

# Overview of the Bible

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This booklet is a compilation of a series of sermons I preached at Grace Baptist Church. They were not intended to be written in book form. I trust they will be a blessing in the format that they are in.

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# 66 Books / 1 Author

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**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:

God inspired the writers of the Bible so that the end result was the very Words of God. God promised we would have them preserved for us:

**Psalms 12:6-7** The words of the LORD *are* pure words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, **thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.**

The Old Testament has 39 books and the New Testament has 27 books.

The O.T.	17 Historical Books	The N.T.	5 Historical Books
	5 Poetical Books		21 Epistles
	17 Prophetical Books		1 Prophetical

Much discernment is required when studying the Word of God:

**1 John 4:1 & 6** Beloved, believe not every spirit, but **try the spirits whether they are of God**: because **many false prophets** are gone out into the world. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the **spirit of truth**, and the **spirit of error**.

False doctrine has a spirit (demon) behind it and a person teaching it. Beware of false prophets.

**2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

Consideration must be given to the placement within the Bible.

Job is a poetical book and not written for doctrinal purposes. Romans is a *Theological Treatise* and would be a primary source for the doctrine of salvation. Matthew through Acts are written from a historical perspective. Doctrine maybe found in these five books, but they are not primary sources for it.

Can I lose my salvation? Study Romans, Galatians or Ephesians.

Is there a resurrection from the dead? Study I Corinthians chapter 15.

Biblical tongues? Historical account in Acts / Doctrinal teaching in 1 Corinthians ch. 12-14

Is Prov. 22:6 a promise of God? No, Proverbs are wise sayings that generally applied are generally true.

**Revelation 1:1** The **Revelation of Jesus Christ**, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John.

From beginning to end, the Bible is primarily a book about the Lord Jesus Christ. Does He dwell in your heart? He loves you!

# The Bible as a Whole: Purpose of God & His Kingdom

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## Adam was to rule on earth as King

**Genesis 1:26-28** 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 the cattle, and over **all the earth**...and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish...and 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**.

## Christ will rule forever

**Luke 1:31-33** And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, **and** bring forth a son, **and** shalt call his name JESUS. 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: **And** he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; **and** of his kingdom there shall be no end.

## Christ's Position Today

**Ephesians 1:20-21** Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, **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:

## Us – Be Patient

**1 Peter 5:10-11** But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*. **To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever**. Amen.

**Jude 1:21-25** Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the **only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever**. Amen.

## In Eternity

**Revelation 1:6** And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

**Revelation 5:10** And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

**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. **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.

# Central Theme of the Bible: Blood of the Lamb

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**Isaiah 53:5-7** 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. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (700 B.C.)

**Acts 8:32-35** The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth...And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? Then Philip opened his mouth, and **began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.** (34 A.D.)

**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.

**1 Peter 1:18-19** Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

**Revelation 5:6 & 9** And I beheld, and, lo, in the **midst of the throne** and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood **a Lamb as it had been slain**... And they sung a new song, saying, Thou...**hast redeemed us to God by thy blood** out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

## Way to God – Faith & Blood

**Romans 3:25** Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through **faith in his blood**, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

## Illustrated in the O.T.

**Genesis 22:7-8** And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here *am* I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but **where is the lamb for a burnt offering?** And Abraham said, My son, **God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering:** so they went both of them together.

**Exodus 12:13** And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and **when I see the blood, I will pass over you**, and the plague shall **not be upon you to destroy you**...

**1 Corinthians 5:7** ...For even **Christ our passover** is sacrificed for us:

## In Eternity

**Revelation 22:3** And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

# God Deals with Man by Covenants

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The word *covenant* is found 292 times in the Bible. God deals with humans based upon them.

**Isaiah 55:9** For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Genesis 9:11-17** And I will establish **my covenant with you**; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This *is* the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my **bow in the cloud**, and **it shall be for a token of a covenant** between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which *is* between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that **I may remember the everlasting covenant** between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This *is* the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

A **Testament is a covenant** that goes into effect after the Testator dies.

**Heb. 9:16-17** For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.

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

## Compare Noah's Covenant with the Rainbow & the New Testament Covenant of Christ's Blood

- 1) Both of these everlasting covenants were a plan from the mind of God. The covenant of grace could no more have been made by man than he could form a bow in the clouds.
- 2) It was affected by God's smelling a sweet savour. (Ge. 8:21, 9:9)

**Ephesians 5:2** And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

- 3) The Guarantee / Promise of Wrath Avoided

**Isaiah 54:9** For this *is as* the waters of Noah unto me: for *as* I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

- 4) Seal of the Covenant has nothing more beautiful

**Eph. 4:30** And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

**Entrance into an everlasting covenant with the Father is through the Blood of Jesus Christ.**

**John 5:24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.



**Exo. 32:11** And **Moses besought the LORD** his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against **thy people**, which **thou hast brought forth out** of the land of Egypt with great power...

Blood of Lamb pictures salvation / Red Sea waters pictures Water Baptism  
Promised Land pictures the Life of Faith – A life of conflict, battles and victories

- **God's people teach us about a Step of Faith**

### **1) Faith steps out based on the Promise of God**

**Joshua 3:10** And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and **that he will without fail drive out** from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

### **2) God moves after you are committed. There is a point of 'no return' with a step.**

**Joshua 3:13** And it shall come to pass, **as soon as the soles of the feet** of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, **shall rest in the waters** of Jordan, **that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from** the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.

## **Judges through 2 Chronicles**

### **Judges – Incomplete mastery leads to sin and failure**

Luz – one man let go and city is rebuilt (Judges 1:23-26)

God calls incomplete obedience rebellion (I Sam. 15:20-24)

**Samuel is the last of Judges**; Saul is first of kings. It was God's will for a king, just not His time yet.

**Saul – King of the people Like Antichrist**

**David – King chosen by God / Jesus is from this line; "Son of David"**

**1 Kings 2:45** ...and the throne of David shall be established before the LORD for ever.

**Solomon – shows magnificence of Christ kingdom to come**

**1 Kings 10:7** Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen *it*: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.

### **Divided Kingdom**

N. Kingdom 10 tribes / Samaria was capital / all bad kings

S. Kingdom 2 tribes / Jerusalem was capital / some good kings, some bad kings

### **Babylonian Captivity**

Ezra	Remnant Returns
Nehemiah	Walls Rebuilt
Esther	Israel Preserved by Providence

# Poetical Books

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The poetical books are five books that deal with poetry in their form. They are real people who grapple with profound problems and express big realities and great truths.

## Spiritual Progress

Job – Death of Self-life

Psalms – New Life in God

Proverbs – Wisdom for Daily Life

Ecclesiastes – Contentment Found in Serving God

Song of Solomon – Love of Christ & Love for Christ

Death of Self

New Life

Disciplined Life

Wean from Worldliness

Heavenly Bridegroom

Job discovered who he was. Trials bring the dross of sin in our life:

**Job 1:8** And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

**Job 42:6** Wherefore I abhor *myself*, and repent in dust and ashes.

God uses tribulation to purge us from sin and refine our life.

**Romans 5:3-5** "... tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost..."

Job was not meant to know the explanation of his trial. Not knowing causes us to trust God.

**Proverbs 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

If we could understand our trials, there would be no need to trust God. He is an all wise God.

God gives grace for every trial.

**2 Corinthians 12:9-10** And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities... for when I am weak, then am I strong.

**Romans 8:28** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God...

**Romans 8:18** For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Ecclesiastes shows vanity of life. Life is vain if:

- View life selfishly rather than socially
- View life apart from God rather than controlled by Him
- View life as bounded by the grave rather than as having a destiny beyond death



### **Selfishly rather than socially**

- Live to get rather than to give
- The more one lives for self, the less do earthly things satisfy
- When one lives to “get”, then the more one gets, the less one really has
- A true paradox – the more one gives the more one gets
- Those who do most for others, do most for themselves

This world is filled with selfish people – living self-centered – yet unhappy

### **We are taught of God to love others**

**John 13:34** A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

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

**John 15:17** These things I command you, that ye love one another.

**1 Thessalonians 4:9** But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are **taught of God to love one another**.

**Ephesians 5:2** And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

### **We are taught of God to live for others**

**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. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself**.

**1 Peter 4:9** Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

**John 13:14-15 & 17** If I then, *your* Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you...**If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them**.

### **We are taught of God – the love of Christ**

**Song of Solomon 2:4** He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me *was* love.

**Song of Solomon 2:16** My beloved *is* mine, and I *am* his: he feedeth among the lilies.

**Song of Solomon 6:3** I *am* my beloved's, and my beloved *is* mine: he feedeth among the lilies.

You know Him. Does He know you? He loves you. Do you love Him?

**2 Timothy 2:19** Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

# Prophetical Books

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There are 17 prophetical books - often broken down into 5 'major' prophets and 12 'minor' prophets. The prophets were called of God to foretell and tell-forth. They had authority from God. They were a speaker for God. They were often called to excite and arouse the people to turn back to Jehovah. False prophets were false in that they were not called of God.

Much of the O.T. prophecies are still unfulfilled. They mainly spoke to warn people, but foretelling as prophecy was also a part of their writings.

The N.T. term 'prophecy' is "to speak fervently for God." It is to tell-forth. Revelation has ceased with the completion of the Bible. The two N.T. offices of one called of God for today are Pastor-Teacher and Evangelist (church planter). The prophets were given an unction by God, but today every believer has an unction and is taught by the Holy Spirit. (I John 2:20 & 2:27).

<u>Century</u>	<u>Prophet</u>	<u>Written to Whom</u>
?? B.C.	Obadiah	Edom
825-780 B.C.	Jonah	Nineveh
640 B.C.	Nahum	Nineveh
785 B.C.	Amos	Israel (N. Kingdom)
780-725 B.C.	Hosea	Israel
830-800 B.C.	Joel	Judah (S. Kingdom)
755-700 B.C.	Isaiah	Judah
744-704 B.C.	Micah	Judah
640-610 B.C.	Zephaniah	Judah
609-598 B.C.	Habakkuk	Judah
627-585	Jeremiah	Judah
586 B.C.	Lamentations	Judah
606 – 550 B.C.	Daniel	Prophecy
590 – 570 B.C.	Ezekiel	Various
520 B.C.	Haggai	Rebuild Temple
520-460 B.C.	Zechariah	Various
435-425 B.C.	Malachi	Expose Corruption

Israel in Assyrian captivity in 722 B.C. / Judah in Babylonian captivity in two stages: 606 B.C. and 586 B.C.

Hosea was the broken hearted prophet to Israel and Jeremiah was the weeping prophet to Judah.

Warnings from the prophets

Ezekiel 30:3 For the day *is* near, even **the day of the LORD *is* near**, a cloudy day...

Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for **the day of the LORD *is* near**...

Obadiah 1:15 For **the day of the LORD *is* near** upon all the heathen...

Zeph. 1:14 The **great day of the LORD *is* near, *it is* near**, and hasteth greatly...

# That It Might Be Fulfilled

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The O.T. is incomplete without Him. Without Jesus Christ:

- The Torah would have unexplained ceremonies
- The Psalms would have unappeased longings
- The Prophets would have unachieved purposes

Matthew, the connecting book of the O.T. & N.T. has 53 citations from the O.T. and 76 allusions to it.

- **Prophecy:**      **According to these verses: Jehovah / LORD is Jesus / Lord**

**Isaiah 40:3** The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, **Prepare ye the way of the LORD...**

**Matthew 3:3** For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, **Prepare ye the way of the Lord**, make his paths straight.

- **Prophecy:**      **When Jesus was born, he was as old as His Father and older than His mother**

**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.**

**Matthew 2:4-6** And when he (Herod) had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

- **Prophecy:**      **Birth of Jesus Christ**

**Matthew 1:21-23** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 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.

Conceived by the Holy Ghost (His Father) and Mary as His mother    100% God / 100% Man.

- **Prophecy:**      **Kingdom healing from Isa. 53 was fulfilled.** The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Matthew 8:16-17** When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with *his* word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.

- **Prophecy:**      **Jesus spoke in Parables (Ps. 78:2)**

**Matthew 13:34-35** All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

- **Prophecy: Jesus Christ – King to Israel**

**Matthew 21:4-5** All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

- **Jesus came to Fulfill all Scripture**

**Matthew 26:53-56** Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be? In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me. But all this was done, that **the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled**. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled. (See also Matt. 2:15, 2:17, 2:23, 4:14, 12:17, Luke 4:21, John 12:38, 13:18, 18:9)

- **Rejected and Crucified**

**Matthew 27:9** Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value

**John 19:24** ...Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots.

**Matt. 27:35** they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

**Mark 15:28** And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

**Luke 24:44** These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.

**John 19:28** After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

**John 19:34-37** But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw *it* bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken. And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

### **Isa. 53 is a Prophecy of Jesus Christ**

**Acts 8:32-35** The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth... And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Fulfilled prophecy written about 700 previous to its fulfillment is credible, intelligent and reasonable evidence to believe that the Bible is inspired by God as His Holy Bible.

***Ye Must Be Born Again***

# The Four Gospels

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<u>Matthew</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Luke</u>	<u>John</u>
King	Servant	Perfect Man	God
Sovereignty	Humility	Humanity	Deity
Authority	Example	Sinless	I AM
To Jews	To Romans	To Greeks	World
Promised One	How He Worked	What He Was Like	Who Is

“That it might be fulfilled” is found 13 times in Matthew. “And” is found 1,286 times in Mark.

“Believe” or “Believeth” is found 69 times in John.

John is not contradictory, but complementary. 90% of material in John is not in other three gospels.

The picturesque of Christ’s teaching is striking. There are figures, similes, analogies and imagery, relative to natural phenomena, animals, plants, agriculture and commerce. He speaks of lightning, earthquakes, fire, storm, light; oxen, sheep, wolves, birds, and serpents; houses, food, cooking and lamps; soil, sowing, and harvest; alms, tithes, prayers and fastings.

As Friend of Sinners, he forgave harlots and condemned hypocrites!

**Luke 7:34** The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!

## At His Birth

**Matthew 2:11** ...they presented unto him gifts; **gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.**

## At His Death

**Matthew 27:29** And when they had platted a **crown of thorns**, they put *it* upon his head...

**Matthew 27:34** They gave him **vinegar to drink** mingled with gall...

**Matthew 26:67** Then did they **spit in his face**...

## His Humanity

**Luke 2:52** And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

## His Sinlessness

**2 Corinthians 5:21** For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, **who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**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.**

## His Atoning Work

**John 10:11** I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

**John 10:17-18** ...because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again...

**John 19:30** When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished**: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

**Whom we are referring to:**

**John 6:35** And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life:** he that cometh to me shall never hunger...

**John 8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world...**

**John 10:9 I am the door:** by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

**John 10:11 I am the good shepherd:** the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

**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:

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

**John 15:5 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.

**Luke 1:31-33** And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name **JESUS**. 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**: And he shall **reign over the house of Jacob for ever**; and of **his kingdom there shall be no end**.

**Ephesians 1:20-21** Which he wrought in Christ, when he **raised him from the dead**, and **set him at his own right hand** in the heavenly *places*, **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...

**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.

**Prophecy of O.T. Describes Four Aspects of Jesus Christ:**

**Matthew / King / The Branch**

**Jeremiah 23:5-6** 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. In his days **Judah** shall be saved, and **Israel** shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

**Mark / Servant / The Branch**

**Zechariah 3:8** Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they *are* men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth **my servant the BRANCH**.

**Luke / Perfect Man / The Branch**

**Zechariah 6:12** And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, **Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH**; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:

**John / God / The Branch**

**Isaiah 4:2** In that day shall the **branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious**, and the fruit of the earth *shall be* excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel.

# Book of Acts: Taking the Gospel to the World

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## Jesus Gave the Great Commission & it was Fulfilled (within 30 years)

**Matthew 28:18-19** And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and **teach all nations**, baptizing them...

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and **preach the gospel to every creature**.

**Colossians 1:23** ...*be* not moved away from the hope of the **gospel**, which ye have heard, *and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven*; whereof I Paul am made a minister...

Jerusalem Crusade	Acts 1-12	Peter, the Fisherman	Out to Samaria
Global Crusade	Acts 13-28	Paul, the Tentmaker	Out to Uttermost

## 5 Reasons the Early Church Fulfilled the Great Commission

### 1) Reality of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The lives of the disciples were changed by this fact.

**Acts 2:32** This Jesus hath **God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses**.

**Acts 4:2** ...they taught the people, and **preached** through Jesus the **resurrection** from the dead.

**Acts 4:33** And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus...

### 2) Coming of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit gave them power, which is the 'ability to do' what Jesus had commanded. He indwelt them to give them boldness to be witnesses.

**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...

**Acts 2:41** Then they that **gladly received his word** were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about **three thousand souls**.

**Acts 4:4** ...*many*...which heard the word **believed**; and the number of the men was about **five thousand**.

**Acts 6:7** And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples **multiplied** in Jerusalem **greatly**

### 3) Unity in Church

**Acts 2:1** And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were **all with one accord in one place**.

**Acts 2:44-45** And **all that believed were together, and had all things common**; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need.

**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, And laid *them* down at the apostles' feet: and **distribution was made unto every man according as he had need**.

### 4) Persecution

**Acts 5:18** And laid their hands on the apostles, and **put them in the common prison**.

**Acts 5:40** ...when they had called the apostles, **and beaten them**, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

**Acts 7:59** And they **stoned Stephen**, calling upon *God*, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

**Acts 8:1** And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a **great persecution** against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad...

**Acts 9:23** And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel **to kill him**:

30 A.D. Death of Jesus

45 A.D. James killed by sword by Herod Agrippa

64 A.D. James, ½ brother of Jesus stoned

64 A.D. Mark dragged to stake, died on the way

66 A.D. **Nero**, Emperor of Rome, begins persecution – used **four main methods of killing Christians**:

- A) Dress them in skins of beasts that they might be torn in pieces by wild animals
- B) Killed on a cross like their Savior
- C) Burned with torches and lamps under shoulders and other tender parts of their naked bodies
- D) Wrapped them in burning mantle coated with oil, pitch or wax and wound them around their hands and feet, in order to melt the very marrow in their bones<sup>1</sup>

### 5) Proper Methodology of Missions

The church at Jerusalem started the church at Antioch which sent out Paul and Barnabus who started many churches that started churches which started churches....

Paul trained nationals and started churches that were self-supported and self-governing.

**Acts 14:23** And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed. (See also Titus 1:5)

**Acts 16:4-5** And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem. And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily\*.

#### Starting a Church – Methodology from Acts 16:9-40

- Know it is will of God

**Acts 16:10** And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, **assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.**

- Witness to many and God will have some prepared

**Acts 16:14** And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: **whose heart the Lord opened**, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

- God uses providence to those you witness to

**Acts 16:22-25** And the **multitude rose up together against them**: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat *them*. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, **they cast them into prison**, charging the jailor to keep them safely: Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

- Paul left city (forced out) in providence of God

**Acts 16:39-40** ...and brought *them* out, and desired *them to depart out of the city*. And they went out of the prison...and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

The church at Philippi was started with Lydia, a demon-possessed damsel and the Jailor and his family!

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<sup>1</sup> Martyrs Mirror page 78-79





# Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey

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**Mark 1:38** ...Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

**Matt. 9:37** Then saith he unto his disciples, **The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;**

## 1. Leave Antioch and travel through Syria and Cilicia

Confirming the churches as they travel 15:41

These are churches he did not directly start – perhaps by home church?

Probably went through his home town of Tarsus

## 2. Arrive at Derbe and Lystra 16:1

Timothy

Paul led him to the Lord I Cor. 4:17, I Tim. 1:2, II Tim. 1:2

Hometown was Lystra Acts 16:2, 20:4

Watched Paul get stoned to death II Tim. 3:10-12

Unsaved Dad Acts 16:1

Travels with Paul up to Acts 17:14 and later on (Phil. 2:19-23)

Confirming churches, delivering decrees 16:4

## 3. Gone throughout Phrygia and Galatia 16:6

**Forbidden to preach in Asia, Mysia, and Bithynia 16:6-7**

**Came to Troas for direction 16:8**

## 4. Macedonian Call 16:9-10

To Europe. It was Europe that took the gospel to Africa, Asia, N.America and Latin America.  
Paul followed the will of God.

David Livingston tried to go to China; God sent him to Africa.

William Carey planned to go to Polynesia in South Seas; God sent him to India.

Adroniom Judson went to India first; but was driven to Burma.

Paul did not 'go it alone.' Silas with him; Timothy joins (Acts 16:3); Luke joins up at Troas (Acts 16:10 – 'we' / 16:8 – 'they').

## 5. Phillipi Acts 16:12

3 converts: Lydia 16:13-15 / Demon possessed damsel 16:16-18 / Jailer 16:25-34

Paul is whipped (16:23).

Read his biography - II Cor. 11:23-25, Gal. 6:17 'stigmata' II Cor. 2:12-13, 7:5-7.

Paul is run out of town 16:39, but left behind a church. God blessed. Phil. 1:1, 4:15

## 6. Thessalonica Acts 17:1

Paul preaches 17:2-3 / some saved 17:4.

Paul is run out of town Acts 17:10

Paul left, but left behind a church. God blessed. I The. 1:6-8

## 7. Berea Acts 17:10

Many believed Acts 17:12. Paul run out of town. Paul left, but left behind a church.

Timothy and Silas stay at Berea. 17:14

***Macedonia & Achaia get the gospel!***

8. **Athens** Acts 17:14-15.  
Paul preaches of the 'unknown God.' He is the Creator. This is the 'Mars Hill' speech. Some mock, others ponder. Acts 17:32. Some got saved 17:34
9. **Corinth** Acts 18:1  
Corinth was a most wicked city. God's forgiveness is great I Jn. 2:1-2, I Tim. 1:15, Rom 5:20  
Witness to those like you 18:2-3; to all 18:4; to those who hate you 18:5-6  
Jesus promises Paul safety 18:9-10; to those who will listen 18:7-8.  
Paul stays for 18 months 18:11.  
Priscilla & Aquila get saved – co-laborers with Paul. Acts 18:18, Rom 16:3, I Cor. 16:19  
Paul writes 1 & 2 Thessalonians from here
10. **Ephesus** for a short stop. Acts 18:18-21
11. **Antioch – Home Church** -- Sails to Caesarea and up to Jerusalem and then to Antioch. Acts 18:22

## Pauls' 3<sup>rd</sup> Missionary Journey

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- |                                 |                              |                                 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) <b>Ephesus</b> Acts 19:1-21  | 2) <b>Troas</b> Acts 20:6-12 |                                 |
| 3) <b>Miletus</b> Acts 20:19-31 | 4) <b>Tyre</b> Acts 21:4     | 5) <b>Caesarea</b> Acts 21:8-11 |

### Self-Starter and a Hard-Driven Man

**Acts 19:21** After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

**Acts 20:24** But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

**Acts 21:13** Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

### Called to the Gentiles, Lover of Jews, Destined to Suffering

**Acts 9:15-16** But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

**Acts 26:16-17** ...for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee...

### Acts Concludes without a Conclusion

**Acts 28:30-31** And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.





# Book of Revelation

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## Frequent Mention

The word 'and' appears 1,174 times & the word 'great' 72 times. There are 280 references to the O.T..

## The Capstone of the Bible

If it were not for this book, we would not know these people and events:

God holds the 7 sealed book in His right hand	Jesus holds the 7 angels (pastors) in His right hand
7 seal, 7 trumpet, & 7 vial judgments	144,000 witnesses
2 witnesses	1/3 of the angels fell with Lucifer
Israel goes into hiding for 1260 days	False resurrection of Antichrist
The False Prophet	Mark of the Beast
Mystery Babylon	How the city of Babylon will be destroyed
Jesus returning on a white horse	Marriage Supper of the Lamb
1000 year reign of Jesus Christ	The final battle of Gog and Magog
Satan is bound for 1000 years	Great White Throne Judgment
New Jerusalem	

## Chapter by Chapter Division

Ch 1	Jesus as High Priest in midst of church		
Ch 2-3	Jesus commends, condemns & counsels churches		
Ch 4-5	Around the Throne		
Ch 6	7 seals	Ch 7	144,000 witnesses
Ch 8-10	7 Trumpets	Ch 11	Temple on Earth & 2 Witnesses
Ch 12	Israel and Satan	Ch 13	Antichrist
Ch 14	Angels & Harvest	Ch 15	Temple in Heaven
Ch 16	7 Vials	Ch 17	False Church
Ch 18	Babylon rebuilt	Ch 19	Marriage Supper & 2nd Coming
Ch 20	Judgment	Ch 21	New Jerusalem
Ch 22	For ever and ever		

## Purposes of the Tribulation

- God's wrath is poured out (Rev. 6:17)
- Multitudes of souls are saved (Rev. 7:9, Hab. 3:2)
- Israel is purged to receive Jesus Christ as their Messiah (Zech. 13:8-9, 12:10)

## Revelation of Jesus Christ - the Unveiling of Jesus Christ

The Bible is primarily a book about the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the central theme. The word *revelation* literally means to unveil. Previously hidden, Jesus Christ is now unveiled as:

Ch 1-3	The High Priest in Midst of Church
Ch 4-5	Lamb Worthy of Praise
Ch 6-18	Wrath of the Lamb Poured Out
Ch 19:1-9	Marriage Supper of Lamb
Ch 19:10-21	Coming King and Judge of All the Earth
Ch 20	1000 Year Reign
Ch 21-22	Lamb is the Light thereof

# Discipleship is Based Upon Relationship

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The “Sermon on the Mount” opens and closes with:

**Matthew 5:1-2** And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

**Matthew 7:28-29** And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

Jesus took His disciples aside and taught them the truths about the Christian life. Below is an overview of this great teaching. His emphasis was that the Christian life is all about a real relationship not a religion. Do not be guilted into doing something for God; work for God because you love Him.

Here are eight truths you need if you are to be a disciple:

1) **Blessedness is in the Heart** Matt. 5:3-11

Blessedness comes from a heart that is right with God. The Christian life has *everything* to do with the heart. It is all about relationship, not rules.

**Matthew 5:8** Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

2) **Follow the Spirit of the Law not Letter of the Law** Matt. 5:21-42

Jesus taught that the letter of the law is: do not murder nor commit adultery. The spirit of the law is: do not get angry without a cause and do not lust after a woman. One can follow the letter of the law and be a million miles away from God.

**Matthew 5:22** But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment...

**Matthew 5:28** But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

3) **Love Fulfills all the Law** Matt. 5:45-48

Jesus taught that to be *perfect* as the Father in heaven is perfect, that one must love. Love means to love regardless of reciprocation. The Christian life is to love people as God does!

**Matthew 5:44** 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;

4) **Be Private About What You Do For God** Matt. 6:1-18

Be private about what you do for the Lord. Make sure your motives are pure and that you are doing what you do because you love God and not to be seen of men. People often do things ‘to be seen of men’ and that is rooted in pride. The Christian life is all about what God knows and sees rather than what others know and see about you. Your heart is an ‘open book’ to God.

The expression to ‘not let thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth’ is a Hebrew proverb which means to be private about your doings.

**Matthew 6:3-4** But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy **Father which seeth in secret** himself shall reward thee openly.

**Matthew 6:6** But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy **Father which seeth in secret** shall reward thee openly.

**Matthew 6:18** That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy **Father, which seeth in secret**, shall reward thee openly.

5) **Live for Eternity / Trust God for Temporal** Matt. 6:19-34

Don't live for things of this earth. Lay up rewards for the life to come. You will be dead a whole lot longer than you will be alive.

**Matthew 6:19-20** Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

Trust God for your daily needs. He has promised to provide for you. After all, He is your Father!

**Matthew 6:31-33** Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? ...for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness...

6) **Concern Yourself with Your sins Rather than Sins of Others** Matt. 7:1-5

**Matthew 7:3-4** And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam *is* in thine own eye?

We have enough sins and problems within our own life to concern ourselves with. Make sure you address your own life and let others give account to God. Again, the focus is on our own heart.

7) **There are Professors and There are Possessors** Matt. 7:13-27

Few will make it to heaven and many will go to hell. Many church member, preachers, and deacons will end up in hell. You never really know who is saved. The only one you can know for sure is your own self.

**Matthew 7:13-14** ...broad *is* the way, that **leadeth to destruction, and many** there be which go in thereat... and narrow *is* the way, which **leadeth unto life, and few** there be that find it.

**Matthew 7:22-23** Many will say to me in that day, **Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name?** and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

8) **Hear and Do** Matt. 7:24-28

**Matthew 7:24** 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.**



# God's Dealing With Man

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**Lucifer** sinned by **pride & rebellion**. It was an act of his **will**

**Isaiah 14:12-14** 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! 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: **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will** be like the most High.

**Adam & Eve** sinned by **ignoring** the command of God and “doing their own thing” / their own will.

**Genesis 2:16-17** And the **LORD God commanded the man**, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

**Jesus Christ** came to earth to **yield His will** to the will of God. This was culminated at Gethsemane.

**John 5:30** I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

**Luke 22:42** Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless **not my will, but thine, be done**.

**Hebrews 5:7** Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

**Hebrews 12:2** Looking unto Jesus... who for the joy that was set before him **endured the cross**, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Yielding to the will of God is preeminent. Yielding of your will to the Lord is a must for salvation.

**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. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

**Romans 10:13** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the **Lord** shall be saved.

## How God deals with a Human Being for Salvation

**God works on conscience:**

**John 8:9** And they which heard *it*, being convicted by *their own* conscience, went out one by one...

God deals with a human being in their conscience. This is the area in the spirit of man that God reveals their sin and God then tugs on their ‘heart’ to bring them to an opportunity to yield to Jesus Christ and have a new birth.

God is primarily a Spirit who has a Soul so He can communicate with humans.

**John 4:24** God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

Humans are primarily a Soul who have a Spirit so we can communicate with God.

**Luke 9:23-24** And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

**Once God has spoken to the conscience (in the spirit of man), that human being decides**

Soul / Personality = Intellect, Emotion, Will

**Intellect** – to know and understand truth and reality that the blood of Jesus Christ is shed for your sins

**Emotions** – may be an emotional time or may not be. Emotions can deceive us

**Will** – the deciding factor

**Your will decides**

**Your will must be broken** as the Holy Spirit speaks to your heart – as you invite Jesus Christ to be *your personal Savior*.

Man is exposed to truth and knows truth in his mind. God, the Holy Spirit works on the conscience (spirit) of man. Man now, with an act of his will, decides to either accept Jesus Christ or reject Jesus Christ.

He is Lord. Is He *your* Lord.

**Philippians 2:10-11** That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Open your heart to receive Jesus Christ**

**Revelation 3:20** Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: **if any man hear** my voice, **and open** the door, **I will come in to him**, and will sup with him, and he with me.

**John 8:32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

# You are a Cog in Worldwide Evangelism

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**Great Commission Given to the Church** (1 Cor. 12:28)

**Matt. 28:16** Then the **eleven disciples** went... into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

**Matt. 28:19** Go ye therefore, and **teach all nations...**

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and **preach the gospel to every creature.**

**Great Commission was Fulfilled within 33 Years** (See also Rom. 10:18, 16:26)

**Col. 1:5-6** truth of the **gospel**; Which is **come unto you, as it is in all the world...**

**Col. 1:23** ...the hope of the **gospel...**which **was preached to every creature** which is under heaven...

**How was this Accomplished?**

Church Planting: churches planted churches that planted churches.

- Most effective missionary is one that trains nationals to start churches
- **Acts 14:23** And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

**God's Plan is for your Church to Reach the World & your own City**

**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.

Both = "not only, but also" or "at the same time"

Both = World and Local

**Reach the World through training nationals to start churches**

**Acts 15:41** And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches. These were churches not started by Paul. Church planting was the methodology of the first century church.

**Reach your city through the leadership of the pastor / overseer**

- Tract Ministry
- Door-to-door Ministry
- Bus Ministry
- Follow-up of Visitors
- Invite those you know to church
- Personal Witnessing in Daily Life / Give personal testimony
- Use Your Imagination

Sheep follow. Obey command of Jesus to "preach the gospel to every creature."

**Acts 5:28** Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

**Acts 20:20** And how I kept back nothing that was profitable *unto you*, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,

***You are a Cog in Worldwide Evangelism***

# Overview of Human Response

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## **Human Failure**

The Bible records an honest assessment of humanity. Sin reigns and human failure is prevalent. A quick overview of the Bible shows the flood in Noah's time only had eight people saved. This is within the first nine chapters of the Bible. Sin mars so much of human history. The time of the Judges, the divided kingdom and the reign of bad kings all reflect a sinful society. The Old Testament ends in apostasy.

The church age begins with the wonderful account of Pentecost and multitudes saved. It ends with the Laodicean church age which we are living in today. The majority of churches have left the pure Word of God and are striving to be seeker-friendly rather than Saviour-friendly.

**Luke 18:8** I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

## **Negative Commands from God**

Jeremiah was commanded to deliver the Word of God. There are 4 negative and 2 positive aspects:

**Jeremiah 1:10** See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

These verses about the Bible & Bible preaching each contain 2 negatives and 1 positive:

**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 Timothy 4:2** Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

## **Positive Command from God to Overcome Sin & Sinful Nature**

**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. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

**Romans 8:2** For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

**Galatians 5:16** *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

The Holy Spirit indwells us. Thus, the nature of God abides and gives the born-again Christian the potential and ability to overcome sin. This is accomplished by practicing the Bible method of victory:

**Galatians 2:20** I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

God's concepts transcend every age, language and culture. His truths are within the grasp of everyone.