

# CHAPTER FIFTEEN

## WORD STUDY

### OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this chapter you will be able to:

- C Write the Key Verse from memory.
- C Identify key Bible words for study.
- C Explain how to do a Bible word study.
- C Do a Bible word study.

### KEY VERSE:

For verily I say unto you, Till Heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. (Matthew 5:18)

### INTRODUCTION

You have learned how to study the Bible by books, chapters, paragraphs, and verses. In this lesson you will learn how to study the smallest unit of the Bible which is a single word. An example of the word study method is presented and you are given an opportunity to do such a study in the "For Further Study" section of this chapter.

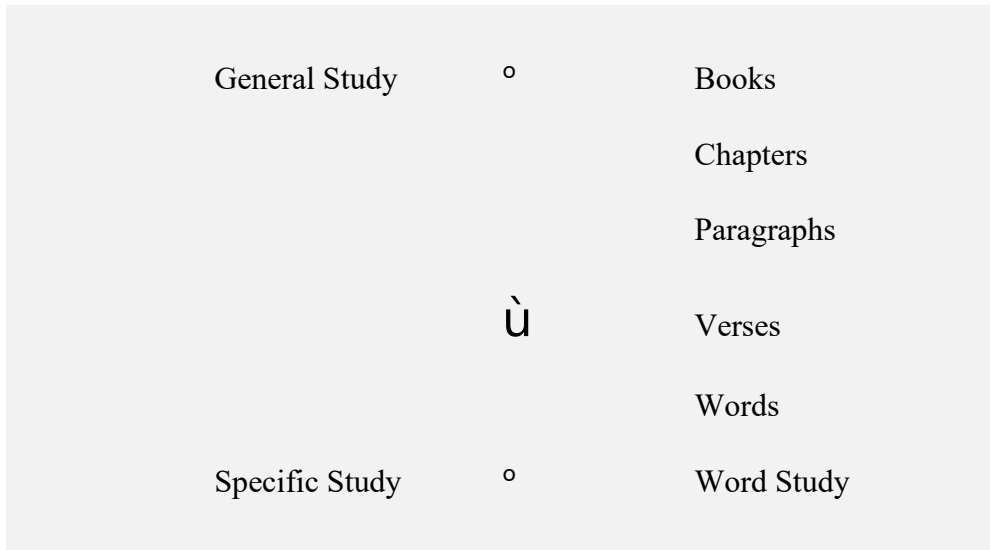
### THE METHOD DEFINED

Word study is the study of individual words in the Bible. The goal of word study is to understand a word in its context. Each detail of the inspired Word is so important that Jesus said:

For verily I say unto you, Till Heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. (Matthew 5:18)

"Jots and tittles" were Hebrew letters. If even these were emphasized by Jesus, then we know that every word of God is important. The meaning of individual words affects the meaning of verses. Verses explain paragraphs. Paragraphs help you understand chapters and chapters provide knowledge of an entire book.

The following diagram illustrates Bible structure from general (book) to specific (verse).



## THE METHOD EXPLAINED

### STEP ONE: SELECT THE WORD

During the studies of chapters, paragraphs, and verses, we introduced the concept of key words. A key word is one that is basic to the meaning of a verse. It is an important word. Sometimes it is a word that is repeated for special emphasis or a word that is difficult to understand.

Care must be taken in selecting a word to study. For example, words such as "to, and, if," are not key words. They are connective words and add meaning, but they are not good words to use for word study. Be sure the word you select for study is a key word.

### STEP TWO: STUDY THE WORD WITHIN ITS CONTEXT

Study the word within the context of the chapter. Is the word repeated elsewhere in the chapter? If so, what is revealed about its meaning? Is there another verse in the chapter that explains the meaning of the word? Next, study the word within the context of the paragraph. What is the subject of the paragraph? How does this key word relate to the subject?

Then study the word within the context of the verse. How does it relate to the verse? What part of speech is the word: Is it a noun, pronoun, verb, adverb, or adjective?

If you select a word to study and have not previously analyzed the context in which it

appears, you must always take time to do this. Chapters, paragraphs, verses, and words all fit together to provide complete understanding of God's Word. It is important that a word or verse is not taken out of context because you might interpret it incorrectly.

### STEP THREE: DETERMINE THE MEANING OF THE WORD

After selecting a key word and studying its context, the next step is to determine the meaning of the word.

Watch for words which are different but have the same meaning, for example, "Kingdom of God" and "Kingdom of Heaven." Watch for words which are the same but have different meanings. For example, in John 21:15-17 Jesus asked Peter three times, "Lovest thou me more than these?" Each time the meaning of the word "love" was different.

Unless you know Greek or Hebrew and have a Bible in these languages you will not be able to determine the original meaning of the word without additional study tools. The two basic study helps you need are a concordance and a Bible word study book. Chapter Five of this manual explains how to use both of these Bible study tools.

If you do not have a concordance or word study book you can still study a Bible word even though you may not be able to trace the original meaning. IF YOU DO NOT have a concordance or Bible word study book, then follow these steps:

1. If your Bible has a center margin which lists additional references for study, look up all the verses listed. They may expand your understanding of the word. Sometimes the center margin actually gives the meaning of the word.
2. Check in the back of your Bible. Some Bibles have a small concordance which lists some of the most important words. Some Bibles also have a dictionary in the back which provides definitions.
3. Look up the word in a modern language dictionary. This will provide knowledge of the current meaning of the word even though the way it was used in Bible days may have been somewhat different.
4. Study other uses of the word in the chapter or book. This will also help determine the meaning of the word.

IF YOU DO have a concordance and/or Bible word study book, then follow these steps:

1. If your Bible has a center margin which gives additional references and word meanings, see if the word you are studying is listed. (Point

1 in the preceding section explains how to use the center margin of your Bible).

2. Look up the word in a Bible concordance. Words are listed in a concordance in alphabetical order. If the word is used several places in the Bible, you will find a list of verses which contain the word. Study these verses to help you understand the meaning.

Find the word as it is used in the verse you are studying. Note the number given at the end of the concordance listing and look up this number in the back of the concordance. If you are studying a word from a verse in the Old Testament you will look up the number in the Hebrew Dictionary. If you are studying a word from the New Testament you will look up the word in the Greek Dictionary. (Chapter Five explains how to do this.)

When you find the word number, it gives you the original meaning of the word in Greek or Hebrew. It may also refer you to another number in the dictionary. This means the word you are studying came from another word. To trace your word back to the original meaning you will have to look up this other word also.

3. Look up the word in a Bible word study book. Words are listed in alphabetical order in a word study book. If your word is used elsewhere in the Bible you will find several listings. While you want to study these also, be sure to pay special attention to the verse from which you have selected your word. Your purpose is to determine what this word means within the context of that particular verse.
4. Look up the word in a regular dictionary. This will tell you how the word is currently used in modern language. It may be similar to its use in the Bible or it may be quite different. The difference between the use of words in modern language and in the Bible results from two things:

First, the meanings of words change throughout time. New meanings are attached to old words and sometimes the original meanings are forgotten.

Second, the Bible was written in Greek and Hebrew. The same word has different meanings in different languages. The word meant one thing in Greek or Hebrew but may be different

in another language.

#### STEP FOUR: SUMMARIZE YOUR STUDY

During the first three steps of word study make notes on what you learn about the word. Write down the meanings of the word from the Bible margin, concordance, word study book, and modern dictionary. Record notes on its use in other Bible passages.

When you complete your study, use what you have learned about charts and outlines to summarize your word study notes. Remember to record somewhere on your chart or outline the book, chapter, verse number, and word you are studying.

#### EXAMPLE OF THE METHOD

##### STEP ONE: SELECT THE WORD

In previous lessons we used Jude chapter 1 to demonstrate the methods of chapter, paragraph, and verse studies. From our study of Jude 1 we have selected the word "lasciviousness" in verse 4. This word is a key word because it describes false teachers which is the subject of this chapter. It is also a key word because it is a word that is difficult to understand.

##### STEP TWO: STUDY THE WORD WITHIN ITS CONTEXT

In previous lessons you completed a chapter and paragraph study on the book of Jude. This means you have already studied the word lasciviousness within these contexts. You learned that the subject of Jude 1 is a warning against false teachers. Verse 4, in which the word lasciviousness is used is one of the paragraphs of Jude 1. Refer to the lessons on chapter and paragraph studies to study this word within these contexts.

In the last chapter we explained how to do a verse study. You have not yet done a verse study on Jude 1:4 where the word lasciviousness appears. Stop now and do a verse study on Jude 1:4 before you continue this lesson on word studies.

In your verse study you should have identified the word lasciviousness as an adjective because it is a descriptive word that describes false teachers. False teachers turn the grace of God into lasciviousness.

##### STEP THREE: DETERMINE THE MEANING OF THE WORD

1. The Bible we were using for study of the word lasciviousness in Jude 1:4 had a center margin. The center margin referred us to Titus 2:11 and Hebrews 12:15.

2. Here is the concordance listing for the word lasciviousness:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Lasciviousness                             |                 |
| wickedness, deceit, l, an evil. . . . .    | Mk 7:22 766     |
| l which they have committed. . . . .       | 2 Cor 12:21 766 |
| fornication, uncleanness, l. . . . .       | Gal 5:19 766    |
| have given themselves over unto l. . . . . | Eph 4:19 766    |
| the Gentiles, when we walked in l. . . . . | 1 Pet 4:3 766   |
| the grace of our God into l. . . . .       | Jude 4 766      |

All the verses where the word was used were looked up and studied. The number "766" appears at the end of the listing for Jude 1:4. This is the same number at the end of the other listings. This means that the word lasciviousness has the same meaning in all the texts listed.

Since lasciviousness is a word in the New Testament, we used the Greek dictionary in the back of the concordance to look up number 766. This is the listing from the Greek dictionary:

766. Aselgeia, from a comp. Of I (as a neg. Particle) and a presumed selges (of uncertain der., but apparently, mean continent); licentiousness (sometimes including other vices):-filthy, lasciviousness, wantonness.

3. A Bible word study book was then used. Following is the listing for "lasciviousness":

### Lascivious, Lasciviousness

Aselegeia denotes excess, licentiousness, absences of restraint, indecency, wantonness; in Mark 7:22, one of the evils that proceed from the heart; in 2 Cor 12:21, one of the evils of which some in the church at Corinth had been guilty; in Gal 5:19, classed among the works of the flesh; in Eph 4:19, among the sins of the unregenerate who are past feeling; so in I Pet 4:3; in Jude 4, of that into which the grace of God had been turned by ungodly men; it is translated “wantonness” in Rom 13:13, one of the sins against which believers are warned.

We studied this entire listing, with special attention to the word as used in Jude 1:4.

4. A regular dictionary gave the modern meaning for the word lasciviousness:

"Lewd, lustful, exciting, sensual emotions."

#### STEP FOUR: SUMMARIZE YOUR STUDY

During the previous steps we made notes as we studied the word lasciviousness.

In Step One we wrote down the word selected for study.

In Step Two we already had chapter and paragraph studies from previous lessons. These became part of our word study. You were asked to do the verse study on Jude 1:4. All the information from these studies become part of the word study notes.

In Step Three as we studied the Bible margin, concordance, word study book, current dictionary, and other references containing the word, we took notes on what we were learning about the word lasciviousness.

We collected quite a bit of information about this word. The final step in our study is to summarize this material in chart and/or outline form. As we learned in previous lessons this is the best way to save studies in an organized way. It also helps you share what you

learn with others.

The following pages presents the summary of our word study on lasciviousness. Use these as examples of how to summarize your own word studies through charts and outlines, even pictures or diagrams.

As with each previous method discussed, we want to remind you of the importance of applying what you learn through word study. Bible study is not a quest for knowledge in itself. You must be a doer of the word and not a hearer only. You do this through applying the truths of God's Word.

## WORD STUDY

Book: Jude  
Chapter: 1  
Verse: 4  
Word: lasciviousness

Other words which have the same meaning: Wantonness

Part of Speech: Lasciviousness is an adjective. In Jude 1:4 it is used to describe a characteristic of false teachers.



### Chart One

#### Lasciviousness: Definitions

| Reference Book       | Word Number | Spelling       | Meaning   |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------|---|
| Greek                | 766         | aselgeia       | licentiousness,<br>filthy,<br>wantonness.                               |
| Modern               | ---         | lasciviousness | lewd, lustful,<br>exciting sensual<br>emotions.                         |
| Vine's Word<br>Study | —           | aselgeia       | denotes excess,<br>absence<br>of restraint,<br>indecency<br>wantonness. |

## Chart Two

### Lasciviousness: Additional Bible Uses

| Reference                 | Summary  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Mark 7:22                 | It is an evil that proceeds from the heart.  |
| II Corinthians 12:21      | It was one of the evils of which some in the at Corinth had been guilty              |
| Galatians 5:19            | Listed among the works of the flesh.   |
| Ephesians 4:19<br>feeling | One of the sins of the unregenerate who are past                                     |
| I Peter 4:3<br>feeling    | One of the sins of the unregenerate who are past                                     |
| Romans 13:13<br>against   | Word is translated "wantonness" and is one sins which believers are warned.          |
| II Peter 2:2              | It is translated "wantonness" and is listed as the characteristics of false teachers |
| Jude 1:4                  | It is a characteristic of false teachers   |

## Lasciviousness Expanded Studies

Word studies can lead to additional expanded studies of God's Word. From the study of the word lasciviousness, the following additional studies could be made:

1. Study the word in Mark 7:22 where it is listed as a sin which comes from within. What other sins come from within?
2. Study II Corinthians 12:21. What other sins besides lasciviousness did Paul identify in the Corinthian church?
3. Look up the word "wantonness" in the concordance. This word means the same as lasciviousness. Are there other Bible uses of the word "wantonness"?
4. Galatians 5:19. What are the other works of the flesh besides lasciviousness?
5. Ephesians 4. Study verses 17-19. Prepare a chart contrasting unbelievers and believers. List the characteristics of unbelievers given in verses 17-19. These include lasciviousness. List the characteristics of believers in verses 20-24.
6. Study I Peter 4:3. What were some of the other sins besides lasciviousness in which we walked in times past?
7. Study Romans 13:13. In addition to "wantonness" which means lasciviousness, what are other sins in which a believer should not engage?
8. Study the grace of God which false teachers have turned into lasciviousness. For example, Titus 2:11 says the grace of God has appeared to all men. Hebrews 12:15 indicates that we can "fail of the grace of God."

## SELF-TEST

1. Write the Key Verse from memory.

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2. List the four steps of the word study method.

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3. What is a key word?

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4. Which word in the list below is a key word and would be a good subject for word study?\_\_\_\_\_

he temperance she if and

5. What are the two most important Bible study books to use in doing word studies?

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(Answers to tests are provided at the conclusion of the final chapter in this manual.)

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Select a word from a verse or paragraph which you studied in previous lessons. Be sure it is a key word or a word you do not understand. Using the skills you learned in this lesson, do a word study on the word you selected.

### STEP ONE: SELECT THE WORD

The word I have selected to study is: \_\_\_\_\_

### STEP TWO: STUDY THE WORD WITHIN ITS CONTEXT

The Scriptural references for this word in its context are:

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### STEP THREE: DETERMINE THE MEANING OF THE WORD

As used in this context, this word means:

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### STEP FOUR: SUMMARIZE YOUR STUDY

Create a chart, outline, picture, or diagram to summarize what you learned about this word.

# ANSWERS TO SELF-TESTS

## CHAPTER ONE:

1. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (II Timothy 3:16-17)
2. The word "Bible" means "the books."
3. The word "Scripture" means "sacred writings."
4. Old Testament and New Testament.
5. 66.
6. Law, history, poetry, prophecy.
7. Gospels, history, letters, prophecy.
8. The word "testament" means "covenant."
9. For doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness. (II Timothy 3:16-17)
10. The Bible contains no contradictions and it is united in its major theme.
11. The Bible has variety.
12. a. T; b. T; c. F; d. F; e. F
13. Jesus. Luke 24:44-48.

## CHAPTER TWO:

1. Let my cry come near before thee, O Lord; give me understanding according to thy Word. (Psalm 119:169)
2. 39

3. 27
4. If you just read a chapter here and there you fail to understand how the Bible fits together. You must read the Bible in an orderly way if you are to understand its content.
5.
  - Read daily.
  - Read selectively.
  - Read prayerfully.
  - Read systematically.

#### CHAPTER THREE:

1. The Lord gave the Word: great was the company of those that published it. (Psalm 68:11)
2. A version is a Bible written in a language different from the languages in which God's Word was originally written.
3. A translation is a word by word translation of the Greek, Hebrew, and Aramic words. A paraphrase does not translate word for word. It is translated thought by thought.
4. The King James version.
5. Because no two languages are exactly alike so differences occur when translation is done.
6. Hebrew, Aramic, and Greek.

#### CHAPTER FOUR:

1. He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God. (John 8:47)
2. Because they try to read it the same way they do any other book.
3. Something you must do before you can do something else.
4. Knowing God and accepting Jesus Christ as Savior.
5. Believers who are called as teachers. The Holy Spirit.

6. The Holy Spirit.
7. The milk is the simple truths of the Word of God.
8. The meat is the deeper spiritual truths of the Bible which are not so easily understood.
9. -Desire the milk.  
-Be obedient to God's Word.  
-Search for the meat.
10. -Set a special time each day to study.  
-Select a special place to study.  
-Start each study session with prayer.

#### CHAPTER FIVE:

1. Thou through thy commandments has made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts. (Psalm 119:98-100)
2. -To locate all the Bible references to a word.  
-To locate a specific Bible text.  
-To find the meaning of a word.
3. 4, 2, 6, 1, 3, 5

#### CHAPTER SIX:

1. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (II Timothy 2:15)
2. It means you must understand what is being said to whom. You must also interpret and apply the meaning correctly.
3. The verbal inspiration of the Bible means every word in the original manuscripts was inspired by God.
4. The plenary inspiration of the Bible means the full inspiration of all Scripture as opposed to partial inspiration. Every portion of the Bible is inspired.
5. The rules and explanations are as follows:



1. The rule of divine authority. We accept the Bible as the final authority because it is inspired by God.
2. The rule of literal interpretation. The Bible means exactly what it says.
3. The rule of contextual consideration. Each verse must be studied in relation to its context.
4. The rule of first mention. The first time a word, phrase, object, or incident is mentioned in the Bible, it gives the key to its meaning anywhere else it is used in the Bible.
5. The rule of repetition. When something is repeated in the Bible it deserves special attention as it is very important.
6. The rule of cumulative revelation. The full truth of God's Word on any subject must not be gathered from an isolated passage. The cumulative (total) revelation of all the Bible says regarding a truth must be considered.

#### CHAPTER SEVEN:

1. Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever. (Psalm 119:152)
2. k, l, c, d, e, g, f, j, h, i, b, a
3. When.
4. Biblical archaeology is the study of remains found in Bible lands. It is a science which gains knowledge of Bible times from the study of existing remains of their civilizations.

#### CHAPTER EIGHT:

1. The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live. (Psalm 119:144)
2. The second main point should not come under point I. It should be a separate point and indicated by the Roman numerals II. Review the instructions for outlining given in this chapter.

3. Horizontally and vertically.
4. Marking is a way to emphasize key Bible passages. You underline selected verses or use symbols in the margins.

#### CHAPTER NINE:

1. Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous thing out of thy law. (Psalm 119:18)
2. See the symbols listed in Chapter Nine.
3. See the purposes listed in Chapter Nine.
4. Everyone who claims to speak God's Word is not really doing so. There are false teachers.
5. God will add to them the plagues written in the Word. Revelation 22:18-19
6. Their part will be taken out of God's book of life and out of the holy city and from the things which are written in the Word. Revelation 22:18-19.
7. God.
8. God's words.
9. Milk and the meat.
10. Moses.

#### CHAPTER TEN:

1. Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in thy Word. (Psalm 119:148)
2. This method emphasizes application of knowledge to life and ministry. It results in increased devotion to God.
3.
 

|   |  |
|---|--|
| -Record passage information<br>-Identify the key verse<br>-Meditate | -Identify the subject<br>-Summarize<br>-Make application |
|---|--|

4. It is not enough just to hear the Word. You must also apply the Word in your life.  
James 1:22-25
5. Satan fights the use of this method because he is concerned when Bible study results in application which brings positive change in spiritual life.

#### CHAPTER ELEVEN:

1. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. (Psalm 119:9)
2. 2, 1
3.
  - Do an initial survey
  - Create a book study chart
  - Create an outline
4.
  - Title of the book
  - Theme
  - Author
  - To whom the book was written
  - Purpose
  - Basic life and ministry principle

#### CHAPTER TWELVE:

1. Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalm 119:11)
2. Study of the Bible by chapters.
3.
  - Select a chapter title.
  - Mark paragraph divisions.
  - Create a chapter study chart.
  - Create a chapter outline.

#### CHAPTER THIRTEEN:

1. The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. (Psalm 119:130)
2.
  - Do a chapter study
  - Observe details of the paragraph

- Create a paragraph study chart
- Create a paragraph study outline

3. 3, 2, 4, 1
4. 4, 5, 1, 2, 3
5. 3, 2, 4, 1

#### CHAPTER FOURTEEN:

1. My tongue shall speak of thy Word: for all thy commandments are righteousness. (Psalm 119:172)
2. Context.
3.
  - Study the verse within its context
  - Study related verses
  - Create a verse study chart
  - Create a verse study outline

#### CHAPTER FIFTEEN:

1. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. (Matthew 5:18)
2.
  - Select the word.
  - Study the word within its context.
  - Determine the meaning.
  - Summarize your study.
3. A key word is one which is basic to the meaning of the verse. It is an important word. Sometimes it is a word difficult to understand or it is repeated for special emphasis.
4. The word "temperance" would be a good subject for word study. The other words are not key words.
5. A concordance and Bible word study book.

#### CHAPTER SIXTEEN:

1. Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold. Therefore I

esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.  
(Psalm 119:127-128)

2. The topical method focuses on a selected subject. The goal of the study is to discover all the Bible teaches on the subject.
3.
  - Select a topic.
  - Select the portion of Scripture.
  - Gather the information.
  - Summarize the information.

#### CHAPTER SEVENTEEN :

1. Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition . . .(I Corinthians 10:11)
2. The biographical method focuses on the lives of Bible personalities. By studying their lives we learn from their experiences.
3.
  - Select the person to be studied.
  - Gather the information.
  - Analyze The Information.
  - Apply What You Have Learned.

#### CHAPTER EIGHTEEN:

1. 7, 8, 5, 3, 4, 2, 1, 6, 9, 10
2. Thy testimonies are wonderful; therefore doth my soul keep them. (Psalm 119:129)
3. The theological method is the study of basic Bible doctrines about God. The method includes collecting, comparing, and organizing doctrinal statements.
4.
  - Select the topic of study.
  - Define the doctrine selected.
  - Select the Bible portion to be studied.
  - Gather information on the doctrine.
  - Summarize the information you gather.
5. A "doctrine" is a group of teachings about a certain subject. It contains all the Bible teaches on a selected subject.

## CHAPTER NINETEEN:

1. Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments. (Psalm 119:164)
2. b, c, a
3. c, a, b, d
4. Synonymous.
5. Antithetic.
6. Synthetic.
7. Emblematic.

## CHAPTER TWENTY:

1. And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms concerning me. (Luke 24:44)
2.
  - To authenticate God's message.
  - To confirm God's messenger.
  - To instruct believers.
3. All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for study. Prophecy presents a proper perspective of past, present, and future events in the plan of God. Understanding God's future plan prevents deception by Satan. A special blessing is pronounced on those who study it.
4.
  - Recognize Jesus is the basic theme of prophecy.
  - Realize that in many cases the Bible interprets itself.
  - Understand the rule of double reference.
  - Understand prophetic perspective.
  - Realize that prophecy is conditional in nature.
5. God.
6. Prophecy means to speak forth under the inspiration of God.

7.     -A message of inspiration from God.  
        -Prediction of future events in God's plan.  
        -An interpretation for man of the acts of God.
8.     The spoken word and acted prophecy.
9.     Genesis 3:15. It is the promise of a Messiah.
10.    See the ways of identifying false prophets discussed in Chapter Twenty.

#### CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE:

1.     For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. (Hebrews 10:1)
2.     The typological method is the study of a person, place, event, or thing as a type of something else. Types give an advance view of what is to come in God's future plan. Although the type is important in itself, it has an even greater significance in the future person or event which it represents.
3.     Shadow, figure, pattern.
4.     -Persons  
        -Places  
        -Events  
        -Material things
5.     Joseph.
6.     Jesus Christ.