

# *Interactive Bible Study*

## *Hebrews*

### *Part 2—(Chapters 5-10)*

*Jesus, Our High Priest Forever.....*





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## **Who We Are**

We are a faith-based 501.c.3 charitable organization that consists of a network of volunteers who specialize in producing everlasting change in the incarcerated lives and their families by introducing them to Christ thru the interactive study of Scripture. We then continue the discipleship process by equipping the saints to do the work of the ministry. We also help in the re-entry into society process by teaching practical implications for daily living with different topics such as anger management, Christian character, and financial success.

## **What We DO**

We train students and their families to interactively read the Scriptures by using a method comprised of observation (Listening to the Word), interpretation (Understanding the Word), and application (Responding to the Word). As we guide students through the process, we are not only exposing them to the saving power of Jesus, but equipping them to continue their life transformation by their own study of the Scriptures. Our method is simply to allow the truth to set prisoners free. We also help direct released inmates to after care facilities for successful transition into society.

## **We Believe**

All Scripture is inspired by God, all have sinned, and the wages of sin is death (eternal separation from God). The gift of God is eternal life by believing Jesus Christ is God in the flesh and paid our wage of sin by His death, burial and resurrection. We too can experience being raised to walk in newness of life by confessing Jesus is Lord and believing in our heart that God raised Him from the dead.

## The Very Basics

# What is Interactive Bible Study?

## The Method

Interactive Bible Study shows you how to discover God's Truth for yourself. The concept behind the interactive study method is to get students personally, and intimately involved with the subject, observing the text carefully for themselves. For example, if we were studying frogs using the method, we would begin by taking students to the pond to touch and observe real frogs before taking them to the library to study books about frogs.

We use a straightforward investigative approach to open the Bible and build the context for each statement it contains. That's where we find God's precepts—or principles—for life. Interactive study is the tool our students use to collect those precepts to build a God-glorifying, Bible-centered worldview with clear applications to live the abundant, victorious life in Christ.

### There are three steps to Interactive Bible Study:

- **Observation (Listen to God's Word)**  
Specially designed skills for busy lives in an age of speed, noise and endless distractions, the interactive study method will help you slow down to focus on God's Word, and see what it really says.
- **Interpretation (Understand God's Word)**  
Careful observation enables students to discover what the text means in its context. Since the Bible is its own best interpreter, the more accurate your observation, the greater will be your understanding of God's Word.
- **Application (Respond to God's Word)**  
The Creator and Author of life has shown us how to live a satisfying, eternally significant life. Intentional, disciplined observation and interpretation lead you to the profoundly applicable Truth of the Bible.

Without application Bible study can become "knowledge that puffs up" or doctrinally shallow anecdotes. **Our goal is changing lives by connecting people with Christ.**



## **Example of Interactive Bible Reading**

**Interactive Bible Reading**-----The Bible is our Primary Source

**Goal**—Transformed life—Deep & abiding relationship with Christ—It does little good to know the best route to follow if we never get on the road.

### **1. OBSERVATION---What does the text SAY? (Information)**

5W's & H—Who, What, Where, Why, When, & How questions

Determine Key Words—Vital to understanding the meaning of the text

Remove the key word & the text doesn't make sense.

Repeated Key words—Are the basis for lists. Good observation leads to correct interpretation. Takes time. This is the most important part of interactive Bible reading.

This is the component most people want to skip.

### **2. INTERPRETATION---What does the text MEAN? (Information)**

God has one meaning and the meaning that counts is the one the author meant, not man's. The Bible usually means what it says. Define the word sharp. Sharp means several things. It depends on how it is used within a sentence.

Context Rules: Con=With Text=Texture (weaving)

**Means:** That which goes with the text

The surrounding verses

The book in which it is found

The entire word of God

### **3. APPLICATION---What changes must I MAKE? (Transformation)**

Seeing what the text says & means & doing it or just believing it. Change of thinking is also application.

## **CONTEXT RULES**

**See John 1:1-18** for an example of observation by marking the key word "**word**" and asking the 5 W's and H questions then making a list of what you learn from the text about this word. Once you are confronted with the truth of this word. The application question is, "what will I do with this information? How will it affect my life?"

**Joshua 1:8 (NLT)** Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

## John 1:1-18 (New American Standard Bible)

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God. (*When was the Word? Who was the Word with? Who was the Word?*)

<sup>2</sup>**He** was in the beginning with God. (*When was the Word with God? Note the pronoun for the word—What does that make Him?*)

<sup>3</sup>All things came into being through **Him**, and apart from **Him** nothing came into being that has come into being. (*What came into being through the Word? What does that make Him? What is this verse saying and meaning?*)

<sup>4</sup>In **Him** was life, and the **life** was the Light of men. (*What is in the Word? What was He?*)

<sup>5</sup>The **Light** shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend **it**. (*Who shines in the darkness? What did the darkness not comprehend?*)

<sup>6</sup>There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.

<sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to testify about the **Light**, so that all might believe through him. (*Who was John to testify about? Why?*)

<sup>8</sup>He was not the **Light**, but he came to testify about the **Light**. (*Who was John the Baptist not? What was John's role?*)

<sup>9</sup>There was the true **Light** which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. (*What kind of light came into the word? What was this light to do?*)

<sup>10</sup>**He** was in the world, and the world was made through **Him**, and the world did not know **Him**. (*Where was the word? What was made through the Word? What does that make Him? What did the world do with the word?*)

<sup>11</sup>**He** came to **His** own, and those who were **His** own did not receive **Him**. (*Who did the Word come to? What did His own do with Him?*)

<sup>12</sup>But as many as received **Him**, to them **He** gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in **His** name, (*What did many do with the word? What did the word do for these many? What did these many do with His name? Who can give the right to people to become children of God?*) (*Think about this statement-Gave the right to become the children of God*)

<sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the **Word** became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw **His** glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (*What did the Word become? Who do we know that became flesh and lived among us? What did we see?*)

<sup>15</sup>John testified about **Him** and cried out, saying, "This was **He** of whom I said, '**He** who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for **He** existed before me.'" (*Who testified about who? What did John say of the Word? Again when did the Word exist?*)

<sup>16</sup>For of **His** fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. (*Whose fullness have we all received?*)

<sup>17</sup>For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through **Jesus Christ**. (*Who was truth realized through? Who is the Word?*)

<sup>18</sup>No one has seen God at any time; **the only begotten God** who is in the bosom of the Father, **He** has explained Him. (*What does this verse say about the Word? Who did the word explain?*)

## **Word List**

**V1 The Word was In the Beginning, with God, was God**

**V2 The Word was In the Beginning with God**

**V3 All things created by the Word, The Word referred to as He (Personal)  
(Makes Him (Word) creator, Makes Him (Word) God**

**V4 Was life in the Word, The Word was the light of men**

**V5 The Word shines in the darkness, The darkness did not comprehend it  
(light) (Word)**

**V9 The Word is the True light, come into world, enlightens every man**

**V10 Was in the world, World made through (Creator), world didn't know**

**V11 Came to His own (Jewish) own didn't receive Him**

**V12 As many as received Him, He gave the right to become children of God  
(Only God can give the right to become children of His)**

**V13 Not born of blood nor will of flesh, nor will of man, but born of man**

**V14 Became flesh(human) and lived among us, we beheld His glory, glory  
as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth (The Word  
became a human)**

**V15 John bore witness of, comes after John, has a higher rank than John,  
Existed before John**

**V16 His fullness we have all received**

**V17 Grace and truth realized through Jesus (The Word now named)**

**V18 The only begotten God, in the bosom of the Father, has explained God  
(says the word is God)**

## How To Do A Chapter Study

A **Chapter Study** helps you to focus in on the details in the chapter to better understand what the author is saying. Each of the skills is used to bring important points to light.

- **Look for the 5 W's and H**

Read the text asking the 5 Ws and H—Who, What, When, Where, Why, How. For example, when studying John 1, read the text asking questions like:

**Who** is this about? **When?** **Where** was the Word? **Who** was the Word? **What** did the Word do?

Don't expect every verse or chapter to answer all the 5 Ws and H about a particular subject or person, but you should read with a questioning mind-set.

**Marking key words and phrases and making lists help you to answer the 5 Ws and H.**

- **Mark key words and phrases**

**Key words** are repeated words within a text which are vital to its meaning.

Mark in a distinctive way each key word or phrase in the chapter along with its pronouns and synonyms. Use colors and/or symbols.

Example: **"Word"** is a repeated word that is key to understanding John 1.

- **Lists**

The next step is to list what the chapter says about each of the key words. Look at each place you marked a key word and list what the text says.

A **list** is a compilation of the facts given about a particular word or person. It gives the 5 Ws and H (who, what, when, where, why, how) about that word or person. Use words from the text.

A list about the **"Word"** from John 1 begins this way:

V 1—was in the beginning---was with God---was God

V2—was in the beginning with God

- **Mark and evaluate:**

**Contrasts**—point out differences. To mark a contrast, put a symbol in the margin by the verse(s), such as **(N)**



**N** John 1:17: “For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ”

*“But,” “however,” or “nevertheless” might indicate a contrast.*

**Comparisons**—point out similarities. To mark a comparison, put a symbol in the margin by the verse(s), such as (=)

= John 10:9: “I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved...”  
Sometimes “like” or “as” indicate a comparison

= John 3:14-15: “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.”

**Terms of Conclusion**—show that a conclusion or summary is being made. These help us understand “why.”

Look for the words signifying a conclusion or result such as “therefore,” “for this reason,” and “finally.”

John 12:50: “I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

**Expressions of Time**—give timing, sequence of events, or progression

Look for words such as “then,” “after,” “When,” “until,” “the day of...”

John 1:2: “He was in the beginning with God.”

## • Identify subjects or themes

Identify main subjects, events, or points of a chapter by observing it paragraph by paragraph. Paragraphs can be shown with boldface type for the first verse number of a paragraph, by a paragraph symbol, or by an indentation at the beginning of a paragraph.

Read each paragraph, and in the margin list the event, subject, or main point of the paragraph

**John 1:6-8** (*John testified about the Light*)

**6** There came a man sent from God, whose name was John

**7** He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.

**8** He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.



## **Course Outline—Name/Hebrews Part 2 (Chapters 5-10)**

### **Course Description**

This course will help you gain a clear understanding of who Christ is. You will learn how to walk confidently as Christ followers even in the midst of major and minor problems (persecution). You will be challenged to evaluate your personal standing before God. You will be encouraged to mature as a follower of Christ. As you read and study this book you will learn valuable skills such as how to make careful observations of the text which will bring about correct interpretation (meaning) of the text. Then the most wonderful thing will happen, transformation (change in thinking and behavior).

### **Required Textbooks**

Hebrews Workbook and Bible.

### **Additional Recommended Reading**

Concordance, Bible Handbook, Bible Dictionary, Reliable Commentaries on the Book of Hebrews. (These should be read after your own study)

### **Course Objectives**

Gain a solid foundation for understanding the role of Jesus Christ in one's life.  
Develop a solid faith in Christ for salvation and walking in the trials and tribulations of everyday life. Understand the importance of Christ's work on the cross and His resurrection to bring about a newness of life for spiritually dead people.

### **Course Requirements**

Read each text thoroughly and mark key words

Answer all the questions for each day

At the end of Lesson 4, write a one page paper (single spaced) on what you have learned so far and how you will personally apply at least one of the principles found in these lessons.

At the end of Lesson 9, write a 2 page paper on what you have learned from this study and how it impacted you to live differently.

Submit all assigned work for completion certificate.

Class participation

Regular class attendance

## **Week 1—Overview New Comers**

**Read through the book of Hebrews**

**Look** for key repeated words/phrases

**Get familiar** with the  
cultural context  
background information  
setting of the book

**Do not** use any commentaries

But you may use a Study Bible, Bible dictionary, handbook or encyclopedia to get the cultural, background, and setting of the book.

**Answer the questions below:**

**What** does the message of Hebrews seem to be?

**Was** there any particular topic or chapter in the book that caught your attention? If so, **what** was it? **Why**?

## **Lesson 1—Chapter Five (Our Great High Priest)**

### **Day One**

**A high priest was taken from among men so that he could deal gently with the ignorant and misguided. This is Jesus, your high priest.**

- **For those** who studied Hebrews Part 1, you did an overview of Hebrews to complete the “Theme Chart”. You may prefer to use yours.
- **Those who** were not with us for the study of Part 1, we have provided a completed “Theme Chart” on page 52 so you can see what this letter is about.
- **Be sure to check** out the book and chapter themes, especially for Hebrews 1-4. **Pay close** attention to Key Words, and the Author’s purpose

### **Day Two**

- **Read Hebrews 4:14-15.** How does Hebrews 4:14-16 relate to Hebrews 5?
- **Do a chapter study** of Hebrews 5. Keep in mind the relationship you have just seen between Hebrews 4:14-16 and Hebrews 5.
- **If you are new to interactive** Bible Study and have never done a chapter study then follow the instructions on page 7.

### **Day Three**

- **To have a** better appreciation of all that the author of Hebrews is saying to us, we need to have OT perspective of the Araronic Priesthood. Aaron, who was from the tribe of Levi, was Israel’s first high priest consecrated by God.
- **As you read** the OT Scriptures, record what you learn regarding the Priesthood and any way in which these details parallel Hebrews 4:14-5:14
- **Read Exodus** 28-29 and Leviticus 8.
- **As you read these chapters**, refer to the sketch of the high priest’s garments located at the end of this lesson

### **Day Four**

- **In Hebrews** we read that not everyone could offer sacrifices for the sins of the people; only those appointed by God could do so (Hebrews 5:3-4). Jacob (Israel) had twelve sons from whom the tribes of Israel descended. The tribe of Levi was the tribe that provided the priests—Aaron and his sons—who ministered at the altar and had a right to enter the Holy Place. Others of the tribe of Levi were not priests, but ministered in ways such as the moving of the Tabernacle and its furniture. All priests were from the tribe of Levi but not all from Levi were

priests, only Aaron's son (descendants). Only the high priest could offer sacrifices in the Holy of Holies once a year on the Day of Atonement.

- **What would happen** to someone who sought to intrude into the priests' or the high priest's office and perform their duties?
- **Read Numbers 16:1-18:7.** What happened when those not appointed intruded into the priests' office?
- **Note any new** insights you glean about the priesthood.
- **Read 2 Chronicles 26:1-23.** This is the King Uzziah of Isaiah 6:1! List the main points of this chapter as they relate to our subject of the priesthood.

## Day Five

- **Read Hebrews 5:1-6** Since Jesus was from the tribe of Judah rather than Levi, how did He become a high priest?
- **According to whose** order was He a priest?
- **Read Psalm 110. Hebrews 5:6** is the second time the author of Hebrews quotes from this Psalm. The first time is in Hebrews 1:13. Note which verses of Psalm 110 he quotes and where. You will also note the author of Hebrews quotes from Psalm 2 in Hebrews 5:5 after quoting from it once in Hebrews 1:5. What do we learn about Jesus from these quotations? (The answer is not complicated, so don't make it so. Just state the obvious)
- **According to Hebrews 5:5-10, What** do you learn about Him as a Son?
- **How does this** compare with Hebrews 5:1-2?
- **In Hebrews 5** we are introduced to Melchizedek for the first time; however, the subject of Melchizedek is not fully developed until after the warning of Hebrews 6. Therefore, we'll wait until we come to Hebrews 7 to study him.
- **How does knowing these** truths about Jesus as your high priest from Hebrews 4:14-5:10 affect your life? Be as specific as possible.
- **Memorize Hebrews 4:14-16**

## Day Six and Seven –Looking Inward

- **Were** you raised in a religious tradition with priests? If so, what did it mean to you?
- **What** do you think the purpose or function of a priest is?
- **As the perfect** High Priest, how does Christ deserve your honor today?
- **How** specifically will you live to show your gratitude and reverence?
- **How** does knowing that Jesus sympathizes with your weaknesses help you approach the Father with your needs?
- **How** does knowing that Jesus is our Great High Priest forever impact your prayer life?
- **What** steps do you need to take to increase your confidence in Christ?
- **What** hinders you from sympathizing with others when they share prayer needs?

- **What** action can you take to show as a greater concern for fellow brothers in need?
- **How** comfortable are you with publicly confessing your faith? In what circumstances, if any, are you uncomfortable about your faith? Why?
- **Have** you ever shown a lack of compassion for another sinner? If so, what prompted that feeling?
- **How** does it feel to know that, because of Jesus' humanity Jesus truly understands your circumstances?
- **How** can this build your confidence in Him?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

**High Priest:**

The supreme religious head of his people

Aaron held this position first

Position handed down to the firstborn son of the high priest

Special garments represented his function as mediator between God and people

No one except the High Priest was allowed to enter inside the veil into the Holy Place

Once a year on the Day of Atonement the high priest of Israel entered the Most Holy Place to make atonement for the sins of the people

As our greater high Priest, Jesus entered into the heavenly Most Holy Place and was the mediator between us and God

Jesus accomplished redemption through His death and resurrection

Jesus opened the way for us to enter into the fullness of God's presence

**STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews 4:14-16 by personalizing it**

"Since I have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let me hold firmly to what I believe. This High Priest of mine understands my weaknesses, for He faced all of the same testing's I do, yet He did not sin. So let me come boldly to the throne of my gracious God. There I will receive His mercy, and I will find grace to help me when I need it most."

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**Digging Deeper/Optional**

Use a concordance and/or Bible dictionary to learn more about a feature of Israel's religious life. Find references to "high priest." Jot down your findings about the high priest's role and importance. List as many names as you can find of persons who served as high priest.

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## **Lesson 2—Chapter Six (Don't Walk Away—Full Commitment to Christ)**

### **Day One**

- **We will look at the** exhortation in Hebrews to “press on to maturity” (Hebrews 6:1)
- **Before we do**, we need to thoroughly familiarize ourselves with its context
- **The author of Hebrews** digresses from the subject of Christ as a high priest after the order of Melchizedek in Hebrews 5:11 and does not return to the subject until Hebrews 6:20
- **We will study Hebrews 5:11-14 with Hebrews 6**
- **Read Hebrews chapter 6.** Write down your observations (What does the text say) (Keep in mind what the author has just said in Hebrews 5:11-14)

### **Day Two**

- **Read Hebrews 5:11-6:12**
- **How would you** describe the author's concern for the recipients of his letter?
- **The Greek word** for “dull” in 5:11 is the same as “sluggish” in 6:12
- **Read Hebrews 5:11-12.** Notice the two different types of people being contrasted in Hebrews 5:11-6:2. Write out the contrasts between the two different types of people as the text does

### **Day Three**

- **Contrast Maturity and immaturity**
- **Read 1 Peter 2:1-3.** Write out what these verses are saying
- **Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9.** Mark key words and write out what this passage is saying
- **What likeness do** you see between Hebrews 5:11-6:2 and 1 Corinthians 3:1-9?

### **Day Four**

- **Read Ephesians 4:11-16**
- **Write out a summary statement** of what Paul is saying in Ephesians 4:11-16
- **Read your commentaries have to say about Hebrews 5:1-14** (Take important notes)
- **Apply what you've learned to YOU PERSONALLY**
- **According to all you have observed, studied, and learned** this week, what is necessary to keep you from being dull of hearing or sluggish? Or to put it another way, what is necessary for you to press on to maturity?



## Day Five

- **Word Studies (Look up** the following words in a Bible concordance or Bible dictionary)
- **Write out the transliterations and definition for the words below.**
- **Mature—Hebrews 5:14; Maturity—Hebrews 6:1**
- **Repentance—Hebrews 6:1**
- **Washings—Hebrews 6:2**
- **According to Hebrews 6:1-3, what** are these Hebrews to leave or to go on from, if they go on to maturity?
- **What would repentance** from dead works include?
- **What are our works**—our good deeds—apart from Christ?
- **Read Isaiah 64:6**; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 9:30-32; and Galatians 6:2, 5, 10
- **What is the state of a** man before he is saved?
- **Read Romans 5:12** and Ephesians 2:1-3

## Day Six

- **In Hebrews 9:14** the author refers again to “dead works.” Look up Hebrews 9:14 and see what insight you can glean
- **Read the following** Scriptures on repentance: Matthew 3:1-3; Luke 3:8; 13:3; Acts 2:38; 26:15-20
- **What do you learn** regarding repentance and salvation?
- **How would you** explain repentance from dead works?
- **Some theologians think** that the list in Hebrews 6:1-2 refers to OT teachings, while others think this is a list of basic Christian elements
- **At this point** in your study, considering all you learned yesterday and all you have seen in Hebrews as a whole, what would you say Hebrews 6:1-2 refers to and why?
- **Considering the list** given point by point in Hebrews 6:1-2, study what your commentaries have to say regarding each of these “elementary teachings.” List each elementary teaching point by point as you study it and then record your insights

## Day Seven

- **Today we’ll focus on Hebrews 6:4-8**
- **Read** Hebrews 6 again
- **Record** any new observations
- **Look for contrast** in pronouns in verses 1-12 to see what we can learn
- **Note the** contrasts below:
- **Between** verses 1-3 and 4-6
- **Between** verses 4-6 and 9-12

- **If those described** in Hebrews 6:4-6 fall away, what is their state afterward? Why?
- **Why do** you think the author of Hebrews uses the illustration of the ground in Hebrews 6:7-8?
- **How would you describe** those referred to in Hebrews 6:4-6 who fall away?
- **Do you think** they are believers or unbelievers?
- **Are they those** who profess Christ, yet do not really possess Him as Lord and Savior?
- **On what basis** would you hold this view?
- **Be as thorough** and as comprehensive in your answer as possible
- **Support your** insights with other Scriptures
- **After reading** and answering these questions for yourself, feel free to see what commentaries say about Hebrews 6:1-8

## Looking Inward

- **When** was the last time you failed to keep a promise? What happened?
- **Do you have** real assurance of your salvation? Why or why not?
- **What** specific actions do you need to take toward strengthening your relationship with Christ?
- **Who** can help you be accountable for taking this action this week?
- **How** can you warn someone about the dangers of failing to grow spiritually without sounding judgmental or superior?
- **How** can you challenge other believers to build on the foundation of their faith?
- **What** evidence is there in your life that Christ dwells in you and that you possess eternal life?
- **When** have you experienced spiritual regression, the sense that Christian faith, worship, prayer, etc, are dull? What led up to that season? How did you escape from it (If you did escape)?
- **If you're in** such a season now, what would it take to move out of it?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

**Food for Thought/Falling Away:**

Greek term occurs only here in the New Testament. In the Septuagint (original Greek Manuscript), it was used to translate terms for severe unfaithfulness and apostasy (see Ezek. 14:13; 18:24; 20:27) It is equivalent to the apostasy of Hebrews 3:12. The seriousness of this unfaithfulness is seen in the severe description of rejection within this verse: they re-crucify Christ and treat Him contemptuously (see also the strong descriptions in Hebrews 10:29). Those who sinned against Christ in such a way had no hope of restoration or forgiveness (see Hebrews 2:2-3; 10:26-27; 12:25), for they had rejected Him with full knowledge and conscious experience. **Suggestion:** There is no possibility of these verses referring to losing salvation because there are many Scripture passages that unmistakably are clear that salvation is eternal. **Thought:** If this verse means that believers can lose salvation, it would then mean salvation cannot ever be gotten back.

**Digging Deeper/Optional**

The question of whether a **genuine** (key word) believer can lose their salvation goes to the heart of the doctrine of salvation. **Read** the following Bible passages and **take note of what they teach about salvation in Jesus: John** 10:27-29; Romans 8:1, 38-39; **Ephesians** 1:13-14; **Philippians** 1:6; **1 Peter** 1:5. **How** can you relate these passages to Hebrews 6:4-6?

## **Lesson 3—Chapter Six and Seven (Only Jesus Saves)**

**You have 2 unchangeable things to which you can cling when your faith is put to the test. One is God’s word of promise, and the other is God’s unchangeable oath.**

### **Day One**

- **Read Hebrews 5:11-6:20** noting the flow of thought
- **Review what** you’ve previously observed in Hebrews chapter 6, giving special attention to Hebrews 6:9-20
- **What is the contrast** between the people in verses 4-8 and those in verses 9-12?
- **What is** contrasted in 6:12? Write it out
- **The word** “hope” is used in three verses in Hebrews 6: verses 11, 18, and 19
- **Look up** the word “hope” in a Bible concordance or Bible dictionary
- **Write the** Greek transliteration and a brief definition
- **Study the** usage of “hope” in these verses and write down what you observe about this hope

### **Day Two**

- **In Hebrews 6:13-18 what and/or who is given as an illustration?**
- **In Hebrews 6:13-14** the author makes reference to an event that is recorded in Genesis 22
- **Read** Genesis 22:1-19
- **Note what** God swears and what He promises
- **Record** that along with a brief explanation of the events of Genesis 22:1-19
- **To understand** the full implications of God’s oath to Abraham, you need to understand what preceded God’s call upon Abraham to offer Isaac as a burnt offering
- **Examine** God’s covenant promise to Abraham in its various stages of development and testing
- **See what** you can learn for your own life

### **Day Three**

- **As you look up the references from day two, note the following; (however, don’t get bogged down in all the details and lose your study time☺)**
- **What** God promises Abraham, and/or
- **All the** reference to “descendants”

- **Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 13:14-16; Genesis 15:1-18; Genesis 17:15-21—** (Ishmael was born to Abraham when, at Sarah's request, Abraham had relations with Hagar, Sarah's maid) **Genesis 21:1-12**
- **Read** Romans 4:17-21 and Hebrews 11:17-19
- **In light** of all you have gleaned from these Scriptures and from Genesis, why do you think Abraham was willing to offer up Isaac on Mount Moriah?
- **What truth(s)** do you think the author of Hebrews wants the recipients of his letter to grasp and hold on to?
- **As you** answer this question, keep in mind everything you know about the recipients of this letter
- **Also as** you answer this question, consider how all this can be applied to your own life, and write it out
- **How can** you personally respond to what you've learned?

## Day Four

- **Read** what your commentaries have to say on Hebrews 6:9-20
- **Take** pertinent notes

## Day Five

- **Read** Genesis chapter 14 as background for what the author of Hebrews has to say about Melchizedek

## Day Six

- **Read** Hebrews Chapter 7 making observations (mark key repeated words)

## Day Seven –Looking Inward

- **What** evidence is there in your life that Christ dwells in you and that you possess eternal life?
- **What** does it mean for you personally that Jesus Christ is your perfect High Priest?
- **What** changes need to take place in your prayer life as a result of this week's lesson?
- **How** would you explain repentance and faith to a friend who doesn't know Christ?
- **How** are obedience and faith connected? What does obeying the Lord teach you about faith in Him?
- **What** specific actions do you need to take toward strengthening your relationship with Christ?
- **Who** can help you be accountable for taking that action this week?

- **How** can you warn someone about the dangers of failing to grow spiritually without sounding judgmental or superior?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

**Melchizedek, King of Salem:**

The lack of biographical and genealogical particulars for this ruler, whose name meant “righteous king” and who was a king-priest over ancient Jerusalem, allowed for later revelation to use him as a type of Christ (see Ps. 110:4; Hebrews 7:17, 21)

Called a priest of Most High God, El Elyon, meaning Sovereign Lord.

Indicates that Melchizedek worshiped and served the same God whom Abram worshiped, Yahweh-El Elyon.

**STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews Hebrews 6:1a by personalizing it**

“Therefore, leaving the elementary message about the Messiah, let me go on to maturity”

**Digging Deeper/Optional**

For further background on the Old Testament priesthood, read Numbers 8:5-25.

**What** were the duties and requirements of the Levitical priesthood?

**What** do you think were the limitations of this Old Testament Priesthood?

## **Lesson 4—Chapter Five, Seven and Eight**

### **Day One**

- **To really appreciate** the point the author of Hebrews is making in chapter 7, we must keep several things in mind from chapter 1-6
- **1. Hebrews is a word of exhortation**
- **2.** Written to Hebrews who, for the most part, the author considers Christians
- **3.** The author wants the recipients to know, without a shadow of a doubt, that continuance in the faith is the evidence of their salvation. Only those who hold fast the beginning of their assurance (that Jesus Christ is the Messiah) firm until the end, are truly saved.
- **4.** The author also wants them to be totally convinced that Christ is better than all that was theirs under the Old Covenant. He is the true substance of all that the Old Covenant foreshadowed.
- **5.** In Jesus Christ, God's revelation is complete and final; therefore, they need to hear Him and not drift away. To walk in the disobedience of unbelief will cause them to miss the rest that belongs to the people of God.
- **6.** Having established the fact that Jesus Christ, the exact representation of God's nature, is the Son of God—better than the angels, although He was made lower than the angels for a while as the Son of Man—the author proceeds to show his readers the permanence of Jesus' priesthood and the proceeds to show his readers the permanence of Jesus' priesthood and the preeminence of Jesus' qualifications to hold the office of high priest, even though He is from the tribe of Judah.
- **7.** The eternal priesthood of Jesus Christ is a major theme in this Epistle; therefore, the author of Hebrews must deal with the subject very thoroughly. No theological stone must be left unturned!
- **Read Hebrews 5:1-10 and Hebrews 7.** Take time to note any new observations. Then on the following chart, list everything you learn from these two passages about the priesthood as it pertains to the Aaronic order, to Melchizedek's order, and finally to Jesus Christ as our High Priest.

The Aaronic Priesthood	Melchizedek	Jesus, Our High Priest



## Day Two

- **How does Jesus' priesthood** differ from that of Aaron's? Why is this important? Be as specific as you can in your answer.
- According to Hebrews 7, was Jesus made like Melchizedek or was Melchizedek made like Jesus? How?
- Read Isaiah 9:6-7. What parallels do you see between the prophecy regarding Jesus in Isaiah which is quoted in Hebrews 1:8, and the comparison the author of Hebrews makes between Jesus and Melchizedek in Hebrews 7:1-3?
- As the author of Hebrews carefully establishes the order of Christ's priesthood, he is leading his readers to see a change also. If the priesthood is changed, what else must be changed? The answer is found in Hebrews 7. When you find it, record your answer along with the verse(s) that support your answers.
- Read Hebrews 8. What do you see in this chapter that supports what you just looked for in Hebrews 7? Where?

## Day Three through Day Five

- **Read Chapter 8** marking key words and ask the who, what, when, where, why, and how questions.

## Day Six and Seven –Looking Inward

- **How** does Jesus' suffering and sympathy help Christians to have confidence in God?
- **Take** a moment to reflect on all that you've explored thus far in this study of Hebrews.
- **What** does it mean for you personally that Jesus is your perfect High Priest forever?
- **How** can the truths revealed in this study thus far give you more confidence to draw near to God in any and every circumstance?
- **What** changes need to take place in your prayer life as a result of this study?
- **Do you** think you might view sin differently if you were required to bring animal sacrifices to a priest on an ongoing basis? How so?
- **What** does living under the better covenant of forgiveness and grace that we have in Jesus mean to you?
- **How** can this good news of the better covenant encourage you to stop trying to earn God's favor?
- **Name several** specific ways you can show your gratitude to Christ for His sacrifice that has dealt decisively with your sins.
- **In your own words**, how would you declare that Jesus is the High Priest you need?



- **How would you** explain to a friend that only Jesus is qualified to provide salvation?
- **In what or whom** are you trusting your life? Spend time this week examining your answer to this question. If you've never embraced Christ's salvation, talk with your Bible study leader or someone in your group that has embraced Jesus' salvation.
- **With whom** have you shared the gospel recently? How can you use this week's study to tell someone about salvation in Jesus?
- **Identify your** biggest fears when it comes to sharing with others about Jesus.
- **What** action can you take this week to overcome one of your fears?
- **Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

### **STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews Hebrews 7:25 by personalizing it**

"Therefore He is able, once and forever, to save me if I come to God through Him. He lives forever to intercede with God on my behalf."

#### **Digging Deeper/Optional**

Read Exodus 26:33 and Matthew 27:50-51.

What is the significance of the temple veil being torn?

How does that relate to Christ's priesthood?

## **Lesson 5—Chapter Eight (A Better Covenant)**

### **Day One**

- **Before we can** go any further in Hebrews you need to have a basic understanding of two things. The first is the difference between the Old and New Covenants, and the second is an understanding of the Tabernacle which God instructed Moses to build. Our goal this week will be to get as clear an understanding of these two covenants as possible. Then next week, we'll study the Tabernacle.
- **1. We will begin** where Hebrews 8 begins in learning what we can about the New Covenant. Watch the key word "better"
- **2. Look up the Greek word** translated "covenant" in Hebrews 8. Write out the English transliteration along with its definition.
- **It will also be enlightening for you to know the Old Testament word translated** "covenant," along with its definition. You can look it up in your concordance using Jeremiah 31:31 as a reference.
- **Before you look at the New Covenant, you need to have a clear understanding** of the Old Covenant so you can see why the New was better than the Old. The Old Covenant is also referred to as "the Law," while the New Covenant is referred to as "the Covenant of Grace."
- **John 1:17 refers** to these two covenants and through whom they were given. Write out John 1:17.

### **Day Two**

- **Exodus 19-23** gives us an account of the covenant God made with the children of Israel through Moses. Exodus 20 lists the Ten Commandments. Then in Exodus 24, we have an account of the ratification of the Law (the Old or First Covenant). The author of Hebrews refers to this ratification in Hebrews 9:18-21. Read Exodus 19-24
- **When Moses** recounted God's words to the people, what was their response?
- **What did Moses** do with God's words? What was this then called?
- **List the** various things Moses did in Exodus 24:4-11
- **Where** did this event take place?
- **What** appearance did the LORD God take on at this time?

### **Day Three**

- **Read Exodus 34:1-15, 27-35**
- **When Moses** "delayed to come down from the mountain" (Sinai), the children of Israel made a golden calf and began to worship it (Exodus 32). When Moses saw it, he was so upset that he broke the tablets of stone that contained the



commandments. Therefore, in Exodus 34, we find Moses returning to the mountain, so God could write down His laws upon the tablets of stone once again.

- **What** happened to Moses' face?

## Day Four

- **Today we want** to turn our attention to the New Covenant. **Why** was it considered a better covenant? **What** did it bring? **What** was its relationship to the Old Covenant? To whom does the New Covenant apply, to the Jews only or to the Gentiles also? These are some of the questions we will seek to answer this week, but we must answer them one at a time.
- **In Hebrews 8:8-12** the author of Hebrews quotes Jeremiah 31:31-34, where Jeremiah brings us the promise of the New Covenant.
- **Jeremiah prophesied before and during the siege of Jerusalem.** By this time in Old Testament history the nation of Israel had been divided into two kingdoms: the ten tribes of the northern kingdom of Israel, and the two remaining tribes of Judah and Benjamin in the southern kingdom of Judah. Israel went into Assyrian captivity by 722 B.C. In 586 B.C Jerusalem fell to Babylon and Israel's fall was complete; both Israel and Judah had failed to walk in obedience to God's covenant. In Jeremiah's day, the curses of breaking God's covenant of Law laid out in Deuteronomy 28-30 had come upon Israel and were to come upon Judah.
- **Before we look** at the promise of a new covenant in Jeremiah, spend today's study time looking at the curse for breaking the Old Covenant. God laid His covenant out in black and white through Moses, but His people did not listen. As you read, remember God is faithful to His Word.
- **Read Deuteronomy 28:58, 63-66.** Record any pertinent insights you gain regarding the people's relationship to their land. (Throughout the Old Testament you will always see a relationship between the nation of Israel and the land God promised them under the Abrahamic covenant.)

## Day Five

- **Read Deuteronomy 29-30.** Don't linger too long. Just familiarize yourself with the general theme of these two chapters, watching the reference to "covenant"
- **In the** midst of suffering the consequences of a broken covenant, God gives His people a promise of a new covenant.
- **As you read Jeremiah's** prophecy regarding the New Covenant, put yourself into this period of history. Can you imagine what this promise meant to those who listened? **Read Jeremiah 31:31-40**
- **The conditions of the** New Covenant are stated for us in Jeremiah 31:33-34. List each thing that will happen under the New Covenant. As you do, note who will do what!

- **Is this covenant** to be with the house of Judah or with the house of Israel? The answer lies in the text of Jeremiah 31:31-34
- **Read Jeremiah 32:37-44. What** is God's promise regarding the land and Israel's relationship to it? What will God be to them? According to Jeremiah 32:39-40, what will God do for them personally? List God's promises.
- **The question that arises is,** How can God do all this when men's hearts are as Jeremiah 17:9 states?
- **Read Jeremiah 17:9.** Record what it says regarding man's heart.

## Day Six

- **Ezekiel and Jeremiah** were contemporaries. Ezekiel went into Babylonian captivity during the second of the three sieges upon Jerusalem.
- **Read Ezekiel 11:13-21**
- **What was Ezekiel's question to God?** Summarize God's answer. **What** is God going to do to the hearts of His people? **When** He does, what will they do?
- **Read Ezekiel 36:24-28.** This is all part of the New Covenant God promised to Israel and Judah
- **What is His word** regarding their relationship to the land? What is God going to do for them personally? How does this correlate with what you just saw in Ezekiel 11?

## Day Seven

- **The New Covenant of Grace** is the gospel or the good news of Jesus Christ.
- **Read Romans 1:16**
- **To whom did** the gospel first come? To whom did Jesus come?
- **Read John 1:11; Matthew 15:24**
- **Sometimes we** forget that, although the church is now composed mainly of Gentiles, the Gentiles are the ones who are grafted into the life of God (Romans 11:17-18). The first church was made up of Jews; the first Gentile converts came about eight years after Pentecost (Acts 10)!
- **The mystery** of Christ is:
- **To complete** the above sentence, **read Ephesians 3:4-6**
- **What was** the Gentiles' relationship to the covenants of promise?
- **Read Ephesians 2:11-12** to answer the question above.
- **Read Ephesians 2:13-22**
- **How were** we brought near to God? **What** was the dividing wall that separated Jews and Gentiles? **How** did Jesus abolish that barrier? **Who** are made into one new man? **How** does this fit with Ephesians 5:29-30? How are the church and Christ related?
- **According to Ephesians 2:18,** by whom do we have access to the Father? Write out how this compares to Ezekiel 36:27

- **Read Luke 22:14-20.** Jesus spoke these words in the upper room at the Passover meal before He went to Gethsemane and then Calvary. What parallel do you see between what Jesus says and what the author of Hebrews quotes from Jeremiah in Hebrews 8?
- **For the sake of review** and to bring our study full circle, answer the following questions from Hebrews 8.
- **When Moses built the Tabernacle**, how was he to build it? The “He” of Hebrews 8:6 refers to the “He” of Hebrews 8:4. This in turn refers to Hebrews 8:1. Who is this “He”?
- **What is this** better covenant that “He” is a mediator of? (Also read Hebrews 7:22.) What is it better than?
- **Look up the Greek** word for “new” in your word study tools. Write out its English transliteration and its meaning
- **What is the author** of Hebrews trying to show us in Hebrews 8?

## Looking Inward

- **What does** God’s promise of a new covenant teach about His love for all of humanity?
- **How has God’s** mercy influenced your walk with Christ? (Mercy=God does not give us what we deserve)
- **How** has God changed you from the inside out? What difference has it made on the outside?
- **Examine** your prayer life, looking for attitudes and patterns that do not reflect a new heart.
- **What insights** from this lesson could you share with a friend who is trying to change their life apart from Christ? What do you need to let Jesus change in your life by trusting in Him and not yourself?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

### **Mediator:**

The word describes a go-between or an arbitrator, in this case between man and God. It refers to someone who intervenes between two parties to resolve a conflict or ratify a covenant. Jesus Christ is the only “Mediator” who can restore peace between God and sinners (Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 12:24.)

**STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews 8:12 by personalizing it**

“For God will be merciful to me for my wrongdoings, and God will never again remember my sins”

## **Lesson 6—Chapter 9:1 through 10:18 (The Perfect Offering)**

### **Day One**

- **Our goal this** week is to gain a comprehensive overview of the Tabernacle that was erected by Moses under the Old Covenant. Then we will observe Hebrews 9:1-10:18. Your familiarity with the Tabernacle will enable you to appreciate Hebrews 9 more fully.
- **According to Hebrews 8:1-5, after** what was the earthly Tabernacle patterned?
- **Let's begin by taking a** brief look at the Tabernacle erected by Moses.
- **Read Exodus 25:1-9. What** were they to construct? From where would the materials come? **How** did they know what to construct?
- **On the** next page is a diagram of the Tabernacle that they were to construct. The Tabernacle is a study in itself, because each article of furniture is a picture of our Lord whom we worship and the work He has wrought for us in His person and life. Our walk is to be a result of that worship.

### **Day Two**

#### **The Tabernacle**

- The courtyard—100 cubits long and 50 cubits wide
- Children of Israel could enter through the only gate into this courtyard
- Holy Place (Exodus 40:24)-- 30 cubits long, 10 cubits wide and 10 cubits high.
- These dimensions include the part beyond the veil, called the Holy of Holies
- Only the priests could enter the Holy Place through the door
- Did so daily
- Holy of Holies—10 cubits long, 10 cubits wide, and 10 cubits high and therefore took up  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the tent
- It was separated from the Holy Place by a veil
- This part of the tent was only entered by the high priest on one day of the year, the Day of Atonement.

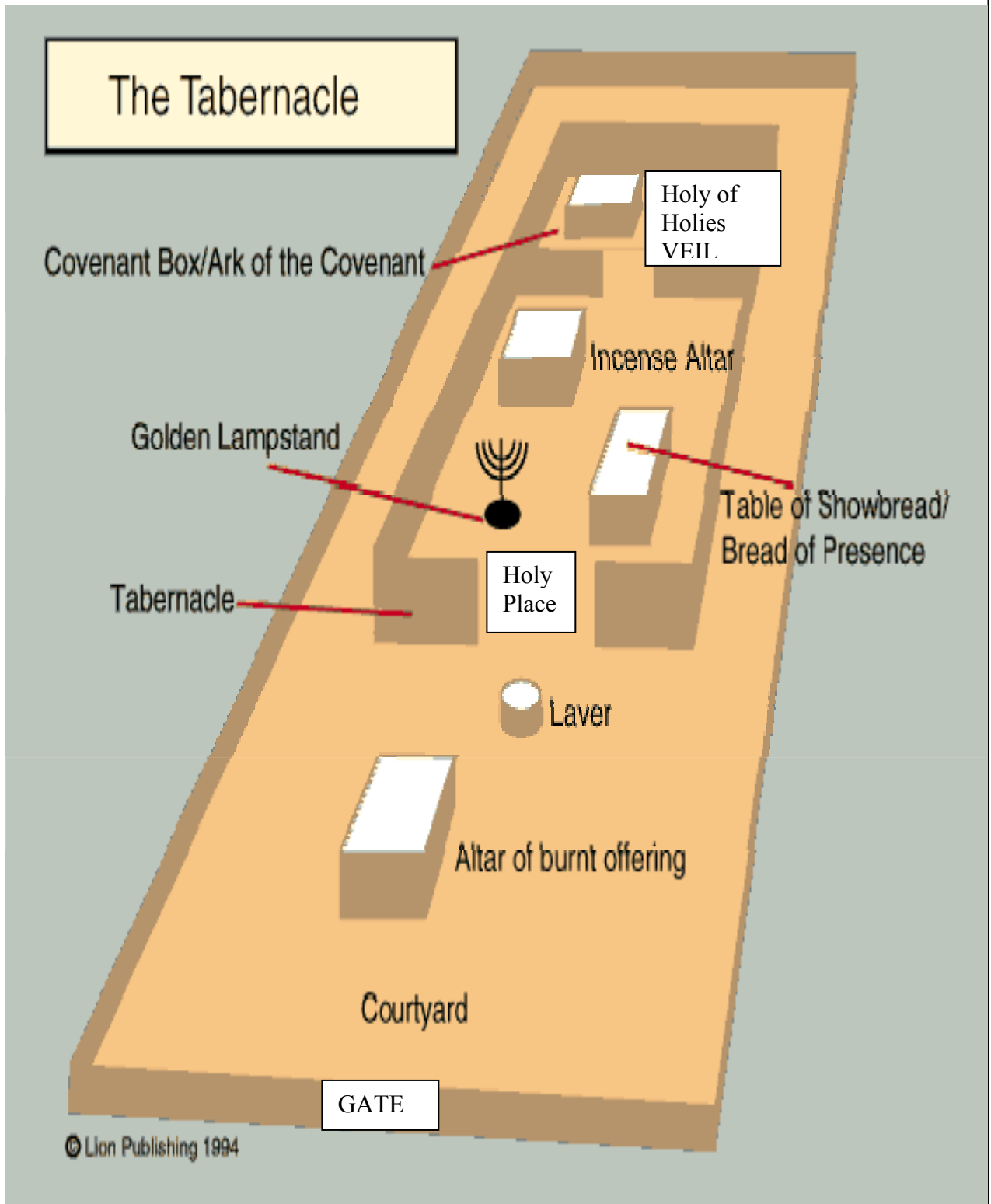
#### **Its Appointments**

- Gate—only one entrance giving access to any part of the Tabernacle
- Read John 10:9 and see that Jesus refers to Himself as the door
- Door always faces the east



- Bronze altar—It had four horns, one on each corner
- Was 3 cubits high
- When the people brought an offering to the Lord, either for reconciliation because of sin or for consecration, the sacrifice was tied to the horns of this altar
- The coals of fire were inside this five cubit square box
- A bronze grate, covering the coals of fire, held the sacrifice as it was consumed by the fire
- The altar of bronze was God's picture of His Lamb, Jesus, nailed to the cross for our sins, baptized with a baptism of fire
- What have you done with your sins?
  
- Laver—priests washed daily
- Priests could not enter the Holy Place without washing
- It too was made of bronze, a symbol of judgment
- Jesus, the Word of God, said we are made clean through the Word He spoke to (John 15:3; Ephesians 5:26)
- Do you need cleansing?
  
- Table of Show Bread—Made of acacia wood and overlaid with gold
- To the right as one entered the Holy Place
- On it were twelve loaves of bread representing God's covenant people, Israel
- Every Sabbath these were eaten by the priests and fresh bread placed upon the table
- The table was 2 cubits long, 1 cubit wide and about 1 ½ cubits high
- Jesus is the bread of life (John 6:48).
- Have you tried to satisfy your hunger somewhere else?
  
- Lampstand—Seven-branched lampstand made of pure gold
- Made of pure gold
- Burned olive oil night and day, serving as the only light in the Tabernacle
- Jesus is the light of men (John 1:4)
- You're not walking in darkness, are you?
  
- Altar of Incense—made of acacia wood and gold
- In the Holy Place
- 2 cubits high, taller than the table of the showbread and the ark of the covenant
- Its fragrance wafted across the mercy seat and above the other furniture
- Incense was to burn perpetually as a picture of Jesus, our high priest, who always lives to make intercession for us (Hebrews 7:25)
- Do you need an intercessor?

- Veil —blue, purple, and scarlet and fine twisted linen separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies
- No high priest could enter the Holy of Holies except through the veil
- There was no other way to approach the ark of the covenant
- This was the picture of Jesus whose torn flesh, like the torn veil, gave access to the very presence of God (Hebrews 10:20)
- He was the covenant sacrifice
- Have you passed between its pieces?
  
- Ark of the Covenant —made of acacia wood covered with gold
- On the top of this 2 ½ cubits long, 1 ½ cubits wide, and 1 ½ cubits high box, was a lid called the mercy seat
- Hovering above the mercy seat were two cherubim with outstretched wings
- The ark contained the tables of stone, a jar of manna, and Aaron's rod that budded
- At the ark of the covenant we meet Jesus, God incarnate, who before Abraham was born, was the I AM, one with the Father (John 8:58; John 10:30-33)
- Do you believe that Jesus is I AM, God incarnate?
- If not, you will die in your sins (John 8:24)
  
- Mercy Seat —Solid gold and covered the ark of the covenant
- On time a year, on the Day of Atonement, the high priest sprinkled the blood of a goat on the mercy seat to cover the sins of the people
- It was there, above the mercy seat, that God hovered in the pillar of cloud
- The mercy seat was a picture of the throne of God where Jesus' one sacrifice for sins for all time, would sanctify us forever (Hebrews 10:10-13)
- Have you found mercy?
- Have you found forgiveness of all your sins?
  
- **Your** assignment is the following:
- **Read** Exodus 25:10-22
- **What** did God say about the mercy seat?
- **Meditate** on what you have learned about the Tabernacle until you can draw a diagram from memory.
- **Draw** your diagram
- **Do you see any discrepancies in the** picture of the tabernacle on page 32?



## Day Three

- **Read Hebrews chapter 9.** Mark key words/phrases making observations by asking who, what, where, why, when, and how questions. Make any pertinent notes. Remember all you learned last week through your study of Exodus 24 and the inauguration of the Old Covenant.

## Day Four

- **Read Hebrews chapter 10.** Mark key words/phrases making observation by asking who, what, where, why, when and how questions. Make any pertinent notes.

## Day Five through Seven--Looking Inward

- **What does** it mean to you that in Christ you are a new creation?
- **What does** Hebrews Chapter 9 have to say to a Christian who struggles with a guilty conscience, and is therefore afraid to approach God?
- **What Old Testament** religious custom or ritual do you understand more completely as a result of this week's lesson? What practice do you wish to understand even more clearly? How will you go about learning more?
- **How does** your awareness of what Jesus has done impact how you worship?
- **In what** ways have you seen people (or yourself) try to make themselves pure before God?
- **What** are the shortcomings of these efforts?
- **How is a** Christians' motive for service different from the motives of non-Christians?
- **How does** the idea of Jesus being the perfect Mediator impact your understanding of Him?
- **In what ways** does salvation in Christ help you move beyond moral failures?
- **WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO SERVE CHRIST?**
- **What is the difference between being "covered" by the blood of animal sacrifices and being "cleansed"?**
- **How** do you live if you are confident that Jesus has cleansed your conscience?
- **What** are some ways that you (or other Christians) continue to try to offer sacrifices to cover your (their) sin?
- **Take** inventory of those material things (or people) you put your faith in. Then review each one to see if your faith is perhaps misplaced. **What** are ways you can move from trusting "things" to trusting Jesus and those things that are not temporary?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

**STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews 9:15 by personalizing it**

“That is why He is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and me, so that all I can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised me. For Christ died to set me free from the penalty of the sins I had committed under that first covenant”

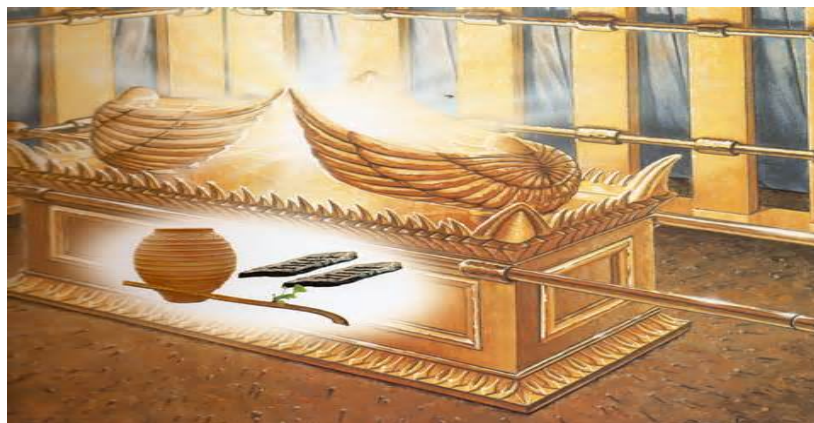
## **Lesson 7—Chapter Nine (Better Sanctuary)**

### **Day One**

- **At this point in our study**, our goal is to begin to understand just how Christ's sacrifice can cleanse your conscience. This will take a few weeks; but isn't it wonderful to realize that you can have a conscience free from guilt of sin—a heart no longer cold or callous toward God, but tender and sensitive with that first love for Him? It is there for those diligent enough to pursue knowing their God through intimately knowing His Word.
- **Read Hebrews 9.** Follow the author's logic very carefully. Remember he has established the fact that we have a high priest who is a priest of a different order, mediating a better covenant based on better promises. Now he wants us to see that all of this is better because as our high priest, Jesus offered a better sacrifice—a sacrifice which obtained eternal redemption
- **In Hebrews 9:1-5 the author of Hebrews** refers to the furniture in the Tabernacle. You studied this last week. For the sake of review, which is essential to learning, draw from memory a diagram of the Tabernacle and its furniture. Do not be concerned about the proportions; simply do a rough diagram and place the furniture in the proper place in the Tabernacle.

### **Day Two**

- **Take a few minutes to look at the Ark of the Covenant again.** Although the author of Hebrews says he cannot speak in detail about these things, there is something you need to see.



- **Read Exodus 25:10-22. What** were the rings on the side of the ark for? **Why** was this necessary? According to this passage, **where** did God meet with His people?

- **Read 1 Samuel 4:4. Who** sits above the cherubim? **What** does the author of Hebrews call the cherubim in Hebrews 9:5?
- **Read 1 Samuel 4**, and answer the questions below
- **What happened to the ark? What** did Phinehas's wife (Eli's daughter-in-law) name her child and **why**? Do you think she was correct in doing so? **Why**?
- **The cloud above the Ark of the Covenant** was called the Shekinah. It was the radiant presence of God dwelling in the midst of His people. Now then, let's compare the glory that shone over the ark with what we have seen in Hebrews.
- **Remember** what you learned about Jesus in Hebrews 1:3? Do you see any similarities?
- **Read John 1:14. The word translated "dwelt" can also be translated "tabernacle."** Compare John 1:1-2 with John 1:14. In the Old Testament days God met with His people in the earthly Tabernacle; in the New Testament days God meets with His people in (or) through Christ!
- **Later we will learn more** of the significance of the mercy seat! Until then, spend a few minutes in worship. Meditate on all that God has done in order to have fellowship with you.

### Day Three

- **To understand the** significance of Hebrews 9, we must have a grasp of what went on in the Tabernacle
- **The daily activity** of the Tabernacle took place in the courtyard around the altar of bronze and the laver, as well as within the first part of the tent of meeting, the Holy Place. However, the innermost part of the Tabernacle, the Holy of Holies, the Holy Place within the veil (Leviticus 16:2), was only entered on one day each year (Hebrews 9:7), the Day of Atonement. This event was observed on the tenth day of Tishri, which was the seventh month of each year.
- **Of all Israel's** holy days, none was more solemn or holy than the Day of Atonement. However, there is a vast difference between the way the Day of Atonement was celebrated when the tabernacle and then the temple were still in existence and the way it is celebrated today.
- **In the Holy Place**, where the table of the bread of the Presence, the lampstand, and the altar of incense were, there was routine activity. **Look up the following Scriptures**, noting what the priest did.
- **Exodus 27:20-21; Leviticus 24:1-9; Exodus 25:30; Exodus 30:1-10** (Note where the altar of incense is placed and compare this with Hebrews 9:3-4)
- **Answer the** following questions from Hebrews 9:6-10
- **All the activity that** went on in the Tabernacle related only to what?
- **What did** these activities fail to take care of with regard to man?

## Day Four

- **Look up the** word “conscience” in a concordance or Bible dictionary. Note where it is used in Hebrews 9 and 10. What do you learn from each use of the word by the author of Hebrews?
- **Read Leviticus 16.** Really meditate on it until you understand all you can about the Day of Atonement and exactly what the priest did on that day. Then, you will be able to appreciate the comparison the author of Hebrews makes between earthly priests’ yearly sacrifices and all the Christ accomplished when He was manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

## Day Five

- **Read Leviticus 16 once again.** Really meditate on it until you understand all you can about the Day of Atonement and exactly what the priest did on that day. Then, you will be able to appreciate the comparison the author of Hebrews makes between earthly priests’ yearly sacrifices and all the Christ accomplished when He was manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

## Day Six

- **List or use stick figures** to draw step by step what occurred on the Day of Atonement. Be as simple or as creative as you like—just do it.
- **At this point,** what similarities and/or contrast do you see between Christ’s sacrifice and the Day of Atonement?

## Day Seven--Looking Inward

- **Do** you feel fully accepted and forgiven by God?
- **What** keeps you from walking in the forgiveness made possible by Christ’s death?
- **When** you consider the old sanctuary and the limited access to God’s presence, what is the first thought that comes to mind?
- **Is communing with** God in heavenly sanctuary a reality for you or just a theory?
- **Do you need to work on approaching God confidently, knowing that there is no longer a curtain separating you from His presence?**
- **Do you need** to reflect on what it means practically to commune with God in the heavily Holy of Holies? Be specific.
- **Write** a prayer, inviting God to work on your mind and heart in areas you struggle in. Be honest about your desires and fears.

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**



## **STORE IN YOUR HEART— A Verse from Hebrews 9 by personalizing it**

This week memorize a verse from Hebrews 9 that is most encouraging to you. Write it out on a piece a paper with your name and facility name on it. Hand it to the class leader at the beginning of class.

### **Blood Sacrifice:**

This is the first of many references to the blood of sacrifice, which was part of the Old Covenant system of atonement. The term is especially central to Hebrews 9:1-10:18, where it identifies the deaths of Old Testament sacrifices and of Christ (see 9:12-14) as blood sacrifices. It is the bold that makes atonement for the soul. Note, however, that the shedding of blood in and of itself is an insufficient sacrifice. Christ had not only to shed His blood, but also to die. Hebrews 10:10 indicates that He gave His body as the sacrificial offering . Without His death, His blood had no saving value.

### **Digging Deeper/Optional**

Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 and take note of the main features of the “new covenant” that the prophet foresaw. Then read Luke 22:20 and observe what Jesus said about the “new covenant.” How does the fulfillment of prophecy support what the writer of Hebrews stated in Hebrews 9:15?

## **Lesson 8—Chapter Nine and Ten**

### **Day One**

- **Read Hebrews 9 and 10**
- **Now go back to Hebrews 9:13-14** and note the comparison made between the two types of sacrifices and their effects.
- **Let's take a look at this phrase** “the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled” and see what we can learn about this Levitical practice.
- **Read Numbers 19**
- **Note all** you learn about this ceremony
- **Ask yourself** the 5 W's and H questions
- **What** do you learn?
- **Read Numbers 31:21-24**
- **What** do you learn about the ashes?
- **The author of Hebrews** wants us to see his point: What did the blood of bulls and goats or the water with ashes of a heifer cleanse? How often were these sacrifices or cleansings performed?

### **Day Two**

- **Read Hebrews 9:7-14 and answer the following questions**
- **What** tabernacle did Christ enter? With **what** did He enter? **How** many times did He enter it? **When** did the Old Testament priests enter? **How** often did they enter on the Day of Atonement?
- **How does this** compare with Jesus' entrance? **Why?** (This may seem a little redundant, but don't miss it!)
- **What** does Christ's offering accomplish for those who truly worship Him?
- **What does** this enable you to do? For a brief Old Testament example of this, **read Isaiah 6:1-8**. Compare Isaiah 6 with this passage in Hebrews. **What** are we enabled to do? **Why** is this possible?
- **Read Hebrews 9:15-28 carefully.**
- **What are** the main points the author is making in this passage? According to this passage, **how** are the inaugurations of the first covenant (Law) and the second covenant (grace) similar?

### **Day Three**

- **Read what your commentaries have to say about Hebrews 9:15-28 and make notes. Please don't read beyond Hebrews 9:28 in your commentaries at this point.**
- **Read Hebrews 10:1-18**
- **According to Hebrews 10:1-18** what do you learn about the Law? (You may wonder why some of your answers seem redundant. We're not looking for

strange or hard-to-be-found answers; we simply don't want to miss or forget these beautiful truths. Even the author of Hebrews repeats himself in Hebrews 8 and 10 by quoting the same passage from Jeremiah twice!

- **Look up the** English transliteration and definition for “impossible” in Hebrews 10:4. What do you learn?
- **Look up the Greek word** for “sanctified” as used in Hebrews 10. Write out the English transliteration along with its definition.

## Day Four

- **Noted below** are the tense and voice of three verbs used Hebrews 10. In light of the tense and voice of each verb, what do you learn? Record your insights
- **The perfect tense** indicates the action happened in the past with the results continuing in the present. **The present tense** indicates continuing action. **The passive voice** indicates the subject is acted upon, while **the active voice** indicates that the subject produces the action.
- **Sanctified** (Hebrews 10:10)—**perfect passive**
- **Perfected** (Hebrews 10:14)—**perfect active**
- **Sanctified** (Hebrews 10:14)—**present passive**
- **What is the** author stressing about Christ's offering in Hebrews 10:1-18?
- **What is/are** the point(s) he doesn't want us to miss?
- **Go back to Hebrews 2:17** and look up the Greek word for “propitiation.” Check out the usage of “propitiation” also in 1 John 2:1-2, 4:10, and Romans 3:25 (note the context in Romans). Using your expository dictionary, write out what you learn regarding propitiation and its relationship to what you studied in Hebrews 9 about the Day of Atonement. **What** do you see?
- **How** does Hebrews 9:15-10:18 compare with Hebrews 2:17?
- **Read Hebrews 10:14-22. Why** can you have a clear conscience? **How** are you to live in light of this truth? **What** about your conscience? Is it clear? **Why or why not?** *This is personal question. Do answer it in a personal way.*

## Day Five

- **Read what** your commentaries have to say about Hebrews 10:1-18. Take pertinent notes you want to keep.
- **Spend some** time worshiping your God and your Savior in light of all you have learned this week. Write out your prayer of worship. For example, “Father, You are...”

## Day Six

- **Read Hebrews 10:19-39 and make observations.** Remember to mark key repeated words/phrases. Ask 5 W's and H questions.
- **As you observe the** remainder of Hebrews 10, you may have some questions of interpretation, for this is not an easy passage. Therefore, you may want to record those questions down. Simply expressing your questions by writing them down is helpful.

## Day Seven--Looking Inward

- **When** has your faith in God been  
The strongest?  
The simplest?  
The shakiest?
- **Who** are your heroes in the faith and why?
- **How** does Jesus' complete sacrifice on the cross affect the way you live your life daily?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

### STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews 10:22 by personalizing it

“let me draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having my heart sprinkled from an evil conscience and my body washed with pure water.”

#### **Sacrifices:**

In the Old Covenant, God prescribed animal sacrifices to be offered for atonement of the people's sins. The Levitical system of sacrifices was not designed by God to remove or forgive sins. It was preparatory for the coming of the Messiah. It revealed the seriousness of their sinful condition, and it revealed the reality of God's holiness and righteousness by indicating that sin had to be covered. The many sacrifices of the Levitical system were to be superseded by the one all-inclusive, perfect sacrifice of Christ. Christ had no sin and therefore needed no sacrifice for Himself. And only one sacrifice (by Him) was needed—one time only, for all men, for all time. Unlike the Old Testament priestly sacrifices, the sacrificial work of Christ never needed to be repeated.

**Digging Deeper/Optional**

Read Exodus 24:1-8. This Old Testament event is cited in Hebrews 9:18-23. How does the writer of Hebrews explain and interpret this event in light of Jesus' better sacrifice? Read 1 Peter 1:16. How did the sacrifice of Christ provide a way for believers to be holy?

## **Lesson 9—Chapter Ten (Better Sacrifice)**

### **Day One**

- **In Hebrews 10:19** the author begins with a series of exhortations saying in verse 22, “Let us draw near with a sincere heart.” Consider and answer the following questions as you think about this.
- **Who could approach** the mercy seat of God under the Old Covenant? When could this be done...whenever someone wanted? How often could it be approached? How does this compare with the New Covenant?
- **In Hebrews** we find a number of references to the throne of the Majesty on high, the throne of grace, or the right hand of the Majesty on high. Let’s look at each of these references and see what we learn from each.
- **Read Hebrews** 1:3; 1:8; 1:13; 4:14-16; 6:19-20 (These verses don’t mention the throne, but what do these verses imply?); 8:1-2; 9:11-14, 12; 10:12-13; 12:2
- **How** do these verses parallel or complement Hebrews 10:19-25?

### **Day Two**

- **What do** you learn about the veil in Hebrews 10?
- **Let’s go to** the Gospels and look at several Scriptures, all the while keeping in mind the veil, its position in the Tabernacle, and its mention in Hebrews 10. As you look up the Scripture, write down how Matthew and John compare with or parallel Hebrews.
- **Read Matthew 27:45-53 and John 14:1-6**
- **How** would you explain the symbolism of the veil and what happened to it when Christ was crucified? Write it out.
- **In a sentence** or two, summarize what you think God is showing us regarding the veil as we move from the Old Testament shadow to the New Testament substance.

### **Day Three**

- **In Hebrews 8:13** the author tells us that the New Covenant makes the Old Covenant obsolete. In Hebrews 10:9 we read that the first (the Old Covenant) is taken away in order to establish the second (the New Covenant). Think about this. Why and how does the New Covenant make the Old Covenant obsolete? What does this mean to you as a Christian, if anything?
- **In Hebrews Part 1, we** looked at the warnings in Hebrews. Once again we come to another warning passage in Hebrews 10:26-31. Read it through and then examine it in light of the 5 W’s and an H. Write out your insights.
- **Now let’s compare this warning to previous warnings. Read the following passages and record your insights.**
- **Read Hebrews** 2:1-4; 3:7-19; 4:11-13; 5:11-6:12

## Day Four

- **In Hebrews 10:26-29** the author tells what happens when a person goes on sinning willfully.
- **Read Numbers 15:22-31.** In this Old Testament passage you see the difference between unintentional sin and defiant sin. What do you learn from this passage, and how does it compare with Hebrews 10:26-29?
- **“Go on Sinning”** in Hebrews 10:26 in a present active participle. What insight does this give you?
- **Explain what** is happening in Hebrews 10:29
- **Once again, in Hebrews 10:30-31,** the author reminds his readers of the character of God; he again quotes the Old Testament
- **Read Deuteronomy 32:35-36** and note how the author quotes from the song of Moses

## Day Five

- **Read Psalm 145:20** and write it out
- **Note the reference** to “the living God” in Hebrews 3:12
- **Why this designation** for God? What does the author want his readers to see, to recognize, to realize?
- **Read what your** commentaries have to say about Hebrews 10:26-31
- **Take pertinent notes**
- **Write a summary** statement explaining Hebrews 10:26-31
- Of what is the author warning his readers? **What** are the consequences of ignoring this warning?

## Day Six

- **Read Hebrews 10:32-12:3**
- **Note the use** of the words “confidence,” “reward,” and “endurance.” When you finish reading, write a summary statement of the exhortation the author sets forth in this passage
- **In 10:37-38,** once again the author quotes from the Old Testament, this time from **Habakkuk 2:3-4** is a pre-exilic book, meaning that it was written before the southern kingdom was taken captive by the Chaldeans. The Chaldeans that the Lord raised up (**Habakkuk 1:6**) were none other than the Babylonians who would take the southern kingdom into captivity. Why was God allowing this to happen? The Chaldeans were God’s means of judging His disobedient people (**Habakkuk 1:12**). This is the setting from which the author takes his quotation. **Habakkuk 2:4** is also quoted in **Romans 1:17** and **Galatians 3:11**.
- **Look up all these reference** and then consider Hebrews 10:37-38 in its context
- **What do you think the** author is saying as he quotes Habakkuk in the context of Hebrews 10:35-39? Record your insights

- **Look up the following Greek** words used in Hebrews 10:39. Record their English transliterations and definitions
- **Shrink back**
- **Destruction**

## Day Seven

- **Have you** noticed that once again the author of Hebrews directs his readers' thoughts to the future and to the Lord's coming?
- **Look up the** following references in Hebrews and note what you learn about the future from each reference.
- **Some of you may** not be familiar with eschatology (study of last things); however, don't let this discourage you. Simply record what you observe.
- **Read Hebrews** 1:13; 2:5; 6:11-12; 9:27-28; 10:25 (To what day do you think the author is referring?); 12:25-29; 13:14
- **Read what your commentaries** have to say about Hebrews 10:32-39. Record any information you want to remember

## Looking Inward

- **As you** read through the exhortations in Hebrews 10, what stood out to you as the most personally convicting?
- **Why** do you think that hit so close to home?
- **What action**, if any, does it prompt you to take?

**Write out specific ways you can respond (put into practice) the truth learned this week**

### **STORE IN YOUR HEART—Hebrews 10:24-25 by personalizing it**

"Let me think of ways to motivate other brothers to acts of love and good works. And let me not neglect my meeting together, as some people do, but encourage my brothers, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near."



**Reminder: (Hebrews 10:3**

p-0The Old Testament sacrifices not only could not remove sin, but their regular repetition was a regular reminder of that deficiency. The promise of the New Covenant was that the sin would be removed and even God would “remember” their sins “no more”

## ***APPENDIX***



# ***HEBREWS OBSERVATIONS***

**References to the Author**

***Author's Purpose in Writing***

**Type of Literature**

**References to the Recipients of Hebrews**



## **Exhortations**

## **Warnings**

**Comparisons & Contrasts—Watch for the phrase “better than” because this shows contrast**

## **Key Words and Phrases**

## **Historical References**

## ***Hebrews Chapter Theme Chart***

**Book Theme:** Jesus,  
Our High Pries/Let us  
hear Him, draw near,  
and hold fast

Author:

Recipients:

**Purpose:** A Word of  
Exhortation 13:22

When Written:  
Possibly A.D. 64-68

**Key Words:**

Jesus (Son)  
God  
Angel  
Spoke (spoken, says,  
said)  
Sin (sinners)  
Priest (priests,  
priesthood)  
Therefore  
Faith (faithful)  
Greater  
Better (better than,  
more excellent)  
Let us  
Perfect  
Promise  
Covenant

**1 God spoke in His Son, Jesus better than angels**

**2 Pay attention to what we have heard/Jesus became  
flesh and blood**

**3 Consider Jesus, Apostle and High Priest/Don't  
harden your heart**

**4 Don't come short of entering His rest**

**5 Jesus, high priest forever according to order of  
Melchizedek**

**6 Let us press on to maturity, some have fallen away**

**7 Jesus' priesthood permanent, able to save forever  
those who draw near**

**8 Jesus, mediator of a better covenant**

**9 Christ's blood—better sacrifice**

**10 Christ's body offered once, let us draw near and  
hold fast**

**11 Men of old gained approval through faith**

**12 Jesus, Author and Perfecter of faith/Endure  
discipline**

**13 Jesus-the same yesterday, today, forever/Don't be  
carried away**

### “The King’s Highway To Holiness” Bible Reading Way

This is a dynamic and unique Bible reading plan that God will bless. You can start your Bible reading schedule at any time. However, if you would like to read in conjunction with an army of others, we read the Bible four (4) times each year beginning at: January 1<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>, and October 1<sup>st</sup>. **The Bible in 85 days @ 15 chapters a day.**

1	Genesis	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25
2	Isaiah	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	13-15
3	Psalms	1,2	3,4	5,6	7,8	9,10
4	Proverbs	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
5	Matthew	1,2	3,4	5,6	7,8	9,10
6	Romans	1,2	3,4	5,6	7,8	9,10

1	Genesis	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50
2	Isaiah	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
3	Psalms	11,12	13,14	15,16	17,18	19,20
4	Proverbs	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
5	Matthew	11,12	13,14	15,16	17,18	19,20
6	Romans / 1 Corinthians	11,12	13,14	15,16	1 Cor 1,2	3,4

1	Exodus	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25
2	Isaiah	31-33	34-36	37-39	40-42	43-45
3	Psalms	21,22	23,24	25,26	27,28	29,30
4	Proverbs	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15
5	Matthew / John	21,22	23,24	25,26	27,28	John 1,2
6	1 Corinthians	5,6	7,8	9,10	11,12	13,14

1	Exodus / Leviticus	26-30	31-35	36-40	Lev 1-5	6-10
2	Isaiah	46-48	49-51	52-54	55-57	58-60
3	Psalms	31,32	33,34	35,36	37,38	39,40
4	Proverbs	Day 16	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20
5	John	3,4	5,6	7,8	9,10	11,12
6	1 & 2 Corinthians	15,16	2 Cor 1,2	3,4	5,6	7,8

1	Leviticus / Numbers	11-15	16-20	21-25	Lev 26,27 Num 1-3	4-8
2	Isaiah / Jeremiah	61-63	64-66	Jer 1-3	4-6	7-9
3	Psalms	41,42	43,44	45,46	47,48	49,50
4	Proverbs	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24	Day 25
5	John / Acts	13,14	15,16	17,18	19,20	John 21 Acts 1
6	2 Corinthians / Galatians	9,10	11,12	2 Cor 13 Gal 1	2,3	4,5

1	Numbers	9-13	14-18	19-23	24-28	29-33
2	Jeremiah	10-12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24
3	Psalms	51,52	53,54	55,56	57,58	59,60
4	Proverbs	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28	Day 29	Day 30
5	Acts	2,3	4,5	6,7	8,9	10,11
6	Galatians / Ephesians / Philippians	Gal 6 Eph 1	2,3	4,5	Eph 6 Phil 1	2,3

1	Numbers	Num 34-36 Deut 1-2	3-7	8-12	13-17	18-22
2	Jeremiah	25-27	28-30	31-33	34-36	37-39
3	Psalms	61,62	63,64	65,66	67,68	69,70
4	Proverbs	Day 31	Day 32	Day 33	Day 34	Day 35
5	Acts	12,13	14,15	16,17	18,19	20,21
6	Philippians / Colossians / 1 Thessalonians	Phi 4 Col 1	2,3	Col 4 1 Thess 1	2,3	4,5

1	Deuteronomy / Joshua	23-27	28-32	Deut 33,34 Josh 1-3	4-8	9-13
2	Jeremiah / Lamentations	40-42	43-45	46-48	49-51	Jer 52 Lam 1,2
3	Psalms	71,72	73,74	75,76	77,78	79,80
4	Proverbs	Day 36	Day 37	Day 38	Day 39	Day 40
5	Acts / Mark	22,23	24,25	26,27	Acts 28 Mark 1	2,3
6	2 Thessalonians / 1 & 2 Timothy	1,2	2 Thess 3 1 Tim 1	2,3	4,5	1 Tim 6 2 Tim 1

1	Joshua / Judges	14-18	19-23	Josh 24 Judg 1-4	5-9	10-14
2	Lamentations / Ezekiel	3-5	Ezek 1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
3	Psalms	81,82	83,84	85,86	87,88	89,90
4	Proverbs	Day 41	Day 42	Day 43	Day 44	Day 45
5	Mark	4,5	6,7	8,9	10,11	12,13
6	2 Timothy / Titus / Philemon / Hebrews	2,3	2 Tim 4 Tit 1	2,3	Phile 1 Heb 1	2,3

1	Judges / Ruth / 1 Samuel	15-19	Judg 20,21 Ruth 1-3	Ruth 4 1 Sam 1-4	5-9	10-14
2	Ezekiel	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27
3	Psalms	91,92	93,94	95,96	97,98	99,100
4	Proverbs	Day 46	Day 47	Day 48	Day 49	Day 50
5	Mark / Luke	14,15	Mark 16 Luke 1	2,3	4,5	6,7
6	Hebrews	4,5	6,7	8,9	10,11	12,13

1	1 & 2 Samuel	15-19	20-24	25-29	1 Sam 30,31 2 Sam 1-3	4-8
2	Ezekiel	28-30	31-33	34-36	37-39	40-42
3	Psalms	101,102	103,104	105,106	107,108	109,110
4	Proverbs	Day 51	Day 52	Day 53	Day 54	Day 55
5	Luke	8,9	10,11	12,13	14,15	16,17
6	James / Peter	1,2	3,4	James 5 1 Pet 1	2,3	4,5

1	2 Samuel / 1 Kings	9-13	14-18	19-23	2 Sam 24 1 Kng 1-4	5-9
2	Ezekiel / Daniel	43-45	46-48	Dan 1-3	4-6	7-9
3	Psalms	111,112	113,114	115,116	117,118	119,120
4	Proverbs	Day 56	Day 57	Day 58	Day 59	Day 60
5	Luke / Acts	18,19	20,21	22,23	Luke 24 Acts 1	2,3
6	2 Peter / 1, 2, 3 John	1,2	2 Pet 3 1 John 1	2,3	4,5	2 John 1 3 John 1

“Your word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Ps. 119:105)

**Optional Additional Bible Reading Plan** that will help you read through the entire Bible in 85 days placing special emphasis on the uniqueness of how the Bible is sectioned together. This permits you to view how the histories of the Old and New Testament connect, as the prophecies and types are fulfilled in your daily readings.

1	1 & 2 Kings	10-14	15-19	1 Kng 20-22 2 Kng 1-2	3-7	8-12
2	Daniel / Hosea	10-12	Hos 1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
3	Psalms	121,122	123,124	125,126	127,128	129,130
4	Proverbs	Day 61	Day 62	Day 63	Day 64	Day 65
5	Acts	4,5	6,7	8,9	10,11	12,13
6	Jude / Revelation	Jude 1 Rev 1	2,3	4,5	6,7	8,9

1	2 Kings / 1 Chronicles	13-17	18-22	2 Kng 23-25 1 Chr 1,2	3-7	8-12
2	Hosea / Joel / Amos / Obadiah	Hos 13,14 Joel 1	Joel 2,3 Amos 1	2-4	5-7	Amos 8,9 Obad 1
3	Psalms	131,132	133,134	135,136	137,138	139,140
4	Proverbs	Day 66	Day 67	Day 68	Day 69	Day 70
5	Acts	14,15	16,17	18,19	20,21	22,23
6	Revelation	10,11	12,13	14,15	16,17	18,19

1	1 & 2 Chronicles	13-17	18-23	1 Chr 24-29 2 Chr 1,2	3-11	12-20
2	Jonah / Micah / Nahum / Habakkuk	1-3	Jon 4 Mic 1,2	3-5	Mic 6,7 Nah 1	Nah 2,3 Hab 1
3	Psalms	141,142	143,144	145,146	147,148	149,150
4	Proverbs	Day 71	Day 72	Day 73	Day 74	Day 75
5	Acts	24,25	26,27	28		
6	Revelation	20,21	22			

1	2 Chronicles / Ezra / Nehemiah / Esther / Job	21-31	2 Chr 32-36 Ezra 1-6	Ezra 7-10 Neh 1-7	Neh 8-13 Esth 1-5	Esth 6-10 Job 1-6
2	Habakkuk / Zephaniah / Haggai / Zechariah	Hab 2,3 Zeph 1	Zeph 2,3 Hag 1	Hag 2 Zech 1,2	3-5	6-8
4	Proverbs	Day 76	Day 77	Day 78	Day 79	Day 80

1	Job / Ecclesiastes / Song of Solomon	7-17	18-28	29-39	Job 40-42 Ecc 1-10	Ecc 11,12 Song 1-8
2	Zechariah / Malachi	9-11	12-14	Mal 1-3	4	
4	Proverbs	Day 81	Day 82	Day 83	Day 84	Day 85





## **Jesus' Resurrection IN A NUTSHELL—Who is Jesus? Resurrection Power produces a “do over” life**

Have **YOU** ever thought I would like to start my life over, brand new, be a different person? **YOU** can because of Jesus' resurrection. The reason **YOU** should become a Christ-Follower is based on a single event, and not because the Bible says so or anyone else says so. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John....were eyewitnesses to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. There are four simple points to consider. Are you a fan of Jesus or a follower of Jesus?

### **You Killed Jesus (Bad News)**

- You are a sinner; Death comes because of sin; You are separated from God because of sin; Jesus (who knew no sin) died for your sin. **Romans 3:10-12** None Good, None Understands, None Seeks God. **Romans 3:23** ALL Sinned & Fall Short of God's Standard. **Romans 6:23** Wages of sin is Death (separation)

### **God Raised Jesus From The Dead (Good News)**

- **Romans 6:9** Death has no power over Jesus; **Romans 10:9** Believe God raised Jesus from the dead—will be saved (rescued); **1 Corinthians 15:4**, **Luke 24:1-12**, **Mark 16:1-8**, **John 20:1-15**, **Matthew 28:1-8** Rose on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day.

### **We've Seen Jesus After His Resurrection (Great News) (God's Alive)**

- **John 20:16:18**, **Mark 16:14-16**, **Matthew 28:9** Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene; **John 20:19-23**, **Luke 23:15-45**, **Matthew 28:16-20** Appeared to disciples except Thomas; **John 20:26-29** Jesus appears again to disciples including Thomas; **John 21:4-14** Jesus a 3<sup>rd</sup> time appears to the disciples; **1 Corinthians 15:5-8** Appears to Disciples and more than 500 brethren at one time.

### **Say You Agree with God (Repent)**

- Receive Jesus' Free Gift of Eternal Life
- Repent (change of mind, amend ways in the sense of hating past sins) **Mark 1:15**; **Luke 24:47**; **Acts 2:38**; **Acts 17:30**; **Acts 26:20**; **2 Peter 3:9**; **Acts 10:9**; **John 3:16**; **Luke 10:25**; **John 17:2**
- **John 20:31** The signs (resurrection) was for you to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and by believing you will have eternal life; We can be raised from Spiritual death because God was raised from the dead and is alive
- **2 Corinthians 5:17-18** Any man in Christ is a new creature;.....we are reconciled to God through Christ.....





## WHO DO YOU THINK JESUS Is?

**Your response to Jesus will determine not only your values and lifestyle, but your eternal destiny as well. Consider what the Bible says about Him.**

### Jesus is God

Jesus said, "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30). That means He claimed to be nothing less than God in human flesh.

Jesus' enemies understood His claims to deity. That's why they tried to stone Him to death (John 5:18; 10:33) and eventually had Him crucified (John 19:7).

C.S. Lewis observed, "You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." (Mere Christianity [Macmillan, 1952], pp 40-41).

If the biblical claims of Jesus are true, He is God!

### Jesus is Holy

God is absolutely and perfectly holy (Isaiah 6:3), therefore He cannot commit or approve of evil (James 1:13).

As God, Jesus embodied every element of God's character. Colossians 2:9 says, "In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form." He was perfectly holy (Hebrews 4:15). Even His enemies couldn't prove any accusation against Him (John 8:46).

God requires holiness of us as well. First Peter 1:16 says, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

### Jesus is The Savior

Our failure to obey God—to be holy—places us in danger of eternal punishment (2 Thessalonians 1:9). The truth is, we cannot obey Him because we have neither the desire nor the ability to do so. We are by nature rebellious toward God (Ephesians 2:1-3). The Bible calls our rebellion "sin."

According to Scripture, everyone is guilty of sin: "There is no man who does not sin" (1 Kings 8:46). "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). And we are incapable of changing our sinful condition. Jeremiah 13:23 says, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Neither can you do good who are accustomed to doing evil."

That doesn't mean we're incapable of performing acts of human kindness. We might even be involved in various religious or humanitarian activities. But we're utterly incapable of understanding, loving, or pleasing God on our own. The Bible says, "There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one: (Romans 3:10-12). God's holiness and justice demand that all sin be punished by death; "The soul who sins will die" (Ezekiel 18:4). That's hard for us to understand because we tend to evaluate sin on a relative scale, assuming some sins are less serious than others. However, the Bible teaches that all acts of sin are the result of sinful thinking and evil desires. That's why simply changing our patterns of behavior can't solve our sin problem or eliminate its consequences. We need to be changed inwardly so our thinking and desires are holy.

Jesus is the only one who can forgive and transform us, thereby delivering us from the power and penalty of sin: "There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Even though God's justice demands death for sin, His love has provided a Savior, who paid the penalty and died for the sinner: "Christ...died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18). Christ's death satisfied the demands of God's justice, thereby enabling Him to forgive and save those who place their faith in Him (Romans 3:26). John 3:16 says, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." He alone is "great God and Savior" (Titus 2:13).



## **Jesus is The Only Acceptable Object of Saving Faith**

You might think that it doesn't matter what you believe as long as you're sincere. But without a valid object your faith is useless.

If you take poison — thinking it is medicine—all the faith in the world won't restore your life. Similarly, if Jesus is the only source of salvation, and you're trusting in anyone or anything else for your salvation, your faith is useless.

You may assume there are many paths to God and that each religion represents an aspect of truth. But Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me" (John 14:6). He didn't claim to be one of many equally legitimate paths to God, or the way to God for His day only. He claimed to be the only way to God—then and forever.

## **Jesus is Lord**

The Bible says we were created by a personal God to love, serve, and enjoy endless fellowship with Him.

The New Testament reveals it was Jesus Himself who created everything (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16). Therefore He also owns and rules everything (Psalm 103:19). That means He has authority over our lives and we owe Him absolute allegiance, obedience, and worship.

Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." Confessing Jesus as Lord means humbly submitting to His authority (Philippians 2:10-11). Believing that God has raised Him from the dead involves trusting in the historical fact of His resurrection—the pinnacle of the Christian faith and the way the Father affirmed the deity and authority of the Son (Romans 1:4; Acts 17:30-31).

True faith is always accompanied by repentance from sin. Repentance is more than simply being sorry for sin. It is agreeing with God that you are sinful, confessing your sins to Him and making a conscious choice to turn from sin and pursue holiness (Isaiah 55:7). Jesus said, "If you love Me you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15); and "If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine" (John 8:31).

It isn't enough to believe certain facts about Christ. Even Satan and his demons believe in the true God (James 2:19), but they don't love and obey Him. Their faith is not genuine. True saving faith always responds in obedience (Ephesians 2:10).

Jesus is the sovereign Lord. When you obey Him you are acknowledging His lordship and submitting to His authority. That doesn't mean your obedience will always be perfect, but that is your goal. There is no area of your life that you withhold from Him.

## **Jesus is The Judge**

All who reject Jesus as their Lord and Savior will one day face Him as their Judge: "God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31).

Second Thessalonians 1:7-9 says, "The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power."

## **HOW WILL YOU RESPOND?**

Who does the Bible say Jesus is? The living God, the Holy One, the Savior, the only valid object of saving faith, the sovereign Lord, and the righteous Judge.

Who do **YOU** say Jesus is? That is the inescapable question. He alone can redeem **YOU**—free **YOU** from the power and penalty of **YOUR** sins. He alone can transform **YOU**, restore **YOU** to fellowship with God, and give **YOUR** life eternal purpose. Will **YOU** repent and believe in Jesus Christ as **YOUR** Lord and Savior?



## The Way of Eternal Living Color Illustration



## The Way of Eternal Living Color Illustration Explained

1. (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) You come to God the Father through faith in God the Son and Receive God the Holy Spirit who empowers you to live for God. This is called Salvation which is the first phase to your faith journey with Christ. (Read the Scriptures listed under #1, 2, 3 on the color illustration)
2. (Prayer, Word, Fellowship) Then as a new child of Christ (Little child) you will desire the pure milk of God's Word (Bible), and have communication with God by way of prayer, and desire to fellowship with other children of God which is now your spiritual family. This is called Sanctification. (Read the Scriptures listed under #4, 5, 6 on the color illustration)
3. (Love neighbor as self, Love and worship God, make disciples) As you grow into a young adult you will learn to love and worship God which empowers you to love your neighbor as yourself resulting in making disciples who are able to do the same for others. This is called Sanctification. (Read the Scriptures listed under #7, 8, 9 on the color illustration)
4. (Love enemies, Love God whole heart, Bear much fruit) As you grow into a mature adult you will continue being conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. You will love Christ more and more each day, enlarging your heart to love your enemies and overcome evil with good. This results in bearing much fruit which includes making more disciples and developing a godly character. (Read the Scriptures listed under #10, 11, 12 on the color illustration)
5. (Partakers in the sufferings of Christ, Live as Christ, Love one another) All this leads to Eternal Living which can be classified as service. Now you have a living testimony that proclaims in word, deed, and thought, that for me to live is Christ—for it is Christ who lives in you. Therefore, we continue to do and to teach what Jesus first began to do and to teach in His earthly ministry. Because of all this you will become partakers of Christ's sufferings, as you daily deny yourself and take up your cross to follow Jesus in all His ways. These fiery afflictions refine you into what God desires you to be. Finally, all will know that you are a disciple of Christ. (Read the Scriptures listed under #13, 14, 15 on the color illustration)

This is the "Kings Highway to Holiness." **Question:** Are **YOU** on the Kings Highway headed for eternal living with God or are **YOU** on the secular or religious highway separated from God which is clearly shown on the color illustration? This is a question **YOU MUST** ponder before the end of **YOUR** physical life here on earth. It is a matter of urgency! Have **YOU** realized that **YOUR** righteousness is filthy rags in God's sight? (Isaiah 64:6) **YOU** are a sinner and there is nothing good in **YOU** (Romans 3:10-20); that **YOUR** sin brings spiritual death (separation from God) (Romans 6:23). **But** God provided the way of righteousness that meets His standard which is the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ (John 14:6, Acts 4:12). When **YOU** acknowledge that **YOU** are poor in spirit (lacking what it takes to be reconciled to God the Father) (Matthew 5:3) then **YOU** can confess with **YOUR** mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in **YOUR** heart that He raised from the dead and **YOU** will be saved (Romans 10:9).

Our prayer for you as a ministry is that **YOU** be reconciled with **YOUR** heavenly father through faith in Christ Jesus and live a transformed life that will honor **YOUR** God!



## **Take Up Your Role In The Drama OF The Bible**

### **The Drama of the Bible in Six Acts**

The Bible is a drama to be acted out, performed, and lived. It can't remain as only words on a page. A drama is an activated story. The Bible was written so YOU could enter into its story. It is meant to be lived! Welcome to the story of how God intends to renew YOUR life, and the life of the world. God Himself is calling YOU to engage with His word. The Bible is divided into many books that have a beginning and an ending message. The Bible is a drama divided into six acts.

#### **ACT 1: GOD'S INTENTION**

God created the world including man. Human beings are God's image-bearers, created to share in the task of bringing God's wise and beneficial rule to the rest of the world. Act 1 reveals God's original desire for the world. It shows you that life itself is a gift from the Creator. It tells you what you were made for and provides the setting for all the action that follows.

#### **ACT 2: EXILE**

Sin enters the world through Adam and as a result of this rebellion the first exile in the story takes place. The humans are driven away from God's presence. Their offspring throughout history will seek to find their way back to the source of life. They will devise any number of philosophies and religions, trying to make sense of a fallen, yet haunting world. But death now stalks them, and they will find that they cannot escape it. Having attempted to live apart from God and His good word, humans will find they have neither God nor life. New questions arise in the drama: Can the curse on creation be overcome and the relationship between God and humanity restored? Can heaven and earth be reunited? Or did God's enemy effectively end the plan and subvert the story?

#### **ACT 3: CALLING ISRAEL TO A MISSION**

You see the direction of God's redemptive plan when He calls Abraham, promising to make him into a great nation. God narrows His focus and concentrates on one group of people. But the ultimate goal remains the same: to bless all the peoples on earth and remove the curse from creation. God makes a covenant with this new nation of Israel at Mt. Sinai. Israel is called by God to be a light to the nations, showing the world what it means to follow God's ways for living. If they will do this, He will bless them in their new land and will come to live with them. Israel breaks God's covenant and Act 3 ends tragically, with God apparently absent and the pagan nations ruling over Israel. But the hope of a promise remains. There is one true God. He has chosen Israel. He will return to His people to live with them again. He will bring justice, peace and healing to Israel, and then to the world. He will do this in a final and climactic way. God will send His anointed one—the Messiah.

## **ACT 4: THE SURPRISING VICTORY OF JESUS**

“He is the god made manifest...the universal savior of human life.” These words, referring to Caesar Augustus (found in a Roman inscription from 4 BC in Ephesus), proclaim the gospel of the Roman Empire. This version of the good news announces that Caesar is the lord who brings peace and prosperity to the world. Into this empire a son of David is born, and He announces the gospel of God’s kingdom. Jesus of Nazareth brings the good news of the coming of God’s reign. He begins to show what God’s new creation looks like. He announces the end of Israel’s exile and the forgiveness of sins. He heals the sick and raises the dead. He overcomes the dark spiritual powers. He welcomes sinners and those considered unclean. Jesus renews the nation, rebuilding the twelve tribes of Israel around Himself in a symbolic way. Jesus takes onto Himself the full force of evil and empties it of its power. God then publicly declares this victory by reversing Jesus’ death sentence and raising Him back to life. The resurrection of Israel’s king shows that the great enemies of God’s creation—sin and death—really have been defeated. The resurrection is the great sign that the new creation has begun. Jesus is the fulfillment of Israel’s story and a new start for the entire human race. Death came through the first man, Adam. The resurrection of the dead comes through the new man, Jesus. God’s original intention is being reclaimed. Jesus didn’t come to make bad people good, He came to make dead people alive.

## **ACTS 5: THE RENEWED PEOPLE OF GOD**

This new Act in the drama tells the story of how the earliest followers of Jesus began to spread the good news of God’s reign. God is gathering people from all around the world and forming them into assemblies of Jesus-followers—His church. Together they are God’s new temple, the place where His Spirit lives. They are the community of those who have pledged their allegiance to Jesus as the true Lord of the world. They have crossed from death into new life, through the power of God’s Spirit. Forgiveness of sins and reconciliation with God can now be announced to all. Following in the steps of Jesus, His followers proclaim this gospel in both word and deed. The power of this new, God-given life breaking into the world is meant to be shown by the real-world actions of the Christian community. God is inviting YOU to be a part of His mission of re-creation—of bringing restoration, justice and forgiveness. YOU are to join in the task of making things new, to be a living sign of what is to come when the drama is complete.

## **ACT 6: GOD COMES HOME**

God’s future has come into our world through the work of Jesus the Messiah. But for now, the present evil age also continues. Brokenness, wrongdoing, sickness and even death remain. We live in the time of the overlap of the ages, the time of in-between. The final Act is coming, but it has not yet arrived. We live in the time of invitation, when the call of the gospel goes out to every creature. Of course, man still live as though God doesn’t exist. They do not acknowledge the rule of the Messiah. But the day is coming when Jesus will return to earth and the reign of God will become an uncontested reality throughout the world. God’s presence will be fully and openly with us once again, as it was at the beginning of the drama. God’s plan of redemption will reach its goal. The creation will experience its own Exodus, finding freedom from its bondage to decay. When the day of resurrection arrives God’s people will find that their hope has been realized. The dynamic force of an indestructible life will course through their bodies. God will return and make His home with us, this time in a new heavens and a new



earth. We, along with the rest of creation, will worship Him perfectly and fulfill our true calling. God will be all in all, and the whole world will be full of His glory.

## WHAT NOW?

The preceding overview of the drama of the Bible is meant to give YOU a framework so YOU can begin to read the books that make up the story. The summary we've provided is merely an invitation for YOU to engage the sacred books themselves. Many people today follow the practice of reading only small, fragmentary snippets of the Bible-verses—and often in isolation from the books of which they are a part. This does not lead to good Bible understanding. We encourage YOU instead to take in whole books, the way their authors wrote them. This is really the only way to gain deep insight to the Scriptures. The more YOU immerse yourself in the script of this drama, the better YOU will be able to find YOUR own place in the story.

Taken from *Free On The Inside Bible*

If you have been resurrected to newness of life through Christ because of this course, we would love to hear your story of how God used *JesusOnlyWay Ministries* as the avenue to meet Jesus as your Lord and Savior. If something in this course helped equip you to do the work of the ministry in your community we would love to also hear that story. Finally, if something in this course helped you lead someone to Christ then by all means share with us. We are on this faith journey together with you and are fellow soldiers of Christ. We are privileged and honored to be ambassadors of Christ with you. Please write us with your story.

*JesusOnlyWay Ministries*

11705 Boyette Road #155

Riverview, FL 33569

*(Address your letter to Fellow Soldier of Christ)*