 1 Corinthians 15:53; 2 Corinthians 5:4. The true child of God will through the resurrection put on: a. incorruption. b. immortality, that is, deathlessness & life. c. both a. & b.

Mastering the Basics Lesson 15

The Doctrine of Christ: Eternal Judgment

The word "judgment" is "krima" in the Greek and simply means "a decision either for or against, the sentence pronounced, a verdict." Both the Old Testament and New Testament state that at the end of this age Jesus the Messiah King will return, a resurrection of all people will take place and a judgment will take place resulting in everlasting life for some and everlasting punishment for others (Daniel 12:2; John 5:28-29; Matthew 25:34, 46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10). The phrase "Day of the Lord" is synonymous with these events (1 Thessalonians 5:2-10; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Matthew 3:7).

There are two views as to the final judgment and destination of the wicked, while the righteous [those that have repented] go into everlasting life (Matthew 25:46).

The first view and the most popular is that of *everlasting punishing* of the wicked. Theologians refer to this view as the "traditionalist" view. This view signifies the understanding that hell will involve the unending conscious torment of the wicked who are immortal, and will suffer the torments of hell forever. Some scriptures that may support this position are: Luke 16:19-31; Matthew 5:22; 13:41-43; 18:8-9; 25:41; Mark 3:29; 9:43-48; Jude 7.

The second view is the view of everlasting punishment, also known as the "conditionalist" view. In this view "the wicked will suffer conscious punishment precisely measured by divine justice but that they finally will perish in hell so as to become totally extinct forever" [also referred to as the "second death"] (Rev. 20:14). Let it not be supposed that the "conditionalist" deny the "torment" of the wicked (Revelation 14:11; 18:7, 10, 15), far from it, they say there will be conscious suffering, mental and physical, of a very terrible kind, but it will END in "the second death." As one "conditionalist" states, "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth' (Mat. 25:30). 'Many stripes' or 'few stripes' will be proportioned to degrees of wickedness. As to Judas, Christ said, 'It had been good for that man if he had not been born' (Matt. 26:24). Many will realize the dreadfulness of 'everlasting punishment' when Christ says to them, 'Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity' (Luke 13:27). And he added, when speaking of this day of judgment, 'There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth when ye shall see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God. and ye yourselves thrust out." [Hell and the Destiny of the Wicked, pgs. 2-3]. Some scriptures that may support this position are: Romans 6:23; Psalm 145:20; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Matthew 10:28; 1 Timothy 6:15-16).

"Traditionalists and conditionalists may strike hands in agreement concerning the Word of God, but they immediately draw swords when they begin to apply it to hell. The wicked go into *eternal punishment*. Does that refer to the *act of retribution* or to its *effect*? Which is eternal, the *punishing* or the *punishment*?" [The Fire that Consumes, Edward William Fudge, pgs. 43-44]. Selah!

Questions

- 1. Read Matthew 3:7. In John the Baptist preaching, he warned others of: a. a bad economy to come. b. a famine to come. c. the wrath to come.
- 2. Read Acts 24:24-25. When the Apostle Paul was witnessing to Felix and his wife Drusilla concerning the Christian faith, he warned them of: a. bad food at the next town. b. devalue of the American dollar. c. a judgment to come.
- 3. Read Acts 17:30-31. God has commanded all people every where to repent, because: a. it's a good idea. b. it's the right thing to do. c. He has set a day when the entire human race will be judged.
- 4. Read Romans 5:9. The only thing that can save us from the wrath to come is: a. prayer & fasting. b. attending church. c. paying tithes. d. Jesus & His shed blood.
- 5. Read Matthew 25:34. On the "Day of the LORD," when Jesus returns, the true believers will inherit: a. the land of Palestine. b. a lot of money. c. the kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world.
- 6. Read Matthew 25:41,46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9. On the "Day of the LORD," when Jesus returns, the wicked unbelievers will receive: a. free beers for all their friends. b. asbestos suits tailored just for them. c. everlasting fire, that is, everlasting punishment from God's presence.
- 7. Read Matthew 25:31-33; 46. When Christ returns with all His holy angels, His judgment will result in: a. good times & bad times. b. the national debt being paid. c. who will be the next president. d. everlasting life for some & everlasting punishment for others.
- 8. Read Luke 16:19-31. According to the "traditionalist" view, the everlasting punishment of the wicked will be: a. having to live eternally with all their old friends. b. living forever with their ex-wife. c. being tormented in a flame.
- 9. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10. According to the "conditionalist" view, the everlasting punishment of the wicked will be: a. torment in fire. b. losing all their earthly possessions. c. everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord.

10. Read 1 Timothy 6:14-16; 1:16-17. The following questions are not to persuade you to believe a certain way, but only for your consideration to think through the issues in question. Who only has "immortality?" a. all of mankind. b. Judas Iscariot. c. God & our Lord Jesus Christ. Read 2 Timothy 1:10-11. What is offered through the gospel? a. more money than you could ever use. b. no problems in this present life. c. life & immortality.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read Matthew 3:7**. [7] But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- 2. **Read Acts 24:24-25**. [24] And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. [25] And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.
- 3. **Read Acts 17:30-31**. [30] And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: [31] Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.
- 4. **Read Romans 5:9**. [9] Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
- 5. **Read Matthew 25:34**. [34] Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
- 6. Read Matthew 25:41,46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9. Matthew 25: [41] Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: [46] And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. 2 Thessalonians 1: [8] In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: [9] Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;
- 7. **Read Matthew 25:31-33; 46**. [31] When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: [32] And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: [33] And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. [46] And

these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

- 8. Read Luke 16:19-31. [19] There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: [20] And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, [21] And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. [22] And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; [23] And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. [24] And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. [25] But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. [26] And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. [27] Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: [28] For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. [29] Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. [30] And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. [31] And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.
- 9. **Read 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10**. [7] And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, [8] In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: [9] Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; [10] When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.
- 10. Read 1 Timothy 6:14-16; 1:16-17. Read 2 Timothy 1:10-11. 1 Timothy 6: [14] That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: [15] Which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; [16] Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen. 1 Timothy 1: [16] Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting. [17] Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 1: [10] But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and

immortality to light through the gospel: [11] Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

Answer Key – Lesson 15 The Doctrine of Christ: Eternal Judgment

- 1. Read Matthew 3:7. In John the Baptist preaching, he warned others of: a. a bad economy to come. b. a famine to come. c. the wrath to come.
- 2. Read Acts 24:24-25. When the Apostle Paul was witnessing to Felix and his wife Drusilla concerning the Christian faith, he warned them of: a. bad food at the next town. b. devalue of the American dollar. c. a judgment to come.
- 3. Read Acts 17:30-31. God has commanded all people every where to repent, because: a. it's a good idea. b. it's the right thing to do. c. <u>He has set a day</u> when the entire human race will be judged.
- 4. Read Romans 5:9. The only thing that can save us from the wrath to come is: a. prayer & fasting. b. attending church. c. paying tithes. d. <u>Jesus & His</u> shed blood.
- 5. Read Matthew 25:34. On the "Day of the LORD," when Jesus returns, the true believers will inherit: a. the land of Palestine. b. a lot of money. c. the kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world.
- 6. Read Matthew 25:41,46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9. On the "Day of the LORD," when Jesus returns, the wicked unbelievers will receive: a. free beers for all their friends. b. asbestos suits tailored just for them. c. everlasting fire, that is, everlasting punishment from God's presence.
- 7. Read Matthew 25:31-33; 46. When Christ returns with all His holy angels, His judgment will result in: a. good times & bad times. b. the national debt being paid. c. who will be the next president. d. everlasting life for some & everlasting punishment for others.
- 8. Read Luke 16:19-31. According to the "traditionalist" view, the everlasting punishment of the wicked will be: a. having to live eternally with all their old friends. b. living forever with their ex-wife. c. being tormented in a flame.
- 9. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10. According to the "conditionalist" view, the everlasting punishment of the wicked will be: a. torment in fire. b. losing all their earthly possessions. c. everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord.
- 10. Read 1 Timothy 6:14-16; 1:16-17. The following questions are not to persuade you to believe a certain way, but only for your consideration to think through the issues in question. Who only has "immortality?" a. all of mankind.

b. Judas Iscariot. c. <u>God & our Lord Jesus Christ</u>. Read 2 Timothy 1:10-11. What is offered through the gospel? a. more money than you could ever use. b. no problems in this present life. c. <u>life & immortality</u>.

Note: The Greek words for "immortality" means "deathlessness and unending existence" [Strong's Concordance, numbers 110 & 861 in its' Greek Lexicon]. The difference between the "traditionalist" and the "conditionalist" views, is that the "traditionalists" believe that the soul is immortal, that is, it can never cease to exist. The "conditionalist" believe that only God is immortal and immortality is offered only through the gospel and put on through the resurrection of the just (John 5:28-29; 1 Corinthians 15:53).

Mastering the Basics Lesson 16

In Christ: A New Creation

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV).

A Christian is a person that has become someone that he was not before. A Christian, in terms of his deepest identity and nature, is a new creation, a saint, a child of God, a divine work of art, a child of light, a citizen of heaven, not only positionally (true in the mind of God but not true on earth), not only judicially (a matter of God's bookkeeping and accounting), but ACTUALLY. Becoming a Christian is not just in getting something, it is in becoming something, that is, someone that he was not before.

Consider our physical conception and birth. Being born isn't getting something, No!, being born is becoming someone who was not there before. God says "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:10). Is God's workmanship – His masterpiece – simply adding something onto sinful clay?

The truth is, I am now someone else. This new creation in Christ Jesus was so fundamental to the apostle Paul that he states twice (and infers several more times) that when he sins, "it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me" (Romans 7:17-20). Though he acknowledges personal responsibility, he denies that sinning is part of his essential, deepest nature and personhood. We were all "by nature children of wrath," but now through Christ Jesus we have the seed of God within us, and have become the children of God.

Contrary to much popular teaching, regeneration is more than having our sins taken away, it is becoming someone we had never been before. This new identity is not on the physical level, but the spirit level – one's deepest self. "This miracle is more than a 'judicial' act of God. It is an act so REAL that it is right to say that a Christian's essential nature is righteous rather than sinful" [Birthright, David C. Needham, p.61].

Even though all this is true – even though God describes us as sons of God we are still for a while inseparably linked to unredeemed flesh. Our bodies are mortal. Not just the bones and muscles, glands and senses, but mind and emotions as well. Paul says in Romans 7:23, 'I see ... a law of sin which is in my members.'

The Christian still has full responsibility for his actions. He must yield his members "as slaves to righteousness" (Romans 6:19), depending upon the Holy

Spirit (Gal. 5:16-17). Remember, to become a Christian is to become part of the kingdom of God. And it was the "kingdom of God" that Christians preached throughout the entire book of Acts (Acts 8:12; 19:8; 20:25; 28:23,31). How can one assume he is entering the kingdom of God and at the same time reject the Kings – authority and rule? Sin is not simply what we do or don't do, sin relates to our independence from the King.

God's purpose for humans is not simply that they do right things, his purpose is that they become actual extensions of His life through a dependent relationship on Him (Galatians 2:20). This, above all else, is new creation righteousness. A life that expresses itself in righteous deeds (Eph. 2:10), but the foundation for those deeds is dependence upon Him (John 15:5; Gal.5:22-23).

Questions

- 1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. If any man be in Christ (i.e. a Christian), he is: a a hypocrite. b. doing the best he can. c. faithful to attend church. d. a new creature, that is, a new creation.
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. As Christians, the old things, the old life is: a. always tormenting us. b. not far behind. c. passed away, that is, the old life is gone.
- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. When we were converted: a. problems started in our home. b. the devil came after us. c. a new life begun, we became new persons.
- 4. Read Galatians 6:15. It doesn't make any difference whether we have been circumcised or not, what counts is: a. that we stay out of debt. b. that we vote in the elections. c, that we stay out of trouble. d. whether we have been changed into new and different people, that is, we have become a new creature [creation].
- 5. Read Romans 7:22. As a Christian, my inward man, my true nature always delights in: a. getting drunk. b. committing adultery. c. the law of God, that is, the ways of the LORD.
- 6. Read Romans 4:6-7. As a Christian, God has blessed me with: a. a lot of money. b. some new clothes. c. imputed righteousness put to my account without me working for it [by grace I am saved].
- 7. Read 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20. As a new creation, I am: a. nice to my spouse. b. always at church. c. the temple and dwelling place of God.
- 8. Read Romans 6:18. As a new creation, I am a: a. servant of sin. b. a servant of righteousness. c. a nicer person.

- 9. Read Romans 6:17-19. As a new creation we no longer serve sin, that is, sin is not our master, our new master is: a. the pastor. b. our spouse. c. righteousness.
- 10. Read Colossians 1:13-14. As a new creation, I have been rescued from the domain of Satan's rule and transferred to: a. a new job. b. a new denomination. c. the kingdom of Christ.
- 11. Read Acts 8:13, 18-22; 1 John 1:8-9. As a new creation, I sometimes fail and sin, when I find my heart is not right I should: a. give up the whole thing. b. go ahead and sin anyway because I am under grace. c. repent of my sin, asking God for forgiveness.

Scriptures to use with Questions

- 1. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17**. [17] Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- 2. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17**. [17] Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- 3. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17**. [17] Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- 4. **Read Galatians 6:15**. [15] For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.
- 5. **Read Romans 7:22**. [22] For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:
- 6. **Read Romans 4:6-7**. [6] Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, [7] Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.
- 7. **Read 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20. I Corinthians 3:** [16] Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? **1 Corinthians 6:** [19] What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? [20] For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.
- 8. **Read Romans 6:18**. [18] Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

- 9. **Read Romans 6:17-19**. [17] But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. [18] Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. [19] I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
- 10. **Read Colossians 1:13-14**. [13] Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: [14] In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: [
- 11. **Read Acts 8:13, 18-22; 1 John 1:8-9. Acts 8:** [13] Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. [18] And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, [19] Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. [20] But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. [21] Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. [22] Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. **1 John 1:** [8] If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Answer Key – Lesson 16 In Christ: A New Creation

- 1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. If any man be in Christ (i.e. a Christian), he is: a a hypocrite. b. doing the best he can. c. faithful to attend church. d. a new creature, that is, a new creation.
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. As Christians, the old things, the old life is: a. always tormenting us. b. not far behind. c. <u>passed away, that is, the old life is gone</u>.
- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. When we were converted: a. problems started in our home. b. the devil came after us. c. <u>a new life begun, we became new persons</u>.
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- 7. Read 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19-20. As a new creation, I am: a. nice to my spouse. b. always at church. c. the temple and dwelling place of God.
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Mastering the Basics

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