

Through the
Bible in a
Year
Weeks 46 to 52

ACTS 9 – REVELATION 22

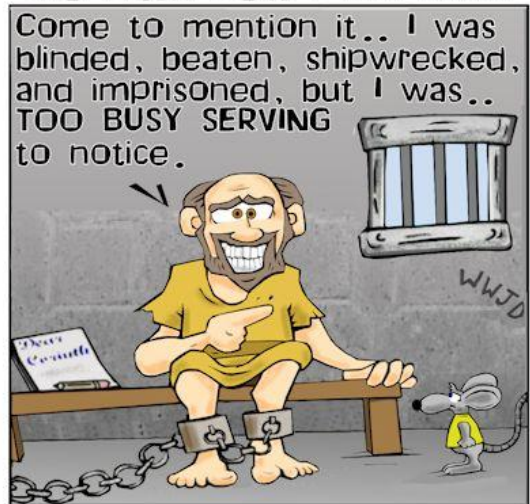
"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
Psalm 119:105

These courses are designed to be used in any calendar year for a small group to read the Bible together. It is based on having 52 meetings in a year so it will work with any year, since all days of the week always occur at least 52 times in a year. Those who attend are expected to read 3 or 4 chapters of the Bible each day (10 chapters every 3 days) for 51 weeks.

During class the reading is minimized so that there is sufficient time to discuss together what has been read. The class may want to consider each having specific topics that they are responsible for noticing and analyzing. For instance, one person may be responsible for noticing all the examples of prayers and another may be looking for God's promises or whatever you decide between you.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Week 46	Acts 9 - Romans 3
Week 47	Romans 4 - 1 st Corinthians 10
Week 48	1 Corinthians 11 - Galatians 5
Week 49	Galatians 6 - 2 nd Thessalonians 3
Week 50	1 st Timothy 1 - Hebrews 9
Week 51	Hebrews 10 - 3 John 1
Week 52	Jude 1 - Revelation 22

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The Apostle Paul.. too wrapped up in his love for God to notice his own problems. **Acts** THAT'S A NICE WAY TO APPROACH LIFE.

Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst)
3. Pray (The idea is to leave our troubles with God so we can give Him our full attention.)
4. Read the lesson's scripture aloud from the Bible (or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer if it is Scripture based.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak.**
7. Discuss your Think & Pray answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Discuss any questions or insights anyone has from their reading that week.
9. Close in prayer (It is good to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission first.)
10. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about one third of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting. If you take less time, answer "For Further Thought" questions or the reading questions from the previous week.

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Week 46 (Nov 15) -- Acts 9 - Romans 3

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

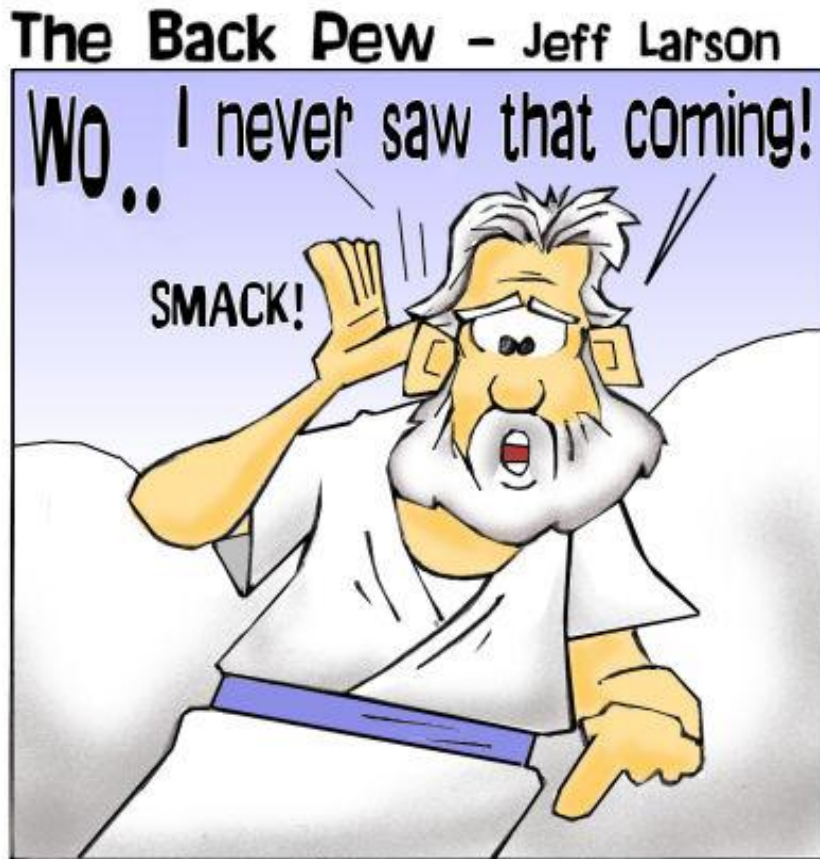
[A] Acts 15:5 What did the Christian Pharisees think should be observed? _____

[B] Acts 15:11 According to Peter how are we saved? _____

[C] Acts 15:20 James believed they should abstain from what? _____

[D] How does the conference at Jerusalem in Acts 15:1-29 apply to us today?

Think & Pray _____



God never looks down on Earth and is surprised by neither our plans or blunders.

Acts 15:18, 1 Chr. 28:9, 1 John 3:20

For further thought:

(v) What is the meaning of Acts 17:11 for Christians today?

(w) Romans 1:28-32 How many of the things on the list are you guilty of? So what?

(x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?

(y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?

(z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Week 47 (Nov 15-21)-- Romans 4 - 1 Corinthians 10

Sunday -- Romans 4-Romans 6

- (4) Romans 4:9-11 | Is Abraham your father? What does that mean?
- (5) Romans 5:3-5 describes a process of tribulation > perseverance > proven character > hope > heart full of love. How far along are you in this process?
- (6) What does Romans 6:1-7 tell us about the relationship between His burial and our baptism?

Monday -- Romans 7-Romans 10

- (7) In Romans 7:7 says that Paul learned not to covet from the law that said "Do not covet." How did you learn the difference between right and wrong? How do you know your understanding is correct?
- (8) If an unbeliever asked you to explain Romans 8:26-27 how would you do it? We'll discuss on Sunday.
- (9a) In Romans 9:19-22 Paul asks a series questions. What are the answers to these questions?
- (9b) Thinking about Romans chapter 9 -- How does God's sovereignty work together with our free will?
- (10) Compare Romans 10:20-21 with Isaiah 65:1-2. What do we learn by making this comparison?

Tuesday -- Romans 11-Romans 13

- (11) Explain Romans 11:16-24. Does it mean we are heirs of Abraham? Why or why not?
- (12) Romans 12:1-10 Some see spiritual gifts and roles differently. A role is a person the Spirit gives to the church as a whole. For example apostle is a role in the church and prophecy, administrations, and miracles would be spiritual gifts that someone would need to be in that role. What do you think? Why?
- (13a) Romans 13:1-7 | Does this mean the American Revolution was wrong?
- (13b) In the context of Matthew 22:15-22, compare Romans 13:1-7 with Acts 5:27-32. When is it OK to not obey the governing authorities?

Wednesday -- Romans 14-Romans 16

- (14a) Romans 14:1-4 | Does this imply it shows weakness of faith if you do not eat meat?
- (14b) Romans 14:18 | Does this suggest we should seek the approval of men?
- (15) What does Romans 15:1-2 mean? Which of the people described here is more like you?
- (16) Romans 16:1 | The word "servant" here is the Greek feminine form of "deacon". Some use this verse to justify having women deacons in their church. What do you think and why?

Thursday -- 1 Corinthians 1-1 Corinthians 4

- (1) "Wise" or "wisdom" appear a dozen times in 1 Corinthians 1:18-3. What is it talking about? (See Prv 9:7-12)
- (2) What does 1 Corinthians 2:10-13 talking about? What is a "spiritual word?"
- (3) 1 Corinthians 3:10-14 When it comes time for Him to pass out the rewards, what kind will you get?
- (4) Thinking about 1 Cor 4:12 – how do you react when people mistreat you?

Friday -- 1 Corinthians 5-1 Corinthians 7

- (5) Compare 1 Cor 5:7-8 with Deut 16:1-8; Numbers 9:1-14; Ex 12:1-20 OR Leviticus 23:4-8. So what?
- (6) What do you think 1st Corinthians 6:12 means? Does it mean we can do whatever we please?
- (7) 1 Corinthians 7:1-40 What is the main point Paul makes about marriage in this chapter?

Saturday -- 1 Corinthians 8-1 Corinthians 10

- (8) The word "know" or some form of it appears eleven times in 1 Corinthians 8:1-13. What can we learn about the virtue of knowledge from this passage?
- (9) In 1 Corinthians 9:9 Paul quotes Deuteronomy 25:4. What point is he making with this quote?
- (10) How many allusions or references to the Old Testament can you find in 1 Corinthians 10? So?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

- [A] Acts 15:5 What did the Christian Pharisees think should be observed? The Law
- [B] Acts 15:11 According to Peter how are we saved? Grace of the Lord Jesus
- [C] Acts 15:20 James believed they should abstain from what? Idols and fornication
- [D] In Acts 15:1-29 we find that some of the Apostles believed that Christians were to keep all the traditions and customs of the Old Testament. Paul and Barnabas argue and debate with them that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of all that. The Old Testament was designed to make us realize our need for Him. Paul and Barnabas prevail. You can get a more detailed view of Paul's arguments in all of his epistles, but they are probably most clearly stated in Romans and Galatians. How does that apply today? Christianity is for all people, not just the Jews. Christianity is not about symbols, traditions, and rituals. It is instead about a close personal relationship with God. The entire Bible, including the Old Testament, has this same message, and it is all we need.

Week 47 (Nov 22) -- Romans 4 - 1 Corinthians 10

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A] Romans 8:26 Who intercedes when we don't know how to pray? _____

[B] Romans 8:27 Intercession for the saints is according to what? _____

[C] What does Romans 8:26-27 mean?

Think & Pray _____



For further thought:

(x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?

(y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?

(z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Week 48 (Nov 22-28) -- 1 Corinthians 11 - Galatians 5

Sunday -- 1 Corinthians 11-1 Corinthians 14

(11) 1 Corinthians 11:26 What does "proclaim the Lord's death" have to do with eating and drinking?

(12) How are the varieties of the gifts related to unity? (1 Corinthians 12:4-13)

(13) 1 Cor 13:1-13 Do you think love is a gift of the Spirit? Why? Is love an action or a feeling?

(14) What is 1st Corinthians 14 about? Is it just a comparison between prophecy and tongues?

Monday -- 1 Corinthians 15-2 Corinthians 1

(15) 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 reports that before the resurrection Christ was buried. Why is that important

(16) Compare 1 Cor 16:1-4 with Ex 20:8-11. What Old Testament principle is being taught in the New?

(1) In 2 Cor 1:4 Who gives us comfort in our trouble, tribulation or afflictions? So what?

Tuesday -- 2 Corinthians 2-2 Corinthians 4

(2) Notice the aroma metaphors in 2 Cor 2:14-17. How do they help our understanding?

(3) What does 2nd Corinthians 3:2-3 mean to you? What impact does it have on us?

(4) According to 2 Cor 4:14 Who will raise us from the grave? So what?

Wednesday -- 2 Corinthians 5-2 Corinthians 8

(5) Compare 2 Cor 5:21 with Jer 23:5-6; 33:16, Ez 36:26-17. Where does our righteousness come from?

(6) Compare 2 Corinthians 6:2 with Isaiah 49:8. When is the right time to repent and pray?

(7) In 2 Corinthians 7:1 what is promised to who under what conditions? Does the promise apply to us?

(8) In 2 Cor 8:1-5 they are described as patient and even joyful in time of trouble. How about you?

Thursday -- 2 Corinthians 9-2 Corinthians 11

(9) Compare 2 Cor 9:7 with Mal 3:10 and Prv 11:24-25. What Old Testament principle is being taught?

(10) Compare 2 Corinthians 10:17 with Isaiah 64:4. What do we learn by making this comparison?

(11) 2 Corinthians 11:14 How does it help for us to know this about Satan?

Friday -- 2 Corinthians 12-Galatians 1

(12) In 2 Cor 12:1-6, some think Paul was referring to John in Revelations. What do you think? Why?

(13) Compare 2 Corinthians 13:1 with Deut 17:6, 19:15, Matt 18:16. What do we learn?

(1) In Galatians 1:11-24 Paul gave the story of how he came to Christ. What is your story?

Saturday -- Galatians 2-Galatians 5

(2) How do you decide if you will give people "the right hand of fellowship?" Galatians 2:9

(3) In Gal 3:1-5 Paul asks the Galatians five questions. How would you answer them?

(4) Compare Galatians 4:21-31 with Genesis 16:1-15 & Genesis 21:8-21. What do we learn?

(5a) Compare Gal 5:22-23 with 2 Cor 6:1-10 that we read on Wednesday. We'll discuss on Sunday.

(5b) Gal 5:24 is not talking about suicide when it says "crucify the flesh." What does it mean?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

[A] Romans 8:26 Who intercedes when we don't know how to pray? The Holy Spirit

[B] Romans 8:27 Intercession for the saints is according to what? The will of God

[C] I think Romans 8:26-27 means that the effectiveness of our prayers does not depend on our character, but on the character of God. It doesn't matter how filthy our sin, how inarticulate our words, how muddled our thoughts, or how silly our ideas. Recreated through the blood of Christ we become God's righteous children, and He hears our prayers. James 5:16 "... The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." But God is not Santa Claus. Prayer is not about making a list of things we want, and getting God to approve and provide it. Prayer is about a loving relationship, where we can show him our deepest longings, even the ones we do not truly understand ourselves. It is about trusting Him to do what is best for us, even if we do not like it. We cannot see around the curves in the road, or over the hills; and although we may realize the general destination, we cannot visualize the details of the road. But The Holy Spirit does know and therefore He makes intercession for us. One of the most encouraging and comforting aspects of the Holy Spirit is His ministry of intercession on behalf of those He inhabits. Because we often don't know what or how to pray when we approach God, the Spirit intercedes and prays for us. He interprets our "groanings," so that when we are oppressed and overwhelmed by trials and the cares of life, He comes alongside to lend assistance as He sustains us before the throne of grace.

Week 48 (Nov 29) -- 1 Corinthians 11 - Galatians 5

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A] Galatians 5:24 says that if we live by the Spirit we should _____

[B] 2 Cor 6:2 When is the acceptable time of salvation? _____

[C] 2 Cor 6:3 Why should we be careful not to offend? _____

[D] 2 Corinthians 3:2-3 Paul calls them what? _____

[E] Compare these two passages from our reading this week:

Gal 5:22-23	2 Cor 6:1-10
But the fruit of the Spirit is	v. 4 commending ourselves as servants of God v. 6 in the Holy Spirit
love,	v. 6 in genuine love,
joy,	v. 10 as sorrowful yet always rejoicing,
peace,	v. 3 giving no cause for offense in anything
patience,	v. 6 in patience
kindness,	v. 6 in kindness
goodness,	v. 7 the weapons of righteousness
faithfulness,	v. 4 in much endurance, in afflictions
gentleness,	v. 3 giving no cause for offense in anything
self-control;	v. 6 in purity

Clearly there are a lot of parallels. There are also some differences. What is the difference in the purpose of each passage? What implication does that have for us?

Think & Pray _____



For further thought:

- (u) 1 Cor 12 How do you use your gifts for the benefit of the God's kingdom? We have a course on the Spiritual gifts. See http://www.lovebiblestudy.com/TOP_300/TOP_325_Gifts_of_Spirit.pdf
- (v) Some see a difference between "natural" talents and "spiritual" gifts. What do you think and why?
- (w) 1 Cor 13:13 says that love is greater than faith and hope. Why do you think love is the greatest?
- (x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?
- (y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?
- (z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Week 49 (Nov 29 - Dec 5) -- Galatians 6 - 2 Thessalonians 3

Sunday -- Galatians 6-Ephesians 2

(6) In Gal 6:1 Paul talks about restoring someone caught in a sin? How does that work? Matt 18:15-18

(1) What prayers and promises can you find in Ephesians 1?

(2) Compare Satan in Ephesians 2:2 with Job 1:6-12. What do we learn by making this comparison?

Monday -- Ephesians 3-Ephesians 5

(3) Have you ever been "strengthened with might by His Spirit" as it says in Eph 3:16? Explain.

(4a) Ephesians 4:1 implores us "to walk in a manner worthy of the calling ... " Are you? Really?

(4b) In Eph 4:11-13 it lists some offices or jobs in His church. Where do you fit in?

(5) Compare Ephesians 5:8 & 5:14 with Isaiah 60:1 and Malachi 4:2-3. What does this teach us?

Tuesday -- Ephesians 6-Philippians 3

(6) In Eph. 6:18-20 who is praying for what, if anything, and what does it teach us about prayer?

(1) Phil 1:6 Paul says Jesus will finish what He started in us. What did He start? When will He finish?

(2) Would you interpret Philippians 2:5-8 to mean that Jesus was equal with God, or not? Why?

(3) What did Paul mean by conforming to the death of Christ in Phil 3:10? (Hints: Matt 10:38 & 16:24)

Wednesday -- Philippians 4-Colossians 2

(4) In Phil 4:4 is "Rejoice" a command or a suggestion? Why? More on Phil 4:1-13 on Sunday.

(1) In Col. 1:1-14 who is praying for what, if anything, and what does it teach us about prayer?

(2) What does Col 2:9 mean? Compare with Philippians 2:5-8. How does that help?

Thursday -- Colossians 3-1 Thessalonians 1

(3) Col 1:21 and Col 3:9-12 describes us before and after Christ. Which description fits you better?

(4) Colossians 4:5-6 says we are to know how to respond. Do you? What does salt mean?

(1) Thinking of 1 Thess. 1:2 – How often are you thankful for and pray for your Christian friends?

Friday -- 1 Thessalonians 2-1 Thessalonians 5

(2) Compare the metaphors in 1 Th 2:7 & 11. How can Paul be both?

(3) Thinking of 1 Thess 3:9-10 -- For what are you praying for both day and night?

(4) Compare 1 Thessalonians 4:9 & Jeremiah 31:33 If God is doing the teaching and putting the right stuff in our heart why must we "excel still more" as it says in 1Thess 4:1 & 4:10?

(5) Compare 1 Thess 5:23-24 with Ex 31:12-13. What does this teach us about the nature of God?

Saturday -- 2 Thessalonians 1-2 Thessalonians 3

(1) In 2 Thess 2:3 their love is continually growing. Is yours? Why or why not?

(2) In 2 Thess 2:6 Paul says they know what restrains the man of lawlessness? Do you know? What?

(3) 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15 Does this mean we are not supposed to feed hungry people who are lazy?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

[A] Galatians 5:24 says that if we live by the Spirit we should also walk by the Spirit.

[B] 2 Cor 6:2 When is the acceptable time of salvation? Now

[C] 2 Cor 6:3 Why should we be careful not to offend? So the ministry will not be discredited

[D] 2 Corinthians 3:2-3 Paul calls them what? The letter or message of Christ

[E] In Galatians 5 the list is offered as attributes we need to have to avoid falling into the deeds of the flesh also listed right before it. The purpose is given in 2 Cor 6:3 as "... so that the ministry will not be discredited."

Anything beyond that quickly becomes speculation, but in my opinion the implication is clear. When we become Christians we are in some sense taking the Lord's name or the Lord's reputation. We need to act in a way that is consistent with His reputation as an act of worship and to glorify his "name" so that others will be drawn to Him and be saved. Exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit is certainly consistent with God's nature. Jesus Christ was a message to humanity from God of His love. I believe Paul is encouraging us to imitate Jesus Christ by also being this kind of message. You may be the only "real" Christian some people meet. What will they remember about Jesus Christ after having been with you? The contrast is between the Ten Commandments written on tables of stone (Deut. 4:13), which is external; and the Law of the Spirit written in the heart (2 Cor. 3:2,3), which is internal. The external Law brought death, and the internal Law brought life. Let the Spirit bear fruit in your life and people will be drawn to Him for salvation.

Week 49 (Dec 6) -- Galatians 6 - 2 Thessalonians 3

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A] Philippians 4:1-4 How often are we to rejoice? _____

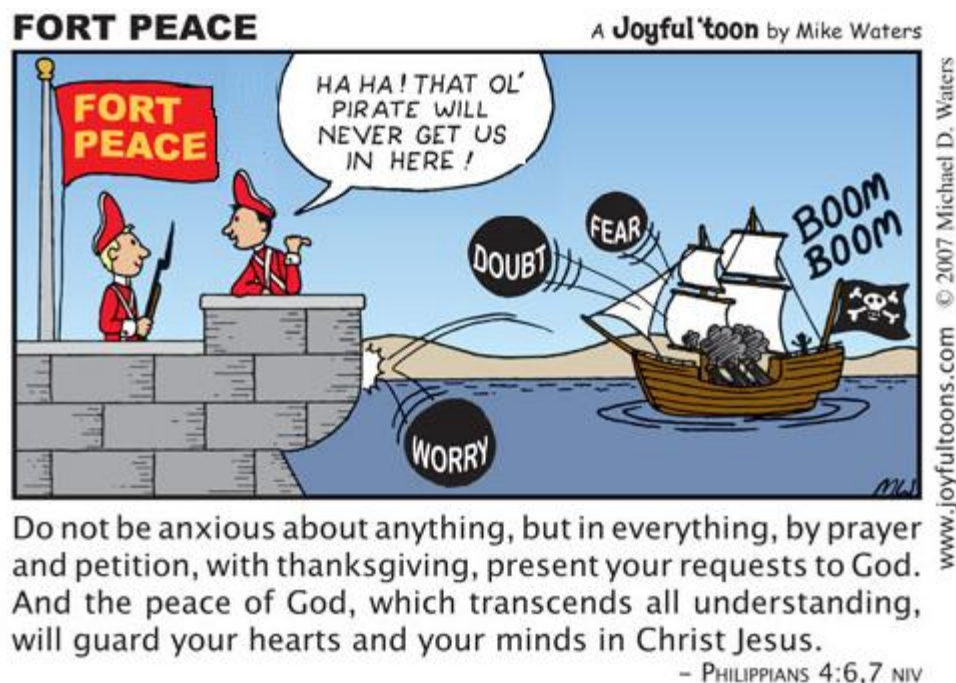
[B] Philippians 4:5-7 What will guard our hearts and minds? _____

[C] Philippians 4:8-9 The God of what will be with us? _____

[D] Philippians 4:9-14 How can Paul do all things? _____

[E] In Philippians 4:8-13 Paul exhorts his readers to rejoice regardless of circumstances. He gives them some hints how they can do this and promises them something if they do what he says. How can we rejoice even in bad times and what are we promised if we do?

Think & Pray _____



For further thought:

- (p) In Galatians 6:15 it talks about a new creation. What is it talking about?
- (q) In Eph 1:13 is the "holy Spirit of promise" the same as The Holy Spirit? Why?
- (r) In Eph 2:10 it says God saved us so that we could do good things. What do you suppose will happen if we decide not to do good things? Do you think God will just shrug and say, "Well, I guess I shouldn't have saved that one."?
- (s) Eph 4:30-32. How does it make the Holy Spirit feel when we sin? So what?
- (t) Eph 5:21 says to subject or submit ourselves to each other. Meaning who exactly?
- (u) Ephesians 6:1 says "... parents in the Lord ..." What does this mean?
- (v) Eph 6:10-20 How do we stand against the devil? Isn't he too powerful?
- (w) In Phil 1:12-20 Paul seems happy to be in jail. Why?
- (x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?
- (y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?
- (z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Week 50 (Dec 6-12) -- 1 Timothy 1 - Hebrews 9

Sunday -- 1 Timothy 1-1 Timothy 3

- (1) Compare the repentance of Paul 1 Timothy 1:13-16 with Job's in 42:3-6. Which is more like you?
- (2) Compare 1 Tim 2:5 with Deut 5:5 & Job 9:33. What do we learn by making this comparison?
- (3) In 1Tim 3:6 How long do you think someone should be a Christian before becoming a leader. Why?

Monday -- 1 Timothy 4-2 Timothy 1

- (4) In 1Tim 4:8, Paul says spiritual discipline is superior to bodily discipline. Please explain.
- (5) What do you think 1Tim 5:12 means and why? How does it apply to us?
- (6a) 1 Timothy 6:9-10 What kind of greed is Paul talking about? How can we guard against it?
- (6b) In 1 Tim 6:12-19 the word "good" is used six times. Does it always mean the same thing? Why?
- (1) 2 Timothy 1:5 What can you do to help your extended family come to know Christ better?

Tuesday -- 2 Timothy 2-2 Timothy 4

- (2) 2nd Tim 2:3-6 compares Christian ministry with being a soldier, and athlete and a farmer. Explain.
- (3) In 2 Tim 3:16-17 what, if anything, is promised to who under what conditions? Is it a promise to us?
- (4) 2 Tim 4:1 says "I solemnly charge ..." Does it mean what Paul says elsewhere is less important?

Wednesday -- Titus 1-Titus 3

- (1) Titus 1:7 says "overseer." Is this an elder and a deacon, bishop, pastor, prophet and/or preacher?
- (2) Titus 2:9 Is Paul justifying slavery? How do you know? Titus 2:11-14 will be discussed Sunday.
- (3) Titus 3:3 describes what Paul and Titus were like before they were saved. What were you caught up in before Jesus appeared in your life? Our "before & after" stories of salvation are our most powerful witnessing too. What is your story?

Thursday -- Philemon 1-Hebrews 3

- (Phm 1) Is Paul violating Deuteronomy 23:15-16 by sending Onesimus back to Philemon?
- (Heb 1) What prophecy in Psalm 110:1 is fulfilled in Hebrews 1:3? So what?
- (2) According to Heb 2:14 who and what has been rendered powerless? How does that make you feel?
- (3) Compare Hebrews 3:1-6 with Deut 18:15-19. So what?

Friday -- Hebrews 4-Hebrews 6

- (4) How does Hebrews 4:12 apply to our daily Christian walk?
- (5) What does Hebrews 5:8-11 tell us about Jesus? How can we be more like Him?
- (6) What does Hebrews 6:1-8 mean? Do you still think it means that if you include verse 9?

Saturday -- Hebrews 7-Hebrews 9

- (7) Compare Heb 7:22-26 with Deuteronomy 4:13, 15:21 & 17:1. What do we learn?
- (8) Compare Heb chapter 8 with Ps. 110:4, Zech. 6:13 and Gen. 14:18-20. What do we learn?
- (9a) Is Hebrews 9:11-14 talking about literal blood, a metaphor for death or what? How do you know?
- (9b) Please explain Heb 9:13-14 as if you were speaking to someone who did not know Jesus Christ?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

- [A] Philippians 4:1-4 How often are we to rejoice? Always v. 4
- [B] Philippians 4:5-7 What will guard our hearts and minds? The incomprehensible peace of God v. 7
- [C] Philippians 4:8-9 The God of what will be with us? The God of peace v. 9
- [D] Philippians 4:9-14 How can Paul do all things? Through Him who strengthens him v. 13
- [E] We are to pray with thanksgiving. In order to be truly thankful and avoid worry we are to think about the truth, what is honorable, what is right, what is pure, what is beautiful, what good news we hear, anything excellent, and anything worthy of praise. If we focus our attention on these things we won't have time to worry, complain, gripe, or grumble and the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Can you think of one or two examples of each thing listed in Philippians 4:8?

Week 50 (Dec 13) -- 1 Timothy 1 - Hebrews 9

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A] Titus 2:11 What has the grace of God brought? _____

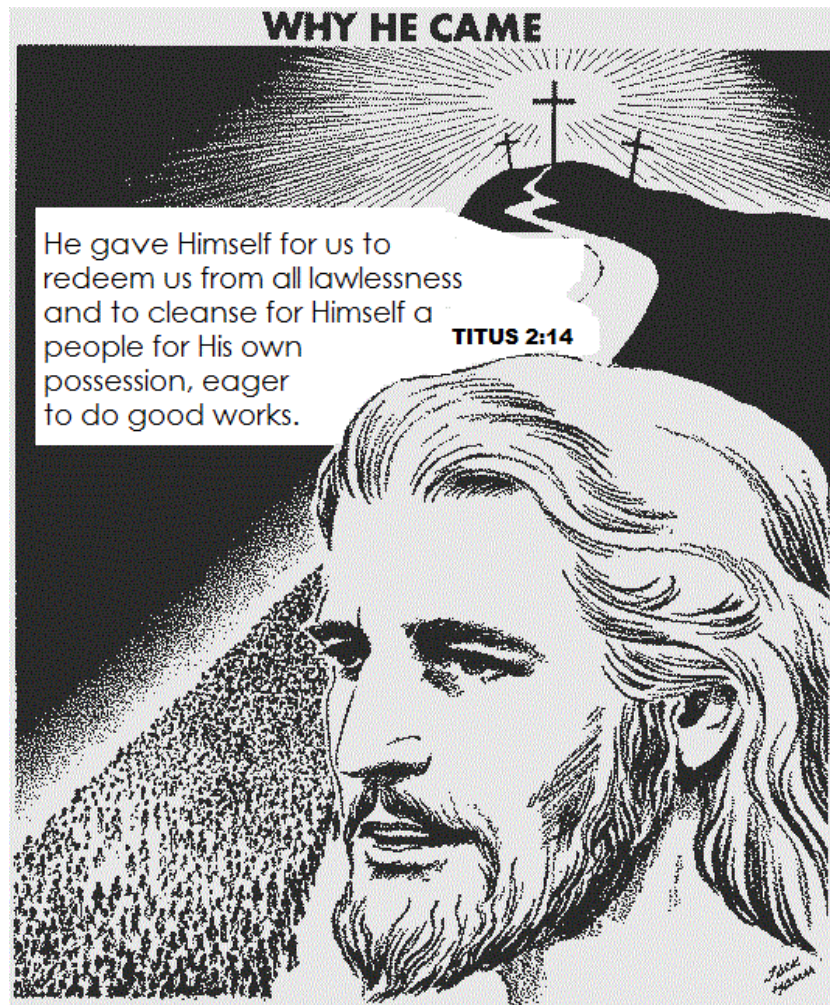
[B] Titus 2:12 How are we to live in this age? _____

[C] Titus 2:13 What should we be expecting? _____

[D] Titus 2:14 What are we to be zealous for? _____

[E] Please explain what Titus 2:11-14 means?

Think & Pray _____



For further thought:

(w) In 1Tm 2:12, Paul says that he, Paul, does not allow women to teach men. Some people believe Paul meant for this to apply only to himself. Others think he meant for it to apply as a rule or law for the entire body of Christ in all ages and places. What do you think Paul meant and why?

(x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?

(y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?

(z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Week 51 (Dec 13-19) -- Hebrews 10 - 3 John 1

Sunday -- Hebrews 10-Hebrews 13

- (10) Compare Hebrews 10:4-10 with Micah 6:6-8. What do we learn by making this comparison?
- (11) In Hebrews 11 how many people do you recognize and remember what Hebrews is talking about?
- (12) What is Hebrews 12:29 talking about? (Hint: Hebrew 12:4-13)
- (13) Compare Hebrews 13:8 with Psalm 90:2, Malachi 3:6 and James 1:17. Who is Jesus?

Monday -- James 1-James 3

- (1) James 1:2-3 Why is he saying we should be happy to have difficulties and trials?
- (2a) James 2:17-18 If Christianity was against the law, what evidence would they have against you?
- (2b) Compare Romans 3:24-31 with James 2:17-26. Do they contradict? More on Sunday.
- (3a) James 3:5 Can you give some examples from your own life that show that this is true?
- (3b) If someone asked your advice on how to take more control over their tongue, what would you say?

Tuesday -- James 4-1 Peter 1

- (4) Compare James 4:13-16 with Proverbs 27:1 and Luke 12:18-20. Differences & similarities?
- (5) How do we reconcile James 5:13-18 with the fact that we sometimes pray for sick people who die?
- (1) 1 Peter 1:10-12 What does this passage mean? How does it apply to us?

Wednesday -- 1 Peter 2-1 Peter 5

- (2) In 1 Peter 2:1 what is the "therefore" there for? What is it referring back to before it?
- (3) 1 Peter 3:1-2. What does this passage mean? How does it apply to us? (Hint 1 Peter 2:21)
- (4) In 1 Pet. 4:7 what does it teach us about prayer?
- (5) 1 Pet 5:1-4 Describe what it would look like for a pastor to act that way in the modern church?

Thursday -- 2 Peter 1-2 Peter 3

- (1) How are you doing with respect to the nine qualities listed by Peter in 2 Peter 1:5-7? Are you useful and fruitful as it suggests in verse 8? How do you know?
- (2) In Genesis chapters 5 through 10 (the story of Noah) the words "preach" or "preacher" do not appear anywhere. What is 2nd Peter 2:5 mean when it calls Noah a "preacher of righteousness?"
- (3) Thinking about 2 Peter 3:10-13 -- What is the answer to the question? What sort of people are we?

Friday -- 1 John 1-1 John 3

- (1) 1 John 1:1-3 Based on the gospels what are some of the things that John saw, heard and touched during his three years with Jesus that might have convinced him to believe in Jesus Christ?
- (2) 1 John 2:7-8 talks about an old and a new commandment. What is it talking about?
- (3) What point is John trying to make when he tells us in 1 John 3:20 that God knows everything?

Saturday -- 1 John 4-3 John 1

- (4) During a conversation with another Christian, if they say, "The Lord has told me that...." How can you tell if they are lying to you, lying to themselves or telling the truth according to 1 John 4:1-6?
- (5) Read 1 John 5:7-8 in several different versions including the King James and some modern versions. What did you discover and why does it matter?
- (2Jn 1) How would you summarize this little book?
- (3Jn 1) In 3 John 1:2-4 who is praying for what, if anything, and what does it teach us about prayer?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

- [A] Titus 2:11 What has the grace of God brought? Salvation to all men
- [B] Titus 2:12 How are we to live in this age? Sensibly, righteously and godly
- [C] Titus 2:13 What should we be expecting? Blessed hope, His appearance
- [D] Titus 2:14 What are we to be zealous for? Good deeds
- [E] This is the way I see Titus 2:11-14. Basically this passage is saying God's Grace = Jesus Christ. Jesus brought salvation to all men. Jesus instructed us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires. The word "teaching" or "instructing" in verse 12 is from the Greek word "paideuo" meaning not only to instruct (even the Law could instruct men "to do", or "not to do"), but to train, to educate so as to produce godly conduct. Jesus instructed us to live sensibly, righteously, and godly. Jesus instructed us to expect him to return. It is saying here that "Jesus is God's Grace," in much the same way that the Bible says in other places that Jesus is the light of the world, love, bread of life, the door, the good shepherd, the resurrection, the way, the truth, and the life. The way it states it in verse 13 it puts, "our great God and Savior" in apposition to "Christ Jesus." This means that it is saying that Jesus is Lord. It says that the purpose Jesus had for making His sacrifice was to redeem us from unrighteousness so that He might have people who follow Him who are enthusiastic about doing good.

Week 51 (Dec 20) -- Hebrews 10 - 3 John 1

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A] Romans 3:24-26 What is as a gift? _____

[B] Romans 3:27-31 A man is justified by faith apart from what? _____

[C] James 2:17-20 James will show his faith by what? _____

[D] James 2:21-31 A man is justified by what and not by faith alone? _____

[E] Compare Romans 3:24-31 with James 2:17-26. Do they contradict?

Think & Pray _____

MIRROR OF GOD'S WORD

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

- JAMES 1:23,24 NIV

For further thought:

- (v) James 5:16 What is this verse talking about? (Hint: 1 Kings 17 & 18)
- (w) 1 John 1:5 Is God really the light we see by or is it a figure of speech for something? So what?
- (x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?
- (y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?
- (z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Week 52 (Dec 20-26) -- Jude 1 - Revelation 22

Sunday -- Jude 1-Revelation 2

(Jd 1) Jude 1:21 instructs us to keep ourselves in the love of God. How do we do that?

(Rv 1) Compare the sword Rev 1:16 & Rev 2:16 with Matt 10:34 & Eph 6:17. We'll discuss on Sunday.

(2) Compare Rev 2:26-27 with Ps 2:8-9. What does this teach us about the nature of God?

Monday -- Revelation 3-Revelation 5

(3) With every message to a church He repeats, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." What does it mean? (Hints Ezekiel 3:27 & Daniel 12:10)

(4) Compare Rev 4:8 with Ex 3:14 and Is 6:3. What does this teach us about the nature of God?

(5) In Revelation 5:10 it says we are being made into priests in order to help the Lord rule the earth.

How is God preparing you for your duties? How do you know?

Tuesday -- Revelation 6-Revelation 9

(6) In Rev. 6:10 who is praying for what, if anything, and what does it teach us about prayer?

(7) In Rv 7:17 what, if anything, is promised to who under what conditions? Does it apply to us?

(8) Compare Revelation 8:8 with Exodus 7:14-24. What do we learn by making this comparison?

(9) Compare Revelation 9:3-19 with Exodus 10:1-20; 11:1-10 & 12:29-30.

Wednesday -- Revelation 10-Revelation 12

(10) Compare Rev 10:7 with Joshua 6:15-18 & Dan 9:27. What do we learn?

(11) Compare Rev. 11:4 with Zech 4:2-3, 11-14. What do we learn?

(12) Compare Revelation 12:12 with Psalm 96:11. What do we learn by making this comparison?

Thursday -- Revelation 13-Revelation 15

(13) How does Rev 13:10 use Jeremiah 15:2?

(14) Compare Revelation 14:4 with Exodus 34:26. So what?

(15) In Rev. 15:3-4 they sing a song. What tune that you know might go with this song?

Friday -- Revelation 16-Revelation 19

(16) Compare Revelation 16:2-21 with Exodus 7:25-8:11; 9:8-35 & 10:21-29. What do we learn by

(17) Atheist Attack "In Revelation 17:14 and Rev 19:16 it calls Jesus Christ 'King of kings and Lord of Lords.' However in 1st Tim 6:15-16 it says that 'no man has seen Him' and we know people saw Jesus. Isn't that a contradiction?" How could we respond to him?

(18) Compare Revelation 18:17-18 with Joshua 6:24. What do we learn by making this comparison?

(19) In Rev. 19:1-10 who is praying for what, if anything, and what does it teach us about prayer?

Saturday -- Revelation 20-Revelation 22

(20) Compare Revelation 20:2 with Gn 3:1-4. What Old Testament principle is being taught?

(21) Compare Revelation 21:23 with Isaiah 60:19-21. What do we learn by making this comparison?

(22) Compare Revelation 22:16 with Numbers 24:17, Malachi 4:2-3. What do we learn?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

[A] Romans 3:24-26 What is as a gift? Being justified (v. 24)

[B] Romans 3:27-31 A man is justified by faith apart from what? Works of the Law (v. 28)

[C] James 2:17-20 James will show his faith by what? His works (v. 18)

[D] James 2:21-31 A man is justified by what and not by faith alone? Works (v. 24)

[E] At first it looks like they are saying the exact opposite. However, if you look at Romans 3:31 I believe you will see they are saying the same thing with regard to faith vs. works. But Paul and James are applying it to two different situations of the heart. In Romans Paul is talking about grace vs. Law. He is making the point that Christianity is about God reaching down to man, not man reaching up to God. This is one of the key things that distinguishes Christianity from all the other religions. Paul is explaining the inadequacy of keeping the Law for salvation. James sees it exactly the same way, but he is addressing a completely different issue. He is not talking about grace vs. law. James is talking about believing faith vs. trusting faith. Believing God exists is nothing. Even demons do that. Trusting God enough to try to obey Him shows trusting faith, which is the kind of faith Paul also means in Rom 3:31.

Week 52 (Dec 27, 2015) -- Jude 1 - Revelation 22

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A] Revelation 1:16 What came out of His mouth? _____

[B] Revelation 2:16 He will make war with what? _____

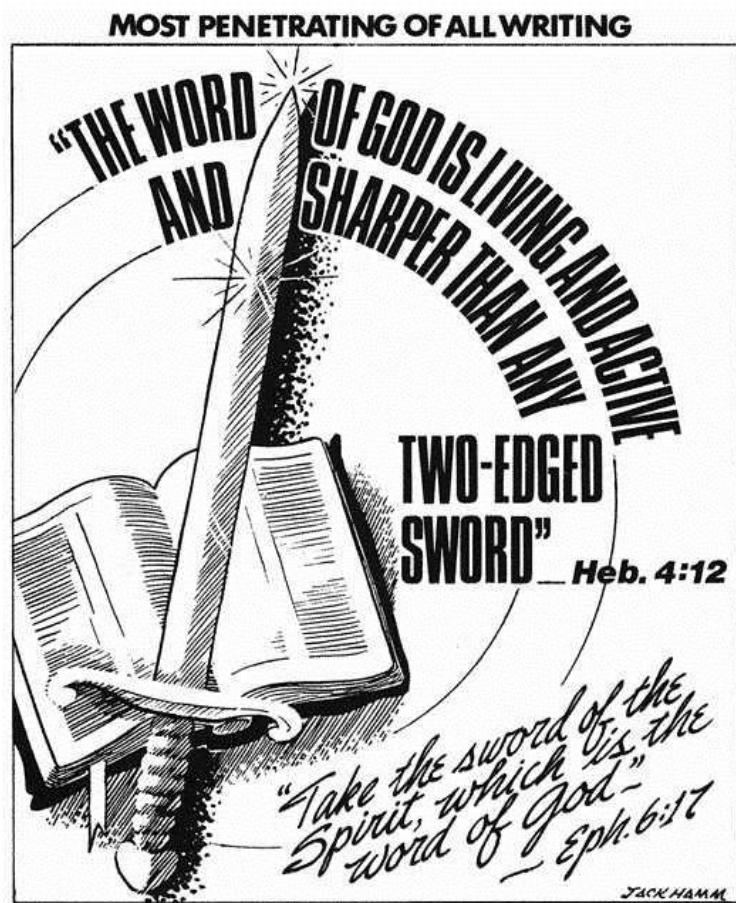
[C] Matthew 10:34 Instead of peace He came to bring what? _____

[D] Ephesians 6:17 What is the sword of the Spirit _____

[E] Compare Revelation 1:16 & Revelation 2:16 with Matthew 10:34 & Ephesians 6:17.

Are they all talking about the same sword?

Think & Pray _____



For further thought:

(x) If you had to pick the most important point from the reading the past week what and why?

(y) How would you summarize the passages we read this past week?

(z) What passage from our reading this past week would you recommend memorizing and why?

Year in Review. What next?

[1] Which is your favorite Old Testament book? Why?

[2] Which is your favorite New Testament book? Why?

[3] What have you learned during our study this year that has made the most difference for you?

[4] What was the most difficult thing about studying the Bible this past year?

[5] If you had this study to do over again, what would you have done differently over the last year?

[6] You do have this study to do over again. What is your plan for reading the Bible next year?

----- ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON FRONT -----

[A] Revelation 1:16 What came out of His mouth? A sharp two edged sword

[B] Revelation 2:16 He will make war with what? The sword of His mouth

[C] Matthew 10:34 Instead of peace He came to bring what? A sword

[D] Ephesians 6:17 What is the sword of the Spirit? The word of God

[E] In my opinion, it is two different metaphors that come together in Revelation 2:16. I believe in Revelation 1:16 and Ephesians 6:17 the sword is a figure of speech representing the Word of God. Certainly that is explicit in Ephesians. Also, it is clear from the context of Matthew 10 that the sword is a metaphor for conflict, as opposed to peace mentioned earlier in the verse. In Revelation 2:16 I think both symbols are meant. He is letting them know that if they do not repent the truth (the Word of God) will have a war with the lies they believe, their self-deception. What are you deceiving yourself about?