
A Bible Survey



A Three Year Course of Study for Adults

Section Eleven: New Testament Epistles
Year 3, Quarter 3

Compiled by Gene Taylor

Preface

These lessons were first compiled over a three year period from April 1988 through March 1991. The then Westside church of Christ in Tallahassee, Florida (Now the Centerville Road church relocated to 4015 Centerville Road in Tallahassee) determined to place all their Sunday morning Bible classes on the *Amplified Bible Curriculum* (Hereafter referred to as *ABC*) developed by JoLinda Crump and Cathy Valdes.

While their curriculum recommended materials from preschool through senior high, we desired to place our college, young adult, and adult classes on the same schedule. The volume of material in L.A. Mott's studies, recommended in the *ABC* for source material and lesson development, did not easily lend itself to a once a week study since he designed his lessons to be studied twice each week.

Considering these factors, I took it upon myself to compile these lessons. We used them successfully while cycling through the curriculum twice in our senior high, college, young adult, and adult classes from April 1988 through March 1994. They were edited and revised prior to the second study of them. They have been revised a second time and reformatted in 1997.

I have tried to parallel the *ABC* as much as possible so that adults and children would be studying the same lesson at the same time only on different levels. But this series, or any one of its twelve study guides, may be used independently.

Each lesson contains a schedule for daily Bible reading. It can be used as a format for family devotionals in the home even if the whole family is not on the curriculum.

I hope you enjoy your study.

Gene Taylor
July 1997

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Lesson One: The Two Israels

Lesson Text

Romans 9:1 - 11:36

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Romans 1-3

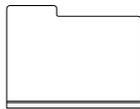
Tuesday
Romans 4-5

Thursday
Romans 6-7

Friday
Romans 8-9

Saturday
Romans 10-11

Lesson Concept



CHURCH
Preaching the
new covenant

Paul's Sorrow for Israel (9:1-5)

1. Why did Paul have heaviness and sorrow in his heart?
2. What shows the depth of Paul's feelings for Israel? What made the status of Israel such a great tragedy?

The Vindication of God: God Not at Fault (9:6-29)

3. How are "they...not all Israel who are of Israel?"
4. What is meant by the statement, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated?"
5. Why would anyone accuse God of "unrighteousness?"
6. What caused Paul to anticipate the question about God's character in verse 14? Summarize his answer given in verses 15 through 18.
7. If God "hardens...whom He wills" (v. 18), why does He still find fault with those hardened since, it seems, it is His will that has been executed in their hardening?
8. What lesson is to be learned from the figure of the "potter" and the "clay?"
9. Why does Paul appeal to the prophecy of:
 - a. Hosea (vv. 25-26)?
 - b. Isaiah (vv. 27-29)?

Israel Is to Blame for Its Own Rejection (9:30-33)

10. How did the Gentiles attain to righteousness? Why did not the Jews?
11. What is meant by "stumbling stone and rock of offense?"

Israel's Ignorance of God's Righteousness (10:1-13)

12. What explanation for Israel's condition is stated in this passage?
13. Explain and contrast Israel's own righteousness, the righteousness of God and the righteousness which is of the law.

14. How is there no difference between Jew and Gentile?

15. Who does verse 13 say will be saved? What does that mean?

Israel's Rejection of the Gospel (10:14-21)

16. Summarize the way of salvation and righteousness brought out in this passage.

17. How does faith come? How does that apply to the lost state of Israel?

The Rejection of Israel Is Not Complete (11:1-10) Nor Final (11:11-24)

18. What is the proof that God has not cast off His people?

19. In what way had divine providence brought about a good result from the unbelief of the Israelites?

20. In what way did Paul hope that in the providence of God some of the unbelieving Israelites would yet be saved?

21. Describe the "grafting process" presented in this chapter. What was it to accomplish?

21. What warning was given to Gentile Christians?

23. What hope remained for the Israelites?

God's Ultimate Purpose: Mercy to All (11:25-32)

24. Is verse 26 a prediction of Israel's national conversion and salvation? Explain.

Exclamation of Praise (11:33-36)

25. What caused Paul to praise the wisdom and knowledge of God?

Lesson Two: Christians as Citizens

Lesson Text

Romans 13:1-14

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Romans 12

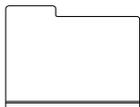
Tuesday
Romans 13

Thursday
Romans 14

Friday
Romans 15

Saturday
Romans 16

Lesson Concept



CHRISTIANITY
Obeying government

1. Show from the context what is meant by “the higher powers?”
2. How are higher powers ordained of God?
3. According to this passage, what is the purpose or function of government?
4. To what are rulers a “terror?” Why?
5. How does verse four relate to 12:19 in relation to the subject of vengeance?
6. Why does one pay “tribute” or “taxes?”
7. List the duties of a Christian toward government.
8. What reasons are given for submission to government?
9. What does it mean to “owe no one anything?”
10. How does Paul’s admonition to “put on” Christ relate to the teaching in the rest of this chapter?

Lesson Three: Growing to Perfection

Lesson Text

1 Corinthians 1:1 - 5:13

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

1 Corinthians 1
1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Tuesday

1 Corinthians 2

Thursday

1 Corinthians 3

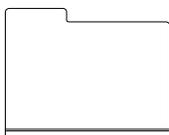
Friday

1 Corinthians 4-5

Saturday

2 Corinthians 13

Lesson Concept



CHURCH

Being a peacemaker

Introduction (1:1-9)

1. What is taught about the church in verse two?

Exhortation to Unity (1:10-17)

2. List the various expressions found in verse 10 that bring out the concept of unity. What kept the Corinthians from being united?
3. What does it mean to be “of” someone in the sense of verse 12? How does one become “of Christ?”
4. Do the statements found in verse 14 through 17 mean that Paul was opposed to baptism? Explain. Why do you think he was thankful he had baptized so few of them?

The Word of the Cross (1:19-25)

5. What contrasting views of the cross were held?
6. Explain how God “made foolish the wisdom of the world.”

The Divine Purpose (1:26-31)

7. How was the truth concerning the wisdom of God versus the wisdom of the world confirmed by what was seen in the church?
8. What was God’s ultimate purpose in choosing the foolish things, the weak things, etc.? How would His choice of such things serve such a purpose?
9. What divine purpose is served by all that Christians receive in Christ?

The Preaching of Paul (2:1-5)

10. Describe Paul’s conduct among the Corinthians.
11. Why did Paul preach as he did? What was the purpose of his method of teaching?

God’s Wisdom in a Mystery (2:6-16)

12. List the characteristics of the wisdom spoken by Paul and his fellow-workers.

13. If God's wisdom deals with things beyond human conception, how did these things come to be known among men?
14. In the light of the context, explain the fundamental difference between "the natural man" and "he who is spiritual."

The Proper View of Mankind in the Scheme of Things (3:1-9)

15. What is the evidence of immaturity and carnality among the Corinthians?
16. What is taught as to the proper view of the role of mankind in the purpose of God?

God's Building and a Warning Against Destroying It (3:10-17)

17. How were they "God's building?" What is the foundation of that building? What is the "work," the materials built on that foundation by human builders?
18. Explain the references to fire. (cf. 1 Peter 1:6, 7; 4:12, 17)
19. Show from context how the Corinthians threatened to destroy the temple of God. Discuss the serious nature of this offense.

Warning Against Self-Deception (3:18-23)

20. What form of self-deception is warned against? Why?

The Right View of Teachers (4:1-5)

21. How should teachers of the gospel be regarded? What error did the Corinthians make?
22. Explain the term "stewards" in light of Luke 16:1ff. What is the fundamental requirement of a steward?
23. What is the value of man's judgment in such matters? Why? When and how could a person properly judge?

The Rebuke to Their Sectarian Pride and Paul's Appeal to Them (4:6-21)

24. What was the purpose of Paul's references to himself and Apollos? (Noting 3:5)
25. What three questions intended to humble human pride are found in verse 7? How do they serve this purpose?
25. How do these verses serve as proof that the Corinthians had things twisted and distorted?
27. Describe the apostle Paul's tender feeling for the Corinthians and the basis of it.
28. What appeal did the apostle make to them?

Dealing with Sin in the Church (5:1-13)

29. What extreme sin was being tolerated by the church? What attitude did they have toward it that was so completely out of harmony with the gospel? What should have been their attitude?
30. What action did the apostle Paul call for in regard to this sin?
31. Explain the references to “Passover” and “leaven.”
32. What is the sphere within which the teaching of this chapter is applicable?

Lesson Four: Unity in the Church

Lesson Text

1 Corinthians 6:1-8;
11:17 - 12:31

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

1 Corinthians 6:1-8

Tuesday

1 Corinthians 11:17-26

Thursday

1 Corinthians 11:27-34
Romans 12:3-5

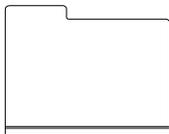
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1 Corinthians 12:1-14

Saturday

1 Corinthians 12:15-31

Lesson Concept



CHURCH

Being of one mind

Lawsuits (6:1-8)

1. Summarize the practice rebuked in these verses.
2. What point is made by referring to the fact that Christians will judge the world and angels?
3. What in the context was calculated to move them to “shame?”

The Lord’s Supper (11:17-34)

4. For what evil must the Corinthians be blamed rather than praised? Define it fully.
5. Explain the meaning of the Lord’s Supper in contrast with the abuse that was taking place at Corinth.
6. Why is it important for one to examine himself as he participates in the Lord’s Supper? What serious issues are involved?
7. What conditions were present at Corinth because of their abuses in the Lord’s Supper?
8. What was the Lord’s purpose in this chastisement of them?

Spiritual Gifts (12:1-31)

9. What diversity existed among them as to spiritual gifts? What unity existed in relation to those gifts?
10. What is said to be the purpose of these spiritual gifts?
11. In relation to the figure of the church as a human body:
 - a. How is the church like a human body?
 - b. How did those who are members of Christ come to be one body with many members? Why do you think that idea is introduced into this context?
 - c. What are the main points about the body and its functioning from which the church should profit?

A Summary

12. What common theme(s), if any, can be seen in each of these passages?

13. What applications can be made today from the principles found in these passages?

Lesson Five: Love

Lesson Text

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Tuesday

Ephesians 4:11-16

Thursday

Matthew 22:34-40

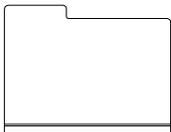
Friday

Luke 6:27-38

Saturday

2 Corinthians 13

Lesson Concept



CHRISTIANITY

Showing love

The Importance of Love (13:1-3)

1. How is the teaching in this chapter related to that which is taught in chapter 12?
2. Illustrate the importance of love.

The Behavior of Love (13:4-7)

3. Define each of the following characteristics of love.
 - a. Suffers long.
 - b. Is kind.
 - c. Does not envy.
 - d. Does not parade itself.
 - e. Is not puffed up.
 - f. Does not behave rudely.
 - g. Does not seek its own.
 - h. Is not selfish.
 - i. Is not provoked.
 - j. Thinks no evil.
 - k. Does not rejoice in iniquity.
 - l. Rejoices in truth.
 - m. Bears all things.
 - n. Believes all things.
 - o. Hopes all things.
 - p. Endures all things.

The Permanence of Love (13:8-13)

4. Contrast love with spiritual gifts.
5. Consider what is meant in verse ten by the phrase “that which is perfect.”
6. Explain how love is greater than faith and hope.

A Summary

7. What is the purpose of this essay on love in the midst of a long discussion on spiritual gifts?

Lesson Six: Stand Fast

Lesson Text

Galatians 1:1 - 6:18

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Galatians 1-2

Tuesday
Galatians 3

Thursday
Galatians 4

Friday
Galatians 5

Saturday
Galatians 6

Lesson Concept



CHRISTIANITY
Knowing the gospel
is for all

Introduction (1:1-10)

1. What is the occasion and purpose of this epistle?
2. Is another gospel possible? Explain. How are the sufficiency and the finality of the gospel brought out in these verses?

The Origin of Paul's Gospel (1:11-24)

3. What claim does Paul make concerning his teaching? How does he prove this claim?

Paul's Second Trip to Jerusalem (2:1-10)

4. What issue involved Titus? What decisions were made in his case? Why?
5. Why does Paul state that James, Cephas and John gave him and Barnabas "the right hand of fellowship?"

The Confrontation of Peter at Antioch (2:11-21)

6. How does this incident bear upon the case Paul has been presenting for his apostleship and message? How did the behavior of Peter involve the very issues with which Paul is dealing in this epistle?
7. How serious were the implications of Peter's conduct and of the teaching of the Judaizers?

Justification by Faith: Argument from Experience (3:1-5)

8. What question does Paul raise in this text? Why did Paul ask it?

Justification by Faith: Argument from Scripture (3:6-14)

9. Who are the real sons of Abraham? How is this conclusion established?
10. Explain the necessity and purpose of the cross with regard to "the blessing of Abraham" and "the promise of the Spirit."

Justification by Faith: Illustration from Human Affairs (3:15-19)

11. What accepted principle concerning covenants is applied here? Explain Paul's application of it to God's covenant promises to Abraham. How is it used to refute the Judaizing false teachers?

Justification by Faith: The Place of the Law (3:19-22)

12. What purpose did the law serve in the divine plan?

Justification by Faith: Childhood versus Maturity (3:23-29)

13. According to this text, what was the role of the law?

14. What is the position of a person in Christ as contrasted to the position of one under the law?

15. Who are the seed of Abraham?

16. What is the relationship between faith and baptism?

Justification by Faith: Escape from Bondage (4:1-7)

17. How is the condition of one under the law illustrated?

18. What, according to this text, was the purpose of the incarnation?

19. What is the new position of a person in Christ?

Justification by Faith: Return to Bondage (4:8-11)

20. Since the Galatians were not Jews but former pagans (v. 8), what can be meant by the phrase “turn back again” in verse nine?

21. What did Paul fear? Why?

Justification by Faith: Paul’s Tender Appeal (4:12-20)

22. What appeal is made in this text? Why?

23. Describe the drastic change in the Galatians’ attitude toward Paul.

Justification by Faith: The Allegory of Hagar and Sarah (4:21-31)

24. What is an allegory?

25. Who do the two women represent? What do their sons represent? What application is made of this allegory?

The Freedom in Christ: The Call to Hold Fast to That Freedom (5:1-6)

26. What is the freedom of which Paul speaks? What is the “yoke of bondage” that specially threatened the Galatians?

27. List the consequences of relying upon the law for justification.
28. What principles of life as a Christian are set forth in this text? How do they contrast to the bondage of the law?

The Freedom in Christ: Stern Words for the False Teachers (5:7-12)

29. Who was the troublemaker spoken of by Paul?
30. Contrast Paul's attitude toward the disciples in Galatia with his attitude toward the false teachers.

The Freedom in Christ: Warning Concerning Perversion of Freedom (5:13-15)

31. In what way was "freedom" liable to be abused or misapplied?

The Freedom in Christ: The Flesh and the Spirit (5:16-26)

32. What does it mean to walk by the Spirit? How does the Spirit and the flesh war against each other?
33. List and define:
- a. The "works of the flesh."
 - b. The "fruit of the Spirit."

The Freedom in Christ: Exhortation to Mutual Help and Service (6:1-10)

34. Why must it be those who are "spiritual" who do the work of restoration?
35. What could cause a person to think "he is something when he is nothing?" What solution is suggested?
36. Explain the seemingly contradictory teaching of verses two and five.

Conclusion (6:11-18)

37. Why would Paul use especially large letters as he closes this epistle?
38. In contrast to the Judaizing teachers, in what alone did Paul place confidence for his salvation? Why?

Lesson Seven: Scheme of Redemption

Lesson Text

Ephesians 1:1 - 3:21

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Ephesians 1:1-14

Tuesday

Ephesians 1:15-23

Thursday

Ephesians 2
1 Corinthians 6:9

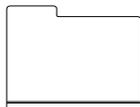
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Ephesians 3:1-13
Hebrews 6:12

Saturday

Ephesians 3:14-21
1 Peter 3:9

Lesson Concept



GODHEAD

Fulfilling God's plan

Spiritual Blessings in Christ (1:1-14)

1. What is meant when God is said to be "blessed?" How does one "bless" God? For what reason does the text ascribe blessedness to God?
2. What, according to verse six, is the goal in God's foreordination of those in Christ?
3. What specific blessings given in Christ are listed here?
4. How did God cause His grace to abound toward us "in all wisdom and prudence?"
5. What was the aim or goal of the divine purpose?
6. According to verses 11 through 14, what further blessings came in fulfillment of divine purpose?

Prayer for Spiritual Insight (1:15-23)

7. Since Paul's prayer is basically for greater insight into and appreciation of the great things God has done, what are three things such insight would enable Christians to know?
8. How does Paul impress his readers with the greatness of God's power toward the believers?
9. Explain the relationship between Christ and the church as it is presented in this passage.

Past Experience of Grace (2:1-10)

10. List the elements of the lost state which are enumerated in this text.
11. What three things did God do when He found mankind in a lost state? What was His motivation? What was His purpose?

Oneness in Christ (2:11-22)

12. Describe the condition of the Gentiles before Christ. What could be their new condition "in Christ?" How was this change of condition accomplished?

13. What two aspects of reconciliation are brought out in these verses?

Fulfillment of the Purpose of the Ages in the Church (3:1-13)

14. Describe the “mystery” of which Paul writes in relation to:

- a. “Other (former) ages.”
- b. “Now.”
- c. Its content.

15. To what is the “manifold wisdom of God” applied?

16. Explain the significance of the church in relation to what is said of it in verse ten.

Prayer for Spiritual Strength (3:14-19)

17. Is there a relationship between this prayer and the one found in 1:15-23? Explain.

Doxology (3:20-21)

18. How is this ascription of praise a fitting conclusion to the doctrinal presentation made in the first three chapters of this book?

Lesson Eight:

Marriage and Other Special Relationships

Lesson Text

Ephesians 5:11 - 6:9

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Ephesians 5:11-23

Tuesday

Ephesians 6:1-9

Thursday

Titus 2:1-8

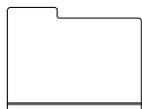
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1 Peter 3:1-12

Saturday

Matthew 19:3-25

Lesson Concept



CHRISTIANITY

Loving each other
in marriage

Wives and Husbands (5:22-33)

1. From the text, describe the role of the:
 - a. Husband.
 - b. Wife.
2. Since verse 21 calls for mutual subjection as an element of spirituality, as the wife is to be subject to her husband, is the husband, in another sense, to be subject (i.e., be a servant of) his wife? Explain.
3. What is the model of the husband's headship?
4. List several ways from the text in which Christ relates to the church.
5. What is meant by the phrase "the washing of water by the word?" (v. 26) Justify your answer with scriptural evidence and logical argument.
6. What do verses 25 through 27 contribute toward understanding the significance of baptism and its relation to the doctrine of salvation by grace (cf. 2:8-9)?

Children and Parents (6:1-4)

7. What is the two-fold duty of children to parents? In what way does the fulfillment of this duty bring blessings in this world as well as in the future life?
8. What duty is specially given to fathers?
9. How does the parallel statement found in Colossians 3:21 contribute toward an understanding of verse four?
10. What alternative approach is to be used in place of (and to prevent) provoking children to wrath?

Servants and Masters (6:5-9)

11. On the basis of these verses, describe how Christianity changes the relationship of a servant to his master.
12. What motivation is provided for a master to give considerate treatment to his slaves?
13. Since Americans no longer live in a slave society, does this passage have any application in our society? Explain.

Lesson Nine: The Whole Armor

Lesson Text

Ephesians 5:1-21;
6:10-24

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Ephesians 5:1-20

Tuesday

Ephesians 6:10-24

Thursday

1 Thessalonians 5:4-10

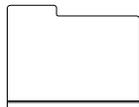
Friday

Colossians 1:9-13

Saturday

2 Timothy 2:1-4; 4:7

Lesson Concept



CHRISTIANITY

Being soldiers
for Christ

Children of Light (5:1-14)

1. What does it mean to “walk in love?” What connection does it have with the teaching of verse one of chapter 4?
2. How is Christ “a sweet-smelling aroma?” (v. 2)
3. What does it mean to be deceived with “empty words?” Are there false teachers today who deceive in this same way? Explain.
4. How, according to the context (vv. 7-12), does one carry out the admonition to “Walk as children of light?”

Living with Wisdom as a Christian (5:15-21)

5. How, according to these verses, will wisdom show itself?
6. A parallel passage, Colossians 3:16, suggests the means by which one is “Filled with the Spirit,” but what four expressions of this spirituality are given in this text?

The Strength of the Lord (6:10-20)

7. Describe the nature of the forces that are hostile to the Christian.
8. What does this passage contribute toward understanding one’s life as a Christian?
9. Describe the source of the Christian’s strength in contrast with the resources used by other people for coping with life’s problems.
10. Define the following items of the Christian’s armor and briefly summarize what each does for him/her.
 - a. Waist girded with truth.
 - b. Breastplate of righteousness.
 - c. Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel.
 - d. Shield of faith.
 - e. Helmet of salvation.
 - f. Sword of the Spirit.
11. Why is this passage such a fitting climax to this epistle?

Lesson Ten: The Book of Joy

Lesson Text

Philippians 1:1 - 4:23

Daily Bible Reading



Monday
Philippians 1

Tuesday
Philippians 2:1-18

Thursday
Philippians 2:19-30

Friday
Philippians 3

Saturday
Philippians 4
2 Timothy 2:1-4

Lesson Concept



CHRISTIANITY
Having a positive
attitude

Salutation (1:1-2)

1. What may be learned about the local church from the address of this letter?

Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Philippians (1:3-11)

2. What expressions show Paul's tender feeling for the Philippians? What are the reasons for such feelings?
3. On the basis of verses 9 through 11, describe the character of genuine love.

Paul's Prospects (1:12-30)

4. What had been the outcome of Paul's afflictions?
5. List the differing motives given in this chapter for the preaching of Christ? What was Paul's attitude toward this situation?
6. What was Paul's expectation with regard to his future?
7. What, according to the context, are the characteristics of a life worthy of the gospel?

Exhortation to Unity (2:1-11) and Obedience (2:12-28)

8. List the things the Philippians had already experienced in Christ which provide a strong basis for unity.
9. What did Paul say that it would take to make his joy full?
10. Describe the attitudes necessary to unity as seen in the text.
11. Explain the purpose of the reference to the example of Jesus.
12. Explain the exhortation "work out your own salvation."
13. What attitudes must be avoided if one is to work successfully as a child of God?

Timothy and Epaphroditus (2:19-30)

14. What were Paul's plans in relation to Philippi?
15. Who was Epaphroditus? What kind of man was he? Why did Paul send him to Philippi?

The Excellence of Christ (3:1-16)

16. Identify the false teachers referred to in verse two.
17. Who, according to Paul, are the real "circumcision?"
18. Name those things which Paul listed as his advantages in the flesh. What, as a Christian, was his attitude toward these things? What had he come to value as being supremely important?
19. As a Christian, what was Paul's goal in life? What application does this have for us today?

Heavenly Citizenship (3:17-21)

20. To whom should Christians look for a life pattern? Why?
21. What are the characteristics of the "enemies of the cross of Christ?"
22. What is the future hope of Christians?

Exhortations to Firmness (4:1) and to Some Individuals (4:2-3)

23. What does it mean to "stand fast in the Lord?"
24. From the text, was Paul the "woman hater" some have made him out to be? Explain.

Prohibition of Anxiety (4:4-7)

25. What is the antidote to anxiety that Paul prescribes? How does your answer relate to the overall theme of this epistle?

The Secret of Contentment (4:9-23)

26. What is recommended as to the proper use of the mind? What results will such use of it bring?
27. What, as seen in this passage, was the real source of Paul's joy? What does that suggest as to his character?
28. What important secret had Paul learned?
29. What points are made in this passage about the value and effects of giving?
30. What assurance does Paul give the Philippians?

Lesson Eleven: The Preeminence of Christ

Lesson Text

Colossians 1:1 - 4:18

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

Colossians 1:1-14

Tuesday

Colossians 1:15-29

Thursday

Colossians 2

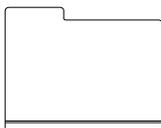
Friday

Colossians 3

Saturday

Colossians 4

Lesson Concept



GODHEAD

Recognizing three distinct personalities

Salutation and Thanksgiving (1:1-8)

1. What relationship existed between Paul and the Colossians? (cf. 2:1) What was the basis of his thanksgiving for them?
2. Describe the progress of the gospel in the world and Colosse.

Prayer (1:9-14)

3. What was the leading petition of Paul's prayer for the Colossians? What relevance did this have in reference to the subject of the epistle?
4. What are three characteristics mentioned here of the worthy walk?
5. Why do Christians owe thanks to the Father?

The Supremacy of Christ (1:15-23)

6. Describe the relation of Christ to God.
7. What one term is used to describe Christ's relation to both the material and spiritual creations?
8. In what way is Jesus "the firstborn of all creation?" Does that mean that Jesus was a created being?. Explain.
9. Describe the relation of Jesus to the church.
10. Define "all the fullness." (v. 19; cf. 2:9)
11. How did the divine purpose specifically apply to the Colossians?

The Ministry of Paul (1:24 - 2:5)

12. What was the significance of Paul's sufferings? How could he rejoice in them?
13. What was the purpose of Paul's ministry? Relate that to the subject of this epistle.
14. With what was Paul struggling in regard to the Colossians? (2:1-3)

The Fullness of Life in Christ (2:6-19)

15. After one has “received Christ Jesus the Lord,” as described in this epistle, what then must he do?
16. What was the danger against which Paul warned the Colossians? What means could someone use to cheat or despoil them?
17. What is the relationship of the ordinances of the law of Moses to Christ?

Foundations of the Life as a Christian (2:20 - 3:4)

18. According to 2:20-23, what are the implications of the spiritual death that takes place in baptism with regard to ordinances which were contained in the Mosaic system?
19. What kind of life is appropriate to one “raised with Christ?” (3:1-4)

The Old Man and the New (3:5-17)

20. What is meant by the “old man” and the “new man?”
21. Explain the statement “Christ is, all, and in all.”

The Sufficiency of Christ in Human Relationships (3:19 - 4:6)

22. What application does the sufficiency of Christ have in everyday life?
23. How is the Christian to act towards “those who are outside?”

Various Salutations and the Benediction (4:7-18)

24. What does verse 16 indicate about how the New Testament epistles came to be circulated?

Lesson Twelve: Church Discipline

Lesson Text

See Daily Reading

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

2 Thessalonians 3

Tuesday

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Thursday

Romans 16:17-18

Galatians 6:1-2

Friday

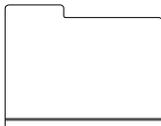
1 Thessalonians 1

1 Timothy 6:3-5

Saturday

1 Thessalonians 2

Lesson Concept



CHURCH

Withdrawing from the ungodly

Those Who Do Not Teach Sound Doctrine (1 Timothy 6:3-5)

1. What is sound doctrine? Why is it so important?
2. What are the characteristics of one who does not teach doctrine that is sound? Describe each.
3. What are some things which spring from the teaching of doctrine which is not sound? Define each.
4. What is to be done with the one who teaches doctrine that is not sound? Why?

Dealing with the Disorderly (2 Thessalonians 3:1-16)

5. What confidence did the apostle Paul express in the Thessalonians?
6. What two qualities would be needed as they disciplined disorderly brethren? Define each.
7. According to the context, who are the “disorderly?”
8. What is specified in this passage as to how the disorderly are to be treated?
9. What, again according to the context, is the purpose of such discipline?
10. In relation to the disorderly, how does the teaching of this passage relate to what is taught concerning them in 1 Thessalonians 5:14?

Dealing with Sin in the Church (1 Corinthians 5:1-13)

11. What was the extreme sin being tolerated by the church at Corinth? What attitude had they taken toward it? What should have been their attitude?
12. What did the apostle Paul tell them to do in regard to this matter?
13. What was the purpose of this action with regard to the offender? With regard to the church?
14. Why was teaching concerning the “Passover” and “leaven” introduced in the midst of this dissertation?

Those Who Cause Division and Occasions of Offense (Romans 16:17-18)

15. What is to be done with those who cause divisions and offenses (occasions of stumbling) among brethren? Why?
16. Who do those who cause division really serve? Explain.
17. Who are the “simple” whose hearts are deceived by these divisive ones?

Lesson Thirteen: The Second Coming

Lesson Text

1 Thessalonians 4:1 - 5:28
2 Thessalonians 1:1 - 2:17

Daily Bible Reading



Monday

1 Thessalonians 4

Tuesday

1 Thessalonians 5

Thursday

2 Thessalonians 1

Friday

2 Thessalonians 2

Saturday

Revelation 11:11-14
1 Corinthians 15:51

Lesson Concept



SALVATION

Receiving eternal
rewards

Exhortation to Sanctification (1 Thessalonians 4:1-8)

1. Explain sanctification on the basis of this text.

Mutual Love and Quietness (1 Thessalonians 4:9-12)

2. What exhortation is given concerning love?
3. Since “study” (KJV and ASV; “aspire” - NKJV) literally means “to be ambitious,” explain this ambition “to be quiet” in the light of what follows.

Concerning Christians Who Have Died (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

4. Seeing that the disciples had turned from idols to serve God “and wait for His Son from heaven” (1:10), what problem might arise with regard to those who would die before the Lords return? Explain. How does the apostle Paul deal with this problem?

Times and Seasons (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

5. What is taught about the second coming of Christ with regard to “the times and the seasons?” How should Christians live in view of this fact which they “know perfectly?” (v. 2)
6. What two activities which are common to the night should be avoided by Christians? Why and how are they to be avoided? Is “sleep” (v. 6) literal? Does “be sober” (v. 6) refer only to wine? Explain.

Various Exhortations (1 Thessalonians 5:12-28)

7. List and give the meaning of each of the closing exhortations found in this chapter. What relationship is there between the five statements linked together in verses 19 through 22?
8. How can Christians be “blameless at the coming of Jesus Christ?”

Salutation and “the Wrath to Come” (2 Thessalonians 1:1-12)

9. For what does Paul thank God in respect to these Thessalonians? Why does he boast about them among the churches?

10. What significance is ascribed to the Thessalonians' endurance of persecution? In what way will the second coming of Christ bring about a reversal of situations?
11. What are the purposes of the second coming? Is there any connection between the teaching of these verses and that of 1 Thessalonians 1:10 and 5:9?
12. For what did Paul pray in regard to the Thessalonians?

Apostasy to Precede the Second Coming (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

13. What misunderstanding concerning the second coming is mentioned in this text? How does the apostle Paul clear it up?
14. Give the characteristics of the person who is variously named "the man of sin" (v. 3), "the son of perdition" (v. 3) and "the lawless one" (v. 8). Do you think this text is referring to a particular individual or generally to anyone who may fit the description? Explain.
15. Who and what is meant by "what is restraining" (v. 6) and "He who now restrains?" (v. 7)
16. What is meant by "the temple of God?" (cf. 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; 2 Cor. 6:16; Eph. 2:19-22)
17. What sort of people would be deceived by "the lawless one?"
18. How does God punish a bad attitude toward truth?

Renewed Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Elect (2 Thessalonians 2:13-17)

19. Contrast the disciples in Thessalonica to those people mentioned in the previous verses of this chapter.
20. Describe the election (choice) of the disciples in terms of:
 - a. Its time.
 - b. Its destination or goal.
 - c. The sphere in which it is realized.
 - d. The means by which it is realized.
21. What action is called for on the part of God's chosen ones in view of the undercurrents of lawlessness already at work and eventually to develop into full-blown apostasy?

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