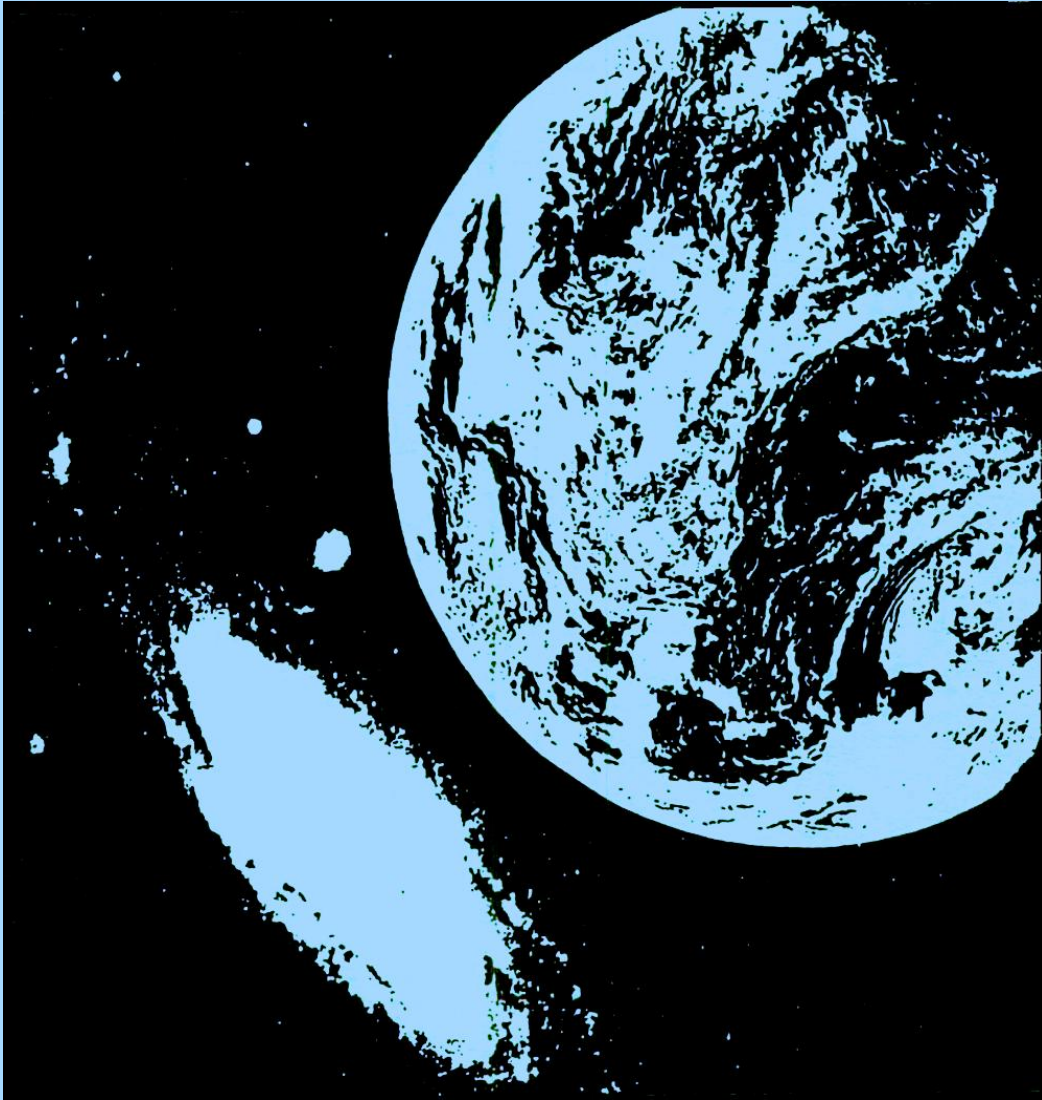


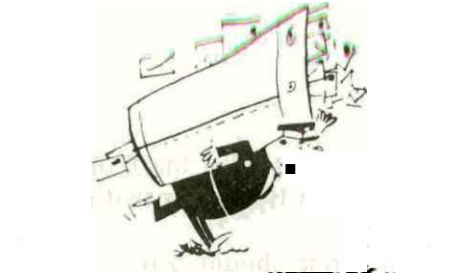
# DOES GOD EXIST?



Would You Look at the Proof?  
18-Lesson Study Course

## USES OF THIS BOOKLET

1. **Correspondence course** (either by mail or by hand delivery): An answer and scoring sheet is included at the back of the booklet. Since these lessons are not copyrighted, they can be duplicated on a copy machine and used extensively.



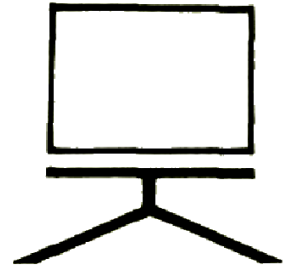
2. **Home study course** (as a flip-through visual teaching aid): Each page has one side designed as a talking point for person-to-person studies. The other side has questions to be left with the prospect to be filled before the next session.



3. **Classroom course** (as visuals and assignment work): Students should prepare each lesson as an assignment to be corrected and emphasized in classroom discussion.



4. **Overhead-projection classroom series** (so as to be taught visually on a large screen): The black ink produces excellent transparencies for both sides of each lesson, and the width is the correct size.



5. **Visual sermon series** (by overhead projection): Graphic sketches produce vivid illustrations and charts readable even in auditorium preaching.



6. **Tape-teaching course** (as the workbook for a programmed tape narration): By cassette tape a student or a class follows the programmed instruction by listening and writing. Tapes may be ordered from the place where the workbook was purchased.



7. **Other uses** (as devised by teacher ingenuity): Many effective uses can easily be found for this simple and useable series.



## INTRODUCTION

In *Psalms 14:1* the Bible says, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God." The reason the unbeliever is a fool is that he has rejected a universe full of evidence.

No one should believe in anything until it is proved by evidence. Too many claim to believe in God because (1) their mother did, or (2) their preacher did, or (3) they were supposed to.

This booklet will explore the evidence (1) for faith in the existence of God, (2) for faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and (3) for faith in the Bible as the word of God.

## WHY NEEDED?

Young people need a faith of their own based upon their own study of the evidence for faith. College students are especially in need of firm proof for faith so as to meet atheistic mockery and worldly temptations. Parents must ground their children in their tender, teachable years. Soul winners must lay a basic foundation for faith before the Gospel message can reach an unbeliever.

## DO NOT TAKE FAITH FOR GRANTED

Parents often assume that their children know why they believe, but usually the umbilical cord has not been broken. Students go away to college falsely assured of a faith that will soon be overwhelmingly attacked. Soul winners who assume too much about the faith of the ones they teach will wonder why no response is produced when the existence and authority of God have not been made real.

## HALF-WAY BELIEVING

The American way of life was founded upon faith in God. But modern American culture says to go ahead and live like the Devil and yet half-way believe in God. Pretended faith all around us puts believing in God in a category of legend, folk-lore, and superstition. Believing in God when it is patriotic or convenient is not the faith demanded by the evidence.

## SIMPLE PROOF

The apostle Paul used as witness for God the rains, fruitful seasons, and food given the people of Lystra (*Acts 14:17*). *Psalms 19:1* says that the heavens declare God's glory, and the firmament (as in *terra firma*: Latin for "solid land") shows His handiwork. *Psalms 139:14* cites the human body as evidence of God's design. Technically complicated theorizing is unnecessary to know the simple reasons for simple faith.

## ONLY CONSIDER

*Psalms 8:3* speaks of "considering" the heavens, the moon, and the stars as the work of God's fingers. This means to examine the proof and to open one's eyes to the evidences which are available all around us. *Romans 1:20* says that a person is "without excuse" who refuses to see the invisible God by means of the visible things in creation. *Verse 28* says such unbelievers "refused to have God in their knowledge."

## LIFE'S GREATEST DECISION

The greatest of all facts - God — is based upon the greatest of all evidence — the heavens and the earth — so as to demand of us the greatest of all decisions — faith. Faith in God, Christ, and the Bible bring to the believer the greatest of all happiness — deep and satisfying joy both here and hereafter.

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# DOES GOD EXIST?

"The heavens declare the glory of God"

Psalms 19:1



Design in the universe implies a Designer

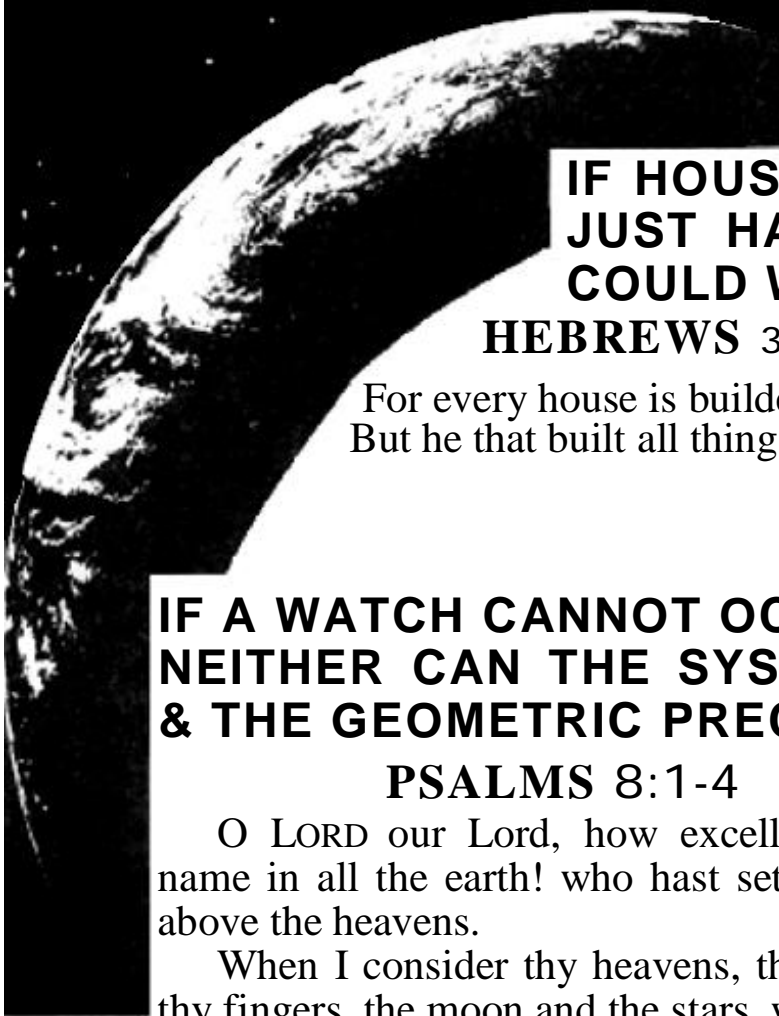
**“WHO SET THY GLORY  
ABOVE THE HEAVENS”**

# Lesson 1: DOES GOD EXIST?

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, ENCIRCLE "YES" OR "NO":

1. Every person must decide if God exists. Either there is a God, or there isn't. This is the most important question of all. It is the most important question to my own life. QUESTION: Must each of us decide if there is a God? (yes, no). Are there any proofs of God? Read Psalms 19:1, then answer (yes, no).
2. No one should believe in God because he is supposed to. No one should believe in God because others do. The decision about God is very personal. QUESTION: Should I believe in God because my mother did? (yes, no). Must I give account of others or must others give account for me? Read Romans 14:12, then answer (yes, no).
3. Faith in God is based on evidence. No person should believe in God without strong proof. Real faith comes from accepting evidence, not from tradition or imagination. QUESTION: Should I believe in God if there is no evidence? (yes, no). Is real faith based upon evidence? Read Hebrews 11:1, then answer (yes, no).
4. To decide any matter as important as God, I must consider the evidence carefully. I must look at the reasons against belief in God. I must examine the reasons for faith in God. Then I can make a fair decision. QUESTION: Should my decision about God be based upon hearsay? (yes, no). Should I "consider" the evidence for God carefully? Read Psalms 8:3, then answer (yes, no).
5. There are many types of evidence for God's existence. The verse? you have read above refer to the heavens as proof of God. The heavens are countless stars, moons, suns, and heavenly bodies. The picture on the back of this page shows a whirling group of suns like our sun. It also shows the earth where we live as a planet in the heavens. QUESTION: Should I consider the heavens as proof for God? (yes, no). Do the heavens suggest a great mind behind the universe? Read Psalms 8:1, then answer (yes, no).
6. There are only two ways to explain the heavens. They either happened by accident without God, or they were caused to happen by a supreme planner and creator called God. QUESTION: Must I choose one of two possible explanations for the causing of the heavens? (yes, no). Is it reasonable to decide that the heavens were created by God instead of having no planner or designer? Read Genesis 1:1, then answer (yes, no).
7. The earth is another proof of God. It is an amazing ball rushing through space. It has all the things necessary to sustain life. It shows evidence of a planner and designer. QUESTION: Is the planet earth evidence of an intelligent designer? (yes, no). Could anything as complicated as the world have no creator? Read Romans 1:20 then answer (yes, no).
8. Things that are made require a maker. Anything that is created requires a creator. Anything that is designed demands a designer. QUESTION: Is it reasonable to believe that the design in the heavens and the earth had no designer? (yes, no). Do things that are made clearly teach that there is a maker? Read Romans 1:20, and answer (yes, no).
9. There is more evidence for God than for any other fact. Every created thing tells of a creator. The heavens, the earth, the human body, and all things which show planning are evidence of a great planner. QUESTION: Is it unreasonable to reject God in the face of such widespread proof? (yes, no). Is a man being smart if he will not see God behind the evidence provided by the heavens and the earth? Read Psalms 14:1, then answer (yes, no).
10. God is invisible, that is, He cannot be seen with our eyes. All spirits are invisible. But just because a thing cannot be seen does not mean that it is not real. Air cannot be seen, but it is real. Love cannot be visibly seen, but it is real. God's nature (or the "things of God") are invisible, but He is still real. QUESTION: Do you believe in many things that are not seeable? (yes, no). Are God's invisible power and Godhead (which means God-hood) very real and proveable by the things He has made? Read Romans 1:20 and answer (yes, no).
11. There is great power in our sun. There is great power moving our earth around the sun. There are countless signs of intelligent designing in the heavens and the earth. This makes a person without excuse who does not believe the evidence for God. If I saw a flying airplane, I would be foolish to say that it just happened by accident with no maker. QUESTION: Do you believe that every thing that is made has to have a maker? (yes, no). Is a person "without excuse" who considers all the proofs in the heavens and the earth and then says that there is no God? Read Romans 1:20, then answer (yes, no).

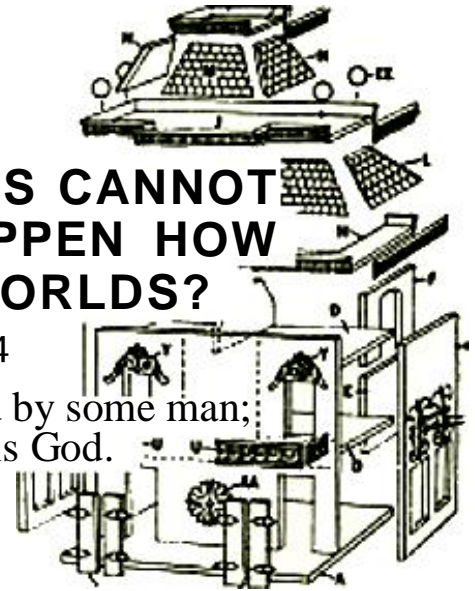
## Proof of God is everywhere



**IF HOUSES CANNOT  
JUST HAPPEN HOW  
COULD WORLDS?**

**HEBREWS 3:4**

For every house is built by some man;  
But he that built all things is God.



**IF A WATCH CANNOT OCCUR BY CHANCE,  
NEITHER CAN THE SYSTEMATIC CYCLES  
& THE GEOMETRIC PRECISION OF STARS!**

**PSALMS 8:1-4**

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy  
name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory  
above the heavens.

When I consider thy heavens, the work of  
thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou  
hast ordained;

What is man, that thou art mindful of him ?  
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?



**IF INTELLIGENT PLANNING IS BEHIND ALL  
ORDERED DESIGN, HOW COULD NATURE'S  
INTRICATE NETWORKS HAVE NO PLANNER ?**

**ROMANS 1:20**

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

ORDER IN THE UNIVERSE SPELLS **GOD**



# LESSON 2 DO HOUSES HAPPEN?

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEW LESSON:

1. The Bible says that every house is builded by some man. The house where you now are had a builder. Many days of planning, deciding, and building must go into every house. Every house has a builder. Is there any house which has no builder? (yes, no). Is God the builder of the earth? Read Job 38:4-6, then answer (yes, no).
2. The design of a watch proves it had a designer. If you took apart all screws, springs, and pieces of a watch and threw them high into the air, would they accidentally fall back into a ticking watch with the correct time? (yes, no). Could the heavens, the moon, the stars, and the systems of earth have all just fallen together by chance? Read Psalms 8:1-4, then answer (yes, no).
3. Look at the photograph of earth. You will see white blankets of clouds. Without the protective garments of our atmosphere, shooting stars would strike us instead of burning up before they reach earth. Without our atmosphere the sun's rays (radiation) would destroy life. Did our earth's cloud cover have a planner? (yes, no). Was God the designer of the garment called atmosphere? Read Job 38:9, then answer (yes, no).
4. Our sun and moon are important proofs of God's planning. The moon's pull (gravity) keeps the ocean's tides regulated, but if the moon were bigger or closer, the oceans would cover all land. Our sun is just the right size and distance away. Earth's turning causes nights and days just the right lengths. Earth's circling of the sun makes all parts of earth to be heated. Otherwise one side of earth would be a furnace and the other side frozen (like the planet Mercury). The earth's tilt or slant causes yearly seasons. Did these things just happen? (yes, no). Or did a supreme intelligence (God) plan and cause them? Read Genesis 1:9-18, then answer (yes, no).
5. A scientist who believed in God once made a toy model of the solar system. It had a sun, all our planets, and moons revolving around the planets. The whole machine circled the sun with planets and moons spinning. When asked who made the machine, he said, "No one, it just happened!" Could this toy model have just happened with no maker? (yes, no). Could the real solar system have just accidentally happened with no creator? Read Psalms 8:1-4, then answer (yes, no).
6. Life on earth is proof of God. Every living thing must come from a living thing before it. It is impossible to get life from non-life. Every tree came from a living seed. Every seed came from a living tree. The source of life behind all living things is God. Every living thing is proof of the origin of life—God. Could a tree come from a rock? (yes, no). Is it reasonable to believe that all life came from God? Read Genesis 2:7, then answer (yes, no).
7. If an ocean beach has the word "God" spelled with stones, it tells me that an intelligent person was there before me. The waves could never have spelled it. It could not possibly have happened by chance. Spelling is sure proof of a speller. Do you believe that three letters could have been written in the right order to spell God without a speller? (yes, no). Can God's "spelling" be seen in all of nature's planning and order? Read Romans 1:20, then answer (yes, no).
8. Animals and men breathe in what plants breathe out (oxygen). Plants breathe in what animals and men breathe out (carbon dioxide). Do you believe this was planned? (yes, no). A large book like a dictionary must be carefully planned and carefully written. Do you believe that a dictionary could result from an explosion in a print shop? Read Hebrews 3:4, then answer (yes, no). Is every house builded by some man? (yes, no).
9. Nature's methods happening in a pre-planned order are evidence of God. If you put ten numbered coins in your pocket and try to pick out number one first, your chance is one in ten. The chance of picking one first and two second is one chance in a hundred. The possibility of picking one through ten in exact order is one in ten billion! Math says that the order of the heavens and the earth is impossible without God. Do you believe ordered design is proof of God? (yes, no). Is God the great mathematician of the universe? Read Romans 11:33-36, then answer (yes, no).
10. God's power and God-hood are invisible. The power which moves the heavenly bodies is invisible power. The life in all living things is invisible. But the results of life are seeable. The effect of God's power in moving planets is visible. The seeable results prove the unseeable causes. Is God invisible? (yes, no). Do the created things that are seeable prove an unseeable God? Read 1 Timothy 1:17, Romans 1:20, and Jeremiah 32:17, then answer (yes, no). Do you believe that God made all things? (yes, no).

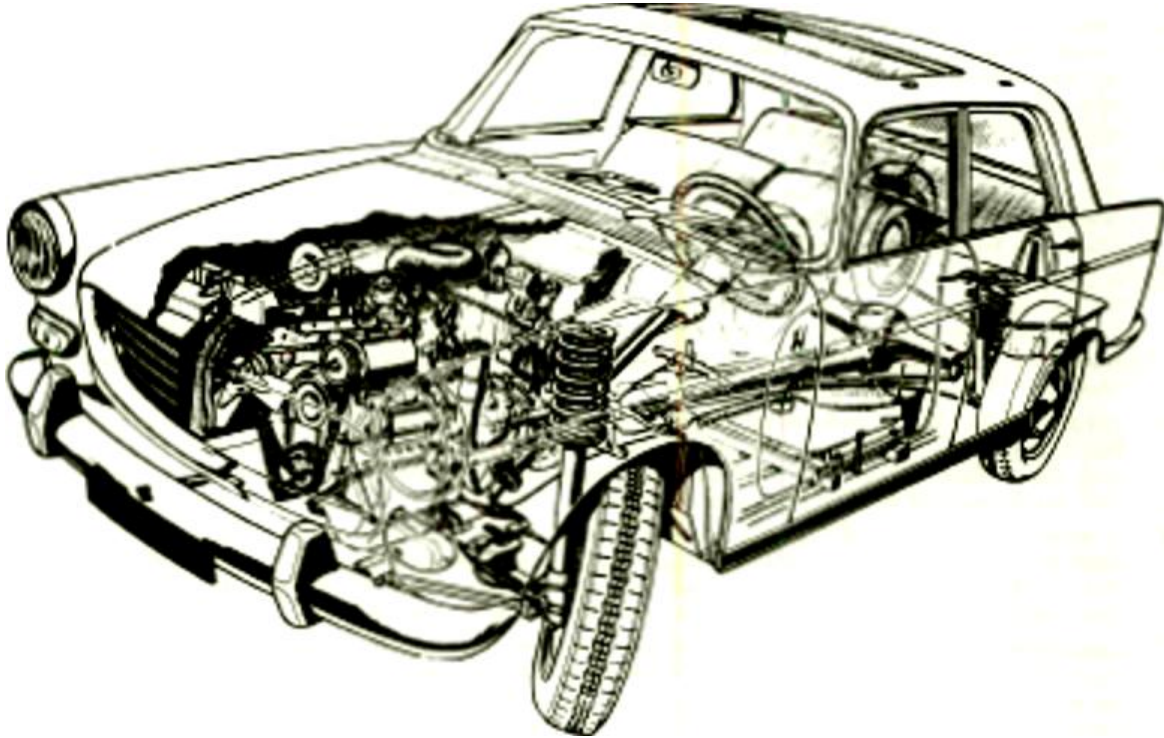
State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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## He that built all things: God



**DID THIS CAR JUST HAPPEN?  
OR WAS THERE A  
MIND BEHIND CAR?**



**IF COORDINATED, SIMULTANEOUS, INTER-DEPENDENT SYSTEMS WITHIN A CAR SHOW AN INTELLIGENT DESIGNER, HOW MUCH MORE DO THE COMPLICATED, INTERWOVEN LIVING SYSTEMS OF THE HUMAN BODY!!**

**MIND BEHIND MIND?**

**God designed the mind that designed the car!**

**We must seek after God.**

# Lesson 3: MAN BEHIND CAR?

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. A person must decide whether the heavens and the earth just happened or whether they were planned, designed, and created. To help in this decision, a person should ask himself if a car just happened by itself, or whether it was planned, designed, and constructed. Could a complicated machine like a car have no planner and maker? (yes, no). Could the much more complicated universe have just happened with no designer and maker? Read Psalms 89:11, then answer (yes, no).
2. There are only two classes of people--naturalists and supernaturalists. A naturalist is one who believes only in natural forces, like gravity (the force which pulls down that which we throw into the air). A supernaturalist is one who believes in an intelligent and powerful being above nature. Are you a naturalist, believing only in the laws and forces of nature without believing in a God behind them? (yes, no). Are you, instead, a supernaturalist who sees God's wisdom and power behind nature? Read Psalms 104:24, then answer (yes, no).
3. Because modern man has built amazing machines and accomplished many great things, he usually thinks that there is no intelligence above his. But God's wisdom and power made man himself who made these machines. Is a human brain and human body more amazing than a car? (yes, no). Does man's wisdom and attainment often cause him not to know God? Read 1 Corinthians 1:19-21, then answer (yes, no).
4. It is easy to fall into the popular practice of thinking only of material things. Everything around us is material. We live in a material world. But the important things on earth are not seeable. Is God visible? Read 1 Timothy 1:17, then answer (yes, no). Are spirits seeable? Read Luke 24:39, then answer (yes, no). Is God a spirit? Read John 4:24, then answer (yes, no). Are all seeable things temporary? Read 2 Corinthians 4:18, then answer (yes, no).
5. In a physical and material world we must seek after God. We must be awake to signs of His presence and power. God is found only by those who see the evidence which proves He exists. Will God force Himself upon us? (yes, no). Is God near and will He be found by those who seek after Him? Read Acts 17:27, then answer (yes, no). Is God very far from any one of us? (yes, no).
6. A person must be taught of God. The material creation of God could make a man a materialist, or it could make him see God as the creator of all things. This decision depends upon whether a person refuses to have God in his knowledge. Are you willing to open your mind to the possibility of God? (yes, no). Are there people who refuse to believe in God in spite of all the evidence for Him? Read Romans 1:27, then answer (yes, no).
7. Some people have a traditional belief in God (handed down from parents). They do not have a strong, firm conviction based upon facts. Many have faith because they are supposed to, not because they have evaluated the evidence. Are either of these reasons why you believe in God? (yes, no). Is it possible to know God (in some shallow sense) but not glorify Him "as God"? Read Romans 1:21, then answer (yes, no).
8. Faith in God is the evidence of things not seen. It is seeing the unseen behind the seeable. It is knowing that God exists by the evidence of His creation. It is the decision that a mind was behind all created things, just as a man's mind was behind a car. Do you believe that there had to be a mind behind the mind that made a car? (yes, no). Is there evidence in the things that are seen to convince you of the unseen God? Read Hebrews 11:1, then answer (yes, no). Is such faith mere superstition? (yes, no).
9. Seeking God is honestly considering the facts. Searching for God is weighing the evidence for His existence. But you cannot see an invisible God. You can only see what He has done. Can a person see the wind? (yes, no). Can a person know that wind exists because of trees and dust which move, even though wind itself is invisible? (yes, no). When a person accepts the eternal and invisible God behind all temporal and visible created things, will such a believer have a feeling of praise and glory toward God? Read 1 Timothy 1:17, then answer (yes, no).
10. Faith is believing that there is an invisible God because of the visible evidence. Faith is also believing that such a God rewards those who diligently seek Him. He does not fall upon people like lightning. Instead, He is found by those who calmly and logically seek Him through His handiwork. Do you expect a miraculous appearance of God? (yes, no). Must a person be diligent in his search for God? Read Hebrews 11:6, then answer (yes, no). Will a diligent searcher be rewarded by convincing proof that God exists? (yes, no).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Planning precedes design

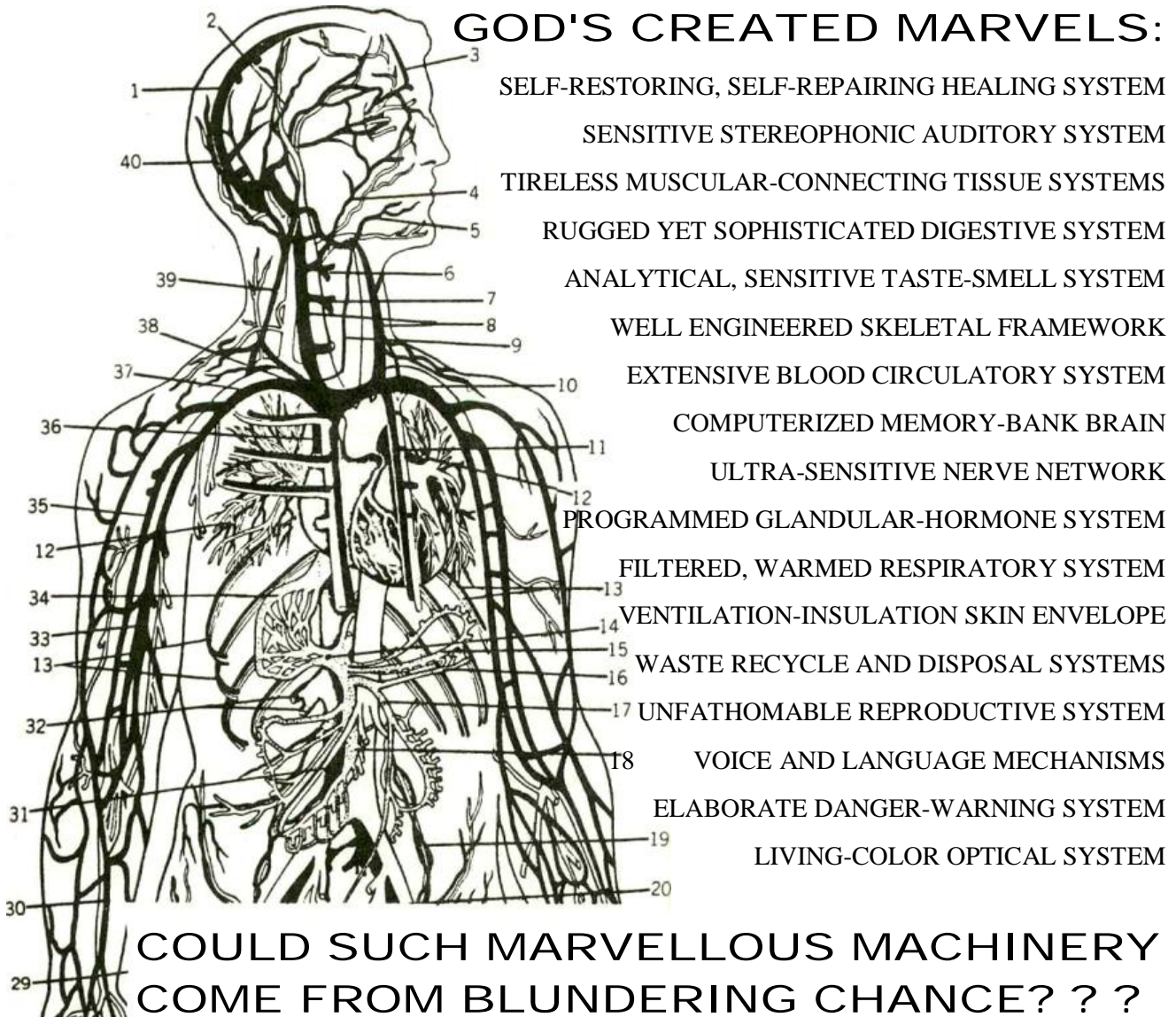
# DID MAN JUST HAPPEN ?

OR MUST WE CONCLUDE THAT  
SUPREME INTELLIGENCE DESIGNED MAN!

## PSALMS 139:14

I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

### GOD'S CREATED MARVELS:



COULD SUCH MARVELLOUS MACHINERY  
COME FROM BLUNDERING CHANCE? ? ?

**“So God created man”**

Genesis 1:27

# Lesson 4: DID MAN HAPPEN?

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEW LESSON

1. Man is marvelously made. His abilities excel all other machines. The machinery of his body and mind is strong evidence of a great designer. He is fearfully and wonderfully made. Do you believe that the astounding machinery of man's body could have come from blundering chance? (yes, no). Does a thinking person praise God because man is one of God's most wonderful works? Read Psalms 139:14, then answer (yes, no).
2. By comparing God's machine (man) with man's machines (cars, televisions, etc.), a person can see that such marvelous design as man surely proves a marvelous designer. If an intelligent designer produced a car, a far more intelligent designer produced man. Can you see planning in the healing process which restores a broken area of human skin? (yes, no). Did a creator design and produce the complicated human ear? The eye? Read Psalms 94:9 and Proverbs 20:12, then answer (yes, no).
3. A television is a remarkable product of human creation. But its cameras are only inferior imitations of the human eye. Artificial legs and hands are amazing products of man's wisdom, but they are poor copies of the organs made by God. Man can make an artificial flower, but only God can make the real thing. No woman's hair coloring or false teeth can compare with God's quality products. Could a quality-made pottery vase have had no potter? (yes, no). Could the quality pottery called man have had no potter called God? Read Isaiah 64:8, then answer (yes, no).
4. The reproductive system God built into man is unfathomable. Scientists are staggered at the marvels of the birth process. Tiny cells are programmed by an incomprehensible ability to form marvelous organs such as eyes, ears, and voice boxes. No car can reproduce itself. Did God make man's mouth? Read Exodus 4:11 then answer (yes, no). Is reproduction of a new living being in a mother's womb evidence for God? Read Job 10:8 and 31:15, then answer (yes, no).
5. The easiest answer as to the formation of man is creation by God. I cannot believe that an automobile could have just happened without minds and hands to cause it. I certainly cannot believe that a machine marvelous enough to design and produce an automobile could have formed itself by accident. There are only two possibilities—creation or accident. Do you believe man happened by accident? (yes, no). Is it much more reasonable to believe that man was created? Read Genesis 1:27, then answer (yes, no).
6. Every human has an inborn thirst for God. In all cultures from all centuries, human beings leave evidence in their worship and in their burials of dependence upon a higher being. This appetite for God is itself an evidence of God. Because man has a universal thirst for water, water is available to satisfy this basic desire. Because man has a universal hunger for food, food is available as the object of this basic drive in man. Likewise, all men show a desire to depend upon a higher power—this is a universal thirst for God. This thirst itself is an evidence that God is available to satisfy a basic need as important as food or water. If not—if there is no higher being—then this is the only basic urge of man that has nothing to satisfy it. Do you have a yearning to believe in God? (yes, no). Do you believe that there is a God to satisfy this basic need? Read Psalms 42:2, then answer (yes, no).
7. Man has the mental ability to conceive of a supreme being. He has the mental equipment to register or receive faith. A dog can imagine another dog, a cat, or a man. But he has no possible imagination of God. He has no yearning for God. His needs are all satisfied without God. Man's basic need is satisfiable only by God. His greatest need is still unfulfilled without God. Do you feel a need to trust in God? (yes, no). Are their problems and pressures which drive each of us to God? Read Proverbs 3:5, then answer (yes, no).
8. Man's life cannot reach its fullest and best potential without God. The most momentous fact that can enter your life is the fact of God. If God does exist, and you do not know it, you have missed the most important truth of your existence. Without God your life will always be shallow. You cannot be happy as God designed you to be. Do you believe that God wants you to be happy? (yes, no). Do you believe that God is the only source of true happiness? Read John 17:3, then answer (yes, no).
9. Man's life falls short of its greatest goal without God. Man aspires to live with God forever. He is not satisfied with even the best that earthly things can offer. Augustine, a great thinker, said in prayer, thou hast made us for Thyself, and we are restless until we rest in Thee." Faith in God gives man purpose—something to live for worth dying for. Do you want the best which life has to offer? (yes, no). Do you believe that God alone can provide a completely fulfilled life? Read Acts 17:28, then answer (yes, no).
10. The human body is designed for God and God's use. It is genuinely happy and productive only in fellowship with its maker. It runs right only by the maker's instructions. It can develop itself for God's kind of life both now and forever. It can even cause other humans to learn fellowship with God. Do you believe that as marvelous a machine as man could properly have any less goal and reason than God's will? (yes, no). Does man find his greatest purpose in life with God both here and hereafter? Read John 10:10, then answer (yes, no).

## SUPREME INTELLIGENCE DESIGNED MAN!

# GOD IS REVEALED BY

GOD'S TWO BOOKS:(1)CREATION

(2)REVELATION

## PSALMS 19:1-7

- (1) The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork.
- (2) 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

The Bible is evidence of a mind beyond man's:

## 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9-14

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him ? even so the things of God, knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing' spiritual things with spiritual.

14 But the natural man" receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they, are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Our age is so enamored by science that we think that only what can be seen is real. This excludes eternal things which cannot be seen (2 Cor. 4:18) and concentrates only on physical and material facts which are discoverable from our environment. But though investigation is one source of truth, it is not the sphere of revealed truth. Spiritual realities cannot be learned in a laboratory where such questions as "Do I have a soul?" or "Is there an eternal hereafter?" are out of place. The deepest realities of life are non-material and come only by revelation from God, not by investigation by man. Thus the eternal and spiritual things of God's Spirit-realm are beyond the jurisdiction of man's instruments: aye cannot see, nor ear hear the deep things God Himself must reveal. The attitude of the world is that man (not God) is the highest intelligence and concludes that whatever man hasn't discovered is not real or true. This exalts investigation to the exclusion of revelation, but fails to see that spiritual truths must be revealed to, not by, man's intelligence. Eternal truth is vertical (down from God) not horizontal (out from man.) God used the minds of inspired men to speak words taught by the Holy Spirit. The naturalist who believes in no power beyond nature) cannot conceive of revealed truths until he becomes a supernaturalist (believes in a God beyond nature) which then opens up his awareness of spiritually-understood and eternal realities beyond the sphere of human exploration.

2 Cor. 4:18: "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

**IF GOD EXISTS, SURELY HE HAS SPOKEN**

# Lesson 5: GOD'S 2 BOOKS

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO," MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. God has two books to reveal Himself—creation and revelation. The same scripture which gives the heavens and earth as evidence for God ("the heavens declare the glory of God") also speaks of another proof of supreme intelligence ("the law of the Lord is perfect . . . the testimony of the Lord is sure"). Psalms 19:1 and 7. Does creation prove a supreme creator? (yes, no). Does revelation prove a supreme revelator? (yes, no).
2. God has revealed Himself to those who look around themselves at the universe and to those who look up. Knowledge of God is both horizontal (visible by looking at the world around us<sup>^</sup> and vertical (revealed down to man in the Bible). A supreme intelligence must have produced the universe. A supreme intelligence must have produced the Bible. Do you believe the heavens and the earth are greater than man's intelligence and power could have produced? (yes, no). Is the Bible greater than man's wisdom could have produced? (yes, no).
3. Man has exalted human wisdom (investigation) and has neglected divine wisdom (revelation). Our thinkers have learned so much about our world that they tend to exalt human learning to the point of discrediting any other kind of information. Does the world by its wisdom know God? Read 1 Corinthians 1:21, then answer (yes, no). Are many wise men after the flesh called? Read 1 Corinthians 1:26, then answer (yes, no).
4. Faith comes not from the wisdom of men, but from the power of God. Revelation in scripture is an entirely different information source from investigation in science. Because science and human learning have accomplished great material progress, they are made to be gods. Men come to think that there is no intelligence beyond the human brain and no source of truth beyond human exploration. Does human wisdom usually produce faith? Read 1 Corinthians 2:5, then answer (yes, no). Does the world usually think of its own investigation as the only source of truth? (yes, no).
5. God used Corinth, Greece, in the first century as an example of sophisticated human learning. He told this world intellectual center that God's wisdom (revelation) did not come from human investigation. He said that it does not result from what men learn from looking into their environment. He said that God's revealed truth is given, not gathered. Is revealed truth discovered by what human eyes can see and ears hear? Read 1 Cor. 2:9, then answer (yes, no). Must divine truth be revealed through inspired men (like Bible writers)? Read 1 Corinthians 2:10, then answer (yes, no).
6. The rulers of this world (who rule by human wisdom) showed their ignorance of God's wisdom by crucifying the Lord of glory (Jesus). The wisdom of this world said the Son of God was an imposter. That is not a very good recommendation for human brilliance! Had they not been drunken on their own power and wisdom, they would have recognized God in human flesh. They believed what they hadn't learned could not be known. But they had not learned the greatest fact of all. Do the wisdom and princes of this world come to nothing? Read 1 Corinthians 2:6, then answer (yes, no). Did outward (not upward) learning miserably fail to recognize Jesus as the Lord of glory? Read 1 Corinthians 2:8, then answer (yes, no).
7. Investigated truth is not everything. Science is not the final answer for all reality. A revealed truth is true even though science cannot rule on it. The most important things are beyond man's senses or the instruments man designs. No X-ray can see man's soul. No telescope can see eternity. No microscope can tell where life began. The greatest realities are invisible to sensory perception. Does any man know the things of God? Read 1 Corinthians 2:11, then answer (yes, no).
8. The attitude of intellectualism is called "the spirit of the world." It says that if eye cannot see it nor ear hear it, it is not true. It says that because medical instruments cannot detect a soul in man, he has none. It says that Jesus could not have been virgin-born, because science has ruled that impossible. It says whatever man cannot know by investigation cannot be real. Is the "spirit of the world" opposed to revelation by a supreme intelligence? Read 1 Corinthians 2:12, then answer (yes, no). Is a naturalist (who believes in no power greater than nature) able to receive information from a spiritual source? Read 1 Corinthians 2:14, then answer (yes, no).
9. Things of God—facts about spiritual realities—must be revealed from God. They cannot be discovered in a laboratory. A Russian astronaut said that he never saw God. Things he could not see did not exist to him. Are the things of the Spirit of God foolishness to the naturalist? Read 1 Corinthians 2:14, then answer (yes, no). Are temporal things seeable and eternal things unseeable? Read 2 Corinthians 4:18, then answer (yes, no).
10. Knowledge coming by human wisdom is expressed in words of human wisdom. Truth coming by divine revelation is expressed in words of the Holy Spirit. These are two entirely different sources of truth (investigation and revelation). They are two entirely different kinds of words (education and inspiration). Are words of scripture words taught by the Holy Spirit? Read 1 Corinthians 2:13, then answer (yes, no). Are they con trasted to words of human wisdom? Read 1 Corinthians 2:1, 4, 10, then answer (yes, no). Man can know the existence of God by investigation of nature. He can know the will of God only by revelation (the Bible).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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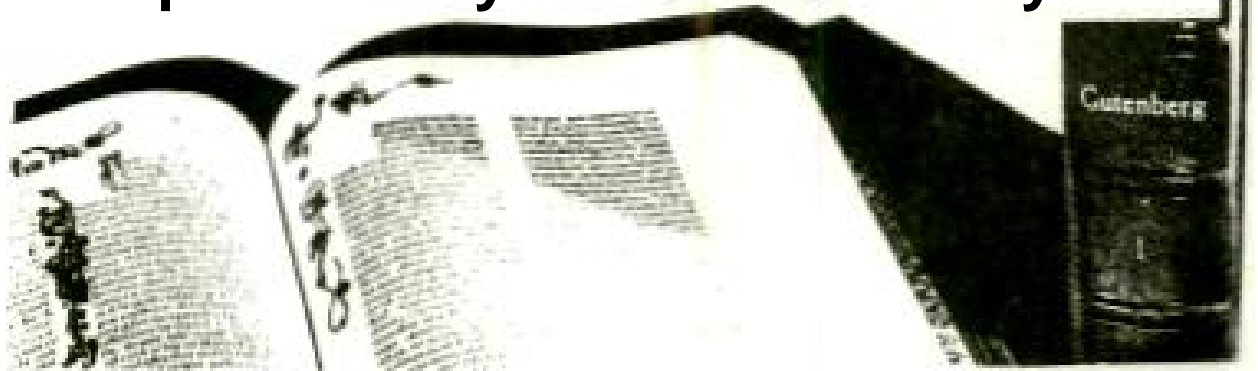
# **NO MAN COULD DO WHAT THIS BOOK HAS EXCEPT GOD BE WITH ITS WRITERS**

## **JOHN 3:1,2**

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

**As Nicodemus said of Jesus, the Bible shows powers beyond human ability!**



## **FAITH COMES FROM THE WORD OF GOD**

**Romans 10:17**

**The depth and breath of profound truth in the Bible  
Incredibly astound novice and lifetime scholar alike**



# Faith comes from the Word

## LESSON 6

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. The most logical thing that God would do (if He exists) is to communicate with man, his creature made in His likeness. The way one intelligent being communicates with another is with words. For God to have spoken in the Bible is the only reasonable thing to expect an intelligent, loving God to do. Surely if God exists, He has spoken. Did God enjoy communication with man whom He created? Read Genesis 3:8, then answer (yes, no).
2. I can know what God has done in the heavens and the earth. I can know what God has said in the Bible. I can understand His power in the lightning and the hurricane. I can understand His will only in the Bible. The Bible is evidence of God. It is revelation from God. Did scripture have to be written so that men could believe? Read John 20:31, then answer (yes, no). Does faith come from the word of God? Read Romans 10:17, then answer (yes, no).
3. No man could have produced the Bible. Like the universe, it is proof of an intelligence beyond man's. No man or group of men could have done what this book has, except God be with its writers. Did a Jewish ruler admit that Jesus' miracles convincingly proved that His power was from God? Read John 3:1, 2, then answer (yes, no). If the Bible shows wisdom and power no man has, then (like the universe and like miracles) it came from God. Could any man have produced the Bible? (yes, no). The next lesson will examine some of the superhuman evidences in the Bible. This present lesson shows how faith comes from the Bible.
4. Faith results when the Bible is studied. If men will be objective like Nicodemus, the Bible is strongly convincing. The evidence needs only to be seen. The miracles of Jesus proved that He came from God. The superhuman powers of the Bible prove that it came from God. The evidence in the Bible is just as strong as it is in the universe to prove a higher power. When the word of God is not allowed to enter a man's heart, can he believe? Read Luke 8:11, 12, then answer (yes, no).
5. The Bible claims to be the word of God, just like Jesus claimed to be the Son of God. Either He was or He wasn't. Either the Bible is or it isn't. We can decide only by facts. Jesus is not from God because He claimed to be, just as the Bible is not from God just because it claims to be. Do not believe unless you are convinced by facts. But be sure to check the facts before you disbelieve. Did Thomas believe Jesus was resurrected without facts? Read John 20:25-29, then answer (yes, no).
6. An inquiring person seeking facts must discard prejudice. Prejudice is pre-judging a decision before the facts are known. Many prejudiced people know almost nothing about the Bible or the evidence upon which it stands. Their opposition to faith is by hearsay. They have heard objections, criticisms, and doubts. Few have checked the facts. Mental honesty must leave open the possibility that the Bible came from God. Is a closed mind a typical human trait? Read Matthew 13:15, then answer (yes, no). Why will men rebel against the most wonderful possibility of all? Man must reject more facts to reject God than in rejecting any other thing.
7. Faith which comes from a sunset is not sufficient Bible faith. Believing that a god exists is not the faith described in the Bible. Instead, real faith produced by the Bible is a faith informed about God and His will. It is understanding revealed truth about God which could only have come from God. It is accepting the message of a book which rings true to the realities of man, his world, and his needs. Is knowing God shown by keeping His commandments? Read 1 John 2:3, 4, then answer (yes, no).
8. The center of Bible faith is Jesus. The object of saving faith is a Savior. The end result to which the whole Bible points is salvation from sin by Jesus' death. Such faith becomes trust. The Bible portrays a crucified Savior as the central fact of history and the central purpose of life. Will a person die in his sins who does not believe in Jesus? Read John 8:24, then answer (yes, no).
9. The written gospel records about Jesus and the entire Christian scriptures are authentic historical books. They will pass every test of truth. They need only to be checked to be verified. They welcome every doubtful critic. They have survived every assault and betrayal. Does faith come from searching the scriptures? Do the scriptures testify of Christ? Read John 5:39, then answer (yes, no). Faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the word of God. This happens when hearing means real exposure to real Bible facts.
10. God's word, when it results in faith in Christ, brings happiness to man from God. The only source of unhappiness is sin. The only means of happiness is forgiveness from sin. Salvation in Christ (the Bible's theme) is God's message for man's need. When men reject that message, they refuse the only information from the only God about the only source of human happiness. God's word is for man's good. Is this message called the word of life? Read Philippians 2:16, then answer (yes, no).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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# HOW ELSE CAN WE EXPLAIN THE BIBLE'S:

## 1. Historical Accuracy Beyond Man's Power:

GENESIS 2:14 ORIGIN OF CIVILIZATION IN MESOPOTAMIAN TIGRIS-EUPHRATES VALLEY  
GENESIS 12:10 EGYPT'S ANCIENT CULTURE ALREADY HIGHLY DEVELOPED  
GENESIS 15:20 LONG-LOST, NOW ARCHEOLOGICALLY-REDISCOVERED NATION OF HITTITES  
GENESIS 12:2 ANCIENT TWO THOUSAND YEAR DETAILED HISTORY OF THE JEWS  
2 KINGS 3:4, 5 MESHACH OF MOAB OVERTHROWS ISRAEL AS RECORDED ON MOABITE STONE  
KINGS 14:25 SHISHAK'S INVASION OF JERUSALEM RECORDED IN TEMPLE OF KARNAK  
KINGS 17:6 ASSYRIANS TAKE SAMARIA AS RECORDED ON SARGON IPS CYLINDER

## 2. Superhuman Scientific Foreknowledge:

ISAIAH 40:22 "CIRCLE OF THE EARTH" INDICATES EARTH'S ROUNDNESS  
JOB 26:7 EARTH IS HANGING ON NOTHING (NOT ON ATLAS, TURTLE, ETC.)  
LEVITICUS 13 GERM THEORY AS IN QUARANTINE OF LEPERS OF ISRAEL  
GENESIS 17:12 EIGHTH-DAY CIRCUMCISION NOW PROVED HEIGHT OF CLOTTING

## 3. Superhuman Geographical Exactness:

ACTS 14:12 NAMES OF PATRON GODS OF LYSTRA FOUND ON CITY GATE IN 1909  
ACTS 27 ELABORATE NAUTICAL AND WEATHER LANGUAGE OF SHIPWRECK VOYAGE  
COUNTLESS CITIES, WATERS, MOUNTAINS STILL OBSERVABLE: EGYPT, ROME, JERUSALEM

## 4. Future Foreknowledge Beyond Man's Power:

ISAIAH 13:19-22 PERMANENT DESTRUCTION OF BABYLON, ARAB NEVER PITCH TENT THERE  
DANIEL 2 SUCCESSIVE WORLD KINGDOMS PREDICTED: BABYLON, MEDO-PERSIA,  
GREECE, ROME  
MICAH 5:2 JESUS' BETHLEHEM BIRTH FORETOLD BY CENTURIES (MOST UNLIKELY)  
ISAIAH 53:9 JESUS WITH WICKED (THIEVES) AND WITH RICH (JOSEPH OF  
ARIMATHEA) IN HIS DEATH

## 5. Amazing Unity Beyond Man's Power:

EPHESIANS 4:3 "UNITY OF THE SPIRIT" (UNITY PRODUCED BY THE SPIRIT)  
BIBLE WRITTEN BY 40 MEN OVER 1600 YEARS DESCRIBING ABSTRACTIONS, INTANGIBLES LIKE  
SOUL, LOVE, HEREAFTER (HARDEST MATTERS TO ACCURATELY DESCRIBE), YET  
NO CONTRADICTION  
2 PETER 1:20 "NO SCRIPTURE IS OF PRIVATE INTERPRETATION" (DEPENDS UPON  
HARMONY WITH EVERY OTHER SCRIPTURE)

## 6. Tremendous Influence Beyond Man's Power:

ONLY SATISFACTORY ANSWERS FOR DEEPEST PROBLEMS OF AGES AND PROFOUNDEST NEEDS  
OF MAN  
THE BIBLE HAS SHAPED THE COURSE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION  
BASIC PRINCIPLES DERIVED FROM WORTH OF INDIVIDUAL (SOUL), MUST WORK TO EAT: FREE  
ENTERPRISE SYSTEM (2 THESSALONIANS 3:10), ETC.  
COUNTLESS COMMON WORDS LIKE "TALENT" (ORIGINALLY A WEIGHT OF GOLD BUT CAME TO  
MEAN "ABILITY" BY JESUS' PARABLE)  
WHEREVER BIBLE HAS GONE, FREEDOM, ELEVATION OF WOMEN, VALUE OF LIFE, AND  
ENOBLING OF MANKIND HAVE FOLLOWED

**The Bible's uncanny accuracy in verifiable areas causes us to trust its dependability in uncheckable matters like man's soul**

# The Bible Is Superhuman

## LESSON 7

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

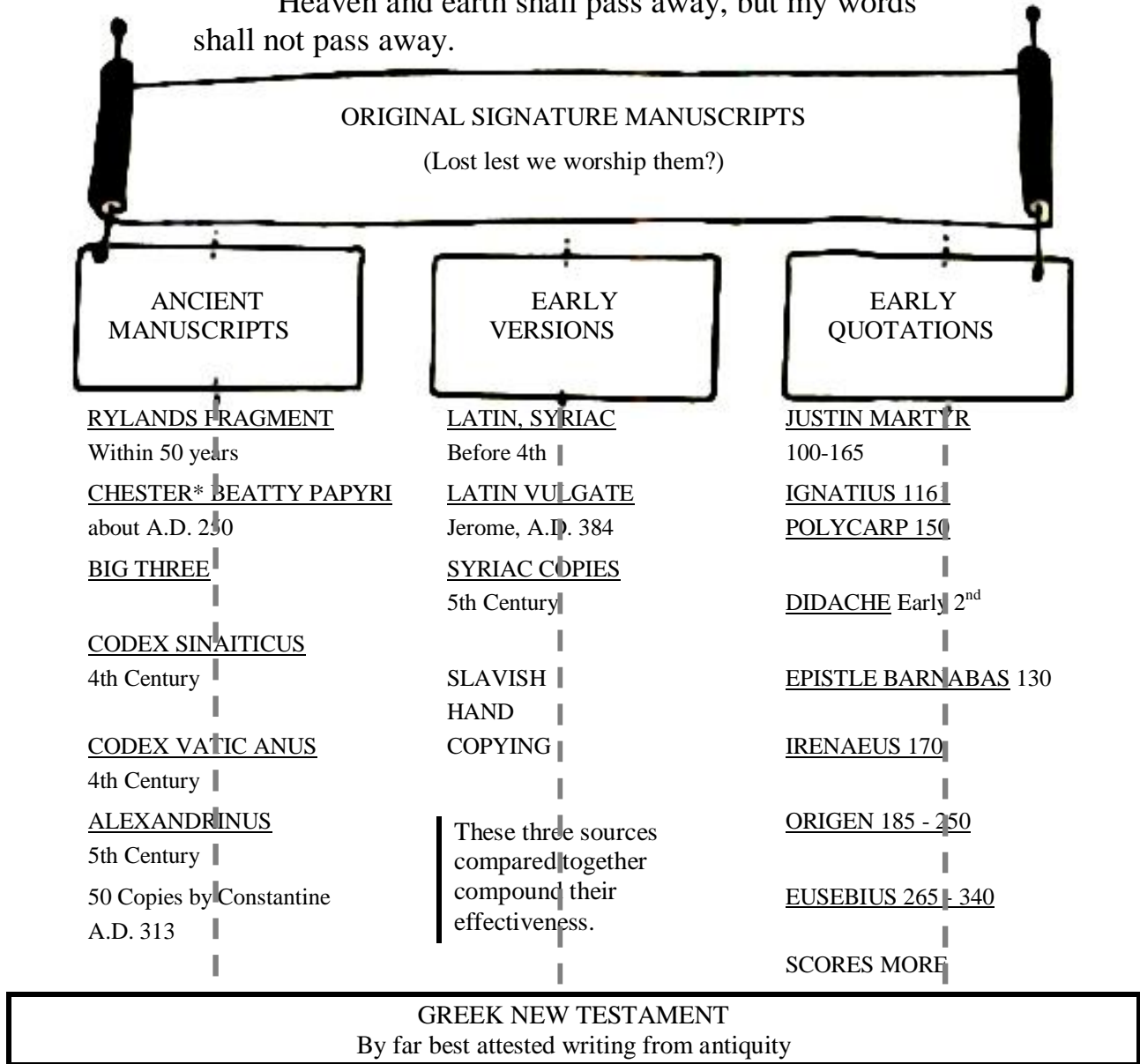
1. In our search for evidences of God, the Bible is a major proof. If a superhuman intelligence exists, surely He has spoken. The way one intelligent being communicates with another is words. It is very logical and reasonable that a God would have a message. Do you believe God has spoken? Read Psalms 50:1, then answer (yes, no).
2. We would expect a superhuman message from a God. A superhuman God would produce a book beyond human ability. We should see if there are traces of wisdom and power in the Bible beyond man's ability to have produced. Have many people been convinced that the Word of God is not the word of men? Read 1 Thessalonians 2:13, then answer (yes, no).
3. The other side of this page lists six superhuman Bible features. Please read the Bible verses under each feature and answer questions about them. We are honestly asking, "How else but by God's power and wisdom could these superhuman things be true about the Bible?"
4. **HISTORICAL ACCURACY BEYOND MAN'S POWER:** The Bible covers man's history from beginning to end. No human book could span such an expanse of centuries and details without error. Historians begin civilization's origin in the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Asia Minor. Was the Garden of Eden here? (yes, no). Is the Bible's first mention of Egypt accurate to known facts that Egypt's culture is very old? (yes, no). Until recently historians disbelieved in a Hittite nation, but all now know from uncovering their cities in Turkey that they existed. Did the Bible say so all the time? (yes, no). The history of the Jewish people is ancient, long, and detailed. Does Scripture show their beginning from Abraham and continue their history throughout the Old Testament? (yes, no). A Moabite king named Mesha overthrew his nation's rule by Israel and recorded the victory on the Moabite Stone, discovered in 1868 and now on display in Paris. Is this victory in the Bible? (yes, no). Shishak, King of Egypt, recorded on the walls of the Egyptian temple of Karnak his victory over the Jewish king, Rehoboam. Is the Bible's account without historical backing? (yes, no). Must we depend only on the Bible account of the Assyrian capture of Samaria without any outside proof? (yes, no).
5. **SUPERHUMAN SCIENTIFIC FOREKNOWLEDGE:** Did Isaiah speak of a round earth 700 years before Christ and 2200 years before men proved it? (yes, no). Did the ancient Book of Job speak accurately of the earth's hanging on nothing, when men said it was on the god Atlas or on a giant turtle? (yes, no). Did God speak through Moses the germ theory in His laws quarantining lepers, although men had to wait 3,000 years to discover it for themselves? (yes, no). Did God tell the Jews to be circumcised on a day now medically proven to be the height of a baby's clotting? (yes, no).
6. **SUPERHUMAN GEOGRAPHICAL EXACTNESS:** Did the Bible speak of the wrong pagan gods for the city of Lystra? (yes, no). Are there any errors in the detailed weather and water descriptions of Paul's trip to Rome? (yes, no). Have any historical or geographical locations been proved in error? (yes, no).
7. **FUTURE FOREKNOWLEDGE BEYOND MAN'S POWER:** Was Isaiah's prediction of the fall of the most powerful city of his time a logical guess? (yes, no). Did four world empires follow exactly as Daniel said that they would? (yes, no). Would the peasant village of Bethlehem have been a likely birthplace prediction 700 years before the birth of Jesus? (yes, no). Did Isaiah correctly predict details of Jesus' death and burial 700 years beforehand? (yes, no).
8. **AMAZING UNITY BEYOND MAN'S POWER:** Does the unity of scripture sound like the unity the Holy Spirit would have produced? (yes, no). Are unseeable abstract things like love and truth easy for forty men to describe alike? (yes, no). If no scripture is its own interpretation, does this mean that the same Holy Spirit wrote all Scriptures? (yes, no).
9. **TREMENDOUS INFLUENCE BEYOND MAN'S POWER:** Is there another book besides the Bible answering the deepest longings of man, such as "Where did man come from? What is he doing here? Where is he going?" (yes, no). Can the spread of education and freedom be traced to those areas where the Bible has gone? (yes, no). Is the worth of a soul, made in God's image, the basic reason for human rights? (yes, no). Is the principle of free enterprise (no work = no eat) a Christian principle? (yes, no). Has the Word "talent" always meant "ability"? (yes, no). Has humanity been elevated more by Bible principles than by any other book? (yes, no).
10. **UNCANNY ACCURACY IN VERIFIABLE AREAS CAUSES US TO TRUST IN UNCHECKABLE MATTERS LIKE MAN'S SOUL:** In all the above areas of history, science, geography, etc., the facts of the Bible can be checked. It crosses paths with these fields of learning and can be proved. Because of its absolute reliability in checkable areas, we can trust its reliability in uncheckable areas, such as invisible spirits, life after death, and God. The Bible is evidence that God is, because no mere men could have done what it has done. The Bible is the logical message of a divine mind, who would certainly use words to express His message. The Bible is great proof of God and the very message of God. There is no other way to explain its powers.

**NO OTHER WAY TO EXPLAIN THESE POWERS**

# THE BIBLE IS THE ANCIENT WORLD'S BEST ATTESTED BOOK BY FAR!

## MATTHEW 24:35

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



## EMINENT LANGUAGE SCHOLARS VERIFY THE WORLD'S MOST ACCURATELY PRESERVED BOOK

WESTCOTT AND HORT: "If comparative trivialities, such as changes of order, the insertion or omission of the article with proper names, and the like, are set aside, the words in our opinion still subject to doubt can hardly amount to more than a THOUSANDTH PART OF THE WHOLE NEW TESTAMENT."

# WORD NOT PASSED AWAY

## LESSON 8

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO," MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. One question which causes doubt is whether the Bible has come down accurately through the centuries. Jesus promised, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35). Did Jesus here assure us that His words would be preserved until the end of time? (yes, no).
2. If strong and plentiful evidence shows that God exists, and if unanswerable proof shows that the Bible is His message, surely God's power could keep His book from being lost or changed. If God could produce the Bible, He could surely also preserve it. Does 1 Peter 1:23 claim that the Word of God is incorruptible and lives and abides forever? (yes, no).
3. The original manuscripts which the inspired Bible writers signed have been lost, likely because men might worship them. But these signature manuscripts were received and copied by early Christians who deeply re-spected them as the Word of God. Does 1 Thessalonians 2:13 say that they received them not as human but as a divine message? (yes, no). Did they know that they were copying the very Word of God? (1 Corinthians 14:37) (yes, no).
4. The original letters of Paul were passed from church to church, where they were read with reverence due the Word of God. Even during Peter's lifetime Paul's letters were collected and copied by devout Christians who knew they had in their hands the actual Word of God. Does Colossians 4:16 show that churches read and circulated Paul's letters? (yes, no). Does 2 Peter 3:16, 17 show that Paul's letters were already collected and called "Scriptures"? (yes, no).
5. Men who believed that they were copying the words of the Holy Spirit would use great care. Just as God committed the Old Testament Scriptures to strict and devoted Jews, He entrusted the New Testament book\* to men who would die for them. Does Romans 3:2 show that God took too great a risk to entrust the Old Testament to Jews? (yes, no). Would early Christians die for the Word of God? (Revelation 6:9) (yes, no). Could better copyists than these have been found? (yes, no).
6. God has preserved the words of the original pages of the Bible through three channels: ancient manuscripts (copies), early versions (translations), and early quotations (references by Christian writers). These three separate sources are exceedingly effective because they are able to check one another. Does 1 Corinthians 2:13 claim that the words of Scripture are the words taught not by human wisdom but taught by the Holy Spirit? (yes, no). Do you feel that God would want Holy-Spirit-taught words preserved? (yes, no). Do you think that God was able to accurately preserve these words? (yes, no)
7. Look down the column of ancient manuscripts (copies) of the New Testament. The John Rylands fragment on papyrus (reed-pith ancestor of paper) is a portion of John 18 dated within fifty years of the original. Compare this with the usual 1500 to 2100 years which separate ancient classical Greek originals from our earliest copies. The Chester Beatty papyri are extensive and come within 150 years of the writing of the New Testament books (which ended at the close of the first century). The Big Three manuscripts of the New Testament come from the three hundreds or four hundreds and may or may not have been among the 50 copies ordered made by Emperor Constantine in A.D. 313. An amazing 5,000 New Testament manuscripts have been found to date, a number which no other ancient document even approaches. Certainly regarding manuscripts or copies, the New Testament is by far the best attested writing from the ancient world.
8. Look down the column of early versions or translations of the New Testament. This is a second major source for reproducing the words of the Holy Spirit. There are Old Latin and Syriac translations of the original Greek New Testament from the third century (the 200's). Jerome's Latin Vulgate became a standard Latin version after A.D. 384. By knowing Greek and Latin, the original words before translation can be restored. Early versions are a vital source for reproducing the original words of the Holy Spirit.
9. The column of the early Christian writers living in the late first century and shortly afterward is a third source for knowing the words of the original New Testament. Volume upon volume of their writings filled with Scripture quotations have been preserved. These men owned and used copies of the New Testament older than any manuscript copy. Look at their death dates (where only one date is given). Some writers even lived when the apostle John and other inspired writers lived. Because their testimony is so close to the original New Testament, and because their quotations are so plentiful, their writings are a valuable witness to Scripture.
10. Westcott and Hort, two famous New Testament language scholars, state that aside from unimportant matters, the words still uncertain in the New Testament are one one-thousandth of the whole. That is, the words which we can be sure of are 999 out of 1,000. No other ancient book could be restored to that amazing degree. God's Word has not passed away. It is incorruptible. It lives and abides forever.

**Liveth & abideth forever**

# ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED OF GOD

- 2 SAMUEL 23:2 "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue."
- JOHN 14:25, 26 "These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."
- JOHN 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth:"
- MATTHEW 18:18 "Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
- GAL. 1:11,12 "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."
- 1 COR. 14:37 "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord."
- EPHESIANS 3:3-5 "How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words; Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ,) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;"
- 2 PETER 1:21 "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."
- 1 THES. 2:13 "When ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but, as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."
- 1 COR. 2:13 "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."
- 2 TIM. 3:16, 17 "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."
- REV. 22:18, 19 "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

## A GOD'S WORDS MUST NOT BE BROKEN!

# SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED

## LESSON 9

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. God exists. He is a being, not just a principle nor a law of nature. He wants fellowship with man. His message must be in words which man can understand—man's words. But His message must be the message of God—not a human message. This He did by inspiration. Inspiration is God's Word in man's language. Is Scripture inspired of God? (2 Timothy 3:16) (yes, no).
2. Inspiration by God employed human writers. The mind of man is very close in kind to the mind of God. Since human words are not employed in heaven, earthly man needed God's message in human form for his understanding. The logical method God used was to employ the minds of men by the Holy Spirit to write heaven's message in an earthly tongue. Did the Holy Spirit move men to speak from God? (2 Peter 1:21) (yes, no). Did the message come from the will of man? (yes, no).
3. Inspiration is the interaction of the Spirit of God with the minds of men to produce a divine message. Even though the writers used their own style and knowledge of words, the Spirit over-ruled the production of Bible books. Did God teach Moses what to say, and was He with the mouth of Moses? (Exodus 4:12,15) (yes, no). Was the Spirit of the Lord speaking by David with His word in David's tongue? (2 Samuel 23:2) (yes, no).
4. The word "inspired" is used lightly today to mean "enobled in a lofty purpose." We can use the word to mean "motivated," when we say that a painter was inspired by a sunset. In this sense all great writers of literature were inspired men. But they were not miraculously guided by God's Spirit to write without error as were Bible writers. Is Scripture inspired only in the human sense? (2 Timothy 3:16,17) (yes, no). Did Paul's message come from man? (Galatians 1:11,12) (yes, no).
5. The words of Scripture are words taught by the Holy Spirit. They are God's words, even though men were employed as instruments to write them. Were the letters Paul wrote the commandments of a man? (1 Corinthians 14:37) (yes, no). Did the Spirit reveal to Paul and to other holy apostles and prophets the message of Christ? (Ephesians 3:3-5) (yes, no). Was this done to produce a written, readable message? (yes, no). When Paul wrote, were his words taught by human wisdom? (1 Corinthians 2:13) (yes, no). Are all other writers of literature besides the Bible using words taught by human wisdom? (yes, no). Is the Bible inspired in an extraordinary sense? (yes, no).
6. The promises of Jesus strongly predicted inspiration for the apostles. Jesus wrote no letters nor books. His teachings and the Gospel message about Him were revealed to inspired New Testament writers. Do uninspired writers have the amazing authority which Jesus promised the apostles? (Matthew 18:18) (yes, no). Does the Spirit guide uninspired writers into all truth? (John 16:13) (yes, no). Did Jesus promise that uninspired writers would be guided into all truth? (John 14:25, 26) (yes, no). Were the apostles who were promised inspiration those apostles who heard Jesus on the earth and could remember His teachings? (yes, no).
7. The warnings in Scripture show the word-for-word inspiration of its writers. Men are not eternally damned for changing or adding to mere human words. But the most severe condemnation of all awaits anyone disturbing the words of Scripture. Will plagues punish those who add to words of God? (Revelation 22:18) (yes, no). Will a man go to heaven who takes away from inspired words? (verse 19) (yes, no). Does a man have fellowship with God who goes beyond the doctrine of Christ? (2 John 9) (yes, no). Is anyone to be accursed who perverts the Gospel? (Galatians 1:7-9) (yes, no). Has adding to and taking from inspired words been forbidden even since the days of Moses? (Deuteronomy 4:2) (yes, no).
8. A God's words must not be broken. If Bible words are human, they need correcting and up-dating. If they are from God, they cannot be. Must every authority be either from heaven or from men? (Matthew 21:25) (yes, no). Did Jesus say that the Scripture cannot be broken? (John 10:35) (yes, no). Will men who twist Scripture be destroyed? (2 Peter 3:16) (yes, no).
9. Inspiration in Scripture is complete. It ended with the writings of the apostles and prophets. Bible writers have been guided by the Spirit into all truth. No more truth will ever need be revealed. Does Scripture thoroughly furnish the man of God unto all good works? (2 Timothy 3:16, 17) (yes, no). Has anyone since the apostles wrote had a revelation by the Spirit? (Ephesians 3:5) (yes, no). Could anyone today be guided into more revealed truth if all inspired truth was revealed to (and through) the apostles? (John 16:13) (yes, no).
10. God's Word has the authority of God. Men disobey God when they disobey Scripture. Whether we actually believe in God is seen by how we respect and obey His Word. Is the Word of God dead? (Hebrews 4:12) (yes, no). Does it work effectively in those who really believe it? (1 Thessalonians 2:13) (yes, no). Must we always obey men? (Acts 5:29) (yes, no). Must I obey God's commands to go to heaven? (Revelation 22:14) (yes, no).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Words Taught By Spirit



# THE BIBLE'S THEME:



## GOD WANTED WILLING COMPANIONSHIP

**Genesis 3:8:** "They heard the voice of Jehovah God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. **5:22:** Enoch walked with God. **6:9:** Noah walked with God." **Leviticus 26:12:** "I will walk among you and will be your God, and ye shall be my people."



## FORBIDDEN FRUIT NECESSARY

**Genesis 2:17:** "But the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it." **Deuteronomy 11:26:** "Behold I set before you this day a blessing and a curse." **Joshua 24:15:** "Choose you this day whom ye will serve."



## ROKEN FELLOWSHIP CURSE OF SIN

**Isaiah 59:2:** "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, so that He will not hear." **2 Corinthians 6:14:** "What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness."



## WOMAN'S SEED TO CONQUER SIN

**Genesis 3:15:** "I will put enmity between thee (Serpent) and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." **1 John 3:8:** "To this end was the Son of God manifested, that He might destroy the works of the Devil."



## THE SEED OF WOMAN WAS MARY'S SON

**Matthew 1:23:** "Behold the virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is, being interpreted, God with us." **Galatians 4:4:** "God sent forth His Son, born of a woman."



## MAN LOVES SIN, IT RULES HIM

**John 8:34:** "Every one that committeth sin is the slave of sin." **Romans 7:23:** "I see a different law in my members, waning against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin and death which is in my members."



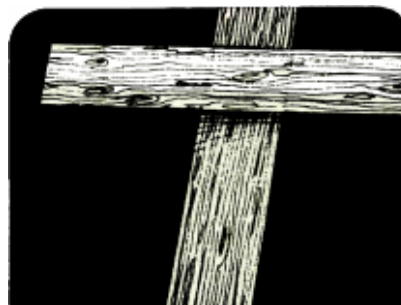
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# THE BIBLE'S THEME

## LESSON 10

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON  
THE BIBLE is not just an interesting book of facts. It is the message of salvation from sin. The 18 sketches in this lesson and the next will survey that message. Questions are taken from verses under each sketch:

1. **GOD WANTED WILLING COMPANIONSHIP:** God made man so as to enjoy fellowship with a being like Himself. God's desire for companionship could not be satisfied by a puppet, a mechanical man with no choice. He enjoyed fellowship with man because man could choose to love or to hate Him. Did God enjoy man's fellowship? (Genesis 3:8) (yes, no). Was the companionship of "walking with God" the reason God made man? (Genesis 5:22; 6:9; Leviticus 26:12) (yes, no). Do you wish to walk with God? (yes, no).
2. **FORBIDDEN FRUIT NECESSARY:** Without the possibility of evil, man could have no choice to do good. Man could not choose companionship with God unless he was free to disobey. Did God intend for evil to be available to man? (Genesis 2:17) (yes, no). Is the choice to do evil or good set before man by God? (Deuteronomy 11:26) (yes, no). Is man forced to serve God? (Joshua 24:15) (yes, no).
3. **BROKEN FELLOWSHIP CURSE OF SIN:** Sin is ungodliness (un-God-likeness). It is doing that which is contrary to God's nature. It breaks fellowship because God is antagonized by sin. He can't stand it. Can God's nature tolerate sin? (Isaiah 59:2) (yes, no). Can righteousness mix with unrighteousness? (2 Cor. 6:14) (yes, no).
4. **WOMAN'S SEED TO CONQUER SIN:** After the devil through the serpent caused the first man and woman to sin, God made a promise. The seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent were to be enemies. The woman's seed was to mortally bruise the serpent's head. The serpent was to bruise the heel of the woman's seed. God's plan to conquer sin (without forcing man to obey Him) is now set in motion. The rest of the Bible shows the fulfillment of this promise. Can you see the power of evil (the devil) at work in the world? (yes, no). Is there "enemy-ness" between his purpose and God's purpose for man? (yes, no). Is the head the ruling and controlling organ? (yes, no). Is a heel bruise fatal, though painful? (yes, no). Was the purpose of Jesus to destroy the works of the devil? (1 John 3:8) (yes, no).
5. **THE SEED OF WOMAN WAS MARY'S SON:** Through the Old Testament God's promise of salvation from sin through the woman's seed unfolded. Isaiah foretold that a virgin would have a son who would be God among men. Matthew said that Mary's son Jesus was that son. Was Jesus born of a man and a woman? (Galatians 4:4) (yes, no). If Jesus was to be both God and man, would a virgin birth accomplish this? (yes, no). Do you believe that God could perform a miracle to bring Jesus into the world? (yes, no).
6. **MAN LOVES SIN, IT RULES HIM:** Man obeys sin and is ruled by it. Every man has a desire for God and a desire for sin. By sinning man breaks his fellowship with God and cannot restore it because he cannot forgive his own sins. Sinful man is in slavery. Is sin successful in enslaving every man? (John 8:34) (yes, no). Does every man sin? (yes, no). Does man fight a losing battle with sin that brings about spiritual death (separation from God)? (Romans 7:23) (yes, no).
7. **ALL TO BE BLESSED IN SEED:** The ancestor of the Jews, Abraham, was promised that his seed would bless all the families of the earth and all the nations of earth. This continues the seed promise and shows that the woman's seed would come through Abraham and the Jews. Are there some families and nations who do not need this promised blessing? (Genesis 12:3; 22:18) (yes, no). Is the seed of Abraham the same descendant as the seed of the woman? (Genesis 3:15) (yes, no).
8. **GREAT NAME, LAND, NATION, SEED:** The unfolding of God's plan to conquer sin required a nation (the Jews) and a land (Palestine). Abraham was promised a great name, land, and nation—all to bring the great seed which would bless the world. Do Jews, Christians, and even Muslims still today call Abraham's name great? (yes, no). Did the Jews become a great nation in a great land? (yes, no). Were the great name, land, and nation important within themselves aside from being the means to bring the promised seed? (yes, no).
9. **CHRIST WAS THE PROMISED SEED:** The New Testament clearly identifies the promised seed as Christ. It says that the Gospel (good news of salvation) was preached beforehand to Abraham. This means that Jesus, the seed of woman and the seed of Abraham, is the way God saves man from sin. Does Galatians 3:8 quote the seed promise God made to Abraham? (yes, no). Does verse 16 state that Christ was the promised seed? (yes, no). Are there other seeds? (yes, no). Could the Jews (descendants of Abraham) be the seed who were to save the world? (yes, no). Can you see God's overall promised plan to save man through Christ's dominion of sin? (yes, no). Would you be willing for Christ, instead of sin, to rule your life? (yes, no).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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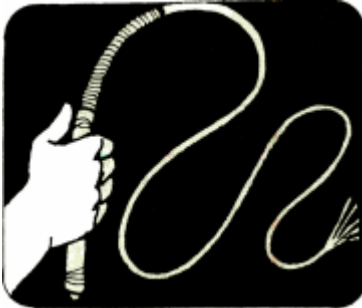
## Thy Seed Which Is Christ

# CENTERS IN A SAVIOR



**THE PROMISE WAS SINS FORGIVEN**

Acts 3:25: "Ye are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, saying unto Abraham, and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. 26: Unto you first God, having raised up His Servant, sent Him to bless you in turning away every one of you from your iniquities."



**LAND OF SOJOURN, AFFLICTION**

Genesis 15:13: "And He said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be sojourners in a land that is not theirs, and they shall afflict them four hundred years. 14 and afterward shall they come out with great substance."



**THE LAW WAS TO BRING US TO CHRIST**

Galatians 3:23: "But before faith came, we were kept in ward under the Law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24: So that the Law is become our tutor to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25: But now that faith is come, we are no longer under a tutor."



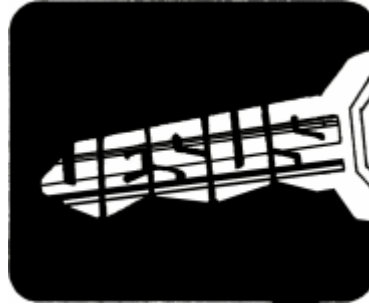
**LAW'S GUILT ENSLAVES OFFENDERS**

Galatians 3:10: "For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse: for it is written, cursed is every one who continued not in all things that are written in the book of the Law to do them. 11: Now that no man is justified by law before God is evident."



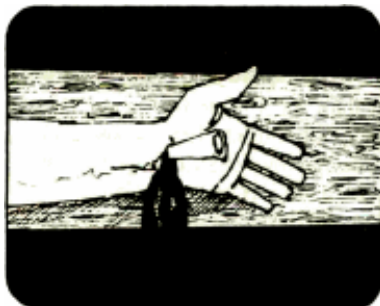
**WRETCHED! WHO SHALL DELIVER ME?**

Romans 7:23: "But I see a different law in my members, warning against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin which is in my members. 24: Wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me out of the body of this death? 25: I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord."



**YE ARE JUSTIFIED THROUGH THIS MAN**

Acts 13:38: "Be it known unto you, therefore, brethren, that through this man is proclaimed unto you remission of sins: 39: and by Him every one that believeth is justified from all things from which ye could not be justified by the Law of Moses."



**IN FULLNESS OF TIME GOD'S SON SENT**

Galatians 4:4: "When the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, that He might redeem them that were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."



**IF CHRIST'S, HEIRS OF THE PROMISE**

Galatians 3:26: "For ye are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus 27: For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ 29: And if ye are Christ's then are ye Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise."



**CONVERSION RESTORES FELLOWSHIP**

Acts 3:18: "But those things which God before had showed by the mouth of all His prophets, that Christ should suffer, He hath so fulfilled 19: Repent ye, therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

# CENTERS IN A SAVIOR

## LESSON 11

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

THIS LESSON completes Lesson 10. Together they say "The Bible's Theme Centers in a Savior." The message of God in the Book of God is the Son of God. Each number refers to sketches and scriptures on the overside:

1. **THE PROMISE WAS SINS FORGIVEN:** The broken fellowship caused by sin was to have a remedy in the seed of woman, who was also the seed of Abraham. Since man's basic problem was sin, his basic need was forgiveness for sin. The New Testament explains that the Old Testament seed promise meant salvation from sin in Jesus Christ. Preaching to Abraham's descendants, the Jews, the apostle Peter quoted God's seed promise to Abraham. Did Peter then explain that this seed of Abraham would bless them with earthly material blessings? (Acts 3:25, 26) (yes, no). Was the blessing to be forgiveness of iniquities (sins)? (yes, no).
2. **LAND OF SOJOURN, AFFLICTION:** The nation of Jews were to be afflicted as slaves in a foreign land, but afterward they were to be delivered by God's deliverer, Moses. As Moses freed the Jews from Egyptian slavery, Jesus (who was like Moses) was to deliver Christians from sin. Was this the message of all the prophets since the world began? (Acts 3:21) (yes, no). Did God send Jesus as He sent Moses? (Acts 3:20-22) (yes, no). As God raised up Moses, did He raise up Jesus to turn the Jews (and all people) from sin? (Acts 3:26) (yes, no).
3. **THE LAW WAS TO BRING US TO CHRIST:** The Old Testament law was given through Moses to the Jews as a means of bringing them to Christ. Unless they knew that they were in slavery in sin, they would not see their need of Jesus as a deliverer from sin. Before faith in Christ came, were the Jews imprisoned under the law for the purpose of bringing them to faith in Christ? (Galatians 3:23) (yes, no). Was the law the final purpose God had for the Jews? (verses 23, 24, 25) (yes, no). Was the law like a schoolmaster whose purpose was to bring the Jews to Christ? (yes, no). Are we still under the law? (yes, no).
4. **LAW'S GUILT ENSLAVES DEFENDERS:** A law lists all the do's and don't's of a perfect standard. Its purpose is to show where man has done wrong or failed to do right. Since no man is perfect, a law shows the many ways that he is guilty. Law does not save, it curses. Must a person under law do all the things written in the law perfectly? (Galatians 3:10) (yes, no). If he offends in one point, is he guilty? (James 2:10) (yes, no). Is anyone able to be justified by law before God? (Galatians 3:11) (yes, no).
5. **WRETCHED! WHO SHALL DELIVER ME?** The law of Moses showed man that he was imprisoned in sin. This showed him that he needed forgiveness. Every man has the desire to sin, and since only one sin is enough to condemn, man sees that he needs release from the guilt and power of his sinful nature. Does the law of sin in our members make us captives? (Romans 7:23) (yes, no). Does this make us miserable or wretched? (verses 24, 25) (yes, no). Does it make us see our need of a deliverer? (yes, no). Is the deliverance found in morality? (yes, no). Is it in self control and determination? (yes, no). Is the only release through Jesus Christ? (yes, no).
6. **YE ARE JUSTIFIED THROUGH THIS MAN:** When Paul preached to Jews, he preached the forgiveness of sins through the man, Jesus. By Jesus all believers are justified (made just by God's forgiveness). This could not be done by the law of Moses, because law cannot save, it only condemns. The law was to show man that he was condemned, so that he would accept deliverance from sin in a Savior. Is remission of sin through a man? (Acts 13:38) (yes, no). Can a law do what a Savior can? (verse 39) (yes, no).
7. **IN FULLNESS OF TIME GOD'S SON SENT:** When God's timetable was ready, He sent His Son. He had caused the Jews to live under the slavery of Egypt and the slavery of law so as to make them ready for a deliverer. Was God's Son born of a man? (Galatians 4:4) (yes, no). Was Jesus born under the law (which he alone among all men kept perfectly)? (yes, no). Was Jesus' coming for the purpose of redeeming those under the law? (verse 5) (yes, no). Would those who accepted His deliverance become God's adopted sons? (yes, no). Does this mean that our sonship which was lost by sin would be restored by forgiveness in Jesus? (yes, no).
8. **IF CHRIST'S, HEIRS OF THE PROMISE:** All Christians are God's sons through faith in Jesus Christ. They have expressed this faith in their Savior by being baptized into Christ to put on Christ. This makes them Christ's, and those who are Christ's are Abraham's descendants, that is, those having inherited the blessing promised to Abraham. Are there any children of God who do not believe and trust in Jesus? (Galatians 3:26) (yes, no). Does one come into Christ before baptism? (verse 27) (yes, no). Does a believer put on Christ before baptism? (yes, no). Can a person be Christ's without faith expressed in baptism? (verse 29) (yes, no). Is "the" promise a very special and particular promise? (yes, no). Did God's promise to Abraham mean that those who are Christ's would be blessed as heirs? (yes, no). Would you like this blessing? (yes, no).
9. **CONVERSION RESTORES FELLOWSHIP:** The fellowship which man lost by sinning can be restored by forgiveness in Christ. The suffering of Christ was the message of all the prophets. When sinners repent and are converted, their sins are blotted out, and they again enjoy the fellowship or presence of the Lord. Did the prophets speak with one mouth? (Acts 3:18) (yes, no). Is forgiveness of sin and restored fellowship possible because Jesus suffered? (yes, no). Will a sinner be forgiven without repentance and conversion? (v. 19) (yes, no).

## Sins Forgiven In Christ

# JESUS LIVED & DIED

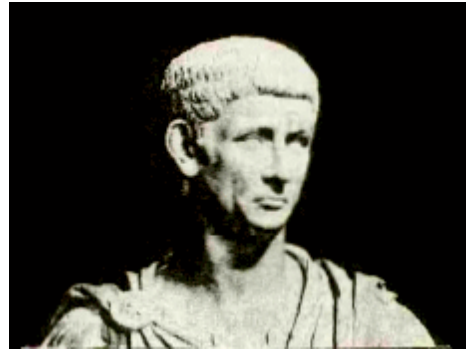
NON-CHRISTIAN HISTORIANS CERTIFY IT!



Jesus was born under  
AUGUSTUS, 27 B.C. - A.D. 14



Jesus died under  
TIBERIUS, A.D. 14 – 37



Jews were expelled under  
CLAUDIUS, A.D. 41 - 54

"CHRISTUS SUFFERED THE EXTREME PENALTY DURING THE REIGN OF TIBERIUS AT THE HANDS OF ONE OF OUR PROCURATORS, PONTIUS PILATE." Tacitus, a.d. 115

TACITUS: ANNALS: XV. 44 (About A.D. 115): "Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilate, and a most mischievous superstition thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome ..."

SUETONIUS: NERO 16 (2nd Century): "Punishment was inflicted on the Christians, a class of men given to a new and mischievous superstition."

LUCIAN: PASSING OF PEREGRINUS 12, 13 (2nd Century): ". . . The man who was crucified in Palestine because he introduced this new cult into the world . . . that crucified Sophist . . ."

PLINY LETTERS TO TRAJAN: X: XCVI (About 110 A.D.): ". . . Habit of meeting on a certain fixed day before it was light, when they sang in alternate verses a hymn to Christ, as to a God ..."

SUETONIUS: CLAUDIUS 25:15: "Since the Jews constantly made disturbances at the instigation of Christus, he (Claudius) expelled them from Rome."

SUMMARY: Second century historical writers, who opposed Jesus Christ and Christianity, nevertheless clearly state: (1) That Jesus lived, (2) that He was crucified by the Roman governor Pilate, (3) that His crucifixion was in the reign of the Roman emperor Tiberius Caesar, (4) that Christianity began in Judaea and had spread to Rome, (5) that Christians regularly worshipped Jesus as a God on a fixed day, and (6) that this worship (to a Roman historian) was "superstition" because in the Roman view Jesus was a "crucified Sophist," a man claiming great things for himself who, instead of being God-in-flesh, was crucified, the lowest form of death. Jesus, therefore, is not a make-believe legend, but a genuine character of history, and the Bible actual history, not folklore.

ROMAN HISTORIANS VERIFY JESUS' HISTORICITY!  
JESUS' HISTORICAL VALIDITY IS BEYOND DISPUTE.

## HISTORIANS VERIFY FACTUAL BIBLE

### TRUTHS ABOUT JESUS

*1 Peter 4:16* "But if a man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this name."

*Luke 3:1, 2*: "Now in the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar, Pontus Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitus, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness."

*Romans 1:1* "Paul a servant of Jesus Christ to all that are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints."

*Mark 15:15*: "And Pilate, wishing to content the multitude...delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified."

*Acts 1:8*: "Ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

*Acts 18:2*: "And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a man of Pontus by race, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome."



# JESUS LIVED AND DIED

## LESSON 12

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

THIS LESSON completes Lesson 10. Together they say "The Bible's Theme Centers in a Savior." The message of God in the Book of God is the Son of God. Each number refers to sketches and scriptures on the overside:

1. The central message of Scripture is the death of Jesus for sins. The life and death of Jesus are facts, checkable from history. Jesus was not a legend. This lesson looks at some of the statements of non-Christians who were opposed to Christianity, but who knew that Jesus really lived and died. They give us the same kind of proof for Jesus' reality as for Nero. Jesus was not a "Santa Claus" type of imaginary figure. He left his footprints on the pages of history. If I believe that there was an Augustus Caesar, must I also believe that there was a Jesus? (yes, no). Do I have the same kind of historical statements for both men? (yes, no).
2. TACITUS: ANNALS: XV. 44: Tacitus was a Roman historian who wrote about A.D. 115. He said that the Emperor Nero blamed Christians for the fire of Rome and tortured them. Is the Bible true to history as to the use of this name "Christians"? (1 Peter 4:16) (yes, no). Tacitus said that Christians were hated for their "abominations" and "mischievous superstition." This shows that Christians were unwilling to worship the Roman gods or the emperors. Instead, they were a religious group following Christ (Christ). Christ, according to Tacitus, had been put to death during the reign of Emperor Tiberius and at the hands of Roman Procurator Pontius Pilate. Does Luke 3:1, 2 say that John (Jesus' fore-runner) began preaching under Tiberius Caesar and Pontius Pilate? (yes, no). Does Acts 1:8 agree with Tacitus that Christianity began in Judaea? (yes, no). Does Romans 1:1 agree that Christians had spread to Rome? (yes, no).
3. SUETONIUS: NERO 16: Suetonius is another second-century historian who verifies the torture of Christians. Like Tacitus, he speaks of Christianity as a "mischievous superstition." This proves that Jesus Christ was being worshipped as God, while these Roman writers believed Him to be only a man. Would these men giving the history of the emperors have spoken of Jesus and Christians unless they knew that Jesus was a real character who lived and died shortly before their own time? (yes, no). Do their descriptions show that His followers believed Jesus to be more than a man? (yes, no). Do you believe Jesus was a mere man? (yes, no).
4. LUCIAN: PASSING OF PEREGRINUS 12, 13: Lucian is a third Roman writer to verify Jesus in history. He says His crucifixion was in Palestine. He says that He introduced a new cult into the world. He then calls Jesus a "crucified sophist." This is important because it shows that Jesus claimed greatness like God. A sophist believes himself to be great and wise. Did Jesus claim that He was God? (John 14:9) (yes, no). Does Mark 15:15 show that Jesus was crucified? (yes, no). Since crucifixion was more shameful than hanging, Lucian is mocking Jesus by calling him a crucified maniac who said He was God. Must we decide whether Jesus truly was God in human flesh or a maniac who thought He was God? (yes, no). If Jesus was not God, did He lie when He claimed to be? (yes, no). Is Jesus either what He claimed to be or else the world's biggest liar? (yes, no). Do you believe that He was a liar? (yes, no). Do you believe that He was the Son of God? (yes, no).
5. PLINY LETTERS TO TRAJAN: X: XCVI: Pliny is a Roman governor giving reports to the Emperor Trajan after investigating Christians in his province. Did he find that they met on a fixed day to worship Christ as a God? (yes, no). Does Acts 20:7 show that Christians met for worship on the first day of the week (Sunday)? (yes, no). Is it a fact of history that Christians met to worship Jesus Christ as a God? (yes, no). Was this in the early second century? (yes, no). Do you worship Jesus as the Son of God? (yes, no).
6. SUETONIUS: CLAUDIUS 25:15: Suetonius here verifies the Bible statement in Acts 18:2 that Emperor Claudius expelled Jews from Rome. Two of Paul's friends, Aquila and Priscilla, were among them. This is the third Roman emperor mentioned by name in the New Testament. Augustus was the emperor who decreed that all the world should be enrolled (Luke 2:1). This is why Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem where the baby Jesus was born (verses 4-7). Has any error ever been shown in the Bible about Roman officials? (yes, no). About any historical fact which can be checked? (yes, no). Are Bible writers accurate historically in what they write? (yes, no). Must we believe that there was a Jesus Christ if we believe in these other real men? (yes, no).
7. SUMMARY: Are all six facts clearly found in the historical statements quoted? (yes, no). Could any person willing to accept facts doubt that Jesus lived and died exactly as the Bible says? (yes, no). Do you doubt that Jesus lived and died? (yes, no). Do you doubt that He claimed to be God and that He was worshipped as God? (yes, no). Do you believe that He lived and died exactly as the Bible teaches? (yes, no).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Verified Historical Facts

# CROSS VICTIM FOUND

## A Death in Jerusalem

It was a time of great unrest and turmoil in ancient Judea. Restive under the rule of pagan Rome, the Jews of Palestine in the 1st century A.D. repeatedly defied their conquerors with covert gestures of opposition and open acts of rebellion. The Roman response was usually swift and cruel. Perhaps because he participated in one of these uprisings or committed some other grievous offense in the eyes of Jerusalem's stern rulers, a young Judean named Ye-hohanan (a Hebrew form of John) was sentenced to death. Like thousands of other Jews—including Jesus of Nazareth—who were also condemned by the Roman procurators during those turbulent years, Yehohanan died slowly and painfully on the cross.

**First Evidence.** Yehohanan's death was quickly forgotten. No documents have ever been found that record his crime or recall his crucifixion. Yet, after nearly 2,000 years, he has now suddenly and sensationally re-emerged from the dustbins of history. Last week Israeli archaeologists announced that they had identified the remains of the unfortunate young man and found clear evidence of his grisly execution.

The Israeli scholars, who studied the find for more than two years before making their announcement, were understandably cautious. What they uncovered and authenticated is the first firm physical evidence of an actual crucifixion in the ancient Mediterranean world. Although history records, that this form of punishment was continued by the Romans until the 4th century A.D. (when it was finally outlawed by the Emperor Constantine I, who legalized Christianity in the empire), the only previous physical evidence of crucifixion was extremely tenuous. It consisted of a few bones, excavated in Italy and Rumania, containing holes in the forearms and heels that could have been made during crucifixions. But there was never any trace of the nails that might have been used to penetrate the body of the victim and fasten him to the cross.

The new archaeological evidence, a byproduct of intense excavation and building activities by the Israelis in the territories they conquered in the Six-Day War, is far more substantial. In June 1968, a year after Israeli troops occupied all of Jerusalem, workmen began bulldozing a rocky hillside more than a mile north of the Old City's Damascus Gate in preparation for putting up a modern apartment-house complex. They discovered almost immediately that the site, called Giv'at ha-Mivtar (meaning Hill of the Divide), was honeycombed with burial caves dating back to biblical times.

Summoned by Israel's Department of Antiquities and Museums, Archaeologist Vasilius Tzaferis quickly pried open the lids of 15 ossuaries, or stone coffins, which held the skeletons of 35

people—eleven men, twelve women and twelve children. At least five of the Judeans had met violent deaths. But Tzaferis was especially intrigued by what he found in one ossuary, which contained the bones of a child about three or four years old and those of an adult whose name—Yehohanan—was inscribed in barely legible Aramaic letters on the outside. The man's heel bones were penetrated by the rusty remains of a 7-in.-long nail.

From these fragile bones, a Rumanian-born anatomist and anthropologist at Jerusalem's Hebrew University, Nicu Haas, was able to put together a surprisingly detailed picture of the young man: in his mid-20s at the time of his death, he was of average height for the period (5 ft. 5 in.), had delicate, pleasing features that seemed to approach the Hellenistic ideal, probably wore a beard, and apparently had never performed any really arduous labor—indicating his possible upper-class origins. Except for the injuries inflicted during his crucifixion, he seemed to have been in exceptionally fine health. His only deformities were a slight cleft palate and a barely perceptible asymmetry of the skull, possibly a sign of a difficult birth.

**Crooked Nail.** The single telltale nail was preserved by an odd quirk. Because of a tough knot in the olive wood of the cross, the nail was slightly bent to the side as it was hammered into place. Later, after the young man had been given the traditional *coup de grace* (a blow that broke both legs and would have hastened the victim's death by causing hemorrhage and shock), the crooked nail apparently proved to be stubbornly embedded in the cross and hindered efforts to take down the body. The only practical way that this could be done, writes Haas in the *Israel Exploration Journal*, was "to cut the feet off and then remove the entire complex—nail, plaque of wood (which helped keep the feet in position) and feet—from the cross." Then, these severed parts were apparently immediately buried along with the rest of the body in a temporary grave; Jewish custom forbids long exposure after death. Subsequently, Yehohanan's remains were disinterred by friends or relatives and removed to their permanent resting place outside the city, where they lay undisturbed until 1968.

The actual date of the execution was not so apparent. But from pottery and other artifacts in the cave, the Israeli scholars were able to make a rough estimate: it could have taken place as early as A.D. 7, when the Judeans rose up against the Romans to protest an official census, or as late as the final decade before the destruction of the Second Temple and the dispersion of the Jews in A.D. 70.

**Jesus Agony.** The time and place of the young man's execution invited comparison to Jesus Christ's own Passion on the cross—which scholars believe

took place about A.D. 30, when Jesus was in his mid-30s.\* But Israel's director of antiquities, Avraham Biran, and a number of Christian biblical scholars were quick to warn against any attempt to identify the skeleton as that of Jesus. As Dr. Bruce Metzger of the Princeton Theological Seminary pointed out, "We have absolutely no knowledge of Jesus' physical stature." Moreover, the man was younger than Jesus, and the Gospels report that the Roman soldiers, in contrast to their regular practice, did not break the legs of Jesus before his death; they thrust a lance into his side. Both the archaeologists and biblical scholars were understandably concerned. Any suggestion, however farfetched, that the body was that of Jesus would challenge two of Christianity's central beliefs: the Resurrection, the doctrine that Christ rose from the dead three days after the Crucifixion; and the Ascension, which holds that Jesus ascended bodily into heaven 40 days later.

Although the Giv'at ha-Mivtar finding does not add any new information about Jesus' life, it may give added dimension to his final suffering. In classical religious art, the crucified Jesus is usually shown in an erect position, fastened to the cross by nails driven through his outstretched hands and through his feet. To some scholars, however, that interpretation of the Crucifixion has long seemed highly implausible. With the bulk of his weight suspended from his hands, the victim's body would sag; it would become extremely difficult for the breathing, muscles to function, and death would almost surely follow rapidly. According to Haas' reconstruction of Yehohanan's crucifixion—which could well have been typical of those in ancient Palestine—the nails were driven through the forearms to provide greater support and the victim's legs were twisted to one side and folded up. Haas calls this a "compulsive, unnatural position." But, he explains, it would have served the purposes of the executioners very well: it would have prolonged both the victim's life and his agony.



TIME, JANUARY 18, 1971

Time Magazine article tells of first century death



# Crosses Really Happened

## LESSON 13

1. The overside of this sheet is an article from Time, a news magazine, dated January 18, 1971. The article is from the "Science" section. It is entitled "A Death in Jerusalem." It tells of the dramatic finding in 1968 of a crucifixion corpse from the period between A.D. 7 and 70, the time when Jesus lived. Though crucifixion is well-known in history and literature, this is the first firm evidence of a crucifixion victim's body. His heel bones contained a rusty seven-inch nail. Were Jesus' feet nailed to the cross? (Luke 24:39, 40) (yes, no).
2. The sketch with the article shows the most likely position of the victim being crucified. If the body was kept from sagging on the arms, the person would be able to breathe, and would live longer. The last sentence in the article explains that this position "would have served the purpose of the executioners very well: it would have prolonged both the victim's life and his agony." The purpose of crucifixion was to prolong a lingering death. How long was Jesus on the cross? (Mark 15:25, Matthew 27:46, 50) (three hours, six hours, nine hours). Would you rather die instantly than slowly for many painful hours? (yes, no).
3. Crucifixion was a very shameful way to die. The young man John (in the article) endured a public spectacle of shame. The Romans reserved crucifixion for victims upon whom they wished to heap public ridicule and mockery. Was Jesus mocked? (Matthew 27:27-31) (yes, no). Did He refuse to be treated shamefully? (Hebrews 12:2, 3) (yes, no). Was Jesus reviled? (1 Peter 2:23) (yes, no).
4. Crucifixion was very painful. A victim suffered greatly. The Time magazine article emphasizes crucifixion as prolonged agony. The victim was given no punishment that would bring quick death. Death was slow, sometimes taking days. Small, painful nail wounds with body weight upon them grew more intensely unbearable. Did Jesus suffer? (1 Peter 2:23) (yes, no). Was His suffering imaginary? (1 Peter 3:18) (yes, no). Was Christ's suffering prophesied? (Acts 26:22, 23) (yes, no). Was His suffering quick and easy? (yes, no).
5. The cross of Jesus was deliberate. He came to earth to die. He often predicted His own death. His cross was His life's purpose. It happened according to His will and the will of the Father. Did He say that He came to give His life a ransom for many? (Matthew 20:28) (yes, no). Was He taken to the cross against the counsel and foreknowledge of God? (Acts 2:23) (yes, no). Did any man take His life? (John 10:18) (yes, no).
6. Jesus' suffering and death were bitter and dreadful. He dreaded the cross in the Garden of Gethsemane the night beforehand. He prayed that the bitter cup might pass. He knew that it would be bitter. Was His soul exceeding sorrowful even unto death? (Matthew 26:36) (yes, no). Did He insist that the bitter cup pass? (verses 39, 42) (yes, no). Did the agony of His dread cause sweat as great drops of blood? (Luke 22:44) (yes, no). Was His major fear physical? (Matthew 10:28) (yes, no).
7. The greatest agony of Jesus was loneliness. In order to be a sin-offering, He was punished for the sins of the world. This meant to be separated from fellowship with the Father, who cannot stand sin, but who must punish it justly. Jesus endured the broken fellowship with God which our sins caused and deserved. Did God lay upon Him the sins of all? (Isaiah 53:6) (yes, no). Was He bruised for our sins, chastened for the sake of our peace with God, and beaten with stripes for our healing? (verse 5) (yes, no). Did God forsake Him? (Matthew 27:46) (yes, no). Did God treat Him as if He had sinned? (2 Corinthians 5:21) (yes, no).
8. The agonizing death of Jesus was the will of God the Father. It was the planned scheme of redemption of God who must punish every sin. The very nature and make-up of God's being cannot tolerate sin. His perfect and impartial justice requires that He punish every sin. All men have sinned. So Jesus suffered in man's place. Because of His great suffering, God's just demand for punishment of sin was met. His innate anger against sin was poured out on the substitute sacrifice. Man can thereby be forgiven because Jesus suffered the penalty of sin. Was Jesus' death a sudden impulse of God? (Revelation 13:8) (yes, no). Did Christ's death please God because man could be forgiven? (Isaiah 53:10) (yes, no). Did the travail of Jesus' soul satisfy God's anger against sin? (verse 11) (yes, no).
9. The suffering and death of Jesus is not legendary. His execution was the very thing that would have happened. Crucifixion of unusual prisoners like Jesus is exactly what would have happened. The finding of a crucifixion victim from the very period when Jesus died is good evidence of the likelihood of Jesus' crucifixion. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are writers of fact, not fiction. Their books are historical, not imaginary. They wrote of the life and death of a man of history, though He was much more than just a man. Were New Testament writers eyewitnesses of Jesus? (Acts 5:30, 32; 1 John 1:1-3) (yes, no). Did these eyewitnesses deny their message about Jesus under threatenings? (Acts 4:20, 21) (yes, no). Is the testimony of a witness who is willing to die for what he has seen strong testimony? (yes, no).
10. In spite of factual, convincing evidence, the world in general thinks of Jesus as a mythical character, not a real person. Because Christians sing, preach, and pray about the death of Christ, non-Christians put Jesus' crucifixion in a non-real context. Has any proof been uncovered which would discredit the reality of the life and death of Jesus? (yes, no). Does any evidence deny the strong possibility that Jesus was crucified? (yes, no). Do you believe that He lived? (yes, no). Do you believe that He died by crucifixion? (yes, no). Were His shame, suffering, and loneliness real? (yes, no). Would such an agonizing death of the Son of God have been necessary or logical for any reason other than to atone for sins? (yes, no).

# **GODS MESSAGE**: THE GREAT GOOD NEWS

## **GOD'S HOLINESS IS REPULSED BY SIN !!!**

EX. 3:5: "THE PLACE WHEREON THOU STANDEST IS HOLY GROUND,"

PSA. 111:9: "HOLY AND REVEREND IS HIS NAME."

REV. 15:4: "THOU ALONE ART HOLY."

I PET. 1:16: "BE YE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

HEB. 12:14: "FOLLOW HOLINESS WITHOUT WHICH NO MAN SHALL SEE GOD."

## **MAN IS BASICALLY SINFUL, UNGODLY!**

GEN. 6:5: "THE THOUGHTS OF HIS HEART ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY."

ECCL. 7:20: "NOT A JUST MAN UPON THE EARTH THAT DOETH GOOD AND SINNETH NOT."

ROM. 3:10: "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT ONE."

ROM. 3:23: "FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD."

ROM. 7:14: "I AM CARNAL, SOLD UNDER SIN."

ROM. 7:18: "IN MY FLESH DWELLETH NO GOOD THING."

## **GOD IS JUST, HE MUST PUNISH SIN !!**

HAB. 1:13: "PURER EYES THAN TO BEHOLD EVIL AND CANNOT LOOK ON SIN."

PROV. 15:8: "THE SACRIFICE OF THE WICKED IS AN ABOMINATION TO THE LORD."

ROM. 1:18: "THE WRATH OF GOD IS REVEALED AGAINST ALL UNGODLINESS."

HEB. 2:2: "EVERY TRANSGRESSION & DISOBEDIENCE RECEIVED A JUST RECOMPENSE."

## **THE LAW EXPOSED, BUT COULDN'T REMEDY SIN !**

ROM. 3:20: "BY THE DEEDS OF THE LAW THERE SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED."

ROM. 5:20: "THE LAW ENTERED THAT THE OFFENSE MIGHT ABOUND."

ROM. 7:13: "THAT SIN BY THE COMMANDMENT MIGHT BECOME EXCEEDING SINFUL."

GAL. 3:10: "CURSED IS EVERY ONE THAT CONTINUETH NOT IN ALL THINGS."

JAS. 2:10: "KEEP THE WHOLE LAW AND YET OFFEND IN ONE POINT, GUILTY OF ALL."

## **THE GOSPEL** CHRIST SUFFERED SINS PENALTY IN MAN'S PLACE

# TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY

## LESSON 14

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. **THE WORD "GOSPEL" HAS A GREAT MEANING**—good news! The best news men have ever heard! Good news from God! Good news of sins forgiven in Christ! If you haven't heard or understood this news, your life is not joyous as God planned it to be. Did the angel announcing Jesus' birth bring good tidings of great joy? (Luke 2:10) (yes, no). Was the good news the fact that a Savior, Christ Jesus, was born? (verse 11) (yes, no). Is this good news to you? (yes, no). Do you believe it? (yes, no). Does it bring you joy? (yes, no).
2. **THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS BECAUSE OF SIN'S BAD NEWS.** God is holy. He cannot bear the presence of sin. His nature cannot stand it. God is repulsed by sin. Was the dirt which Moses stood on holy because of itself? (Exodus 3:5) (yes, no). Was it holy because of God's presence? (yes, no). Is God's name holy and reverend? (Psalms 111:9) (yes, no). Is man's name holy and reverend? (Revelation 15:4) (yes, no). Is there a basic reason why man must be holy? (1 Peter 1:16) (yes, no). Can man have fellowship with a holy God without being holy? (Hebrews 12:14) (yes, no). Can he become holy by his own effort? (yes, no).
3. **MAN IS BASICALLY SINFUL, UNGODLY.** Ungodliness is un-God-likeness. As God is basically holy, man is basically unholy. Are his thoughts continually good? (Genesis 6:5) (yes, no). Is there on the earth a just man whosinneth not? (Ecclesiastes 7:20) (yes, no). Among all men is there perhaps one who is righteous? (Romans 3:10) (yes, no). Does "all" mean that there are no exceptions? (verse 23) (yes, no). Is man's nature holy like God's? (Romans 7:14) (yes, no). Is there any good thing in man's flesh? (verse 18) (yes, no).
4. **GOD IS JUST, HE MUST PUNISH SIN.** God is perfect in justice as He is perfect in holiness. He cannot fail to punish even one sin. If God would tolerate just one sin, He would be an imperfectly just God. Because of the absolute Tightness of His nature, He must punish every sin. Can His eyes condone evil? (Habbakuk 1:13) (yes, no). Does He abominate wickedness? (Proverbs 15:8) (yes, no). Is He angry against all that is unlike Himself? (Romans 1:18) (yes, no). Must every disobedience receive a just punishment? (Hebrews 2:2) (yes, no).
5. **THE LAW EXPOSED, BUT COULDN'T REMEDY SIN.** God put the Jews under a law which demanded perfect obedience. The purpose of this law was to expose man's sinfulness so as to see his need of a Savior. This exposure was not the remedy of sin. Law cannot forgive, it can only reveal sin. Can any man be made just or righteous by law? (Romans 3:20) (yes, no). Did God bring in the law in order to forgive sin? (Romans 5:20) (yes, no). Did God's law commandments increase the sinfulness of sin? (Romans 7:13) (yes, no). Is a law-keeper cursed who does not continually do all commands to perfection? (Galatians 3:10) (yes, no). Is a law-keeper innocent who offends in only one point? (James 2:10) (yes, no). Have you offended God? (yes, no).
6. **THE ONLY SOLUTION FOR MAN'S SIN-PROBLEM IS FORGIVENESS.** God is absolutely holy and cannot countenance sin. Man is absolutely sinful and cannot ever completely cease from sin. God must punish every sin or He is not just. But just commanding right does not enable a man to be right. Forbidding wrong does not forgive wrong. God cannot forgive man without justly punishing his sin. This is why Jesus had to die—to take upon Himself the punishment of man's sins so that God could forgive man. Is the death of Christ for man's sin (and His burial and resurrection) called good news? (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) (yes, no). Is this good news the power of God unto salvation? (Romans 1:16) (yes, no). Is the forgiveness which Christ provided the reason the angel's message was joyous? (Luke 2:10, 11) (yes, no). Is it joyous to you? (yes, no).
7. **THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS ONLY WHEN ACCEPTED.** It is not joyous to those who refuse it. It is God's power unto salvation only to those that believe. When Jesus said to preach the Gospel to every creature, was there anything for man to do to accept the good news and be saved? (Mark 16:15-16) (yes, no). If he rejected it, would he be saved? (yes, no). Is the Gospel message able to save an unbeliever? (Romans 1:16) (yes, no). Does real believing include obeying the Gospel? (Romans 10:16) (yes, no). Will those be saved who do not obey the Gospel? (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9) (yes, no). Will they be punished? (yes, no).
8. **ALL MEN WANT GOOD NEWS.** It is unreasonable that anyone who really understands it would refuse the best news in all the world. When men fail to respond to the Gospel, they have not believed it. They may think that God is superstition and His message a legend. They may imagine that Jesus is like Santa Claus. Or they may have some religious misunderstandings which confuse God's pure and simple message of love. God really exists. Jesus really died. The Gospel is really true. Christ died for sinners. It sounds too good to be true. It is not believable because of man's worth. It is conceivable only because of God's love. Did God give His only Son because man was so deserving? (Romans 5:6-8) (yes, no). Could man be rescued from eternal perishing only by God's gift? (John 3:16) (yes, no). Is God's gift the substitute for the wages which man deserved? (Romans 6:23) (yes, no). Is it illogical to reject a free gift? (yes, no).

State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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# GOD SO LOVED the WORLD

# CHRIST DIED FOR US!

## THE SUBSTITUTIONARY DEATH ATONEMENT OF JESUS:

- ISAIAH 53:4-12: HE HATH BORNE OUR GRIEFS AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS STRICKEN, SMITTEN OF GOD, AND AFFLICTED HE WAS WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS HE WAS BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES THE CHASTISEMENT OF OUR PEACE WAS UPON HIM WITH HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED ALL WE LIKE SHEEP HAVE GONE ASTRAY, WE HAVE TURNED EVERYONE TO HIS OWN WAY, THE LORD HATH LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL. THE LORD SHALL SEE THE TRAVAIL OF HIS SOUL & BE SATISFIED
- 2 COR. 5:21: HE MADE HIM TO BE SIN FOR US WHO KNEW NO SIN THAT WE MIGHT BE MADE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM
- I PET. 2:24: WHO HIS OWN SELF BARE OUR SINS IN HIS OWN BODY THAT WE BEING DEAD TO SINS SHOULD LIVE UNTO RIGHTEOUSNESS BY WHOSE STRIPES YE WERE HEALED.
- I PET. 3:18: CHRIST ONCE SUFFERED FOR SINS, THE JUST FOR THE UNJUST, THAT HE MIGHT BRING US TO GOD.
- ROM. 3:23-26: ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD, BEING JUSTIFIED FREELY BY HIS GRACE THROUGH THE REDEMPTION THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS WHOM GOD SET FORTH A PROPITIATION THROUGH FAITH IN HIS BLOOD THAT GOD MIGHT BE JUST AND THE JUSTIFIER OF HIM WHICH BELIEVETH IN JESUS.

## FAITH IN CHRIST INCLUDES BAPTISM INTO HIS DEATH:

- ACTS 8:28: HE WAS READING THE PROPHET ISAIAH  
35: BEGAN AT THAT SCRIPTURE AND PREACHED UNTO HIM JESUS  
36: WHAT DOETH HINDER ME TO BE BAPTIZED?  
38: WENT DOWN BOTH INTO WATER AND HE BAPTIZED HIM  
39: CAME UP OUT OF WATER AND WENT ON HIS WAY REJOICING
- ROM. 6:3: BAPTIZED INTO JESUS CHRIST, BAPTIZED INTO HIS DEATH  
4: BURIED WITH HIM BY BAPTISM INTO DEATH  
5: PLANTED TOGETHER IN THE LIKENESS OF HIS DEATH
- MK. 16:15: GO INTO ALL THE WORLD & PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE  
16: HE THAT BELIEVETH & IS BAPTIZED SHALL BE SAVED

**HE THAT BELIEVETH & IS BAPTIZED SHALL BE SAVED**

# OUR SINS LAID UPON HIM

## LESSON 15

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. **GOD'S MESSAGE OF GOOD NEWS IS THAT CHRIST DIED IN THE PLACE OF SINNERS.** He was the substitute for sinful man. His suffering was what we deserved. Since He was punished, we were not. This was God's "atonement" (at-one-ment) for man's sins. Fellowship broken by sin could now be restored by forgiveness because of Christ's death. Isaiah 53:4-12 clearly predicts the substitutionary death of Jesus. Did he bear our griefs and sorrows? (yes, no). Did God smite Him? (yes, no). Was he wounded for His own transgressions? (yes, no). Was He bruised for His own sins? (yes, no). Was He punished so that we could have peace with God? (yes, no). Are we healed by His stripes? (yes, no). Did God lay on Him our sins? (yes, no). Did His soul's travail satisfy God's just demand for sin's punishment? (yes, no). Is this good news? (yes, no).
2. **SINCE JESUS BARE GOD'S PUNISHMENT FOR SIN, MAN CAN BE MADE RIGHTEOUS.** Man cannot live a perfect life. Just one sin separates him from God. All the good he might ever do cannot forgive that one sin. The only hope he has for righteousness is forgiveness made possible by Jesus' death. Did God's punishment of a sinless sacrifice enable us to be made righteous in Christ? (2 Corinthians 5:21) (yes, no). Was Jesus bearing our sins in His cross suffering? (1 Peter 2:24) (yes, no). Are we healed by His stripes? (yes, no). Was the suffering of Jesus necessary more than once? (1 Peter 3:18) (yes, no). Was He the just suffering for us the unjust? (yes, no). Can I come to God on my own Tightness? (yes, no). Must I be brought to God by Jesus' righteousness which I can receive? (yes, no). Is it good news that I can be right in Jesus? (yes, no).
3. **MAN IS JUSTIFIED FREELY, NOT AT HIS OWN COST.** Romans 3:20-26 is a grand summary of salvation. It begins by saying that law doesn't justify, it only shows sin to be sin (verse 20). But God's way of making men righteous is by faith in Christ Jesus (verse 22). Since all have sinned and cannot attain fellowship with God (verse 23), God's redemption is in Christ. It is given "freely." This word in Greek means "as a gift." It is translated in John 15:25 "they hated me without a cause." Man is made righteous without causing it. He receives forgiveness he could not pay for. The death of Jesus caused my salvation. His blood paid fully the cost. Do you believe that salvation is totally free? (yes, no). Aren't we usually suspicious that a thing cannot really be free? (yes, no). If forgiveness is totally free, isn't this great news? (yes, no).
4. **GOD'S ANGER AGAINST SIN IS APPEASED BY JESUS' BLOOD.** Romans 3:25 says that God set forth Jesus as a "propitiation." This word means "appeasement." God's anger at sin was appeased or calmed by Jesus' death. The punishment was all suffered by Him, so God has no anger at the forgiven sins of a believer. By our faith in Christ's blood we are made righteous before God. Are believers saved from God's wrath because of Jesus' blood? (Romans 5:9) (yes, no). Can we be made righteous because of Jesus' obedience on the cross? (verse 19) (yes, no). Is God angry against all sin until it is punished? (Romans 1:18) (yes, no). Are unforgiven sins stored up until a final day of God's wrath? (Romans 2:5) (yes, no). Will God's wrath come upon children of disobedience? (Ephesians 5:6) (yes, no).
5. **GOD CAN NOW BE BOTH JUST AND JUSTIFIER OF BELIEVERS IN JESUS.** God cannot be unjust. This requires total punishment of all sins. But Jesus took sin's total punishment on the cross. Now God can be both just and justifier of believers. He can justify man (make him just), because his sins can be forgiven through Jesus' death. God remains a just God, and yet justifies man whom He loves. He has not changed His justice, He has punished Jesus instead of me. Is God's way of making men righteous revealed in the Gospel? (Romans 1:16, 17) (yes, no). Has Jesus been made our righteousness? (1 Corinthians 1:30) (yes, no). Was there any other way for God to be both just and also justify man except by Jesus' death? (yes, no).
6. **FAITH IN CHRIST INCLUDES BAPTISM INTO HIS DEATH.** Acts 8:26-39 is a beautiful example of a sinner who found rejoicing in the death of Jesus for his sins. He was reading Isaiah's words of how God's servant would bear his sins (verse 28). He was taught that this Scripture meant Jesus (verse 35). He then came to water and wanted to be baptized (verse 36). He was taken into the water and baptized (verse 38). He came up out of the water rejoicing (verse 39). Is baptism "into" Christ? (from without to within) (Romans 6:3) (yes, no). Is it into Christ's death? (yes, no). Is it a burial with Christ into His death? (verse 4) (yes, no). Is it a planting together with Christ in the likeness of His death? (verse 5) (yes, no). Is Christ's death what saves us? (yes, no). Do we contact His death in baptism? (yes, no). Does the forgiveness that is possible in His blood apply to our sins at the point of our burial with Him in baptism? (yes, no). Is the good news to be accepted by every creature the same way? (Mark 16:15, 16) (yes, no). Will accepting Christ's death for my sins enable me to rejoice after being baptized into His death? (yes, no). Am I united with Christ's death in baptism? (yes, no). Is obeying the Gospel by being united with Christ in baptism the point at which faith saves? (Romans 6:17, 18) (yes, no).

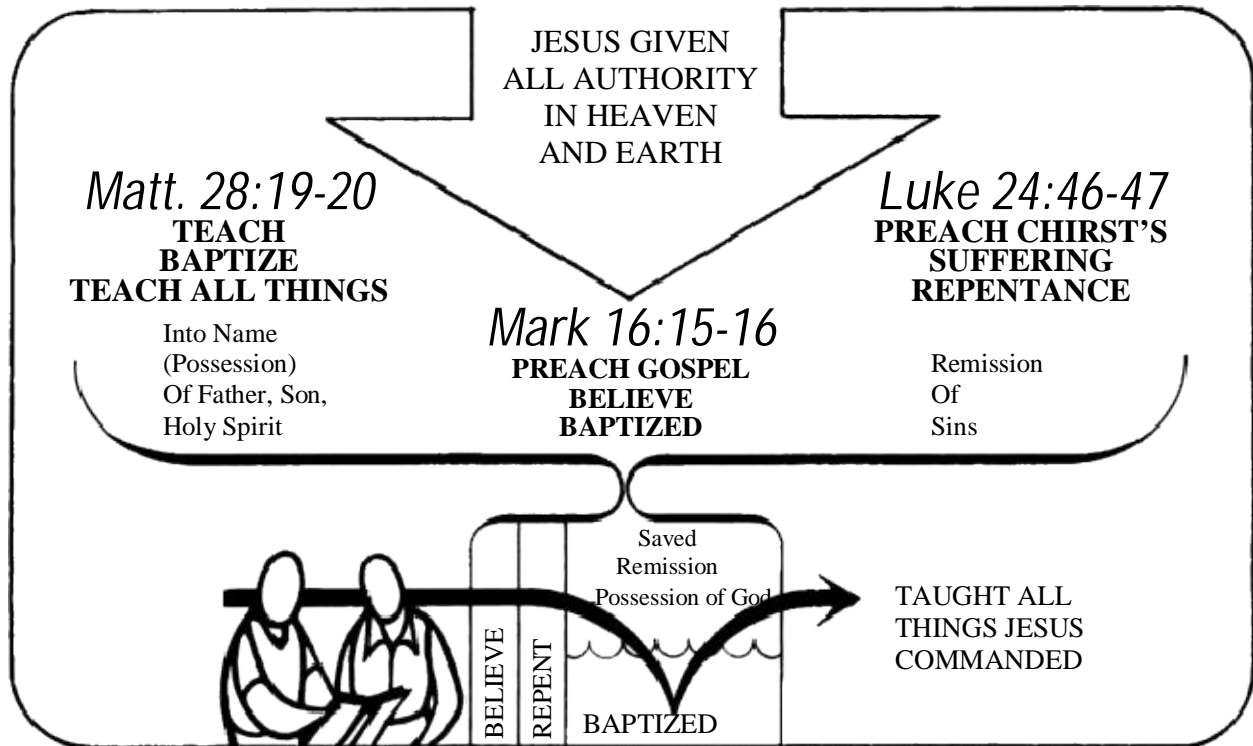
State here any question you wish answered: \_\_\_\_\_

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## God Can Be Just & Justifier

# WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

## WHAT JESUS BOUND!



Mt. 18:18: "What things soever ye (apostles) shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and what things soever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

## WHAT THE APOSTLES BOUND!

Acts 2: 3,000 Jews:  
:36: Christ Preached  
:36: Sinners Believed  
:38: Repent, Baptized 41,47:  
Saved, Added

Acts 8: Samaritans:  
:5: Christ Preached  
:12: Believed  
:12: Baptized

Acts 10, 11: Cornelius:  
Devout, Feared God  
With All House,  
Prayed, Fasted,  
Much Alms, Well  
Reported

11:14: Unsaved  
10:43: Believed  
11:18: Repented  
10:48: Baptized  
10:43: Remission

Acts 9, 22, 26: Saul:  
22:8: Believed  
9:9: Repented  
22:16: Baptized (To Wash  
Away Sins)

Acts 8: Ethiopian:  
:32,33, 35: Jesus Preached  
:38: Baptized (Into, Out Of)  
:39: Rejoiced

Acts 16: Jailer:  
:32: Taught Word  
:31: Believe  
:33: Repented  
:33: Baptized same Hour

Acts 18: Corinthians:  
:8: Heard  
:8: Believed  
:8: Baptized

Acts 8: Simon Restored:  
13: Believed, Baptized  
Mk. 16:16: Thus Saved  
Acts 8:20-23: Sinned  
:22: Repent and Pray  
:24: Pray For Me

Acts 19: Ephesians  
:3: Wrong Baptism  
:4: Taught Right  
:5: Baptized Right

### Things Not Binding In Conversion Examples According To The Great Commission:

Acts 2:2: Rushing Wind Sound  
:3: Tongues Like Fire  
:4: Filled With H.S., Spoke With Foreign Languages (:8)  
8:6, 13: Signs, Healing, Miracles  
8:26: Angel Spoke  
26:13, 14, 16: Christ Seen  
22:13: Blinded, Sight Restored  
9:13: Hands Laid For Sight  
Acts 10:44, 45: Holy Spirit Fell  
:46: Tongues Spoken  
:47: To Show Gentiles To Be Baptized  
Acts 16:26: Earthquake  
Acts 19:6: Hands Laid, Prophesied, Tongues

# WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

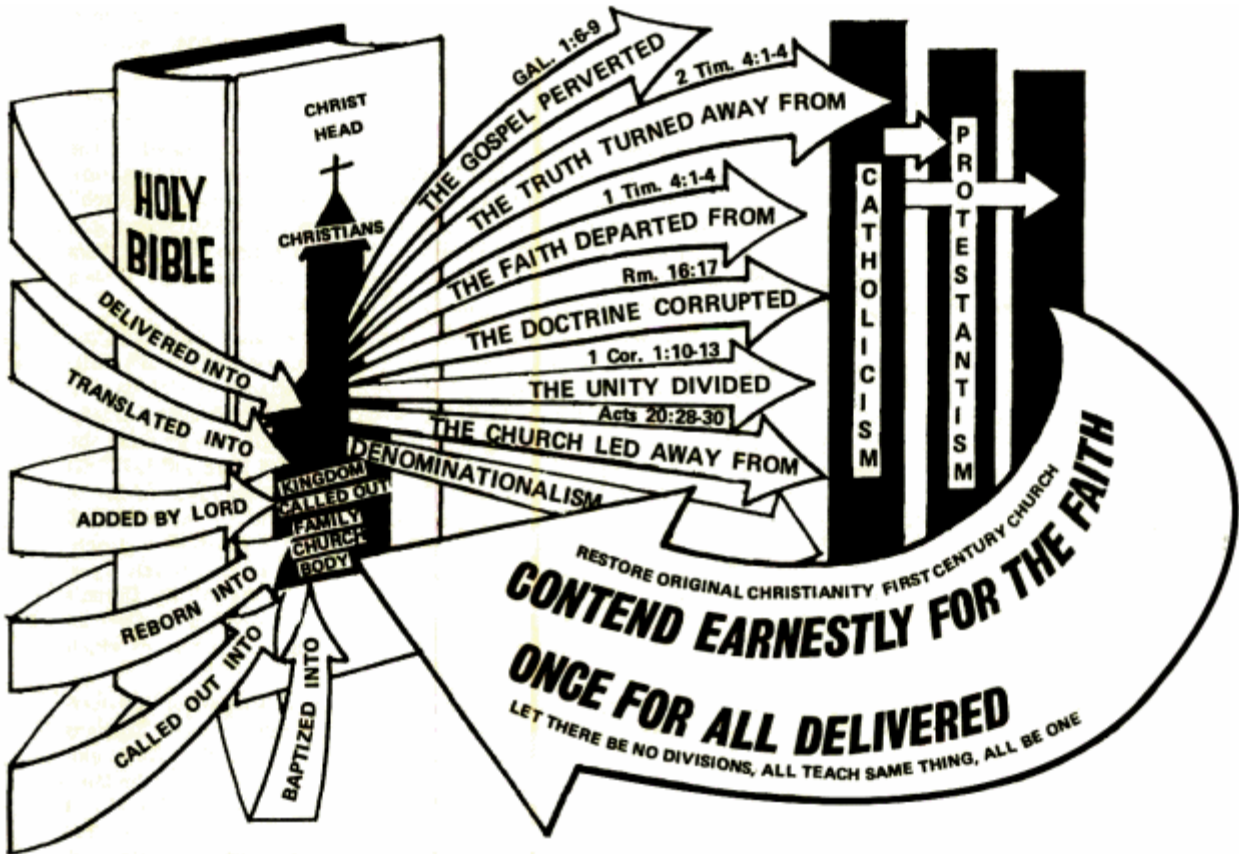
## LESSON 15

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. **THIS GREAT QUESTION IS ITSELF A SERMON:** The word "what" shows that something specific, not just anything, is necessary. "Must" shows that something is necessary, not just optional. "I" shows that salvation is very personal, an individual matter. "Do" shows that action, not just inward belief, is required. "To be saved" is in the passive voice grammatically, and shows that God does the saving, and I only receive what He does. Will I be saved if I change the Gospel? (Galatians 1:8) (yes, no). Can anyone be saved for me? (Romans 14:12) (yes, no). Am I blessed for only believing God's commandments? (Revelation 22:14) (yes, no). Is salvation something which we achieve ourselves? (Titus 3:5) (yes, no).
2. **JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN ALL POWER (AUTHORITY) IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH.** By this complete authority He commanded the apostles to preach the saving Gospel message in all the world to every creature. He then stated what sinners who heard the message must do to be saved. Three scriptures record these commands, and when combined together, they tell every creature what to do to be saved. Matthew 28:18-20 shows that all nations must be taught, baptized, and taught all things He commanded. Can I be saved without teaching? (yes, no). Can an infant be taught so as to be baptized? (yes, no).
3. **MARK 16:15, 16 SHOWS THAT THE GOSPEL MUST BE PREACHED TO EVERY CREATURE.** Every creature must believe this saving message and be baptized. Are belief and baptism both required for salvation? (yes, no). Luke 24:46, 47 shows that the suffering and rising of Christ must be preached among all nations. Repentance and remission of sins must be preached in Jesus' name. Is repentance, like all other commands to be saved, in the name of Jesus? (yes, no).
4. **THE GREAT COMMISSION IS THE COMBINATION OF THESE LAST COMMANDS OF JESUS.** They answer what every man must do to be saved: (1) Be taught (or preached to) the Gospel or the suffering and rising of Jesus, (2) Believe, (3) Repent, (4) Be baptized, (5) Then be taught all things which Jesus commanded. The promises after baptism are: (1) becoming the possession of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (the meaning of "into the name of"), (2) being saved, (3) having the remission (forgiveness) of sins. If we respect Jesus as having all power in heaven and earth, will we obey these commands? (yes, no). Can we claim the promises until we obey? (yes, no). Will the promises surely be ours when we do exactly as He commanded? (yes, no).
5. **TO SHOW US CLEARLY WHAT TO DO TO BE SAVED,** Jesus in Matthew 18:18 authorized His apostles to bind (require) on earth what He had already required in heaven. (This is the exact force of the Greek verb "bind"). As they went forth and preached the saving Gospel, we have many revealing examples of what men did to be saved. These "moving picture" examples show the Great Commission in action. They show what inspired preachers of the Gospel required men to do to be saved. When combined together, these examples picture the same requirements as Jesus gave in the Great Commission. Are certain things required and other things not required to be saved? (yes, no). If I obey what the apostles bound, will I be obeying what Jesus bound? (yes, no). Should any man dare bind something which Jesus did not bind through His apostles? (yes, no). Should any man dare loose (fail to require) what heaven bound? (yes, no).
6. **WHAT THE APOSTLES BOUND** is seen in examples of sinners saved in the Book of Acts. ACTS 2:36-47 is the first example of sinners saved by the Great Commission of Jesus. Notice how the things which Jesus bound were bound by the apostle Peter. Was Christ preached? (yes, no). Did sinners believe? (yes, no). Were they to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins? (yes, no). Were they saved and added by the Lord to the church? (yes, no). Did anyone in the Bible ever "join" the church? (yes, no). ACTS 8:4-12 shows the salvation of people of Samaria. Was Christ preached? (yes, no). Did they believe? (yes, no). Were they baptized? (yes, no). Were infants baptized? (yes, no). ACTS 8:26-39 is the salvation of a queen's treasurer from Ethiopia. Was Jesus preached? (yes, no). Was he baptized immediately? (yes, no). Was he sprinkled? (yes, no). Did his rejoicing come before his baptism? (yes, no). ACTS 9:1-22; 22:4-16; 26:12-20 is the conversion of Saul of Tarsus and his call to be an apostle. Did he believe Jesus was Lord? (yes, no). Was his repentance clearly seen? (yes, no). Was his baptism for the remission of his sins? (yes, no). ACTS 10 and 11:4-18 give the saving of the first non-Jew (Gentile), Cornelius. Was he an extremely good, moral man? (yes, no). Was he saved by this morality? (yes, no). Did he obey the commands of the Great Commission? (yes, no). Does the jailer in ACTS 16:25-34 fit the response commanded in the Great Commission? (yes, no). Do the Corinthians in ACTS 18:8? (yes, no). Simon the Sorcerer in ACTS 8:9-24 is an example first of conversion to Christ and later of restoring his life to Christ after he sinned. ACTS 19:1-7 is an example of twelve men at Ephesus who had been taught and baptized wrongly, who were then taught and baptized right by Paul.
7. **THINGS NOT BINDING IN CONVERSION EXAMPLES ACCORDING TO THE GREAT COMMISSION:** These things were not commanded by Jesus for every creature. They were needed in particular cases for purposes other than salvation, such as calling Saul to be an apostle, or convincing Jews to baptize a Gentile. Do you expect any of these special happenings? (yes, no). Are you able to clearly know what to do to be saved? (yes, no).

***WHAT JESUS BOUND! WHAT THE APOSTLES BOUND!***

# CHRISTIANITY IS UNDENOMINATIONAL



Col. 1:13: "Who delivered us out of the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love."

Acts 2:47: "And the Lord added unto them (K.J.: the church) day by day those that were saved."

Rom. 6:5: "For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death...(:3: baptized into His death.)"

Jn. 3:5: "Except one be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Acts 7:38: "in the church (called out people) in the wilderness."

1 Cor. 12:13: "For in one Spirit were we all baptized into one body."

Gal. 1:7: "There are some that trouble you and would pervert the Gospel of Christ."

2 Tim. 4:3: "For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine and will turn away their ears from the truth."

1 Tim. 4:1: "The Spirit saith expressly that in later times some shall depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons.. 3: Forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from meats.."

Rm. 16:17: "Mark them that are causing the divisions and occasions of stumbling contrary to the doctrine which ye learned and turn away from them."

1 Cor. 1:10: "Now I beseech you, brethren, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfected together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11: For it hath been signified unto me concerning you, my brethren, by them that are of the household of Chloe, that there are contentions, among you. 12: Now this I mean, that each one of you saith, I am of Paul, and I of Apollos, and I of Cephas, and I of Christ. 13: Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized into the name of Paul? 14: I thank God that I baptized none of you, save Crispus and Gaius, IS: Lest any man should say that ye were baptized into my name."

Acts 20:28: "Take heed unto yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops, to feed the church of the Lord which He purchased with His own blood. 29: I know that after my departing grievous wolves shall enter in among you not sparing the flock, 30: And from among your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things to draw away the disciples after them."

"UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH!"



# CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

## LESSON 17

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. **WE TODAY HAVE BEEN BORN INTO A DIVIDED RELIGIOUS WORLD.** We didn't cause it, we didn't want it, we just inherited it. But it wasn't this way in the beginning. The church building in the Bible (in the chart) represents Christianity as it was in its beginning. Christ was head of the church, and Christians were the church. Never does the Bible call a church building the church. It always calls Christians the church. Are men and women called the church in Acts 8:1-3? (yes, no). Was the church in the Bible a material building? (1 Peter 2:5) (yes, no). Did Jesus build a physical house? (Matthew 16:18) (yes, no).
2. **CHRIST ADDED SAVED MEN TO THE CHURCH.** The chart has arrows (and verses below) telling how men became part of the church. Did God deliver them or translate them into Christ's kingdom? (yes, no). Is Christ's kingdom different from His church? (Matthew 16:18, 19) (yes, no). Were saved men added by the Lord to the church? (Acts 2:47) (yes, no). Were men united with Christ in baptism? (Romans 6:4, 5) (yes, no). Did men reborn of water and the Spirit enter into the kingdom? (John 3:5) (yes, no). Since the word "church" means "called-out people," would a person saved from sin already be called out of the world into the church (called-out group)? (yes, no). Was the church called the body of Christ? (Colossians 1:18) (yes, no). Were people baptized into this body, the church? (1 Corinthians 12:13) (yes, no). Was every Christian in the Bible a member of Christ's church? (yes, no). Were there different kinds of churches? (yes, no).
3. **WHAT HAPPENED?** The Bible clearly tells. The arrows (on the chart) coming out of the church (and the verses below) show how original Christianity was divided and corrupted by men. **THE GOSPEL WAS PERVERTED** (Galatians 1:6-9). "Pervert" means "to corrupt by changing." Was early Christianity in Galatia very soon troubled and changed by men? (yes, no). **THE TRUTH WAS TURNED AWAY FROM** (2 Timothy 4:1-4). Do men always stay with the truth once they have been taught it? (yes, no). If men turned away from the truth, would this cause changes to be made in true Christianity? (yes, no). **THE FAITH WAS DEPARTED FROM** (1 Timothy 4:1-4). Does the expression "the faith" show that original Christianity was the same for all Christians? (yes, no). Did anyone then say, "I have my faith, and you have your faith"? (yes, no). **THE DOCTRINE WAS CORRUPTED** (Romans 16:17). Were divisions caused in the church at Rome by men teaching a different doctrine? (yes, no). Were these men allowed to remain in the fellowship of the church? (yes, no). **THE UNITY WAS DIVIDED** (1 Corinthians 1:10-13). Does Paul beg Christians in Corinth by Christ's authority to teach the same thing? (yes, no). To have no divisions? (yes, no). Were they divided over human names? (yes, no). Since "denominate" means to "divide by naming," was Paul opposing denominations which were destroying the unity in Corinth? (yes, no).
4. **THE CHURCH WAS LED AWAY FROM** (Acts 20:28-30). Paul warned elders (also called bishops or overseers) from Ephesus to take heed to the flock. The flock is another description of the church, since Christians are Christ's sheep. He tells them to feed the church of the Lord which Christ purchased with His own blood. Since Christ purchased Christians with his blood, does this show that Christians and the church are the same thing? (yes, no). Would teachers teaching perverted things scatter the flock (church)? (yes, no). Would this "draw away" from the church of the Lord other groups of disciples? (yes, no). **DENOMINATIONALISM** resulted. These groups led away by different doctrines multiplied into the 300 or more churches today. But Jesus promised that nothing would prevail against His church (Matthew 16:18, 19). Has anything prevailed against Christ's church? (yes, no). **CATHOLICISM AND PROTESTANTISM** grew out of changing early Christianity. Divisions divided and multiplied as centuries passed. We were then born into the divided result. Is God the author of confusion? (1 Corinthians 14:33) (yes, no).
5. **CONTEND EARNESTLY FOR THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS** (Jude 3). Original Christianity is called "the faith once for all delivered unto the saints." We are commanded to "contend earnestly" for it. This means to go back to Bible Christianity before it was corrupted. We must restore the Gospel as it was before it was perverted. We must restore the truth as it was before it was turned away from. We must restore the faith as it was before it was departed from. We must restore the doctrine as it was before it was corrupted. We must reproduce the unity as it was before it was divided. We must restore the church as it was before it was led away from. Do you believe these things possible? (yes, no).
6. **BACK TO BIBLE CHRISTIANITY.** Since it is man's practice to turn away from God's way, it is God's will for us to return to His way. Do commandments of men turn from God's truth? (Titus 1:14) (yes, no). Were religious leaders in Jesus' day transgressing God's command and making of none effect the Word of God by their traditions? (Matthew 15:3, 6) (yes, no). Was their worship vain because of doctrines and commandments of men? (verse 9) (yes, no). If we unhook from all religious traditions and go back to the Bible, can we be Christians exactly as Peter and Paul were? (yes, no). If ten people were shipwrecked on an island, could they take a Bible and worship as early Christians did? (yes, no). Could 100? (yes, no). 1,000? (yes, no). Is it an optional matter of no real importance to restore the unity which the Holy Spirit produced in original Christianity? (Ephesians 4:3-6) (yes, no). Does this Scripture command me to restore the one body, the one faith, and the one baptism, just as surely as it does the one God, one Lord (Jesus), and one Spirit? (yes, no).

## SOME SHALL DEPART FROM THE FAITH

# BASIC QUESTION OF ALL GENESIS



CHAPTER 1  
*God's Work Of Creation*

**I**N the beginning God created heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 ¶ And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw that the light was good: and he divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness Evening: and the evening and the morning were the first day.

6 ¶ And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were upon the firmament from the waters which were below the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon

the earth: and let the earth bring forth beasts in the firmament of the heaven divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

And let the lights be in the firmament of the heaven to give light to the earth: and it was so.

And God made two great lights; the greater to rule the day, and the lesser to rule the night: he

the light

over

from the evening and the morning were the third day.

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the earth, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind:

**CHRISTIANITY BEGINS WITH GOD**

**EVERYTHING ABOUT IT IS BASED ON HIS NATURE WHO HE IS DETERMINES WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS**

# GOD'S NATURE IS BASIC

## LESSON 18

USING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE, CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO." MAIL FOR GRADING AND NEXT LESSON

1. **BASIC QUESTION OF ALL:** The Bible begins with God. He really exists. He has spoken in His Word. He forgives us in His Son. Christianity is based upon the existence and character of God. Every act of worship and every step of faith is determined by the fact that God is and by the being that He is. Must all be taught of God? (John 6:45) (yes, no). Is life eternal knowing God and Christ? (John 17:3) (yes, no). Did some not know God, and was this the fault of Christians? (1 Corinthians 15:34) (yes, no).
2. **EVERYTHING ABOUT IT IS BASED ON HIS NATURE.** If man had designed Christianity, it would be in his own image. Because God is its Creator, it is made in His own image. Because God is spirit, worship of God must be "in spirit and in truth." Because God cannot lie, Christians cannot lie. Because God is holy, I must be holy to enjoy His fellowship. Growing as a Christian is becoming more like God. Can man become a partaker of God's nature? (2 Peter 1:4) (yes, no). Can we be changed into His image? (2 Corinthians 3:18) (yes, no). Has God designed Christianity so as to bring man into His likeness? (Hebrews 12:10) (yes, no).
3. **WHO HE IS DETERMINES WHAT WE DO.** A very important part of Christianity is worship. It is the logical and expected adoration of God. Is He worthy of our "worth-ship"? (Revelation 4:11) (yes, no). Will an understanding of God's greatness cause a response in us of praise? (1 Timothy 1:17) (yes, no). Can worship deteriorate into mere ceremonies, rituals, and empty form? (Matthew 15:8) (yes, no). Does genuine praise of God come from realizing His greatness and goodness? (Romans 11:32-36) (yes, no).
4. **BECAUSE HE IS GOD, OUR WORSHIP MUST BE TRUE.** Because God is spirit, true worship is in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). His word is truth (John 17:17). Early Christians continued steadfastly (regularly) in the apostles' doctrine (preaching the New Testament), fellowship (sharing or giving), breaking of bread (communion by means of the Lord's Supper), and prayers (Acts 2:42). Singing was another act of praise and thanksgiving to God, Christ, and the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18, 19, 20). If these acts are done physically but not spiritually, will the worshiper contact God? (yes, no). Must exact Scriptural worship be restored today if true Christianity is to be restored? (Jude 3) (yes, no). Is all that is called Christian worship actually according to the Bible? (Matthew 15:9) (yes, no). Can intelligent people worship in ignorance? (Acts 17:23) (yes, no).
5. **GOD'S KINGDOM, THE CHURCH, IS A SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.** Because God is a spirit, His church is spiritual. Since man is both physical and spiritual, his physical service in the kingdom of God has meaning only as it relates to his spirit and to God's spirit. Was our entrance into God's kingdom physical? (John 3:3-6) (yes, no). Is Jesus' kingdom of this world? (John 18:36) (yes, no). Is there danger in becoming worldly? (1 John 2:15-17) (yes, no). Should our affections be on earth? (Colossians 3:2) (yes, no).
6. **GOD DWELLS NOT IN TEMPLES MADE WITH HANDS** (Acts 17:24). Is God's nature able to be contained in material structures? (Acts 7:48, 49) (yes, no). Did Jesus abandon to the Jews what had been God's temple? (Matthew 23:38, 39) (yes, no). Does God's Spirit dwell in Christians, even in their bodies? (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19, 20) (yes, no). Is the church to be builded together in such a way that God's Spirit can dwell in it? (Ephesians 2:20-22) (yes, no). Must God's house be spiritual? (1 Peter 2:5) (yes, no).  
**SPIRITUAL GROWTH MAKES A CHRISTIAN LIKE GOD.** Man does not change into God's likeness in a moment. This happens throughout years of spiritual growth. Are new Christians like newly-born babes? (John 3:5) (yes, no). Is God's Word their milk by which they grow? (1 Peter 2:2) (yes, no). Because Christians still have a human side, as well as a spiritual nature, will they have a daily struggle? (Romans 7:23, 24) (yes, no). Is God's forgiveness continuous as the Christian continues to walk in fellowship with God? (1 John 1:7) (yes, no). Did God know that I would sin even after conversion? (1 John 1:8-10) (yes, no).
7. **THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY, WHERE SPIRITUAL GROWTH HAPPENS.** Is the house (family) of God the church? (1 Timothy 3:15) (yes, no). Is the church like a body that grows up and grows together unto the head (Christ)? (Ephesians 4:14-16) (yes, no). Must we glorify God in the church? (Ephesians 3:21) (yes, no). Were some Christians in Corinth weak and sickly (and some dead spiritually) by not receiving the strength of the Lord's Supper? (1 Corinthians 11:30) (yes, no). Do elders of a local church watch for the souls of each Christian? (Hebrews 13:17) (yes, no). Can they do this if I am not a working part of a local congregation? (yes, no). Do we encourage one another as Christians? (Hebrews 10:24) (yes, no). Is it unimportant if I for-sake worship assemblies? (Hebrews 10:25) (yes, no).
8. **GODLINESS IS DAILY CHRISTIAN LIVING.** Godliness is God-likeness in a Christian's daily life. The traits of God must be imitated and developed in me. Am I truthful if I claim fellowship with God and yet walk in darkness? (1 John 1:6) (yes, no). Since Jesus is the fullest expression of God (Hebrews 1:1-3), do I become like God by following His steps? (1 Peter 2:21) (yes, no). Is God angry with all ungodliness? (Romans 1:18) (yes, no).  
AS THIS CONCLUDES THIS SERIES, WOULD YOU LIKE TO BEGIN ANOTHER SERIES? (yes, no).

## WHO HE IS, DETERMINES WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS

## DOES GOD EXIST SERIES - Answer Sheet

- LESSON 1: (1) yes, yes (2) no, no (3) no, yes (4) no, yes (5) yes, yes (6) yes, yes (7) yes, no (8) no, yes (9) yes, no (10) yes, yes (11) yes, yes.
- LESSON 2: (1) no, yes (2) no, no (3) yes, yes (4) no, yes (5) no, no (6) no, yes (7) no, yes (8) yes, no, yes (9) yes, yes (10) yes, yes, yes.
- LESSON 3: (1) no, no (2) no, yes (3) yes, yes (4) no, no, yes, yes (5) no, yes, no (6) yes, yes (7) no, yes (8) yes, yes, no (9) no, yes, yes (10) no, yes, yes.
- LESSON 4: (1) no, yes (2) yes, yes (3) no, no (4) yes, yes (5) no, yes (6) yes, yes (7) yes, yes (8) yes, yes (9) yes, yes (10) no, yes.
- LESSON 5: (1) yes, yes (2) yes, yes (3) no, no (4) no, yes (5) no, yes (6) yes, yes (7) no (8) yes, no (9) yes, yes (10) yes, yes
- LESSON 6: (1) yes (2) yes, yes (3) yes, no (4) no (5) no (6) yes (7) yes (8) yes (9) yes (10) yes
- LESSON 7: (1) yes (2) yes (3) yes, yes, yes, yes, no, no (4) yes, yes, yes, yes (3) no, no, no (4) no, yes, no, yes (5) yes, no, yes (6) no, yes, yes, yes, no, yes.
- LESSON 8: (1) yes (2) yes (3) yes, yes (4) yes, yes (5) no, yes, no (6) yes, yes, yes.
- LESSON 9: (1) yes (2) yes, no (3) yes, yes (4) no, no (5) no, yes, yes, no, yes, yes (6) no, no, no, yes (7) yes, no, no, yes, yes (8) yes, yes, yes (9) yes, no, no (10) no, yes, no, yes.
- LESSON 10: (1) yes, yes, yes (2) yes, yes, no (3) no, no (4) yes, yes, yes, no, yes (5) no, yes, yes (6) yes, yes, yes (7) no, yes (8) yes, yes, no (9) yes, yes, no, no, yes, yes.
- LESSON 11: (1) no, yes (2) yes, yes, yes (3) yes, no, yes, no (4) yes, yes, no (5) yes, yes, yes, no, no, yes (6) yes, no (7) no, yes, yes, yes, yes (8) no, no, no, no, yes, yes, yes (9) yes, yes, no.
- LESSON 12: (1) yes, yes (2) yes, yes, yes, yes (3) no, yes, no (4) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, no, yes (5) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes (6) no, no, yes, yes (7) yes, no, no, no, yes.
- LESSON 13: (1) yes (2) six hours, yes (3) yes, no, yes (4) yes, no, yes, no (5) yes, no, no (6) yes, no, yes, no (7) yes, yes, yes, yes (8) no, yes, yes (9) yes, no, yes (10) no, no, yes, yes, yes, no.
- LESSON 14: (1) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes (2) no, yes, yes, no, yes, no, no (3) no, no, no, yes, no, no (4) no, yes, yes, yes (5) no, no, yes, yes, no, yes (6) yes, yes, yes, yes (7) yes, no, no, yes, no, yes (8) no, yes, yes, yes.
- LESSON 15: (1) yes, yes, no, no, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes (2) yes, yes, yes, no, yes, no, yes, yes (3) yes, yes, yes (4) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes (5) yes, yes, no (6) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.
- LESSON 16: (1) no, no, no, no (2) no, no (3) yes, yes (4) yes, no, yes (5) yes, yes, no, no (6) yes, yes, yes, yes, no, yes, yes, yes, no, no, yes, yes, yes, yes, no, yes, yes, yes (7) no, yes.
- LESSON 17: (1) yes, no, no (2) yes, no, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, no (3) yes, no, yes, yes, no, yes, no, yes, yes, yes, yes (4) yes, yes, yes, no, no (5) yes (6) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, no, yes.
- LESSON 18: (1) yes, yes, yes (2) yes, yes, yes (3) yes, yes, yes, yes (4) no, yes, no, yes (5) no, no, yes, no (6) no, yes, yes, yes, yes (7) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes (8) yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, no, yes, no (9) no, yes, yes.

### DEDUCT THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH MISTAKE:

Lesson 1 - 4 points  
 Lesson 2 \* 4 points  
 Lesson 3 - 4 points  
 Lesson 4 - 5 points  
 Lesson 5 - 5 points  
 Lesson 6 - 8 points

Lesson 7 - 4 points  
 Lesson 8 - 8 points  
 Lesson 9 \* 3 points  
 Lesson 10 \* 3 points  
 Lesson 11 - 3 points  
 Lesson 12 - 3 points

Lesson 13-3 points  
 Lesson 14-3 points  
 Lesson 15 - 3 points  
 Lesson 16 - 3 points  
 Lesson 17 - 3 points  
 Lesson 18 - 3 points