Christian Discipleship Course

This Bible Study Course will be composed of the following:

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( I reserve the exclusive right to make changes to this study course )

E.L. Davis

Matthew 10:8 .... freely ye have received, freely give.

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Part I. Foundational Study

Preface

Foundational truths for Christians

In the times that we live, the basic doctrines of Christianity are under attack by not only the cults and various religions of the world, but also some main line denominations are in stages of APOSTASY (a falling away) a falling away from the doctrines and principles that Christians through out the ages have embraced and held dear to.

Just as a house must have a good foundation and solid structure to be strong, so too must a Christian. If a Christian isn’t founded on solid biblical doctrines they can be easily moved from their Faith.

EPHESIANS 4:14   That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine.

MATTHEW 7:24-25   Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
Vs.25   And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

In this study course, a house under construction will be used as an illustration of Christian growth; using the foundation, the wooden structure, and the building bricks as an example. Just as a house is built from the foundation up, brick upon brick, so too is our Christian growth in understanding and knowledge of God.

ISAIAH 28:9-10   Whom shall He teach knowledge? And whom shall he make to understand doctrine? Them that are weaned from milk, and drawn from the breast.
Vs.10   For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little and there a little.

Memory Verse

1 CORINTHIANS 3:11  For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid. which is Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the only foundation that we can build on for eternal life and a relationship with God. Just as the foundation of a house has various components such as, cement, sand, gravel, and water, so to does our foundation, Jesus Christ and the different doctrines concerning him.
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A. FOUNDATIONAL BASICS

1. The Divinity of Jesus Christ

2. His Eternal Existence

3. As the Creator

4. His Virgin Birth

5. Was Sinless

6. The Only Way of Salvation

7. His Death, Burial, and resurrection

8. Our Advocate

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1. The Divinity of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is not a god but is God. Existing before his physical birth at Bethlehem, from eternity he was always with God the Father (the first person of the trinity) as God the Son (the second person of the trinity). Although he was God manifested in the flesh, here on earth, he lived as a perfect sinless man and ministered by the anointing of the Holy Ghost (Acts 10:38). At no time was Jesus ever an Angel (Hebrews 1:4-5, 13) but in truth, as part of the God Head, he created them (Colossians 1:16-17)

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the Word was God.
Vs. 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
Vs. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great was the mystery of godliness. God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Titus 2:13 Looking for the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:6 Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal/* with God.

1 John 1:2 For the life was manifested and we have seen it and bear witness and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested unto us.

Isaiah 9:6 His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

1 Corinthians 10:9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. (see Numbers 21:6)
2. His Eternal Existence

John 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 8:58 Jesus said to them, verily verily. I say unto you. before Abraham was, I am.

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

➢ God shares his glory with no one, only God can partake of God's glory ( Isaiah 42:8 another reference to the divinity of Jesus Christ ).

Hebrews 1:8-9 But unto the Son he saith Thy throne O God is forever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.
Vs.9 Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Revelation 1:8, 11, 17, 18 I Am Alpha Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.
Vs.11 Saying, I Am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Peramos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.
Vs.17 And when I saw Him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I Am the first and the last: Vs.18 I Am he that liveth and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.
3. As the Creator

Jesus Christ was not created and in his pre-Bethlehem existence as God the Son, was indeed the Creator of all the Universe and every thing in it, visible and invisible.

John 1:3, 10 All things were made by him and without him was not anything made, that was made.
Vs.10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men to see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.

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

Hebrews 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.
4. His Virgin Birth

The Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ was necessary because of Original Sin that passed upon the human race through Adam. Being born of a virgin, he never inherited original sin, and therefore was able to offer himself up as a sin offering for all of mankind.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son and shall call his name Emmanuel.

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

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

Luke 1:26, 27, 31, 34, 35 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto the city of Galilee, named Nazareth.
Vs.27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgins name was Mary.
Vs.31 An behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call his name Jesus.
Vs.34 Then said Mary unto the angel, how shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 
Vs.35 And the angel answered and said unto her, the Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Hebrews 10:5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me.
5. Jesus Christ was Sinless

Jesus Christ was the perfect sin offering for the sins of all humanity, because he was without the spot and blemish of original sin and personal sin. Although he was God manifested in flesh, he was also fully man and therefore, because of his humanity, was able to sin. Resisting every temptation from Satan and the weakness of his flesh, he is the only person who has never sinned.

1 Peter 2:22  Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.

1 John 3:5  And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

Hebrews 1:9  Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Hebrews 4:15  For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

2 Corinthians 5:21  For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew not sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
6. Only Way of Salvation

Jesus Christ came to this earth the first time for one purpose, to save sinners; in the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy and the Fathers will. He died for our sins, was buried and rose again on the third day. The scriptures teach that he is the only way of salvation, for all of mankind. Without him there is no way to God.

John 3:16  For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:17  For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

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

Luke 2:11  For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Acts 4:12  Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

1 Timothy 1:15  This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

Isaiah 53:5  But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

1 Peter 3:18  For Christ also hath suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened (made alive) by the Spirit.
7. His Resurrection

If you have never seen Jesus Christ and believe in him, then consider yourself blessed. Thomas said “He would not believe unless he could see and feel the nail scars”, Later Jesus appeared to him and said “Blessed are they that have not seen and yet believe” The word of God gives birth to our faith and that faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1)

The resurrection of Jesus was bodily, as the first fruit, of them that sleep. (1 Corinthians 15:20)

In Luke 24:36-43...Jesus appeared to his disciples, ate food with them and they touched him.

Matthew 16:21 From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples how that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and the chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the 3rd. day.

Luke 24:46 Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the 3rd. day.

Acts 26:23 That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people and to the Gentiles.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures:

Vs.4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the 3rd. day according to the scriptures.

Romans 4:25 Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.

1 Thessalonians 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

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8. Our Advocate

The Bible says in 1 Timothy 2:5 that there is only one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. In order for him to be our Mediator, he had to become our High Priest, a Priest that knew what it felt like to suffer the temptations of the flesh and Satan, yet without sin. Because he can identify with us, he can represent us before God as our Advocate (a lawyer or one who pleads the cause or case of another) based upon the blood he shed at Calvary for the remission of our sins. The bible says we can come boldly unto the throne room of grace and find help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16)

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not, and if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
Vs.2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 4:15-16 For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; But was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.
Vs.16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come to God by him, seeing he ever live to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

* Admitting to God that you have sinned, and asking for forgiveness keeps us in right standing with him.
9. His 1st. Coming

The first coming of Jesus Christ was one of suffering and rejection, throughout the Old Testament it was proclaimed that the Messiah was to come; while some scriptures speak of him suffering and dying, yet others speak of him reigning as a King. Needless to say this was perplexing to many, who read and interpreted the scriptures throughout the ages.

In the times that Jesus was manifested, Israel was under the rule of the Roman Empire and the people were looking for a deliverer, to lead them out of their oppression and not a lamb that was to die for the sins of the world. As a whole, Jesus was rejected by the religious leaders of his day because of this and also their jealousy over his ministry and popularity with the common people. God’s plan was the salvation of the whole world, the 1st. Coming of Jesus was to provide the means for this and the second will be to reign as King over the entire world. Israel failed to understand this.

1 Peter 1:11   Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ who was in them did signify, when it testified before hand its sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

Mark 8:31   And he began to teach them, that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

Luke 24:26   Ought not Christ to have suffer these things, and to enter into his glory?

Isaiah 53:3   He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Psalms 22:16   For dogs have compassed me: the assemble of the wicked have enclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.
10. His 2nd. Coming

The second coming of Jesus Christ will be: **visible** and in **glory and power**.

A. Visible

Acts 1:11  Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into the heavens? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Revelation 1:7  Behold he cometh with the clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

B. Glory and Power

Revelation 19:11, 12, 15, 16  And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. Out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. He hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Revelation 11:15  The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

( Other references: Isaiah 11, Jeremiah 23, Zechariah 14 )

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STRUCTURAL TRUTHS

1. THE TRINITY

2. THE HOLY SPIRIT

3. THE BIBLE

4. MANKIND IS A CREATED BEING

5. MANKIND IS LOST AND NEEDS SALVATION

6. HEAVEN IS A REAL PLACE

7. HELL IS A REAL PLACE

8. SATAN IS A REAL BEING

9. SIN

10. THE RESURRECTION
Within the nature of the **One** eternal God (Isaiah 43:10) there are three distinct persons (Luke 3:21, 22) The Father (2 Peter 1:17) The Son (John 1:1, 14) and The Holy Spirit (Acts 5:3, 4). The Father is not the Son, and the Son is not the Holy Spirit, and The Holy Spirit is not the Father, these three are one in unity and share equally in the divine nature.

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

Genesis 1:26  And God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness... Vs.27  So God created man in his own image.

- Notice that he said our image, our likeness in vs.26, God was speaking to the God Head when he said our.
  The Bible says that man is spirit, soul and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Being created in Gods image, our triune person is in a small way a reflection of God.

**The Trinity can be seen in the following verses:**

Matthew 3:16-17  And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: And, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon him: Vs.17  And, lo, a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

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

2. The Holy Spirit

God the Holy Spirit is a person, as much as the Father and Son are persons, and therefore, has the elements that are involved, within a personality. Some traits of his personality are as follows:

He has a will

1 Corinthians 12:11  But all these worketh that one and selfsame Spirit: dividing to every man severally as he will.

He speaks

Acts 13:2  As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Her grieves

Ephesians 4:30  And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

He prays

Romans 8:26  Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

There in creation

Genesis 1:2  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. ( see also Job 26:13, 33:4, and Psalms 104:30 )

Is called God

Acts 5:3-4  But Peter said Ananias why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep part of the price of the land? Vs.4  While it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold was it not in thine own power? Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.
3. THE BIBLE

The Bible was given to us by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, inspiration literally means God breathed. Under the divine influence of God, men spoke and wrote down the Holy Scriptures (Jeremiah 36:2, Acts 1:16, and 2 Peter 3:15-16) Jesus said “Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4) God’s word gives instruction in every area of life, from how to know God, to how to raise our children. The word of the Lord shall endure forever (1 Peter 1:25).

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

2 Peter 1:21 For prophesy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 3:15 And from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Psalms 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to the word.

Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalms 119:30 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple.

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.
4. Man is a created being

The popular myth that is being taught in our schools and universities is that of evolution. Evolution is a lie from Satan, and is a doctrine of demons, working through unregenerate man.

God’s word declares that birds and fish were created at the same time (Genesis 1:21) but evolution says that fish evolved hundreds of millions of years before birds. God’s word declares that He made the animals and fowl out of the ground (Genesis 2:19) but evolution says they evolved. The Bible stresses ten times that the things created reproduce after its kind. Man has never evolved and will never evolve into anything else. Let us examine the scriptures.

Genesis 1:26-27 And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Vs.27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 2:7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 5:1-2 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him.

Vs.2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.

Malachi 2:10 Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers.

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5. Mankind is lost and needs salvation

Jesus Christ said, “He came to seek and save that which was lost” (Matthew 18:11). By lost it is meant, separated from God and destined for eternal damnation in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:11-15). Mankind has a sin problem inherited from Adam, which is rooted at his very core, his spirit. Man sins because he is a sinner and in his fallen condition cannot save himself.

God devised a plan of salvation in which His Son would die for the sin and sins of all people everywhere. Man can dress himself up with religion, education, social skills and good deeds, but it takes the shed blood of Jesus Christ, to change man’s inner being. Only through Jesus can man be restored to relationship and fellowship with God.

Romans 3:10-12 As it is written, there is none righteous no, not one.
Vs.11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.
Vs.12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

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

Psalms 53:3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Ecclesiastes 7:20 For there is not a just man upon the earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.

Proverbs 20:9 Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin.

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags...

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
6. Heaven is a real place

Jesus said, “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name” (Matthew 6:9). Heaven is the abode of God, the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 7:55-56) the angels (Matthew 18:10) and the departed saints (Hebrews 12:23, Revelations 7:9).

The Lord Jesus told one of the men who was crucified with him that “This day you shall be with me in paradise”. When a believer dies, the body returns to the earth (ashes to ashes) to wait for the resurrection, but the born again spirit departs to be with the Lord in heaven.

In Matthew 17:3, Moses and Elijah appear to Jesus and talk with him; Elijah was taken to heaven in a fiery chariot, without seeing death and Moses went to heaven by way of death, the point is both men retained their identity. In heaven you will still be you, only glorified! When a person dies their spirit will depart for one or two places; heaven if they have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and hell, if they haven’t. There is neither scriptural evidence nor proof of purgatory, nor such a thing as soul sleep.

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident. I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Philippians 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and be with Christ; which is far better.

Mark 16:19 So after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

2 Corinthians 12:2-4 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth) such an one caught up to the third heaven. (1st. heaven is the sky etc. 2nd. heaven is where stars are, space 3rd. heaven is where God is.)

Vs.3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

Vs.4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. See also Revelation 5:9, 6:9, 7:9
7. Hell is a real place

Jesus spoke about hell just as much as he did heaven and warned about the consequences of ending up there. In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus tells us of a man in the torments of hell. The man was aware of his surroundings, he was thirsty, he realized he had a family on earth and wanted to warn them about the place he was in.

The Bible says “hell was not prepared for man but for the devil” (Matthew 25:11) but because of his sinful condition, this fate awaits man as well. The Bible says “that it is not God’s will that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 2:9). God has provided a way of salvation for man and it is through his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ

Psalms 9:17  The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

2 Thessalonians 1:9  Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.

Matthew 8:12  But the children of the kingdom shall be cast into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 3:41-42  The Son of Man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them that do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 3:12, 25:41 Jude 1:7, and Revelations 20).

Matthew 25:46  And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Mark 9:43  It is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell. into the fire that shall never be quenched: Where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

The occupants of hell will be Satan, the antichrist, the false prophet, fallen angels, and all unsaved people. (Revelations 20:10, 19:20, 20:15, and 2 Peter 2:4).
8. Satan is a real being

Jesus said of Satan that, “He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it” (John 8:44).

The devil is not some character out of Hollywood, nor a cartoon character but is in fact a fallen angel, who has access and dominion in this world. He opposes God and the people of God and is the enemy of mankind. The Lord Jesus came to this earth and defeated him, so that people could be set free from his rule. In the plan of God that is being worked out through the ages, Satan was overthrown and will have his place in the lake of fire. (Revelations 20:10).

He tempts

Genesis 3:4-5  And the serpent said unto the woman, “Ye shall not surely die.
Vs.5  For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Matthew 4:1  Then Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Blinds minds

2 Corinthians 4:3-4  But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
Vs.4  In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Sinners still under his rule

Acts 26:18  To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.
**Contends with God’s people**

Ephesians 6:12  For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

**Preys upon people**

1 Peter 5:8  Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

**Resisting him**

Ephesians 4:26-27  Be ye angry and sin not: let not the sun go down on your wrath:  
Vs.27  Neither give place to the devil.

James 4:7  Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

**Christ defeated Satan**

Hebrews 2:14  Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.

1 John 3:8  He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

**Satan’s doom**

Revelation 20:10  And the devil that deceived them was cast into the Lake of Fire and brimstone, where the beast and false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Isaiah 14:12  How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!
9. SIN

Throughout the Bible, the word Sin is mentioned many times; Romans 6:23 says, “that the wages of sin is death”. Throughout man’s history, he has always blamed the results of his actions upon something or someone else without taking personal responsibility. Man has a fallen nature and sin is the product of it.

The root of man’s problem cannot be dealt with by education, psychology, or technology. Sin is a spiritual problem and must be dealt with accordingly. The visible flower of a dandelion can be torn off, but it will grow back, because of its root. To get rid of a dandelion, the root must be dealt with.

One of the reasons that Jesus Christ came, was to deal with man’s root problem, a sinful nature and the product of sin. Jesus told Nicodemus that a man had to be born again, or he could not see the Kingdom of God (John 3:1-12). When a person accepts Jesus Christ as their Savior, a new birth takes place in the spirit of man and his inner nature is changed.

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A definition of Sin:

* To Miss the Mark

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

* To Over Step a Forbidden line

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

* Is Unrighteousness

John 5:17 All unrighteousness is sin

How Sin Entered Into The World

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned.
1 Corinthians 15:22  For as in Adam all die.

* Sin entered into the world through Adam and was passed upon the human race. (We inherited it).

**Sins Origin**

Ezekiel 28:11-19  Vs.15  Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou was created, till iniquity was found in thee.

* Sin originated in Lucifer, also called Satan, the Devil

Isaiah 14:12-15  How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13  For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14  I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15  Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Thank you Lord Jesus!

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

Matthew 26:28  For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Jesus shed his blood for the remission of our sins (the putting away of our sins) BUT It is only effective in behalf of those that receive Him as their Savior

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10. The Resurrection

The Resurrection is the reunion of the bodies and souls of people, which have been separated by death. The word resurrection means to make stand, or rise up. Every person that ever lived will be resurrected; this will take place in two phases, the resurrection of the just and the resurrection of the unjust. These two phases of the resurrection will be separated by one thousand years, which will be the Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ.

John 5:29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

Acts 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.

Daniel 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Revelation 20:4-6 Vs.5...but the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Phase 1

* Will occur at the 2nd. coming of Jesus Christ, it will include Old Testament and New Testament saints of God.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Vs.16...For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

Phase 2

Revelation 20:11-15 Vs.13….and the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

SOLID BUILDING BLOCKS

1. THE CHURCH

2. THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

3. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT

4. WATER BAPTISM

5. COMMUNION

6. SONSHIP AND JOINT HEIRS

7. RIGHTEOUSNESS

8. DEATH
1. The Church

The Church is not a building or any certain denomination, but is all born again believers, from the day of Pentecost to the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ. It is the body of Christ, of which he is head (Ephesians 1:22-23). As such, the church is a temple for the habitation of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:21-23) and is espoused, as a chaste virgin to Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2-4) and will be translated to meet the Lord in the air at his 2nd Coming (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17).

The Church meets together locally, under various names and denominations, for the purpose of worship, praise, fellowship, and the teaching and preaching of God’s Word: with its governing body of Pastors, Elders, Deacons, etc.

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Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is head of the Church: and is Savior of the body.

Colossians 2:19 And he is head of the body, the Church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

2 Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved.

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the Bishops and Deacons.

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much more, as ye see the day approaching.
2. The Judgment Seat of Christ

The Judgment Seat of Christ will take place, when the Church is caught up to meet him in the air at his second coming. This judgment is upon the works and not the sins of the believer. The results of this judgment will be reward or loss of reward, but the believer shall be saved.

John 5:22   For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.

2 Corinthians 5:10   For we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Romans 14:10-12   But why dost thou judge thy brother? Or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? For we must all stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ. As I live, saith the lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

1 Corinthians 3:13-15   Every mans work shall be manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every mans work of what sort it is. If any mans work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any mans work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 Peter 1:17   And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every mans work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

Revelation 22:12   Behold I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Hebrews 9:27   It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.
3. The Great White Throne Judgment

The Great White Throne Judgment will be upon all the unsaved people, from the beginning of humanity to the end. This judgment will be according to people’s works and any person not found in the Book of life, is thrown into the Lake of Fire. This judgment will take place at the end of the Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ.

There will be a day of reckoning, for all the evil things that have been done throughout all of humanity. God has seen everything and it has been recorded and each will be judged according to what was written.

Revelation 20:11-15 And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.
Vs.12 And I saw the dead, small and great stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things that were written in the books, according to their works.
Vs.13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.
Vs.14 And death and hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. this is the second death.
Vs.15 And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire.

Is your name written in the Book of Life?

Jude 1:14-15 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these saying, behold the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.
4. Water Baptism

Jesus Christ commanded his disciples to preach the gospel to the entire world, baptizing all who believed in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. This command was faithfully carried out in the early church. Water baptism is for believers only; those who hear the gospel, believe and turn to Christ as their Savior.

This is the pattern we see throughout the early church, as is seen in the book of Acts. Water baptism is the outward symbolic act, of the regeneration, that has already taken place in the heart (spirit). It symbolizes the death of the old life and the birth of the new.

Mark 16:15-16 And he said unto them. “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”. Vs.16. “He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”.

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

Acts 8:35-38 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.
Vs.36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, “See, here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized”?

Vs.37 And Philip said, “If thou believeth with all thine heart, thou mayest”. And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”.

Vs.38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch: and he baptized him.

See the following: Acts 10:1-48

- Notice that while Peter was preaching about Jesus they received the Holy Spirit, later they were baptized in water. (Only born again Christians receive the Holy Spirit) they became Christians before they were baptized in water. Water Baptism has nothing to do with regeneration.
5. Communion

Communion, also called the Lord’s Supper is an ordinance that the church observes; in remembrance of the sacrifices that the Lord Jesus made. The bread is a symbol of his body, broken for us: the cup a symbol of his blood, shed for the remission of our sins.

Matthew 26:26-28  And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, take, eat; this is my body.  
Vs.27  And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, drink ye all of it;  
Vs.28  For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for the remission of sins.

Luke 22:17-20  And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, take this and divide it among yourselves:  
Vs.18  For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.  
Vs.19  And he took bread and gave thanks, and broke it and gave unto them, saying, this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me.  
Vs.20  Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

1 Corinthians 11:20-34...Vs.26  For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lords death till he come.
6. Sonship and joint heirs

The scriptures teach that we are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:26) and as sons, are joint heirs with Jesus Christ.

A. Children of God

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

Galatians 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying Abba, Father.

Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.

Romans 8:15-16 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry Abba Father.

Vs.16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.

1 John 3:1-2 Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

Vs.2 Beloved, now are ye the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
B. Heirs of God

1 Peter 1:4  To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

Romans 8:17  And if children then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be glorified together.

Galatians 3:29  And if ye be Christ’s then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Matthew 11:28  Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
7. Righteousness

The righteousness of God, is all that God demands and approves, to be in good standing with him, and is ultimately found in Christ. By faith in Jesus Christ, the righteousness of Christ was imputed unto us.

Romans 3:21-22  But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed by the prophets.
22  Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference.

2 Corinthians 5:17  For he hath made him who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Philippians 3:9  And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

Abraham’s Example:

Romans 4:3  For what saith the scripture, Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

* Our Righteousness (in good standing with God) is not produced by self effort, our works but is by faith in Jesus Christ. We do good works because we are righteous, not to gain righteousness.

* Holiness is a product of our right standing with God (righteousness) It is the outliving of our position.

* God has made provision for us, that if we sin, we can be forgiven and cleansed thereby maintaining, our standing with God.

1 John 1:9  If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
8. DEATH

John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

Death can be defined as separation. Physical death is the separation of the spirit and the soul from the body; spiritual death, is the separation of a person from God; ( as in the case of people who have not accepted and received Jesus Christ as their Savior ) and the second death is eternal separation from God, in the Lake of Fire, without no hope.

By his death, burial and resurrection, Jesus Christ defeated death, the grave and hell, for all of humanity. His victory has become our victory, delivering us from the fear of death. ( This is not automatically applied to the human race, it is only to those who have receive Jesus as their Savior).

Jesus defeated death

Hebrews 2:14-15 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
Vs.15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Revelation 1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and death.

Physical Death

Genesis 3:19 In the sweat of thy face, shalt thou eat thy bread, till thou return to the ground, for out of it thou was taken, for dust thou are and unto dust thou shall return.

Hebrews 9:27 It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident I say and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

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**Spiritual Death**

Ephesians 2:1   You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.

Ephesians 4:18   Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hearts.

**Second Death**

Revelation 20:14   And death and hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the 2nd. death. ( see also John 8:24 )
Part II. Spiritual Warfare

Preface

Ephesians 6:10-13  Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
13. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

God tells us that he has given to us armor and that we are to stand against Satan. There is a warfare and anyone who has been a Christian for any length of time, has experienced spiritual warfare to one degree or another. His Majesty, the Lord Jesus Christ defeated Satan for us but that victory must be applied in our every day Christian living. Not only do we wrestle against spiritual forces but also with our very selves.

As a triune being, spirit-soul and body ( 1 Thessalonians 5:23 ) it’s in our spirit that we are born-again, when we accept Christ as our Savior a regeneration takes place in our spirit. ( Titus 3:5 ) From the moment that we get saved ( born-again ) there is a struggle that takes place within us, between our spirit-soul and body. Christians who walk in the flesh ( that part of us that stems from our soul and the senses of our bodies ) live in defeat and never come into the realities of all that Christ accomplished for us.

For a Christian to apply the Victory that Christ obtained for us and to stand against sin, the world, self and Satan: he or she must know, must realize certain things; such as: a Christian is a child of God, a joint-heir with Christ, a new creature, a citizen of heaven, a stranger and pilgrim here on earth, with a mission to win the lost, there is a warfare, there is an enemy, there are weapons, to name a few. Our Lord Jesus resisted Satan from his stand as the Son of God. It’s my prayer that this study course will shed some light on the different elements of our Christian struggle.

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Preparing for Battle

Contents of the Course

Section A. Some things to Realize

Section B. Our Warfare

Section C. Weapons of our Warfare

Hosea 4:6 “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...”
Contents of Section  A - Some things to realize

The Child of God

1. Is a New Creature
2. Must renew minds
3. Present their bodies
4. Seek things of God
5. A Citizen of Heaven
6. Is a Pilgrim here on earth
7. To be a Disciple of Jesus Christ
8. Know Jesus as our Advocate
9. Realize the Headship of Jesus Christ
10. Realize the Authority of King Jesus
11. Realize He gave His authority to the Church
12. His Authority is invested in His Name
13. Recognize some of the Blessings In Christ
The Child of God

1. Is a New Creature

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

2. Must renew their Minds (with God’s word)

Romans 12:3  And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Ephesians 4:23  And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

3. Present their Bodies

Romans 12:1  I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20  What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20  For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

4. Seek the things of God

Matthew 6:33  But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Colossians 3:1-4  If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
5. Is a Citizen of Heaven

Philippians 3:20  For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;  (NAS)

Ephesians 2:19  Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

6. Is a Pilgrim here on Earth

1 Peter 2:11  Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Hebrews 11:13  These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

7. Is a Disciple of Jesus Christ

John 8:31  Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

The cost of Discipleship

Matthew 16:24  Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Luke 14:26  Anyone who wants to be my follower must love me far more than he does his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sisters--yes, more than his own life--otherwise he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:27  And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.
8. Realize Jesus as our Mediator our Advocate

* The Bible says in 1 Timothy 2:5 that there is only one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. In order for him to be our Mediator, he had to become our High Priest, a Priest that knew what it felt like to suffer the temptations of the flesh and Satan, yet without sin. Because he can identify with us, he can represent us before God as our Advocate ( a lawyer or one who pleads the cause or case of another ) based upon the blood he shed at Calvary for the remission of our sins. The bible says we can come boldly unto the throne room of grace and find help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16 )

1 Timothy 2:5  For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Hebrews 4:15  For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

1 John 2:1-2  My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2. And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

9. Realize the Headship of Jesus Christ

Colossians 1:18  And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Ephesians 1:22-23  And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23. Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

* The Church is not a building or any certain denomination, but is all born again believers from the day of Pentecost to the 2nd. Coming of Jesus Christ. It is the body of Christ, of which he is head. ( Ephesians 1:22-23 ) As such, the church is a temple for the habitation of the Holy Spirit ( Ephesians 2:21-23 ) and is espoused, as a chaste virgin to Christ. ( 2 Corinthians 11:2-4 ) The church will be translated to meet the Lord in the air at his 2nd. Coming ( 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 ).

* The Church meets together locally, under various names and denominations, for the purpose of worship, praise, fellowship, and the teaching and preaching of God’s Word: with its governing body of Pastors, Elders, Deacons, etc.
10. Know that all authority has been given to Jesus Christ

Matthew 28:18-20  And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is
given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo,
I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Ephesians 1:20  Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead,
and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,
21. Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every
name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:
22. And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all
things to the church,

Colossians 2:15  Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public
spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.  (NKJV)

Hebrews 2:14  Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he
also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him
that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

1 Peter 3:22  Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and
authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Revelation 1:18  I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for
evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Revelation 5:5  And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the
tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven
seals thereof.
11. Realize that Jesus delegated His authority to the church

Matthew 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mark 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

12. His authority is invested in his Name

Philippians 2:9-10 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
10. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

a. His name in salvation - Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

b. In Prayer - John 16:25...I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

c. In Baptism - Matthew 28:20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

d. Anoint in his name - James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:
Some examples of the authority in Jesus’ Name

Luke 10:17,19...Lord even the devils are subject unto us through thy Name

Acts 3:6...and Peter said, “in the name of Jesus Christ rise up and walk’’

Acts 16:18...and Paul said “In the name of Jesus Christ come out of her”

13. Realize some of the blessings In Christ

Romans 3:24  Being justified freely by his grace though the redemption that is in Christ.

Romans 8:1  There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Vs.2  For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 12:5  So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

1 Corinthians 1:30  But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

1 Corinthians 15:22  For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ, shall all be made alive.

2 Corinthians 2:14  Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ; and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

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

Galatians 2:4  And because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage.

Galatians 3:26  For ye are all children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28  There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
Ephesians 1:3  Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

Ephesians 1:4  According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

Ephesians 1:6  To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Ephesians 1:7  In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Ephesians 1:10  That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.

Ephesians 1:11  In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Ephesians 1:13  In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heared the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.

Ephesians 2:6  And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:10  For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:13  But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 3:6  That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.

Ephesians 3:12  In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.
Colossians 1:12...Giving thanks unto the Father which has made us meet (able) to be partakers of the Inheritance of the saints in light.
Vs.13 Who has delivered us from the power of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.

Philippians 3:20-21...For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,
Vs.21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working by which he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18...vs.16 ..dead in Christ shall rise first;
Vs.17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Hebrews 4:14...Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus Christ the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

James 2:5...Hearken my beloved brethren has not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which he has promised to them that love him.

1 Peter 1:4...To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fades not away reserved in heaven for you.

Jesus is Lord
Section B - Our Warfare

Contents

1. The Flesh
2. The World
3. Satan
4. The Battlefield

Put on the full armor of God
That you might be able to stand
1. THE FLESH

Christians sometimes use the phrase “I got in my flesh” meaning that they did something or acted a certain way that was carnal and maybe sinful. The flesh in this case, is that part of us that stems from our soul and our bodies; and reflects our old manner of life, as we were in Adam.

The soul is made up of our will, our emotions, our intellect etc. our bodies possess the 5 senses. Even though we have been born again and are new creatures in Christ; we can still act like we did before we got saved. Judicially: God sees Christians as crucified with Christ, our old man (what we were as a fallen people in the community of Adam, with him as the head of) was put to death when Christ died on the cross.

Jesus Christ called the last Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45) instituted a new community of which He is the Head of; born-again Christians are a part of this community and possess a new spiritual nature. (the new man) For a Christian to live victoriously, he or she must understand and apply these truths in every day living. A Christian can choose to live in the flesh (live carnally) and reflect 1st. Adam (sinful Adam) or walk in the spirit and reflect last Adam (righteous Jesus).

A. The Old Man is Judicially Crucified

Romans 6:3-12 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 
4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
5. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:
6. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
7. For he that is dead is freed from sin.
8. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
9. Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
10. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
11. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
12. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
B. Putting on and putting off

Ephesians 4:22 that you **put off**, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,
23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,
24 and that you **put on** the new man which was created according to God, in righteousness and true holiness.

The phrase putting off the old man and putting on the new man is one of exchanging clothes and refers to a change in character in light of a change in identity, having moved from our old existence (without God, dead in sin see Ephesians 2:1-12) to a new existence (with God, in righteousness see Ephesians 1:1-14).

The old man refers to a lifestyle consistent with sin, but inconsistent with being in Christ. The new man refers to a lifestyle consistent with being in Christ and truth.

Ephesians 4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to **walk** in a manner worthy of **the calling** with which you have been called. (NASV)

Our calling is that we are the children of God. A change took place in our hearts when we were born again and that change should be reflected in our daily lives.

The moment that we were born again we became a New Man (new creature) therefore we are to put off the works of the old man. We are no longer that person; our character should now reflect Christ. **To do so requires crucifying the flesh.**

Galatians 5:24 And those who are Christ’s have **crucified the flesh** with its passions and desires.

This can only be accomplished by the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit as we yield to Him.

Romans 8:13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do **mortify** the deeds of the body, ye shall live
C. Works of the Flesh

Galatians 5:16-21  I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.
17. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.
18. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.
19. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness,
20. idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,
21. envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

(Above) The works of the flesh are evident. One must be truthful and honest with themselves, recognize that their flesh is in control and crucify it.

How?

By - the help of the Holy Spirit

By - recognizing I am a child of God - A new creature - My old man was crucified with Christ etc.

By - speaking out loud the word of God. It is written “the appropriate scripture”

* An Example: Outburst of anger because the little old lady at the traffic light fails to go on the green light. Recognize the flesh - Speak to it - Shut up flesh! It is written, “the works of the flesh is wrath but the fruit of the spirit is gentleness.”

If you have to, slap yourself in the face. Yep! That’s what I said. Think that’s radical?

Examine the words of His Majesty

Matthew 5:30  And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Galatians 5:24  And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Romans 8:8….So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
* Satan appeals to the flesh

* For a Christian to be victorious in spiritual warfare, the flesh must be crucified.
  (Gal.5:24) Temptations come through the flesh.

James 1:14-15  But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.
15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

* Many times a sinful act was the result of a thought

**An Illustration:** If you plant an acorn, the result is an oak tree. Which is easier to dig up, the acorn or the tree?

Get rid of the thought before it grows.

To do so - it requires a person to know who they are in Christ, the warfare, and their weapons.

Once again, one **must be honest with themselves**, recognize the flesh, the thought, the temptation etc. Speak God’s word to it!

**An illustration:** A Christian man begins to entertain thoughts concerning his neighbor’s wife.

Exodus 20:17…Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife.

Jesus said that whoever would look at a woman to lust for her has committed adultery in their heart.

**What he should do.** Speak! I am a child of God. Ungodly thoughts come out of my mind in Jesus name, for it is written! “Thou shalt not commit adultery”

* One sin usually leads to another

King David took Uriah’s wife, got her pregnant and then was the cause of Uriah’s death. It all started when David seen Bathsheba taking a bath. Do you suppose that David begin to have thoughts? (2 Samuel ch.11)

The flesh will try to justify it. David may have had the thought “I am the King, I should get what I want etc.

Romans 8:13  For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

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What happens if a Christian will not correct self?

1 Corinthians 11:31-32  For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.  32. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

Hebrews 12: 6-11  For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
7. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?
8. But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.
9. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?
10. For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.
11. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Vs.14  Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Israel’s example:

1 Corinthians 10:5-6  But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.
6. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.
7. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.
8. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.
9. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.
10. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.
11. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Hebrews 13:8  Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and forever.

*These scriptures should help motivate us to crucify the flesh.
D. The fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,  
23. Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.  
24. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.  
25. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

John 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.  
5. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

* The fruit of the Spirit is produced in us, as we abide in Christ

* To abide in Christ one must abide in his Word.

John 14:21-24 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.  
22. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?  
23. Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

* As we abide in Christ, the Holy Spirit will produce in us the fruit of the Spirit, which is the Character of Jesus Christ.

* The Holy Spirit will help us to crucify the flesh ( works of the flesh ) as He brings forth the fruit of the Spirit. God has not abandon us in our struggle but has sent his Spirit to help us.
2. THE WORLD

John 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

World – cosmos: The world in this case is the sphere of ungodliness that dominates mankind because of his fallen state. The word cosmos refers to order - arrangement and in the bad sense, the order - arrangement under which Satan has organized this world of fallen mankind upon his principles of selfishness, force, greed, ambitions, and pleasure. This worlds system is very often, outwardly religious, cultured, philosophical, and refined but blind to the truth.

Every day we are bombarded by the influences of this fallen world, a lost humanity that doesn’t know God, want God, nor hold to Godly principles. All one has to do is turn on the TV and all that the world stands for is presented in situation comedy shows etc. Slowly Christians are desensitized by the subtle messages that Satan preaches to the masses, through un-regenerated men.

Ephesians1:1-3 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;
2. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
3. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Apostle Paul wrote this to Christians.

This scripture sums up the state of mankind in his fallen state. We used to be in this state before we accepted Jesus Christ as our Savior. Thank God for his Salvation!

Seeing that the world is like this, what else can we expect? People that are not saved are of their father the devil, the lusts of their father they will do.

You and I can believe what society says, what Hollywood says, or what the Word of God says.
Example:

The world says homosexuality is normal.  
God says it’s an abomination, a sin.  
The world’s schools say that mankind evolved from an ape.  
God says man was created by Him.

Who are we going to believe? Who will you believe?

A. The condition of this world

Ephesians 2:2-3   Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:  
3. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Galatians 1:4   Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

1 John 5:19   And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

B. The god of this world

2 Corinthians 4:4   In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

* Satan, through the fall of Adam and Eve gained control on this earth and set up his empire, in which he works out his principles through fallen man.

* Notice the following Scripture

Luke 4:5-7   And the devil, taking him (Jesus) up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.  
6. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.  
7. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

* Jesus Christ came to this world and defeated Satan, and made it possible to liberate fallen humanity, the slaves of Satan. To all that hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, respond to and accept him as their Savior, these are set free from Satan and sin. Those who reject Jesus Christ remain slaves.
C. Jesus came to save the lost inhabitants of this world

John 3:16-17  For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Matthew 18:11  For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

Romans 5:8  But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Timothy 1:15  This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

D. Christians are not to love this world

1 John 2:15  Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
16. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
17. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

* At the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, this world will pass away, as Christ establishes his glorious reign, which shall be in righteousness.

Come soon Lord Jesus!

James 4:4  Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

E. Beware of the world's Philosophies

Colossians 2:8  See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

Colossians 2:18  Let no one defraud you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind….
F. Be not unequally yoked with the world

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
15. And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?
16. And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
17. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.
18. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

G. Christians are to be a light to the world

Matthew 5:14-16 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Matthew 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.

H. Christians are to set their heart on the things of God

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Colossians 3:1-3 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
2. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
I. Do not conform to the world

Romans 12:1-2  I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20  What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
20. For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

* The word conform means ( to fashion one self according to the pattern of )

A few examples:
Speech
Dress
Entertainment
Work ethics
Un-forgiveness

Christians are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds, by God’s Word

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

* As we become doers of God’s word, His word will conform us to the principles of his kingdom.

* We must allow God’s word to instruct us about the issues of life. What we believe about abortion, homosexuality, marriage, government, where we came from, why we are here, etc.

* Remember, this world is blind to the truth.

James 1:23  For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;
24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.
25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does
3. SATAN

Ephesians 6:10-12  Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Jesus said of Satan that: “He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it”. (John 8:44)

The devil is not some character out of Hollywood, nor a cartoon character, but is in fact a fallen angel, who has access and dominion in this world. He opposes God and the people of God and is the enemy of mankind. The Lord Jesus came to this earth and defeated him, so that people could be set free from his rule. In the plan of God that is being worked out through the ages, Satan was overthrown and will have his place in the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:10)

If you are going to fight in a war, then you must know your enemy, be acquainted with his tricks, weapons and tactics. Many Christians are naive concerning Satan and whither they know it or not, they are involved in a cosmic conflict.

The scripture above says to be strong in the Lord and the power of his might.

Let us take a look at our enemy, the enemy of all of mankind.
A. He is organized

Ephesians 6:12  For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Above - The underline words denote ranks of order.

Jesus cast demons out of people, in one place he asked their name and they said “Legion for we are many.”

Fact: Jesus defeated Satan in behalf of mankind

Hebrews 2:14  Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

1 John 3:8.....For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

B. Preys upon people

1 Peter 5:8  Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

C. Resist him

Ephesians 4:27  Neither give place to the devil.

James 4:7  Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

As said before, Jesus defeated Satan in behalf of humanity; this was a legal victory and it is up to us to enforce the victory of Jesus Christ.

An illustration
As a child I played king of the hill with my friends. The object of the game was to knock down whoever was at the top of the hill; usually the strongest kid was able to control the top. Maybe you played this game or one similar.

The point is this: No human could have ever dethroned Satan, because of sin; all of us were under his power and control. But, Jesus Christ was born without sin and never committed sin of any kind; therefore He dethroned Satan and became King of the hill.

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When you and I, became Christians we were legally place at the top of the hill; Christ’s victory has become our victory. We don’t have to defeat Satan; we only have to resist him from a place of victory. Hallelujah!

Notice:

Ephesians 2:6  And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

D. Be not ignorant of

2 Corinthians 2:11  Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

E. He tempts

GENESIS 3:4-5  And the serpent said unto the woman, “Ye shall not surely die. 
Vs.5  For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

MATTHEW 4:1  Then Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

F. Blinds Minds

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4  But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 
Vs.4  In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

G. Sinners Still Under His Rule

ACTS 26:18  To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

H. Contends With God’s People

EPHESIANS 6:12  For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
I. Fakes being an angel of light

2 Corinthians 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

1. Servants of the devil do the same thing. (Wolves in sheepskin clothing)
   Phony preachers
   Leaders of worldly religious sects

1 Cor. 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

J. Is behind false doctrines

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; (demons)

K. Is a fallen angel

Isaiah 14:12-15 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!
13. For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
14. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.
15. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Ezekiel 28:4, 15 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
15. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

L. Satan’s final doom

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.
Of the Mind

2 Corinthians 10:3-5  For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4. (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

* A believer must have their minds renewed by the word of God, to effectively resist Satan.

* A carnal mind is open to the devil’s attacks.

* Satan seeks to plant a stronghold in our minds in which he can exercise a measure of control.

These strongholds can come through our fleshly lusts, pride, doubt and unbelief, people etc.

*Let us look at Satan’s attack on Eve*

Genesis 3:1  Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, "You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'"
2  And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;
3  "but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, "You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "
4  And the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.
5  "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
6  So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.
Points of attack
Hath God said? - To make Eve doubt God’s word
You will not die - A lie
You will be like God - Appealed to pride of life

The woman saw
It was pleasant to the eyes
It would make her wise
Satan appealed to her senses

Satan’s attack on Jesus
Matthew 4:1-11  Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
2. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.
3. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
4. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.
5. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
6. And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
7. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
8. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
9. And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
10. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.
11. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

* Satan has no new tricks; he tempted Jesus in the same way he tempted Eve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points of attack</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If thou be the Son of God</td>
<td>Cast doubt about who Jesus was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command these stones to turn to bread</td>
<td>To act independently, not trusting God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If thou be the Son of God</td>
<td>Cast doubt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cast thy self down</td>
<td>Put God to the test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship me and I will give you all this</td>
<td>Appeal to pride, greed, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* Our Lord Jesus resisted Satan by speaking the written word of God.

* You and I can do the same thing!

Jesus knew who he was "The Son of God"
Jesus lived a crucified life
Jesus trusted God his Father

2 Corinthians 10:3-5  For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4. (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

A. We have weapons ( not carnal- fleshly, worldly etc. )
   Weapons that are mighty through God ( See section C. Weapons of Warfare )

B. Strongholds - Areas in which Satan can control us, due to a certain way of thinking. Our weapons are able to pull these down.

* But - one must realize, that some area of thinking is wrong. One comes to this realization through the study and meditation of God’s word.

C. Imaginations - Some translations translate this as arguments, reasoning. Sometimes we get thoughts, that would reason and argue against God. A few examples: is God real? Is there a heaven? Does God really love me? etc.

We are to cast these down  How?

By realizing that the thoughts are wrong, then as an act of our will, command the thoughts to leave, in Jesus name ( out loud ) then speak God’s word “It is written ( the appropriate scripture )

An example:

I’m getting thoughts that God doesn’t really love me. The devil says “if God really loves you then why did he let this happen etc.”

My response: ( If I have been in God’s word )

In the Name of Jesus, Ungodly thought I command you to leave my mind! For it is written “ God showed his love for us ( me ) in that while I was yet a sinner Christ died for me”

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An example:

“You’re not a Christian, if you were you wouldn’t have done that, said that etc.”

My response:

In Jesus name “ungodly thought, leave my mind- for it is written” “and whosoever believes in him has eternal life, also whosoever shall Call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

It is your mind You are to watch over your thoughts.

Believe and speak what the word of God says about you and not what the devil suggests.

D. Thoughts - Reflections, meditations,

2 Corinthians 10:5  Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

* Have you ever wanted to read the bible or pray and found your thoughts wandering, to all sorts of places?

Bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ is simply this: Every thought that goes against the word of God must not be allowed freedom of expression.

* I don’t have to tell you the rotten thoughts that we can have, do I? Cast them out.

Worry

Matthew 6:34  "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. (see all of ch.6 )

Philippians 4:6-7  Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy meditate on these things.
Romans 12:2  And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Romans 8:6-7  For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
7. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Ephesians 4:23  And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

* Our minds must be renewed by the word of God. Our thinking must line up with God’s word in every area of life, regardless of what anyone or anything says.
2 Corinthians 10:3  For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.…

Our weapons are not physical but spiritual; these weapons are mighty through God. For weapons to be effective, they must be used.

1. The Holy Spirit (our helper)

2. Our full armor

3. The Name of Jesus

4. Praise

5. God’s Faithfulness
1. The Holy Spirit

John 14:26  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.

* God has not left us alone in this world as orphans; He has sent his Holy Spirit to help us.

1 John 4:4  Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

A. Helps us

Romans 8:26  Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

John 16:13-14  Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
14. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

B. Empowers Us

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

* Power in this case comes from the Greek word “Doo’-nam-is” from which we get our word dynamite.
2. Our Full Armor

Ephesians 6:10-18  Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.
11. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.
13. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,
15. and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16. above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.
17. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;
18. praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints;

* If God has given to us armor, then it’s apparent that we need it. He says above “to be able to stand against the wiles of the devil” Like it or not, Christians are involved in a spiritual conflict.

A. Truth

John 14:6  Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 8:31-32  Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.
32. "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
John 17:17 "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

* Knowing the truths about Jesus is part of our armor

  *(Sample)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Only Way of Salvation</th>
<th>His Death-Burial-Resurrection</th>
<th>Jesus was Sinless</th>
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<tr>
<td>His Virgin birth</td>
<td>His 2nd. Coming</td>
<td>Head of Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His Deity</td>
<td>Our Advocate</td>
<td>His Authority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Accept the truth of God’s Word, in the face of every circumstance and situation

**B. Righteousness**

The righteousness of God, is all that God demands and approves, to be in good standing with him, and is ultimately found in Christ. By faith in Jesus Christ, the righteousness of Christ was imputed unto us.

Romans 3:21-22 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed by the prophets.
22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference.

2 Corinthians 5:17 For he hath made him who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Philippians 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

**Abraham's Example:**

Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture, Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Our Righteousness (in good standing with God) is not produced by self effort, our works, but is by faith in Jesus Christ. We do good works because we are righteous, not to gain righteousness.

Holiness is a product of our right standing with God (righteousness). It is the outliving of our position. God has made provision for us that if we sin, we can be forgiven and cleansed, thereby maintaining our standing with God.

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1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

C. The Gospel

Matthew 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

* The Gospel is the Good News of Jesus Christ. All men everywhere need to hear the Gospel and be saved because all men everywhere are lost in sin.

“Shod our feet with the Gospel of peace” We must be rooted in the Gospel message.

Notice the following scripture.

Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

*All Christians everywhere should share the Gospel message. It’s not just the responsibility of a few. You and I have the message of eternal life; we are surrounded by people that are perishing.

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

D. Salvation

Realizing that our salvation was purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ, the work of His cross and not our own effort; is part of our armor: as a helmet it protects our minds from Satan’s attacks, of suggesting that we must earn by our own merits, salvation

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

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

* Good works cannot save us. Christians do good works because they are saved.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

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E. Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:17   And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Hebrews 4:12   For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is adiscerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Sword in Action:

1. And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,
2. Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.
3. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.
4. And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
5. And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.
6. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.
7. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.
8. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written,
9. And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence:
10. For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:
11. And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
12. And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
13. And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

* The Word of God spoken is a sharp two-edged sword.
* Christians must speak God’s Word in the face of Satan’s temptations.
* If we stand firm in our resisting, Satan will flee.

James 4:7   Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

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F. Prayer

In the Spirit

Ephesians 6:18  praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints

Jude Vs.20  But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

1 Corinthians 14:4  He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;

* Praying in the Spirit edifies (builds up) self

Intercession Prayer

1 Timothy 2:1-2  Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

2. for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

Prayer of Agreement

Matthew 18:19  Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

For Answered Prayer

1 John 5:14-15...And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desire of him.

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

1 John 3:21-22...Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments. and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Jesus example:

John 8:29...I always do those things that please the Father

John 11:41-42...Thou hearest me always

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John 14:13-14...And whatsoever ye shall *ask in my name*, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14   If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

John 15:7...If ye abide in me, *and* my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 16:23-24...And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall *ask the Father in my name*, he will give it you.

24   Hitherto ( until now ) have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

* Hindrances ...

1 Peter 3:1-7...that your *prayers be not hindered*

Mark 11: 22-26 and Matthew 18:21-35 ...*un-forgiveness*

James 4:3...*receive not...ask to consume on lusts*

* Miscellaneous...

James 5:16-20...*prayer of righteous man availeth much*

Mark 11:24, and Matthew 21:22...*ask believing*

Matthew 7:7-...*ask and ye shall receive*

James 1:5-8...*ask in faith...don’t be double minded...*
3. The Name of

JESUS

1. Above every Name

Philippians 2:9-10 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.
VS.10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.

2. His Name in Salvation

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

3. His Name in Prayer

John 16:23-24 ...Verily, verily, I say unto you, WHATSOEVER YE SHALL ASK THE FATHER IN MY NAME, HE WILL GIVE IT TO YOU.
VS.24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

4. Authority in His Name

Mark 16:17-18 And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
VS.18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power ( authority ) is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
VS.19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
VS.20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.
Examples:

Acts 3:6-7  Then Peter said, silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
VS.7  And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength

Acts 16:16-18  And it came to pass, as they went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

VS.17  The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, these men are servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.
VS.18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

5.  His Name in Baptism

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

Acts 2:38  Then Peter said unto them, repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

6.  Anoint in His Name

James 5:14  Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:
VS.15  And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he hath committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
4. PRAISE

2 Chronicles 20:21-22  And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever.  
22. And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

* Praise brings God on to the scene.

1 Corinthians 1:25, 27  Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.  
27. But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

* What the world considers weak and foolish, many times is the very things that God uses.

God is Worthy of Praise

Revelation 4:11  Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 5:12  Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, honour, and glory, and blessing.

Luke 19:40  Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.  
39. And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples.  
40. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

* Even the stones give recognition to their creator.
5. God’s Faithfulness

1 Corinthians 10:13  There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

* One must take the way of escape.

Hebrews 13:5-6  Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Matthew 28:20  Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

1 John 1:9  If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hebrews 2:17  Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Admonitions

1 Timothy 2:3-4  Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

1 Timothy 6:12  Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

2 Timothy 4:7  I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

Revelation 3:21  To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
Part III. Christian Values

PREFACE

In this world that is tossed to and fro, by every wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14) by the philosophies, and vain deceit and traditions of men (Colossians 2:8) as Christians, what are we to believe?

Jesus said in Matthew 4:4 “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”

It’s in God’s word that we find stability, assurance, and a firm foundation on which to base our beliefs.

To be sure, this will at times put us in direct conflict with the teachings of unregenerate man. Hopefully, this study course will give the reader a foundation, pertaining to some earthly things that involve our Christian way of life.

Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock
Vs.25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.
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A. Marriage

Hebrews 13:4  Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Mark 10:6-9  But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. 
Vs.7  For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; 
Vs.8  And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. 
Vs.9  What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

1. Duties of Husbands

Be satisfied with his wife

Proverbs 5:18-19  Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. 
Vs.19  Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breast satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.

Ecclesiastes 9:9  Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labor which thou takest under the sun.

Love his wife

Ephesians 5:28,  So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. (See Colossians 3:19)

Give affection to wife

1 Corinthians 7:3-4  Let the husband render to his wife the affection that is due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. 
Vs.4  The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.
Give honor to wife

1 Peter 3:7 Likewise ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

Provide for his family

Genesis 3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

2 Thessalonians 3:11-12 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.
Vs.12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they eat their own bread.

1 Timothy 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

2. Headship of husbands

Established by God

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

1 Corinthians 11:3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is head of the wife, even as Christ is head of the church: and he is savior of the body.
3. Duties of wives

Give affection to husbands

1 Corinthians 7:3-5 VS.3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

Submit to husband’s headship

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

Colossians 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Not to usurp the husbands headship

1 Timothy 2:11-12 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.
VS.12 And I do not permit a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over a man but to be in silence.

Be keepers at home

Titus 2:3-5 The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;
VS.4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,
VS.5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Adorning of wives

1 Peter 3:3-5 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;
VS.4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.
VS.5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamfacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array.
VS10 But which becometh women professing godliness with good works.
Reverence her husband

Ephesians 5:33  Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

A virtuous wife

Proverbs 31:10-30  Who can find a virtuous wife? for her worth is far above rubies.
Vs.11  The heart of her husband safely trusts her;
Vs.12  She does him good and not evil, all the days of her life.
Vs.13  She seeks wool and flax, and willingly works with her hands.
Vs.14  She is like the merchant ships, she brings her food from afar.
Vs.15  She also rises while it is yet night, and provides food for her household, and a portion for her maidservants.
Vs.16  She considers a field and buys it; from her profits she plants a vineyard.
Vs.17  She girds herself with strength, and strengthens her arms.
Vs.18  She perceives that her merchandise is good, and her lamp does not go out by night.
Vs.19  She stretches out her hands to the distaff, and her hand holds the spindle.
Vs.20  She extends her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.
Vs.21  She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet.
Vs.22  She makes tapestry for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple.
Vs.23  Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land.
Vs.24  She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies sashes for the merchants.
Vs.25  Strength and honor are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come.
Vs.26  She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.
Vs.27  She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.
Vs.28  Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also and he praises her.
Vs.29  Many daughters have done well, but you excel them all.
Vs.30  Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord shall be praised.

Proverbs 14:1  Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.
4. Children

A blessing of God

Psalms 127:3   Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

Psalms 127:4-5   As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Vs.5   Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Proverbs 17:6   Children’s children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Correction of Children

Proverbs 13:24   He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes (promptly).

Proverbs 19:18   Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Proverbs 22:15   Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

Proverbs 29:15   The rod and the reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

Correction not to be unjust

Ephesians 6:4   And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Colossians 3:21   Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

- Correction must be done out of love, for the good of the child. Punishment, without love and because of selfish reasons, is abuse. Children must be taught right from wrong, not only by some form of correction, but also, by example.

- Jesus said “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you” We must treat our children the way we would want to be treated.
Children are to honor their parents

Ephesians 6:1-3  Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.  
Vs.2  Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise  
Vs.3  That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Proverbs 23:22  Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother 
when she is old.

5. The Elderly

1 Timothy 5:1-2  Rebuke not an elder, but entreat him as a father; and the younger men 
as brethren;  
Vs.2  The elderly women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

Titus 2:2  Aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, charity, in patience.

Titus 2:3-4  The aged women likewise that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not 
false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;  
Vs.4  That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love 
their children.

Leviticus 19:32  Thou shall rise up before the gray head and honor the face of the old 
man.

1 Timothy 5:1  Rebuke not an elder, but entreat him as a father.
BUSINESS

Borrowing

Proverbs 22:7 The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

Lending

Psalms 112:5 A good man sheweth favor, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

Matthew 5:42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

Lend without usury

Proverbs 28:8 He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.

Exodus 22:25 If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury.

Paying debts

Psalms 37:21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.

Surety ship (being responsible for others debts)

Proverbs 11:15 He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.

PROVERBS 17:18 A man void of understanding striketh hands, and cometh surety in the presence of his friend

Proverbs 22:26 Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts.
Honesty

Leviticus 19:35  Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure.

Proverbs 11:1  A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight.

Romans 12:17  Recompense to no man evil for evil: provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Dishonesty

Proverbs 16:8  Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

Proverbs 21:6  The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.

Proverbs 22:16  He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want.

Diligence

Proverbs 12:11  He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.

Proverbs 20:13  Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

Romans 12:11  Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.

Slothfulness

Proverbs 24:30-31  I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; Vs.31  And lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

Ecclesiastes 10:18  By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.

2 Thessalonians 3:11  For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.
GIVING

John 15:13  Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Luke 6:38  Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that you mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Proverbs 22:9  He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

Proverbs 28:27  He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hides his eyes shall have many a curse.

Without show

Matthew 6:3  But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth.

Tithing

Proverbs 3:9-10  Honor the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of all thy increase.
   Vs.10  So shall thy barns be filled with plenty and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Malachi 3:10  Bring ye all the tithed into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Beware of Covetousness

Luke 12:15  And he said unto them, Take heed and beware of covetousness: for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

1 Timothy 6:10  For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
Toward Government

Mark 12:17  And Jesus answering said unto them, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

Titus 3:1  Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work.

1 Peter 2:13-14  Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Vs.14  Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

1 Peter 2:17  Honor all men, Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the King.

1 Timothy 2:1-2  I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; Vs.2  For kings, and for all they are in authority; that we may lead a quite and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Righteous Government

Proverbs 11:11  By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted: but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

Proverbs 14:34  Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.
SOCIAL ISSUES

1. Sexual Sins
   (See Leviticus ch. 20)

   Homosexuality

   Genesis 19:4-5 Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom, both young and old, surrounded the house.
   Vs.5 They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them. (NIV)

   Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind.
   (See Leviticus Ch. 20)

   Romans 1:26-27 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.
   Vs.27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. (NIV)

   Beastiality

   Leviticus 18:23 Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any women stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.

   Adultery

   Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

   Proverbs 6:22 Whoso commits adultery with a women, lacks understanding. he that does it, destroys his own soul.

   Matthew 5:28 Whosoever looks on a women to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

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Fornication

1 Corinthians 6:13... Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

1 Corinthians 7:2   Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife and let every women have her own husband.

2. Abortion

Jeremiah 1:5   Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Psalms 139:13   For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mothers womb.

Luke 1:44   For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

Psalms 106:37   Yea, they sacrificed their sons and daughters unto devils. Vs.38   And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of canaan: and the land was polluted with blood.

Children are still sacrificed, but to different idols. The idols of careers, pleasure selfish ambition and worldly pursuits; have replaced the idols of stone.

3. Capital Punishment

Genesis 9:6   Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

Deuteronomy 21:22   And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be put to death...

1 Peter 2:13-14   Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Vs.14   Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by Him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

4. Witchcraft

Leviticus 19:31   Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the Lord.
Leviticus 20:6  And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

Divination

Acts 16:16-18  And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:
Vs.17  The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.
Vs.18  And this she did many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12  There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.
Vs.11  Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.
Vs.12  For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord:

Sorcery

Acts 8:9-11  But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:
Vs.10  To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.
Vs.11  And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

- From this sample of scriptures we can see that God Almighty does not approve of any form of witchcraft. At the present, we are bombarded every day with advertisements for the psychic hot line, horoscopes, palm readers, and all sorts of people who pretend to be used of God, to enlarge their bank accounts at the expense of people’s gullibility and ignorance of God’s word. Christians should stay away from the devil’s deceptions.

Acts 19:18-20  And many that believed came, and confessed, and showed their deeds.
Vs.19  Many of them also, which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and founded it to be 50,000 pieces of silver.
5. Origin of Man

Genesis 1:26-27  And God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.
Vs.27  So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 2:7  And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 2:21-22  And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: And he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;
Vs.22  And the rib, which The Lord God had taken from the man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.
( See Genesis 5:1-2, Job 33:4, Malachi 2:10 )
OUR SPEECH

Well Chosen
Proverbs 10:19  In the multitude of words there lacks not sin.
Proverbs 17:27  He that has knowledge, spares his words and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.
Matthew 5:37   Let your communication be yea yea, nay nay, for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.
Titus 2:8  …sound speech that cannot be condemned...

A Time to Keep Silent
Proverbs 23:9  Speak not in the ears of a fool, for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.
Proverbs 29:11  A fool utters all his mind, but a wise man keepeth it till afterwards.
Ecclesiastes 3:7…A time to rend, and a time to sew, a time to keep silent and a time to speak.

Don’t Speak Evil
Ephesians 4:31  Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.
Titus 3:2  Speak evil of no man, to be not a brawler, but gentle, showing all meekness to all men.

Good Speech
Proverbs 21:23  Whoso keeps his mouth and tongue, keeps his soul from trouble.
Proverbs 15:1  A soft answer turns away wrath but grievous words stir up anger.
Proverbs 16:24  Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.
Part IV. Kingdom Principles

CONTENTS

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A. The Kingdom of God

An illustration of the Kingdom of God, here on earth, would be the United States Embassy in a foreign land. The Embassy is considered a piece of America, governed by America in a different country. At this present time, God’s Kingdom here on earth is a spiritual one, where he reigns in the hearts and lives of those that have accepted his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior and are submitting to his Lordship.

As Christians, we can be likened to the U.S. Embassy: we are governed by God, but we live in a world that as a whole, is in spiritual darkness; where Satan still rules in the hearts and lives of unbelievers. The good news is that Jesus Christ made it possible to escape from Satan’s grasp and to enter the Kingdom of God, by translation at the new birth. As Ambassadors, this is the message that we proclaim to the citizens of this lost world. While on earth, Jesus Christ exercised the authority of God’s Kingdom, as can be seen in the casting out of demons, healing the sick, raising the dead and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom.

1. The Kingdom preached

Matthew 3:1-2  In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
2. And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matthew 4:17  From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

2. The Kingdom has come

Matthew 12:28  But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

3. The Kingdom within you

Luke 17:21  Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.
4. Kingdom characteristics

Romans 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

5. The beginning of Satan’s end

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

John 16:11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

6. Some mysteries of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

* Many of the mysteries that were hidden in the scriptures, have been divinely revealed with the first coming of Jesus Christ, such as....

1. The mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven, in parables. (Matthew 13:3-50)

2. The mystery of Israel’s blindness. (Romans ch.11)

3. The mystery of the church, as one body, composed of Jews and Gentiles (Ephesians 3:1-12, 6:19 Colossians 4:3)

4. The mystery of the church, as the bride of Christ. (Ephesians 5:21-32)

5. The mystery of the divinity of Jesus Christ. (John 1:1-3, vs.14)

6. The mystery of the translation of the church. (1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17)

7. The mystery of the first Coming of Christ, one of suffering. (1 Peter 1:11, Mark 8:31, Isaiah 53:3)

8. The mystery of the 2nd. Coming of Christ. (Revelation 1:7, 19:11, vs.12-16)
1. The King

Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the promise that God gave to king David; that from David’s own body, God would raise up a king whose throne and rule would be forever. (2 Samuel 7:8-17) This promise will be fulfilled at the second Coming of the Lord Jesus. The establishing of the kingdom by the King can be viewed in three stages.

1. The King came and announced the kingdom but was rejected. (Matthew 21:42-43)

2. The King declares the spiritual kingdom within us by his indwelling presence. (Luke 17:21, John 14:21-23)

3. The King, at his 2nd. Coming will restore the Davidic Monarchy in himself, re-gather the nation of Israel and rule the whole earth for 1000 years. (Matthew 24:27-30, Acts 15:14-17, Revelation 20:1-10)

A. The King Foretold

2 Samuel 7:12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

B. The King’s birth Announced

Luke 1:30-33 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
31. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

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32. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
33. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Luke 2:8-11 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

**C. The Kings genealogy**

Matthew 1:1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham... (Luke 3:23-38)

**D. The Kings fulfillment of prophesies**

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

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

Jeremiah 31:15 Thus saith the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

E. The King’s ministry

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Matthew 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Hebrews 2:14-15 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

F. The King’s rejection

1. His Home Town

Mark 6:3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

Luke 4:28-29 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, 29. And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.
2. **Priests and Rulers**

Luke 23:18   And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas:

3. **The Jewish Nation**

John 1:11   He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

**G. The King’s death**

Mark 15:24-26   And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

25. And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

26. And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Mark 15:45-46   And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph.

46. And he bought fine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre.

**H. The King’s resurrection**

Matthew 16:21   From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Acts 3:15   And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

Acts 4:33   And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Psalms 16:10   For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

1 Corinthians 15:4   And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
I. The Kings ascension

Mark 16:19   So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into
heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Acts 1:9   And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and
a cloud received him out of their sight.

Hebrews 9:2   For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are
the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

J. The Kings return

Acts 1:11   Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this
same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye
have seen him go into heaven.

Luke 21:27   And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and
great glory.

Matthew 24:36   But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven,
but my Father only.

1 Thessalonians 4:16   For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with
the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise
first:
17. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the
clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Revelation 1:7   Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they
also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so,
Amen.

Revelation 19:11-14   And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that
sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make
war.
12. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a
name written, that no man knew, but he himself.
13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word
of God.
14. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in
fine linen, white and clean.
2. The King’s Authority

* Jesus Christ has been seated at the right hand of God the Father and given all authority over all powers and principalities, in heaven and in earth. He is Lord and is Head of the Church.

Matthew 28:18  And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Revelation 1:18   I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Hebrews 2:14-15  Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
15. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

1 Peter 3:22   Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Colossians 2:15   And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Ephesians 1:21-23  Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:
22. And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
23. Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

Philippians 2:9-11  Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
10. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;
11. And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
B. The Present Kingdom

The present Kingdom of God here on earth cannot be seen nor felt, because it is Spiritual and in Mystery form, in the hearts and lives of believers. What can be seen and felt is the change in people and their lives, when the principles of God’s Kingdom are practiced.

This section of this study course is made up of the following:

1. Entrance into the Kingdom
2. The People of the Kingdom
3. The Principles of the Kingdom
1. Entrance into the Kingdom

A. By the New Birth

John 3:3-5  Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.  
4. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?  
5. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

For God to reign in the heart of man, a change must take place in man’s heart. The change takes place when a person hears the gospel, repents of their sins and accepts Jesus Christ as their Savior. It’s not turning over a new leaf, doing good works, going to church, or any such thing: man is lost in sin; his heart (spirit) is corrupt in nature and therefore he cannot save himself, by his own efforts. The good news is that God sent his Son Jesus Christ, to save us.

Ezekiel 36:26  A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

Titus 3:5  Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

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

B. By Translation

Colossians 1:13  Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

* Upon receiving Christ into our hearts and lives, we are translated into the Kingdom of God; Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and we are citizens of His Kingdom.
2. The People of God’s Kingdom

The spiritual Kingdom of God here on earth consists of the universal church, called the body of Christ, which is made up of all born again believers, from all over the world. We are the family of God, his children by faith in Jesus Christ, called sons and daughters, joint-heirs with Jesus Christ.

A. His Children

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

1 John 3:1-2 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.
2. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.
18. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.
B. Heirs of God

Romans 8:17  And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Galatians 3:29  And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Titus 3:7  That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

1 Peter 1:4  To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

C. Blessed

Ephesians 1:3  Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

It’s never wrong to speak about yourself, in light of God’s word; but just saying what God’s word says, doesn’t necessarily bring the blessing into a Christian’s life. There are certain principles that must be in operation, such as prayer, faith, and love, to name a few.

The Bible says to seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you ( Matthew 6:33 ). The things of God must be first, in ones life. The blessings are in Christ, in other words; everything that God did and accomplish in Jesus Christ was for our benefit.

a. Some of the blessings in the book of Ephesians

1. Adoption as children  1:5
2. Accepted in the beloved  1:6
3. Redemption through his blood  1:7
4. Sealed with the Holy Ghost  1:13
5. Seated in heavenly places  2:6
6. By grace we are saved through faith  2:8-9
7. Brought close to God by the blood of Jesus Christ  2:13
8. One family in Christ  2:15-19
9. Un-searchable riches of Christ  3:8
10. Armor of God  6:11-18
b. Delivered from the fear of death

Hebrews 2:14-15  Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
15. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

c. At death, Christians go to Heaven

2 Corinthians 5:1-2, 6-8  For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
2. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:
6. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:
7. (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)
8. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Philippians 1:21-22  For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
22. But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.
23. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:
24. Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.

Luke 23:43  And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

d. The Resurrection of our bodies

1 Corinthians 15:51-53  Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
52. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
53. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

1 Thessalonians  4:16.  For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: ( see 4:13-18 )
3. Principles of the Kingdom

* In this section of this study course, we will look at some of the principles (spiritual laws) that the Kingdom of God operates by.

1. LOVE
2. FAITH
3. FORGIVING
4. JUDGING
5. PRAYER
6. GIVING
7. POWER
1. LOVE

A. Love is the greatest Commandment

Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
38. This is the first and great commandment.
39. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

1. Loving God

John 14:15, 21,24  Vs.15  If ye love me, keep my commandments.
21. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.
24. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

2. Loving People

John 13:35  By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 15:12  This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

1 John 3:11,14,16-18  Vs.11  For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
14. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren.
He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.
16. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
17. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?
18. My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

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3. **Love your enemies**

Matthew 5:44-46  But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.
46. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

Proverbs 25:21  If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

4. **The excellence of Love**

1 Corinthians 13:4-8  Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
5. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
6. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
7. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.
8. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. (NIV)

5. **Love is the Royal Law**

Romans 13:8-10  Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.
9. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
10. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

6. **God gave us his Love**

Romans 5:5  And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.
2. FAITH

As a child of God and a citizen of his Kingdom; the Lord teaches us not to worry about the things of this life, but to trust in God; who as our Father will meet our need, as we seek him and his Kingdom (Matthew 6:33-34). This involves the subject of faith, which has many facets to it.

A. Faith as trusting in Jesus for Salvation

John 3:16  For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Ephesians 2:8-9  For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

B. By faith in Jesus we are justified

Romans 5:1  Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

C. By faith in Jesus, His righteousness is ours

Romans 3:21-22  But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;
22. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Romans 4:3  For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Phiippians 3:9  And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
D. Faith comes by hearing God’s word

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

Romans 10:17  So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

E. A definition of faith

Hebrews 11:1  Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

F. Living by faith, a way of life

Hebrews 10:38  Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Romans 1:17  For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

G. Faith pleases God

Hebrews 11:6  But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

H. Walk by faith

2 Corinthians 5:7  (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

I. Two types of faith contrasted

1. Abraham’s faith

Romans 4:17-20  Vs.20  He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

2. Thomas’s faith

John 20:24-29  Vs.29  Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.
3. FORGIVING

A. God’s forgiveness for Salvation

1. Based on the blood of Christ

Matthew 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

2. Based on man’s Repentance

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

3. Based on faith in Christ

Acts 10:43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

B. God’s forgiveness of a Christian’s sins

1. Based on confessing our sins

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Based on our Advocate, Jesus Christ

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2. And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.
3. Based on our forgiving others

Matthew 6:14-15  For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:
15.  But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

C. Forgiving Others

1. How Often?

Luke 17:3-4  Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.
4. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

Matthew 18: 21-35  Vs.21  Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?
22. Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Ephesians 4:32  And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Colossians 3:13  Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

D. Examples of forgiving

1. Jesus forgiving his Torturers

Luke 23:34  Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

2. Steven asking God to forgive his murderers

Acts 7:59-60  And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. 60.  And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.
4. JUDGING

The Principle of:

Matthew 7:1-3  Judge not, that ye be not judged.
2. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.
3. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

The judgment Jesus is talking about in the above scripture is one that comes from a self-righteous attitude, this kind of judgment only tears down, and it never builds up. Christians are not to pass an unrighteous judgment, based on outward appearances. From time to time, the leaders in the church may have to discipline a member, based on a righteous judgment, for the good of the church.

1. Outward appearances

* In 1 Samuel ch.16, Samuel is sent to the household of Jesse, to anoint the next king of Israel; when Samuel sees Eliab, he thinks surely this must be God’s choice, based on Eliab’s appearance but God says in Vs.7 “look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as a man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart”.

2. Righteous Judgment within the Church

1 Corinthians 5:3-5  For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,
4. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,
5. To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1 Corinthians 6:1-4  Vs.2  Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?
3. Unrighteous Judgment

Romans 14:13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

1 Corinthians 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

4. The Example of Jesus

John 8:3-11 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,

4. They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.
5. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?
6. This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.
7. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.
8. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.
9. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.
10. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?
11. She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

Hosea 6:6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.
5. PRAYER

The Principle of:

James 5:16....The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

1. For Answered Prayer

1 John 5:14-15  And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
15. And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

1 John 3:22   And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

John 14:13   And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

John 15:7   If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Mark 11:24   Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

2 Chronicles 7:14  If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2. Some Answered Prayers

of Moses  Exodus 15:24-25
of Hannah  1 Samuel 1:27
of Solomon  1 Kings 9:3
of Elijah  1 Kings 18:37-38
of Jehoshaphat  2 Chronicles
3. Prayer of Agreement

Matthew 18:19   Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

Acts 4:24   And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

4. Intercessory Prayer

1 Timothy 2:1-21   I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;
2. For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Examples of Intercession

Abraham of Sodom, for Lot’s sake - Genesis ch.18

Moses for Israel - Exodus 32:32   Numbers 14:17   Deuteronomy 9:26

Samuel for Israel - 1 Samuel 7:5

David for Israel - 1 Chronicles 21:17

5. Hindrances to Prayer

1 Peter 3:7   Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

James 1:6-7   But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

James 4:2-3   Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.
3. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.
6. GIVING

The Principle of:

Luke 6:38  Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you

* Giving is an attitude of the heart that is willing to give not only material possessions but ones very life for the purpose and cause of the Lord Jesus.

1. The Promise of the Lord

Matthew 19:29  And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

2. Giving to the poor

Proverbs 11:25  The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Proverbs 22:9  He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

Proverbs 28:27  He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

3. Giving to the Christian brethren

2 Corinthians 8:14-15  But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality:
15. As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.
Acts 4:34-35  Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35. And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

4. Giving to God

Proverbs 3:9-10   Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10. So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Malachi 3:10-11   Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. 11. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.

5. Giving without Show

Matthew 6:3-4   But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4. That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

Romans 12:8   Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

6. General Scriptures Concerning Giving

Matthew 5:42   Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7   But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.
7. Warnings about Greed

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Luke 12:33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.

Matthew 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:
20. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:
21. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Parable of the rich man

Luke 12:15-21 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.
16. And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:
17. And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?
18. And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.
19. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, [and] be merry.
20. But God said unto him, [Thou] fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?
21. So [is] he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
7. POWER

1 Corinthians 4:20  For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

Luke 4:1   And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

Luke 4:14, 18   And Jesus returned IN THE POWER of the Spirit into Galilee; and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.
Vs.18   the Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set a liberty them that are bruised.

Acts 10:38   How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power who went about doing good, and healing all that are oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Luke 11:20   But if I by the finger of God cast our devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.

- The source of the power of the Kingdom comes from the Holy Ghost. The Lord Jesus displayed this power in His earthly ministry, and promised that His disciples would also receive Holy Ghost power, and continue to do His works.

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

John 14:12   Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
Notice Paul’s words concerning himself.

1 Corinthians 2:4  And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

Romans 14:17  For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Power in the early Church

Acts 3:6  Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Acts 6:8  And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders among the people.

Acts 9:32-41  Vs.33-34  And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed 8 years, and was sick of the palsy.
Vs.34  And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

Vs.40-41  But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes; and when she saw Peter, she sat up.
Vs.41  And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

Acts 14:8-10  And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mothers womb, who never had walked.
Vs.9  The same heard Paul speak; who steadfastly beholding him and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,
Vs.10  Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

Acts 19:11-12  And GOD wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:
Vs.12  So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.
C. The Future Kingdom

The future visible Kingdom of God will begin with the return of the King himself, His Royal Majesty, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will return in great glory and power and will establish his rule from the throne of David, over all the nations of the earth. His reign will last for 1000 years, which at the end, he will turn it over to God the Father.

1. His Glorious Return

Revelation 19:11-16 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

14. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Matthew 24:30-31 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
2. **An order of events at His return**

   A. Translation (Rapture) of all God’s people to meet the Lord in the air. (1 Corinthians 15:51-53, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

   B. Judgment seat of Christ, for the church. (2 Corinthians 15:10, 1 Corinthians 3:11-15, 2 Timothy 4:8)

   C. Armageddon (Christ defeats the anti-christ, false prophet and their armies. Zechariah 12:1-9, Revelation 19:17-21)

   D. Satan is bound for 1000 years (Revelation 20:1-3)

   E. Israel’s Conversion (Zechariah 12:10-14, 14:4-8)

   F. The judgment of the nations, as to how they treated the Jews (Zechariah 14:1-9, Matthew 25:31-46)

   G. The 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ (Revelation 20:4-6)

   H. At the end of the 1000 year reign of Christ

      1. Satan’s revolt and final doom (Revelation 20:7-10)

      2. The Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15)

      3. Fire of God purges Heaven and Earth for the Eternal Kingdom (2 Peter 3:10-12)

      4. New Heavens and New Earth (2 Peter 3:13, Revelation 21:1)

3. **His Throne and Reign**

   A. His Throne

      Luke 1:31-33  And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. 32. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

      Acts 2:25-35  Vs.30  Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;
B. His Reign

Revelation 20:6   Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Isaiah 9:6-7   For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

( See Isaiah 11:1-10 )

Jeremiah 23:5   Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

4. Christ delivers the Rule to God the Father

1 Corinthians 15:24   Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

5. God Purges Heaven and Earth

2 Peter 3:10-12   But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.
11. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,
12. Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

6. New Heaven and New Earth

Revelation 21:1   And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

7. The Holy City New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:2, 9-27   Vs.2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

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8. The Tree of Life

Revelation 22:1-5  Vs.2  In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 1:7  Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Revelation 22:12  And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.