

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

by Luke Knickerbocker

Introduction

This Bible study series of 8 lessons is written to provide a general overview of the main events of history as recorded in the Bible. You will learn primarily about who God is and how he has worked in the affairs of mankind from the beginning of time as we know it.

This study series is designed to be studied with a Christian teacher in a class, small group, or an individual. All answers are found directly from verses in the King James Bible, which are located following each question. If studied in a group, each person is encouraged to participate by reading the questions, and Bible verses, then providing the answers together.



The following eight lessons will be studied:

- 1) Directions of Life: God Reveals Truth in the Holy Bible
- 2) Designer of Life: God Creates All Living Things
- 3) Deceiver of Life: God has Authority over Satan and Man
- 4) Destruction of Life: God Judges Sinners and Delivers Noah
- 5) Dispersion of Life: God Uses Abraham and Moses
- 6) Deliverer of Life: God becomes a Man to Save His People
- 7) Decision of Life: God Offers Eternal Life to You
- 8) Destiny of Life: God Establishes His Everlasting Kingdom



Lesson 1

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God Reveals Truth in the Holy Bible



Introduction about the Bible

Just as a Map leads you to a destination, we need a reliable authority to instruct us about life. We need a Guide to show us the way we should go. The Holy Bible is God's directions for mankind. Over the course of 1,500 years, God spoke through 40 different writers who penned this holy Book. The oldest writings date back to nearly 3,500 years ago! There are two major sections to the Bible. The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew. The New Testament was written in Greek and Aramaic. *Testament* simply refers to God's will for mankind.

Not only does God's Word show us the path for this life, but the Holy Scriptures tell us where we will spend eternity. A wise man will consider his path and follow the right way.

God's Word is our instruction book for life. It is like a lamp or a light that shows us which path to take. God's Word, The Bible is true from beginning to end. The Lord has given us his Word so we will know what is right and wrong. When a person understands truth then they can experience freedom. When we learn to fear God, (mean to respect him), then we will become wise. Wisdom is what makes a man truly happy.

1. What has God given to man to guide his path? _____

Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2. According to the Bible, What is Truth? _____

John 17:17 – Jesus said, “thy word [the Bible] is truth.”

3. What do we receive when we discover truth? _____

John 8:31,32 - Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, ...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

The Lord has given us his word. When we learn to fear God, that means to respect him, then we will become wise. Wisdom is what makes a man truly happy.

4. What makes a man truly happy? _____

Proverbs 3:13 – “Happy is the man that findeth wisdom...”

5. What is the beginning of wisdom? _____

Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Who is the LORD? The Name *LORD* is the name for *Jehovah* God from the Hebrew language. It means eternal, self-existent, self-sufficient One. Nobody made God and nobody sustains Him. As we study God's Words and works, we will understand truth and find freedom and discover the path of life.

About God

6. How long has God existed? _____

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

God was never created: He had no beginning and He will never have an end. The word “thou” is singular for “you”. There is only one God. He is eternal and powerful.

About God’s Word

A relationship requires communication. God communicates with mankind through the written word called the Holy Bible. He tells us what we need to know about Himself and mankind. He speaks the truth and wisdom. We can understand history, science, and people when we read the Bible. What we know about God is what he has shown us in the pages of the Bible. Because God is divine, His words are sacred.

7. How much scripture was given by inspiration of God? _____

II Timothy 3:16 -All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

8. Who guided holy men to give us God’s words? _____

II Peter 1:21 - 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.

From the beginning of time, God inspired holy men to write down his thoughts. The Holy Ghost (another name for God) guided them so that the words would be pure. The men did not put in their own ideas, but followed God exactly. God said that his word is sharper than a sword, because it reaches the heart of man and speaks to them. God’s word, the Bible, will last forever.

9. What did God say about His words? _____

Psalms 12:6,7 - The words of the LORD *are* **pure** words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, **purified** seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt **preserve** them from this generation for ever.

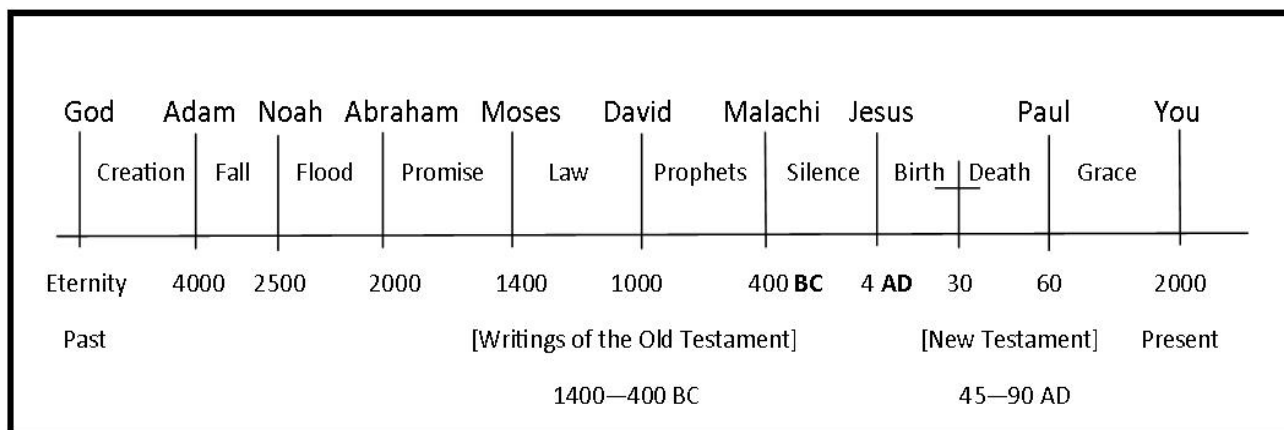
10. How long will God’s Word endure? _____

Isaiah 40:8 - *The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*

11. God’s word is sharper than what weapon? _____

Hebrews 4:12- For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Bible Timeline



Note: The timeline above includes the events that we will be studying in the Bible. Interestingly enough, most cultures use this dating system with BC and AD. Here, B.C. represents “Before Christ” and A.D. represents “Anno Domini”, meaning *in the year of our Lord*. So all of history is dated surrounding the life of Jesus Christ.

Fulfilled Prophecy

The greatest proof that the Bible is God’s word is found in fulfilled prophecies. There are about 2,500 prophecies written, with nearly 2,000 already fulfilled. Over 300 of these prophecies were made about Jesus!

In the following lessons, we will see many prophecies made about the coming of Jesus Christ, like where he would be born and what he would do. God has the knowledge of all things before they happen!

Isaiah 46:10 – God said, “Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:”

Next lesson, we will answer: What are the first words recorded? When did life begin? Why are there seven days in a week?

Lesson 2

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God's Creates All Living Things



In the last lesson, we learned some basic facts about the Bible. If God thought it was important enough to speak to man and make sure that holy men wrote down his words, how much more important is it that we should read and believe them?

1. Heaven is God's _____, and earth is his _____. God cannot be limited by a building or a place. His presence is everywhere. He sees and knows everything. God has the ability to do anything he wants to do!

Acts 7:48,49 – “Howbeit the most High [God] dwelleth not in temples made with hands; ..., Heaven *is* my throne, and earth *is* my footstool: ...”

2. What did God do in the beginning of the world? _____

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

3. What is the first thing God created? _____
How did He do it? _____

Genesis 1:3-4 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that *it was* good...”

4. On day 2, God made the _____(sky) which divided the waters from the waters. The firmament is the air that we breathe.

Genesis 1:6 - And God said, Let there be a firmament [sky] in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

5. On day 3, God separated the dry land from the _____. He made plants and fruit. Inside all plants, there is a seed, that it may reproduce itself.

Genesis 1:9 - 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.

6. On day 4, God made the sun, the moon, the stars to give light upon the _____. This is how we can measure our days, seasons, and years.

Genesis 1:15 - And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

7. On day 5, God made the _____ in the sea and _____ to fly in the air.

Genesis 1:21 - And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl [bird] after his kind: and God saw that *it was* good.

On day 6, God made the animals.

Genesis 1:24 - 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.

8. Finally, we learn that God made _____, the most special of all his creation. God said, “Let _____ make man in _____ image.”

Genesis 1:26 - 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 fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Man in God’s Image

God referred to himself in the plural form, though he is one God. The word for *God* in the Hebrew is *Elohim*. This is a singular name with a plural ending. This is why we say God is one in three persons. The Triune God is the Father, the Word (Son Jesus), and the Holy Spirit. Each person of the Trinity has a unique purpose.

- God the Father is the one who *plans* the work.
- God the Son *performs* the work.
- God the Holy Spirit *influences* the work.

9. There are _____ that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are _____.

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

10. List the three parts of man: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

I Thessalonians 5:23 – “... *I pray God* your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless...”

*Man has three parts to his being, just as God has three parts to His existence. This is what makes man unique in all of creation.

- Man has a body by which he has *self-awareness*. Man has five senses (taste, touch, smell, sight, and sound)
- Man has a soul by which he has *others-awareness*. Man’s soul is composed of his intellect, emotions, and will.
- Man has a spirit by which he has *God-awareness*. He has the breath of life on earth and an eternal existence.

11. God took some dust from the ground and formed a man. Then he and breathed into his nose and man became a living _____.

Genesis 2:7- And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils [nose] the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

12. God called the first man *Adam*, which means “red” like mud. He was given _____ over all the fish, the birds, and the cattle.

Genesis 1:27,28 - 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.

13. God had made a garden for Adam, which was called _____.

Genesis 2:8 - And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

14. In this garden, there were two special trees: one that would give life and another that would give knowledge of _____ and _____.

Genesis 2:9 - And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the **tree of knowledge of good and evil**.

15. God gave Adam one rule, to not eat of the tree that gives knowledge of good and evil. What would be the punishment if he disobeyed? _____

Genesis 2:17– But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

16. What did God say man needed? _____ After naming the animals, God put Adam to sleep.

Genesis 2:18-20 - And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought *them* unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that *was* the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet [helper] for him.

17. What bone did God take from Adam to make a woman? _____

Genesis 2:21,22 - 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.

Adam and Eve were both naked and not ashamed. Before sin was on earth, mankind was innocent and pure. There was no shame, and thus, no need for clothes.

18. All that God created was _____. He did all this in just _____ days.

Genesis 1:31 - And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

19. God made an end of all his _____ and rested the seventh day.

Genesis 2:1,2 - Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

20. What does God's creation shows us about God? _____

Psalms 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

The greatest evidence that there is a Creator is found in creation itself. Intelligent design surrounds all of us. Everything living has a complex design. Every plant, animal, and person is made to heal, reproduce, and serve a specific purpose. Everything brings glory to God when it fulfills its unique role in creation.

21. Creation shows us that _____ is the owner and ruler over everything.

Psalms 24:1 - *The earth is the LORD'S, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.*–

God is the rightful ruler over all the earth. Since he is the Creator, He has the authority to make the rules. We will learn in the next lesson where good and evil came from. We will discover the answers to the following questions: What are the consequences of sin? Why is there so much suffering and death on earth?

Lesson 3

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God has Authority over Satan and Man



In the last lesson, we learned that God created all things, spiritual and physical. Man was created to have dominion over all the earth. God made woman from man's rib. Together they lived in a beautiful Garden called Eden. God made everything in heaven and earth. He made physical beings including mankind and spiritual beings we cannot see. Angels are part of the spiritual world that are invisible.

1. God _____ everything that we can see and cannot see.

Colossians 1:15,16 – "... For by him [Jesus] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him [Jesus}, and for him:

2. In Heaven, the most beautiful angel named Lucifer wanted to be like whom? _____

Isaiah 14:12-14 -How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, ... For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

This was very prideful of Lucifer (Satan or the Devil). God could not allow this pride and rebellion, so He cast Lucifer out of heaven. Many other angels followed Lucifer. These fallen angels are known as demons and do evil in the world today. They do not bring peace, but instead, make people afraid.

3. Lucifer also was found in the garden of God called _____. He had been perfect until _____ was found in him.

Ezekiel 28:13-15 - Thou [Lucifer] hast been in Eden the garden of God;...thou wast upon the holy mountain of God... Thou *wast* perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity [sin] was found in thee.

In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve enjoyed daily fellowship with God. One day, Eve was alone by the tree of knowledge of good and evil. She knew God said not to eat from it. Lucifer, also known as Satan possessed a snake to speak to Eve.

4. What lie did he tell Eve? _____

Genesis 3:1-4 - 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:

5. The serpent said that if they ate the fruit, they would be as _____, knowing both good and evil. This appealed to Eve's pride, and she took the fruit.

Genesis 3:5 - 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.

6. After taking a bite, she shared the fruit with whom? _____

Genesis 3:6,7 - 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.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Adam knew he shouldn't take the fruit, but ate of it anyway. Immediately, Adam and Eve were ashamed of their nakedness.

7. What did Adam and Eve do when they heard God's voice? _____

Genesis 3:8 - And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

8. Why did Adam say he and Eve hid from God? _____

Genesis 3:9,10 - And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.

God made man to fellowship with Himself. He loves man but cannot allow sin in His presence. When we sin, we are ashamed and afraid of God. This is why many do not like to hear about their sin and avoid their Creator, the Holy God.

9. God told the serpent that he would be cursed above all animals and would have to go on its belly and eat _____ all its life.

Genesis 3:14,15 -And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

10. The woman would have to bring forth children with much _____.

Genesis 3:16 - Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

11. The ground was cursed and would bring forth thorns and thistles. Man would sweat to earn food, and eventually would return to _____.

Genesis 3:17-19 - And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 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.

12. How did Adam's sin affect all of the human race? _____

Romans 5:12 - Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

13. What are the wages of sin? _____

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Because Adam and Eve had disobeyed God's command, everything was brought under a curse. Their sin had brought death and separation from God: their relationship would never be the same. Although Adam and Eve did not die physically on the day they ate the forbidden fruit, they experienced spiritual death. Several years later, their bodies would also die.

14. What did God make to clothe Adam and Eve? _____ Instead of killing Adam and Eve, God killed a substitute animal.

Genesis 3:21 - Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

15. They had tried to cover themselves with aprons of _____?

Genesis 3:7 – And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

We see from the very beginning, the first man and woman had done wrong against God. They had rebelled against God's authority. They realized their guilt and shame and attempted to cover it up. People today know they have done wrong against God, and try to hide their sin. We try to make ourselves look good and trust in our religion and good works. Many attempt to make peace with God their own way.

16. Just as God had to cast Satan out of heaven for the sin of pride, God had to cast Adam and Eve out of _____.

Genesis 3:24 - So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

In the next lesson, we will learn how bad people became. How would a holy God judge man's sin? Would God show mercy? What causes earthquakes? Why are fossils on the Himalaya mountains?

Lesson 4

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God Judges Sinners and Delivers Noah



The two people went from a place of perfection and safety to being ashamed and guilty because of their disobedience to God. They had to leave the garden God had made for them. Now they experienced spiritual death as a result of their sin. Everybody born hereafter would be born a sinner.

The first children

Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel.

1. What did Cain do to his brother Abel? _____

Genesis 4:8 - And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew [killed] him.

2. How did God judge Cain? _____

Genesis 4:11,12 - And now *art* thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

3. What does the Bible say Enoch did with God? _____

Genesis 5:22 - And Enoch walked with God...

4. We learn that even though man had turned his back on God, God still reached out to walk and talk with man. Walking with God simply means following and fellowshiping with Him. What other man walked with God? _____

Genesis 6:9 - Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.

5. The wickedness of man was _____.

Genesis 6:5 - 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.

6. What did God have to say about it? _____

Genesis 6:7 - And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

7. What did Noah find in the eyes of the Lord? _____

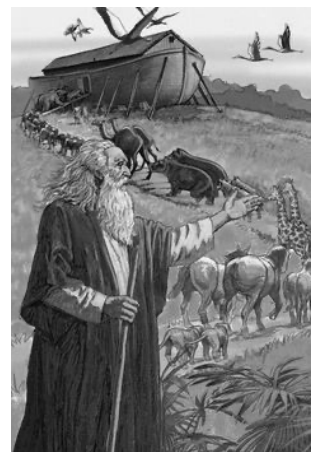
Genesis 6:8 - But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

8. What did God tell Noah to do that his family and animals might be spared from judgment? _____

Genesis 6:14,18 - Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

An ark is a boat. God told Noah the measurements and materials to use for building the boat.

9. How did God destroy the earth? _____



Genesis 7:17 - And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

Note: In almost every civilization around the world, there is a story of a cataclysmic flood that covered the whole earth. This also explains why there are fish fossils buried on Mount Everest! During this world-wide flood, it actually was under water where fish were rapidly buried. This occurred when the waters from under the earth came upward making mountains.

Genesis 7:11,12 - In the six hundredth year of Noah's life...were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.



Note: Notice the words “all the fountains of the great deep broken up.” This is when the tectonic plates of the earth were separated. Today they shift and when they collide they cause earthquakes! Before the Great Flood, the continents would have been connected. Notice the how the continents on the world map are like the pieces of a puzzle separated by the oceans!

It is interesting what worldly men have noted about the world-wide Flood. There are at least 200 different legends, according to most historians on the subject. Evolutionary geologist Robert Schoch noted, *Stories of a great deluge are found on every inhabited continent and among a great many different language and culture groups* (pp. 103,249).*

Interestingly, even the Chinese character for “boat” possibly reveals the story of Noah and the other seven people on the ark. The three elements used to symbolize a boat are:**

舟 + 八 + 口 = 船
vessel + eight + mouth (or people) = boat

10. What promise did God make to Noah? _____

Genesis 8:20-22 - And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart *is* evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

11. What did God make to remind Noah of this promise? _____

Genesis 9:13 - I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

12. How will God destroy the earth in the end of judgment? _____

II Peter 3:6,7 - Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

14. God always must judge sin, but He still wants to show mercy. That is why there are preachers of _____ like Noah.

II Peter 2:5 - And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

15. What is God's will for all people? _____

II Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, ... [he is] not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

What would happen after the great flood? Would people now obey God? Would they return to the path of life God desired? Why are there so many languages and religions?

* Schoch, Robert M. (2003), *Voyages of the Pyramid Builders* (New York: Jeremy P. Parcher/Putnam).

** Excerpts taken from the article: *Legends of the Flood* by Eric Lyons and Kyle Butt www.apologeticspress.org

Lesson 5

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God Uses Abraham and Moses



Since Adam's sin in the garden, every person is born in sin. That means everyone naturally does wrong. Adam's first son Cain killed his brother Abel. God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth. After the Great Flood, Noah, his three sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and their wives multiplied began to repopulate the earth as God had commanded them. Through Noah's three sons, the world would be inhabited and the nations divided. The descendants of Shem would inhabit Asia; those of Ham would live in Africa, and children of Japheth in Europe.

1. How many languages did the people speak? _____

Genesis 11:1 - And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

Until now, there was only one language. The people travelled and lived together. They settled in the land of Shinar, modern day Iraq.

2. The people wanted to build a city and a _____ to reach to heaven.

Genesis 11:4 - And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

One of Ham's grandsons, Nimrod, was a mighty man. He built the city of Babel, which would become Babylon. He rebelled against God and led the construction of a high tower in attempt to reach heaven. This was where the false religions of the world originated. The people wanted to build a city and a tower to reach heaven. They wanted to make a name for themselves and not spread over the earth. This was in direct defiance of God's command to repopulate the earth.

3. Who saw what they were doing? _____ **Genesis 11:5** - And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.

4. How did God scatter the people? _____ **Genesis 11:7-9** - Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

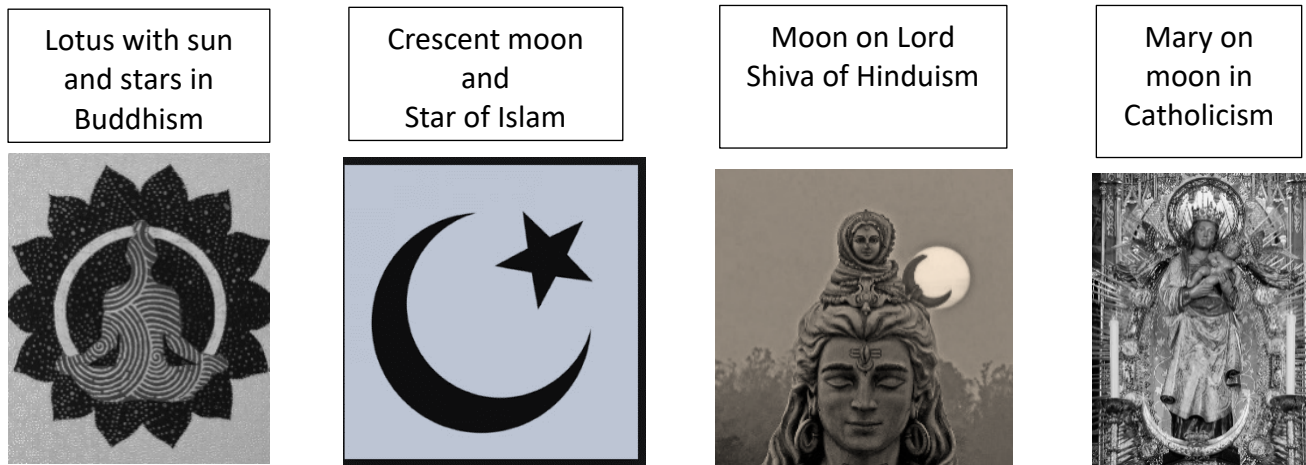
Instead of punishing the people's rebellion with death, God mixed their languages, forcing them to spread throughout the earth. This is the origin of diverse cultures on earth.



We see throughout history the effect of Babylonian religion on all civilizations. People want to do something to attain heaven. False religions teach people to worship the sun, moon, stars, or trees, stone, and animals! They want God's knowledge, but they don't want God Himself. They want to make a name for themselves, instead of giving glory to God. Self-effort, self-sacrifice, and self-glory are the basis of all man-centered religions. But no amount of dharma or karma can take away your sin. God Himself would have to bring the solution.

Notice the common symbols of the sun and moon represented in many religions that originated in Babylon. Nimrod had led the people to worship the sun and moon. Note also that with most of these religions, there is use of tarot cards, special days on full moon, and astrology. These things are related to witchcraft.

God said in Deuteronomy 4:15,19, “Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day that the LORD spake unto you... lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the **sun**, and the **moon**, and the **stars**, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them...”



Soon after God had mixed the peoples languages, God chose a man through whom he could have a people to make himself known to the world.

5. God told Abram that he would become a great _____.

Genesis 12:1 - Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

God made Abraham, one of Shem’s descendants, a promise that he would bless all the other nations of the world. Kings would come through his lineage. This special people became a very important nation called Israel, also known as the Jews.

6. What did God count to Abram as righteousness? _____

Genesis 15:6 - And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Just like Noah, Abraham believed God and obeyed him. Faith is what God requires from all people. Abraham’s descendants became slaves in Egypt. So God raised up a leader named Moses to deliver them out of Egypt and to take them into the land he had promised Abraham.

9. The leader Moses went to the Egyptian Pharaoh and said, “Let _____ go...”

Exodus 5:1 - And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.

10. Why did Pharaoh refuse to listen? _____

Exodus 5:2 - Pharaoh said, Who *is* the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

God sent ten plagues on Egypt, including frogs, flies, lice and darkness. But Pharaoh still hardened his heart and refused to let Israel go serve God in the wilderness. It is interesting to note that Pharaoh's magicians were able to replicate the miracles of God for the first three plagues. But when God sent lice, the magicians could not. They admitted that only the hand of God could do this work. Satan has much power, but God is superior and has all power.

11. God had one final judgment to send on Egypt by killing whom? _____

Exodus 12:12 - For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I *am* the LORD.

12. For the Israelites to be spared when the angel of death came, what did they have to do with a lamb and its blood? _____

Exodus 12:21-22 - Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that *is* in the bason;

13. What did God promise if he found the blood properly applied? _____

Exodus 12:23 - For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite *you*.

The blood is significant because it is the life-giving agent. Leviticus 17:11 says, "The life of the flesh is in the blood." God required blood sacrifices of animals to be offered in the place of man for his sin. This blood sacrifice of animals would offer temporary peace with God.

After living in Egypt, God's people Israel had been exposed to the idols and false religion that was practiced there. God gave Israel laws so they would remember to only worship Him. The most well-known of these laws are the Ten Commandments.

List of the Ten Commandments:

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.
2. Thou shalt make unto thee any graven image (idols).
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
4. Keep the Sabbath day holy.
5. Honor thy father and your mother.
6. Thou shalt not kill (murder).
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness (lie) against your neighbor.
10. Thou shalt not covet.

14. God said not to have any other _____.

Exodus 20:1-3 - And God spake all these words, saying, I *am* the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

15. His people were not to make any _____.

Exodus 20:4 - Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of *any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth:

16. God said he was a _____ God.

Exodus 20:5a - Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God,

Jealousy is the proper desire to protect what one rightfully owns. God alone deserves worship and glory. It is intolerable to worship anyone or anything else beside the Creator.

17. They who worship creation instead of the Creator have changed the truth of God into a _____.

Romans 1:25 - Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

18. God gave the Ten Commandments to show how sinful man is. If we only break the law once, we are guilty of _____.

James 2:10 - For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

19. Is a man justified by keeping the law? Circle one: Yes or No

Romans 3:28 - Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

20. The law makes all become _____ before God and gives us the knowledge of _____.

Romans 3:19,20 - ...what things so ever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

As a mirror shows us that we are dirty, so the law shows us that we are guilty in our sin. But a mirror cannot make us clean. How would God deliver mankind from sin? How can wicked men be made right with a holy God?

Lesson 6

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God becomes a Man to Save His People



Moses had led God's people out of Egypt to the land of Canaan (modern-day Israel). There they took possession of the land God had promised Abraham. For several hundred years, God was Israel's leader. He appointed men like Moses to represent him and speak on His behalf. Other men called *prophets* would also deliver God's messages to Israel and foretell his purposes. Israel wanted to be like the other nations and have a king rule them. A shepherd boy named David from Bethlehem became the second king of Israel. He loved God and God made a special promise to him. God said that the throne of David's kingdom would be forever!

The Prophets have Spoken

1. The prophet Isaiah said that a virgin would have a son, and his name would be called _____.

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

2. What is the meaning of the name *Emmanuel*? _____

Matthew 1:23 - Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

3. This child would be called the mighty _____, the everlasting _____, the Prince of _____. He would be upon the throne of _____.

Isaiah 9:6,7 - 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. Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.

4. When Mary found out she would give birth to a son, the angel said that his name would be _____. The Lord God would give unto him the throne of his father _____: And he shall reign over the house of _____ for ever.

Luke 1:31-33 - 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 for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

5. The prophet Micah predicted that a ruler in Israel would be born in what town?

Micah 5:2 - But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth *have been* from of old, from everlasting.

In our first lesson we learned that God was from everlasting, meaning that he has no beginning and no end. This is a prophecy that God would come to earth as a man and he would be born in Bethlehem.

6. Who was born in the city of David called Bethlehem? _____

Luke 2:4,11 - And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the

city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) [The angels announce] For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

The God Man

7. Who is the Word that was made flesh (became a man)? _____

John 1:1,2,14 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. And the Word was made flesh, [Jesus] and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Jesus has existed since the beginning of this world, was with God, and is God. He became flesh and lived on earth nearly 2,000 years ago. He showed the glory of God to sinners.

8. Who made all things? _____

John 1:3,4 – All things were made by him [Jesus]; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Jesus is the giver of life and the light of the world. He came to bring grace and truth to his own people, the Jews. Sadly they refused to have him rule over them.

9. Why do people reject the light of Jesus? _____

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

10. List the three that bear record in heaven: the _____, the _____, and the _____ Ghost.

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

12. In the near future The Word (Jesus) will come from heaven to smite the nations: and to rule them with a rod of iron: He is the _____ of KINGS, and _____ of LORDS.

Revelation 19:16 - And he [Jesus] hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

The Ministry of Jesus

Jesus began his public ministry at the age of 30 years. He proved that he was God in flesh through his teachings and works.

13. God spoke in times past by the _____. Who did He speak by in the latter days? _____

Hebrews 1:1,2 - God, who...spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son [Jesus],

The Bible records 37 miracles that Jesus performed while on earth. Here are a few examples:

14. Jesus had the power to heal _____ and to cast out _____.

Mark 1:34 - And he [Jesus] healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

15. Jesus said he had the power to _____ sins.

Mark 2:10 - But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he [Jesus] saith to the sick of the palsy,)

16. Jesus calmed the wind and sea. His disciples said, “Even the wind and the sea _____ him.”

Mark 4:39 - And he [Jesus] arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

17. What did Jesus do for Lazerus? _____

John 11:43,44 - And when he [Jesus] thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin.

Jesus proved that He was God in flesh and had the power over nature, spirits, illness and sin. Only a God with this power can deliver us from the punishment of sin.

Jesus did not establish his earthly kingdom 2,000 years ago, because he was rejected. But he does want to rule in the heart and life of each person now.

One day, Jesus will return to rule and reign on this earth. In the next lesson, we will learn about the most important decision in your life. You will learn how you can be sure you are on the true path to eternal life?

Lesson 7

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God Offers Eternal Life to You



LET'S REVIEW SOME HISTORICAL FACTS:

There is an everlasting God who is both powerful and merciful. He made the world and everything in it. Man is unique because he is made in the image of God. Man has an eternal spirit and was created to know God, love Him, and worship him. God also created angels. The most beautiful angel was Lucifer, who made a terrible choice. He became proud and wanted to be like God. Lucifer, known today as Satan, was cast out of heaven for his rebellion. God promised to punish Satan in hell for his sin. Today, we will learn what happens to people who rebel against God.

1. Satan deceived Eve in the Garden, and Adam disobeyed God's command by eating the forbidden fruit. What entered world when man sinned? _____
Romans 5:12 - Wherefore, as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
2. Who has sinned? _____ A sinner is a person who willfully disobeys God's commands. He chooses self-rule instead of being God-ruled. He lives without God.
Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
3. What way has every person chosen to go? _____
We have all rebelled against God.
Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity [sin] of us all.
4. What is the wages (payment) for our sin against God? _____
Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin *is* death;
5. Every man must die _____ time then face _____.
Hebrews 9:27 - And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:
6. After the judgment, sinners will be cast into the lake of _____.
Revelation 21:8 - 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.
7. What did God do because of His love for the world? _____
John 3:16 - 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.
8. How did God prove his love to sinful men? _____
Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
9. What gift does God offer through Jesus Christ? _____
Romans 6:23 - ... the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
10. How do we get this gift of God? _____
Ephesians 2:8,9 - 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.

11. A gift requires a payment. The forgiveness of sin requires the shedding of _____.
Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission (forgiveness).

12. Whose blood was shed for the cleansing of sin? _____

I John 1:7 - ... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

13. John the Baptist declared that Jesus was the Lamb of God who came for what purpose? _____

John 1:29 - The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

This is the meaning of the “substitute Lamb”. Jesus died in our place to pay for our sin.

14. What power did Jesus say he had? _____

John 10:17,18 - Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

15. What happened after Christ died on the cross and was buried? _____

I Corinthians 15:3,4 - For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

The resurrection of Christ shows His power over death and His ability to give us eternal life!

YOUR DECISION: Will it be YOUR way or GOD’S way?

16. Why do many trust their own righteousness? _____

Romans 10:3,4 - For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

17. What is the destination of man’s own way? _____

Proverbs 16:25 - There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

18. How many mediators are there between God and man? _____

I Timothy 2:5 - For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

19. What is the only way to come to the Father? _____

John 14:6 - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

20. What does God say needs to occur if our sins will be blotted out? (Acts 3:19) _____

Acts 3:19 - Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

God wants us to change our mind about our sinful ways and turn from them. This is what it means to repent. He wants us to reject trusting anything other than Christ. Idolatry is putting something before God, including your dependence on good works and religious practices.

21. What did the people turn from when they served the true God? _____

I Thessalonians 1:9b - ...ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

22. What is necessary for salvation along with repentance? _____
Acts 20:21 - Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith is accepting the fact that Jesus' death and resurrection is enough to save you. Repentance and faith are required for a person to possess the truth.

23. What two things did Jesus say are necessary for a person to have everlasting life?

a. _____ b. _____

John 5:24 - Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

A true believer is one who is fully *persuaded* of the truths of the Gospel, *yields* his will and affections, accompanied with a humble *reliance* on Christ for salvation.

24. What happens to the person who receives Christ by believing on Him? _____

John 1:12 - But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

24. What does God do for the person who is in Christ? _____

II Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

25. Who does God promise to save? _____

Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

YOU MAY PRAY TO GOD RIGHT NOW:

Dear God in Heaven, I admit that I am a sinner and helpless to change myself. I believe what I have heard from the Bible is true. I believe Jesus died for my sins and rose again to give me eternal life. I now receive your forgiveness that you offer. Come into my life as my Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Jesus said "Ye must be born again...of the Spirit". This is the new birth into God's family. We are restored in our relationship to God and are fulfilled as a person. We no longer are dead in our sins, but are made alive spiritually. Now we are complete in Christ.

Lesson 8

UNDERSTANDING BIBLE CHRISTIANITY

God Establishes His Everlasting Kingdom



Although the life and ministry of Jesus Christ was only 33 years, it would have an eternal impact on all of humanity. Jesus had shown that he was God in flesh and died for the sins of all men. He came back alive three days after he died and showed himself to his followers on many occasions. Because the Jewish nation had rejected Christ as King, he would now include the Gentile nations in calling out a people for his name.

1. How many people saw Christ after His resurrection? _____

I Corinthians 15:6a - After that, he [Jesu] was seen of above five hundred brethren at once....

2. What did Thomas call Christ when He appeared to his disciples? _____

John 20:26-28 - And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace *be* unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

3. What people are blessed? _____

John 20:29 - Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and *yet* have believed.

4. Christ told his followers to teach all _____ and to baptize them in the _____ of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

5. What did Christ promise his disciples after preparing a place for them? _____

John 14:3 - 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.

6. What did Christ promise his disciples would come upon them after he returned to heaven? _____

Acts 1:8 - But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

7. What did Jesus say the Comforter (the Holy Ghost) would do? _____

John 16:13a - Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself;

Jesus ascended to Heaven. He gave us His Holy Spirit to be our Comforter and Teacher. He gave his followers a command to bring the Good News of the Gospel to all people everywhere.

One of the most important men God used was the Apostle Paul. He was a religious zealot who persecuted Christians, but became a preacher of the gospel of Christ to Jews and Gentiles.

8. The Lord said that Paul would bring salvation unto the _____ of the earth.

Acts 13:47 - For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

9. The Gospel has the power to save whom? _____

Romans 1:16 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

10. What stirred Paul's spirit when he was in Athens, Greece? _____

Acts 17:16 - Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

11. What did he preach to them? _____

Acts 17:18 - ... he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.

12. What were the reactions of the people? _____

Acts 17:32-34 - And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this *matter*. So Paul departed from among them. Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed:

Final Thoughts

13. Jesus is coming back in the _____ to catch away believers where we will ever be with the _____.

I Thessalonians 4:16,17 - 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.

14. This future event will happen how quickly? _____

I Corinthians 15:52 - 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.

15. What is the blessed hope of the Christian believer that we should be looking forward to?

Titus 2:13 - Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Conclusion:

The hope of every Christian is that at any moment, Christ will appear to take us home to heaven. The dead in Christ will rise first, then we who are alive will be caught up to be with the Lord! We will have a celebration wedding feast, as the bride (the church) and the groom (Christ) will finally be united forever! Christ is now preparing a mansion in heaven.

These words are to comfort and challenge each Christian follower! We are not to be content knowing truth, but must be busy helping warn the unbeliever of coming judgment. We will have a day of judgment where we will be given rewards for our faithfulness to Christ. We will be able to cast these crowns at Jesus feet out of love and worship for Him!

But the unbeliever has no hope. After the believers are caught away to heaven, there will be seven years of tribulation and suffering on earth. During this time, the Anti-Christ will unite the world in

rebellion of God and his followers. Jesus will return on a white horse and kill thousands in a bloody battle. (Revelation 19:10-16) Jesus will set up his physical kingdom to rule as King of Kings for a thousand years.

Ultimately, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire to be tormented day and night forever. All unbelievers will stand before the great white throne of God. They will see that their works condemn them before a holy God, and they also will be cast into the lake of fire.

God will proceed to make a new earth. God will now be able to dwell in peace with mankind forever in perfect unity. All tears, suffering, and death will be gone forever. There will be no need for a temple, sun, moon, or stars, because we will always be in the presence of Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World.

The final picture God gives us in the Bible is that of the pure river of water of life coming from God's throne. There is the tree of life from which we will finally be allowed to eat. Only the one who accepts Jesus alone as God and Saviour may enter here. This is God's desired destination for the path of every person He has created. He takes pleasure in you and wants you to enjoy His presence forever. Please consider where you are on the path of life. Jesus's final words bring hope to the Christian believer. Jesus says in Revelation 22:20, "Surely I come quickly." Are you ready? If so, you may heartily reply, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."