

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

**A biblical presentation about many important aspects  
of Bible Truth.**

**What does the Word of God teach about death, heaven,  
hell, creation, sin, salvation, angels, Satan,  
and many other subjects?**

**Does it matter that we know? I think it does.**

*(written in the 1960's)*

**-- By: Dr. Edward Watke Jr. --**

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## **Table of Contents:**

<b><i>Lesson Number:</i></b>	<b><i>Title of lesson:</i></b>	<b><i>Page:</i></b>
number one	What We Believe About Creation.	2.
number two	God's Creation and Man	4.
number three	How Man Fell Into Sin	6.
number four	The Results of Sin	9.
number five	God Created the Heavenly Beings	11.
number six	Where Satan Came From, His Fall, Power	13.
number seven	How to Have Victory Over Satan	16.
number eight	What the Bible Teaches About Death	19.
number nine	What the Bible Says About the Resurrection	22.
number ten	What God Says About the Judgment Day	24.
number eleven	What the Bible Teaches About Hell	27.
number twelve	What the Bible Teaches About Heaven	30.
number thirteen	Jesus IS Coming Again-- The Rapture	32.

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson #1

### ***“What We Believe About Creation”***

#### **Introduction:**

When we think of the creation we should ask ourselves many questions, like, *“Why am I here?” “Where did I come from?” “Why did God create all things?” “What is the purpose of life?”*

Creation has to do with the origin of all things -- material and living, in the world, and the heavens around it. The Word of God teaches us many things about the creation of man, the heavens, animals, etc. We need to study what the Bible tells us, and we need also to BELIEVE WITH ALL OUR HEARTS what the Word of God has to say about creation.

Then, also, we need to understand that God created different levels of life... 1). plant life (or the mineral kingdom), 2). animal life (or the animal kingdom), and 3). mankind (made in the image of God).

Now let's study what the Bible says about God's creation, in our first lesson on the subject of what we believe.

#### **I. WHAT IS CREATION?**

According to the dictionary, It means to *“cause to come into existence.”* It means to *“form out of nothing.”* According to the Book of Genesis (be sure and read Gen. 1:1-27) It means, *“to make out of nothing.”* There were 3 creative acts:

- 1). Gen.1:1 *“God created the heavens and the earth”*
- 2). Gen.1:21 *“God created every living creature that moveth,”* all animal life
- 3). Gen.1:27 (vs. 26) *“God created man in His own image.”*

Since creation may be defined as making something out of nothing, then that means that before God created anything, there was nothing. And that is what the Word of God declares. The Hebrew word, *“Bara”* which is translated, *“create”* means to *“make something out*

*of nothing.”* Before creation God only existed. There wasn't anything else at all. Only God existed from eternity. God caused all things to come into existence. God formed all things out of nothing. God has all power, *“nothing is too hard for Him to do.”* (Gen. 18:14).

#### **II. WHAT DID GOD CREATE?**

Now when we say, **God**, we are thinking of the Triune God, The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All were active in the creation. Christ was with the Father in eternity past. Christ was active in the creation. The Holy Spirit, also was active in the creation of all things.

##### **A.. God Made, or Created, All Things-**

Gen. 1:1 *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*

John 1:3 *“All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made”* (Read John 1:1-4 for it speaks of Christ.)

Psa. 33:6 *“By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.”*

##### **B. God Made, or Created the Universe-**

This means more than this earth, for it includes the heavens and the earth. (Gen. 1:1; Neh. 9:6 *“Thou, even thou, art Lord alone, thou hast made heaven, the heaven*

*of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are in it, the seas, and all that is in them, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshipeth thee."*  
(See also John 26:7; Psa.102:25-28)

So we see that God created all things including heavenly beings, such as angels, seraphim, cherubim, ---and all things on earth.

### **III. WHY DID GOD CREATE?**

Ask yourself...*"Why am I here on earth?" "Why did God create the earth like it is?" "Why did God create this wonderful globe and put man on it?" "Why did God create the heavens...atmospheric, starry heavens, and "heaven of heavens" where His throne is?"* (Job 26:7),

The Word of God tells us **why** God created. We need to understand and remember we are talking about the Triune God.

#### **A. God Wanted to Reveal Himself, and to Glorify Himself:**

Prov. 16:4 *"The Lord hath made all things for Himself."*

Isa. 43:7 *"...for I have created him for my glory; I have formed him; yea, I have made him."*

Col.1:16,17 *"...all things were created by him, and for him;"*

We would not know the power of God except by the creation about us. We would not know about our great, omnipotent God if He did not reveal Himself in the creation of His hand. Romans 1:19, and 20 tells us that the invisible things of God (and about God) are understood by the things which we see that He created.

#### **B. God Desired Fellowship**

Genesis 3:8,9 teaches us that God had fellowship with Adam and Eve and sought them out for that reason. Psalm.95:7 says, *"For he is our God, and we (the saved) are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand."* In I John 1:3 we read: *"...and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ."* (written to the saved).

### **IV. HOW DID GOD CREATE?**

#### **A. God Spoke and It Was Done --**

This is seen in Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, and verse 27. In Psalm 33:6 we read: *"By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made...."*

#### **B. We Accept This By Faith --**

Heb.11:3 *'Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."*

### **QUESTIONS:**

1. According to the dictionary, creation means to \_\_\_\_\_
2. What was there before God created anything? \_\_\_\_\_
3. In three or four words, what did God create? (Gen.1: 1, 21, 27) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and also \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The universe includes the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_
5. The reason for God creating anything at all is \_\_\_\_\_
6. Now did God create? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did God make all things at once in a moment? \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

### Study Outline

Lesson # 2

## “The Creation of the Universe and of Man”

### Introduction:

We learned from the first lesson that the Triune God created all things. *“All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.”* (John 1:30) Hebrews chapter 1, verse 1 and 2 tells that God spoke in many ways, at many times in the past, but He has spoken unto us now by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds. *“For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by Him, and for Him.”* (Col. 1:16) How wonderful that God created all things.

### I. GOD CREATED THE UNIVERSE:

#### A. Genesis chapter one is the Creation Chapter

The first act of creation was the heaven and the earth. (verse 1). This act refers to the dateless past -- we don't know how long ago it was exactly. But we must accept that it was just shortly before man was created.

#### B, The Six Days of Creation - Gen. 1:3-31

- a. This was a *“making”* or setting in order. Also further acts of creation besides verse one. This was probably a making or arranging for the sake of mankind.
- b. The 1st day - light - *“Let there be light.”* Day and night came into existence.
- c. The 2nd day - firmament - a separating vapor above and water below. The vapor would be in the clouds, etc., and water in bodies on earth.
- d. The 3rd day - Dry land and seas and and plant life.
- e. The 4th day - sun, moon, and stars - the lights.
- f. The 5th day - water life and fowls that fly above the firmament.
- g. The 6th day - animal and human life, to live on the dry land.

God saw all that He made in the six days, and said, *“That His work was good.”* Then He rested on the seventh day.

### II. GOD'S CREATION OF MAN A SPECIAL CREATION:

This took place only after God had talked it over, after He had held a solemn counsel with Himself in the Godhead.... Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We read about this in Genesis 1:26, where it says this, *“God said, Let Us (plural) make man in our (singular word) image, after our likeness, Image means “likeness” and we are made \*in the likeness of God Himself.”*

#### A. God Created Man From the Dust of the Earth - Gen. 2:7

#### B. God Breathed Into Man the Breath of Life - Gen. 2:7

This is how man was made, and he became a living soul.

**C. God Created Woman in a Special Act - Gen. 2:18-25**

God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the first man. God took one of Adam's ribs from which God created woman, Eve, the mother of all living.

**III. GOD GAVE MAN A VERY SPECIAL LIFE AND POSITION:**

**A. God Created Man in His Image - Gen, 1:26,27**

What is God's Image Like? God is a three-fold Being,,Father Son, and Holy Spirit. We call this the Trinity, and we mean the three persons of God -- the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God said, "Let us make man.,." Remember when He said us, that meant more than one person for in the Hebrew language plurality is three or more. The us ... refers to the Trinity. Remember that there is but one God, but God exists in three persons --- Heavenly Father, Our mighty God, His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ and the person of the Spirit... the Holy Spirit.

**B. God Created Man as a Three-fold Being. (Man has a body, and a soul, and a spirit.**

The body - that part of man is visible, that part we can see, that part forms his "house." The soul and spirit dwell in the house as long as the body is alive.

Then there is the Soul - this part of us is that part that makes us love, hate, get angry, becomes self conscious, or that part of man which produces his emotions, desires, and affections. It is the source of the attributes of personality-- thinking, (reasoning), volition or the will, and emotion.

The spirit - that part of man which makes him conscious of God, which makes it possible for him to know God through faith in Christ's shed blood for sin. It is that part of man that makes it possible to fellowship with God in three Persons. Until we are saved we are spiritually dead in our trespasses and sins. (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:1).

The body, at death is left behind as the soul and spirit separates from the body. Because of his three-fold being, a man "different" from all other creatures of God's creation.

**C. God Created Man Different For a Reason.**

That man might enjoy fellowship with God. This is possible because we are made in His image. We might enjoy a dog, but we cannot fellowship with a dog.

Man was created in a wonderful state of no sin. He was created good and upright, There was not the least shadow of anything evil in his heart before he fell into sin.

Man lived in Paradise. Paradise was a most wonderful, beautiful garden -- the Garden of Eden. It was the home of man before he sinned. It was even more than that. It was a picture of the beautiful sinless condition of all that God had made.

God created man to have dominion over every living thing. Adam therefore had supreme authority or control over every living thing, and he named them.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. List the things God made on the six days of creation. \_\_\_\_\_
2. God saw that His work was very \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Man's creation was a very \_\_\_\_\_ creation because he was made in the image of God.

4. Man has a body, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

### Study Outline

Lesson # 3

### ***“How Man Fell Into Sin”***

*Genesis 3:1-10*

#### **Introduction:**

What a sad day it was when mankind, the greatest of all God's creation fell into sin. It was sad because God made man so that He could fellowship with Him. It was sad because God desired that man would love HIM and want in every way to obey HIM. It was sad because sin brought a curse and the judgment of God.

It is very important that we understand how man fell into sin, and what this *“fall”* brought about. When we understand this, and accept the truth of it ...then we also see why we need to be saved.

Romans 5:12 tells us...*“Therefore, 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:”*

#### **I. GOD MADE MAN WITH A FREEDOM OF WILL.**

Man could make a choice when he wanted to do so. God did not make man to be a *“robot,”* but being made in the image of God he was given the ability to make choices. God made man with a will, and then the right to choose.

God made man, you remember, because He wanted fellowship, and God wanted man to desire to obey Him, and to show his love. He wanted man to voluntarily choose to love and obey Him. It would please God far more for man to want to do right and love Him, than if man had to do so. Many verses prove to us that every man has a power or right to choose. Such as.... John 15:16, *“Ye have not chosen me, I have chosen you.”* Deut. 30:19,20, *“...choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”* Joshua 24 15, *“...choose you this day whom ye will serve...”*

#### **II. GOD GAVE ADAM AND EVE A TEST:** Gen. 2:15-17

God gave them all they ever needed. They had many trees of fruit. They had all they would ever desire. God tested them to see if they would obey. He commanded them to not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. God was not withholding anything good which they would need, but was testing their love and seeing if they would obey Him.

#### **III. GOD ALLOWED SATAN TO TEMPT THEM:** Gen. 3:1-6

Satan, came to them, in the form of a serpent. Satan subtly spoke to them through the serpent. But Satan is a liar, (read John 8:44), he is called the father of lies, and deceived Adam and Eve. Satan is a wicked, fallen angel, who had great power, and position, and desired to destroy every thing good, right, and holy (II Cor.4:3,4). So the devil (or Satan) used a lie, and a promise to get Eve to eat of the tree, Adam chose in face of complete knowledge of what he was doing.

Christ was tempted also, but did not sin. He was tested in all points like as we are, but without sin. As he was tempted He prove to us that He was and is the *“Son of God”* without sin. Perfect, He could die and pay for our sin. Praise God (read II Cor. 5:21; Heb.4:14-16).

#### **IV. MAN FELL INTO SIN BECAUSE HE CHOSE IT:**

Mankind, having a sinful, fallen, depraved nature easily chooses to sin, to walk in iniquity and transgression. (Eph. 2:1; Psa. 32:1-5) Because of Adam and Eve's willful choice, they fell into sin. We are to blame when we choose to sin. Think of Achan (Joshua 7:19-21), remember how he said, *"I saw, I coveted after, and I took."* This is the way it was for Eve. She saw the fruit, it was good to look upon and desirable to make one wise, for she trusted the words of Satan.

Why practice our sinful actions, words, deeds, and thoughts? Because we are born with a sin nature, and desire after sin (Jer. 17:9). Because we usually know that we are sinning and do it any way (James 4:17). Because we transgress (or do wrong) deliberately, and we know when we are trespassing the Word and will of God. We go right ahead and sin.

Man is still a sinner. He has not changed. How do we know that? Because the Bible tells us so, and because we know this is true about ourselves.

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

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

Romans 3:9-12 (read and study)

#### **V. TERRIBLE THINGS HAPPENED TO MANKIND WHEN THEY SINNED:**

When Adam and Eve fell into sin, being the greatest of God's creation, something terrible took place. They had been made in the *"image"* of God with ability to reason, to act, to make decisions, and to walk with God. Adam even named all of God's creation and was given dominion over all of God's creation. But something very, very terrible took place when they fell into sin (Genesis 3:8-13).

##### **A. They were ashamed, and hid themselves, Gen.3:8-10.**

When you think through the portion and all that took place when Adam and Eve fell into sin you begin to realize that all the following took place -- rejection, loneliness, sorrow, loss, hiding, division, a lost of trust, love and respect. In all that takes place in our homes, between mates, and between children and parents, we often see these same results from our sinful hearts and responses. Often we sin in actions and reactions.

##### **B. They were driven from their home in the Garden of Eden, Genesis 3:22-24.**

##### **C. They lost their fellowship with God.** They did die that day. It was a spiritual death that took place, cf. Eph.2:1. Sorrow was brought into their lives, and they had to work for a living. We have sorrow in our lives now because of sin in our lives and in the earth.

Thorns and thistles were brought forth from the ground. In the sweat of their face, they would produce their bread to eat. thorns and thistles are a good picture of trials, tests, sorrows, etc., that man has today). Christ said to the multitudes... *"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden..."* Matt. 11:28. ( See Gen.3:14-19) Suffering, sin, sickness, and all disease came because of sin. [t would not be long before the first murder would take place (Gen.4:1-10).

#### **VI. GOD ACTED IMMEDIATELY TO COVER MAN'S SIN:**

In spite of this, however, God, in His great love for all the world, gave His Son to die for

us. This is also pictured as God made coats of skin, (Gen.3:7,21), and clothed them. To cover their shame, God had to shed the blood of an innocent animal. This is a picture of the blood of Christ to be shed on the Cross to pay for our sin. Praise God, He loved them so much that He came down, slew the animal, and made them skins to cover their shame. Praise God, Christ loved us so much that He came down, was slain, and died to pay for our sins, that we might accept HIM (John 1:12) as our Savior, and be set free from our sins. He came to cover our shame, condemnation and guilt.

We must come to Christ and receive HIM as our Personal Savior. You must come NOW (John 3:16; John 3:36; Ephesians 1:7).

**QUESTIONS:**

1. When God created man, He gave man freedom of \_\_\_\_\_. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ lied, deceiving man, and used \_\_\_\_\_ to do so.
3. Who is really to blame for man's fall into sin? \_\_\_\_\_ Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What did their fall into sin bring? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is sin? \_\_\_\_\_ Consider the following words-- sin, iniquity and transgression.
6. How did God cover the shame of the man and the woman, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ What was this a picture of? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Write one sentence about what sin does to us. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. How can our sin be covered? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 4

### ***“The Results of Sin”***

#### **Introduction:**

When God created Adam and Eve He wanted them to obey Him. Obedience would mean that man would do all that God said because of love and desire to please Him. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed and sinned that brought a change in their lives and hearts. It is important for us to understand 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:”* At that very moment when Adam and Eve disobeyed, sin entered the human race, and ever since then man has been born with a *“sin nature.”*

Since man has a sin nature, his heart is full of sin, his choices are wrong, his will! is perverted, his doing falls short of the glory of God.

It is very important that we understand what sin is, and what it does to the life, and why we need to be saved.

#### **I. WHAT SIN IS:**

Sin is disobedience to God. It is following our own will instead of God's will. It is a revolt or a rebellion against God. Sin means *“missing the mark.”* Man has failed (Romans 3:9-12,23). Man has gone aside, has become filthy in God's sight. There is *“none that doeth good. There is none righteous.”* Isaiah 64:6 tells us...*“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities like the wind, have taken us away.”*

Sin is unrighteousness or crookedness. Ours is a “crooked generation.” Phil. 2:15 says...

*“That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.”* We know that sin brought terrible results to Adam and Eve; we studied that in the previous lesson. They were ashamed; they were driven from their home in the Garden of Eden. From that time onward people have become sick and died. Ever since Adam and Eve fell into sin, people have had sorrows, troubles, burdens *and death.*

#### **II. WHAT SIN DOES TO US:**

**A. Sin Makes Us Guilty Before God.** Adam and Eve hid because they were guilty before God. When we sin we feel guilty and wrong inside.

**B. Sin Makes Our Hearts Evil.** It corrupts our hearts. *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked,”* Jeremiah 17:9. The Lord Jesus said, *“O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things”*

Matt. 12: 34,35.

**C. Sin Makes Us Totally Depraved.** That means it touches every part of our being. That means we are totally contaminated. Sin causes us to "love" the wrong things; to "do" the wrong things; to "think" the wrong things; and to "desire" the wrong things. It is sin that brings this about in our hearts and lives.

**D. Sin Brings the Wrath of God Upon Us.** Because God is holy and righteous, God must punish sin. God is just and He must bring judgment upon man's sin. John 3:36 says...*"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."*

**E. Sin Separates Us From God.** We come short of God's glory. Just as Adam and Eve were separated from God because of their sin, so sin separates us. This is what Christ meant when He cried out on the Cross...*"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"* Christ was forsaken, separated from God there on the Cross because our sin was put upon Him. He was dying for our sins. (II Cor. 5:21)

**F. Sin Brings The Penalty of Spiritual Death.** The book of Ephesians, Chapter 2 and verse 1 tells us that before we are saved we are *"dead in trespasses and sins."* That is because sin separates. Romans 6:23 tells us...*"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

### III. WHAT GOD DID ABOUT OUR SIN:

God "so loved us" that He gave His only begotten Son to die on the cross to pay for our sins. *"The wages of sin is death,"* therefore, Christ had to die to pay for the sins of mankind.

**A. All our Sin was Laid on Christ.** Isaiah 53:... *"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 of us all."*

**B. All Our Sin was Borne by Christ.** I Peter 2 24 ...*"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."*

**C. Christ Tasted Death for Every Man.** Hebrews 2:9 ...*"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."*

**D. Christ Was Made a Ransom for Our Sins.** I Tim. 2:5,6...*"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."*

We must receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our own personal Savior. We must personally accept Christ or we are lost in our sin forever. He came to seek and save us because we are lost, (Luke 19:10).

### QUESTIONS:

Read Romans 3:9-18, and then fill in the following blanks.

1 In verse 9 we are told that God has before \_\_\_\_\_ both Jews and \_\_\_\_\_, that

- they are \_\_\_\_\_ sin.
2. "As it is written, There none \_\_\_\_\_, no, not \_\_\_\_\_." (v 10)
  3. God is giving us a picture of people in their sin, and He says, "There is \_\_\_\_\_ that understandeth, there is \_\_\_\_\_ that seeketh \_\_\_\_\_." vs. 11

## **WHAT WE BELIEVE**

### **Study Outline**

Lesson # 5

## ***"God Created The Heavenly Beings"***

### **Introduction:**

From our former lessons we learned that God created "all things." God, the Father, Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit were all involved or did their part in the creation of all things.

Be sure and look up, read John 1:1-3; and Psalm 33:6 and Colossians.

We also have studied that man was a very special part of God's creation. Man was made in the very image of God, with a body, spirit, and soul. Man was made to enjoy God, to walk with God, and to live for the glory of God. But sin entered in, and God had to make a way for our sins to be forgiven and for us to have eternal life.

There is also another interesting creation of God -- the angels. Angels are heavenly messengers of God. They dwell in the very presence of God (Look at Matthew 18:10. God created the angels in the beginning when He made the heavens. They were created good, and to serve Him, just like Adam and Eve were created good and to serve God. (But, some of the angels fell, and sinned. We will study that next week. Now God created all the angels to be separate individuals, but not related to one another as we are. They do not marry, or have families, or have relatives. But all were created by God.

**Now let's answer some questions about angels**

### **I. WHAT ARE THEY LIKE?**

**A. They are spiritual beings-** We mean by that they are only Spirits, having no bodies such as we have. Maybe that is hard to understand, but it is true, (Heb.1:14).

**B. They are moral beings-** And we mean by that... they know good and evil. They can choose good or evil.

**C. They are immortal beings-** That is they can't die. They shall live forever - the good angels in God's presence and the evil in everlasting punishment with Satan.

**D. They are powerful beings-** They are noted for their strength, and sent on errands of mercy by God for us (Psa.103:20; II Peter 2:11).

**E. They are active beings-** Judges 13:20; Isa. 6:2-6; Heb. 1:14.

### **II. HOW MANY ANGELS ARE THERE?**

There are numerous, very, very many. The Bible says:

*Ten thousand times ten thousand*" in Dan 7:10.

*"More than twelve legions"* -- Matt. 26:53

*"Multitude of the heavenly hosts" -- Luke 2:13 and*

*"Myriads of angels and archangels" -- Heb. 12:22.*

These verses would tell us that there are very many and that they do not all have the same rank. Some are angels, some are archangels, which are the chief angels (Cf. Dan 8:16; 9:21; 10-13,21; Dan.12:1).

### **III. WHAT IS THE WORK OF THE ANGELS?**

They have a heavenly ministry according to Matthew 18:10, They are of a higher order than man and they surround God, and He uses them as His messengers. They worship God. If you read Isaiah, Chapter 6:1-6, you will read of their worship, and praise before the throne. Then in the Book of Revelation you will read much about their worship...like Revelation 4:8-11; 5

They have an earthly ministry. When the Law was given (the giving of the Ten Commandments) it was brought to man by angels. In Acts 7:53 we read *"Who have received the Law by the disposition of angels,..."* And then in Gal.3:19, we read *"...it (the law) was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator."* Just think angels came down to Moses on the Mount to bring the Law of God, as we read of it in Exodus Chapter 19-21.

When Christ was on Earth the angels ministered to Him, many times. Matthew, Chapter 4, tells us of Christ being tempted by Satan. In vs. 11, after the time of temptation was ended, we read, *"Then the devil leaveth him, and behold, angels came and ministered unto him."* Christ had fasted or gone without food for 40 days in the wilderness during this time of temptation. What a wonderful thing that the angels came to meet His need.

The angels are ministers of good to all of God's people. That means that they often come to meet our needs, to help us in various ways, even though we are not aware of it. *"Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"* Heb. 1:14. *"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about those who fear him, and delivereth them"* Psalm 34:7.

Chapter 12 of Acts tells of the part an angel had in Peter's deliverance from the prison. You read of that special work of the angels in 12:7,8-10. What a great blessing it is to "know" that God uses the angels to meet many of our needs. They come to help us in times of dangers, and special need.

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

We ought to be "thrilled" that God has given His angels charge over the saved. We know from Matt. 18:10 that God says about the children,...*"their angels"* ...which is telling us that each child has an angel that God has given in charge of his life.

When Elijah was needing food in the wilderness and was on a very hard journey, (as a servant of the Lord), God sent angels to care for his need. What a blessing to know God has the same concern for His own today.

Many times children (and adults, too) worry about things. But if... We are saved, really know Christ as Savior and Lord (John 1:12, John 3:16-18, Romans 10: 9-13 and if we yield our lives to the Lord's care and seek to do those things that please Him, (obey Him), then we know that God has given His angels charge over us to keep us in all our ways.

So we should say, *"I will trust and not be afraid"* Hebrews 13:5,6).

**Think of how often God sent the angels...to meet needs of mankind...like when...**

...angels met Jacob when he was running away from home (Genesis 28:10-12).

...angels gave the message of Christ's birth to the shepherds (Luke 2:10-13).

...angels gave the message about Christ coming again when the disciples watched Christ ascend into heaven (Acts 1:9,10).

...angels were at the tomb, and upon the stone when Christ arose, and they gave the message to the women (Matthew 28:2-7).

...angels are at the throne giving praise to God as an example for us today (Rev. 4, 5).

***Thank God for the angels, who are "ministering spirits" sent to minister to our needs.***

## **WHAT WE BELIEVE**

### **Study Outline**

Lesson # 6

### ***"Where Satan Came From, His Fall and Power"***

#### **Introduction:**

Every Christian needs to know who Satan is, where he came from, and what he does. Also, it is important that every Christian understands why we must have victory over Satan, (the Devil), who also has many other names.

In this lesson we will learn some of the basic facts about Satan.

#### **I. WHERE SATAN CAME FROM:**

Satan was created by God, just as man was, and as all things were. Satan was not always Satan. He was first a wonderful, beautiful, created angel. He was made by God to be a good angel. In Ezekiel 28:13-15 we read much about his creation, and his name was Lucifer.

1. He was created wise - Ezek. 28:12
2. He was created perfect - Ezek. 28:15
3. He was created musical - Ezek. 28:18
4. He was created beautiful - Ezek. 28:17

Lucifer had a high place in heaven, next to God. His position was so great that Michael, the archangel, was afraid to bring accusation against him, (Jude 8,9). Lucifer watched, covered and protected the throne of God, his dwelling place was with God. All this we see in Ezek. 28:12-17. I believe that he also had a strategic place of power or authority for good over the earth, before he fell into sin..

#### **II. HOW SATAN FELL INTO SIN:**

The fall of Lucifer, as his name was then, is as real as his creation (Cf. Isaiah 14:12). We must always understand that God is not the author of sin. There is no sin in the Heavenly Father. (James 1:13; II Cor. 5:21, Psalm 145:17 and Psalm 119:68) Please read the verses just given. God created the angels and man as free moral beings, with the right and power to choose. We can choose to receive Christ as Lord, and serve HIM or we can choose to live for self and sin. Lucifer had the right to choose to serve God, or to turn from obedience and willing service.

**A. Lucifer fell because of his beauty - Ezek. 28:17**

**B. He fell because of his pride - Ezek. 28:17; Isa. 14:12-15; I Tim. 3:6.**

**C. He fell because he tried to be as God - Isa.14: 12-14.**

He became the devil (or Satan) when he rebelled and sinned against God...that is when sin began. That is when sin entered into the universe. Satan became an enemy

of God as Satan sought to destroy all that is good and right.

**What happened because of his fall?**

**A. He was cast out of Heaven** - Luke 10:18

**B. He lost his glory** - Ezek. 28:16

**C. His home was changed**, his destination is the lake of fire (Isa. 14:12,15; Rev. 20:10).

He has no Savior, and he will be there in Hell forever when he is banished there.

What a terrible thing, for many other angels fell with him, and they are active demons, doing the will of the devil (Cf. II Peter 2:4).

**III. HOW SATAN USES HIS POWER:**

Satan has great power. He uses that power for evil, for wrong, for the destruction of all that is good, and right (Cf. Acts 26:18).

**A. His power is great** - Acts 26:18

**B. He has power to resist angels** - Dan.10:12-14

**C. He has power to influence all the unsaved in the world-to do evil** - I John 5:19

**D. He has power to cause sickness, and suffering** - Job 2:4-10

**E. He has power to kill and to take life** - I John 3:12; Job 1:18,19

**F. He has power to hinder prayer** - Dan. 10:l

**G. He has power to ruin and wreck the earth** - Gen. 1:2; Heb. 4:23-27; Isa. 14:16,17; Rom. 8:22,23

Satan brought temptation to Adam and Eve and tempted them to fall into sin and rebellion against God. What a terrible thing this is!

**CONCLUSIONS:**

Satan comes as an angel! of light to deceive, to trick, to destroy, and to cause mankind to fall into sin.

Every person is born with a "*sin nature*" because of the "*fall into sin*" (Cf. Rom. 5 12), but also Satan seeks to bring all mankind under the power of sin constantly. He wants to destroy the life of every boy and girl. He wants to break up the home, to divide, to bring about enslavement to sin and self. Living for self becomes the aim of every person, for sin is basically self-centeredness, self-will, and self-worship as people live selfishly. This is seen particularly in Satan's determination to put self ahead of God.

**Satan is called....**

.....1). the adversary -- I Thess. 2:18

.....2). the devil -- Rev. 12:9,10

.....3) the tempter -- Matt. 4:2,3

.....4) the old serpent; Satan, the prince of the power of the air, the god of this world, etc.

It is very important that we understand his work, purpose, and know how to have victory over Satan. We will study this next.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. According to I Pet.5:8,9 what does Satan seek to do? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did God ask Satan in Job 1:7? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Satan answer to God in Job 1:7? \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. When the Word of God is preached, what does Satan do? (Matt.4:14) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What did Christ say that we should do? (Matt.26:41) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Find some words in each of the following verses that teach us to "watch", for Satan will defeat and destroy our lives.
  - a. I Cor.16:13 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Col. 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. I Thess.5:6 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. I Peter 5:8 \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Rev.3:2,3 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What does James 4:7 teach us?
  - a. "submit \_\_\_\_\_."
  - b. "resist \_\_\_\_\_."

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 7

### ***“How We Can Have Victory Over Satan and His Power”***

#### **Introduction:**

In our last lesson on "What We Believe" we saw that Satan was first created as "*Lucifer*," the mighty angel. God had created him to be a mighty angel to serve God and to bring glory to God the Father. He may have been the greatest of all created angels which power and position as none other.

Satan was created a "*free moral being*," that means he had power to choose to rebel against God. When he did rebel and "*fall*," he brought sin into the world. That is the source of sin. God is not the source of sin. God did not create evil.

Satan (who was Lucifer) still continues with the power that God gave him, but not for good, but for bad. While he is limited by God, he tries to destroy everything good that God has done. He has a counterfeit for everything good that God has made, or done.

Satan is called the adversary, the devil, the tempter, and many other names. He wants to defeat and destroy our Christian lives after we are saved. Today we want to study how we get victory over Satan. As a saved person I need victory, I must have victory over Satan, you must have victory on a daily basis.

#### **I. BASIS OF OUR VICTORY:** Study John 12:31; I John 3:8; Rev. 12:10-11

##### **A. We can have Victory by the Blood of Christ** – Rev. 12:11

There is great victory and power in the "*blood of the Lord Jesus Christ*," the Lamb of God (Cf. John 1:29). *It says, "they overcame on account of the blood of the Lamb."* We have victory over Satan's temptations the same way Israel had the night the death angel went through the land. They applied (or put) the blood of the lamb on the doorposts, which is a type of our applying the blood of Christ by faith. So we are safe when we claim the blood of Christ.

The blood of Christ is a great wall of protection between us and the evil one. When we are tempted to sin, when we know Satan has tempted us, when trials come, all we need to do is cry out to Lord Jesus and ask Him to protect us by the power of His blood. The unsaved are not able to claim His blood, but the saved can. We can claim our minds, souls, and bodies under the power of His blood.

##### **B. Christ Came to Destroy the Work of Satan** – Read Col. 1:13,14; I John 3:8

I John 3:8 says, "*For this purpose the Son of God was manifested (or came), that He might destroy the works of the devil.*" In Hebrews 2:14 we read, "*...He also Himself likewise took part of the same (flesh), that through death He might destroy him that has the power of death, that is, the devil.*"

The verses mean...Christ came to "*render powerless, to render useless;*" "*to cancel, to bring to an end*" the power of Satan. Praise God for victory over the devil. It is ours because Christ came to destroy the power of Satan, that he would not have power over the saved, who are Christ's own.



**C. We Can Have Victory Because of the Power of God.** Read Eph.6:10; Matt.28.18; Eph.1:18,20; Col.1:15, 18.

We need to recognize that God has all power, and God has given to Christ all power. Satan is a defeated foe and he has limited power. We are to be *"strong in the Lord and the power of His might"* (Eph.6:10).

We have God's very power to give us victory over Satan. As David said to Goliath, *"I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts...this day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand...for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hands"*

(I Sam.17:45-47). So we should know that God's power is ours for victory over Satan.

Remember that Satan comes as a roaring lion, walking about, seeking whom he may devour. (I Peter 5:8,9)

## **II. THE WAY OF VICTORY:** James 4:7; I Peter 5:8,9

By the "way of victory" we are talking about, the technique (or method) of victory day by day. We must realize that we cannot cope with Satan in our own power. Also, we must remember that just as Satan came to the Lord Jesus, and tempted Him (read and know Matthew, chapter 4), so Satan will tempt us often. We must know how to defend ourselves against Satan just like a football team must know the defensive plays against their opponent.

### **A. First we are to Submit Ourselves to God** - James 4:7, *"Submit yourself unto God..."*

In God's order of things, it is *"first submit"* yourselves to Him. We are to do this like a good soldier would to his commander. We submit ourselves to God as the great provider...like Abraham did. When Abraham was obedient and went up on the mountain to sacrifice his only son...his son Isaac, God provided the ram in the thicket.

Abraham obeyed God, and God provided. Abraham did not know what would take place as he went obediently to sacrifice his son, Isaac, just as God had commanded. He did trust God fully to bring about His will, and to bring glory to Himself.

God delights to give victory, we must look to HIM for the victory. He will make a *"way out"*. (Cf. I Cor.10:13) But, we must make actively, aggressively be in warfare against Satan, and stand against him in the "power of God."

### **B. We are To "Resist the Devil" by Faith** -- I Pet.5:9

By faith means by the power of God, not our own power or ability. By faith means we act against temptation when it comes, by turning our lives over to God, and then resisting the devil and temptation by faith, for we say, **"NO,"** to the sin and temptation that comes our our way.

### **C. We "Resist the Devil" by Speaking to Him** -- James 4:7

To resist means *"to withstand, to be firm against."* (Consider Ephesians 6:10-17.) Just like we would resist someone fighting us in a physical battle. We are not to flee from Satan, but we stand in the power of Christ against him, and he will flee from us.

How do we do this? By *"giving no place to the devil"* (Eph.4:27). We must not give him any advantage over us in our thought life, in our deeds, in our words or attitudes.

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

We can have victory over Satan. We must have victory over Satan. We are to be *"strong in the Lord and in the power of His might."* We have victory by *"proxy,"* that is, Christ made

possible the victory and gives it to us.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the devil called in II Corinthians 11: 13-15?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Ephesians 6:10-17 gives us the "*Christian Armour.*" What are the parts of that Armour against Satan, the evil one?

vs. 14 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 14 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 15 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 16 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 17 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 17 \_\_\_\_\_

3. What word is used a number of times in Ephesians 6:13-14 which shows us we are in a battle, and must have victory?

vs. 13 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 13 \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 14 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why do we need the "*whole Armour of God*" according to Ephesians 6:11?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 8

### ***“What the Bible Teaches About Death”***

#### **Introduction:**

Now we will begin a number of studies on "Last things." We will learn about death, resurrection, judgment, heaven, and hell, and other related truths. It is important to know what God says about the things yet to come. We all face these things. We all must be prepared for death, for judgment to come, and to meet God.

A lot of people are very confused about things to come. There are a lot of different ideas about death, resurrection and other matters we have named. But there is only one source of truth, that is the Bible. We must know and believe just what God says in His Word. We must trust the Holy Scriptures to tell us the exact truth. We must thank God, and trust HIM for the truth, that He has not left us in the dark about the things yet to happen.

Now we want to see what God has to say about death. We need to understand just what death is.

#### **I. WHAT DEATH REALLY IS:**

Death is the end of this physical life when the soul and the body are separated. Death is a result of sin. Before there was sin, there was no death. Death is not the end of being, for the soul does not die. The soul is immortal, that is, it exists for eternity.

**A. Death Began When Man Sinned** - Gen.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."* God spoke these words. Death came into being when Adam and Eve disobeyed God. In Romans 5:12 we read *"For as by one man sin came into the world, and death by sin, so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned."* The judgment of death came upon all mankind.

#### **B. Death is to Be Experienced of all** - Psa.23:4

David spoke of going through *"the valley of the shadow of death."* Death is a universal thing and *"...after death, then cometh the judgment"* (Heb.9:27). The only people who will be spared from death will be the raptured when Jesus comes for His own.

We need to understand that death is a punishment upon mankind because of sin.

#### **II. WHAT DEATH MEANS TO THE SAVED:**

Christ came to set us (those who have Christ as Savior) free from the power of death. Death means *"separation,"* and when we receive Christ as our Savior nothing can separate us from Christ Romans 8:30-33; John 6:37-47). We will be with HIM forever.

#### **A. For the Christian, Death is a Gain**

(Phil. 1:21-24) Death means to be with Christ which is far better. It means to enter into glory with Christ, what could be better? In Romans 14:8 we read *"...whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we (the saved) live, therefore, or die, we are the*

Lord's."

The saved, at the time of death, will go immediately to be with Christ. II Corinthians 5:1-9 teaches us that *"to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord"* for every Christian. The soul goes to be with Christ immediately, right then at the time of death.

### **B. For the Christian, Death Means Glory**

In Philippians 3:21 we read: *"Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like his glorious body..."* Since death will come, through death the body of sickness, suffering, sorrow will be put away for Christ will give us a body like His body.

### **III. WHAT DEATH MEANS TO THE UNSAVED:**

It means the end of all opportunity to be saved. For the unbeliever (the unsaved, the person who is not a Christian), death means the end of his time of opportunity to respond to God's grace. It closes the door for him, and he just does not have any more chances to be saved.

At death, the unsaved faces eternity as a condemned sinner, forever lost. Hebrews .9:27 tells us: *"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."*

It will mean the future of hell forever. Rev. 21:8 says, *"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, 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."* Also see Rev 20:11-15.

### **IV. WHAT DEATH MEANS FOR THE BODY AND SOUL AFTER DEATH ITSELF**

There is an *"intermediate state"* after death. This is a time between our death and our resurrection. God teaches us that every body will come out of the grave in a time to come...some unto life eternal, and some unto eternal damnation (Cf. John 5:25-29).

#### **A. There is an "IN BETWEEN STATE"**

There will be a period of time between our death and our resurrection when the soul is without its permanent body. During this time the soul lives on for Bible does not teach soul sleep.

Death brings an end to our existence in the body. But we still are alive, for the body is merely a tabernacle in which the soul and spirit dwell until death. There is conscious existence after death. Consider the story of the rich man and Lazarus. For the rich man died, and lifted up his eyes in *"hades,"* as a lost man...

- 1) he knew after death that he was lost;
- 2) he knew that he was in suffering;
- 3) he knew that he had five brothers; and
- 4) he knew that he did not want them to come to this terrible place. (Read the story in Luke 16:19-31) He was not in his body. The body was in the grave, but he was very much alive. He could feel, think, reason, and desire. You see the soul lives on, while the body is still in the grave.

#### **B. This is a Time of Blessing for the Saved**

The *"born again,"* child of God is with Christ (Luke 23:43; II Cor.5:1-8). The saved are in a state of rest and blessedness (Rev. 6:9-11; 14:13). We will enter paradise, that is, we will be with Christ forever. (One could study about

heaven and see from Scripture there is the place where heaven was,  
where heaven is now, and where heaven will be in the future. I mean by  
heaven -- where Christ's presence dwells.)

It is a time of terrible loss for the unsaved for they are in a prison, called "*Hades*,"  
under guard there,

- 1). They await the "*Lake of Fire*" where they will be forever. - (I Peter 3:19).
- 2). They are in terrible torment - Luke 16:23
- 3). They will be under punishment -- II Timothy 2:9
- 4). They will be forever separated from God.
- 5). They will later be Judged when they get their bodies, and then be put into the  
"lake of fire" that burneth forever and forever. (Rev. 20:11-15)

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

We must repent and turn from sin, receiving Christ as our Savior. It is very, very important that we **know** we are saved, and belong to Christ. If Jesus does not come very soon, we will all experience death. But, the Christian does not need to fear.

### **QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the terrible judgment upon sin? (Rom.5:12) \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the wage for our sin? (Rom.6:23) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Since the "*wages of sin is death*," what did Christ do about those wages?  
(Rom. 5:6, 8; I Peter 2:24) \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did Paul say about death as found in Philippians 1:21? \_\_\_\_\_  
He could say that, because he truly lived for Christ.

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 9

### ***“What the Bible Teaches Us About the Resurrection”***

#### **Introduction:**

in the last study we saw what the Bible teaches about death. Praise God death does not end all. We do not believe death is the end or we become extinct at that time, or that we die like a dog, or any other of God's creation. We do believe that God created us as eternal beings, and that we will all live some place for forever. Being created in His image He gave us life that we might live for Him, love HIM, and fellowship with Him now, in this life, and forever.

All mankind will die, with the exception of those who are alive when Christ comes in the Rapture of the Church. They will be transformed and go immediately into His presence. (Read I Cor. chapter 15). For all who go to God, to heaven, through death it is imperative there is a resurrection of the body. We will be made like Him, (Christ) to be with Him forever.

**Resurrection** will bring about the reunion of the body and the soul. The **b o d y** will come out of the grave and be reunited with the soul.

#### **I. THERE WILL BE A LITERAL, OR REAL RESURRECTION OF THE SAVED:**

Is it just an idea, or is it real? How do we know it will actually happen?

##### **A.. God Tells How It Will Happen - (I Cor. 15:51,53)**

Not all will sleep, or go through death, but all shall be changed. (v. 51). It will happen quickly, like the twinkling of an eye, (15 of a second). It will take place when God's trumpet will sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible. That means the old rotten, decayed bodies will come forth with no sign of death on them.

We shall be changed for the corruptible (that means those who died and their bodies decayed) shall put on incorruption at the resurrection time, and the mortal (that means those who are alive when Christ comes) shall put on immortality. The word immortality means to never, never die, but to have a new body.

##### **B. God Tells Us the Order of Events - (I Thess.4:13-17)**

Verse 14 tells us that when Jesus comes, He will bring those who “*steep*” (that means they have already died and their bodies are in the grave) with Him. He will bring their souls with Him. Then verse 16 tells us that the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... with a shout ... with the voice of the archangel, ... and with the trumpet sound from God. And then the dead “*in Christ*” (or the saved) shall rise first. Thus the glorious resurrection will take place. (See John 11:25-26)

Lastly those who are saved, and alive when Jesus comes will be changed, and caught up into the air to be with Christ, forever. Those who are alive when He comes will meet in the air those who were resurrected from the dead.

##### **C. God Tells Us That This Resurrection is at a Different Time than for the Lost.**

(Rev. 20:4-6) Those in the first resurrection will rule and reign with Christ a thousand years. Those who are lost will not live again, (or be resurrected) until after a thousand-years. The resurrection of the saved is called the ***f i r s t resurrection***.

There won't be a "general resurrection", like so many people teach. Those who have part in the first resurrection are kept from the second death ... for "Hell" has no power over them. (Rev. 20:6, 11-15). And there is at least a thousand years between the time of the resurrection of the saved and the resurrection of the lost.

## II. THERE IS A LITERAL, REAL RESURRECTION OF THE LOST. - (Rev. 20:12-15)

The saved will be resurrected when Christ comes, to be with Him forever. And the unsaved will be resurrected just before the "**Great White Throne Judgment**," to stand before God, to be judged and to be put "into the lake of fire" forever.

### A. This is a Literal Resurrection

The graves will give up the bodies. The sea will give up the bodies with them. The place called "hades" will give up the souls that are there. The soul and body will be reunited (that is resurrected) and the lost people will have to stand before God.

### B. This Will be a Terrible Time

They will have to stand before a holy God and they will be judged according to what they have done in their bodies, whether good or bad. They will be judged at this judgment because their name is not found in the "*Lamb's Book of Life*."

## III. THESE WILL BE A LITERAL, REAL BODY

We are thinking about the resurrection of the saved as well as the lost. The saved will have a body like unto Christ's resurrection body. (See Mark 16:14; John 20:27; John 21:12; Luke 24:39).

**B. The saved will have a heavenly body.** -- (I Cor. 15:42-46, 49)

**C. It will be fashioned like Christ's body.** -- (Phil. 3:21).

**D, It will be made "like Him."**-- (I John 3:1-3).

**E. It will be our bodies forever.** -- (Rev. 20: 5,6).

## CONCLUSIONS:

You can see why we must be saved, we must be "born again" into the family of God. Jesus said, in John 5:28, and 29 ... "*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.*"

And how do we do good? The answer is found in Scripture, it is by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. How do we works the works of God according to John 6: ?????????? So we must be saved, we must be ready to meet Christ.

## QUESTIONS:

1. How quickly will the resurrection take place? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When Jesus comes again who will He bring with Him? (I Thess, 4:14) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3, Those who are saved will rule and reign with Christ for how many years? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When will the lost be resurrected? \_\_\_\_\_

5 What is the resurrection of the saved called? \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

### Study Outline

Lesson # 10

### ***“What God Says About the Day of Judgment”***

#### **Introduction:**

Justice must reign in the end. God will not allow sin to always rule. Judgment must come. We are now in the *“age of grace”* when judgment will not fall like it will later. Now people can at still *“repent”* and turn from sin and be saved. There a day coming when people cannot repent, and they will be judged for their sin. Time fleeting as we move onward to the end. Sin is ruling in the universe, and it cannot continue to forever. ***“Truth forever on the scaffold; wrong forever on the throne!”*** This cannot always be.

There are four definite judgments spoken of in the Word of God. Each is a definite judgment, and will take place according to God’s time table. We cannot study all about all of these in one lesson, but we want to look at two main ones. First, we will list the four judgments:

1. The Judgment Seat of Christ
2. The Judgment of the Living Nations
3. The Judgment of Israel
4. The Judgment of the Lost ...called the *“Great White Throne”* Judgment.

**In this lesson we want to look at the first and last one given above.**

#### **I. THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST:**

This is a time when every believer, every saved person will be judged. Not one Christian will escape this judgment.

##### **A. It Is Right After the “Rapture”**

The “rapture,” as we have seen takes place when Jesus comes to take the saved home to heaven. It is when He meets us in the air; when we are caught up in the resurrection, to meet Him in the air, and to *“forever be with the Lord.”* The Judgment Seat of Christ follows immediately after we are caught up to be with the Lord. It will take place in heaven prior to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. We will be judged concerning our lives after we were saved.

##### **B. It will be a Judgment Christ Holds. -- II Cor. 5:10,**

It is called the *“The Judgment Seat,”* or *“Bema Seat”* of Christ. He will judging His own, not to see if we are saved. We would have to be saved even to be there.

##### **C. It Will Be a Judgment of What we Have Done**

Romans 14:12, *“So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”*

II Cor. 5:10, *“...that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”*

I Corinthians 3:11-15 teaches us that a “fire” (or judgment) will try our works of what sort it is. That is the “fire” of God’s Judgment.

This has to do with everything we have done in our bodies after we are saved...the words spoken, the deeds done, the thought life, our service or lack of it, our stewardship of time, talent and tithe. About everything we will give an accounting to



God according to all we have done in the body.

**D. It Will Be a Judgment With Either Rewards Given or Great Loss.** -- I Cor. 3:11-16

Many will "suffer loss" for their works will be as "hay, wood, or stubble" when tested by a Holy God. Many (or at least some) will be saved, but so as by fire. That would be like being saved out of a burn lug house, but having nothing left but the night clothes, everything else lost.

Some Christians will have "reward," some "great reward." Some will hear the words of Christ, "*Well done, thou faithful servant.*" Paul wanted to be one of those, and he could say "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision," (Acts 26:19; II Tim.4:6-8).

Our obedience is the issue. If we are obedient to the Word of God, walk in the will of God and submit to His Lordship then we will have rewards. Our motive for service is very important. Good things done with the wrong motive will not bring rewards. One of the main reasons why God will have to "*wipe away all tears*" at the time of Judgment of the Christian is because of our sorrow. We will have sorrow for all the times we sinned after being saved. We will sense that it was our sin that kept us from reward. We will have sorrow for all the times we fail to serve the Lord. (James 4:19)

**II. THE JUDGMENT OF THE LOST: THE "GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT":**

**A. When It Will Take Place:** -- Rev. 20:5-11

This will take place at the end of the Millennium (or 1,000 Years) after Satan has been loosed for a little while and then cast into the Lake of Fire. So it will be at least a 1,000 years after the judgment of the saints, the Judgment Seat of Christ.

This will take place after the second resurrection. The sea, and the grave will have given up the bodies, and the place "*Hades*" will have given up the souls of those who died. (Rev. 20:13). It will take place when God has called all the rest of the dead to resurrection, (Cf. John 5:26-32).

**B. What Will Take Place:**

Christ will be the judge and the wicked (all the people there will be those already lost) will be judged according to what is written in the books. This judgment will be according to their works in their life time. Not that salvation is by works, but God is a just God and He will reveal to them all of the acts of their lives, and their mouths will be stopped and they will see their guilt before God.

The "Book of Life" will be opened to prove that their names were not in the Book of Life (This means the proof is there that they were not saved, they were not God's).

It is to these Christ will have to say, "*I never knew you*" ( Cf. Matt. 7:21-23). The sentence or penalty will be the Lake of Fire forever and forever, (Rev. 20:15; Rev. 21:8).

**CONCLUSIONS:**

These judgments are certain. No one can get away from them. The penalties are certain. The Christian can readily lose his rewards and he will be very ashamed; Christ spoke of there being gnashing of teeth and a terrible agony of soul on the part of those who did not live for Christ. The parable of the pounds and talents stress this truth strongly. Some may feel Christ was speaking of the unsaved but the context does not support this idea.

The unsaved will be in tormented in Hell forever. The penalty of being lost is a terrible, eternal punishment. We must be sure that we are saved. We must be sure that we are seeking to win others to Christ as well. We must be very serious about these two judgments to come. We will all be in one of them. You must prepare for NOW.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Name the four judgments which are to take place in time to come. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The Judgment Seat of Christ takes place immediately after \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Why will Christians have tears wiped away at the time of judgment according the Book of Revelation, after we have gone to heaven?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. When will the judgment of the lost or the unsaved take place? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The sentence or penalty for those whose names are not in the "Book of Life" will be \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 11

### ***“What the Bible Teaches About Hell”***

**Mark 9:32-39**

#### **Introduction:**

This is a subject that should be approached in all seriousness. If the devil can't make people disbelieve in hell, then he tries to take the fear away by getting people to ridicule. The general disbelief in hell and judgment has caused most people to have little conviction about sin. Many people hear about hell only as an oath or in some joke. Some people object to the preaching and teaching about hell because they think it might shock children, or adults. This seems strange with all the death, killing, etc., that child and youth watch on TV in our age. People need to face the truth about what God says about Hell.

#### **I. A PLACE OF HORRIBLE DESCRIPTION:**

Mark 9:44 *"Where their worm dieth not. and the fire is not quenched."* Chapter nine of Mark gives to us one of the most horrible pictures of what hell will be like. Imagine dying, but never dying. Imagine *"eternal death,"* wishing you could pass into oblivion, but having to be alive in the Lake of Fire forever. The lost will forever be tormented in the flames, but never be consumed.

In Revelation 21:8 we read, *"But the fearful, and the 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."*

God prepared hell for *the "devil and his angels."* It isn't God's desire that anyone go to this horrible place. It will be a place of real fire. The Lake of Fire is real and not someone's imagination.

Fire is the final place God has prepared for the lost. (Fire here can destroy the body, but never touch the soul.) But fire in hell will punish the body without destroying it, and at the same time the soul will be punished.

Hell is a real place -- a terrible place. And we must accept what Christ has said of it.

#### **II. A PLACE OF TERRIBLE CORRUPTION:**

According to Revelation 21:27 hell will be a place made up of everything that defileth. The Lord tells us that in heaven there shall be nothing there that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. The Lord tells us this because all that defileth, or is abominable, or maketh a lie will be hell, not in heaven.

Again from Revelation 22:15 we would know that in hell will be dogs, sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

It is strange, but people can live in filth and stench so long until they are used to it. The saved person loathes (or hates) sin in all its forms. A truly saved person wishes he would never sin again. Drunkenness, adultery, murder, hatred, bloodshed, suspicion, jealousy, reviling, etc., are all low and base and defiling. All of this will be cast into hell, and the inhabitants will have only the filth and off-scouring of the world as their atmosphere, forever. No breath of pure air, no release from corruption forever.

### III. A PLACE OF WICKED ASSOCIATIONS -- (People): -- Rev.21:8

All those in hell will be there because they neglected receiving Christ as their Savior. People often say they are not "*bad sinners*," meaning in their mind they have not sinned much. They expect that their good will outweigh their bad -- thus they will be heaven. There won't be any sin in heaven, the unregenerated (born again person) would be out of place in heaven if he was there. He would not even want to be there, just as he doesn't desire to be in a prayer meeting here on earth.

In this life the sinner, or the lost person, has opportunity to be with good people, as well as bad. So many evil men can tell of a pure mother. Babies and sweet children are a part of life here. In hell all this will be changed. The sinner will have to be associated with the lost, and only the lost. There will not be one good man or woman there. No one who could be trusted will be in hell, no one who will care, or who can pray, just the depraved, debauched, and ruined of all the ages. In hell there will be no laughter, no love, no help. A sinner will be captive to his own kind. People in hell will be given over to their wickedness fully, and forever.

Can you imagine being with the rapists, murderers, fornicators, etc., forever?

### IV. A PLACE OF TOTAL CONDEMNATION:

Every person in hell will be aware of the fact they are there; they will be aware of how horrible it is, they will feel the suffering fully. Luke 16:23 says, "*And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.*" People in eternity will remember for there will be perfect memory there, for either the lost in Hell or the saved in Heaven. The rich man was told.... "*remember...*" All our faculties will be heightened and perfect in eternity.

God does not put people in hell; they choose deliberately to go there. God has no choice but to allow people to go to hell if that is their choice. If they so choose, then the punishment is eternal because there is no other kind (II Pet.3:9).

Hell is eternal. Man has committed a crime, and his greatest crime or sin is that he has rejected Christ as Savior and Lord. (John 3:16-20) He is under the judgment of his own sin because he has no covering for his sin -- this he rejected when he rejected Christ. Christ paid for man's sin, but if any person will not accept Christ as his Savior and Lord -- repent, and turn from his sin...he will end up in hell forever.

The wages of sin is death.(Rom. 6:23) There are three kinds of death -- spiritual death wherein the unsaved person is already dead toward God -- (Eph. 2:1-3; Rom. 5:12) Physical death wherein one dies physically as the judgment of death passed upon all men, for all are dead (spiritually), for all have sinned. And then there is eternal death called the second death, or the being in the lake of fire forever and forever (Rev. 20:15).

Our only escape from hell is to accept the pardon Christ purchased with His own life, with His own blood. He purchased Heaven for us by suffering our hell for us. To refuse salvation means man must pay the price of his own sin and guilt (I Pet.2:24; II Cor.5:21; Acts 16:31).

### V. A PLACE OF ENDLESS DESPERATION:

#### A. In Hell There Will Be NO SATISFACTION. (Luke 16:24)

While the rich man had everything in this life, in hell he could not even have the water he wanted to cool his tongue in the flame.

Many people think that satisfaction is to be found in this life in having many things. The rich man was well clothed, well fed here, but on the other side he could not buy

one drop of water to cool his parched tongue. It is a fool's bargain to sell his soul for temporary things. The things of this life will not bring satisfaction to the soul.

In hell the sinner will have all the desires he has here, but with not one solitary satisfaction or ability to bring that satisfaction. He will have sinful desire; burning, craving, lusting forever with not any release or satisfaction.

**B. An Awful Memory** -- Luke 16:25 *"son, remember."*

There will be memory in hell. The rich man remembered his five brothers. He knew they were on the same road as he, heading toward hell for all eternity. He remembered Lazarus at the gate. He must have remembered every opportunity he had to have known Christ personally and how he was warned of his fate.

**C. Horrible Darkness** -- Jude 1:13 *"To whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever."* God is light. To be banished from heaven will be to be abandoned to darkness forever. Pharaoh was more shaken by the darkness than any curse passed upon him except the death of the first born. No light. No ability to see, and the very thought of it would drive you mad.

They say that the hottest fire or flame known of is called *"black heat."* It is black, and yet hotter than any other flame known to man.

**D. No Hope Forever** -- Luke 16:26, *"...a great gulf fixed"*

The most horrible thing about hell is that it is forever, and without hope. Usually people think of some hope no matter how severe the trial or how terrible the problem they might face. But in hell there will be no hope, no hope, none forever

**CONCLUSION:**

There is still hope. That hope is to be saved, now, and know it. That hope is to have Christ, NOW. That hope is to be born again, NOW. We must come to Christ, receive HIM, as Savior and Lord. And then, bring others to HIM, NOW. (John 1:12; John 3:15-17; John 3:36)

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 12

### ***“What the Bible Teaches About Heaven”***

#### **Introduction:**

Heaven and Hell are certainties. Heaven expresses the highest and brightest hope while hell is a place of the doom and eternal despair.

Heaven and hell, these two words affect the lives of all peoples. They will bring either great happiness and joy or stark terror and horror to the soul. The saved person can hear them without fear. The unsaved should be shaken until he has made certain his salvation through Christ. For the saved the future holds no fear.

What a wonderful, glorious place heaven will be. Heaven is here Christ is. Heaven right now is to be with Christ. Heaven's location will be the *"New Jerusalem"* the place that Christ is preparing for all the saved for all eternity.

Most of what we know about Heaven is to be found in the last two chapters of the Bible, Revelation chapters 21 and 22. Let's ask some questions about heaven, and in the answers learn many things about this glorious place.

#### **I. WHAT IS HEAVEN?**

##### **A. Heaven will be the Eternal Home of the Believers.** -- John 14:1-6

Christ promised to go and prepare a place for His own.

##### **B. Heaven is a Place of Glory and Beauty** -- Rev.21:11

1. It is wonderfully built - Rev. 21:10
2. It is gloriously lighted - Rev. 21:23
3. It will be righteously run - Rev. 22:3
4. It will be a blessed place -- A place where there will be no more pain, no more sorrow, no tears, no more death, for the former things will vanish away.  
(See Revelation 21:4.)

##### **C. Heaven is a Real, Literal Place** - John 14:2,3

Read Revelation, chapters 21 and 22. It will tell about it's streets of gold, it's foundations, it's size and all. These things help us to understand that it is a real, wonderful, glorious place.

#### **II. WHERE IS HEAVEN?**

From all that we know from the Word of God, we would say that Heaven is *"up."* God's throne is in the *"sides of the North."* There is an area in the North where there are no stars, where there is a great void -- that is probably where God's throne is. That is where Heaven is now. That is where the *"New Jerusalem"* will come from as it *"comes down out of Heaven."* It will be just above the earth.

Before Christ paid for sin, and led captivity captive - heaven (or to be with Him) was called Abraham's bosom. This was a portion of hades, separate from where the lost were, such as the abode of the rich man as we have seen in an earlier study.

Since Jesus ascended to Heaven, we believe that Heaven is up, ( Acts 1:9-11; Acts 7:55; Acts 7:49; Psalm 73:25). We are told our promotion will come from the North.

### III. WHAT IS HEAVEN LIKE?

**A. It is Called, The Holy City, the New Jerusalem.** -- Rev. 21:2

**B. It Has Walls of Shining Jasper, Clear as Crystal.** -- Rev. 21:11

The walls are 114 cubits high (about 260 ft. high). It has 12 gates, each one a pearl (Rev.21:21). And the foundations of the wall were decorated with every kind of precious stones (Rev.21:19).

**C. It Is a City 12,000 Furlongs Square, a Cube.** -- Rev. 21:16

Ten furlongs equal a mile, so it is a cube of 1200 miles in width, in height, and in breadth. Imagine being in a city that is 1,200 miles wide, 1,200 miles in breadth, and then 1,200 miles high. Would you say that was a large city?

It has streets of pure gold (Rev.21:21). There will be no need for light, for Jesus is the light (Rev.22:3-5). It will be a place of perfection in every way. Our triune God will be there. There will be much praising there.

### IV. WHAT WILL WE DO IN HEAVEN?

**A. It is Where Christ Is,** so we will praise Him, adore Him, and worship Him forever. (Rev.1:5,6; Rev. 5:9-14).

**B. When Christ Reigns on Earth,** we will rule and reign with Him -(Rev. 20:6; II Tim. 2:12).

**C. We Shall Serve Him** - (Rev. 22:3-5). We do not know all the ways that we will serve Him but it will be precious to do His will.

**D. We Shall Worship God, and His Son, the Lamb of God** -(Rev. 4:10,11)

**E. We Shall Sing the Song of Redemption** -(Rev. 5:

### V. WILL WE BE BLESSED THERE?

There will be various degrees of blessedness in Heaven, (II Cor. 9:6; Matt. 19:21; II Cor. 5:10; I Cor. 3:11-15). It will depend upon what we have done for the Lord while here on earth. It will depend upon how we used the talents the Lord gave us (Matt. 25 14-30); and the way we used the goods he gave us to use in this life for Him (Luke 19:11-26). So, it depends upon how good a steward we have been.

We will be with Christ, which is "*far better*" (Phil. 1:21-23). We will be done with sin, gain rest, gain eternal rewards (if we served Him), see our loved ones again who were also saved, and have no more grief or sorrow. Praise God it will be a wonderful place to be. It is beyond our fondest dreams and no words can fully describe how wonderful heaven will be. We can only imagination or dream.

### QUESTIONS:

1. How will the New Jerusalem be prepared? (Rev. 21:2) \_\_\_\_\_
2. There was a great voice out of Heaven, what was the message? (Rev. 21:3) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who is the temple in Heaven? (Rev. 21:22) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
4. What will give "light" to Heaven? (Rev. 21:23; 22:5) \_\_\_\_\_
5. What shall be in Heaven? See Revelation 21:1-3 \_\_\_\_\_

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# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## Study Outline

Lesson # 13

### ***“Jesus Is Coming Again... Or the Rapture”***

#### **Introduction:**

Every part of the Bible looks forward into the future. Seventeen books of the Old Testament are prophetic. Of the 260 Chapters of the New Testament there are over 300 references to the Second Coming of Christ.

What event is more important than Christ's coming again? I know of none that is mentioned more often than the wonderful message that Christ is coming again. Since Christ's coming has such a preeminent place in the Word of God, it ought to have a prominent place in our thinking. Indeed, its very prominence in the Scriptures would tell us the importance of its study, and our understanding. Yes, Jesus is coming, and He is coming soon.

There is a town in northern Norway where about January 18 every year the people *climb* to a high place to see the sunrise. You see they didn't see the sun for some time, because they live so far north. On that day each year you could hear the cries of the people as they call out...*"The sun, the sun."* And some day we will look upon Christ maybe we will say, *"The Son, the Son"* is coming soon.

#### **I. LOOK AT THE PROPHECIES OF HIS COMING:**

The word, *"prophecy,"* means something revealed to us long before it happens. Prophecy means the unfolding of facts about something to happen later. And God's Word is always true about the many prophecies about which it speaks. God keeps His Word.

The certainty of Christ's coming is set forth in the Word of God. It will truly happen. God repeats it over and over, again and again in His Word.

Study all the following portions: (John 14:1-3; Acts 11:11; Phil.3:20,21; I Thess.1:9,10; I Thess.4:16,17; I Cor.15:51-53; I Thess.2:19; 3:13). These are but a few of the 318 times His coming is referred to in the New Testament. And what a wonderful truth.... indeed, He is coming.

##### **A. He Is Coming From Heaven -- Acts 1:11**

Read John 14:1-3. He has gone to the right hand of the Father (Heb.13:1). He is there, in Heaven, preparing a place for the saved. He shall come in like manner, as He went into Heaven.

##### **B. He Is Coming To Get The Saved -- I Thess. 4 13-17**

He will come again that He can take them to Heaven. He will come to receive them unto Himself.

##### **C. He Is Coming Personally. . .** He will not send an angel as some say and He will not

come in spirit only, as some believe. He does not come when someone dies that being His second coming, but, He is coming in bodily, visible form. *"This same*

*Jesus,* as ye saw Him go," is the language of Acts 1:11 (cf. Rev. 1:5,6).



## II. LOOK AT THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING:

### A. He is Coming to Raise the Dead -- I Thess.4:14-17

What a blessed day, all the saved will be resurrected as the graves will open. Like Jesus raised Lazarus, so He will call the saved out of the graves (cf. John 11). *"The dead in Christ shall rise first, then ..."* I Cor. 15:51-53.

### B. He is Coming to Receive His Own

Just think, His own will be received up into Heaven to be with HIM. Both the dead and the living child of God will be caught up. What a glorious day that will be, what a wonderful victory. (Read and study I Corinthians chapter 15.)

### C. He is Coming to "Reunite" Those who Have Been Separated by Death

Reunions are happy occasions, The coming of Christ to get the saved will be a happy day of resurrection, and reunion. Many will again look upon their mothers, their fathers, their sons, daughters, friends, loved ones, etc. I Thess. 4:14-16, *"God will bring them with Him."*

### D. He is Coming to Take His Own Out of the World

Where there will be no more death, suffering, wars, heartaches, etc. There will be no more sin and failure, nor dying, nor disease.

## III. LOOK AT THE PROSPECT OF HIS COMING:

Does the coming of some friend, loved one, or outstanding guest bring any impact on your life? Does not the coming of Christ, that very prospect, have effects upon us? It ought to have.

### A. It Brings Anticipation -- I Thess. 1:10

We are to "wait" for His coming. This means to wait with a thrill, wait with expectation. This also means to fully expect it, look for it and *"long for it."* (cf. Titus 2:11-13; II Thess. 3:5).

### B. It Brings Rejoicing -- I Thess. 2:19,20

The true Christian will "boast in that day;" that is, boast in the Lord, speaking of it; rejoicing in it, and glorying in it. It should be like the Grecian races of Paul's day. We should rejoice in that wonderful victory day, that day of crowning, like when the runner wins the race. The highest Joy, the highest honor will be that day when our salvation is completed, and we go to be with Christ. It will be the day when the heart is full and the soul will enter it's greatest joy.

### C. It Brings Courage and Strength

Think of the saved in China, Korea, in Russia and many other countries who have suffered much. Think of how many countless people have suffered over the years, but they looked for that day when they would be with Christ. *"His coming brings comfort"* ( (See I Thess. 4:18; Heb. 11:9,10).

**CONCLUSION:**

We should look for Christ's coming. We ought to "watch" for His coming, knowing that it could be any day, or night, any hour. We must live each day in the light of His soon return. And if you are not saved, then you must repent, turn from your sins, and receive Christ as your personal Savior..NOW (II Cor. 6:2; James 4:14; John 1:12; John 3: 3, 7)

**QUESTIONS:**

1. The word, prophecy, means: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Christ's coming is referred to how many times in God's Word? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Seven aspects of his coming are listed in the study under points I and II, can you list these facts about his coming?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. \_\_\_\_\_
4. List the order of events to take place at the Rapture as given in I Thessalonians 4:16,17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Since God's Word does not tell us when Jesus is coming, how should we respond in anticipation of about His coming? Titus 2:11-14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_