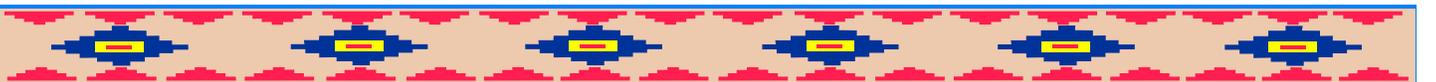


This Is Eternal Life!



Welcome to this Bible study!

We are glad that you can make it. There are 4 parts to this Bible study:

- (1) God Who Is**
- (2) Man Who Sins**
- (3) Christ Who Saves**
- (4) He Who Comes**

We hope that you would be able to complete the entire series. We hope too that the following study of God's word will:

- Enlighten your mind concerning who Jesus Christ is & what He has done**
- Bring about an assessment of your standing before God**
- Stir you to seek after Jesus Christ and the eternal life in Him!**

May the Lord richly bless you as we study His word together.

If you are ready, let's begin this study!

[1] GOD WHO IS

A story was told of a Christian preacher who lost his way in a forest. As he searched for the way out, he stumbled upon a secret gathering held right in the middle of the forest. It was a gathering of atheists! Each one present took his turn to articulate the reasons for believing that God does not exist in this universe. A young man stood up and gave a most eloquent speech about why believing in God is both superstitious and silly in this modern age. After he had finished and sat down, another man stood up. Pointing his finger at the young man, he said, "*I just cannot believe a word of that young man. Why, just a few days ago, we were both on board an ocean liner, and were caught in the worst storm imaginable! I then saw him kneeling down and crying out to God to deliver him!*"

This story simply underlines the truth that all of us do believe in God -- that He is real; that He exists.

- 1. Read Psalm 19:1-6 and Romans 1:18-21. According to these two passages, how does God speak to us and what does He say?**

5. Read Acts 17:22-31.

(a) Who is God and what is He like?

(b) What is our relationship with Him?

6. Review your answers to Questions 1 - 5. What are their implications, and how should they impact your life?

What Jesus Said . . .

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him." Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

John 14:6-9

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

John 17:1-3

[2] MAN WHO SINS

Locks, keys and alarms -- these are all very much a part of our daily life. But why install car alarms? Lock your doors and gates? Carry around a heavy bunch of keys in your pocket? Despite what we may say with our mouths, we believe in our hearts that man is sinful. For instance, we believe that if we leave our houses and cars unlocked, others will come and take away our valuables. We need to note that others believe the same of us as well! Otherwise, why would they lock their gates and cars? The bunch of keys in your pocket is a good demonstration that we are sinners.

1. Read Romans 3:9-26.

(a) From this passage, how many *righteous* people are there?

(b) From this passage, how many people really *seek* God?

(c) From this passage, how many of us can rightly and fairly be called sinners?

(d) From this passage, how is "sin" defined?

2. Read Romans 2:5-16.

(a) According to this passage, what will God do about the sins of man?

(b) According to this passage, what will be the basis of God's judgment?

(c) According to this passage, what kind of sentence will be pronounced?

3. Review your answers to Questions 1 & 2. What is your standing before God today?

What Jesus Said

"Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Matthew 12:33-37

Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

John 5:28-29

[3] CHRIST WHO SAVES

It's a party! The mood is jovial, the food is sumptuous and the music is uplifting. Everyone present enjoys the party thoroughly. Then someone asks, "What is the occasion?"

"Oh," replies the host, "we are celebrating my parents' wedding jubilee!"

"How nice and thoughtful of you! Where are your parents?"

"Oh, they are not here. I left them in the Nursing Home!"

To have a wedding jubilee celebration without the couple being asked to be present is a very strange thing to do indeed!

Something stranger and far worse is being done every year. We celebrate Christmas every year. Christmas is supposed to celebrate the birth of Christ. Yet how many of us really know Him? We keep Good Friday as a public holiday every year. Good Friday remembers the death of Jesus on the Cross. Yet how many of us actually bother to find out why He had to die on the Cross? Could Christmas and Good Friday have any significance without Jesus Christ?

Who is Jesus Christ, and what has He done?

1. Read Mark 2:1-12.

(a) When Jesus says "Your sins are forgiven you" to the paralytic, who is He claiming to be?

(b) How does He demonstrate that His claim is true?

(c) What other term does He use to describe Himself here? What does that mean?

2. Read about the death of Jesus on the Cross in Mark 15:22-39.

(a) Before this happened, Jesus had spoken about it many times. What did He say? (Mark 10:45)

(b) In what sense did Jesus give His life as "a ransom for many"?

(c) How did the apostles understand the death of Jesus?

❖ Romans 5:8-11

❖ 1 Peter 3:18

3. Read Acts 10:39-41. What happened to Jesus after He died? How do we know?

4. Review your answers to Questions 1 - 3. What is your response to Jesus Christ now?

What Jesus Said . . .

And it happened, as He was alone praying, that His disciples joined Him, and He asked them, saying, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" So they answered and said, "John the Baptist, but some say Elijah; and others say that one of the old prophets has risen again." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said, "The Christ of God."

And He strictly warned and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day."

Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels."

Luke 9:18-26

[4] HE WHO COMES

Jesus Christ who gave His life as a ransom for many invites you to come to Him. He says, "*Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*" (Matthew 11:28). To come to Jesus, we must:

I. Repent

A father has just come home with a big present for his son. But the little boy isn't jumping with joy. Instead, he is crying in pain. What is going on? The boy's hand is stuck in a container and he can't remove it.

The father tries to help. He does everything he can think of to get the boy's hand out of the container but to no avail. Finally, exhausted and still in pain, the boy asks, "Father, will it help if I let go of these sweets in my tightly-clenched fists?"

That's the answer! The moment the boy releases the sweets, his hand is able to slip out of the container. His hand is now free! And he is now able to use that hand to receive the wonderful present from his father.

**If you are to come to Jesus, you must turn from your sins (repent).
To repent is to let go of your sins.**

1. Read Acts 2:36-39.

(a) What did Peter asked the people to do?

(b) What happens after they have done that?

2. Isaiah 55:6 & 7 gives a pictorial explanation of what it means to repent. What is it?

3. Read Luke 13:1-5. According to Jesus, how important is repentance?

II. Believe

A house is on fire. It is a three-storey house. A little girl is trapped in her bedroom up on the third storey. The fire is growing in intensity. It will soon reach her. Something must be done, and quickly! Down on the ground floor, outside the house, is her father. "Daisy, look at me! I am your father. Jump! I will catch you!" he shouts.

The girl knows that man is her father. The girl is further convinced that her father can catch her if she jumps. But until she jumps, she cannot be said to have believed her father.

To turn from sin is important. To turn to Christ is equally important. Turning to Christ, or coming to Christ, is also termed as "believing in Christ" in the Bible. It is to have faith in Jesus Christ alone, not trusting in our own works to earn our salvation. It is to believe that Christ died for sinners to purchase forgiveness and eternal life. It also involves living our lives in obedience to God's Word.

4. Read Acts 16:25-34.

(a) What did Paul asked the Philippian jailer to do?

(b) What will happen after he has done that?

(c) How do we know that his belief (faith) is real?

5. Read Romans 10:14-17.

(a) What is necessary before real faith can exist?

(b) John 6:69 and 2 Timothy 1:12 tell us of two other necessary ingredients of real faith. What are they?

6. Read Hebrews 11:6. According to this verse, how important is faith?

Review your answers to Questions 1 - 6. What is your present duty?

What Jesus Said . . .

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

John 3:3-8

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:14-18

The End?

If you wish to further know who Jesus Christ is and would like more help in seeking to know Him, please contact the person who leads in this Bible Study, or you are welcome to attend the worship service in Shalom Church.

Meanwhile we would encourage you to read the Bible each day - we suggest you start with the Gospel accounts of Jesus Christ in the New Testament - and ask God to speak to you through it. He will, if you ask Him!

Shalom Church Meetings:

Sunday Corporate Worship: 9.30 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Christian Education: 11.45 a.m.

Thursday Prayer Meeting: 8 p.m.

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NOTES & QUESTIONS