"Then many false prophets shall rise up, and deceive many. And because lawlessness shall abound, the love of many will wax cold. But he who endures to the END shall be saved. And the gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the END will come." (Jesus in Matthew 24:11-14)
The Learn Christ Commentaries

volume 1d: Magic Outline of the Bible, 
with a focus on the Lord Jesus Christ, the Prophet Messiah


Someone tells the story of a certain large Bible so designed that when you stood back to look at any page, you would see outlined around the text an image of Christ. So it is with the story or message of the Bible. Christ is the Bible, and the Bible is Christ. How appropriately the Apostle John first received in Revelation the proper word of “Word” to represent the Lord Jesus Christ, then later in the writing of the Gospel of John started the story of the Life of Jesus with the “Word made flesh” as a proper label for Jesus. The word “Word” for Jesus and the word “Word” for the Word of God are more closely related than we will ever know this side of eternity. (Karl Barth has made a contribution here in his book on the Word.)

Each of us must interpret Christ for our own generation. The accuracy of that interpretation can be measured in terms of our faithfulness to the Bible as the Word of God. There are many official and un-official interpretations of Christ even as there are many man-made religious organizations which claim to properly interpret Christ for our times. Rather than sling mud about which ones and how many of them are really part of the body of the Christ of the Bible, and incidentally of the presently living Christ who is the only head of the real body of Christ...that is, I say, rather than trying to separate who is and who is not a member of the real body of Christ, the more postive approach is to get back to the Bible with good Bible-based principles of hermeneutics, or Bible interpretation, setting forth the real Christ of the Bible and what it is to Learn the Christ of the Bible. If forced to select two verses from the Bible to represent a single focus for THE LEARN CHRIST COMMENTARY, it would have to be Ephesians 4:20,21.

“But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus...” (Ephesians 4:20,21 NJKV)
Let us face up to realities: Even as some churchmembers in the church at Ephesus, the church where the Apostle Paul had labored the longest, had not really heard Christ and had no really been taught by Christ, even so many more in American religious organizations, having lesser leaders than Paul and Christ, have not heard Christ and have not been taught by Christ. (You will learn more about this focus later.) Right now, we need to relate the “Preview of the Bible”, the subject of this first chapter, to that focus. The claim is that the story of the whole Bible is ultimately a story about the learning of Christ. If you look at the outline of the Bible below, you will notice the Gospel of Christ as number 8 of the complete 12 of the subject outline of the Bible. You will also find Christ dominating roman numerals 4,5,10,11,and 12 as well as an integral subject matter of each outline division. The reason is simple: the Bible is a story about the Lord Jesus Christ! And if you don’t learn Christ, the Christ of the Bible and the Christ of God the Father, the Creator of the Universe, then you do not learn the Bible!

Subject Outline of the Bible.

I. The Living God of the Living

II. Righteousness of God and Man

III. The Composite Witness of the Bible

IV. God, Man and the Son of Man

V. The Resurrection

VI. Wisdom From God

VII. The Gospel

VIII. Listening More Important Than Sacrifice

IX. What Happened to the Jews as the Chosen nation?

X. The Salvation of God

XI. The New King of Israel
XII. The Living God Wants Others to Live

What is amazing is that the whole Bible of 66 books, 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament, can be outlined under 12 major subjects! I will tell you upfront why that is possible: because of the Old Testament quotes in the New Testament, and because the New Testament provides the proper interpretation of those Old Testament quotes.

Chapter 1 THE LIVING GOD OF THE LIVING

I. God, Man, and Marriage.

**Genesis**


   (1). Let US make man in OUR image bespeaks of the plurality of God during the time of creation.

   (2). In our image and after our likeness tells of some of the glory of man that during Creation was acquired from God.

   (3). The dominion of man over all the other works of Creation tells of the First Commission of man to be a pioneer in the exploration and control of the works of Creation.

   (4). The Bible refers to man as male and female so that in marriage male and female becomes a complimenting couple of male and female. That is the way God originally created them; and in marriage that is the way He intends for it to keep going according to Jesus, and absolutely no person is to have any part in the separation of those two which God has joined together.

(1). From Gen 2:7 we learn that: (a) God created man physically from something that already existed, from the elements of the earth; (b) As far as the actual existence or inward spirit of man that came from God breathing into him the breath of life; and (c) With that spirit of life also man became a living soul.

(2). From Gen 2:24 we learn of the one flesh characteristics of marriage that God still intends and has always intended, that oneness emphasized by Jesus and the Apostles in the New Testament.

(3). While Paul in I Cor 15:45 is emphasizing the difference between the first Adam and Christ the second Adam, also the difference between the natural and the spiritual body, the first man from earth and the second from heaven, he also contrasts the living soul and the living spirit.

(4). As a man departs from the household of his mother and father, cleaving to a wife in marriage, the two become in God's sight as one flesh (Matthew 19:5,6 and Mark 10:7,8).

(5). So serious is this matter of joining with God that the Bible considers when a man has a relationship with a harlot that he becomes one body with her (I Cor 6:16).


(1). Genesis 5:1,2 reinforces and builds on previous doctrine as God calls their name, male and female, Adam.

II. God and the Gospel.


(1). With God's call to Abram to another land, God gave the everlasting covenant of: (a) From Abram's seed God would make the great nation of Israel; (b) Through his seed Christ the name of Abram would be great; and (c) Through Abram all the families and nations of the earth would be blessed.

(2). Paul writes in Galatians 3:8,9 that:
a. When God said “In thee shall all nations be blessed” God was preaching the Gospel to Abraham;

b. This all nations meant the Gentiles, or heathen which is the favorite word of the Bible for Gentiles;

c. This Gospel is justification through faith; and

d. All Gentiles and Jews who believe in Christ becomes the seed of Abraham through faith.

2. Genesis 15:5,6, Romans 4:18, and James 2:23.

(1). In Genesis 15:5 God identifies that the seed of Abram will be as numerous as the stars of the sky, and in Genesis 15:6 since Abraham believed God will He said this the belief was counted for righteousness.

(2). In quoting “So shall your seed be” from Genesis in Romans 4:18, Paul emphasizes how Abraham believed in hope against hope that he would indeed be the father of many nations although he had at the time no sons.

(3). The Apostle James in James 2:23 reiterates how the faith of Abraham was counted as righteousness, adding that Abraham was called the friend of God.


(1). As God changes the name of Abram to Abraham, He says “A father of many nations have I made thee”.

(2). Paul tells us in Romans 4:17 that this quote from Genesis 17:5 tells us two things about God Himself:

a. God is a life-giving God; and

b. God is a God that can call into existence what did not previously exist.

III. God of the Living, our Father in Heaven.

   (1). God told Abraham and Sarah that though old and stricken in years they would have a son, and when Sarah laughed God said, Is any thing too hard for the LORD?

   (2). Jesus in Mark 10:27, not in the same context but with a paraphrase of the same meaning, talks of salvation as all things are possible with God.


   (1). All nations will be blessed with salvation through the seed of Abraham.

   (2). That Seed is singular, the Seed is Christ.


   (1). Judah told Oman to raise up children to his brother Er whom God had slain.

   (2). When the Sadducees brought up the matter of raising children by a died brothers wife and as to whose wife she would be in the resurrection, Jesus told them that what was important was that God was the God of the living, the God of the living Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

   **Exodus**


   (1). God told Moses in the call at the burning bush that He was the God of Moses father, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

   (2). About the dead being raised to life, Jesus quotes Moses and Exodus 3:6 how God is the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and with the emphasis on God as each time God with repeated with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

(1). God has Moses tell Pharaoh that he has been put on the throne of Egypt for two reasons: (a) To demonstrate the power of God in securing the freedom of Israel; and (b) That the name of the living God and the God of the living might be declared over all the earth.

(2). In quoting that in Romans 9:17 and in explaining the meaning in Romans 9:16,18, Paul is telling us of how God is in control of world events; and what is important does not depend on the will of man or the competitiveness of man, but rather on the mercy of God, and that ultimately God will have mercy on whom He alone desires.


(1). The Passover feast in remembrance of God’s rescue of Israel from Egyptian bondage among other things included that the lamb of the feast should not have a bone of the body broken, a direct quote of which we will see later in Psalms.

(2). When the Apostle John in John 19:36 tells of how at the Crucifixion of Jesus, and since Jesus was already dead contrary to custom, not a bone in His body was broken, John is quoting from both Exodus and Psalms 34:20. (Psalms 34:20 is directly quoted, and the reference from Exodus 12:46 is closer to a paraphrase.)

7. Exodus 16:18 and II Corinthians 8:15.

(1). During God’s supply of manna during the 40 years in the wilderness, those who gathered much had nothing left over and those who gathered little were not hungry so that it was completely by the grace of God and according to the individual needs.

(2). Paul quotes this in II Corinthians to illustrate equality among Christians in the churches, or to illustrate the democratic nature of salvation.

Chapter 2   RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD AND MAN

I. The Ten Commandments.

(1) These are the Ten Commandments according to Jesus and the Apostles.

2. Exodus 21:17 and Mark 7:10: speaking evil of mother and father was considered so serious to God that those who did such were to be put to death.

3. Exodus 21:24 and Matthew 5:38: under the law it was to be life for life, eye for eye, and tooth for tooth so greatly did God respect human life and welfare and desire Israel to do the same.

4. Exodus 32:6 and I Corinthians 10:7: Paul reminds Christians at Corinth not to be idolaters even as the children of Israel were while Moses was on Mount Sinai getting the Ten Commandments.

II. The Laws of a Holy God.

Leviticus

1. Leviticus 4:18-20 and Hebrews 9:22: not a paraphrase or a quote, but rather in Hebrews 9:22 Paul summarizes what blood could do in the laws and ordinances of the Old Testament, the practices of which Leviticus 4:18-20 is typical.

2. Leviticus 11:44 and I Peter 1:16: God requires that His people be Holy since He Himself is Holy.

3. Leviticus 18:5,16 and Galatians 3:12: any person who desires to live under the Laws must live by keeping the Laws.


(1) In these just and holy requirements of the Law of Leviticus since “I am the LORD”, His name is not be sworn by falsely nor profaned.

(2) With this quotes and as a starting point, Jesus says don’t make any oath at all.
III. How Did the Law Read during the time of Jesus.

1. Luke 10:26: "And He (Jesus) said to him, ‘What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?’” (NASV)

2. Leviticus 19:18 and Luke 10:27: (1) To Love God with all the heart, mind, and soul; and (2) To Love your neighbor as yourself.

3. Leviticus 18:5 and Luke 10:28: “And He (Jesus) said to him, ‘You have answered correctly; DO THIS, AND YOU WILL LIVE.” (NASV)

   NOTE: If you could really do this, keep these laws, you would live eternally.

IV The Laws Jesus Came to Fulfill, not Destroy.

1. Leviticus 19:18 and Matthew 5:43: You have been told to love your neighbors and hate your enemies?

2. Be like God (Matthew 5:44,45): “But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you in order that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” (NASV)

3. Galatians 5:14, Romans 13:8,9, and James 2:8: All the Law is fulfilled in Love for Neighbor as yourself.

4. Leviticus 20:9 and Mark 7:10 (with Exodus 20:12 and Deut 5:16): Since in the Law the requirement to "Honor father and mothers has already been established and quoted here, it follows also on the ordinances of the law, or applications, that those who curse mother and father should die.

   (NOTE: The emphasis of Jesus in Mark 7:13 is that the religious leaders were trying to invalidate the Word of God by their traditions.)

5. Leviticus 28:12 and II Corinthians 6:16: God desires a distinct or special people among whom He can dwell and be their God.

   {NOTE: In Isaiah 52:11 as quoted in II Corinthians 6:17 this is to be a clean and separate people.}
V. The real way to eternal life, to fulfillment of righteousness and the Laws, is through faith in the Crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ for the sins of the world.

**Numbers**

1. Numbers 9:12 and John 19:36 reminds us that as predicted in the Old Testament not a bone in the body of Christ was broken during Crucifixion.

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**Chapter 3  THE COMPOSITE WITNESS OF THE BIBLE**

I. The Importance of Witnesses.

**Deuteronomy**

1. Deuteronomy 5:16, Exodus 20:12 and 21:17, Leviticus 20:9, and Mark 7:10 where with Honor to parents and the law of death with dishonor, Jesus teaches that what is inside man rather than what goes inside him is defiling.

2. Importance of knowing the Commandments: Deut 5:16-20 and Mark 10:19.

   You know the commandments, DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, DO NOT DEFRAUD, HONOR FATHER AND MOTHER. (Mark 10:19 NASV)


   (1). First is THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD, Deut 6:4,5 and Mark 10:29,30.


5. The importance of a special people to bear witness to God begins here and runs throughout the Old Testament: Deut 7:6 and Titus 2:14.


II. OKAY, HOW IS MAN TO LIVE?

1. Live by Listening to what Jesus, the Prophet Messiah has to say: Deut 18:15,19, Acts 3:22,23, and Acts 7:37.

Listen to the Apostle Peter as he preaches quoting from the Prophet Moses in Deuteronomy: Moses said, 'The Lord God shall raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed in everything He says to you. And it shall be that every soul that does not heed that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people. (Acts 3:22,23 NASV)

2. Live by Listening to the testimony of God the Father to God the Son: Mark 9:7, a paraphrase of Deut 18:15,19 except from God Himself, and a direct quote in Psalm 11:7.

Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, 'This is My beloved Son, listen to him! (Mark 9:7 NASV)

3. Live by Listening to other reliable and trustworthy witnesses: Deut 19:15.

One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth; at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established. (Deut 19:15 KJV)

(1). Deut 19:15 and Matthew 18:16: if your brother sins against you but refuses to listen, take your grievance to him byway of two or three witnesses; and if that does not work take it before the local church.
(2). Deut 19:15 and II Corinthians 13:1: Listen to the Apostle Paul!

This is the third time I am coming to you, EVERY FACT IS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES. (II Cor 13:1)

(3). Deut 19:15 and John 8:17: Listen to Jesus Himself!

Even in your law it has been written, that the testimony of two men is true. I am He who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me. (John 8:17,18)

(4). Deut 19:15 and I Timothy 5:18: Listen to the elder of any local church (same as the pastor or bishop) right up to the point that any accusation against him has been established in that local church at the mouth of two or three witnesses.

III. How Can you Listen to a Common Criminal Like Jesus of Nazareth who was cursed in that He was hanged or crucified on a tree (cross)? Deut 21:22 and Galatians 3:13


"And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree; His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day;(for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled; which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance." (Deut 21:22,23 KJV)

{NOTE: Jesus was very familiar with this portion of the Word of God as He was with all of the Old Testament, and when crying "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me", a cry of grief more than questioning He knew that God had to turn His back on such a curse on Christ for the sins of the whole world.}


ALL OF GODS WORDS AND WORD IS SERIOUS AND TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY WHETHER WRITTEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OR NEW TESTAMENT! Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us for it is written, ‘Cursed is every one who hangs on a tree. (Galatians 3:13 NASV)
(1). We were cursed by the Law since striving to live by them and therefore keeping them, we knew ourselves to come far short; and therefore without real life!

(2). Jesus in the death on the Cross became a curse in our place.

IV. Listen to Jesus seriously on a few other matters.

NOTE: Especially if you think you were not under a curse because of your failures to live up to the Law and therefore did not need for Christ to become a curse in your place!


(1). Deuteronomy 24:1.

When a man hath taken a wife (this is not necessarily the way you are cursed), and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her; then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another mans wife. (Deut 24:1,2 KJV)


And it was said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of dismissal; but I say to you that every one who divorces his wife, except for the cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. (Matt 5:31,32 NASV)

(3). Mark 10:4.

And some Pharisees came up to Him, testing Him, and began to question Him whether it was lawful for a man to divorce a wife. And He answered and said to them, What did Moses command you? And they said, moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away. But Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, And the two shall become one flesh; consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate. (Mark 10:2-9 NASV)


(1). Be just in judgment in that the punishment correspond with the violation; don’t muzzle the ox as he treads the corn, and let a brother raise up children to his dead brothers wife.

(2). It was written for our sakes more than for ozen in order that the worker may work with hope of reward for his works.

(3). The elder (pastor or bishop) that works hard at preaching and teaching should receive likewise double compensation.


(1). Your dead brothers name is not to disappear from Israel.
NOTE: Why should the eternal laws of God be so concerned about this one single name of a brother who died before he could have any children. After all the last name of the dead childless and the brother would be the same!

(2). According to Jesus it is more important to realize that in heaven there is no marriage, rather men are like the angels; and that men do not did who believe in God and Christ like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because they are still alive with the Living God! (Luke 20:28,38 and Mark 12:19)

NOTE: The real concern is that any mans name, alias himself and his real existence, not disappear from the eternal Israel of Gods real people of believing Jews and Gentiles!

V. Listen also to a few other matters from the Apostle Paul in the Word of God!


   (1). Cursed is every man that does not confirm all the laws of God by doing all of them!

   (2). None can truly be justified by the Law, only by faith.


   (1). The LORD God led Israel and their was no strange gods among them.

   (2). The Gentiles sacrifice to demons not to God, and the Christian is to have no part in this worship of demons.

Chapter 4  

GOD, MAN, AND THE SON OF MAN

1. How God deals with men and with men Through Christ!

   1. Some evident things about God in the Bible of Job and Psalms.

      (1). God can do everything and anything without any limitations to His power in heaven and on earth.

      (2). God knows every thought and every action of every man on earth.

      (3). God tricks the wise men in their own methods of craftiness like an adult playing with toys and children.

      (4). God exalts the humble in His sight. They can be down and out and still though humble in the ways of the world not necessarily be humble in the sight of God, and it is even harder for the up and out to be humble in Gods sight for they trust in their own riches or financial security.

Job

2. Job 5:13 and I Corinthians 3:19: God catches the wise in their own craftiness.

(1). Job 42:2.

"Then Job answered the LORD, and said, I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, whichI knew not. Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me. I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but no mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:1-6 KJV)

(2). Mark 10:27.

NOTE: TWO MOST IMPORTANT AND FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF ALL THE BIBLE ARE SET FORTH HERE: (1) THE POWER OF GOD, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD; AND (2) WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED SINCE IT IS SO DIFFICULT FOR A RELIGIOUS AND WELL ESTABLISHED LEADER IN SOCIETY TO BE SAVED?

"And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God. And the disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. (Why, because most of them unlike Job can not say, ‘Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.) And they were even more astonished and said to Him, ‘Then who can be saved? Looking upon them, Jesus said, With men it is impossible, but now with God; for all things are possible with God.” (Mark 10:23-27 NASV)

NOTE AGAIN: IF NO OTHER QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED IN THIS BOOK, THE ESSENTIAL AND MOST ESSENTIAL QUESTION THAT MUST BE ANSWERED IS THAT OF THE DISCIPLES TO JESUS, WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED? AND WHERE WE START IN THE REST OF THIS BOOK TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION IS WITH THE IMMEDIATE REPLY OF JESUS, WITH THE POWER OF GOD TO WHOM NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

II. God the Creator and Father looks at man, men, and then testifies to men.

Psalm 1-15

1. God the Creator notices that the Gentiles rage against Him and that the people of Israel imagine a vain thing and things about Him: Psalm 2:1,2 and Acts 4:24-26.

2. God the Father has decreed and testified in the Bible as well as at the baptism of Jesus in the presence of many as the voice came from heaven that Jesus of Nazareth is, was, and is His Son: Psalm 2:7, Matthew 3:17 and 17:5, Hebrews 1:5 and 5:5, II Peter 1:17, and Mark 9:7.

"I will declare the decree: the LORD hat said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."  (Psalm 2:7 KJV)


"And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom ia am well pleased."  (Matt 3:16,17 NASV)

(3). Matthew 17:5.

"And Peter answered and said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us tobe here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elia-jah. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; hear Him!’"  (Matthew 17:4,5 NASV)

NOTE: What God adds in His own testimony to Jesus as compared to the transfiguration after a similar testimony at the baptism is HEAR HIM . Paul did not mean in Ephesians 4:20,21 that like Peter, James, and hundreds of others you had to be there physically as Jesus taught. What he meant was that through the help of the Spirit of God you must see and hear from yourself, personally. This is the key to who can be saved! By listening to Jesus and His words of life!

(4). Hebrews 1:5.

"For to which of the angels did He ever say, ‘Thou art My Son, Today I have begot-ten thee?’ And again, ‘I will be a father to Him, and He shall be a Son to Me?’" (Hebrews 1:5 NASV)

(5). Hebrews 5:5.

"So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, ‘Thou art my Son, Today I have begotten thee..."  

NOTE: This is the first time in this Bible study of the progressive revelations of the Bible from Genesis to Malachi that we have encountered Jesus as the great high priest.

"...just as He says also in another passage, ‘Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."  (Hebrews 5:5,6 NASV)

NOTE CONTINUED: And we will come to this second quote in Hebrews 5:5,6 when we get in the progression to Psalm 110:6.

(6). II Peter 1:17.

“Moreover I will endeavor that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance, For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when
there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him the holy mount. (II Peter 1:15-18  KJV)

NOTE: So that the Apostle Peter in writing for a permanent record adds his own testimony as a witness to Jesus with the witness of God the Father and that of Jesus Himself!


"Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, ‘This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!’"  (Mark 9:7  NASV)

LISTEN TO HIM, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE BELOVED SON OF GOD!

3. God chooses men and ways less esteemed among men as far as status in order to receive Honor and Praise to His name: Psalm 8:2 and Matthew 21:16.

III. What Can God tell us about ourselves as men and women?

1. Psalm 8:3,4: When we consider the magnitude and vastness of all that God created in the Universe, how in the world can He give mind to a little man and beyond that visit man on the planet earth through the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ?

2. Psalm 8:5,6: What does God specifically think of man based on the way He created him.

   (1). God made man a little lower than the angels, and recall that this is the generic man of Genesis of male and female.

   (2). God gave honor and glory to man by creating him in His own image or likeness, and God keeps that thought pattern in mind in all His dealings with man.

   (3). God entrusted man with all the other works of His Creation, placing man in dominion over all these works of Creation.

   (4). God remembers man.

   (5). God visits man.

3. Hebrews 2:6: We must go beyond the primary level of meaning about Man to that about the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus Christ, who in Himself fulfilled all that God originally meant for man and more; and you see that in Hebrews 2:8

   "Thou hast put all things in subjection under His feet. For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him, But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him."  (Hebrews 2:8  NASV)

4. I Corinthians 15:27.

Granted that there are many stories, many chapters, verses, and books in the Bible; but the total subject matter for the practical purposes of Christian faith can be summarized as faith in God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and Salvation. Get that
and you have enough of the Bible for life. The following important passage helps to establish the present and eternal relationship between God the Father and Christ the Son.

“The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things re put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.” (I Corinthians 15:26-28 KJV)

(1). There are still some enemies such as death that has not be subjected to Christ as the Son of Man, or Christ as the Lord of heaven and earth.

(2). God the Father has ordained that all in heaven and earth be under the feet of Christ, and heaven is already there. May Gods will be done on earth as it is in heaven as more people still on earth are subjected to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

(3). God the Father did not put Himself in subjection to the Lord Jesus Christ.

(4). After the Second Coming of Christ when everything on earth also comes under the actual Lordship of Jesus then Jesus will Himself be subjected to the LORDSHIP of the Father.

(5). God the Father may ultimately be all in all.

IV. What did God find during the time of David and before when He looked down from heaven to take a close look at man (I suspect this was and is all the time)?

1. Psalm 14:1-3: (1) God found fools who said in their hearts that there is no God; (2) He found a corrupt humanity of abominable works and an absence of doing good; (3) When He searched again among men to see if any of man understood and sought God, He found that they all had missed the essential way, found filthiness, and a lack of doing good.

2. Romans 3:10.

"As it is written, ‘There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is one who seeks for God; All have turned aside, together they have become useless; thee is one who does good, There is not even one.” (Romans 3:10-12 NASV)

THIS IS HUMANITY WITHOUT FAITH AND RIGHTEOUSNESS THROUGH FAITH, HUMANITY WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST!

Chapter 5  THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS.
I. What God did for Christ the firstborn and therefore what He also does for all that will believe in Christ as the secondborn!

**Psalms 16-35**

1. Psalm 16:8-11: God is at my right hand; I feel secure and realize that honor will be achieved; the pains of the flesh are assuaged by hope; God will not leave my soul in hell; and God will not allow His Holy One to see corruption in the grave; God will show me the path of everlasting life where in His Presence there is fullness of joy; and at His right hand there is pleasure forever.

   NOTE: The only way Jesus could place the Father on His right hand and also be at the right hand of the Father is for the two to be facing in opposite directions which was true at the Crucifixion as Jesus became a curse for us!

2. Acts 2:25: Listen again to the witness of the Apostle Peter as he preached on the first day of Pentecost after the historical coming of the Holy Spirit in power and fullness.

   "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know this Man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. For David says of Him, ‘I was always beholding the Lord in my presence; For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken, Therefore my heart was glad and my tongue exulted; moreover my flesh also will abide in hope; because thou wilt not abandon my soul to hades, nor allow thy Holy One to undergo decay. Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; Thou wilt make me full of gladness with thy presence." (Acts 2:22-28 NASV)

   NOTE: A Paraphrase on This Sermon from Peter

   The Apostle Peter’s First Sermon was naturally on Jesus of Nazareth after he had explained what had been seen as manifestations of the historical coming of the Holy Spirit in power and fullness to take the place of Jesus on earth, Jesus immediately before having Ascended back to the right hand of God the Father. First what Peter had told them about the Coming of the Holy Spirit to take the place of Jesus with a quote and explanation from Joel 2:28-32 (Acts 2:14-21): These men who are speaking on other languages that so that all men present here can hear in their own language, are not drunk; but is that historical event predicted by the Prophet Joel. It is that at the beginning of the last days, in other words right now, God will pour out the fullness of His Spirit; and with this fullness of the Spirit will also come: (1) A more widespread and democratic knowledge of God through the widespread presence and power of this Spirit as young and old, servant and free, men and women receive the Spirit; (2) prophecy will also become more democratic as contrasted to the Prophets in the Bible who wrote Scriptures of the Apostles of the New Testament; (3) All this will happen between this beginning of the last days and the end of time when the old earth becomes the new earth as the sun and
moon are turned into darkness at the end of time; and (4) The sole method of salvation from this beginning of last days to this end of time will be that

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Second what Peter told them about Jesus and salvation: God the Father gave His own testimony of witness to Jesus through miracles, wonders, and signs that obviously had to come from God and which Jesus performed as well as the voice that came from heaven at the baptism and transfiguration of Jesus. God did this in your midst in the midst of Israel and in the First Century as all Israel well knew. Yet Israel crucified Jesus on a tree, or cross, making Him a curse in the sight of God which was really the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God as we have seen predicted in the Old Testament long before the First Century A.D. God in order to complete salvation and the testimony to His own Son raised Jesus up from the dead. You see if He was His own Son, and He was, it was impossible that death and the grave could hold Him captive. And like David wrote in Psalms as a prediction of that which was to come and as a decree from God of what was already settled in heaven that remained to be fulfilled on earth was that God would not leave Christ's soul in hell for more than three days, that He would not allow the physical body of Christ to suffer the corrupting influence of the grave, and that as the Firstborn He would be restored to life and the Presence of God.

II. What God will do for humanity during the period of time from the beginning of the last days after the Ascension of Christ and the end of time!

1. Psalm 18:25 and Matthew 5:7: God will bless the merciful by giving them mercy. Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy. (KJV)

2. Psalm 18:49 and Romans 15:9: God will spread the praise of His name and the name of Jesus among the Gentiles, another aspect of the democratic ways of God after the Coming of the Spirit in fullness.

III. Now we are in a position to understand Jesus cry of “My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me?” of Psalm 22:1 and Matthew 27:46.

1. It is to be understood in the total context of Psalm 22 which starts with the crucifixion of Jesus and the words of Jesus on the cross in 22:1 and ends in 22:28-31 with establishment of the kingdom of Christ on earth in its fullness.

2. First we should realize that other portions of Psalm 22 relate ahead of time events about the crucifixion as they pierced the hands of Christ and as they cast lots for His garments: Psalm 22:16-18 and Matthew 27:35, also John 19:24.

3. Psalm 22:22 and Hebrews 2:12: Both He, Christ, who does the sanctifying, or setting apart of Christian in salvation, and those sanctified, that is the Christians, has the same source from the One God the Father; and therefore Jesus as the Firstborn is not ashamed to call the second born Christians as brethren.

4. So God the Father turned His back on Christ the Son was He was dying on the cross for the sins of the world, while Christ was being made a curse on the cross which a righteous God could not stand; and to that extent God the Father had to forsake Him for three days according to the plan that they had made in the counsels of eternity
while Christ was on the cross being made a curse, and while Christ went to hell, the intermediary place after death for those who do not go immediately to heaven where He preached to the dead spirits.

IV. Who Then Will See God and Be Saved?

1. Those who are sensitive the Conscience of others as well as his own Christian Conscience, seeking their good as well as his own good: Psalm 24:1 and I Corinthians 10:26.

2. Those who have received a legally declared purity of heart through justification by faith and an inward potential of purity of heart through the daily process of sanctification, and that will also become the pure of heart with complete redemption or glorification at the Second Coming of Christ: Psalm 24:3-5 and Matthew 5:8.

3. Those who learn to love life and see longevity of life: Psalm 34:12-16 and I Peter 3:10-12.


   (1). In the crucifixion they hated Christ without a cause.

   (2). Not a bone in Christ’s body was broken like the Passover Lamb, but rather when His side was pierced out flowed blood and water, the sign of death by a broken heart.

Chapter 6 WISDOM FROM GOD

I. Two Kinds Response/People.

   Proverbs

   1. Let a man ask in faith and without a desire to consume it on his own lusts in order to get wisdom from God: Proverbs 2:3-6 and James 1:5.


   3. To turn sinner from error of ways: Proverbs 10:12 and James 5:20.

      (1). Saves a soul from death; and

      (2). Covers a multitude of sins.

   4. Some do the deed of their father the devil: Proverbs 18:4 and John 7:38.

II. Some wise and unwise responses to God.
1. Those who have the knowledge of Jesus then return to worldly entanglements are like dogs returning to vomit: Proverbs 26:11 and II Peter 2:22.

2. To plan on tomorrow apart from the will of God is foolish: Proverbs 27:1 and James 4:13.


II. Making life’s decisions in terms of the terminal One Day.

**Ecclesiastes**

1. After tribulation the sun and moon will be darkened, the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will be shaken: Ecclesiastes 12:1-3 and Mark 13:24.

**Psalm 36-77**

2. Then the meek will inherit the earth: Psalm 37:11 and Matthew 5:5.

3. In preparation for this new people of the new heavens and earth God has provided a body, the body of Christ, as He took away burnt offerings and sacrifices: Psalm 40:6-8 and Hebrews 10:5.

4. The unwise eats bread at the table of Christ while they lift up their heel against Him: Psalm 41:9 and John 13:18.

IV. God’s Eternal Wisdom rests in Christ.

1. God the Father, Psalm 45:6,7 and Hebrews 1:8, says of God the Son:

   (1). Your throne is forever, O God;
   (2). Rule of your kingdom is righteousness; and
   (3). You loved righteousness, hated iniquity.

2. Some statements by Christ before made on earth:

   (1). They hated me without cause: Psalm 69:4 and John 15:25.
   (2). The reproaches of God fell on me: Psalm 69:9 and Romans 15:3.

**Chapter 7 THE GOSPEL**

I. The Time Finally came.
Psalm 70-150


4. This is the time to hear the voice of God, not hardening the heart: Psalm 95:7-11 and Hebrews 3:15; 3:7; and 4:7.

II. Some things God the Father says.

1. Of The Son You are Eternal though the earth passes away: Psalm 101:25-33 and Hebrews 1:10.

2. Of angels, ministers and a flame of fire: Psalm 104:4 and Hebrews 1:7,8.

3. To Son, Sit on my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool: Psalm 110:1 and Hebrews 1:13.

4. That Christ is a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek: Psalm 110:4 and Hebrews 5:6,7:21.

III. Believe and Speak.


2. II Cor 9:9 and Psalm 112:9.


Chapter 8  LISTENING MORE IMPORTANT THAN SACRIFICE

I. Listen to God.

I Samuel

1. Love of God and neighbor is and always was in the Old Testament more important than burnt offerings and sacrifices: I Samuel 15:22 and Mark 12:33.

2. To listen to Christ as Lord is more important than the legal requirements of the sabbath day: I Samuel 21:1,6, Luke 6:3,4, Mark 2:25, and Matthew 12:2,3.

II Samuel

3. When you listen to God in the predictions of the Bible you have to listen twice as hard as the predictions often have double meaning--that is, a wider spectrum of meaning than immediately obvious as here where it applies to King Solomon and King Jesus: II Samuel 7:12,14 and John 7:42.

I Kings

4. Listen to God talk about His own remnant of Israel when He tells Elijah that He has reserved 7,000 for Himself that have not bowed the knee to Baal: I Kings 19:10-18 and Romans 11:4.

II. Listening Signs from the Early Prophets and Jesus.

Jonah

1. The Listening Signs for This Generation is Both Solomon, Jonah and Jesus as recorded in the Bible while in Niniveh’s generation it was the Prophet Jonah and in Jesus time it was Him the Prophet Messiah: Jonah 3:1-4 and Luke 11:29.

Joel

2. Listen to the Apostle Peter on the first day of Pentecost after Christ’s Ascension as he quotes from the Prophet Joel to explain both what happened on that day, and what would happen from this the beginning of the last days until the end of time: Joel 2:28-31 and Acts 2:16-21.

3. Listen to the Prophet Joel start the ball rolling on the prime them of the Bible about eschatology, the One Day of the LORD: Joel 3:13, Mark 4:29, and Mark 13:24.

III. Listen to God Himself tell in the Bible to what extent the nation of Israel was and was not His chosen people.
Amos

1. Immediately after rescue from Egyptian bondage God turned away from most of Israel, giving them up to worship the host of heaven; Amos 5:25-27 and Acts 7:42.

2. God takes a people for His name from among the Gentiles: Amos 9:11,12 and Acts 15:15-17.

Hosea

3. These same Gentiles shall be called sons of the living God: Hosea 2:23 and Romans 9:25,26.

Isaiah 1-39

4. If God had not chosen a small remnant out of Israel they would have been like Sodom and Gomorrah: Isaiah 1:9 and Romans 9:29.

IV. Listen to God Himself in His book on matters or eschatology, or last things.

1. You must first of all see the double nature of predictions as related to eschatology as when the Old Testament said,

"I will call my Son out of Egypt." (Hosea 11:1 and Matthew 2:15)

NOTE: The Son has a double meaning:

(1). First it is the nation of Israel as the Son; and

(2). Then it is Christ as the Son.


3. Day of the LORD: Isaiah 2:3,12,18, and 19, and I Corinthians 14:36, II Thessalonians 2:2, and II Thessalonians 1:10.

4. Isaiah 35:51; 61:1 and Matthew 11:5.
Chapter 9  WHAT HAPPENED TO THE JEWS AS THE CHOSEN PEOPLE OF GOD?

I. JESUS TAUGHT IN PARABLES TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THE JEWS AS THE CHOSEN PEOPLE OF GOD.


II. GOD DID GIVE ALL IN ISRAEL ANOTHER CHANCE AS WITH GIVING THEM THE SIGN OF THE VIRGIN WITH CHILD TO BE CALLED IMMANUEL MEANING GOD WITH US: ISAIAH 7:14 AND MATTHEW 1:23.

1. "WHOEVER THAT FALLS ON THIS STONE SHOULD BE BROKEN, BUT ON WHOM THE STONE FALLS IS DESTROYED." (ISAIAH 8:14,17 AND MATTHEW 21:44)


III. ISRAEL HAD THE SAME CHOICE AS THE GENTILES IN THAT CHRIST COULD BE EITHER A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENCE TO THEM, OR WHOEVER BELIEVED IN HIM AND THE GOD WHO SENT HIM WOULD NOT BE ASHAMED.


2. At the Second Coming of Christ death will be swallowed up in victory: Isaiah 25:8 and I Corinthians 15:54.

3. All Israel that was chosen to be saved shall be saved: Isaiah 27:9 and Romans 11:27.
4. Whoever believes in Christ, Jew or Gentile, shall not be ashamed of that faith: Isaiah 28:16 and Romans 9:33, also Romans 10:11.

IV. What God did to Israel until the time of the fullness of the Gentiles is completed.


2. Meantime the Jews continued to worship God as if it was real: Isaiah 29:13, Matthew 15:8,9, and Mark 7:6,7.
   (1). Worshipped with lips while hearts were somewhere else.
   (2). Vain worship.
   (3). Worship based on the teachings of men in the place of the doctrines of God.

3. God will destroy the wisdom of all these wise men according to the ways of the world: Isaiah 29:14 and I Corinthians 1:19.

Chapter 10
THE SALVATION OF GOD

I. God chose the time!

1. First, there was John the Baptist saying in effect

   Isaiah 40-52


2. It was inevitable since these things were already recorded in the Word of God that they would happen: Isaiah 40:8 and Luke 21:32,33.
   (1). Most to happen during Christs generation.
   (2). The rest on the final One Day of the LORD as the old earth and old heavens pass away.


II. God Himself took the initiative by sending His own Son to planet earth.

2. God is faithful but He will listen to the cries of men for salvation in a time acceptable to Him: Isaiah 45:14 and I Corinthians 14:25.

3. It is inevitable that every knee will voluntary now and involuntarily at the end of time bow and worship to the praise of God: Isaiah 45:23 and Romans 14:11.

III. Men will come from the four corners of the earth to worship God.

1. Men will come from north, south, east, and west: Isaiah 49:7-12 and Matthew 8:11.


3. Gentiles will come in large numbers in spite of the fact that Gods name has been blasphemed among them because of the Jews: Isaiah 52:5 and Romans 2:24.

4. Paul preached widely the Gospel of Christ where Christ was not already named in order that those who did not previously see and hear might both see and hear: Isaiah 52:15 and Romans 15:21.

IV. Who Has Believed the Reports from God?

**Isaiah 53**

1. To whom has the salvation, or arm of God, been revealed: Isaiah 53:1, John 12:38, and Romans 10:16.

2. Who and how many believed the miracles of healing as Jesus took on Himself the infirmities: Isaiah 53:4,7 and Matthew 8:17.

3. Who and how many believed when John the Baptist made the report,

"Behold, the Lamb of God..." ( Isaiah 53:4,7 and John 1:29,36)

4. The great report of Jesus from the cross as He is made a criminal and curse for mankind, and according to the predictions of the Old Testament: Isaiah 53:12 and Luke 22:37.
Chapter 11  THE NEW KING OF ISRAEL

I. Jews and Gentiles as citizens in the new kingdom.

Isaiah 54-66

1. The unmarried have more children that the married, the Gentiles have more children of God than the Jews: Isaiah 54:1 and Galatians 4:27.

2. None comes to the Father except as drawn by the Father, and all those who are taught by the Father: Isaiah 54:13 and John 6:45.


4. All the nation of Israel that is really the Israel of the children of God will be saved: Isaiah 59:20,21 and Romans 11:26.

II. Characteristics of the New King of Israel.

1. The message to Zion is that your new King comes meekly, riding on a donkey: Isaiah 61:11 and Matthew 21:5.

2. Jesus told them in Nazareth of how the Spirit of God was upon him: Isaiah 61:1,2 and Luke 4:17,18.

   (1). God anointed Him to preach the gospel to the poor.

   (A King especially for the poor people.)

   (2). God sent Him to start the release of captives, and to make provisions that the blind might be able to see.

   (3). To provide freedom for the downtrodden.

   (4). To make a Proclamation as to when is the Acceptable Year of the Lord (the last days) that leads to the One Day of the LORD and Lord.

3. Happiness in this new kingdom will come only to those who first mourn because of their inability to do it for themselves: Isaiah 61:1,2 and Matthew 5:4.


1. The New Citizenship found of those who sought it not or who searched not for it (grace): Isaiah 65:1 and Romans 10:20,21.


Micah

3. The Christ, the Prophet Messiah, born in Bethlehem, Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:5,6, and John 7:42, to be:
(1). A ruler of the people; and
(2). A shepherd of the people.


V. The Good News of the Gospel of the Kingdom preached by messengers.

**Nahum**

1. How welcome across the way on the mountain is the first sight of those who come with the Gospel: Nahum 1:15 and Romans 10:15.

**Jeremiah 1-30**

2. Yet most do not believe the report, foolish people without the ability to see or hear: Jeremiah 5:21 and Mark 8:18.

3. God established a House of Prayer but the nation of Israel turned it into a den of thieves: Jeremiah 7:11 and Matthew 21:13, and Mark 11:17.

4. Trust in God.
   (1). Whoever boasts, let him boast only in God: Jeremiah 9:24 and I Corinthians 1:31.
   (2). Trust only in God: Jeremiah 17:5,7 and II Corinthians 11:9.
Chapter 12          THE LIVING GOD WANTS OTHERS TO LIVE

I. God’s desire after His originally chosen nation of Israel.

   **Jeremiah 31-52**

   2. Gods desire to walk among and dwell in His own people: Jeremiah 31:1 and II Corinthians 6:18.

II. The just, justified, or righteous must live by faith in God.

   **Habakkuk**


   **Daniel**

   2. Kingdom of God starts out small then grows larger: Daniel 4:9 and Mark 4:32.

III. The sanctified and glorified must live by faith in God.

   1. The beginning of glorification is when see the Son of Man coming in great power and glory: Daniel 7:13, Matthew 24:20, and Mark 13:26.
   3. Before the Second Coming there will be a time of tribulation in which even the heavens and earth are affected: Daniel 12:1-3 and Mark 13:19.
   4. Shook only the earth before, the last time will shake earth and the heavens: Haggai 2:6 and Hebrews 12:26.

III. Final Messages to Disciples and to All.

   **Ezekiel**

   1. To Disciples: do you not see, hear, and remember: Ezekiel 12:2 and Mark 8:18.

   **Zechariah**

5. Disciples: will strike down the Shepherd and the sheep will be scattered: Zechariah 13:7 and Mark 14:27.

**Malachi**
