

LESSON ONE

TOPIC: BE APRECIATIVE / THANKFUL

TEXTUAL SOURCE: Psalm 106;1-12

MEMORY VERSE; Psalm 106; 1

Praise the lord, O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever [KJV]

INTRODUCTION

All glory, honour and adoration to the lord, for keeping us alive to see the beginning of a New Year. May his name be praised.

This new lesson beginning in the New Year is captioned “BE APRECIATIVE OR THANKFUL. We have seen the example and reference of this from the first paragraph. We first thanked Him for His protection as our protector that spares our lives till today.

In this lesson, we shall observe:

- Meaning of thanksgiving
- How to give thanks, and;
- Who to thank.

A. BE THANKFUL

This lesson tells us to be thankful.

What is thanksgiving? And, why must we always be thankful?

1. It is appreciating the goodness of God to us and also benevolence from man /men.

2. It is also the expression of gratitude to God and man /men that has impacted on our lives.

We can express our gratitude in two ways: To God the creator who created us in His own image and keeps us daily. Creating us in his own image really worth our praises to him

The second part is appreciating fellow men that has done us good and show our gratitude.

Thanking God is essential and paramount to appreciate Him, it is a rare privilege to witness the first Sunday of the New Year. Many people were willing to be alive today but they are no more. But you and I received mercy to be alive. So, you ought to be thankful to Him, moreover, you are His image and inheritance.

Even human society cherishes appreciation. It is considered a loss if you are ingrate to man how much more God Himself. Nobody will continue giving to an ingrate anything or gift. So it is in our maker. He is worthy of our unconditional appreciation meaning that He is worthy our praise NOT because of any reason [such as money e.tc.] but it is a MUST to be thankful to him for his breath of life in you and fulfilling His promises to you. *He that keeps Israel does not slumber nor sleep*, says Ps 121 vs 4.

This promise is often fulfilled in our lives and no evil befalls us. All these worth our praises to him. The past year was spent despite the huge challenges in our nation /country and our lives did not go for it. This was not due to our perfection or good character. So, express your gratitude to Him.

Parents who provide for their children expect show of appreciation from them if they are wise children. Likewise, in the same vein, God expects your appreciation. God inhabits the praise of his people Ps 22:3. God often declares mercy through praises.

B. HOW TO SHOW GRATITUDE TO GOD.

The word GRATITUDE is derivable from two words: GRATEFUL and ATTITUDE meaning Grateful altitude or behavior. If you want to show gratitude to God, you need to openly appreciate him in the words of mouth – in words thanking him in expression of your heart and dancing before him for his goodness on you always and your family.

The second one is 'in deed' in action using your substance such as money or any other substance Ps 100:4 It is compulsory to give a substance to God, no matter how small. This will be a token of our appreciation. It is not good or advisable to appear, to come to the presence of God with nothing, empty handed. Don't wait till you are cajoled or appealed to, before you give unto God for all His greatness and grace upon your life.

You don't need to be tricked, maneuvered or cajoled before honoring God with your substance Pro 3 : 9 – 10

Showing gratitude is also in two categories.

1. Open demonstration of God's goodness in the church

where you can testify with pledges redeemed or thanks giving offering.

2. Secret demonstration where only your substance or object of thanks giving is seen without telling the reason or purpose of you thanks giving. You just bring the money or a useful item to the church. This can be demonstrated in the following ways:

- **Monetary** – cash, cheque, transfer of money. You can confide in the Overseeing Pastor of the Church.

- **Food items** for the households of God, the poor and needies, widows etc.

Any time you are called for family, individual or group or sectional thanks giving, see it as rare opportunity because the dead cannot do this again. Ps 115:17 – 18.

Make your thanks giving with whole-hearted and acceptable in the spirit of Abel Gen 4:4. Let our attitude to thanks giving change henceforth as you give your best offering to God.

May God help us.

C. WHO TO APPRECIATE

Only God is worthy of all praises, thanks giving and glory. No one can deprive, struggle or rob Him of this. Rev 4:11. Appreciate Him always with holy heart and with all your heart.

If any man has done you good, you will appreciate him or her and also appreciate God for touching his heart to favor you. John 3:27 says “And John answered him saying, no man can receive anything except it is giving him from God. It means that before you receive favour from human being, God would have prepared it but will touch the heart of another man through whom you will receive the favor. This is a major reason to appreciate God and the man used by God to bring it to fulfillment. Don’t be an ingrate, a thankless.

As you except the expression, THANK YOU from your children so also God is expecting the same from you.

Put on the heart of appreciation to God always. God has done great things. Also, Jesus our Savior has laid down His life for us. He has done a great work for our salvation. So in effect appreciate the Father, son and Holy Spirit. The Trinity has been gracious to us and so appreciates the triune God. Be a grateful child to God.

LESSON DERIVED

The main discuss of the lesson is to be appreciative to God on our lives. Each passing day He bestows us His goodness. His goodness is uncountable and unquantifiable. He protects us with our family and witnesses another year safely. Have you appreciated Him? Or you think it is duty and must do it. But bear in mind that of He does not do it, no one can arrest Him.

But God is good and never fails on His duties and promises on us. APPRECIATE HIM.

QUESTION

1. Is there a time to be thankful?
2. How can we appreciate God?
3. What benefit resides in thanksgiving?
4. Do you always appreciate?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Oh Lord, thank you for creating me in your image and preserving me.

LESSON TWO

TOPIC: ABOUNDING (INCREASING) IN THE LORD

TEXTURE SOURCE: I COR 15 – 58:

MEMORY VERSE: 1 COR 15;58- *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work by the Lord for as much as you know that your works in the Lord are not in vain.*

INTRODUCTION

Today's lesson is based on the topic that we should abound, increase in the Lord. We shall examine to increase in God as how we can increase. Also we shall examine both spiritual and physical increase.

A. INCREASING IN THE LORD

What does it mean to increase in God? This refers to spiritual increase in the Lord. This means being steadfast, unmoved able in faith we have in God and progress in the works of our service.

This trend was noticed in the life of Abraham who is dubbed today? FATHER OF FAITH. He had moved with God for long yet childless. At a point, he challenged God that, you denied me of a child. God's response to him was "Walk before me and be perfect" – meaning "Be increasing in me" The word, "to increase" also means "Running over" in spirit so as to be steadfast in the Lord always, constantly.

Inability of Abraham to have child on time made him to make mistake of going (impregnating) into his wife's maid, Hagar. That was the cause of God tells him to walk before Him and be perfect Gen 15:2-3. When Abraham stopped complaining to God and strengthen his faith in God, God gave him a promised child, Isaac. Gen 21:1-3.

Why are you complaining to God? What challenge are you facing? What problem is confronting you? Instead of complaining, increase in the Lord. Stand firm, steadfast constantly in Him and He will answer your prayer. He answered Abraham's prayers after warning him to walk and be perfect. Abraham received mercy at the ripe (Old) age when a covenant child, Isaac was given to him at one hundred years (100) of age Gen 21:5. Those clearly shows that nothing is impossible for God Jer 32:17, Lk 1:35.

The children of Israel murmured against God and scores in them lost their lives in the wilderness Num 16:1-10. Stop murmuring or complaining against God when in trouble or facing challenges, rather, (instead) give thanks and tell your heart desire to God. Increase in the Lord and endure your spiritual development daily. Don't allow your spiritual fire to quench. It is only when your spiritual fire is kindled and fervent that you can increase in the Lord and will be able to stand and remain steadfast before him.

B. THE TRIAL OF ABRAHAM

Abraham the father of faith passed through his own trial. God tested and tried him whether or not he will continue to increase and grow in Him and he passed test when he was to sacrifice Isaac. God provided a substitute in a ram caught in thicket Gen 22. What is your own trial that is weakening your faith? Increase more in God always and answers to your prayer will come soon.

Abraham passed the test by his faith in God and increasingly growing God with his steadfastness before Him till God was merciful unto him.

Always increase in God. John 3:30.

C. HOW TO INCREASE IN GOD

The way to increase in God was been exemplified in own memory scripture.

1. “Therefore my beloved brethren be steadfast, immovable”. Being steadfast and immovable means that you should not have another God where you go to stand before it apart from the Almighty God. You might stand with determination and faith resounding.
2. Furthermore, the verse says that, always abounding in the work of the Lord”. How can we abound in the work of the Lord always? By our spiritual growth. For example, cleaning of the sanctuary of God, the church, gifting the ministers of God (Pastors, Evangelist etc), Putting down our substances to God, by giving to the poor and the widow etc. By fulfilling own obligations such as tithe and offering. All these are essential for all believers in order to increase in the Lord.

If we continue in doing these in the presence of God he will increase us physically and in God. Increase physically talks of blessings in abundance and your glory becomes global. The physical blessings are the reward, the result and the outcome of spiritual increase. This was the reward of Abraham from God when he did not deny God of his only begotten son to offer him

a sacrifice Gen 22:16-17. God made Abraham a blessed man, and we are also enjoying part of his blessing even today. His children are innumerable; they are like sand by the sea shore, just as God promised him. God's promises are fulfilled in his life.

Be sure you are increasing in the Lord and in the spirit. Stand firm, steadfast in God in this New Year. This will help us to increase both spiritually and physically and be up and doing in your services to God. Don't allow sin to disturb your increase in God.

Desist from sin!

D. Job is an example of person who increased in the Lord always. No wonder God Himself vouch for him before Satan that he will not deny him.

Job was holy before God.

The Bible mentioned four major attributes about him:

1. A perfect man
2. He was upright
3. He feared the Lord
4. He shunned (eschewed) evil.

What attribute can God say about you?

The Bible also added that Job often called his children to make sacrifice and sanctify them peradventure, (probably) any of them might have sinned Job 1:1-5. These attitude of Job paved ways to be increased in the Lord. Despite his trials, he did not deny God or murmured at Him. God returned Job's captivity in double Job 42:10

LESSONS DERIVED

Ensure you increase in the Lord always which can make you to be blessed here on earth and all eyes will see the glory of God in your life. Job was example of a man that increases both physically and spiritually likewise, Abraham, Joseph etc. May God help us.

QUESTIONS

1. How can we increase in the Lord?
2. How do you understand “to increase in Lord”?
3. What lessons can we learn from the life of Job?
4. What does the memory verse teach us?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: LORD! Grant me the grace to work perfectly before you.

LESSON THREE

TOPIC: WAYS OF BECOMING BLESSED OF GOD

TEXTUAL SOURCES: GEN.22:1-13

MEMORY SCRIPTURE: GEN.22:2 *“And He said unto him, Take your only son whom you love and go to the land of Moria and offer him as a burnt offering on a mountain I will tell you of.”*

INTRODUCTION

We have thoroughly delved into being blessed by God. We have itemized their characteristic; we have differentiated between divine blessing and worldly wealth of riches.

Today, we want to study the different ways to have the blessing of God. We said it last week about Abraham. We are still on the study of Abraham and we shall occupy ourselves on other things he did that earned him God swearing by Himself to him.

A. GOD TESTED ABRAHAM

God tested Abraham at a high frequency. He called him to take Isaac, his only son born after twenty –five years of his following God. Gen. 22:1-3. But surprisingly, the passage said that Abraham rose up early in the morning, saddled his ass, and took two of his male servants. Abraham bundled the firewood on Isaac his son and also took fire along with a knife. What a great test! This test has also come our way at the beginning of the year. The Lord is requesting the reward of your first labor that belongs to Him. Exo. 22:29. The Lord made it a must for us to pay our FIRST FRUIT. He said we must not be slow about it.

“You must not slack or slow in bringing your harvest and your wine, the male firstborn of your children you must give unto me” This is the Lord’s message.

But today, your son is not required because your faith cannot carry that to give up your child but your money will be used. If it was in the rural area, farm harvests are to be brought by farmers, the best of it but many are into white-collar jobs, many are into trading. The first month’s salary or money belongs to God, not ours.

If anybody can succeed in this test, he will be blessed like Abraham. God will make us blessed and bless us with the same blessing of Abraham in Jesus name’ name [Amen]. Gen. 22:15-18.

The way to be blessed is to obey the voice of the Lord. This test of Abraham was of great magnitude. Should God demand your firstborn, will you oblige? Firstborn is no longer in vogue, rather a quantifiable thing. This was also done in the Bible, money to replace firstborn. Num. 18:5-16.

B. PAY YOUR FIRST FRUIT

Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you and pay your first fruit as at when due. A gullible person won't pay appropriately. This was the pitfall of Cain when he made a sacrifice to the Lord. His sacrifice was not accepted but that of his younger brother was accepted by God. Consequently, he killed his brother Abel. Gen. 4:1-8.

The first fruit is a sacrifice to the Lord. It is compulsory and pleasant to the Lord. The shepherd may not know the worth of your labor but the Lord knows it. He is omniscient.

God, Himself used His firstborn, Jesus as a sacrifice for the world. God said who will I send? Or who will go for me? Jesus responded, Here I am, send me. Isaiah 6:8-9.

It was the grace of Jesus coming to the world that abolished the use of firstborns as sacrifices. Jesus has paid it all for the world. So with this, we must not deny God of our first sacrifice at the beginning of the year to make the year a fruitful one. Ex. 23:18-20.

C. Another way of becoming divinely blessed is to pay our tithes fully to avoid the curse placed on the defaulter in the book of Malachi, Mal. 3:8-9, we shall not be cursed in Jesus' name. Another way is to help the needy, widows, destitute and orphans by doing this, we shall be divinely blessed.

Every time, give offering to God in all the services. Look at the church and fix anything that is lacking there without being told. By doing so, you will be getting divine inspiration. Jesus said I know my people and my people know me.

Are you one of His? John 10:14. Does that Good Shepherd know you? This is a great test for you at the beginning of the year, will you pass it? The ball is in your court!

LESSON DERIVED

We have studied about being blessed by God and the only path to achieve this is OBEDIENCE.1Sam.15:22.

And Samuel said, to obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fats of ram. Let us be attentive to divine instructions. It was a command from the Lord to bring our first fruits at the beginning of the year. It belongs to the Lord. We must not be stubborn so we can receive the blessing. We will not labor in vain and eat the bread of sorrow.Ps.127:2.

Keep God's commandment and become blessed by God. Flee from sin that is easily besetting. Heb.12:1-2. The Bible says that no sinner will behold the glory of God. God promised to bless Abraham and make him a great nation. The same blessing is awaiting us too. But let us be perfect before Him and it will be well with us. We shall not overwork ourselves before being blessed this year.

QUESTIONS:

1. What does God request from you this year?
2. What text did God apply to Abraham?
3. How can we pass the text?
4. What gives the first fruit to the world?

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Oh Lord, grant me the grace to succeed like Abraham.

LESSON FOUR

TOPIC: IF YOU DILIGENTLY HEARKEN TO YOUR LORD'S VOICE

TEXTUAL SOURCE: DEUT 28:1-14

MEMORY VERSE: DEUT 28:1 *“And it shall come to pass if you shall diligently hearken [listen] unto the voice of the Lord your God to observe and do His commandment which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you on high above all nations of the earth.”*

INTRODUCTION

Our study today is about diligently listening to the voice of the Lord, implying that God has something specific to instruct us which we must listen to. Not only that, we must apply it. The Lord said that if we listen diligently and keep His commandments, all the itemized blessings will be ours.

A. WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE OF US?

B. COMMANDMENTS, PRECEPTS, AND AUTHORITY: DEUT 6:1-7

C. COMMANDMENTS:

The Lord wants us to keep His commandments. Laws and commandments are given by God for the purpose of keeping them, just as He instructed the children of Israel in those days. Ex.20:1-17, all the commandments stated here must be kept and practiced.

In the New Testament, Jesus gave us grace and summarized the laws into two only. Matt 2:36-40. This is true. However, the commandments given to Moses are also important to us because whoever steal or murder or have other gods have committed sin. For this reason, we must keep all the laws. He commanded us to keep the Sabbath day holy and do no work on it. Do you keep this law? These are what God said we should diligently listen to.

1. We must not have any other God except Him.
2. We must not have a graven image.

3. We must not worship idols or serve them. Those of you who are into Witchcraft, sorcery, or secret societies remember God said you should not worship them.
4. You must not call the name of God in vain.
5. Remember the Sabbath day to keep holy. You that come to service once in a month, make amends.
6. Honor your father and your mother so that your days may be long in the land that your God has given you.
7. You shall not kill
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not bear false witness to your neighbor
10. You shall not cover your neighbors' wife, house, or anything. These are the commandments God wants us to know and observe.

2. PRECEPTS: His precepts, furthermore is to accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. It is by this alone we can be saved. John 10:9, John 11:25-26, Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and life, whosoever believeth in me, though dead will live.

The only way to get to God is through Jesus the Savior. Accept Him as your Savior. John 14:6.

What the Lord is saying, in essence, is that Jesus is the way, the truth, and life. No one can get to the father but by Him. We must enter through Him. John 10:9.

3. COMMAND:

The Lord commanded us to do certain things in this journey of our faith.

A. TITHE: The Lord commanded us to bring our tithe to the house of the Lord. This is not from man rather the Lord Himself commanded it to be paid. Mal.10-11.

It is God's command but do we really pay it? Or are you gullible enough to eat both gall and meat together? We shall not be objects of curse Mal. 3:9. Don't rob God any longer. Pay your tithe to God.

B. OFFERING: The Lord demands offering from you, the scripture says "God delights in a cheerful giver" meaning we should give offerings to God with a joyous heart.

The Bible says that if you have a misunderstanding with anyone, first go and settle with him or her before coming to the presence of God to drop your money. The Lord commanded us to help the needy. Let us learn to help.

C. FIRST-FRUIT: God commanded us in the Old Testament to pay first fruit that is the gain of our first job at the beginning of the year. It belongs to the Lord and not ours. Don't eat gall with the meat EXO.23:19.

The first fruit of your yield you shall bring to the house of your Lord". Don't delay doing it. God Himself used His son as the first fruit for the world. God demanded. The first fruit, son of Abraham and he did not deny God Gen.22:6-7. Will you deny God of your fruit? It is left to you. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you right to pay as at when due appropriately.

D. THE ATTENDANT PROMISES FOR THOSE WHO OBEY THE VOICE OF THE GOD

1. Some promises were made for those who obey God in our textual source, Deut 28:1-14. God said that all the blessings will come upon you if you can diligently listen to the voice of the Lord.
2. The Lord said that we shall be blessed in the city and also in the field.
3. Blessed is the child (ren) of our womb and our basket and for the bowl of our flour.
4. He said that you shall be blessed when you are at home and blessed when you go out.
5. He said that He will smite the enemy that rises against you.

6. The Lord will command the blessing upon you in your ban and everything you lay your hands upon.
7. The Lord said that He will establish a holy people...etc. The promises are much made by God for us to keep His precepts and command. We can't exhaust them all in this booklet.

E. THE PROMISE MADE BY GOD FOR PAYING FIRST FRUIT

Exo. 23:19-22. The Lord made covenants to us if we pay our first fruits.

1. The Lord said that He will send His Angels ahead of us throughout this year and take us to where he has prepared for us.
2. The Lord said that if we obey Him and do as He said, He will be an enemy to our enemies.
3. The Lord said that He will afflict those who afflict us.

There are the promises of God for those who pay first fruits appropriately. I, therefore, implore, admonish, encourage and plead with us to pay it for the Lord so as to get to our promised land this year. We shall surely get there in Jesus' name.

QUESTIONS:

1. What are the commandments of God for us?
2. What are those things God expected from us?
3. Mention the promises of God for us?
4. Is first fruit compulsory to pay?

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Oh Lord, help me to fulfill all your commandments.

LESSON FIVE

TOPIC: NO CROSS, NO CROWN

TEXTUAL SOURCE: MATT 16:21-28

MEMORY VERSE: MATT 16:24: *Then Jesus said to His disciples, if any man will come after me (follow), let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.*

INTRODUCTION

Our today's lesson is telling us that, No cross, No crown – without the cross, there will be no crown.

What is cross? Cross means enduring trials or pains taking bear challenges in Christ Jesus. So, the lesson is teaching us that we must but endure trials and challenges on the way of faith, the way of salvation before we can be crowned at the end in Christ's kingdom.

A. DENYING ONESELF

Denying oneself in a way of carrying the cross of Christ, this is contained in our memory verse as Jesus told the disciples. Then He said unto them if anyone wants to follow me, he must deny himself and carry his cross and follow me”.

Denying oneself or self denial means a lot on things.

1. It implies long suffering
2. It connotes enduring challenges, troubles
3. It means forsaking sins
4. It implies forsaking worldliness that can cause us to stumble. Eph. 5 : 3–5. (Please Read)

Self denial will take from us certain unholy pre-salvation characters and habits II Cor. 5:17, Eph 4:21.

Once we deny ourselves and become new creature, this implies that we have taken our cross. It is only then we can obtain the crown of life which has been prepared for the victors? The conquerors Rev 3:11-12.

B. JESUS WAS CROWNED AFTER TAKING THE CROSS

Jesus is the Lord of Lords and King of Kings. After taking the cross, His Father gave Him a name that is above all names and gave Him Eternal glory Phil. 2:9-11. Jesus obtained this great glory after enduring the crisis of the cross.

In our textual source Matt 16:21-22, Jesus had fore-knowledge (pre-knowledge) of what He will pass through and how He will die and ultimately rise up the third day.

This is what he was describing for His disciples. It was then Peter rebuked him that, No way Lord, it shall be so with you. The Bible says that, Jesus turn and told peter that, 'Get behind me Satan; you are but a stumbling block for me.

Peter spoke out of flesh, for trying to stop Jesus because human begin love pleasure. But Jesus told him to get behind him, Satan. it was Satan that possessed peter here to try to stop Jesus. Jesus who knew all things called him Satan to get back from Him.

Jesus knew that Satan had adopted the same tactics for him earlier in Matt 4: 8-10 where he took Jesus to the high mountain that he should look at the whole world. He told Jesus that if only he could bow to worship him, he will give him all these things but Jesus, knowing his trick said, Get behind me Satan.

The same Satan is the one hindering people from carrying Jesus cross these days. He often deceives them with pleasant things. The same Satan is the one giving them watered-down Christian life which make people mingle with sin, worldly pleasure and self-willed. He is the one that does not allow people to keep God's commandment but worldly pleasure he put in them.

All the commandments – you shall not commit fornication, steal e.t.c Exo. 20: 1-17- it is Satan that does not allow people to obey them so as to lead and take them to hell. Satan had watered-down the teaching of self denial and self dedication and suffering for Christ. He had misled many people John 16:33, Philippians 1:29, Pet 5: 10
Any one that wants to enter into Christ kingdom must deny himself and suffer with Christ. Don't allow Satan deceive you and take you to hell.

Jesus carried his cross, despite how heavy and was rewarded with a crown in his life at the end
And God has highly exalted him.

C. The truth is that without the cross, there won't be crown. Jesus said it repeatedly that no one can be his follower without denying himself from the pleasures in this world and focus on him alone. Let us carry our crosses and follow him in an uncomfortable path which is narrow, to his kingdom Matt 16:24

You must and need to take one. You cannot avoid cross and expect crown. If you want to deliver your soul, you must carry the cross. If you are trying to avoid hardship that is related to getting to heaven Christ's Kingdom, you will miss Eternity Matt 16: 25

I want you to understand that eternal life with Christ in his kingdom worth laying down your life with all what you acquire in life. Don't run away from these responsibilities because these won't be a crown without the cross

You must carry your cross before you receive a crown. What sin do you romance with ? Is it fornication or adultery or anger or drunkenness or unforgiveness? The Bible says that such things must not be mentioned among you again Ephs 5: 3-6
In as much as we are regenerated, let us walk worthy of the calling and be examples of God as dear children

LESSON DERIVED

The main lesson of this study is to deny ourselves and forsake all the old ways. We should put off the old nature and be regenerated in our inner man. It is then we can carry the cross Eph 4: 21-24

Let us avoid all forms of sin so that we can receive the crown of life in Christ's Kingdom. Taking the cross is enduring problems, persecutions and denials from sin. This is what Jesus requires of us.

It is our prayer that Jesus will give us the grace to carry the cross and receive crown of life at the end.

But no sinner can receive crown

QUESTIONS

1. What type of cross did Jesus carry?
2. Why did Jesus carry the cross?
3. Is it easy to carry cross?
4. Who can carry cross?
5. How can we deny ourselves?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord, grant me the grace to carry your cross without looking back.

LESSON SIX

TOPIC: GRACE FOR OUR LIVING.

TEXTUAL SOURCE: II COR. 12:1-10

MEMORY VERSE: II COR. 12:9 *“And He said into me, my grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. NKJV*

INTRODUCTION

The study of today is about the Grace for our living. We need Grace for our living and to journey in this faith.

Grace is essential for the followers of Christ to succeed in this journey of Faith, to have Grace is the spirit to keep going and endure afflictions and succeed.

Grace is beyond the ordinary or visible like blessings.

A. WE NEED GRACE FOR OUR LIVING.

We need Grace to live our Christian lives and be successful. It is not easy to live a successful Christian life without the Grace of God. We will start living a pleasuring life unto God despite the challenges we may find ourselves.

A Christian, brother or sister, who lives his or her life for God when things were rosy alone, lacks Grace for his or her life. We receive Grace to stand on the truth when one is facing great challenges in life such as hardship or unavoidable occurrences in the spiritual journey. Many spiritual giants have fallen from the journey when the journey was hard for them to beat due to lack of grace that could help them stand and keep them on the way.

B. SAUL AND JONATHAN

Let us examine Saul and Jonathan his son as they died same day. David made a great mourning for them because Saul was an anointed of God, and Jonathan was David's dearest friend whose love exceeds the love between a man and a woman. II Sam 1:26. David groaned bitterly when he read of death of the father and son and made this great confession II Sam 1:27 – How

are the mighty fallen and implement of war perish. People lack grace these days. Grace is needed to succeed in all things. To endure trials, it requires grace. Anybody that lacks grace will fail in the battle. In the name of the Lord, we shall not perish at the battle (Amen). For all the years we shall spend on earth, we need grace.

May God give us His Grace. Amen.

C. PAULS INFIRMITY

When Paul the apostle was going through pains and discomfort in his body, he prayed to God three consecutive times for the removal of the discomfort and pains but God replied him that, “my grace is sufficient for you”

The word “Grace” here is beyond favour God divine favour or unvented favour but rather a force or power endowment and impacted spirit to stand, to endure hardship pains or discomfort as earlier said.

It is this grace that will give us the spirit to endure when time of discomfort and pain comes.

It was this grace that Jesus obtained when His pain was too much on the cross that made Him to seek permission to allow the cup pass over Him but immediately he said again that, yours will be done.

D. ATTRIBUTE OF GRACE

1. It gives power of enablement to endure afflictions and hardship. It is only this that can make us succeed.
2. It gives boldness to withstand the evil deeds
3. Grace is the force that helps us to stand to serve God whether it is convenient or not.
4. Grace allows us to deny ourselves or mortify the body and keep holy even as the presence of temper.
5. Grace enables us live godly Christian life as many as lack the grace are immersed in sin by Satan.
6. Finally it is this grace that empowers us to overcome Satan and his cohorts when he comes with his tactics and deceits.

E. Paul saw that he prayed three times to God to take the thorn in his life away but God refuse to take it away. God's response to him is that "my grace is sufficient for you, meaning that the pains and discomfort that Paul was experiencing or going through will not take his life neither will it cause him to slip off from the journey of faith. That was the reason God responded to him that way.

Brethren, because of the grace that was sufficient for Paul, He was able to say "Therefore I take pleasure infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake. For when I am weak then I am strong. II Cor. 12:10

My dear Brethren, We need his grace which can help us through this journey successfully. With all the thorns that Paul bore in his body, he carried his cross without looking back and the grace was with him which gave him the perfect power in his infirmities according to our memory verse.

You need also to ask for the grace if you wish to move forward when things are hard or when comfortable ask for grace from God and he will give us. Peter did not receive this grace initially so he denied Jesus, he returned back to the river to fish after Jesus. Resurrection and throughout the night he caught nothing until Jesus came and told him to launch into the deep Luk 5.

Peter eventually got this force when he received the baptizing by Holy Spirit. Act 2:1-4, 14-17.

LESSON DERIVED

In this lesson we are asked to learn that it is only through grace we can succeed in this way of salvation. It is the grace that can help us to stand firm without misbehaving. It is the grace that can help us to carry our cross without looking back.

This is what was lacking in the life of Judas is can of that made him betrayed Christ savior

It is my prayer that is grace will be sufficient for us and will not misbehave in Jesus name Amen.

QUESTION

1. How do you understand grace?
2. What thorn was Paul bearing?
3. Why did God not removed/take away the thorn?
4. What are the works in faith in our lives?
5. Why do we need His grace?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord, grant me your grace to succeed in this Christianity journey.

LESSON SEVEN

TOPIC: THORN IN THE FLESH

TEXTUAL SOURCE: II COR. 12:7-10

MEMORY VERSE: II COR 12:7 *“And I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the message of Satan to buffet me, leat I should be exalted above measure” KJV*

INTRODUCTION

Today, we want to study about thorn in the flesh.

What is thorn? Literally, thorn is a point-edged object that springs out of plants, forest and other shrubs.

Also, thorn is an unpleasant situation in human’s life.

A. THORN IN THE FLESH.

Having thorn in the flesh is an unimaginable experience. It is an unwelcome stranger because of the attendant pains in the body. Until the thorn is fished out from its hiding place before peace and comfort could be restored to the body. Whatever form of sickness in your life is a thorn but I want you to know that the power of God is sufficient to take it out.

Today, Holy Spirit is teaching us about invisible thorns. Visible thorns can be easily removed once it is located and identified in the body. But to remove spiritual thorn is harder and more tedious to do

In our textual source, Apostle Paul narrated his depression, as human being because of the flesh in his body. However, the bible is silent about the type or form of thorn or problem in Paul's life. Paul confessed having prayed for three consecutive times to God to remove it but God saw something different, my grace is sufficient to you my strength is made perfect in infirmities. "II COR 12:9

In the same vein, God is telling us to know the reason for allowing the thorn in our body. The bible says that the thorn was there to humble him so that he will not boast more than measure, necessary because of his many revelations II COR 12:7

Our God is not wicked not to have answered our prayers. But there is a particular reason that he refuse Paul's supplications and entreatment to remove the thorn Isaiah 59: 1. He has finally told him the reason that for him not to boast beyond measure as we knew him (Paul) to be a troublesome person before his encounter with the Lord.

Naturally, a thorn in a particular part of our body can limit to what extent we can make the of that body part, meaning that God can allow some incident to humble us.

B. God allowed His beloved Israel to have wilderness experience so as to teach them humility Dent 8: 1- 5

Thorn in the flesh is of different categories, measurement and functions.

These are some unpleasant situations such as childlessness/barrenness, sickness, and various challenges which we face from time to time. All these has nothing to do whether you a minister of God. Nobody is exempted as the scriptures never promise us to battle – for life but rather encourages us to be of good cheers, He has conquered the world John 16:33 . If any man has a thorn like this, the best thing is to be looking unto Jesus to lead and attend to his case. He alone can surprises, surmount the battle.

Some battle may originate from Satan to afflict, humiliate us Amos 3:6: I cor. 10:13, Rom 2:28. God is ever potent to dismantle and form of battle He wishes. And the ones He is not willing to do will remain there as no one can arrest him. He said that, I sit in heaven doing what please me. Paul prayed to Him three consecutive times yet the thorn was not removed.

In the name of the Lord, may we always meet with His favour as mercy in Jesus name. Amen Lam 3:38.

C. CAUSES OF THORNS

1. Sin can cause thorns in our lives through lost of the flesh Jas 1:13 – 15
2. Another source is from God for a specific reason and purpose.

This was example of Paul's life when God put it there to refrain him from being boastful because of his many revelations II cor. 12: 7

Living examples are great ministers of God who are blind despite their great anointing for signs and wonders. This situation is for a specific purpose, may be one to hinder them from falling into error of sin. God works in a miraculous ways. He sure had the power to open their eyes but prefer to leave it so.

3. Satan and the enemy can cause thorn in people's lives especially those without Christ fully Job 1:12- 18.

D. If you have a thorn in your body, seek God's intervention to remove it. No problem is beyond His power LK 1:37, Jer 33:3

If you call on God you will have enough grace to pull down the problem. We cannot escape thorn in our ways in life in one way or the other, e.g. sickness, either on the children or husband or wife, which may be a cross to bear. God has the power to remove the thorn if you can surrender your life to Him and forsake your sins. It is quite possible for children of God to receive favor to overcome our thorns.

E. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF GOD'S DIVINE INTERVENTION

1. NAMAAN: God healed Namaan's leprosy even with his Luke-warm faith.
2. Hannah: God removed Hannah's thorns and she bore children
4. Abraham and Sarah his wife bore children even at their old age.
5. Jabez' thorn was removed by God and his prayers were granted.
4. The man born blind was healed by God
5. The lame man at the beautiful gate of the temple was healed. Etc.

Likewise, God has the power to remove our problems. Just move closer to him and be far from sin and He will be merciful with us.

LESSON DERIVED

Nobody is above or without a thorn but in different sizes and form. Jesus did not promise us a battle free life. He Himself carried His own cross but he overcame it.

How are we different? But Christ has won the battle for all children of God. I cor. 10:13

May God remove all our thorns in Jesus name. Amen.

QUESTION

1. What do you understand by “thorn”?
2. Can we do without having a thorn?
3. Does God know all the thorns in our lives?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Oh Lord, burn off all the thorns in the flesh of all members of household in Jesus Name.

LESSON EIGHT

TOPIC: THE WORST ENEMY IS THE INTERNAL HOUSEHOLD ENEMY

TEXTUAL SOURCE JUDGES 16:4 – 21

MEMORY VERSE: MAT 10:36 *“Man’s enemies are the people of his house hold”*

INTRODUCTION

Today’s lesson is about the house hold enemy being the worse type of enemy. A Yoruba adage says that unless a wall cracks, lizard will not have access in to it. Be sure of this that our household neighbors are our enemies, vouch for yourself and trust nobody.

A. DELILAH WAS HER HUSBAND’S, (SAMSON) ENEMY.

Samson was in love with Delilah as a wife not knowing that she was his enemy. The bible asks this question, can two walk together except they agreed to eat, be friends etc. meaning that without being together in the soul and spirit.

The answer to this question is that four, six or more people may walk together without being friendly or united Amos 3:3

At some times, those who hate you or opposes you must may be closer to you and reveal themselves as your best friend when, in actual fact, they are enemies. No wonder the scripture says that, man's enemies are the men of his own house" Micah 7:6.

The Yoruba elders often say that, the internal thief is the one to open door for the external thief. May God deliver us from household enemies. This was what happened to Samson when his wife, Delilah united with the enemies to come and arrest him after knowing the secret of his power.

The story of Samson and his wife clearly explain it to us that the enemies within are worse than enemies without their story depicts high level of betrayal from trusted people. This could be seen in own textual source. The betrayal was obvious immediately she knew Samson's source of power, she united the philistines, his arch enemies to come and arrest him.

I want you to realize that, it is easier for someone who has adequate information about you to pull you down or lift you up. Be mindful about who you will divulge your life information to and be careful not to give out your vital information to anyone at all Micah 7:5.

The Bible says that "Trust no friend, don't put your confidence in a guide: keep the door of your mouth shut from her that lies in you bosom "Micah 7:5. Also Jeremiah 9:4 reads.

Samson did not shut the door of his mouth from her that slept in his bosom. He told her all the secret not knowing that she was devilish, a death trap. To what extent did you know your neighbor has spread your secret? How far did you know the information of your life has gone? May God deliver us.

It is only God we can wholly trust, not human beings, Jeremiah 9:4 tells us to be careful of man because his heart is only full of deceit.

B. Many great men and women that would not have fallen prey to the enemies had been caught and ruined through women and men who are Satan impersonated in their household.

Don't ever trust anyone that he cannot betray you – husband, wife, children, family, friends, neighbors, co-workers etc. They can betray you big time and anytime!

Jer 17:5. We have heard of a child that united thieves to invade his parents because of huge money they brought home. We have heard of driver that united thief to rob his boss and burn the entire family. We have heard of husband killing his wife and vice versa because of properties to inherit.

Therefore, be very careful and take caution about what to say, where to say it and how to say it in the public, vehicle or gathering. Be careful of what to say. May God keep us safe in Jesus name.

C. HOW TO ESCAPE HAVING ENEMIES

This topic up here is asking how we can do without having enemies. But unfortunately there is no way we can do without having. For example, even if you give them money, it is another bucket of problem. They can even use the money to harm you. If you refuse to give them you are creating another problem. They will accuse you of turning a deaf ear when they approach you for a favour. May God deliver us from them.

If you try to avoid them and go peacefully your way, they will see it as pride. How can we please the world? That is the reason it seems practically impossible not to create enemy. Jesus our savior had enemies especially his disciple that betrayed Him. You cannot do without having envious enemies.

Those who turn to be our enemies, we may not have offended them at all. The following signs can be noticed in them:

1. The spirit of Envy. It was due to envy as jealousy that Saul became a sworn enemy of David. I Sam 18:5 – 9
2. The spirit of jealousy
3. The spirit of pride
4. The spirit of hatred and greed for position.

D. It is only God we should trust. Be strong in the Lord and live a consecrated life. Be watchful because without the enemy within the enemy without is powerless.

Do everything according to Divine directives and dwell in Christ Jesus all the time. Avoid sin and keep God's precepts. If after all there, the enemies still find it comfortable to attack you, then Christ Jesus will consume them with his fire. Rom 8:31

No place is safe – work place, even community where you don't have direct relationship, the church etc. all filled with enemies but their entrance is always through the enemy within.

By God's grace, no one shall be a stepping stone for them with our lives in Jesus name. Trust only in God only Him cannot be bewitched. He is no respecter of anyone and will never lie or betray. The Yoruba believers that to gang up against you does not necessarily mean you are bad. May God deliver us.

E. AIMS OF THE ENEMY

The sub-topic here wants to tell us about the aims of the enemies. The only aim of the enemy is to waste lives like being in a serious sickness or bondage. But for someone who has Christ, enemies will always fail as his plans will befall him. This is the reason you need the power of God to overcome the enemy. We shall overcome in Jesus name. Amen. Jesus overcame his enemies and conquered death and took the key of hell from death and rose the third day.

Ask for the power of God to overcome the enemies both internal and external Eph 6:10 – 13.

The Bible says that the wages of sin is death. The reward and ways of enemy shall be death and they will not prevent on the saints. Even if they succeed in killing a victim, the enemy will not be able to inherit anything from the family.

LESSON DERIVED

Internal enemy is the worse. Don't think that you have no enemy in your family. Trust only yourself and God. Be careful of human beings. Human beings are worse off. Man's enemies are the people of his own house. If you are rich don't think that will not make you have enemies among your families. Don't think they are happy with it. It was Jesus disciple that betrayed Him Matt 26:49. Delilah landed her husband Samson to his enemies. Apply the lesson as read in the Bible. Don't expose your secret every time anytime and all the time. May the Lord help us.

QUESTION

1. How do you understand the memory verse?
2. Why did Delilah betrayed Samson to his enemies?
3. How can we do without having enemies?
4. What can attract enemies to rise up?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Oh Lord! Give me the spirit of discernment anywhere I am.

LESSON 9

TOPIC: SATAN IS YET TO REPOSE

TEXTUAL SOURCE: I PETER 5:8-10

MEMORY VERSE: *“Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour”.* (RSV)

INTRODUCTION

Our topic for study today is about Satan not yet retreat. There was a Gospel singer who had said this is one of his songs, Satan yet to repose but believers do. Satan or devil has not rested. He is moving to and fro to cause the children of God to slide (slips) John 1:7. Satan can never rest neither children of God. We must always be on guard all the time.

A. SATAN IS YE TO RESPOSE/REST

Satan can never rest because he is out to populate hell his kingdom. That was the cause of his deceit on Adam and Eve, the first Creation, to cause them to slip from their lofty glory Gen 3:1 – 5

The most terrifying is the fact that Satan is thrown into the world to cause havoc Rev 12:9. Satan was thrown into the world after his failed attempt to raise his throne higher than that of God. Isa 14:12-14. That was his offence against God that made God sent him to the earth and since his coming to the world, he has been scheming the downfall of man, never man's good.

Satan will not desist from holy men; he will always be against them in order to take them to hell.

Brethren have you genuinely yielded your life to Christ Jesus? Be careful because Satan never reposes. Rather, he is looking for whom to devour. Be filled with Holy Spirit which will help you to be a dread to Satan to pursue and catch up with. When you have the name above all names, it will make you become a dread as devil cannot withstand the name ye, he will want to peep, tip-toe to snatch you to himself. But you should not yield his plow. Don't commit sin because he is still hoping to make you slip off I Pet 5:8.

B. No Christian has ever reached a height above Satan to catch up with and slip off . Don't rest on your oas as a pastor or Deacon/Deaconess or Evangelist or Prophet etc. Don't think that you are above one who can fall. No one is beyond his trap.

If a forty days and night long fasting of Jesus did not scare devil from tempting Him but still tempted Him more and more, who are you that Satan will stop pursuing you? Matt 4:1 – 7.

Everyday and time Satan will come to tempt you in order to cause you to fall in this way, but it is the power of Holy Spirit alone that can make is victorious. He is very near you all the time so; don't get weary in your spirit. Satan has not desisted from falling holy man down. This is the more reason you should be prayerful and watching I Pet 5:8 – 9

There is no height you attain that makes Satan to shiver so you must not be careless. In as much as he did not respect the position of God his Creator and planned to over ride His throne, how much less we mortals! He did not fear Jesus for. So, we need to guard own homes and stand against him and he will flee as the Bible says. It is Satan that endures the enemies that make them hate us unnecessarily.

C. KNOWING SATAN'S ANTICS AND TACTICS

Peter was devoid of Satan's tactics when Jesus warned him that Satan wanted to have, posses him, in order to shift him like grains. But Peter was busy puffing-up, boasting that, it will never be so, not knowing that Satan was not far from him to shift him like weeds. We thank God for Christ prayers for him Lk 22:31-34, 54 – 62.

So, be wary of his tactics so that he will not cheat us as this verse says II Cor. 2:11. Read. He cheated Adam and Eve, being a cunning person. He stole their glory. He tried the use the same tactics on Jesus after His long fasting but failed Matt 4:1 – 8

D. SATAN'S BAITS

1. **MONEY:** The Bible says that money is the root of all evil which is a tool for destruction that Satan is using on the world to these days.
2. **WOMEN:** Women are tools for Satan use as bait, especially those who covets. Women are good especially those in Christ with goodly homes. But we're referring to those who have submitted themselves to be used by devil, such as Delilah.
3. **WORLDLY POSSESSION:** All glittering worldly possessions are tools of destruction in the hands of Satan to draw people away from God I John 2:15 – 17. Don't allow wealth to make you fall. Don't love money than God. It is Satan that uses these things to make people fall as we can observe in the world today, human capitation, mutilation of body and dismembering human bodies because of love money.

Satan has his own plans, to take his own children to hell in his kingdom. We shall not be part of it in Jesus name. Satan is the prince of this world. Don't allow his property to be in your possession. John 14:30; John 12:31; Rev 20:10 Read. He will also end there in hell but don't allow him to take you along.

E. HOW TO OVERCOME SATAN

1. Having Jesus and keeping His commandment
2. By power of Holy spirit
3. Through the word of God with which Jesus overcame him
4. By the blood of the lamb. Rev 12:10-11

LESSON DERIVED

The main lesson of this study is that Satan does not repose. He pursues daily looking for whom to prey. It is we that must withstand and resist him. He tempted Jesus even after a fort days fasting. So, we are lessen to Jesus be filled with power of Holy Spirit and be on guard as he may come anytime to tempt us.

Also be filled with the scriptures. He even quoted the Bible for Jesus Matt 4:6 telling Him to jump from the temple pinnacle. Jesus replied him with quoted scriptures, IT IS

WRITTEN. So, be filled with word of God as you know that Satan is close by your side.

May the lord deliver us. Satan will not prevail against us in Jesus name

QUESTION

1. What is devil?
2. How can you overcome him?
3. What are his baits?
4. What temptation did Satan give Jesus?
5. How did Jesus overcome devil?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord give me the power to overcome devil.

LESSON 10

TOPIC: BELIEVERS' TREASURES.

TEXTUAL SOURCE: JOHN 16:7 – 15

MEMORY VERSE: I JOHN 2:20 *“But you have been appointed by the Holy One and you all know (RSV)*

INTRODUCTION

Today, we want to study about believers' treasures. What is Treasure? Treasure is a valuable and germane thing, dear to you, minerals of wealth or properly.

Believers also have treasure that must be possessed. The treasure is the HOLY SPIRIT; this will be our passport to heaven.

Who is the Holy Spirit and how does he look like? He is an unseen force but can manifest in form of a dove or Mighty Rushing Winds Matt 3:16, Act 2:7

This is how the bible explains Him.

A. THE TREASURE IS A MUST-HAVE FOR ALL BELIEVERS

The most valuable to possess in this world is to have the Holy Spirit. No amount of money can buy Him or any earthly treasure that can be compared with him in the life of believers. Our knowledge of him will help us to understand the benefit that believers have in Christ Jesus Lk 10:17 – 19.

Let us typify a life without the spirit of the living God, it is just like a vehicle without engine.

Jesus called the Holy Spirit Helpers that will make the disciple continue in their tasks. Jesus said that it is expedient, beneficial, for him to go because if he did not go, the comforter, the helper will not come.

Nothing so important you need now than Holy Spirit

B. WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The works Holy Spirit does in our lives is what we call Treasure and they are many. He helps us to understand mysteries John 14:26.
2. He is the comforter sent by Father to us. He comforts us all the time we are confused or face challenges.

3. He is the truth that came directly from the father to bless us and to help us enjoy all spiritual blessing given to us by father John 15 : 16 – 17.
4. He is our seal – the believers and also empowers us to do the impossible and unimaginable. Acts 10:38- through anointing
5. He is the spirit of grace that is not seen but an intimate and everlasting. He is our passport to heaven
6. He is our companion – the believers' co-traveler.
7. He gives us sound knowledge. Anyone who is endowed with Divine wisdom and knowledge is beyond a mediocre.
8. Through the anointing of the Holy spirit, we can be empowered both physically and spiritually / naturally.
9. Holy Spirit leaks deep secret-hidden deep secrets like a spy. This is especially used by men of God in their ministries I cor. 2: 9-13.
10. He mediates for us before the father just as Jesus is also a Mediator for us. He is our INTERMEDIARY.

For all items listed above, the Holy Spirit is a Great Treasure, a treasure we cannot do without, However, he does not live in sinners neither does he dwell in confusion.

He lives in holy lives not in dirtiness; do you have this Believers' treasure? Anyone still lacking the Holy Spirit is missing a lot. We cannot live over lives alone successfully without this Divine Helper Rom: 8 14- 16.

C. Holy Spirit is a mobile treasure that we take along daily. He will not depart from whoever has him at any time.

Once you are holy and you give your life to God, keeping his commandments, the Trinity-Father, Son and Holy Spirit will dwell in you and walk with you. None is above the other and none is different from the other. The three are one and same. Accept the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one blessed Trinity. John 14: 10, Matt: 3: 16

Be far from sin because Holy Spirit cannot cohabit with sin. He hates sin. To keep the treasure, you must avoid sin Holy Spirit is not friendly with sinner but angry with them Eph 4:30. Read. Let no corrupt language come from your mouth Eph 4:

29-31. These are what can let Him depart from you, Holy Spirit will depart from backshore who had been born again earlier but reneged in his following Christ. Read Heb 6: 4-6, 2Pet 2: 20-22

D. THE NEED FOR HOLY SPIRIT

1. The first need/reason is to make Christ's Kingdom Isa. 40:31
2. To live successfully in this world and escape the enemies bombardment.
3. To have the Helper that will guide us at night. Holy is the only one that makes us succeed.
4. To have power to overcome battles of life
5. To have a comforter in times of trouble as the bible says. John 16:33. Our conqueror is the Holy Spirit etc.

Holy Spirit is unavoidable as anyone without Him is living a wasted life as he will end in hell fire.

Paul the king had Holy Spirit before but provoked Him. He left him Sam 16:14, I chro 10:13 – 14.

It is the Holy Spirit that gives power to keep all commandment and precepts of God.

May God help us to receive the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is our perfect example. The moment you are baptized in water, we could not a dore symbolizing Holy Spirit on Him Matt 3:16 – 17. It is also important and compulsory for us too to receive the Holy Spirit. He is beyond description. We can be able to achieve our purpose on earth with the help of Holy Spirit. Through Him we can do all things Phil. 4:13. Be holy so as to have the Holy Spirit. And if you have received Him, don't allow His fire to quench I Tess 5:19.

LESSON DERIVED

In this lesson, it is established that all believers have special treasure which is compulsory for all – THE HOLY SPIRIT without the Holy Spirit, he cannot live with Christ, He cannot even come near Christ at all. Be holy as this study emphasizes.

No sinner can be holy. The surest way to receive Holy Spirit is to be far from sin and be holy while keeping all God's commandments.

Many believers have no Holy Spirit. Have you received Him?

Ask for Him.

QUESTION

1. What is believer's treasure?
2. How can we have the treasure?
3. What are the works of the treasure in us?
4. Can Holy Spirit be angry?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord! Grant me your Holy Spirit to succeed in this journey.

LESSON 11

TOPIC: TEST ALL SPIRITS

TEXTUAL SOURCE: ACTS 16: 16-24

MEMORY VERSE: I JOHN 4:1: *"Dear friends do not believe anyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many fake prophets in the world"* NLT. New Life Translation Bible.

INTRODUCTION

The study for this week is to test all spirits.

Last week, we were told that Holy Spirit is a treasure to all believers. Holy Spirit is the spirit of God that is pure and true. Any spirit contrary to this holy spirit of God are all Demons and unholy which must be tested in order to know how true they are and which spirit are we in conversation with. We must discern whether they are from God or not

A. TEST ALL SPIRITS

All spirit must be tested according to the word of God and confirm them with undiluted word "Christ". Many spirits are in operation at this last day and all believers must be careful and be able to discern between them so as not to fall into victims of false spirit.

Take a look at our textual source, Paul and Silas were going to pray when a lady, a damsel with sooth saying spirit was following them who has brought great gains to her master through fore telling or soothsaying. She was shouting as she was following them saying, this man are the servant of the most high God who are showing us the way of salvation Acts 16: 16-18.

When Paul saw this lady and he knew that she was not speaking with the spirit of God, he commanded the spirit to come out in the name of Jesus Christ and not to enter back again.

We also notice another demonstration of a spirit which is not of God in Mark 5:1-8. The Gadarene demoniac who is possessed with evil spirit encountered with Jesus. He told Jesus that, what has concerned you and I together, Jesus Christ the son of the most High God commanded the spirit to depart from him. Many Spirit of devil are in the world now being used by prophets and servants of God today but we also have some possessed with holy spirit power. However, greater parts use demonic powers. This is a bait of Satan to populate his kingdom through deceit John 8:44

Many of these false prophets often operate like Christ's Apostles. They will use cunningness tricks to enter unto the lives of Christ's followers who lack discernment. They can lead people to tell

Which type of church do you consult? How many churches do you attend together at once? Are you not unto multiple church membership? Anyone who attends multiple churches at once will fall victims of dives spirits.

Many servants of God are using occultic powers and spirits to gather people unto his church when God has not told any human being to assist him to gather a church. These set of people obviously are working for Satan, not the Lord

Kindly test all spirits that you may come across so that they will not seduce you to hell. The Bible says that even Satan do transform into angel of light. Therefore, it is not a big deal if his servants/messengers also transform themselves as servants of righteousness, the end of whose will be as their work II Cor. 11:14-15

B. HOW TO TEST THEM

1. They can be tested with the word of God and establish, confirm it with word of Christ. Many spirits do contrary to the word of Christ; we can also be filled with the holy spirit so as to test them.
2. All spirits that do not confess Jesus Christ came in the body are not God. This is the spirit of the antichrist which you have heard that is coming and even now it is in the world I John 4:3
3. All spirits that do not believe in death and resurrection of Christ are antichrists
4. All spirits that do not believe in the second coming of Jesus and his ascension must be tested through Christ's words. Having tested them through the listed guidelines, we shall know of surety that they are not of God.
5. We can test them with the Holy spirit living in us as Jesus did to the Gadavene demoniac and also Paul with the Soothsayer – the damsel (lady) Rom 8:14 – 16 I John 4: 4, I John 4:1; Our memory verse says that we should test all spirits if they are of God because many false prophets are out there in the world. Don't fall prey of false prophet. Satan has his own spirit which communicates as Spirit of God. 2Cor 11:14.

C. Be sure to be filled with the Holy Spirit by which you can have descending spirit. The Bible says that, as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the children of God. Furthermore, we shall not receive the Spirit of fear but the Spirit of adoption (sonship) by which we cry Abba, Father. Rom 8:14 – 16.

If you have the Holy Spirit, He will testify/bear witness with your Spirit that you are a child of God.

1. Anybody claiming to be speaking by the spirit of God must believe that Christ came in the body. I John 4:3
2. He must believe His virgin birth
3. He must believe in His suffering death and resurrection (for the saints).
4. You must know that Christ is still coming back to take His own people back to heaven.

Do you have a changed Spirit that will bear you witness to be a child of God? Check your spirit henceforth and test all spirit. In the name of the Lord we shall not fall victims of deceivers that will lead us to hell.

We can see a sorcerer fake Jewish Prophet called Bar – Jesus who came to change the rulers' mind from hearing the Lord of God. He came against them – antagonized them, However, immediately, Paul being filled with Holy Spirit rebuked him that, will you stop at changing the way of truth of the Lord" Acts 13:6 – 12. The false prophet was seen born in the passage read. Be careful of the church you attend. It shall be well with us.

LESSON DERIVED

Test all Spirits. Deceptive Spirits are common in the world. Trickish spirits are also common too. II Tim 3:1 – 5
Not all spirits are of God or Holy. The children of Satan use spirits that try to copy God's spirit as being holy. So, be conscious of this and be very careful. Only the Holy spirit you must aspire to have who can take us to heaven. Other spirits are demons leading to hell, their last abode.

We shall not end up in hell in Jesus name (Amen)

QUESTION

1. Which spirit are we to test?
2. How did Paul recognize the soothsayer spirit?
3. Recite the memory verse

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord, give me discerning spirit to know Holy Spirit and Evil Spirit.

LESSON 12

TOPIC: THE LORD IS IN NEED OF IT

BIBLE TEXT: MARK 11:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: MK 11:3 *“And if anyone asks you why you do this, tell him that “the Lord need it” and straight away he will send you to this place?”*

INTRODUCTION

Today’s topic of study is “The Lord needs it. This means that the Lord is in need of it, he wants to use it. It is a potential instrument for the Lord. Jesus wanted to enter Jerusalem with fun-fare and pageantries. He sought for what to use or ride but because He is omniscient and Omnipotent, He called two of his disciples to go to the nearby village adjacent to you; you will see a colt tied, untie it and bring it. If anyone asks you why you are untying it, tell him that the Lord needs it.

A. COLT NO MAN EVE SAT ON

This colt is a glorious one. No one has ever sat on it but unfortunately, the wicked ones tied it. My question now is what has this colt one to; them? Who are those that tied it? The answer to this question is of two parts. It is possible that the power of the Lord which makes Him supreme was responsible for searching and locating the colt where it was kept. So that He can ride it to Jerusalem. For all power is in Him. When he needed money, He provided it through the mouth of a fish. This is a mighty power.

He might have used the same power here to provide the colt that is most honorable that no man has ever sat on it.

It is also possible that the enemies have confined the colt there out of wickedness.

The Bible was silent about the main reason that made the colt to be there. But it is most essential that Jesus was in need of it. He sent to untie it for Him. Truly, one of the people around the place asked those disciples that Jesus sent; “What are you doing, untying the colt? And they replied to them, “The Lord needs it”. And they let go of them immediately. This is an analogy that describes us. We are in the position of that colt that was tied which the Lord needs. The Lord wants to use you. Kindly release yourself to Him.

B. HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID

Can we just imagine the magnificence of the praise hauled on Jesus through the colt because the colt was a precious instrument for Him Matt.22:8-11, likewise, we are precious tools for Jesus if you can surrender our lives to Him; He will make you a precious tool for Himself. Let us imagine how the colt as honored too, they spread clothes for it to walk on the path both for Jesus and the colt. This is a great honor Jesus was the first person to be honored with a red-carpet reception, with His colt. This was how Jesus entered Jerusalem with fun-fare and the crowd shouted HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID.

Today is the day of deliverance, liberation for all the souls that surrender to Jesus Christ be used. It is through Jesus using you that He can make your life anew. The colt became a new thing entirely among other animals. He was given a red carpet reception and everybody saw it.

When it carried Jesus into Jerusalem, It was recorded that the whole city was agog wondering who he was. This was a great honor both for Jesus and the colt. The honor other colts could not have was bestowed on the colt because it was a special one and a choice, peculiar and special tool for Jesus.

I can say categorically that it was kept there by Jesus Himself with His Divine power. When Jesus eventually arrived in Jerusalem the crowd cried out. "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee. Matt.25:10-11. For this reason, father, mother, sisters, and brothers, the Lord needs you. He wants to turn your life round for good. He wants to make you new and special among other people. He wants to make you a glorious person. He wants to make you untouchable for the enemy, only if you can surrender your life to Him.

In the other way round, if perhaps it was the enemy that tied the colt there before Jesus sent it to be loosed, both the colt and its glory would have been wasted away. If you don't surrender your life to Jesus you can do nothing. John 15:5-6. Where has the enemy tied you? Only Jesus is the savior that can save and deliver you. This same Jesus delivered Paul and Silas from prison Acts 16:20-26. The same Jesus urges you to surrender your life to Him and He is still alive. He needs you. You are a chosen instrument for Him. Please accept Him as Lord and Savior and He will turn you around for good.

C. Sure that only the Lord Jesus can make a person new. He alone can take you up from dirt and take you to glory. Ps. 113:7-8, He alone takes a person from the dunghill and is seated with the Princes. Nothing is impossible for Him. He turned Saul to Paul Acts 9:15. It is the duty of the enemy to tie a person down. They have no good plans but to waste lives, but Jesus is the deliverer that can deliver from the enemy if you can submit and surrender your life to Him. He will deliver you and no enemy

shall have the power to triumph over you. Ps. 89:20-23. These are God's promises for David. These promises are also for us if you surrender to Jesus Rev.3:20-22. Jesus is knocking at your heart. For this reason, He died and resurrected on the third day. He died for us to live. Heb. 12:1-3. Put all hindrances aside and be looking at Jesus, the perfect of our faith. Gal. 5:1.

Forsake sin and be saved. Jesus has been sacrificed for your sin and has taken away our sins. So, we must not indulge in any form of sinful acts. Change for the better, Jesus came to save us. Heb.9:27-28.

Next week is Easter Celebration. Do you ever consider what he did for you? He was called "a cursed" and lived on the cross. Gal. 3:13. Where we are going after this world, no segregation or church denominational differences, we shall be one. Only your holiness can take you there. Col.3:10-14.

LESSON DERIVED

The Lord is in need of us all. The Lord needs you. We were all instructed to go into the whole world to preach the Gospel to all mankind. Mk 16:15. The Lord wants us to win souls for Him. Likewise, He wants to renew, rebuild and make us perfectly good, just as He did to that colt.

We can see His immense power to discover the colt that no man has ever sat on. The same power can discover us and honour us. The Lord needed a glorious colt and preserved it there. The Lord needs you too and He is calling you. Prov.23:26. Surrender your hearth to Jesus.

The lesson of humility could be drawn from the lifestyle of Jesus as well, even unto death. He humbled Himself to ride on a colt to Jerusalem. Allow Jesus and He will save you.

QUESTIONS

1. What lesson can you draw from the colt?
2. Who tied the colt?
3. Are there proofs that those who challenged the disciples for untying the colt were those who tied it?
4. What major lesson could be learned from the study?

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK:

Oh Lord, use me for Your glory as you used the colt.

LESSON 13

TOPIC: THE GOOD SHEPHERD RESURRECTS

BIBLE TEXT: MARK 16:1-9

MEMORY VERSE: JOHN 10:11 *"I am the good shepherd, the good shepherd laid his life down for his Sheep"*

INTRODUCTION

Who is the good shepherd? Jesus Christ is the good shepherd. He laid His life down for us. We are the shepherds of His pasture. Ps.100:3.

David is another example of a good shepherd while he was tendering his father's sheep. 1Sam. 17:3-35, Jesus is our focus on this study. He is the only one that laid His life for all mankind. He died and resurrected on the third day.

A. I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD:

This statement was made by Jesus, that He is the good shepherd. For this reason, He laid His life down for us the sheep. If He did not lay His life down we would have all perished in sins. Rom. 3:23. That Bible verse says “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Let us appreciate the wonderful work of Jesus. Jesus has done for us. He never tasted sin but came to suffer for our sins.

Jesus said that the laborers are not good Shepherds, whose sheep are not, he saw wolves coming and flee, leaving the sheep behind for Wolves to kill the sheep and scatter them. John 10:12-13.

The laborer ran away because he was a laborer and cared not for the sheep. Jesus, being a good shepherd, suffered a lot for us so that we can have life. Matt.26:57-68. How should this suffering be in vain on us? Brethren, Jesus died for us so that we can have life but is your character not nailing Him to the cross the second time? Are you not like Judas the betrayer Matt. 26:14-16. Jesus died for us to be saved. He needs you as a choice instrument for Himself.

Jesus suffered for us He carried His own cross. When the torture was unbearable, He lamented, “My father, my father, why have you forsaken me? “Matt. 27:46-48. Jesus did a great job for us. He is the greatest shepherd both on earth and in heaven. He is the present help in time of need. Ps.46:1; Ps.121:3-6. The Bible verses speak of Jesus as the good shepherd furthermore as He gives grace and pleasantries when we allow Him in our lives to be our shepherd. He is the only one who died and was resurrected.

B. GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

God loves the world and gave His only begotten son for us. It is now left for you to accept Him so that you will not perish. Jesus suffered for us. He died because of our sins. It is therefore left for you to believe Him or not but He waits for you on the Day of Judgment Day. 2 Peter 3:8.

JOHN 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life". To accept Christ is not by force. It is a matter of choice. That is embedded in the last part of the verse"...Whosoever believes in Him should not perish, so, it is a choice Deut. 30:19. God gives liberty for choice, choose whatever pleases you. But I implore and enjoin us to choose life, which is Christ Jesus the savior of mankind. Jesus has the power to lay down His life and to take it back John 10:17-18. At the appointed time, he laid it down and died Lk.23:46, and at the right time too, Jesus rose up again Mk16:5-6. This is the unfailing power the ultimate power of Jesus. Believe and follow Him and He will save you and your household. The joy of resurrection is not to dine and wine but to appreciate the suffering he suffered for us, repent and turn back to Him to be saved. This will be a great reward for what He did for us.

C. THE SEVEN STATEMENTS ON THE CROSS

Jesus uttered seven words on the cross which are of great lessons to us.

1. FATHER FORGIVE THEM FOR THEY KNOW

NOT WHAT THEY ARE DOING. Lk 23:34:

This verse is teaching us to exhibit, imbibe and put on the spirit of forgiveness no matter the offense.

2. TODAY, YOU SHALL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE: LK. 23:43.

This verse teaches us to make pleasant statements. Jesus as crucified along with two criminals [male factors] on both sides. But one mocked Him that if He was the son of God he should deliver them both and Himself. LK. 23:39. but the second one

rebuked his fellow criminal that “You do not fear God”. We are being punished for our sins but Jesus commits no sin” He then turned to Jesus and said,

“Remember me when you get to your father’s kingdom”. This criminal knew that Jesus cannot just die there, but has a kingdom he is going to. He knew the power of Jesus Lk 23:42. It was the pleasant statement of the criminal that brought about Jesus’ second statement on the cross.

Do you speak pleasant words?

3. WOMAN, LOOK AT YOUR SON! SON, LOOK AT YOUR MOTHER: JOHN 19:26-27:

The disciple Jesus loved most told his mother to look at her

Child [son] Jesus mother could not bear the trauma of looking at her son on the cross.

4. MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME? MATT 27:46.

This statement was made when the torture was unbearable. God did not, cannot, and will never forsake His son. No matter the difficulty or challenge we may be facing, be sure that God can never forsake us and he will make way out. I Cor. 10:13.

5. I AM THIRSTY: JOHN 19:28. Only Jesus has the living water. If you drink thereof you will never be thirsty again: John 4:13-14, accept Him into your life.

6. IT IS FINISHED: JOHN 19:30, Jesus said “It is finished” because it was time to take up the son of man to heaven. By implication, it means all the problems, challenges, and difficulties in the lives of His Children have ended, finished – only if you can accept Him into your life.

7. FATHER UNTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT: LK 23:46.

When Jesus said this, He gave up the ghost and died. We must also commit our spirit to the hands of Jesus. Commit your life to His hands. Commit all your life to Jesus. He died and rose up, which we are commemorating today. Don’t allow His death

and resurrection to be in vain over you. Repent now, if you accept Jesus, confess Him. Don't delay your salvation; the Day of Judgment will be tough. Zeph. 1:14 – 15, Repent before the Great Day comes so that you will not perish.

LESSON DERIVED

Jesus is the good shepherd. He laid down His life for us because He does not want us to perish. We also learn from His seven statements on the cross, to forgive, love, and the great love of God to mankind by giving us, Jesus.

We must also stand as shepherd for our children and household. We must be a good shepherd like Jesus who surrendered His life. We should also take care of the sheep God has entrusted us with. Don't celebrate Easter with eating and drinking but to accept Jesus, and confess Him. Forsake your sins and it shall be well with you.

QUESTION:

1. Who is the good shepherd?
2. Mention at least three statements out of seven He made on the cross
3. What did the laborer who is not the owner of the sheep do, according to Jesus?
4. What did David do to have called him a good shepherd?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Oh Lord, give me the grace not to break off from your fold

LESSON 14

TOPIC: CAUTION HOW YOU TALK

TEXTUAL SOURCE: JAMES 3:1 – 10

MEMORY VERSE: JAS 1:19 *“My dear brothers and sisters, be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to get angry”* New Life translation (NLT)

INTRODUCTION

Today, we want to study on caution how you talk. Talking is delicate and must be careful with and how, when and what to say. Eccl 3:7

The Yoruba’s liken talking to egg of which when it drops or falls can never be picked up again.

A. CAUTION YOUR TALK

Talking is what proceeds from mouth which we must be cautious of.

Jas 3:2 says: For we all make many mistakes, and if anyone makes no mistakes in what he says he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also” Revised standard version (RSV). Just take a look at this verse of the bible. Any man that does not make mistakes in what he says, he is a perfect man, says the bible – and can bridle his whole body. Can you and I bridle, control, monitor our mouths so as not to make mistakes in what we say? Some people take delight in fast speaking which often ridicule them. Such people often answer or reply something they have not even heard it fully. When some people hear a part of a story, they will take it as banning time and think that they don’t need the other side of the story. They think that they have heard the whole the truth but they will end up in shame and ridiculed.

It is wrong to meddle in any matter you don’t know much or nothing about. He that keeps his mouth keeps his life Prov. 13:3. Keep your mouth to save your life. May people have found themselves in serious problems because of what they said about other people’s case. Prov. 10:19. This could be seen in the life and action of must who murdered another person’s opponent Exo. 2:11 – 14. Read.

B. Let us learn from the story of this man. He was a civil servant who goes to work 6 am in the morning. One day, as he boarded a bus, as stop, to his office, he met a man and a women having misunderstanding in the bus, when he heard the dialect of the woman, he thought that she must be his kinsman, from same state and town. He told the other man to stop shouting at his sister. “Don’t you know it is wrong to fight with women” This statement infuriated the mean and he slapped him. He also returned the slap. Suddenly, the man fighting the woman just slumped after the man slapped him back and died.

When the woman who was fighting the shimped man saw what happened she fled and the man who tried to side the woman was arrested and charged for murderer and jailed because he did not mind his own business or tame/ bridle his own tongue Pro 17:27 – 28.

Let us learn a great deal of lesson from this man. He meddled in a matter he was not concerned with and he landed in jailed while the principal actor in the case escaped. To avoid such bitter experience as Christian, we must be patient and listen well before involving in any matter. When it is right time to talk is when you should talk. Don’t be party to hooliganism. It can implicate you or tarnish your name or the name of the Lord. Learn how to bridle your tongue and allow Holy Spirit to direct your life.

In Psalm 39 verses 1 and 2, David said that, I will watch my way so that I will also says that, a wise person will keep his words Pro. 17:27

C. JESUS BEFORE PILATE

When Jesus was taken (arrested) He was led to Pilate and the Governor, questioning Jesus if He was the king of the Jew. Jesus responded that, “you said it” and refused to answer him again. This surprised the governor Matt 27: 11 – 14

This is how a wise person behaves. He knew that human beings are terrible. They will ensnare you with what you say or tell them. So, learn from Jesus.

Our memory verse says that we should be fast to hear but slow to answer, before you utter anything ponder on it very well. Some people will just speak without thinking of the consequences. Many people have spoken negative words to their husband children or wife. And when the effects of the evil words begin to manifest, he would have forgotten that he was the cause.

The Bible says that forgive is a small instrument but sets on fire greater instrument. Tongue is the fire that destroys greater thing. What negative words have spoken against a person? Please try to make corrections and be very careful how you talk. Don't condemn another person we shall not be trapped by our words in Jesus name Matt 7:11.

Allow Holy Spirit to direct your mouth

D. DON'T BE IMPLICATED BY YOUR MOUTH

Many people are being implicated by their mouths. This could be seen in the young man who broke the sad news of Saul and his son Jonathan's death in the battle, David asked him the source of his information and he replied David that it was Saul who requested to be killed by him and he did. Actually, the young man told lies thinking that David will reward him for the act because David and Saul were sworn enemies. He was unaware of David's unexpected response to eliminate him for slain and anointed of God II Sam 1: 1 – 15.

This was strange because it was not the young man that slew Saul and Jonathan is son. Rather, Saul killed himself. Read I Sam 31:4 – 6

Don't misfire (mis-talk) because of position or favor. Don't slander others. It is a sin. The young man destroyed himself in an attempt to seek David's favor. He thought that David will praise him for eliminating. But it was contrary to David's action and he met untimely death II Sam 1:14 -16.

Holy Spirit will guide our tongue in Jesus name.

LESSONS DERIVED

Be fast to listen but slow to answer or reply. We learn from Jesus, our perfect example. As one of our songs says, "No one heard a furring song from Him at anytime".

Emulate Him. He had power over His talk and did not make mistakes. Rather He begged His partner to forgive his enemies.

Don't curse your children. Tame your tongue.

QUESTION

1. Can we bridle our tongue?
2. Recite the memory verse
3. What does the Bible call the tongue?
4. How can we bridle our tongue?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord grant me the power to bridle my tongue always/all the time

LESSON 15

TOPIC: ETERNITY WITH GOD

TEXTUAL SOURCE: REV. 21:1-8

MEMORY SCRIPTURE: REV: 21:3. *"I heard a loud voice speaking from the throne: "Now God's home is with people. God Himself will be with them, and He will be their God"* Good News Translation (GNT).

INTRODUCTION

Our study today is about spending eternity with God – Eternity supersedes this present age.

Eternity is without ending with God. Life here on earth is but a short while. But Eternity with God is **ad infinitum** everlasting, unending Ps 15:1

A. WHO CAN PARTAKE IN ETERNITY WITH GOD

Those who can partake eternity with God are those with clean hands and pure hearts, those who are doing the will of God and keeps His commandments. Only these can get there. Ps 24:3-4; Ps 15. They are the sheep at His Right hand, those that give to the poor. Matt. 25: 31-46 – Read

In this eternity there is joy, an unending enjoyment, pleasure, such pleasure that is not in this terrestrial world. You can get there with your character and works of service.

Do you show mercy? How many people have you clothed? How many people have you fed when they were hungry? The Bible says that since you did not do it for just one of His children, you have not done it for him. Do you do all these things? Don't forget to be merciful when you have what it takes even if you are not that rich, the little way you can, please do. Matt 25: 45-

46. Our portion shall not be eternal damnation in Jesus name. We shall inherit eternal life in Jesus name. Work for it and towards achieving it. Unclean thing shall be there. Rev 21: 27.

B. THE JOY IN ETERNITY

There is joy in eternity, if you and I, are bestowed the Grace to get there. It is true though that no one has been there to bring us the report but the bible explicitly explains the joy that could be found there.

In our text, Rev. 21:4, we can deduce the followings:

1. God will wipe away all tears and there will be no need of hard labour again.
 2. There will be no death or mourning
 3. There will be no weeping or groaning, pain, etc
 4. The city needs no light of sun or moon to lighten it because the glory of God will brighten it and the Lamb is the lamp of the place Rev. 21: 23
 5. God Himself will give water of life to as many as are thirsty from the fountain of river of life freely. Rev 21:6 et
- Many pleasant things are there if we can get there by His Grace. Joy unlimited is there. Strive to be there. When Lazarus died, the Bible says that he was taken to the bosom of Abraham by the Angels LK 16:22: This is the portion of him who was called a beggar. But the person called a rich man died and in hell (place of dead) he looked up in furnace of fire LK: 16:23-24.

C. DOGS ARE WITHOUT (OUTSIDE)

The Bible warns us to be careful of dogs Rev 22:15 Dogs live without – (outside). Dogs are workers of evil, sinners are dogs, and they cannot get to the pleasant eternity Phil. 3:2. The Bible verse says that, “Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers,

beware of the circumcision". Sinners are dogs. Workers of evil are dogs. They can never be in eternity but dwell outside. The witches, wizards, fornicators and adulterers, murderers, idolaters, lovers of deceit – all will have part in the second death burning with sulphur Rev 21:8; Rev 22:15. Beware of dogs and don't live like dogs if you want to get to eternity.

D. HOW TO GET TO ETERNITY

This is a great question. How to get there is that we must forsake all sins, repent of our sins and be Holy and worship God in spirit and Truth. Eph 4:21 – 24. Put off the old man and put on the new man, Christ Jesus. Be holy in all your conduct I Pet. 1:15. If all these are done, Jesus loves us greatly. He is our mediator with the father. He told his father that he wants all those who belong to Him to be with him. What a great love! John 17:24. It is now left for you how to be with Him in paradise, eternity. No sinner can be there.

E. JESUS IS THE WAY TO ETERNITY

Jesus is the way to the father, the way to eternity. Many mansions are there, the way is your taste? – Heaven is on our side, a dwelling place and hell is another, which one do you want to be? Jesus loves us. He said that where He is, there we shall be also. But no sinner can be when Jesus is. John 14:1 – 4

Have Jesus. Accept Him. He is the only way, the truth and life. No one can get to the father except through him John 14:6. Depart from sin and repent and be a new creator. Through this we can get to heaven.

LESSON DERIVED

Eternity is heavenly Jerusalem; the place of joy. No sorrow, no weeping. So it is a place to strive, to struggle, to work towards to get there. Don't allow Satan to cause; you shipwreck. No sinner can get there as this lesson explicitly teaches us.

Rev 21:27. Be holy so as to spend your eternity with God. Repent and forsake your sins. You and I shall inherit eternity with Christ in Jesus name. Amen.

QUESTION

1. How do you understand eternity?
2. What benefits do we have in eternity?
4. Who are dogs?
5. What place has Jesus prepared for us?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord help me to live holy life so as to get to eternity.

LESSON 16

TOPIC: THIS WORLD IS NOT OURS

TEXTUAL SOURCE: 1 JOHN 2:16 – 18

MEMORY VERSE: COL 3:2 “keep your mind fixed on things above, not on things on earth” (Good News Translation GNT).

INTRODUCTION

Today’s lesson is very important, this world is not ours. It does not belong to us. It is not our own. So, do everything to get to eternity and be with God in a place of joy and happiness. There is no joy on this earth. The earth is full of sorrow. But happiness, Joy abounds in heaven, eternity with God Ps 90:10

A. THE WORLD IS NOT OUR HOME

Have this clear that this world is not our home. It is a market place. Individual will leave here one day, but where to? But the best place to go and to be for all children of God is where we studied last week, Eternity with God!

God created man as tripartite, having three parts but in one namely spirit, Soul and body.

1. Man fellowships with his Spirit. It is the spirit that is the only part that is connected with God who Himself is spirit and those that will worship Him must worship Him in spirit.
2. The soul is the center of our thought. The once really planned and spontaneous thoughts. This tells of who really you are, your thought about yourself and to act acceptably and unacceptably – right or wrong. From the heart come these thoughts
3. The body is the physical and visible part of man. And it serves as dwelling place, a house for the two.

Gracious God gave human beings these three parts to live meaningful life. It is the body that protects both the soul and the spirit while the spirit has the power, the potential to direct both the body and soul.

This is because human thought determines how his life will be. Whatever controls your thoughts controls your life. For this reason, all believers are enjoined to put their hearts on things in heaven, not things on earth. Putting your mind on things on this earth will shift your attention from your glorious divine calling. Everything that are of the world; money/wealth, position, power, certificated, knowledge etc are all temporal and will fade away with time Eccl 3:1.

Your attention will be shifted from things above in heaven if you as a believer concentrate and count those things on earth as important more than necessary. Love not the world.

Jesus Christ was successful in His earthly ministry because he focused mainly on things above and was less concerned about flesh, you are not of the world, the Bible says that the world is passing away with its lusts. But those who do the will of

God will sand forever. They will be in eternity with God and will not partake in the Second death. I John 2:15 – 17; Rev 21: 7 – 8. The Bible even gives us possible years to spend on the earth before returning to heaven Ps 90:10

B. WE ARE NOT OF THE WORLD

We are not of the world. Our home town common wealth is in heaven. There we shall live more Phil 3:20

Think of things in heaven and not things of this world. That is what our memory verse says Col 3:2. Starting from the first verse.... Therefore if you been raised with Christ, think of things that are above where Christ is.” The question there is, are you raised up with Christ? If it is so, try to seek after things that are above. How will you spend eternity with God, whose joy abounds? Except you want to spend your eternity in hell with Satan. Rev 10:10

Satan that deceives people will also end up in hell. But you can avoid the hell. I Pet 5: 8 – 9.

You are not of the world. You are only privileged to pass through it, in preparation for eternity with God. No sinner will get there Rev 21:27.

Don't lose focus on Christ who has gone to prepare a place for us. When will you prepare for you house. God created you to serve Him here on earth before returning back to Him Eph 2:10. Are you preparing for your own house Gen 30:30. The Lord is calling you today. Check the work of your hand if actually you are acting, behaving worthy of eternity, without which you cannot get to heaven with God. Put on the character of heaven and look at the things in heaven. Stop being a native of this world.

C. Heb 4:9 – 11 so, there is still a special rest waiting for the people of God. For all who enter from their labors just as God rested after creating the world. ... (New Life Translation NLT) This statement continues that, “Let us do our best to enter that place of rest... (NLT) It now left for you how you will get to the rest because this world is but temporal. We must return back home. It is a market place.

Any behavior that will deprive you of eternity with God, do away with from it Job 11:14 – 17.

D. HOW TO GET TO THE ETERNAL HOME.

This is a great question – How do we get to the eternal joy. Are you really preparing for the eternity? To get there, you need to buckle up and totally deny yourself. Rom. 12:1 – 3

Run away from sin

Keep all the laws of God

Be holy in all manner of life

Serve in spirit and truth

Look unto things above and dissociate from earthy things.

May God help us and strengthen up with His Grace to overcome Satan and his deceits.

LESSON DERIVED

This world is not our home. It is a market place and we must return back home. Individual people on earth will decide where to go in eternity with God. This is place of rest, the place of joy as the Bible calls the place.

Do your best to get there. Forsake sin and divorce, split with devil and his activities.

In the name of the Lord we shall get to our home to rest.

QUESTION

1. What joy abounds in this present world?
2. Where is your home?

3. How many years does the Bible give us to live here on earth?
4. Recite the memory verse
5. How do we look unto things above?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord grant me the grace to reign with you in heaven

LESSON 17

TOPIC: LIFE IN HELL

TEXTUAL SOURCE: LK 16:19-31

MEMORY VERSE: LK 16:23 *“And in hell, he lifted up his eyes in torment and saw Abraham after Oh and Lazarus in his bosom”.*

INTRODUCTION

Our study today wants to examine life in hell. If you have been to a place and you are giving account of your encounter with the place, people will believe you because experience is the most important. If you had encountered it before, you will vividly describe it.

A. LIFE IN HELL

No one is qualified to speak about hell and the system of living and type of life there than someone who has been there and have spent at least a night there. HE can vividly describe the system of living and type of life there, who are to be found there? We have never been there” But we behave in the account of the Bible about hell.

One major thing common to people’s testimony of hell either in dreams, revelation of personal experience is anguish – agony, torment affliction with damnation in furnace of fire experienced by inhabitants of hell. No one wants to experience agony. So, determine not to end there after you sojourn on earth. Listen to the account of this rich man in Lk 16:19 – 31

We may not totally accept or agree with the evidences of these who dreamt of hell but the Bible account of the rich man suffering in hell cannot be disposed, neglected or nullified because it is divine revelation from God. This incident is a vivid picture of how hell looks like which is a pure, unalloyed truth that the rich man ended his journey in hell after enjoying the whole pleasures on earth. But Lazarus was accepted at the bosom of Abraham.

Agony and comfort are two different experiences we can learn from this story Lk 16 : 25. The rich man was told that he had enjoyed his life on earth but Lazarus is discomfort and now, he is comforted

Hell is an unpalatable place; it is inhabitable for children of God. How do we know that it is inhabitable? One of the suffering there is lack of water to quench thirst of the rich man. Does it mean that there is no water there at all? How can just a drop of water quench thirst in hell? This is surprising, but for you to know how to improve and work on your character.

The rich man believed that with a drop of water, he could be satisfied which is not possible as the situation there is and too late imagine how he used water to bath, do your washings – laundry or cook here on earth not knowing that a time will come when water will become luxury to him so much that a drop of it will be dear to him at the end.

You need to think of your end as well. Where will you end your journey at the end of the world? Repent and correct your ways. The rich man depended on his unsure, unsafe wealth/ riches I Timo 6:17

B. THE RICH MAN LEARNT THE HARD WAY.

This rich man learnt the hard way, when it is too late, when he was in hell. Another incident to learn from is after asking/demanding for a drop of water in great pain, he suddenly changed from being a bad person that he was. He used to release his dog to lick the sores of Lazarus from time to time. But suddenly, he began to plea, begging for his neighbors and brothers not to come and meet him in hell. Possible, his thought was that he missed heaven, the place of great pleasure but would not want any of his five brothers to come and suffer in hell. We observed that he begged father Abraham to send Lazarus to his relatives. He wanted a raised person from death to do the work of warning them. It was hard for him to bear. Also, from his late repentance, he did not want any of his brothers of come there. But if was a place of joy and happiness, he will not stop them from coming there. How will you not end there?

The servants of God are preaching to you presently. You better take the opportunity and use it wisely and repent so as to go to the eternal place of joy Matt 25: 46. There is no enjoyment in hell rather anguish and agony with hardship in everlasting furnace of life. No counting of years. It is everlasting. This is the Bible picture of hell. Don't go there.

C. WHY JESUS TOLD THE STORY

Jesus is a Great Teacher who knows how to manage time. One of best ways to impact on His listeners is the use of parables. This is to enable His Disciples and listeners to grab and have grasp of His teachings. Parables are stories that tell the reality. This was a reality though and he said the true story because of us so that we can repent and be sure that hell is real. So this is not just a parable but a reality. Remember that Jesus told one of the male factors that was crucified by His side that he will be with him in paradise and it was so. So, as there is hell, there is paradise, a happy and glorious city, prepared by god for his people who are faithful. Are you faithful?

The Bible says that "The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God Ps 9:17.

Hell is real and heaven is real too. Choose any of them you want. But choose life and live Dent 30:19. Everyone will choose his/her choice either eternity with Christ or hell with satan.

Be careful for Satan is roaring like lion looking for whom to devour I Pet 5:8 – 9.

LESSON DERIVED

This lesson makes it explicitly clear that hell indeed is real. Don't ever doubt its existence. It has been proved beyond doubt. So, do your uttermost best not to be part of it, which is the second death Rev 21:8

Jesus stands at the door of your heart, knocking and calling. Give your heart to the savor before it is too late Rev 3:20; Pro 23:26. There was no remedy for the rich man again even after regretting his actions.

Make remedy today.

QUESTION

1. Describe hell as the Bible explains it.
2. Hell will burn for how long?
3. Did the rich man eventually pardoned?
4. Why did Lazarus end at Abraham's bosom?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Oh Lord! Don't let me end in hell.

TOPIC: GIVE NO ROOM FOR YOUR ARCH ENEMY

TEXTUAL SOURCE: EZK 39:23 – 29

MEMORY VERSE: Rom 8:31 *“What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”*

INTRODUCTION

Our topic today is leave no space, opportunity, chance, gap for your arch enemy.

Who then is the arch enemy? He is Satan, our enemy. He is not a friend at all but a foe. He is a spoiler not a repairer. To this end give no room to him.

A. IF GOD BE FOR US

Our memory verse says that, what shall we say to this thing? If God be for us, who can be against us? We often quote this Bible verse having confidence in God that no one can be against us with God on our side. This statement is true as established by the scriptures.

But we should take a look at it the other way round that, supposing God is not for us – or is it everyone that has God on his side? So, if God is not for someone, the enemy and the wicked people will prevail against and over him. It is only when God is for us that the enemy will have no room to operate in our lives. This is another truth that is established in the Bible.

Both good and bad deeds of the Bible characters were documented divinely for our encouragement so that we will not fall into their errors. I cor. 10:6.

Any time the Israelites had good/strong relationship with God by diligently obeying Him, none of the strong enemies will be able to withstand or confront them and prevail Deut 7:24; Deut 11:25; Deut 23:9.

Like these Bible saints, if we obey this voice, no evil one will be able to prevail against us because we are spiritual Israelites Gal 6:16. All true believers in Christ and Israelites divinely Gen 3:29. If God be for us, devil is defeated and has failed. If you don't allow Satan or give him a chance, God will be for you. God will never be with sinners. If you forsake God, then devil will have access and wreck havoc

Israelites were taken into captivity because of their unrighteousness and were delivered in their enemies for a very long time in captivity. They spent four hundred (400 years) years in Egypt captivity.

B. God loved Israelites but hates their sins. Satan understood this truth and did everything within his power to keep them in sin. It is never the pleasure of God to lead them into captivity but they went there because of their sins. Are you also giving chance for your enemy? You are giving chance to your enemy to wreck havoc if you indulge in sins.

If you are under a curse, God can revoke it Num 23:8 But if God should curse you and He speaks unfavorably to your life, who can revoke it? So, be careful how you spend your life. Don't give space to the arch enemy to gain access to your life.

C. GIVE NO ROOM TO THE ARCH ENEMY DEVIL

Eve allowed devil to commune with her concerning the type of fruit to eat or not to eat and fell from glory Gen 3:1 – 6. This woman ought not to have associated with the devil at all and this cause their downfall and the downfall of human race entirely.

TACTICS OF DEVIL:

DECEIT: Deceit and cunningness are both instruments of the devil to make people fall. Be watchful. He used it for Jesus thinking He will fall prey/victim and take away His glory but failed. Matt 4:1-10. Jesus used the word of God to overcome devil.

So, be filled with Word of God and never give room to him. He is a waster of life. Jos. 1:8. Had Eve known the word of God to conquer Satan, they wouldn't have fell victim.

D. IS GOD FOR ALL THE PEOPLE?

God does not recognize sinners but if a sinner repents and walk perfectly he will be saved and live. And God will be with him and for him. God removed His face from the children of Israel because of their rebellious to Him. Ezk 39:23. Because God does not hear sinners I John 9:31.

If you allow Satan in your life, He will take you to hell that we studied about last week which is the end of Satan himself Rev 20:10

Don't be deceived by Satan with wealth. Don't fall prey/victim of money which is major trap of Satan to mankind. People want to be rich overnight. I Timo. 6:9 -10. The Bible says that Godliness with contentment is a great gain. Put on godliness and contentment in all things and Satan will have no access to pull you down. I Timo 6:6 – 7.

Nothing is brought to the world and nothing will be taken along when departing it. Don't allow Satan to lead you to hell. Don't give room to him. But rather allow Jesus. He is your perfect example Eph 5:1- 5

Don't give room to the arch enemy. Environmental enemies from father or mother or community are child's play. There principal is the devil. He controls them all to continue their activities.

But whosoever has God and God is for him, no enemy will prevail against him.

LESSON DERIVED

This lesson tells us not to allow arch enemy, Satan or devil to lead and direct your life. There is nothing good that Satan can offer but evil. If you give him room/space in your life, you will end up in hell with him.

Avoid this and be example of God with whom eternal pleasure resides.

QUESTION

1. Why must we not allow the arch – enemy in our lives?
2. Recite the Memory verse
3. Is God for all the people?
4. With concrete evidence, is it true that everyone that calls the name of the Lord shall be saved?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord! Turn Satan back from following me so that I will not fall victim of his deceit

LESSON 19

TOPIC: WHO IS YOUR MENTOR

TEXTUAL SOURCE: EPH 5:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: EPH 5:1 *“Therefore, be imitators of God and dear children”* (New King Jamb Version – NKJV)

INTRODUCTION

Today, we want to study on who is your mentor? “Mentoring and Imitation are synonymous and can be used interchangeably. Mentoring means taking steps and living a life style-dressing, talking e.t.c just as your mentor does. However, some mentors (learner or new style or life) often follow a bad mentor (the teacher) Jesus alone should be our mentor.

A. JESUS, OUR PERFECT MENTOR

Jesus is our mentor because he is the way, the truth and life John 14:6 we should follow who call himself the way and should be our mentor; because through him we shall get to His father.

As true Christians, the only person that should be our mentor and Standard is Christ Jesus. He is perfect and holy and none like him. No one is perfect or holy beside him and the Trinity-The Father, Son and Holy Spirit Heb 12:2 The Bible portion says that we should look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith “He endured the cross not minding reproach and also sit at the right hand of God. Jesus is our example that we must imitate and emulate and read in our text. Eph. 5:1

B. Paul takes after Jesus, He denied himself in sin because he looked at Jesus as his mentor I cor11:1 Look at Paul in his ministry activities as pastor, evangelist, Prophet and teacher who was doing the will of God in everything. With this, Paul was bold and confident to tell the Corinthian to emulate, imitate him because he was not involved in sinful activities since he took up his cross.

Many prophets and Evangelist today will say something but do another thing entirely. These steps of people are not mentees of Jesus Matt: 23:1-4 Read. Jesus said that whatsoever you are asked to do, do it but do not do according to their works. Do not imitate man because all men are sinners as the bible says Rom 3:23- “For all have sinned and come short of the

glory of God” For this reason don’t imitate man so that you will not fall. Every man has his own imperfection. Don’t imitate your prophet or minister of your church. But unto Jesus alone you should look who alone is born holy and perfect

C LOOK UNTO JESUS

My dear worshipper, don’t imitate any other person except Jesus and God did not create any man to human, mortal being to be a mentor. You are uniquely created –fearfully and specially created. If you want to imitate a person, do you know his destiny? His destiny is obviously different from yours. Why must you take after somebody and will end to regret?

You must be yourself. You should not imitate a person but only Jesus. If you try to take after imitate a person in lifestyle you can never be original, You following the step or imitating a mortal being will make you lose your personality and purpose in life because you have altered God’s purpose for your life and will not align with your destiny.

There is no one created without a unique gift or talent that will make him great in life without necessarily living your life imitating others Prov. 22:29. This portion of the Bible says that “Do you see a man diligence in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

It is shere laziness that makes people imitates others – you want to be rich like so and so person but cannot be diligent in his own calling of job. He will then try to imitate the person’s business whereas he has his own potentials to establish him. He won’t utilize the potential due to his “copy-copy” way of life.

D. BE IMITATOR OF GOD

Only Jesus we are permitted to imitate. And if you want to imitate Him, remember that He does not commit sin – He never commits adultery, angry, cheat but rather lowly and most benevolent. No one has ever heard any form of words that can cause anger even just once, Ps 103:8-11

Apostle Paul said that we should imitate God as dear children but sinful acts such as adultery, covetousness, evil talk, fornication, drunkenness, idolatry etc should not be mentioned among you Eph 5:1-15. Anybody who still indulges in any of these will attract the wrath of God.

Have love of one another for God is love I Cor 13 1 – 4. Love does not easily get angry or hate a neighbor. This is the type of love Jesus demonstrate that He gave His life as ransom for us. Be humble as Jesus. He respects the humble but look at the promo afar off. Ps. 138:6

Learn the habit of humility from Jesus because through Him alone we can set to His father. He is the only way to eternity, ITim.6:6 the verse says that goodliness with contentment is a great gain. If you emulate and imitate God, it will be a great gain to take you to heaven.

Satanists take after Satan their grandmaster. John 8:44. And he will take them to his abode in hell but Jesus will take us to heaven. For this great gain, imitate Christ the Lord will help us to do just that.

LESSON DERIVED

You must not imitate fellow human being but Christ and Christ only. Through Him we can get to the eternal home. We must put on His character. There is no gain in following Satan than hell if you follow him.

Be the original of yourself and let your potential manifest to make you great in life and at the end, eternal life.

May God help us.

QUESTIONS

1. How can we imitate God?
2. Why must we not imitate man?

3. Recite the memory verse
4. Did Paul really imitate God?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord! Grant me the grace to imitate and truly take after you.

LESSON 20

TOPIC: DANGER (TEST) OF SUCCESS

TEXTUAL SOURCE: II KINGS 20:12 – 17

MEMORY VERSE: II KGS 20:13. “And Hezeknah hearkened unto them and showed them all the house of his precious things, the silver and the gold and the spices and the precious ointment and al that was found in his treasure: there was nothing in his house near all his dominion that Hezekiah showed them not.

INTRODUCTION

We want to study on dangers or test of success. This is common today. It is also called danger of comfort. Many people that stood from the dangers of disappointment and sickness fall and fail this test of success.

It is only through the power of God and His Holy Spirit that we can triumph and win the test/temptation.

A. EXAMINING HEZEKIAH THE KING.

Hezekiah was a king of Judah who followed God whole heartedly was sick unto death. He implored God for healing. God sent Prophet Isaiah to him to give him the word of prophecy and he was added another fifteen years.

The king of Babylon who was his neighbor heard of the sickness and his great deliverance and sent emissaries to him to spy if the incident can cause him to overthrow Israel. So, the king of Babylon sent Hezekiah a letter and gift to entice him II Kgs 20:12 – 13

When the emissaries of king of Babylon got to the Hezekiah instead of given all glory to God who healed him, this is where temptation of success appeared to Hezekiah the king. He did not honor the greatness of God on himself and the entire nation of Israel that was delivered from Assyria II kgs 20:6.

He should have related all these successes to the spies of king of Babylon instead; he showed them all his house and treasures, gold, ointment and all precious ointment in his house. This means that he exposed himself to them uniform of pride. He did not lift or honor God before them. This was a serious test of success for him. When he was comfortable and successful, he did not ascribe or attribute it to Jah, Jehovah who delivered him from enemy.

This do happen many times to many people today at the time of comfort, they will forget God that deliver them in time of trouble.

3. KING HEZEKIAH GLORIFIED SELF

King Hezekiah accredited glory to himself by showing all the treasure houses and the gold to the representatives of king of Babylon. This shows that his successes and healing from sickness has turned him to proud and full of himself. Thus, King Hezekiah has indirectly become King Nebuchadnezzar who was proud of his Babylon man kingdom and was disgraced. Dan4:30–32. This was Nebuchadnezzar's own test of success and God humiliated him by taken him to the forest to be with animals until he acknowledged the Almighty as head in human kingdom. Do you make the Almighty the head of you home?

Are you not also acting the same way? Test of success is on every one's way in life. When time of comfort comes, put God first because it is His making. Nothing can be done on our own.

This was Hezekiah's misdeed, mistake as Isaiah the prophet asked him what we discussed with the spies of king of Babylon and he took him that he showed them all his splendor Prophet Isaiah told him as the Lord says that "A day is coming when all these treasures and that of your ancestors shall all be taken to Babylon and nothing shall be left, including at your children that came out of your bowels II Kgs 20:14 – 18

This was punishment for his sins of not being able to conceal secrets. All what he showed them, they will feed their king back and he will strategize to come and invade Israel. Learn from Hezekiah's mistakes. Don't be proud or show-off talking of his success and achievements where necessary and where forbidden. This is the cause of problems for many people. Instead of showing off, give thanks to God and appreciate His goodness. Don't ever think it is your making.

Many people will not even come to give thanks to God in the church because he does not want members or the ministers of God to know of his success to avoid unnecessary demands but you are only deceiving yourself. All things are from God and for God. He knows all you have so, praise Him and appreciate Him whenever he favors you admitting and acknowledging that it is not your own power that made it. Don't ever be proud.

C. DANGER OF COMFORT

Danger of comfort is a test of success we have been discussing. Men are guilty of this more than women. Just a little upgrade, the wife becomes a nonentity who knows nothing or does nothing rightly again. They will then go out to wastrels, ladies that will squander his achievements and the little he gathered. Be careful for the danger of success. At the period of comfort, acknowledge God. Don't be like Nebuchadnezzar who arrogated glory to himself and was sent to be with animals in the forest for seven years.

LESSON DERIVED

There are tests after success which Satan will bring. He can be on wife, your spiritual relationship with church or pastors etc. He may tell you not to let do anything for your church or pastors as to not to blow trumpet. It is all deceit from devil. So, be very careful when success comes.

QUESTIONS

1. How do you understand test of success?
2. How can we overcome it?
3. How can you describe Hezekiah's attitude after his healing?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord, don't allow me fall before you during my test of success.

LESSON 21

TOPIC: GOD WIL TAKE AWAY YOUR REPROACH

TEXTUAL SOURCE: GEN 30:22 – 24

MEMORY VERSE: Ps 119: 22 *"Take away from me reproach and contempt, for I keep your testimonies"* (Amplified version)

INTRODUCTION

God will take away your reproach (Amen) Reproach is a position of shame or loss or dignity. Reproach can also be unpalatable experience or challenge. It could be inform of barrenness.

A RACHAEL'S REPROACH

Satan can bring all sorts of reproach to your life but trust in God who has the power to remove it. He can do all things and his control over all challenges. Nothing lasts forever in this world but God is eternal, everlasting. So, your reproach is not for life it will be soon end Lk 1:37

Rachael was childless for long but God remembered her at due time. She had accused her husband of her inability to have a child. She was envious of her sister, her older sister. She even longed for death. Gen 30:1. But as a due time, her shame turned to shower of glory.

Today, your shame shall turn to glory in Jesus name. Many people have accused others for their predicament. Some people have concluded to commit suicide because of their reproach. This not a solution to the problem, rather, approach God to remove it. only God can take away the reproach. Many people are seeing on social media purging into ocean because of problems. Jesus alone is solution to the problems. He saw that in the world, you shall see tribulation but be for good cheers He has overcome the world John 16:33. He will surely conquer for us Jer 32:17 – 18

Sometime what we termed as reproach is what God allow to test our faith as children of God, so that the world will see the testimonies and envy us. These could be seen in the lives of the following people:

1. JOB: God Himself gave Satan permission to test his faith that he will not deny and it was so Job 1:6 – 12.
2. ABRAHAM: God tested Abraham by Himself to sacrifice his only son whom he loved. Abraham did not deny God or struggle with him. He proceeded with the sacrifice Gen 22:9 – 13
3. JOSEPH: Joseph was sore troubled. He passed through a lot in life but at the end, God lifted him up and became a leader in Egypt Gen 37:18 – 28 etc

When you find yourself in a particular report, pray, don't go about with fetish which cannot help you. Only God can. I Cor .10:13. Here the bible says that there is no temptation that has befallen us that what man can bear and God is faithful as not

to allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear and will also make a way out of it. The verse assures us of God's power to bring us out from temptations if we can believe Him. You must not be over whelmed by reproach, Pray.

B. WHAT TO KNOW WHEN PASSING THROUGH CHALLENGES

1. Learn to wait and stand on His word and fervent prayers.
2. Think more about God in your challenge. Don't allow your challenges sweep you away from God.
3. Don't blame anyone for your predicament
4. Don't be aggressive no matter the nature and magnitude of your challenge
5. Be sure that your challenges in for a purpose.
6. God will eventually remember you as He did for Rachael Gen 30:22

C. THOSE WHO'S REPROACHES WERE TAKEN AWAY IN THE BIBLE

(1) Rachael (2) Hannah (3) Elizabeth (4) Job (5) Jabes (6) Sarah (7) Namaan (8) Obed – Edom (9) Joseph (10) The blind man from his mother's womb etc.

They are many, too many to name or count. God has taken away our reproaches, you and I, at one time or the other. Enemies did not expect us to get to where we are today but God came to our rescue. Exo. 15:9. this was the enemies plan for us but God disallowed them and annulled their plans. So, I give glory to him all the time and not to self as the king Hezekiah. Arrow falling test of comfort. Don't allow Satan to trickishly bring another reproach on you.

May God uphold us. May we not be full of ourselves in Jesus Name. Amen.

D. HOW OUR REPROACHES CAN BE RAKEN AWAY.

God can use His ministers to take away our reproach if you table your matter with them.

God can send someone to us to give us His message.

Our problems may also go through ourselves through divine leading from God with prayer and fasting. Our memory verse referred to the psalm asking God to remove his reproach if you approach God and seek his face, He has the power to take them all away. Everything you cannot discuss with people but with God, He will take them away today in Jesus name (Amen)

Reproach is a stigma. This was seen in the life of that woman without breast songs of Solomon 8:8. Peninah often reproach Hannah for her childlessness I Sam. 1:6.

God will take away our reproach today in Jesus name. Amen.

LESSON DERIVED

Only God can remove reproach. No charms or fetish can do it. Only what God does will stand forever as the Bible says.

May God visit us today in Jesus name.

QUESTION

1. How can our reproach be removed?
2. Can a person live without reproach?
3. Recite John 16:33

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord! Don't allow my reproach to overcome me.

LESSON 22

TOPIC: NEW CREATION I

TEXTUAL SOURCE: COL 3:1 – 10

MEMORY VERSE: *“Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things are passed away; behold they have become new”. II Cor 5:17.*

INTRODUCTION

New creation is our point of discussion today. New face may be me in various ways – in church, work place or office, colleges and schools, shopping mall etc. We may have many ways to associate together and different encounter but of all them, we may notice those who are new creation through their conductional behaviors, not because they are new faces.

A. NEW CREATION

It means forsaking the end life style and start a new life entirely in Holiness as Christ II Cor. 5:17. This is our memory verse and from there the idea of new creation emanates.

A unique potential often make individual different. But there are some signs that one way or the other that classify individual as good or bad. Some signs tell the type of person, his character alone can describe this.

Everybody is good right from creation but the choice of our behaviour is ours, and this differentiates us from others. We can amend our behaviour through self denial and pursue true and genuine salvation.

To this end, Paul the Apostle wrote to the Colossians about new life how it should be. New life can be described as a person that is dead and raised up with Christ Jesus and at the same time living Christ's life Gal 2:20.

Everyone knows the type of Life Paul lived in the time past before him new life. He was an antichrist, destroyer of God work and a persecutor. But immediately God blinded him and could see again, he became a changed person Acts 9:1 – 9. The moment he could see again, he became vocal. He preached to the Galatians that “you have heard of me, my life past how I surpassed in the religion of Jesus but now it pleased God to separate me and called me by grace” Gal 1:11 – 15. Paul became bold and vocal when we became a new creation. Are you a new creation multitude, a bench warmer.

Search yourself and be sure. New life is more than mere confession. But by your character, your fruit we shall know if you are a new creation or not.

B. CHARACTERISTICS NEW LIFE

1. New life will seek things that are above not things he has acquired or his pursuits Phil 3:7
2. He will count to nothing things that are gain to him because of Christ Jesus
3. He will find time to be with the Lord forever. He will not allow things of this world to control him Col. 3:1
4. He will put his mind on things in heaven. He will spend on evangelism, spreading of the God News to partner with Christ
5. He will make things of God his priority
6. His life is hid in Christ with God.

Anyone that dies and rose with Christ, his life will be in the hands of God because his name has been written in the book of life. Col 1:3

C. OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY

Of a truth, has old things passed away in your life? Are you truly in Christ? What are the old things that have passed away? Hope you are not holding to them again?

Co 3:5 says that you should mortify you members that are in the world, furnication, uncleanness, lust, evil desire and courtesousness, anger, idolatory etc. All these are old things that must not be named or seen in a new life.

Don't you tell lies? And you claim to be born again or new creation. No matter how small, don't tell lies again. It is sin. It is when people see differences in us and out conduct then they shall call you a new creature. Godliness will be noticed.

It is the will of God for us to be like Christ in all things. Also, being Christ – like should be a pursuit of all believers. He is our mentor as earlier said Rom 8:29. Christ likeness is God's work and he will perfect it Phil 1:6. Christ picture must manifest all over us and environment. All things must be done in the name of Christ. Our words and actions must glorify God because we are call to be like Him in all things.

If your word and action are not glorifying God, you live cannot please Him neither can it glorify Him I cor. 10:31.

New creation does not commit sin or involve in bad conduct. If you claim to be a new creation and still indulge in sin, you lie. If you still commit sins like lying, rebellion bribery, anger etc, these are all sins that are easy to cling to us and we belittle them. But don't be surprised that any of them can lead you to hell. No sin is little. The wages of sin is death says the Bible.

It is our expectation that all people yield their lives to Christ and have a good relationship with Him. This world is for but a while but eternity with Christ is endless. Give your life to Christ and be a new creature.

LESSON DERIVED

Without becoming a new creation and holy living like Jesus you cannot live with Him in eternity. New life does not commit sin, no matter how bitter. Don't you tell lies – the commonest and easiest of all sins. Another sin we care less about is not listening to the voice of the Lord but it is grievous and block our ways.

Repent and make up your way and be a new creation before death, so that your name can be in the book of life.

QUESTION

1. How can we be new creation?
2. What conduct are not expected in new creation?
3. How do you understand “old things”?
4. How did Paul become a new creation?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord! Help me become new creation till I get to your kingdom.

LESSON 23

TOPIC: NEW CREATION II

TEXTUALSOURCE; GAL 1:11 – 16

MEMORY VERSE: Col 3:9. *“Do not lie to one another, for you have put all the old man with his deeds”* (Good New Translation)

INTRODUCTION

Still on the topic of New Creation, we were told that new creation is more than mere confession or words of mouth we can notice new creation in behaviours and conduct or the person. One can claim to be new creature since years past yet without anything to show for it. When Paul became one, it was quite obvious in his conduct and actions.

A. GIVING YOURSELF A LIVING SACRIFICE TO GOD

To be new creation is to yield oneself to God in living sacrifice and living life that is not corrupt Rom 12:1 – 3

Apostle Paul re-iterated this to the Corinthian church that, know yet not that your body is a temple of Holy Spirit which dwells in you and your received from God? “You are not of yourself for you have been bought with a price of therefore glorify God in your body and spirit which are God’s I Cor. 6:19 – 20.

We are called to represent Him and His ambassadors on earth here and show case His image in this world of sin. New creature must show gratitude to God in everything. We must praise Him in all things. Glorify and appreciate Him no matter the situation and circumstances.

Give your life to God as a holy living sacrifice. The Bible says that “in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. After the creation, we saw that everything God created were good. But suddenly sin came in through Lucifer, the morning star which brought the most little sin, lying Col 3:9. Lies is the one major sin that makes the difference between Christian that is saved and yet to be.

Some people termed some lies as “holy lies” and some “unholy lies” All these are deceits of the devil so to make children of God not to live perfect holy lives. Has your job not victim of lies? Telling lies is a deliberate deceit or wilful deception with false fake talks or cunningness. This is what Satan used for Adam and Eve Gen 3:1 – 4.

Lies are self smartness – thinking that you are smarter and to use deception which is the work of Satan, Their father John 8:44. If we want to show case the image of God in the midst of those Christ has purified and make new for our society/generation, we must not tell lies one to another because it is against the law of truth and love.

Telling lies make us like Satan. But the Bible says that we should give ourselves as holy living sacrifice, acceptable which is your reasonable derive. Don’t allow Satan to make you fall because of lies. New creature will not tell lies. Jesus is our example, not Satan. Jesus will not tell lies.

B. Satan always pursues new creatures to make him fall. But you must always be careful about your ways because Satan like a roaring lion is looking for whom to devour I Pet 5:8-9; Ps 39 : 1 – 3

We have a lot in our hands, a lot to do if truly we have become new creatures because Satan will come with temptations and challenges on our ways to cause to fall. He may make things hard. You may be without having money or bring money in unchristian way just to tempt and test you to know if truly you have behaved in God and determined to forsake sins. Therefore, let Holy spirit guide and direct you so as to walk in new creatures way till we get back to our saviour. John 16:13

LESSON DERIVED

New creature must deny self and yield to God as a living holy sacrifice. He must not convert and have self control in all ways. He must not depart from God at anytime because Satan may come knocking any time. Only new creature can live with Jesus at eternity. So, do everything possible to be one whose names will be in the book of life Rev 20:15

We shall not end in hell in Jesus name.

QUESTION

1. How can we give ourselves to God as holy living sacrifice?
2. Why did Paul said woe unto him if he did not do the work of God?
3. What is the old nature stated by Paul?
4. How can we be new creatures?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord delivers me from spirit of lying and deception.

LESSON 24

TOPIC: YOU AND YOUR WORD

TEXTUAL SOURCE: LK 7:1 – 10

MEMORYI VERSE: Ps 107:20 “He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction”.

INTRODUCTION

You and your word is our subject of learning today.

The word of God is the utterance that proceeds from the mouth of God as statutes to follow and believe. His word is unavoidable and essential to our existence. It has been from beginning. His word never changes But human words may change when least expected.

God is the word.

A. YOU AND YOUR WORD

There is nothing that is made possible either on earth or heaven by God without Him speaking His word John 1:1 –3 Read. Word is very important God Himself is the Word. Though the word all things are created. In Him is life and the life is the light of the world. It is Jesus that breathes the breath of life to us because in Him is life. The word as we are saying here is beyond the ordinary talking or speaking out of our mouth.

His word is not ordinary. It will perform that which it is sent to do Isa. 55:10 – 11. His word is different from word of human being because his word is spirit and life John 6:63 It has all the potentials and power Heb 4:12.

Do you know His word? Do you have faith in it? Only those who know His word and its potentials can believe in it and depend on it. His word is yes and Amen. Isa 46:10 – 11 Isa 55:10

His word is all we need to succeed in life be it in marriage, ministry, daily life etc. the word of God and its guidance Jos 1:8. The word of God never changes though man's word is subject to change.

B. THE CENTURION

We have many things to learn from this centurion whose one of his is sick and came to Jesus for assistance. This is a major reason why we say that we cannot do without His word earlier on. Both Jesus and His father are word that is spirit and life.

The centurion sent elders of Jews to Jesus to come and heal his child. The Elders of Jew spoke well of the centurion that he was worthy of assistance because he built synagogue for them and loved their country. Jesus stood up to go to the centurion's house to heal the child. But as Jesus was going, the centurion sent his friends to Jesus that he was not worth for Jesus to come to his house but to speak just a word and because the centurion had faith in Christ and His Word, Jesus spoke a word and the child was healed at that moment.

This was a great thing Jesus observed in the centurion so much that Jesus told the people following Him that "I have never seen such a faith, no, not even in Israel. Lk 7:6-9.

Do you also have great faith in His Word? The man had faith and trust in the power of the word. He did not ask for Jesus presence to heal his servant. He trusted the word of God as God's representative and Jesus Himself acknowledge his faith.

C. WHAT THE WORD OF GOD IS

1. His word is God Himself John 1:1
2. His word is His representative that He sends to act with power and to do all things Ps 107:20
3. His word is lamp to our path, brightening, and illuminating, beaming light on our path Ps 119:105
4. His word is a two edged sword that pierces to the dividing of soul and spirit Heb 4:12. His word is our defence/protection
5. His word is spirit and Life John 6:63
6. His word is a book of testament that must not depart from us Jos 1:8. His word is a great power that conquers problems.

D. OUR DUTIES TO HIS WORD

1. Our duties is to keep His word in our hearts and do the will of the Word.
2. We must teach our children the word and people in our environment Dent 6:1 – 7
3. We must believe in the word and exalt it greatly. He lifted His word than His name Ps 138:2
4. Allow the word to dwell in you and grow. This will also make us grow spiritually.
5. Part of our duties is to go unto the whole world to preach the word to as many as yet to accept Jesus Mk 16:15, Matt 28:18 – 20
6. Finally believe His word and diligently keep His commandments Dent 28:1 – 4

LESSONS DERIVED

The word of God must be in us all the time. You need to trust the word and grow in the spirit through the word.

Saul did not trust or obey His word and fell from his presence.

Let God guide and lead you

QUESTIONS

1. How do you understand His word?
2. What is the word of God?
3. Recite the memory verse.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Help me to dwell and stand on your word, Lord.

LESSON 25

TOPIC: JUST BE CONTENT.

TEXTUAL SOURCE: ECCL 1:1 – 11

MEMORY VERSE: “I Timo 6:6 “But godliness with contentment is a great gain”.

INRODUCTION

Contentment is our topic of study today. Contentment is accepting whatever position you are and rejoice in it. Any one that is content will never sore his hands in dubious matters.

Any child of God that is not contented will allow Satan to lead him to do things that are not lawful or acceptable to God.

We must be contented in all things because not all things that glitters is gold.

CONTENTMENT IS A GREAT GAIN

Contentment is the first attribute to have on earth. Anybody that lacks it will end up frustrated and die.

At the creation of the world, everything was new and in order. But everything that is new and appealing will wax old and become worn-out with time. With all these reasons, we must have contentment in whatever position we find ourselves.

All the vehicles that were once talk of the town in 1970s such as Mercedes Benz and Volks Wagon Betties where are they now? All the mansions built during the time of Chief Obafemi Awolowo and those fancy clothes of the time, where are they? Can anyone use any of them now? So, why worrying unnecessarily? Be contented, it is a great gain I Timo. 6:6.

Our youths that want to have all trending things such as clothes, cars, mansion and other worldly materials must accept this warning about the impending danger, especially if they are not careful about the source of these items Prov. 6:16 – 19.

In the Olden days, our fathers were successful and prominent through handwork and dedication but these days, people want to be great not minding losing their dignity and calling. Many have through this mortgaged their position in God and society; the most pitiable is heaven which many people have lost for their lack of contentment.

We have seen men of God who are no content or happy about the growth and situation of their ministries and they entered into occult. Many people went into money – making rituals because of lack of contentment.

For it is given unto man once to die and after this the judgement why are we running from pillar to post to acquire everything at all cost? Heb 9:27.

B. WAIT ON THE LORD

We must have contentment and also wait on the Lord patiently. Stop racing against time. Don't copy others. We came with diver destiny. Heaven and earth will pass away Ps 102:25 – 26. Wait for your time and destiny Ps 27:14.

All believers in Christ must strive to gain eternal life which is the uttermost to us. Learn from Zacchaeus. Because he decided to see Jesus, he endured climbing the sycamore tree Lk 19:1 – 4

How is our zeal to the work of the Lord or the Lord Himself? The scriptures commanded us to seek those things that are above where Christ sits. It is these things that are above that are immortal col. 3:1 – 2.

Everything in the world that you are pursuing will become old. That was the reason for the question of vehicles of 1970s, where are they? Our text says that one generation and another coming but the world remain firm. So why the hurtles? The latest thing you are happy to possess will be soon old and you that is young today will soon be old.

C. RESULTS OF NONCONTENTMENT.

Anyone that lacks contentment will just kill himself

Anyone that lacks contentment will be stealing and misbehave

He won't believe the voice of the Lord. This happened to Saul when he brought some of the things God said he should destroy at Amalek. I Sam 15:17 – 22

Lack of contentment leads to envy.

At many times lack of contentment lead to death, this cause death for Saul when God did not listen to him anymore.

Maybe you are rich or not, be content and pray. And the Lord will turn our lots around for good. Don't follow multitude. Don't follow others. Search for your destiny.

My dear brethren, how is your Christian life? Do you patiently wait on the Lord? Do you believe Him to turn your situation around? Anyone who is contented will not misbehave.

May the Lord help us (Amen)

LESSON DERIVED

Be contented so as to get to the Father, Godliness with contentment in a great gain – the great gain is heaven. With contentment you will not run unnecessarily. The world is going with its lust I John 2:15 – 17 but whosoever do the will of God will stand forever in His kingdom. Don't seek money is a wrong way. Be contented with what you have.

QUESTION

1. How can we be contented?
2. What lesson do we learn from our text?
3. Mention some results of not been contented?
4. What ends Saul's life?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord, forgive me for everything I have acquired and you are not pleased with.

LESSON 26

TOPIC: PROSTITUTION NATURE OF BELIEVERS

TEXTUAL SOURCE: EXO 32:1 – 10

MEMORY VERSE: JER 2:13 *“for my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters and hewed them out consernece, broken cisterns that can hold no water”.*

INTRODUCTION

Prostitution nature of believers is our point of study today.

Prostitution can be spiritual or physical. Spiritual prostitution is to leave the Truth God and seek after unholy gods. Physical prostitution involves fornication or adultery when you have your wife at home or husband at home. But today, we are limiting our study to the spiritual prostitution

A. PROSTITUTION NATURE OF CHILDREN OF ISRAEL

The children of Israel received great grace from God when he sent Moses to deliver them from slavery in Egypt with pharaoh.

However, they misused the opportunity when Moses went up to the mountain and stayed back than expected to return.

The Bible says that they gathered themselves to Aaron and asked him to make a golden calf for them that will lead them in their journey back to the Promised Land.

Exo 32:1 – 4. Aaron told them to bring golden earrings on the ears of their wives, young men and young ladies, with this, Aaron made a golden calf for them which they serve as idol.

Were they delivered from slavery by idol? This is where people often misbehave when they are comfortable. This is danger of comfort season. We also behave same way today when we think that God is a fool when we are comfortable Deut 32:15

And the anger of God was kindled at them and He called Moses to go down because his people which he has brought up from Egypt has sinned and have turned away from the path He has given them. They have made a golden calf for themselves and worship it Exo 32:7 – 10. God's anger kindled against them. Moses went down with two slates in his hands. He heard them shouting and Joshua. When Joshua heard the great shout, he told Moses that there was a cry of war in the camp but Moses replied that it was not the shout of victory.

When Moses drew closer to the camp he saw the golden calf and the congregation of the people. And the anger of Moses kindled greatly and threw the two slates down from his hands and broken them at the foot of the mountain. Exo 32:15 – 18.

B. OUR GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD

God does not want a rival Exo 20:5. The children of Israel are like someone who dances in the rain. The judgement of God proves to them that they were sinners and that they forsake God for a bad rival.

Therefore, God declared to them and to as many people who practice spiritual whoredom today about these three things. The three things can be found in the life of Hosea that God instructed to marry an harlot and gave birth to three children. God proclaimed the three things through the name given to the three children. The three things are for those committing both spiritual prostitution and physical Hosea 1:1 – 10.

1. I will scatter you – the name of the child was called Jezrel. The Lord said that He will cause the house Israel to cease. He scattered them. It is those, as many as, dwelling in the secret place of the Almighty that abide in this shadow Ps 91:1, Hosea. 1:4 many people who pray and engage in the work of ministry today on the Altar of God has been scattered and delivered to the devil because of fornication of religion or spiritual fornication. Are you not involved in spiritual fornication?

Where have you forsaken God and serve idol. Make restitution before you are scattered.

King Saul was scattered and never re-gathered.

2. I will not have mercy: the second child that the harlot born to Hosea is called Loruame, meaning I will not have mercy on the house of Israel again. Hos 1:6

This statement may be too hard to believe but whatever God says will be so. He never tell lies. Don't let Him be angry at you Num 23:19; Isa 55:11

If God should be angry at a person, no forgiveness. He was angry at Cain and he cursed him. He did not receive forgiveness Gen 4:10 – 13. May we not incur God's wrath in Jesus name. Be far away from spiritual prostitution or religious prostitution. Many people have differs prophets and many different churches. All these are spiritual prostitution.

3. You are not my people. The third child of the harlot is called Loami meaning – for you are not my people and I am not your God Heb 1:9. God knows who are His. He said, I know my people and my people know me John 10:14. Does God know me John 10:4. Does God know you that you are not among spiritual prostitute and physical one as well? God makes distinction between sheep and goats.

Although God created everyone but not everyone will return back to Him because God knows who are His people II Timo 2:19. Are you part of His people? Desist from both spiritual and physical prostitution so that you will not end up in hell.

These three things will happen to those who indulge or engage in spiritual and physical prostitution.

C. PUNISHMENT FOR SPIRITUAL PROSTITUTION OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL.

The children of Israel were punished for their sins because God was angry at them greatly. Moses rebuked Aaron because he made the calf for them. Moses was the opinion that Aaron caused the problem to make them sin against God Man's enemy shall be people of his own house Exo 32:19 – 28. Many souls were lost because of this act of prostitution.

Don't lose your life because God is a jealous God. No rival at all.

Serve the true God faithfully, in spirit and in truth and avoid sin. No little sin. Don't have other gods beside Him. Saul had another god beside Him and became a microampere when God left him

May God not forsake us. Amen.

LESSONS DERIVED

Spiritual prostitution is bad. It leads to religious prostitution is bad. It leads to religious prostitution where you go from one church to the other. Likewise, physical prostitution is bad because our body is the temple of God and must be kept holy. For this reason no type of prostitution is good.

God is a jealous God. He hates rival. No man wants rival with his wife, likewise God. Don't disrespect God

May God uphold us. Amen

QUESTION

1. What is the sin of the children of Israel?
2. Was it right for Aaron to help them make idol?
3. What are the meaning of the three children the harlot born to Hosea?
4. What is spiritual prostitution?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord deliver me from slavery of sin.