

this is that

THE BIBLE STUDY

BIBLE STUDY TEACHERS MANUAL

Thank you for taking time to study the Word of God with us through our Bible study. In, “This is That” we will journey through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. As we study His Word, it will unfold before our eyes, how the Bible confirms itself from cover to cover. The Old Testament points to the New, and the New Testament fulfills the Old. In our journey together we will find how God uses a pattern to deal with man, and specific elements within that pattern as a solution to the sin of mankind. Let’s begin with prayer that God would speak to us through His Word, and we would open our hearts to everything He wants to do in our lives.

- Zach Hammond

LESSON 1 - THE BIBLE - CREATION - FLOOD

- The Bible was written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit by over 40 different writers from all walks of life: shepherds, farmers, tent-makers, physicians, and fishermen to name a few.
- The entire canonization of scripture covers a span of 3,600 years of Man's History.
- From Genesis to Revelation, it spans around 1,500 years of writings. Despite the 32 writers who penned the books of the Bible, there is but one author, which is God Himself.

Matthew 24:35 (KJV)

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

2 Peter 1:21 (KJV)

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)

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

DISPENSATIONS

A DISPENSATION IS A PERIOD OF TIME IN WHICH GOD DEALS WITH MAN IN A PARTICULAR WAY. THIS MOMENT IN TIME IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO THE VOICE OF GOD THROUGH OUR OBEDIENCE AND COMMITMENT TO SERVING THE LORD.

AS YOU GO THROUGH THE CHART, YOU WILL SEE A TOTAL OF 7 DISPENSATIONS.

- 1. INNOCENCE**
- 2. CONSCIENCE**
- 3. HUMAN GOVERNMENT**
- 4. PROMISE**
- 5. LAW**
- 6. CHURCH AGE**
- 7. MILLENNIAL REIGN**

EACH DISPENSATION HAS THREE MAIN COMPONENTS:

1. THERE IS A COMMANDMENT FROM GOD, THAT BECOMES A RESPONSIBILITY OF MAN
2. GOD CREATED MANKIND WITH A FREE WILL - THERE IS ALWAYS A CHOICE
3. EVERY DISPENSATION ALWAYS ENDS IN JUDGEMENT.

* We are currently living in the sixth dispensation — The Church Age. We are in the age of Grace, where humanity has the opportunity to respond to the greatest event to ever take place on earth — Calvary! The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ becomes our plan of salvation we must obey. The final judgement of this current dispensation will be the rapture of The Church. It will be a glorious reward for those who responded to the voice of God and judgement to those who did not.

TURN TO PAGE TWO - CREATION

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Day 1 - Light divided from darkness (vs. 3-5)

Day 2 - Waters above are divided from waters below (vs. 6-8)

Day 3 - Land divided from the sea (vs.9-13)

Day 4 - Created Sun and Moon and day and night (vs. 14-19)

Day 5 - Created sea creatures and fowl of the air (vs. 20-23)

Day 6 - Created cattle, beast, and 1st man Adam (vs. 24-31)

Day 7 - God rested - It was good (2:1-3)

In the very beginning we see God creates a space and God fills that space. This is a pattern with a purpose. We are all created and were meant to be filled.

(SEE CHART BOTTOM OF PAGE TWO)

- In days one, two, and three, God divides. In days four, five, and six, God provides.
- God fills day one with day four, day two with day five, and day three with day six.

Adam and Eve were created innocent, righteous, and made in the image and likeness of God. He gives Adam and Eve dominion over all other creation.

Take notice that mankind was given knowledge of a commandment and warned of consequences of disobedience.

Genesis 2:16-17

[16] And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: [17] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

- Adam and Eve's disobedience brought sin into the world. Mankind began to feel shame, guilt, fear, and condemnation.

Genesis 3:9-10

[9] And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? [10] And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

- We will see through the entire Bible that sin will seek a covering. Sin brought forth shame, guilt, fear, and condemnation that would cause man to want to hide himself. Look at what Paul says about sin.

Romans 6:23

[23] For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- The Bible teaches us that the only way to cover the sins of mankind is the shedding of blood.

Hebrews 9:22

[22] And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

- God decided to kill the creature instead of Adam and Eve. We see here God chooses to teach man the covering for sin is through blood sacrifice. Sacrifice is simply shown early in scripture that something of value has to die for something of greater value. God teaches man that sacrifice is now the key to a relationship. The shedding of blood was required to cover what sin had caused.
- Because man was disobedient to the word of God, there is a curse. There has always been and will always be a consequence for sin.

The Curse:

Woman - Pain in child birth

Man - cursed is the ground - work for food

Serpent - Cursed above all beast - Dust shall you eat - Upon your belly you will crawl

Genesis 6:5-6

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

- The world slowly became more wicked.
- Genesis 6:8 - A man named Noah found Grace in the eyes of God. Noah had a desire to hear and obey the voice of God, even in a wicked world.
- Genesis 6:14 - God commands Noah to make an ark of Gopher wood.
- We see once again here God is giving us a picture within the story of what is to come in the New Testament. So let's turn ahead to 2 Peter and connect the dots.

2 Peter 2:5

*And spared not the **old world**, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

1 Peter 3:20

*Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, **eight souls were saved by water.***

- God through the voice of Noah gave a message that required obedience.
- God then gave an space of time to repent and respond to His message.
- Everyone who did not obey the message faced the consequences of judgement.

In conclusion of lesson one, we must remember that God works with humanity through a dispensation of time. There is always a message, a choice to respond, and lastly comes judgement. There has never been a time when mankind is not judged according to the message they were given and how they responded to His word. God in His divine nature will continue to use the same process in dealing with man in each dispensation to allow mankind to live the life He created them to live which is by Him and for Him as the great creator.

Colossians 1:15-17 KJV

[15] Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: [16] For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: [17] And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.

LESSON 2 - MOSES EXODUS - TABERNACLE PLAN

Exodus 3:7-8

[7] And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; [8] And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey;

- God once again finds a man to work through. This time his name is Moses. God uses Moses in a powerful way in the deliverance of his people from Egyptian bondage.
- Moses has many conversations with Pharaoh to persuade him to let God's people go, but Pharaoh would not give in. God sent plagues in the land and did many miracles, but Pharaoh would not let the people go.
- Despite Pharaoh's stubbornness, God delivers his people. We must take note of how he delivers his people and the plan he uses. Let's start in Exodus chapter twelve.

BLOOD

Exodus 12:1-36 (Take time to read the passage)

7. And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

WATER

Exodus 14:13-31

21. And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. [22] And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground : and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

SPIRIT

Exodus 13:22

22. He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

- Once again we see a picture painted within the pages of scripture that God wants us to take note of. He uses the three elements of **blood, water, and spirit**. This becomes something we must not miss as we continue in our study.
- From this point forward please keep a close eye on these three elements of blood, water, and spirit, as you will see them depicted in blue, red, and gold.

THE TABERNACLE IN THE WILDERNESS

We will spend the remainder of our time in lesson two looking at the tabernacle plan that God gave the children of Israel in the wilderness. Once he delivers his people out of the slavery in Egypt he gives them a tabernacle plan to have a relationship with him.

Exodus 25:8

8. And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

The tabernacle plan becomes the blueprint of relationship between God and man throughout the Old Testament.

Brazen Altar

This was the starting point to get into the presence of God. This altar was not a pretty place, but rather a bloody place. There was sacrifice made here, just like there was to provide Adam and Eve a covering for their sin. The priest would bring something of value and sacrifice it before the lord on the altar to cover the sins of the people. But just like in the Exodus out of Egypt, it wasn't just the blood on the doorpost they then had to go through the water.

Brazen Laver -

The laver was a place of washing with water. This was a crucial moment of cleansing before the priest would enter into the presence of God. The laver was a place of reflection, like a mirror you would look into and wash to remind yourself you are forgiven by the blood of the lamb at the altar. Just like the altar, you could not get into the presence of God without the washing of water.

Exodus 30:20

When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD:

There were another three elements you will see in the tabernacle that are once again symbolic of our relationship with God. The bread being the word of God. The altar of incense being our communication with God through prayer. And the golden candlesticks reminds us that he is The Light, and we must be a light to everyone around us.

Table of Shew Bread -

Leviticus 24:6

6. *And thou shalt set them in two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the Lord.*

Altar of Incense -

Exodus 30:7

7. *And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it.*

Golden candlesticks

Numbers 8:2

[2] *Speak unto Aaron, and say unto him, When thou lightest the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light over against the candlestick.*

We then enter into the Holy of Holies we come to what is known as the ark of the covenant.

This is that special piece that would represent the presence of God. We had blood at the altar, water at the laver, now we see his Spirit.

Ark of the Covenant -

- **Exodus 25:22**

[22] *And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.*

- **Leviticus 16:14**

[14] *And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.*

The priest took the blood from the altar and sprinkled it upon the mercy seat of the ark.

This tells us that we have to go through the altar to get to the Ark of the covenant. Three steps of blood, water, and spirit.

- Let's connect once again to a New Testament passage to show that this in the old testament is what Paul is talking about in the new testament to the church at Corinth. God is no longer in symbolized in the box called the ark, no in us as a vessel to house his presence.

- **2 Corinthians 4:6-10**

6. *For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

7. *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. [8] We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; [9] Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; [10] Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.*

We are the earthen vessel of the old testament. In order for God to make our heart his home, we must go through the altar and the the water. This is the blueprint of relationship God is showing us from even the early pages of scripture.

Look at the icons one more time. We see that God uses these three elements of blood, water, and spirit to not just deliver, but to dwell among His people.

TURN TO PAGE 5 TO CONTINUE LESSON 2

LIFE OF JESUS - THE GOSPEL

We now are going to jump into the New Testament. We will get into the gospels where we will find the story of the life of Jesus Christ.

Let's continue connecting the dots of the Old and New Testament. **This is that!**

Isaiah 7:14

14. Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This in Isaiah is **that** in Matthew.

Matthew 1:23

23. Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Emmanuel - God with us

- Prior to the time of Jesus, Jews were given over 100 prophecies describing the coming of a Messiah (a king who would deliver Israel and set up the kingdom of God).
- An expert in mathematical probabilities, Peter Stoner, wrote in Science Speaks that if only 8 of the prophecies in the Old Testament concerning Messiah were fulfilled, the probability of them actually coming to pass would be 1 in 10 to the 17th degree – that probability is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000. That's one in one hundred quadrillion!
- The point is that when people say that the fulfillment of prophecy in the life of Jesus was accidental, they do not know what they are talking about. Keep in mind that Jesus did not just fulfill eight prophecies, He fulfilled 108.

Isaiah 43:10-11

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. [11] I, even I, am the Lord ; and beside me there is no saviour.

This in Isaiah is **that** in Luke 2.

Luke 2:11

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

(Emphasize the words in Isaiah 43 — You are my witnesses, besides me there is no savior.) If Jesus is not God in flesh, then we have a critical error in the scriptures.

Acts 1:1

Jesus began both to do and teach!

DOING

Healed the sick - **Matt 4:23**

Raised the dead - **John 11:41-44**

Opened blinded eyes - **Matt 9:27-30**

Cast out Demons - **Luke 8:26-36**

TEACHING

Sow and reap - **Mark 4**

Hidden treasures - **Matt 13:44**

Lost and found - **Luke 15**

1 John 5:7-8

*[7] For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. [8] And there are three that bear witness in earth, the **Spirit**, and the **water**, and the **blood**: and these three agree in one.*

- Notice what three elements bear record - Blood, Water, and Spirit.

TURN TO PAGE 6 TO CONTINUE LESSON 2

- The death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, follows the same steps God has used through out scripture of of delivering and dwelling with his people.
- The icons show us the same pattern is continually used. This good news of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection is the same pattern he used with his people in other dispensations.
- (Take time on the chart to read the scriptures that relate to the Death/Burial/Resurrection of Jesus to Repentance/Baptism/Holy Ghost) *top right corner

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

[1] Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; [2] By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. [3] For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; [4] And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Romans 6:1-5

[1] What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? [2] God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? [3] Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? [4] Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father; even so we also should walk in newness of life. [5] For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

Ephesians 4:5-8

[5] One Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6] One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. [7] But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. [8] Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

Colossians 3:17

[17] And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

John 3:3-7

[3] Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. [4] Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? [5] Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. [6] That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. [7] Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Acts 8:35-36

[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?

There scripture is very clear that baptism is essential and that we must be baptized in the Name of Jesus. No where in scripture will you see anyone being baptized in the Name of the father, son, and Holy Ghost.

Colossians 2:8-10

[8] Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. [9] For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. [10] And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

1 Timothy 3:16

[16] And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

THERE IS ONE GOD, HIS NAME IS JESUS, AND WHEN WE ARE BAPTIZED WE TAKE UPON THAT POWERFUL SAVING NAME.

THE GOSPEL IS THE GOOD NEWS THAT JESUS IS RISEN AND WE MUST SHARE IT!

John 14:16,26

*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; [26] **But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things,** and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

The Holy Ghost **in my name** shall teach you all things

John 7:37-39

[37] In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. [38] He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. [39] (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given ; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

This climatic portion of scripture was all pointing to an event that would take place in Jerusalem, that would forever change the world. Time and time again, Jesus was letting His disciples know, “something” was coming that would change not just them but generations to come.

We must share the good news of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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:

Mark 16:15

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Luke 24:46-49

[46] And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved 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. [48] And ye are witnesses of these things. [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.

As we end lesson two we will see that we come to the end of the first four chapters of the new testament. As we turn the pages from the gospels we enter into the book of action, or the book of Acts. Just like in every other dispensation, when God gives a plan we are to obey it. You will see very quickly in the book of Acts, there is a plan of salvation that is preached for this new dispensation of the church that we are all now living in because of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

LESSON 3 - THE UPPER ROOM / BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

It is important in this lesson to allow the scriptures to do all of our teaching. We are going to travel through the book of Acts and explain how this powerful book **bridges** the entire Bible.

We ended lesson two with Luke 24 and we will begin lesson three with the same passage.

Luke 24:46-49

[46] And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved 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. [48] And ye are witnesses of these things. [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.

Acts 1:2-9

[2] Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: [3] To whom also he shewed 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: [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. [6] When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? [7] And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. [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. [9] And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Acts 2:1-6

[1] And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. [2] And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. [3] And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. [4] And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. [5] And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. [6] Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

This is what Jesus told them in Luke 24 to go and wait for. Just like he told them he poured out his Spirit.

Acts 2:12-15

[12] And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this? [13] Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. [14] But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: [15] For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

- What meaneth this? Peter gives a response to the question of Pentecost. His answer is the same three steps we have seen through blood, water, and Spirit. Jesus himself had just become the spotless lamb of sacrifice and was the crucified, buried, and rose again to carry and cover the sins of all mankind.

Let's connect the scriptures here in the book of Acts as we keep reading in verse 16.

Acts 2:16-18

*[16] But **this is that** which was spoken by the prophet Joel; [17] And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: [18] And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:*

THIS IS THAT

Joel 2:28-29

[28] And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: [29] And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Acts 2:37-42

[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. [42] And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Peter preaches the plan of salvation when the people are asked what shall we do?

This is the commandment for us in the church age that we must obey. We must be born again of the water and of the spirit. I

WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

Repentance is not just “accepting” the good news, and it is not just feeling sorry for your sins – it is being sorry enough to change! It begins the salvation process in man, showing God we want to live a life pleasing unto Him.

2 Corinthians 7:10-11

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

- Repentance is not a “feeling” – it is a “turning around” or an “about face” – an inward change of attitude leading to an outward change of action. Unless both of these occur, repentance has not taken place.
- Matthew 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: **REPENTANCE IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR SALVATION!**
- Luke 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

WE PUT ON CHRIST WHEN WE ARE BAPTIZED! *Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

WE ARE BURIED WITH CHRIST WHEN WE ARE BAPTIZED!

This is why it is absolutely crucial to be IMMERSED in water (burial) in the NAME of Jesus Christ (the One who was buried for us)! Every Christian in your Bible was baptized this way!

WATER BAPTISM IN THE BOOK OF ACTS:

- Day of Pentecost – Acts 2:38 – “name of Jesus Christ”
- Samaritan Believers – Acts 8:16 – “name of the Lord Jesus”
- Cornelius’ Household – Acts 10:48 – “name of the Lord”
- Disciples of John – Acts 19:5 – “name of the Lord Jesus”

Matthew 28:18-19 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

- John 5:43 – “I am come in my Father’s name”
- Matthew 1:21 – “thou shalt call his name Jesus”
- John 14:26 – “the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name”

BAPTISM IS ESSENTIAL FOR SALVATION!

John 20:23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

- The church doesn’t have power to forgive sins – only Jesus does! So what does this verse mean? Whoever we BAPTIZE has their sins remitted (“washed away”); whoever we don’t baptize still has their sin!

Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

WHAT IS THE HOLY GHOST?

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.

1 Corinthians 6:14 And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

The new birth experience is designed to let your old life die (repentance) and be buried (baptism), and to give you a new life by the power of the Holy Ghost. The point of the resurrection is not just that Jesus got up from the grave, but that we can get up out of the deadness of our old life!

- Jesus' being put to death was an act of men.
- Jesus' burial was an act of men.
- But Jesus' resurrection was an act of God!
- Repentance is my action in response to the Gospel.
- Baptism is my action in response to the Gospel.
- But the Holy Ghost is God's action in response to my obedience!

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

There is always an evidence of a promise in the word of God. The evidence of the Holy Ghost is speaking in another tongue.

Every time we see someone receive the Holy Ghost we see they spoke with tongues.

- When the church began on the Day of Pentecost, the disciples spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4).

THOSE WHO SPOKE WITH TONGUES

Acts 2 - The Apostles did

Acts 2 - the mother of Jesus did

Acts 8 - Samaritans did

Acts 10 - Cornelius! house did

Acts 19 - Men at Ephesus did

If they all did, and I am living in the same dispensation, then why wouldn't we?

TURN TO PAGE 8 TO CONTINUE LESSON 3

[15] Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Acts 11:26

- And the disciples were called **Christians** first in Antioch.
- This is the first time we see anyone referred to as Christians. This is the beginning of the church age in the book of Acts. Until the power of the Holy Ghost was poured out and Peter preached the plan of salvation, we are not in the church age.
- This is where we get the term Apostolic. We are taking the Apostles doctrine to call ourselves christians.

Ephesians 2:20

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner [stone];

As we go through the Bible study, it is evident that from the book of Genesis, everything pointed to the event that eventually took place in the Book of Acts — The Birth of The Church. The Old Testament prophesied it was coming, and all the way through the book of Revelation, it points back to it.

A most powerful reminder is, the book of Acts has no ending. The same Spirit that was poured out on the Day of Pentecost is still being poured out today.

TURN TO PAGE 9 TO CONTINUE LESSON 3

The Church Today

Acts 2:40-42

*And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. **And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

KEY POINTS: There are things God won't do, we must do for ourselves.

- Save yourself from this untoward generation
- Receive His Word
- Continue steadfastly in the Apostles Doctrine

Ephesians 2:20-22

[20] And are built upon the foundation of the apostles(this) and prophets(that), Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone ; [21] In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: [22] In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

LETTERS TO THE CHURCH FROM ROMANS 1 - REVELATION 3

We must understand that these are letters to people who have already experienced the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through repentance, baptism, and the gift of the Holy Ghost. They are already saved. We can confirm the plan of salvation in Acts through the letters. Again, these people have already been baptized, and filled with His presence.

Let's look at a few points describing what the church looks like:

Church Is Chosen and Called Out People

1 Peter 2:9

[9] But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Church Is a Holy and Acceptable People Unto God

Romans 12:1

[1] I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

The Church Has Godly Leadership

Romans 10:13-17

[13] For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. [14] How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? [15] And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! [16] But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Hebrews 13:17

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief:

for that is unprofitable for you.

The Church Is Unashamed of Their God

Romans 1:16

[16] For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

REVELATION CHAPTERS TWO AND THREE ADDRESSES 7 CHURCH'S:

1. Ephesus
2. Smyrna
3. Pergamus
4. Thyatira
5. Sardis
6. Philadelphia
7. Laodicea

The Bible has to be an absolute truth. Much like the ark that Noah built, it was built to exact specifications. Every detail was given by God to Noah for the saving of his family. Truth is not relative or based on my feelings.

TURN TO PAGE 10 TO CONTINUE LESSON 3

James 4:17 KJVS

[17] Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

As we enter the book of Revelations we see the judgement like we did in our very first lesson. We can just as it was in the days of Noah, there will be judgement for those who do not obey the plan of salvation.

This - Coming of Christ is - **That** - The flood in the days of Noah

DAYS OF NOAH - COMING OF CHRIST

Earth is very wicked - 2 Tim 3:13

Unholy Marriages - Matt 24:38-39

Knowledge Increasing - Dan 12:4

Corruption in the earth - 2 Tim 3:2

Noah & his family escape the judgement of the flood - 2 Thess 4:17

Noah returns after the flood to the earth - Jude 14 & 15

Revelation 3:11

[11] Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

[16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. [18] Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

TURN TO PAGE 11 FOR CONCLUSION

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

Strongly emphasize Acts 2:37-40 — the greatest question we can ask ourselves is “what shall we do?” What will be our response be to the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Jesus declared to Nicodemus, “I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” (John 3:5)

Jesus is coming back for his bride, The Church! We must be ready to meet him. The only way he will call us out of this world is that we are called out of sin through the blood, water, and Spirit.

There is a message in the scriptures — we must obey it and live it. There will soon be a judgement when he calls the church home.

Will you be ready?