

# The Gospel Guide Book



D.O. TEASLEY



# **The Gospel Guide Book**

**For Bible students, teachers, parents,  
children, and all who seek to know better  
the will of God**

**By  
D. O. Teasley**

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## Preface

The Gospel Guide Book is an effort on the part of its author to make the Bible speak for itself in answer to some of the most common and most important questions of the human heart. It is a compilation rather than an exposition. The object has been to bring together in convenient and readable form a few pointed texts of Scripture bearing upon each of the fundamental themes treated in the several chapters of this book.

To make the book convenient for the reader, the entire texts of Scripture have been produced verbatim in answer to the several questions. In some instances the quoting of the entire text necessitates the inclusion of matter that does not relate directly to the question in point, but that part of the text that immediately bears upon the question has been printed in italics. It will be understood, therefore, that italics do not refer, as in the printed Bibles, to words supplied by the translators.

The first impetus toward the production of this book was the suggestion of my wife that I prepare some Bible lessons for our own use in teaching our children around the fireside in the evenings. From this suggestion I reasoned that many other parents, teachers, and students would value such assistance as the suggested Scripture lessons.

The Bible as it is, it is true, forms the greatest book of all ages, but not everyone has the time, the inclination, and the ability to assemble and correlate the several passages bearing on a given subject. The man with a soul-hunger for the truth, but with little time to read, will welcome the Gospel Guide Book. To the one disinclined to read the Bible on account of its style, the question-and-answer method of this book may prove an attraction. The man who has not enabled himself, by careful study, to bring together the related passages of Scripture will find the following pages helpful, and suggestive of one of the best methods of Bible study.

It is the sincere wish and confident hope of the author that the Gospel Guide Book may create in its readers an insatiable desire to read the Bible itself, God's blessed and infallible Guide Book.

D. O. Teasley.  
Anderson, Ind.

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## **About God**



## Chapter I

### About God

#### Who Is God?

The creator of all things.

Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that *maketh all things*, that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself.—Isa. 44:24.

And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto *the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein*.—Acts 14:15.

#### What Is the Nature of His Being?

*God is a Spirit*: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4:24.

#### Does He Have a Material Body?

No. Being a spirit, he does not have flesh and bones; for Jesus, when he took physical form, said:

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Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; *for a spirit hath not flesh and bones*, as ye see me have.—Luke 24:39.

### **Then, Can We See God with the Natural Eye?**

*No man hath seen God* at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.—1 John 4:12.

### **How Long Has There Been a God?**

He has always been and always will be.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even *from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God*.—Psa. 90:2.

### **Then, Is God Eternal?**

Yes.

The *eternal* God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.—Deut. 33:27.

### **Should We Think of God as a Person?**

Yes; though he is an invisible spirit, he is still a person.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and *the express image of his person*, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.—Heb. 1:1-3.

## **Then, the God Who Is a Personal Spirit Must Be the True and Living God?**

But *the Lord is the true God, he is the living God*, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.—Jer. 10:10.

## **Where Does God Dwell?**

In heaven, for Jesus taught his disciples to pray thus:

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art *in heaven*, Hallowed be thy name.—Matt. 6:9.

## **But Does Not God Dwell on Earth Among Men Also?**

Yes.

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, *with him* also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.—Isa. 57:15.

Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and *upon the earth beneath*: there is none else.—Deut. 4:39.

## **Is There More Than One God?**

No.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is *one Lord*.—Deut. 6:4.

And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for *there is one God; and there is none other but he*.—Mark 12:32.

## **But Are There Not Many Idols That Are Called Gods?**

As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifices unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. For though *there be that are called gods*, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.—1 Cor. 8:4-6.

## **Is It Right to Make an Image of God?**

No. God is much holier and greater than nature and man, and anything that man can make. It is a sin to make and worship an image of God.

Thou shalt have none other gods before me. *Thou shalt not make thee any graven image*, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.—Deut. 5:7-10.

Little children, keep yourselves from idols.—1 John 5:21.

## **Then, God Must Be Everywhere?**

Yes; since he is a spiritual being, he can be everywhere at the same time.

Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not *I fill heaven and earth?* saith the Lord.—Jer. 23:24.

That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though *he be not far from every one of us*: for *in him we live*, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.—Acts 17:27, 28.

### **Can We Hide from God?**

No.

Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: *the darkness and the light are both alike to thee*.—Psa. 139:7-12:

### **Does God See Everything We Do?**

The eyes of the Lord are *in every place*, beholding the evil and the good.—Prov. 15:3.

### **What, Then, Is Our Definition of God?**

“God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.”—Martensen.

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“Hence we define thus: God is an eternal personal Being, of absolute knowledge, power, and goodness.”—Miley.

### **What Is God’s Attitude Toward Evil?**

He is grieved at wickedness.

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 made man on the earth, *and it grieved him at his heart.*—Gen. 6:5, 6.

### **Is God Displeased with Those Who Live Wickedly?**

God judgeth the righteous, and *God is angry with the wicked every day.*—Psa. 7:11.

### **Will He Punish Those Who Continue in Sin?**

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to *reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.*—2 Pet. 2:9.

### **But Does God Not Love Those Whom He Has Created?**

Yes, for

He that loveth not knoweth not God; *for God is love.* In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that *he loved us,* and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.—1 John 4:8-10.



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For *God so loved the world*, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16.



**Jesus Christ,  
The Son of God**



## Chapter II

# Jesus Christ, The Son of God

### Who Is Christ?

He is the Son of God.

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, *the Son of the living God*. 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.—Matt. 16:15-17.

### How Long Has Christ Existed?

And he is *before all things* and by him all things consist.—Col. 1:17.

### What Is the Nature of His Being?

Like his Father, he is a divine spirit.

And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that *spiritual* Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.—1 Cor. 10:4.

## **But Was Not Jesus Christ a Man?**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the *Word was made flesh*, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.—John 1:1, 14.

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, *the man Christ Jesus*.—1 Tim. 2:5.

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in *the likeness of men*.—Phil. 2:7.

## **By What Means Did Christ Take the Form of Man?**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When *as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph*, before they came together, she was *found with child of the Holy Ghost*.—Matt. 1:18.

The prophet of God had said:

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, *a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son*, and shall call his name Immanuel.—Isa. 7:14.

An angel appeared to Joseph and said concerning Mary:

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.—Matt. 1:21.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail! thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women! And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this

should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, *The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.*—Luke 1:26-35.

### **Is There More Than One Christ?**

No, there is but one Lord Jesus Christ.

*One Lord*, one faith, one baptism.—Eph. 4:5.

But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and *one Lord Jesus Christ*, by whom are all things, and we by him.—2 Cor. 8:6.

He is the only Son of God.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his *only-begotten Son* into the world, that we might live through him.—1 John 4:9.

### **Then, Is It True That Christ, Though Born of Woman, Was Begotten of God?**

Yes, he was born of the virgin Mary.

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall

overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be *born of thee* shall be called the Son of God.—Luke 1:35.

But he was begotten of God.

God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have *I begotten thee*.—Acts 13:33.

### **Was He, Then, Both Human and Divine, Man and God?**

He partook of flesh and blood, thus becoming man.

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of *flesh and blood*, he also himself likewise *took part of the same*; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he *took on him the seed of Abraham*.—Heb. 2:14-16.

Yet he, being begotten of God, was divine, the Son of God.

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is *my beloved Son*, in whom I am well pleased.—Matt. 3:17.

And I saw, and bare record that this is *the Son of God*.—John 1:34.

### **Why did God Send His Son into the World?**

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but *that the world through him might be saved*.—John 3:17.



## **What Was Christ's Object in Coming to Earth in the Form of Man?**

To rescue sinners.

For the Son of man is come *to seek and to save that which was lost*.—Luke 19:10.

The apostle Paul said:

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world *to save sinners*; of whom I am chief.—1 Tim. 1:15



**The Holy Spirit  
(Or Holy Ghost)**



## Chapter III

### The Holy Spirit (Or Holy Ghost)

#### Is the Holy Spirit Also a Divine Personality?

Yes, he is associated with God the Father and with the Son.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of *the Father*, and of *the Son*, and of *the Holy Ghost*.—Matt. 28:19.

He is spoken of by the personal pronoun “he.” He is also said to do certain acts that only persons do; namely, “hear,” “guide,” “speak,” “testify.”

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will *guide* you into all truth: for he shall not *speak* of himself; but whatsoever he shall *hear*, that shall he *speak*: and he will *show* you things to come.—John 16:13.

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall *testify* of me.—John 15:26.

## **Is the Holy Spirit Eternal, Like God and Christ?**

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the *eternal Spirit* offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?—Heb. 9:14.

He was with God before the creation of man.

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And *the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters*.—Gen. 1:2.

## **What Relation Does the Holy Spirit Hold to Man?**

He inspired the prophets.

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 Pet. 1:21.

## **But Does the Holy Spirit Still Associate Himself with Men?**

John, the forerunner of Christ, said:

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.

Jesus said to his disciples:

For John truly baptized with water; but *ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost* not many days hence. 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 Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.—Acts 1:5, 8.

The Holy Spirit fell on those who heard Peter preach.

While Peter yet spake these words, *the Holy Ghost fell on all them* which heard the word. 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*.—Acts 10:44, 45.

### **What Does the Holy Spirit Do for Us?**

He reproveth the world of sin.

And when he is come, *he will reprove the world of sin*, and of righteousness, and of judgment—John 16:8.

He adopts the penitent into the family of God.

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but *ye have received the Spirit of adoption*, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.—Rom. 8:15.

He sanctifies the Christian, or purifies the heart.

And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, *giving them the Holy Ghost*, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, *purifying their hearts* by faith.—Acts 15:8, 9.

### **Are There Other Benefits Given Us Through the Holy Spirit?**

He guides us in our study of the truth.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will *guide you into all truth*: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. 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.—John 16:13; 14:26.

He comforts the children of God.

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another *Comforter*, that he may abide with you forever.—John 14:15, 16.

He intercedes for the saints, and aids them in prayer.

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself *maketh intercession* for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he *maketh intercession for the saints* according to the will of God.—Rom. 8:26, 27.

### **Are There Not Other Spirits Besides the Spirit That Might Influence Us?**

Beloved, *believe not every spirit*, but *try the spirits whether they are of God*: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.—1 John 4:1.

### **How Are We to Know the Holy Spirit?**

The Spirit of God will not speak contrary to the Word of God.

To the law and to the testimony: *if they speak not according to this word*, it is because *there is no light in them*.—Isa. 8:20.



# **The Holy Trinity**



## Chapter IV

# The Holy Trinity

### What Is the Meaning of the Word Trinity?

The three persons of the Godhead—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—combined in one.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of *the Father*, and of *the Son*, and of *the Holy Ghost*.—Matt. 28:19.

### But Have We Not Learned That There Is But One God?

There is but one God.

And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel: *The Lord our God is one Lord*.—Mark 12:29.

Yet there are three persons combined in one Godhead.

And *the Holy Ghost* descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him [Jesus], and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved *Son*; in thee *I* am well pleased.—Luke 3:22.

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and *these three are one*.—1 John 5:7

## **Do We Worship All Three of the Persons of the Holy Trinity?**

We pray to the Father in Jesus' name.

If ye shall *ask* anything *in my name*, I will do it.—John 14:14.

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall *ask of the Father in my name*, he may give it you.—John 15:16.

And the Holy Spirit aids us in prayer.

Likewise *the Spirit also helpeth* our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but *the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us* with groanings which cannot be uttered.—Rom. 8:26.

## **Can We in This Life Ever Fully Understand All About God?**

No; the great apostle Paul said:

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.—1 Tim. 3:16.

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how *unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*—Rom. 11:33.

## **Why Can We Not Fully Comprehend the Nature of God, His Ways, and the Mystery of the Trinity?**

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*—Isa. 55:8, 9.

Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.—Psa. 147:5.

## **Should Men Fear and Worship a God Whom They Can Not Fully Comprehend?**

Yes. If we could fully comprehend God, we should then be equal to him, and he would no longer be worthy of our worship.

Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict. *Men do therefore fear him:* he respecteth not any that are wise of heart.—Job 37:23, 24.

## **Since We Can Not Fully Understand the Nature of God and the Mystery of the Trinity, How Can We Know There Is a God?**

By his created works in nature.

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being *understood by the things that are made*, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.—Rom. 1:20.

By his providence for his creatures.

The trees of the Lord are full of sap; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted; where the birds make their nests: as for the

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stork, the fir trees are her house. The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies. He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth. The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God. The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens. Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein. *These wait all upon thee*; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season. That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.—Psa. 104:16-28.

By the manifestation of his goodness, love, and mercy.

Or despisest thou the riches of *his goodness* and *forbearance* and *long-suffering*; not knowing that the *goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance*?—Rom. 2:4.

But *God commendeth his love* toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.—Rom. 5:8.

By the inspiration of his Spirit.

But there is a spirit in man: and *the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding*.—Job 32:8.

By the gift of his Son.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days *spoken*

*unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the world.—Heb. 1:1, 2.*

Through the Holy Scriptures.

And that from a child thou hast known *the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.—2 Tim. 3:15-17.*

### **May We Ever in the Future World Know God Better?**

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but *then shall I know even as also I am known.—1 Cor. 13:12.*





**Origin of the Earth  
And of Man**



## Chapter V

# Origin of the Earth and of Man

### Has the Earth Always Existed?

And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee *before the world was*.—John 17:5.

### Where Did the Earth Come From?

In the beginning *God created* the heaven and *the earth*.—Gen. 1:1.

### What Was the Condition of the Earth Just Before the Creation of Man?

And *the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep*. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.—Gen. 1:2.

### How Long Did It Take the Lord to Make the Orderly Arrangements of the Earth and the Forms of Life on the Earth?

In *six days* the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.—Exod. 20:11.

## What Did He Do on Each of the Days?

First day:

And God said, *Let there be light*: and there was light.—Gen. 1:3.

Second day:

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God *made the firmament, and divided the waters* which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.—Gen. 1:6, 7.

Third day:

And God said, *Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear*: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.—Gen. 1:9, 10.

Fourth day:

And God said, *Let there be lights in the firmament* of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years.—Gen. 1:14.

Fifth day:

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God *created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth* abundantly, after their kind, and *every winged fowl* after his kind: and God saw that it was good.—Gen. 1:20, 21.

Sixth day:

And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God *made the beast of the earth* after his kind, and *cattle* after their kind, and *everything that creepeth upon the earth* after his kind: and God saw that it was good.—Gen. 1:24, 25.

These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.—Gen. 2:4, 5.

### **How Did God Make Man?**

And the Lord God *formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life*; and man became a living soul.—Gen. 2:7.

### **What Was God's Purpose in Creating Man?**

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them *have dominion over the fish* of the sea, and *over the cattle*, and *over all the earth*, and *over every creeping thing* that creepeth upon the earth.—Gen. 1:26.

Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him *for my glory*, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.—Isa. 43:7.

## **Did God Make Woman Also from the Dust of the Ground?**

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and *the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman*, and brought her unto the man.—Gen. 2:21, 22.

## **What Was God's Purpose in Making Woman?**

And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him *an help meet* for him.—Gen. 2:18.

## **What Was God's First Command and Blessing to Man and Woman?**

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God *blessed* them, and God said unto them, *Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*—Gen. 1:27, 28.

**Man: His Nature  
and Condition**





## Chapter VI

# Man: His Nature and Condition

### What Is the Nature of Man?

He is composed of a soul and a body.

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy *both soul and body* in hell.—Matt. 10:28.

### Did God Make Man Sinful Like We See Him Now?

No. Man was originally pure and holy.

And God said, Let us make man *in our image, after our likeness*.—Gen. 1:26.

### In What Particular Sense Was Man Made Like God?

Man's moral nature was holy, like the nature of God.

And that ye put on *the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness*.—Eph. 4:24.

## How Has Man Become So Sinful?

God gave man a law.

And the Lord *God commanded the man*, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 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.—Gen. 2:16, 17.

Satan tempted man to disobey God.

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And *the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*—Gen. 3:1-5.

Man yielded to Satan.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, *she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat*, and gave also unto her husband with her; *and he did eat.*—Gen. 3:6.

## What Was the Result of Man's Disobedience?

He was cast out of Eden.

Therefore *the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden*, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim,

and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.—Gen. 3:23, 24.

His body was condemned to die.

And as *it is appointed unto men once to die*, but after this the judgment.—Heb. 9:27.

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and *unto dust shalt thou return*.—Gen. 3:19.

His soul became wicked.

And God saw that *the wickedness of man was great* in the earth, and that *every imagination of his heart was only evil continually*.—Gen. 6:5.

### **Did Adam's Children Partake of His Fallen Nature?**

And *Adam* lived an hundred and thirty years, and *begat a son in his own likeness, after his image*; and called his name Seth.—Gen. 5:3.

### **Are We Born into This World with Evil Tendencies?**

Behold, *I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me*.—Psa. 51:5.

*The wicked are estranged from the womb*: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.—Psa. 58:3.

### **Is It True, Then, That All Men (Jesus Excepted) Since the Days of Adam Have Been Sinners?**

For *all have sinned*, and come short of the glory of God.—Rom. 3:23.



**Satan and Devils:  
Their Nature and Work**



## Chapter VII

# Satan and Devils: Their Nature and Work

### What Is the Nature of Satan?

He is an evil being, of whose personal nature the Bible has little to say. He is a wicked spirit and has power to work through various agencies. We first learn of him when he spoke to Eve in the form of a serpent.

Now the serpent was more *subtil* than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die.—Gen. 3:1-4.

### Being Spirits, the Nature of Devils Is Such that They Sometimes Take Possession of the Souls of Men.

Then was brought unto him *one possessed with a devil*, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.—Matt. 12:22.

When the even was come, they brought unto him *many that mere possessed with devils*: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick.—Matt. 8:16.

### **How Are Evil Spirits Cast Out?**

By the Spirit of God.

And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. But if *I cast out devils by the Spirit of God*, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.—Matt. 12:26-28.

By the word of God.

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and *he cast out the spirits with his word*, and healed all that were sick.—Matt. 8:16.

Prayer and fasting.

And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit *this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting*.—Matt. 17:18-21.

By commanding them to come out in the name of Jesus.

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: the same followed Paul and us,



and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, *I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.* And *he came out* the same hour.—Acts 16:16-18.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; *In my name shall they cast out devils;* they shall speak with new tongues.—Mark 16:17.

### **Has the Devil Been Evil Ever Since the Creation of Man?**

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. *He was a murderer from the beginning,* and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.—John 8:44.

### **Does Satan Have Any Influence on Our Lives in This Dispensation?**

He tempted Jesus.

Then was *Jesus* led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be *tempted of the devil.* And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered. And when *the tempter came to him,* he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, and saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee; and in

their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him; and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.—Matt. 4:1-11.

He tempted others.

For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means *the tempter have tempted you*, and our labour be in vain.—1 Thess. 3:5.

Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that *Satan tempt you not* for your incontinency.—1 Cor. 7:5.

He puts in men's hearts the intention to do evil.

And supper being ended, *the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him*. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.—John 13:2, 27.

### **What Is His Occupation?**

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan

answered the Lord, and said, From *going to and fro in the earth*, and from walking up and down in it.—Job 1:6, 7.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, *walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*.—1 Pet. 5:8.

### **Can Those Who Have Fallen into Satan's Power be Delivered?**

And that *they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil*, who are taken captive by him at his will.—2 Tim. 2:26.

Who *hath delivered us from the power of darkness*, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.—Col. 1:13.

### **Are Those Who Have Been Delivered from Satan in any Danger of being Again Overcome?**

Not a novice, *lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil*. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; *lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil*.—1 Tim. 3:6, 7.

For *some are already turned aside after Satan*.—1 Tim. 5:15.

### **How Can We Defend Ourselves Against Satan?**

*Submit yourselves therefore to God*. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw *nigh to God*, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. *Humble yourselves* in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.—Jas. 4:7-10.

*Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.—1 Pet. 5:9.*

### **Then, May We Be Overcomers and Keep Free from Satan's Influence?**

I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because *ye have overcome the wicked one*. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.—1 John 2:13.

We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and *that wicked one toucheth him not*.—1 John 5:18.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and *he will flee from you*.—Jas. 4:7.

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith *ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked*.—Eph. 6:16.

**Sin**



## Chapter VIII

# Sin

### What Is Sin?

In the broadest sense, sin is any transgression of divine law.

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for *sin is the transgression of the law.*—1 John 3:4.

Any act involving a moral wrong done against one's faith or good conscience is sin.

And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for *whatsoever is not of faith is sin.*—Rom. 14:23.

Sin, in order to be imputed to man and to produce moral guilt, must be the transgression of a known law of God.

Therefore *to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.*—Jas. 4:17.

### In What Ways May We Commit Sin?

In thought.

And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed *evil thoughts*, adulteries, fornications, murders—Mark 7:20, 21.

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Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps *the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.*  
—Acts 8:22.

In word.

But I say unto you, That every idle *word* that men shall speak, they shall *give account* thereof in the day of judgment.  
—Matt. 12:36.

In deed.

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their *deeds were evil.*—John 3:19.

And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and *repented not of their deeds.*—Rev. 16:11.

### **Have All Men Been Sinners?**

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. *If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar,* and his word is not in us.—1 John 1:8, 10.

### **What Are the Consequences of Sin?**

It separates the soul from God.

But *your iniquities have separated between you and your God,* and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.  
—Isa. 59:2.

It robs the soul of peace.



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But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is *no peace*, saith my God, *to the wicked*.—Isa. 57:20, 21.

Makes a man a slave.

But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and *bringing me into captivity to the law of sin* which is in my members.—Rom. 7:23.

Stings in death.

*The sting of death is sin*; and the strength of sin is the law.—1 Cor. 15:56.

Torments in hell.

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*.—Luke 16:24.

Follows man to the judgment.

Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and *some men they follow after*.—1 Tim. 5:24.

Banishes the soul from God eternally.

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.—Matt. 25:41.

Casts into the lake of fire.

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, *shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire* and brimstone: which is the second death.—Rev. 21:8.

## **May We Be Delivered from Sin?**

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS; for he *shall save his people from their sins*.—Matt. 1:21.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and *the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin*. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to *cleanse us from all unrighteousness*.—1 John 1:7, 9.

## **After We Are Delivered from Sin, Is There a Possibility of Our Falling into Sin Again?**

For if *after they have escaped the pollutions of the world* through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, *they are again entangled therein, and overcome*, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, *after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment* delivered unto them. But it is happened onto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.—2 Pet 2:20-22.

For if *we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth*, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.—Heb. 10:26.

## **Is It Possible, When We Have Once Been Delivered, to Refrain from Sin?**

Whatever Christ requires is possible. He said to a man:

Behold, thou art made whole: *sin no more*, lest a worse thing come unto thee.—John 5:14.

He said to a woman:

Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.—John 8:11.

Paul said:

Awake to righteousness, and *sin not*; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.—1 Cor. 15:34.

The apostle John said:

Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. 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. *Whosoever it born of God doth not commit sin*; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.—1 John 3:7-10.

(Note: “Cannot sin,” in 1 John 3:9, does not teach the absolute impossibility of sinning, but the impossibility of sinning and at the same time retaining Christ, the seed. In just the same sense, an honest man cannot steal and a truthful man cannot lie.)

### **Can We, Then, be Saved by Our Own Effort?**

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that *not of yourselves*: it is the gift, of God: *not of works*, lest any man should boast.—Eph. 2:8, 9.

## **How, Then, Can We Be Kept from Evil?**

But *the Lord* is faithful, who shall stablish you, and *keep you from evil*.—2 Thess. 3:3.

*Abstain from all appearance of evil*. And the very *God* of peace *sanctify you wholly*: and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.  
—1 Thess. 5:22-24.

# Repentance



## Chapter IX

# Repentance

### What Is Repentance?

It is the turning from sin, with godly sorrow for having sinned, that brings the sinner to salvation.

For *godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation* not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.—2 Cor. 7:10.

### Who Should Repent?

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth *all men everywhere* to repent.—Acts 17:30.

### Does That Mean That “All Men,” Whether Righteous or Sinful, Should Continually Repent?

No; the just need no repentance.

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine *just persons*, which *need no repentance*.—Luke 15:7.

## **Who, Then, Should Repent?**

But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but *sinners* to repentance.—Matt. 9:13.

## **Why, Then, Does God Command All Men to Repent?**

All men must repent once at least, because all have sinned.

For *all have sinned*, and come short of the glory of God.—Rom. 3:23.

Thereafter the forgiven penitent should live a holy life.

But as he which hath called you is holy, so *be ye holy* in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.—1 Pet. 1:15, 16.

## **If Those Who Have Been Once Forgiven Should Again Fall into Sin, Should They Again Repent?**

Remember therefore from whence *thou art fallen*, and *repent*, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.—Rev. 2:5.

Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.—Rev. 3:17-19.



## What Should Lead Us to Repentance?

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that *the goodness of God* leadeth thee to repentance?—Rom. 2:4.

## What Does Repentance Include?

The forsaking of sin.

*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.—Isa. 55:7.

Confession of sin.

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso *confesseth* and forsaketh them shall have mercy.—Prov. 28:13.

If we *confess our sins*, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.—1 John 1:9.

Forgiveness of men.

For if ye *forgive men their trespasses*, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but *if ye forgive not* men their trespasses, *neither will your Father forgive* your trespasses.—Matt. 6:14, 15.

Restitution to the extent of ability.

Therefore *if* thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that *thy brother hath ought against thee*; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; *first be reconciled to thy brother*, and then come and offer thy gift.—Matt. 5:23, 24.

If the wicked *restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed*, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.—Ezek. 33:15.

And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and *if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold*. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham.—Luke 19:8, 9.

### **Which Naturally Comes First, Repentance or Faith?**

The belief that there is a God and that he hears the prayers of the diligent sinner must come first.

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*.—Heb. 11:6.

But repentance must come before one can have saving faith.

For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, *repented not* afterward, *that ye might believe him*.—Matt. 21:32.

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

### **What Are the Consequences if Men Do Not Repent?**

There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you Nay; but, except ye repent, ye shall

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all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.—Luke 13:1-5.



**Faith**



## Chapter X

### Faith

#### What Is Faith?

The soul's belief and conviction.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.—Heb. 11:1.

Faith sometimes means the doctrine believed by Christians.

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*.—Jude 3.

#### **Is There a Difference Between the Belief in Historical Truth and the Saving Faith of the Gospel?**

Yes. Even the devils believe in the real existence of God, but they still oppose him; and their belief makes no change in their nature.

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: *the devils also believe*, and tremble.—Jas. 2:19.

Saving faith comes from the heart and brings salvation.

For *with the heart man believeth unto righteousness*; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.—Rom. 10:10.

### **How Are Faith and Works Related?**

Like soul and body.

But wilt thou know, O vain man, that *faith without works is dead*? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For *as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also*.—Jas. 2:20-26.

### **What Is the Moral and Spiritual Effect of Faith?**

New birth.

*Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God*: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.—1 John 5:1, 4.

Sanctification.

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 26:18.



## **Can One be Saved Without Faith?**

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

## **Will Faith Help Us to Win Our Battles in the Christian Life?**

Above all, taking *the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.*—Eph. 6:16.

## **May We Derive Any Physical Benefits from God Through Faith?**

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and *the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.*—Jas. 5:14, 15.

## **Will Faith Assist Us in the Ordinary Affairs of Life?**

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. Therefore I say unto you, *What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*—Mark 11:22, 24.

## **What Are Some of the Things That May Hinder Faith?**

Sin unrepented of.

For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not; but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, *repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.*—Matt. 21:23.

Fear.

But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, *Fear not:* believe only, and she shall be made whole.—Luke 8:50.

Love of worldly honor.

*How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?*—John 5:44.

### **How May Faith be Cultivated?**

So then *faith cometh by hearing*, and hearing by the word of God.—Rom. 10:17.

# Salvation



## Chapter XI

# Salvation

### What Is Salvation?

It is deliverance from, or remission of, sin.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for *he shall save his people from their sins*.—Matt. 1:21.

To give knowledge of *salvation* unto his people *by the remission of their sins*.—Luke 1:77.

It is cleansing from the guilt of sin.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to *cleanse us from all unrighteousness*.—1 John 1:9.

It is keeping from sin.

So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be *blameless* in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 1:7, 8.

### Who Need Salvation?

For *all* have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.—Rom. 3:23.

## **For Whom Is Salvation Provided?**

God gave his Son for “the world.”

*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16.*

Christ died for all.

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God *should taste death for every man.*—Heb. 2:9.

God wills the salvation of all men.

*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*—2 Pet. 3:9.

The gospel is for all people.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you *good tidings* of great joy, which shall be *to all people*. For unto yon is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.—Luke 2:10, 11.

## **Then Does Jesus Offer to Save Everybody?**

Come unto me, *all* ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.—Matt. 11:28.

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And *whosoever will*, let him take the water of life freely.—Rev. 22:17.

## **But Are Not Some Too Sinful?**

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: *though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*—Isa. 1:18.

### **What Must I Do to be Saved?**

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

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 2:38.

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.*—Acts 16:30, 31.

## **What Must I Do to Keep Salvation?**

Obey.

And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that *obey him.*—Heb. 5:9.

## **Is It Important to Seek Salvation Promptly?**

Seek ye the Lord *while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.*—Isa. 55:6.

For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, *now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*—2 Cor. 6:2.

## **What Are the Consequences of Neglect?**

We shall not escape the just punishment for sin.

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and *every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape*, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?—Heb. 2:1-4.

Like the rich fool, we may lose our souls.

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: and he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? *So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.*—Luke 12:16-21.

### **Is There No Other Way of Salvation?**

*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*—Acts 4:12.



## **Does That Mean, Then, That the Sinner Must Repent or Perish?**

There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, *except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*—Luke 13:1-3.



**Conversion,  
or the New Birth**



## Chapter XII

### Conversion, or the New Birth

#### Why Does the Sinner Need to be Born Again in Order to Have Eternal Life?

Those in sin are spiritually dead, and are the children of wrath.

And you hath he quickened, who were *dead in trespasses and sins*; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature *the children of wrath*, even as others.—Eph. 2:1-3.

#### Is There No Other Way by Which We May Enter the Kingdom of God?

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. 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.* 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? 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.* That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.—John 3:1-7.

### **How, Then, Are We Begotten That We May Have This Spiritual Birth?**

Blessed be the *God* and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy *hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ* from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.—1 Pet. 1:3, 4.

For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have *begotten* you *through the gospel*.—1 Cor. 4:15.

### **If We Are Begotten and Born of God, Are We Then His Children?**

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.—John 1:12.

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that *we* should be called *the sons of God*: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.—1 John 3:1.

### **Since We Are Children of God, Should We Call Him Our Father?**

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby *we cry, Abba Father*.—Rom. 8:15.

*After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.—Matt. 6:9.*

### **How Should the Children of God Live?**

Whosoever is born of God doth *not commit sin*; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.—1 John 3:9.

(See note, Chapter VIII, Page 46.)

### **Should Not All the Children of One Common Father Love One Another?**

Beloved, *let us love one another: for love is of God*; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. Beloved, if God so loved us, *we ought also to love one another*.—1 John 4:7, 11.

### **Then, Is It Possible for All Christians to Live in Love and Harmony, and Have Among Them No Division and Strife?**

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For *this is the message* that ye heard from the beginning, *that we should love one another*. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. *We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren*. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us; and *we ought to*

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*lay down our lives for the brethren.* But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, *let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.* And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.—1 John 3:10-19.



**Holiness**



## Chapter XIII

# Holiness

### What Is the Source of Holiness?

God only is independently holy.

And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty*, which was, and is, and is to come.—Rev. 4:8.

Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for *thou only art holy*: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.—Rev. 15:4.

God only is inherently good.

And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? *there is none good but one, that is, God*: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.—Matt. 19:17.

### Is It Possible, Then, That Man May Be Good and Holy?

Yes; both Joseph and Barnabas were good men.

And, behold, there was a man named *Joseph*, a counsellor; and he was a *good man*, and a just.—Luke 23:50.

Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth *Barnabas*, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he *was a good man*, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.—Acts 11:22-24.

John was holy.

For Herod feared *John*, knowing that he *was a just man and an holy*, and observed him; and when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.—Mark 6:20.

### **How Can It Be That God Only Is Holy, and Yet Men May Be Holy?**

We are made partakers of God's holiness.

For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; hut he for our profit, that *we* might be *partakers of his holiness*.—Heb. 12:10.

### **Does God Demand of Us to Be Holy?**

But as he which hath called you is holy, so *be ye holy* in all manner of conversation; because it is written, *Be ye holy*; for I am holy.—1 Pet 1:15, 16.

### **How Are We to Be Made Partakers of His Holiness?**

By reading the Holy Scriptures.

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. *All scripture is given* by inspiration of

God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: *that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*—2 Tim. 3:15-17.

By receiving the Holy Spirit.

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that *they might receive the Holy Ghost*: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and *they received the Holy Ghost.*—Acts 8:14-17.

And God which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them *the Holy Ghost*, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between them and us, *purifying their hearts* by faith.—Acts 15:8, 9.

### **But Is It Necessary That the Christian Be Holy?**

Follow peace with all men, and *holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.*—Heb. 12:14.



**Entire  
Sanctification**





## Chapter XIV

# Entire Sanctification

### Is Entire Sanctification a Possible Experience?

Wherefore Jesus also, that he might *sanctify the people* with his own blood, suffered without the gate.—Heb. 13:12.

### Is That Experience for Us in This Life?

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.—1 Thess. 5:23, 24.

### But Do We Know of Any Who Have Been Sanctified?

Some of the Christians at Corinth were sanctified.

Unto *the church* of God which is *at Corinth*, to them that *are sanctified* in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's.—1 Cor. 1:2.

The Christians to whom Jude addressed his epistle were sanctified.

Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, *to them that are sanctified* by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called.—Jude 1.

## **Was Not Sanctification Intended for the Apostles Only?**

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. *Neither* pray I for *these alone*, but for *them also which shall believe on me through their word*.—John 17:17-20.

## **How Are We Sanctified?**

On God's part the agents used are:

God himself.

Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that *are sanctified by God* the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called.—Jude 1.

The blood of Christ.

Wherefore *Jesus* also, that he might *sanctify* the people *with his own blood*, suffered without the gate.—Heb. 13:12.

The Holy Spirit.

That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being *sanctified by the Holy Ghost*.—Rom. 15:16.

The truth.

*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*  
—John 17:17.

On our part is:

Asking.

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?*—Luke 11:13.

Obedience.

And we are his witnesses of these things; and so also is the *Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to those who obey him.*—Acts 5:32.

Faith.

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 26:18.

## **What Do We Receive in Entire Sanctification?**

The Holy Spirit and a pure heart.

And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, *giving them the Holy Ghost*, even as he did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, *purifying their hearts* by faith.  
—Acts 15:8, 9.

Power for service.

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 Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.—Acts 1:8.

Preserving grace.

The very God of peace *sanctify you wholly*; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be *preserved blameless* unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Thess. 5:23.

### **If Every Christian Were Sanctified, Should We Not Be More United and Would Not Sinners Be More Easily Saved?**

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also *might be sanctified* through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; *that they all may be one*; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: *that the world may believe that thou hast sent me*. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, *that they may be made perfect in one*; and *that the world may know that thou hast sent me*, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.—John 17:17-23.

# **Divine Healing of the Body**



## Chapter XV

# Divine Healing of the Body

### Does Christ Have Power to Heal Our Bodies of Sickness?

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, *All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*—Matt. 28:18.

### But Is He Willing to Heal?

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, and saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, *I will come and heal him.*—Matt. 8:5-7.

### Will He Heal All Diseases?

Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with *divers diseases* brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and *healed them.*—Luke 4:40.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and *healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease* among the people.—Matt. 4:23.

## **Does Christ Ever Heal Disease Through Any Other Person Than Himself?**

Then he called his *twelve disciples* together, and *gave them power* and authority over all devils, and *to cure diseases*. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and *to heal the sick*.—Luke 9:1, 2.

## **Was This Ministry of Healing Confined to the Apostles?**

Is any sick among you? let him call for the *elders of the church*; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.—Jas. 5:14.

## **What Are the Conditions of Healing?**

Prayer.

Is any among you *afflicted*? let him *pray*. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.—Jas. 5:13.

Faith.

And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on us. And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. Then touched he their eyes, saying, *According to your faith be it unto you*. And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it.—Matt. 9:27-30.



## **Are There Any Outward Symbols of God's Power to Heal the Body?**

Laying on of believers' hands.

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.—Mark 16:18.

The anointing with oil by the elders.

Is any sick among you? let him call for the *elders* of the church; and let them pray over him, *anointing him with oil* in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.—Jas. 5:14, 15.



**Church of God**



## Chapter XVI

# Church of God

### Who Founded the Church?

Jesus.

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.—Matt. 16:18.

### By What Name Is the True Church Known in the New Testament?

“Church of God.”

For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of *the church of God*?—1 Tim. 3:5.

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed *the church of God*, which he hath purchased with his own blood.—Acts 20:28.

## **What Constitutes a Church?**

An assembly of Christians, or saved people.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother. Unto *the church* of God which is at Corinth, to *them that are sanctified* in Christ Jesus, called to be *saints*, with *all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord*, both theirs and ours.—1 Cor. 1:1, 2.

Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And *the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved*.—Acts 2:47.

## **How Many Churches Are Mentioned in the New Testament?**

Only one.

There is *one body*, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling.—Eph. 4:4.

That “one body” is the church.

And he is the head of *the body, the church*: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.—Col. 1:18.

## **But Are There Not Many Local Congregations of That One Church?**

Yes, for instance:

The church of God at Corinth.

Unto *the church of God* which is *at Corinth*, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every

place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.—1 Cor. 1:2.

The church at Jerusalem.

And when they were come to *Jerusalem*, they were received of *the church*, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.—Acts 15:4.

The church at Antioch.

Now there were in *the church* that was at *Antioch* certain prophets and teachers.—Acts 13:1.

### **Who Constitute a Local Assembly of the Church?**

The “sanctified” and “called” residing at a given place.

Unto *the church of God* which is at *Corinth*, to *them that are sanctified* in Christ Jesus, *called* to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.—1 Cor. 1:2.

### **Who Constitute the Universal Church, or General Assembly?**

“All that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ.”  
(See preceding text.)

The great “general assembly,” which will never literally assemble until the judgment, including “angels” and the “spirits of just men.”

But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of *angels*, to *the general assembly* and church of the

firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to *the spirits of just men* made perfect.—Heb. 12:22, 23.

### **But Are Not the “Angels” and the “Spirits” of the Just in Heaven?**

Yes; but Paul includes all the just in heaven and earth in one universal family.

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom *the whole family in heaven and earth* is named.—Eph. 3:14, 15.

### **In What Sense Are the Members of God’s Church to Be One?**

In “heart and soul.”

*And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul:* neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.—Acts 4:32.

In “spirit.”

Endeavoring to *keep the unity of the Spirit* in the bond of peace.—Eph. 4:3.

In “faith,” or doctrine.

Till *we all come in the unity of the faith*, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.—Eph. 4:13.



## **Why Should the Church Be One?**

A house divided against itself cannot stand.

And if *a house* be *divided against itself*, that house *cannot stand*.—Mark 3:25.

“That the world may believe.”

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that *they all may be one*; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: *that the world may believe* that thou hast sent me. —John 17:20, 21.



# **Church Membership**



## Chapter XVII

# Church Membership

### What Is the Door of Membership in the Church of God?

*I am the door:* by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.—John 10:9.

### Who Adds the Members to the Church?

Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And *the Lord added to the church* daily such as should be saved.—Acts 2:47.

But now hath *God set the members every one of them in the body*, as it hath pleased him.—1 Cor. 12:18.

### What Are the Conditions of Membership?

(Only the saved enter through Christ the door. See foregoing texts.)

## **How Do We Retain Church Fellowship?**

But *if we walk in the light*, as he is in the light, *we have fellowship one with another*, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.—1 John 1:7.

## **How May We Forfeit Church Membership and Christian Fellowship?**

By doing wrong and refusing to hear church discipline.

Moreover *if thy brother shall trespass against thee*, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: *but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican*.—Matt. 18:15-17.

## **What Is the Church Creed, or Discipline?**

And that from a child thou hast known the *holy scriptures*, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. *All scripture* is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.—2 Tim. 3:15-17.

## **Where Is the Church Record, or Class-Book, Kept?**

Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because *your names are written in heaven*.—Luke 10:20.

And I entreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow-laborers, whose *names are in the book of life*.—Phil. 4:3.

### **How May Our Names Be Erased from God's Book?**

And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath *sinned* against me, him will I *blot out of my book*.—Exod. 32:33.

### **What Will Be the Doom of Those Whose Names Are Not on God's Church Book of Life in the Day of Judgment?**

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was *cast into the lake of fire*.—Rev. 20:15.





# **Church Organization and Government**



## Chapter XVIII

# Church Organization and Government

### Who Is the Organizer, or Builder, of the Church?

Jesus Christ.

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—Matt 16:18.

### Does the Church Have a Head?

Which he wrought in *Christ*, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come; and hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be *the head* over all things *to the church*, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.—Eph. 1:20-23.

## **Members Are the First Essential of an Organization: Does the Church, or Body of Christ, Have Members?**

Paul, speaking to Christian people, said:

Now *ye are* the body of Christ, and *members* in particular.  
—1 Cor. 12:27.

### **Does It Have Officers Also?**

And he gave some, *apostles*; and some, *prophets*; and some, *evangelists*; and some, *pastors* and *teachers*.—Eph. 4:11.

### **Who Sets the Members in the Body, or Church?**

But now hath *God set the members* every one of them *in the body*, as it hath pleased him.—1 Cor. 12:18.

### **Who Gives the Officers Their Respective Places?**

And *God* hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.  
—1 Cor. 12:28.

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which *the Holy Ghost* hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.  
—Acts 20:28.

## What Are the Official Titles of the Officers of the Church?

“Elder” is the general title of those who minister the word.

The *elders* which are among you I exhort, who am also an *elder*, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed.—1 Pet. 5:1.

“Deacon” is the title of those who minister in temporal things only.

For they that have used the office of a *deacon* well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.—1 Tim. 3:13.

Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, *It is not reason that me should leave the word of God, and serve tables.* Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you *seven men* of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, *whom we may appoint over this business.* But we will *give ourselves* continually to prayer, and *to the ministry of the word.*—Acts 6:2-4.

The specific titles that designate the particular kind of work done by the several elders are:

And he gave some, *apostles*; and some, *prophets*; and some, *evangelists*; and some, *pastors* and *teachers.*—Eph. 4:11.

## What Are the Mental, Moral, and Spiritual Qualifications of an Elder in the Church of God?

This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be *blameless*, the *husband of one wife*, *vigilant*, *sober*, *of good behavior*, *given to hospitality*, *apt to teach*; *not given to wine*, *no striker*, *not greedy*

*of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.—1 Tim. 3:1-7.*

### **Must the Deacons Also Measure up to a Given Standard?**

*Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.—1 Tim. 3:8-12.*

### **What Is the Purpose of the Elders?**

To oversee and feed the flock.

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all *the flock*, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you *overseers, to feed* the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.—Acts 20:28.

*Feed the flock* of God which is among you, *taking the oversight* thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.—1 Pet. 5:2.

To be an example of holy living.

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Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as *ye have us for an ensample*.—Phil. 3:17.

Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being *ensamples to the flock*.—1 Pet. 5:3.

To perfect God's people and bring them to the unity of the faith.

For the *perfecting of the saints*, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till *we all come in the unity of the faith*, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.—Eph. 4:12-16.

### **On Whose Shoulders Does the Main Governmental Power in the Church Rest?**

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*.—Isa. 9:6.

And *Jesus* came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.—Matt. 28:18.

And *hath put all things under his [Jesus'] feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*—Eph. 1:22, 23.

And *he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.* For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell.—Col. 1:18, 19.

And when *the chief Shepherd* shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.—1 Pet. 5:4.

### **Does the Chief Governor Delegate to Men Power to Govern His Church?**

Verily I say unto you, *Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*—Matt. 18:18.

*Let the elders* that *rule* well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine.—1 Tim. 5:17.

### **What, Then, Is the Elder's Duty as a Governor, or Ruler?**

Now we exhort you, brethren, *warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.*—1 Thess. 5:14.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; *preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort* with all longsuffering and doctrine. 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; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But *watch thou in all things*, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, *make full proof of thy ministry*.—2 Tim. 4:1-5.

### **What Is the Duty of a Church to Its Elder?**

To honor and love.

And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to *esteem them very highly in love* for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.—1 Thess. 5:12, 13.

To support financially.

For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, *The laborer is worthy of his reward*.—1 Tim. 5:18.

To protect from evil gossip.

*Against an elder receive not an accusation*, but before two or three witnesses.—1 Tim. 5:19.

To obey in the Lord.

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. *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.—Heb. 13:7, 17.



## **The Church—God's House**



## Chapter XIX

# The Church—God's House

### What Is the House of God?

But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in *the house of God, which is the church of the living God*, the pillar and ground of the truth.—1 Tim. 3:15.

But Christ as a son over his own house; whose *house are we*, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.—Heb. 3:6.

### Who Is Its Builder?

Except *the Lord build the house*, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.—Psa. 127:1.

And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he *shall build the temple of the Lord*.—Zech. 6:12.

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.—Matt. 16:18.

## **Did Not Man Have Something to Do with Founding This Holy Sanctuary?**

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the majesty in the heavens; a minister of the sanctuary, and of *the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.*—Heb. 8:1, 2.

## **On What Is This House Founded?**

The “rock” of faith in the divinity of Christ.

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, *Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.* 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. 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.—Matt. 16:15-18.

On Christ.

For *other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*—1 Cor. 3:11.

On the prophets and apostles.

And are *built upon* the foundation of *the apostles and prophets,* Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.—Eph. 2:20.

### **What Is the Purpose of This House?**

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together *for an habitation of God through the Spirit*.—Eph. 2:21, 22.

### **What Is Its Nature?**

Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a *spiritual house*, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.—1 Pet. 2:5.

### **Of What Are Its Walls Built?**

In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; *salvation* will God appoint *for walls and bulwarks*. Isa. 26:1.

### **What Is the Door of Entrance into This House?**

*I am the door*: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.—John 10:9.





# **The Kingdom of God**



## Chapter XX

# The Kingdom of God

### What Is the Nature of the Kingdom of God?

For *the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.*  
—Rom. 14:17.

### Is It a Political Kingdom?

Jesus answered, *My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.*—John 18:36.

### When did It Have Its Beginning?

The law and the prophets were *until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.*  
—Luke 16:16.

### How Long Will It Endure?

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a *kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall*

not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and *it shall stand for ever*.—Dan. 2:44.

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and *of his kingdom there shall be no end*.—Luke 1:30-33.

### **Who Are the Subjects of This Kingdom?**

Not the unrighteous.

Know ye not that *the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God*? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.—1 Cor. 6:9, 10.

Those who are “born again.”

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*. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, *Ye must be born again*.—John 3:5-7.

### **Can We Not Enter the Kingdom of God Without the Birth from Above?**

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*.—John 3:3.

## **How, Then, May We Enter the Kingdom of God?**

By a divine process called being born of the Spirit, translated, or forgiven.

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath *translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.*—Col. 1:13.

## **Who Is the King?**

For he [*Jesus*] *must reign*, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.—1 Cor. 15:25.

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.—Rev. 17:14.

And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.—Rev. 19:16.



# Division





## Chapter XXI

### Division

#### Did Jesus Advocate Division?

I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! Suppose ye that *I am come to give* peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather *division*: for from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.—Luke 12:49-53.

#### Between What Two Classes of People Does the Bible Teach Division?

Christians and unbelievers.

*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers*: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? *or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?* and *what agreement hath the temple of God with idols?* for *ye are the temple of the living God*; as God hath said, I will dwell

in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. *Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate*, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.—2 Cor. 6:14-18.

### **Are There Any Others from Whom the People of God Should Separate Themselves?**

Yes; false religionists.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, *Come out of her my people*, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.—Rev. 18:4, 5.

### **Is There a Division That Is Contrary to the Doctrine of Christ?**

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause *divisions* and offences *contrary to the doctrine* which ye have learned; and avoid them. For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.—Rom. 16:17, 19.

### **Between Whom Might There Be Wrong Division?**

Brethren, or Christians.

Now I beseech you, *brethren*, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that there be no divisions among you*; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.—1 Cor. 1:10.

## **Why Is Division Between Christians Wrong?**

God is not the author of confusion.

For *God is not the author of confusion*, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.—1 Cor. 14:33.

It destroys brotherly love.

That there should be no *schism in the body*; but that the members should have the *same care one for another*.—1 Cor. 12:25.

A divided house cannot stand.

And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or *house divided against itself shall not stand*.—Matt. 12:25.



# **Water Baptism**



## Chapter XXII

# Water Baptism

### Are We Commanded to Baptize?

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, *baptizing* them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.—Matt. 28:19.

And he *commanded them to be baptized* in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.—Acts 10:48.

### Why Should We Be Baptized?

As an act of righteous obedience.

Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus *it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness*. Then he suffered him.—Matt. 3:15.

### In What Sense does Baptism Save Us?

In a figurative sense.

The like *figure* whereunto even *baptism doth also now save us* (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.—1 Pet. 3:21.

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(Note: After Jesus had actually cleansed a leper, he instructed him to go and make an offering, according to Moses' law, for his ceremonial cleansing.)

And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean. And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and *he was cleansed*. And he straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away; and saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but *go thy way, show thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded*, for a testimony unto them.—Mark 1:40-44.

(This text shows a real and a figurative, or ceremonial, cleansing.)

Following the idea of a twofold cleansing under Moses' law, we are actually saved by repentance and faith.

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

And they said, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved*, and thy house.—Acts 16:31.

But after we are actually saved, we should be baptized in water, as a figurative cleansing and public witness to our salvation, just as the leper went to make his offering as a public testimony to his cleansing.

Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. 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. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. And now why tarriest thou? arise, and *be baptized, and wash away thy sins*, calling on the name of the Lord.—Acts 22:13-16.

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their hearts, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 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 2:37, 38.

### **Who Are Fit Candidates for Baptism?**

Only those who are of sufficient age to comprehend and believe on Christ, and who do believe with all their hearts.

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*.—Acts 8:12.

### **What Is the Mode of Baptism?**

John baptized in the river Jordan, where he could immerse; not in a small vessel.

Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan, and were *baptized* of him *in Jordan*, confessing their sins.—Matt. 3:5, 6.

Philip and the eunuch both went down into the stream of water, not up to a small vessel of water.

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. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.—Acts 8:38, 39.

Jesus, when he was baptized, went up out of the water, not away from a small vessel of water.

And *Jesus when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water:* and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him.—Matt. 3:16.

### **What does Baptism Symbolize?**

Our death to sin and the world and our resurrection to newness of life.

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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.* For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ we believe that we shall also live with him.—Rom. 6:1-8.

# **The Lord's Supper**



## Chapter XXIII

# The Lord's Supper

### **Of What Does the Lord's Supper Consist:**

Of the bread and the wine.

And he took *bread*, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also *the cup* after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.—Luke 22:19-20.

### **Of What Are the Bread and the Wine Symbols?**

Of the body and blood of Jesus.

And as they were eating, Jesus took *bread*, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; *this is my body*. And he took *the cup*, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for *this is my blood* of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.—Matt. 26:26-28.

## **When was the Ordinance Established?**

The night Jesus was betrayed.

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That *the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread.*—1 Cor. 11:23.

On the night of the Passover, sometime in April, in the year 30 A.D.

Then came the day of unleavened bread, *when the passover must be killed.* And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat. And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.—Luke 22:7, 8, 14, 19, 20.

## **How Long was It to Continue?**

Till Jesus comes.

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death *till he come.*—1 Cor. 11:26.

## **Why are We to Partake of the Lord's Supper?**

That we may remember and commemorate Jesus and his atonement for our sins.

After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: *this do ye*, as oft as ye drink it, *in remembrance of me.*—1 Cor. 11:25.

## **Who are Qualified to Partake of the Lord's Supper?**

Those who are free from sin and Satan.

Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.—1 Cor. 10:21.

Christian people who are living in unity and peace.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For *we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.*—1 Cor. 10:16, 17.

## **What Is the Result of Partaking of This Holy Ordinance Unworthily?**

Wherefore *whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.* For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, *eateth and drinketh damnation to himself,* not discerning the Lord's body.—1 Cor. 11:27, 29.

## **Who Should Be the Judge as to a Man's Fitness to Partake of the Lord's Supper?**

But *let a man examine himself,* and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.—1 Cor. 11:28.





# **The Ordinance of Feet-Washing**



## Chapter XXIV

# The Ordinance of Feet-Washing

### Of What Does the Ordinance of Feet-Washing Consist?

Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; he riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.—John 13:3-5.

### Was It a Jewish Ordinance?

No; in the Jewish ordinance each priest washed his own feet, whereas in the Christian ordinance we wash one another's feet.

And Moses and Aaron and his sons *washed their hands and their feet* thereat: when they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the Lord commanded Moses.—Exod. 40:31, 32.

Moreover, Peter, who was a Jew and doubtless knew Jewish customs, did not know nor understand Jesus' action.

Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him,

*What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.*  
—John 13:6, 7.

### **But Was Not the Act That Jesus Did on That Night an Oriental Custom?**

No; in the Oriental custom of feet-washing each man washes his own feet.

Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and *wash your feet*, and rest yourselves under the tree.—Gen. 18:4.

And *the man* brought the men into Joseph's house, and *gave them water, and they washed their feet*; and he gave their asses provender.—Gen. 43:24.

### **Was This Act of Washing the Disciples' Feet Done for the Purpose of Cleansing, Because of Their Having Worn Sandals?**

No; it was the custom of the Jews to bathe before coming to the table. Jesus referred to this when he said:

He *that is washed* needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.—John 13:10.

### **But Was It the Intention of Jesus That His Disciples Should Follow His Example and Wash One Another's Feet?**

So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also

ought to wash one another's feet. For *I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.*—John 13:12-15.

### **Do We Have Any Record That the Apostolic Church Practiced This Ordinance?**

Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man, well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, *if she have washed the saints' feet*, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work. —1 Tim. 5:9, 10.

### **What Is the Reward for Obedience to This Ordinance?**

If ye know these things, *happy are ye if ye do them.* —John 13:17.

### **What Is the Result of Refusing Humble Obedience to Jesus?**

Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, *If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.* —John 13:8.



# Prayer





## Chapter XXV

### Prayer

#### Did Christ, Our Savior, Pray?

And when he [*Jesus*] had sent the multitudes away, he *went up into a mountain apart to pray*: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.—Matt. 14:23.

#### Did He Teach Others to Pray?

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.—Luke 18:1.

#### Did He Give Us a Model Prayer?

*After this manner* therefore *pray ye*: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.—Matt. 6:9-13.

## Are We to Repeat That Prayer as a Form?

No; Jesus intended by that prayer merely to teach the “manner” of prayer. Our prayers should be “with the spirit” not by repeating forms.

What is it then? I will *pray with the spirit*, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.—1 Cor. 14:15.

But when ye pray, *use not vain repetitions*, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.—Matt. 6:7.

## Where Are We to Pray?

In secret.

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, *when thou prayest, enter into thy closet*, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.—Matt. 6:5, 6.

In public.

And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and *prayed with them all*.—Acts 20:36.

Everywhere.

I will therefore that men *pray everywhere*, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.—1 Tim. 2:8.

## When Are We to Pray?

David prayed three times a day.

*Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.—Psa. 55:17.*

Jesus taught men to pray always.

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that *men ought always to pray*, and not to faint.—Luke 18:1.

*Pray without ceasing.*—1 Thess. 5:17.

## In What Posture Should We Pray?

Standing.

And when ye *stand praying*, forgive, if ye have ought against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.—Mark 11:25.

Kneeling.

And he *kneeled down*, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.—Acts 7:60.

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us *kneel before the Lord* our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.—Psa. 95:6, 7.

And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and *we kneeled down* on the shore *and prayed*.—Acts 21:5.

Lying.

David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and *lay all night upon the earth*.—2 Sam. 12:16.

Then he turned his face to the wall, *and prayed unto the Lord*.—2 Kings 20:2.

And he went a little farther, and *fell on his face, and prayed*, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.—Matt. 26:39.

### **Will God Hear Our Prayers Regardless of Our Attitude Toward Him?**

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.—Psa. 66:18.

Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshiper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.—John 9:31.

Yet God will hear even the sinner, if he is penitent.

And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, *God be merciful to me a sinner*. I tell you, *this man* went down to his house *justified* rather than the other: for every man that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.—Luke 18:13, 14.

### **For What Are We Taught to Pray?**

Forgiveness of sin.

Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and *pray God*, if perhaps *the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee*.—Acts 8:22.

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For the reception of the Holy Spirit.

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, *prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost.*—Acts 8:14, 15.

For protection from temptation.

Watch and *pray, that ye enter not into temptation:* the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.—Matt. 26:41.

For preservation.

I *pray* God your whole spirit and soul and body *be preserved* blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Thess. 5:23.

For spiritual gifts.

Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue *pray that he may interpret.* 1 Cor. 14:13.

For more laborers in the gospel field.

Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: *pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest.*—Luke 10:2.

For healing.

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any *sick* among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them *pray* over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and *the prayer of faith shall save the sick,* and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and *pray* one for another, *that ye may be healed.* The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.—Jas. 5:13-16.

For rulers.

*For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.—1 Tim. 2:2.*

For our enemies.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and *pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.*—Matt. 5:44.

Whatsoever things we desire.

Therefore I say unto you, *What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*—Mark 11:24.

### **Does God Always Answer Prayer at Once?**

No; sometimes we must importune.

There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: and there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And *shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?* I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?—Luke 18:2-8.

Elijah prayed seven times.

And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain. So Ahab went up to eat and

to drink: and Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees, and said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again *seven times*.—1 Kings 18:41-43.

Even Jesus prayed three times for the same thing.

And he left them, and went away again, and *prayed the third time, saying the same words*.—Matt. 26:44.

Paul prayed three times for the removal of his “thorn in the flesh.”

For this thing *I besought the Lord thrice*, that it might depart from me.—2 Cor. 12:8.

## **What Is Necessary to Prevailing Prayer?**

Righteousness.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent *prayer of a righteous man availeth much*.—Jas. 5:16.

Earnestness.

And being in an agony *he prayed more earnestly*: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.—Luke 22:44.

Desire and faith.

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye *desire, when ye pray, believe* that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.—Mark 11:24.





# **Death: Physical, Spiritual, And Eternal**



## Chapter XXVI

# Death: Physical, Spiritual, And Eternal

### Must All Men Die?

*And as it is appointed unto men once to die,* but after this the judgment.—Heb. 9:27.

### What Is Death?

The separation of the soul from the body.

And it came to pass, as *her soul was in departing, for she died,* that she called his name Ben-oni: but his father called him Benjamin.—Gen. 35:18.

### What Becomes of the Body after Death?

*Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was;* and the spirit shall return unto God, who gave it.—Eccl. 12:7.

### Where do the Souls of the Dead Go?

The souls of the wicked go, at death, to hell, or Hades, the unseen world of wicked spirits.

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; *and in hell* he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.—Luke 16:22, 23.

The righteous to paradise, or Abraham's bosom.

And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, *Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.*—Luke 23:42, 43.

### **Should Death Be a Terror to Men?**

No; death has no terror for the righteous.

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.—Phil. 1:21.

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 15:54-57.

### **Is Death Sometimes Used in a Figurative, or Spiritual, Sense?**

Yes; Paul speaks of a woman who is dead while she lives.

But she that liveth in pleasure is *dead while she liveth.*—1 Tim. 5:6.

### **In What Sense Can One Be Dead yet Living?**

Just as physical death is the separation of soul and body, so spiritual death is the separation of the soul from God by the act of sin.

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but *your iniquities have separated between you and your God*, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.—Isa. 59:1, 2.

### **Is There, Then, a Spiritual, or Moral, Death, as Well as a Physical Death?**

And you hath he quickened, who were *dead in trespasses and sins*; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.—Eph. 2:1, 2.

### **What Is the Second, or Eternal, Death?**

And the devil, that deceived them, was *cast into the lake of fire and brimstone*, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. *This is the second death.*—Rev. 20:10, 14.

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, *shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*—Rev. 21:8.



# **Christ's Second Coming**





## Chapter XXVII

# Christ's Second Coming

### When Jesus Ascended to Heaven, Did He Promise to Come Again?

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, *I will come again*, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.—John 14:1-3.

### What Will Be the Manner of His Second Coming?

Behold, *he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him*, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.—Rev. 1:7.

Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come *in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven*.—Acts 1:11.

### When Will Jesus Come Again?

But *of that day and that hour knoweth no man*, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take

ye heed, watch and pray: for *ye know not when the time is*. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning; lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.—Mark 13:32-37.

### **Will He Come Unexpectedly?**

Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for *in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh*.—Matt. 24:42-44.

### **What Will Be the Condition of the World When Jesus Comes Again?**

But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.—Matt. 24:37-39.

## **Whom Will Jesus Bring with Him When He Comes Again?**

All the angels.

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.—Matt. 25:31.

Our beloved dead.

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so *them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him*.—1 Thess. 4:13, 14.

## **What Is the Object of His Return?**

To punish the wicked and to reward the righteous.

And to you who are troubled rest with us, *when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God*, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: *who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 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.*—2 Thess. 1:7-10.

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.—Matt. 25:34.

## What Great Events Will Take Place at His Coming?

The resurrection of the dead.

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.—1 Thess. 4:16.

The judgment of the living and the dead.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall *judge the quick and the dead at his appearing* and his kingdom.—2 Tim. 4:1.

The destruction of this world.

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the *earth* also *and the works that are therein shall be burnt up*. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein *the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?* Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.—2 Pet 3:10-14.

# **Resurrection and Final Judgment**



## Chapter XXVIII

# Resurrection and Final Judgment

### Will All the Dead Be Resurrected to Life Again?

Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the 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.

### When will the Resurrection Take Place?

At the last day.

Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in *the resurrection at the last day*.—John 11:24.

### What will Follow Death and the Resurrection?

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but *after this the judgment*.—Heb. 9:27.

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*.—Rev. 20:12.

## **What will Become of Those Who Are Still Alive at the Resurrection-Day?**

Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but *we shall all be changed*, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.—1 Cor. 15:51, 52.

## **After the Resurrection, Where will the Righteous Go?**

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, *to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord*. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.—1 Thess. 4:16-18.

## **What will Become of the Wicked after the Judgment?**

*The wicked shall be turned into hell*, and all the nations that forget God.—Psa. 9:17.

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was *cast into the lake of fire*.—Rev. 20:15.

## **Will Both the Reward of the Righteous and the Punishment of the Wicked Be Everlasting, or Eternal?**

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: and *these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal*.—Matt. 25:41, 46.



## **Will There Be a Thousand Years Between the Resurrection of the Just and That of the Wicked?**

No; all will come forth in the same hour.

Marvel not at this: for *the hour* is coming, in the 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 righteous will rise at the **last** day; hence the wicked cannot rise later.

Martha saith unto him, I know that *he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day*.—John 11:24.

## **What will Be Our Nature and Condition after the Resurrection?**

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; *it is raised in incorruption*: it is sown in dishonor; *it is raised in glory*: it is sown in weakness; *it is raised in power*: it is sown a natural body; *it is*

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*raised a spiritual body.* There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.—1 Cor. 15:35-44.



