



RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD

Teacher's Guide

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PART 1

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THE WORD OF GOD

(Authority of the Word)

John 17:17

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

- Scripture Setting: This is Jesus praying for His apostles.
- Everyone claims to have the truth, yet they all differ in their beliefs. So how do we know who has the truth? Jesus said, "Thy Word is truth".
- Let the Word of God be true and every man a liar; so, if a man teaches something different from the Bible, the Bible is right and man is wrong.

John 4:23-24

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

- To become a true worshipper in the judgment of Jesus, we must worship "in spirit and in truth". You can have the true doctrine without having the Spirit, or you can have the Spirit without having the true doctrine.

John 1:1, 14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

- "Word was God" and "Word was made flesh", so Jesus is the Living Word. When He speaks, it is God speaking to us.

John 12:48

48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

- Word will judge us in the last day.
- We will see this judgment taking place in our next scripture .

Revelation 20:12-15

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

- All people “small and great” must someday stand before God.
- Two books mentioned: One is the book (singular) of life; the other is the 66 books (plural) of the Bible the will judge us in the last day.
- The works of one’s present life will be compared with what the Bible says it must come up to. If it does not meet the requirements of the Word, they will be “cast into the lake of fire”.
- Some people say, “I don’t believe Jesus will send me to hell just because I don’t obey the Bible.” But, according to these scriptures, He will. If the Word is going to judge us in the last day, I would have to say that it carries a lot of authority to tell me what to do. (It is truth!)

2 Timothy 3:12-16

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

- Scripture Setting: Paul is writing to Timothy, who is already saved.
- Verse 13: Paul is warning Timothy that “evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse”.
- Verse 14: Because of these evil men (false teachers), Paul warns Timothy to continue in what he has learned. What things? The things taught by Paul (refer to Verse 10).
- Some people try to read this scripture today and say, “I don’t need what you have to say because the Bible says for me to continue in what I have learned.” This is not telling you and me to continue in what we have learned, but it is Paul telling Timothy to continue in what he has learned. For this to benefit us, we must learn what Paul preached, and since Paul was an apostle, he was actually warning against teaching something different from the apostles. We must keep the scripture in its proper context in order to understand its true meaning.
- Verse 16: The Word was written by men, but God inspired them as to what to write. That’s why it is called the Word of God. You can use it for doctrine, reproof, correction, or instruction.

2 Peter 1:20-21

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

- The Word is not a man’s “private interpretation” (or opinion). Men wrote, “As they were moved by the Holy Ghost”. (Example: Isaiah was not writing what he thought; he was writing what God told him to write. Some of the Old Testament writers didn’t even know the full meaning of all they were writing at times. It’s similar to a secretary taking dictation from the boss. God spoke it and man wrote it.)

2 Peter 3:15-18

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

- Paul also wrote letters “according to the wisdom given unto him”. Some people try to understand these without the experience of the book of Acts and cannot properly comprehend them.
- It is possible to wrestle with the scriptures to one’s own destruction.
- They would be in the error of the wicked if they fell from their own steadfastness (fell from what the apostles taught).

Revelation 22:18-20

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

- Can’t add to nor take away from the Word.
- Some feel this scripture is speaking only about the book of Revelation and it may well be, but Deut. 4:2 says the same thing concerning the entire Word of God.

2 Timothy 2:15

15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- You must study the Bible in order to not be ashamed in the judgment.
- The Word must be rightly divided because you can take scripture out of context and make the Bible say anything you want it to. (Example: One scripture says, Judas went out and hung himself”, and another says, “Go ye and do likewise”. But, if you put those two together, you will be in trouble.)
- The divisions of the New Testament:
 - Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John): These books begin somewhere around the birth of Jesus and end somewhere around the death of Jesus, so they are the biography of the life of Jesus.
 - Acts (Actions of the apostles): The only book in the entire Bible with the verbatim preaching of the apostles to the lost, telling a person how to be saved. So, if you want to know what the apostles preached to the lost, you have to go to the book of Acts. Some say, “That’s only one book”, but so is Genesis. If you want to know in detail how the earth was created, you have to read Genesis, because it is the only book that has it. Yet, it is true because it is the Word of God. Another reason I place full confidence in the book of Acts is because every book before the book of Acts leads right up to it and every book after Acts confirms it.
 - Epistles (Romans through Jude): These are letters written to the church, or individuals in the church, that are already saved. These tell them how to live and act and warn of false teachers, etc.
 - Revelation (A book of prophecy which is written in symbolic form). (Example: Two women are mentioned, one is the nation of Israel and the other is the false church ‘Mother of Harlots’). You also read about a dragon, various beasts, and horses, which all represent something else. That is why you should never try to begin studying your Bible by reading Revelation.

IMPORTANCE OF THE WORD

(Questions to inspire thought and purpose)

- Some say, “It doesn’t matter what you believe as long as you are sincere.” Can a man be sincerely wrong? What does the Word say about this?
- Is doctrine important according to the Word? (If the Bible says doctrine is not important, it isn’t important; but if the Bible says it’s important, then it is important.)

- Are there false prophets today?
- Who are the false prophets according to the Word? (By the time we finish this study, you will know exactly how to tell a false prophet according to the Word of God.)
- Is the “Word-Doctrine-Gospel” necessary for salvation? (These words can be used interchangeably because they basically mean the same thing and may people feel they are not essential for salvation. But let’s see what the Word says about this.)

2 Timothy 4:1-4

1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

- Preach what? The Word.
- The time will come when men will not endure sound doctrine.
- Because the people are full of lust, they shall hire them a preacher that will tickle their ears (tell them what they want to hear).
- They will turn from the truth. What truth? The one taught by the apostles.

1 Timothy 1:3

3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,

- “No other doctrine”. From What? From the one the apostles taught, because Paul was doing the writing.

1 Timothy 4:13-16

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

- Give attendance to doctrine.
- Doctrine will save you and those that hear you. (COMMENT: Sounds as if Paul believes doctrine is important.”)

2 Timothy 2:24-26

24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

- Some people oppose themselves. Why? Because they haven’t acknowledged the truth.
- If people do not have truth, they are in a “snare of the devil”. Notice the emphasis continually placed on “the truth” as though there is one truth that saves and all others are error.
- Man divided this into chapter and verse for reference purposes but they sometimes divided a thought with a chapter; so keep this in mind when studying the Bible or you may not understand it properly. Here in Chapter 3, Paul is still continuing the thought of Chapter 2.

2 Timothy 3:1-7

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- Verses 1-4: Describes sins of the last days.
- Verse 5: Yet they have a form of Godliness or belong to some type of religion or church while they commit these sins.
- They deny the power thereof and Jesus said in Acts 1:8, "ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you". So, if the Holy Ghost is the power of God working in man, these churches must deny the power of the Holy Ghost to deliver a man from the sins mentioned in Verses 1-4.
- Verse 7: Always going to church and learning, yet never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2 Timothy 3:10

10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

- "My doctrine"—Whose Doctrine? Paul's doctrine.

James 1:21-24

21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

1:23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

1:24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

- The Word is able to save your soul.
- Must be "doers of the Word and not hearers only" or we deceive our own self.
- Like looking in a mirror—you see what you need to do but you don't do it. You deceive yourself into believing you are all right.

Matthew 7:13-27

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in therat:

14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

- Note: These scriptures all pertain to the same subject.
- Straight and narrow is the way to life and few will find it. How many is few? In the days of Noah, there were only eight, which proves God won't spare people that disobey His Word just to have a large number.
- Verse 15: Why just a few? "Because of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing" or as ministers of Jesus Christ.
- Verses 16-20: Tells us that the false prophets will produce a fruit that we will know them by, because an evil tree can't produce good fruit.
- Verse 21: Now he is beginning to reveal some of the fruits of a false prophet. A false prophet will get you to call on the name of the Lord but will not do the will of God. The will of God is the Word of God. A testament is a will and we have the old will and the new will. The New Testament is the Old Testament being revealed and the Old Testament is the New Testament concealed. A false prophet will then get you to call on the Lord but not according to the way the Word teaches you must call on Him.
- Verse 22-23: Observe how deceived these people are. They thought they were ready to meet Jesus. They were deceived into thinking they were saved when they really were not. Notice Jesus said, "I never knew you" and called them workers of evil. Remember that he mentioned not knowing them. Therefore, we need to find out why He never knew them so we won't be deceived by them also.

Matthew 16:18-19

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

- Verse 18: He will build His church upon the rock. What rock? Not Peter as a man, but the revelations of His Word that He is going to give Peter, because His Word is the rock. That is proven in the next verse.
- Verse 19: He will give Peter the keys, which is the truth of the Word of God that will unlock the door of heaven to people when they obey Peter's preaching. Jesus said whatever Peter preaches will be bound in heaven and in earth (which means He will stand behind whatever Peter preaches). Now, if the Word is His rock that the false prophets won't build upon, and here He took His Word and gave it to Peter and said it is what He would build His church upon, then a false prophet will not build on what the apostle Peter and the other apostles preached; that's the fruit that we will know them by. At this point, I could go to the book of Acts, see what Peter preached to the lost and obey that, and I couldn't be condemned in the judgment because of doctrine, since Jesus said He was binding (standing behind) all that Peter said.

1 Peter 1:22-25

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

- "Purified your souls in obeying the truth".
- "Being born again...by the Word of God".

- In corruptible seed, it endureth forever.
- “Which by the gospel is preached unto you”. This proves gospel and Word are one and it is speaking of the gospel Peter preached.

1 Peter 2:6-8

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

- Note that the rock is called “Him” (speaking of Jesus) because Jesus is the Word of God. You can’t separate Him from His Word.
- Rock of stumbling and rock of offense – To them, which stumble at the Word, being disobedient. When people are offended at the Word the apostles preached, they are offended at Jesus, their foundation.
- The gospel is our foundation that we must build upon.

Ephesians 2:18-22

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

- Foundation of the apostles and prophets. Why them? Because they are the ones that preached the Word. We must obey what they preached in order to build on Jesus.

John 17:17-20

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

- Scripture Setting: this is Jesus praying for His apostles.
- He sent them (the apostles) into the world sanctified with the truth. If we want to know who is sent of God, the Word (which is truth) tells us here that the apostles are sent of God.
- Jesus prayed for them that would believe on Him according to the apostles’ words.

Galatians 1:6-12

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- Verse 7: Some will pervert the gospel, which means to change the gospel. They will preach a gospel message but it will be one different from what the apostles preached (as proven in the next verses).

- Verses 8-9: If any man or an angel preaches any other gospel, other than what the apostles preached, he is accursed. (2 Peter 3:2 proves the words “we”, “us”, and “our” refers to the apostles when they were writing.)
- If he pleased man, he would not please God.
- He received the gospel by revelation of Jesus Christ and not by word of mouth as the original twelve apostles. Yet, he preached the same message they did, which proves there is only one gospel.
- He was confirming what has already been said. The fruit of a false prophet is that he will not preach “word-for-word” the gospel that the apostles preached to the lost in the book of Acts. He will change it to some degree.

1 Peter 4:17-18

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

- The Bible is so inspired of God that Peter is going to ask a question here and Paul is going to answer it in our next scripture.
- Judgment begins at the house of God because the apostles’ gospel provided for the remission of all past sin.
- Begin with us. (The apostles were the first to preach this message.)
- What is going to be the end of them that obey not the gospel?
- He is actually saying that if the righteous will scarcely be saved, what chance does a sinner have? None!

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

- Answer to Peter 4:17 as to what will happen to those who obey not the gospel.
- He will come in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God and that obey not the gospel.
- Notice how he ties in “not knowing God” with “not obeying the gospel”. So that’s why the people did not know God at the judgment in Matthew 7:23. They had not built on the sayings (gospel) that Jesus gave His apostles, which (not building on them) is the fruit of a false prophet.
- They will be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord. (COMMENT: “This sounds like hell, doesn’t it?”)
- Verse 10: Because our testimony was believed, meaning they believed what the apostles preached.
- Notice how he mentions the gospel he preached as being the same gospel that will judge people at the coming of the Lord. This proves that the message the apostles preached will not change until Jesus comes.
- (Psalm 37:29; Proverb 10:30 Rapture??)

2 John 1:9-11

9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

- Must abide in the doctrine of Christ or you don't have God. This definitely proves that doctrine is essential.
- We should not be supportive of anyone preaching any other doctrine.
- (COMMENT: "What doctrine was John talking about? No one should know any better than John himself, so let's go to our next scripture."

1 John 4:6

6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

- We (the apostles) are of God. He that knows God hears the apostles. He that is not of God won't hear them. That's how you tell who has the truth and who has error. (This proves everything that has been said in the study up to this point.)
- This further proves the reason the people were deceived and did not know Jesus (Matthew 7:22-23) was they had believed another gospel other than the one the apostles preached in the book of Acts.

Jude 1:3

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

- Common salvation. All had the same message.
- Once delivered—what the apostles preached.

Matthew 23:15

15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

- Proselyte – One converted to a belief. Once a person is supposedly saved by the wrong belief, you can't get them to realize they are lost, so they can be saved according to the truth. Therefore, he's a two-fold, child of hell. (Quote Matthew 15:14 as further proof of the dangers of following a false teacher.)

Romans 1:16

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

- Gospel—"Power of God unto salvation" to those who believe it.

Romans 1:20

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

- Godhead is without excuse.
- There are three basic theories on the godhead:
 - TRINITY: Three persons in the Godhead that are co-equal, co-existent, and co-eternal that agree together to make-up one God.
 - ONENESS: That there is one God who is an omnipresent Spirit (deity) that lived in the Son (flesh). (Quote: 1 Timothy 3:16 and first part of 2 Corinthians 5:19)
 - JEHOVAH'S WITNESS THEORY: That Jehovah is the only Almighty God and Jesus is just a little god.

(COMMENT: "We need to know which of these is correct, because the Bible says that it's without excuse; so, if you would like, we have a Godhead Bible Study that we can go through after we finish this Bible study.")

Romans 6:17-18

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

- Were sinners saved and freed from sin when they obeyed from the heart the doctrine (gospel) delivered them.

Romans 16:17-18

17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

- Mark them, which teach something other than what you have learned. (The apostles taught them what they knew.) Verses 25-26 prove this. Paul said, "Establish you according to my gospel".
- They are not serving Jesus but by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. (Examples of deceptive speeches: (1) "It does not matter what you as long as you are sincere." (2) "You don't have to do all the apostles preached; that was just for their day.")
- When you hear this kind of talk, just place a big "check mark" on them in your mind because they are not of God.

2 Corinthians 4:1-5

1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commanding ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

- The apostles were not handling the word of God deceitfully.
- If the apostle's gospel is hid to someone, he is lost.
- Many people ask the question, "What about those that never hear the apostles' gospel?" This scripture answers that. They are lost!
- The god of this world (which most considers this to be referring to Satan) has blinded their minds so the true gospel won't get to them.

2 Corinthians 11:10-15

10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia.

11 Wherefore? because I love you not? God knoweth.

12 But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we.

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

- False prophets have become as ministers of light.
- How can we tell a false prophet? By seeing if they preach the same thing the apostles did.

Ephesians 4:14-15

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

- Don't be carried away by every wind of doctrine. Whose doctrine can we believe? The apostles' doctrine.

Colossians 1:22-23

22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

- Must continue in the faith and gospel of which Paul was a minister.

Colossians 2:8-9

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

- Beware of philosophy and tradition of men. (Example: "It does not matter what you believe as long as you are sincere.")
- In Jesus is the fullness.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-15

9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

- Verses 9-12: People must have a love for the truth or God himself will send them a strong delusion and they will believe a lie and be damned because they didn't love the truth. You can see from this scripture how serious God is about obeying His gospel.
- There are basically three ways to be lost and only one way to be saved.
- Three ways to be lost:
 - You could never hear the apostles' gospel, and if it's hid to you, you are lost.
 - A false prophet could deceive you into believing something other than what the apostles preached.
 - You could not love the truth after you hear it and God himself will send you a delusion and allow you to believe a lie and be damned. He feels like so many will be lost because of the first two reasons, that people should appreciate the gospel when it is revealed to them.
- One way of Salvation:
 - You must hear what the apostles preached and love it enough to obey it and live a godly life as a result of the gospel.
- Verses 13-15: "Called you by our gospel". What gospel? Paul's gospel (or the apostles' gospel).
- Hold the traditions you have been taught, whether by word or epistle. What traditions? Those Paul and the apostles preached.
- We must obey what the APOSTLES preached because they have the truth.

End of Part One

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD

Teacher's Guide

PART 2

***John 3:1-21**

3:1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.
9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?
10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?
11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.
12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?
13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.
14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:
15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.
16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.
21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

- Verses 3-8: A person must be born again of water and of the Spirit in order to be saved. Some teach this water is natural birth and others teach it means water baptism, but the scriptures will teach us which is correct as we go on.
- (COMMENT: “Jesus seldom taught in detail, but He left most of the detailed explanations to His apostles. (Example: He just said you must be born again of water and of Spirit.” To know what this means you have to go to the book of Acts and see how the apostles fulfilled this.)
- Verse 8: There will be a sound when everyone is born of the Spirit. Once again, Jesus didn’t reveal what the sound was, so we will have to wait until we get to the book of Acts and learn what sound was heard.
- Verse 16: If we believe on Jesus we can be saved. But the question is, “what is believing’ according to the Word of God?” Unless “believing” mentioned here somehow includes a birth

of water and of Spirit; then we would have a direct contradiction in the Word, and the Bible does not contradict itself. Jesus made many such statements in His teachings that were truths within themselves but were not the entirety of truth.

- (TEACHERS: Listen to tapes for a total explanation of this point.)
- Sometimes the Bible makes two statements that seem to contradict each other, but somewhere in the Bible is a third scripture that will give the proper interpretation of the two and make all three agree together.
- He that does evil won't come to the light or his deeds would be made manifest (known).
- (COMMENT: "To get a better understanding about what Jesus meant by believing on Him, let's study some more scriptures on this same subject.")

*John 7:38-39

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.
39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

- Scripture Setting: This is the same Jesus speaking in the same book of John.
- We must believe in Him "as the scripture says." There he added some more conditions on how to believe on Him.
- When we believe like the scriptures teach us to believe on Him, then we will receive the Holy Ghost. So here he does let us know that at least a birth of the Spirit will be experienced when we believe as He intended us to believe.
- This Spirit will not be given until after Jesus dies and is glorified. This is why no one received it until the Day of Pentecost.

(TEACHERS: You must listen to the tape's explanation on these scriptures so you can explain them correctly because they contain many key points.)

*Romans 10:8-18

8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

- Here Paul quotes a portion of scripture out of the Old Testament pertaining to the "word, heart, and mouth"; then he says that that is speaking of the word of faith, which we (the apostles) preach. He then spends the rest of the chapter explaining how this pertains to the grace dispensation.
- Verses 10-11: He explains that you believe with your heart and confess with your mouth and that you shall be saved by this (when you fulfill it as Paul further explains in Verses 14-17), but it does not say you are saved instantly, at that moment, without anything else involved, as many would want to interpret it.
- Verses 11-13: More quotations out of the Old Testament to further prove his point.

- Verses 14-16: This says you can't call or believe on the Lord until you hear the gospel preached by a man sent of God and that's what you've got to believe in order to be saved. Since the apostles are the only ones we know who are sent of God, according to the Bible, here he took the fact of believing on Him and said what you must believe is the gospel the apostles preached and not just that Jesus existed. So this confirms all the scriptures we read in the first Bible study about having to obey what the apostles preached.
- Verse 17: Here he sums it all up by saying, "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." Remember, Paul started this off in Verse 8 by saying he was speaking of the word of faith, which we (the apostles) preach.

***Romans 1:16**

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

- Gospel is the "power of God unto salvation" to everyone that believes it. Believes what? The Gospel.

***John 17:20**

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

- Jesus prayed for those that would believe on Him by the words of the apostles.
- This is the same book of John where Jesus first mentioned we had to believe on Him, and now He is showing that the way you believe on Him is by believing what the apostles preached.

***Mark 1:15**

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

- Believe what? The Gospel. Not just believe Jesus existed.

2 Corinthians 4:1-5

1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;

2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commanding ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

- If the gospel is hid to you, you are lost. What gospel? The one Paul preached, because he said "our gospel."
- Verse 4: "Believe not." Believe not what? The gospel.

***Ephesians 1:13**

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

- Church at Ephesus was saved after they had heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel, and had believed it.
- Must preach gospel so we won't be chargeable unto men.
- Verse 13: They received and believed the Word of God.
- Verse 16: They forbade Paul to speak to the Gentiles so they could be saved. Why? Because they had to hear the gospel the apostles preached in order to be saved.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

- Lord will appear from heaven “in flaming fire taking vengeance on them “that don’t obey the gospel.
- Verse 10: Paul said, “Because our testimony among you was believed,” lets us know he was speaking of the gospel the apostles preached.

What is the “Gospel?”

Cover the Great Commission in Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

***Matthew 28:18-20**

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

- “All power is given unto me,” Jesus said.
- Notice He said name (singular) not names.
- What is the name of the Son? Jesus. He said, “I come in my Father’s name” and “I’ll send the Holy Ghost in my name.”
- A man could say, “I’m a father, son, and husband but I’m not three people and that isn’t my name.” These are offices or titles of God but not separate persons of God.
- Teach them to observe all things He has commanded.

(TEACHERS: For a greater understanding of this and a brief mention of the Godhead, please study the tapes carefully to learn to explain this scripture and the next two concerning the Great Commission in Mark and Luke.)

***Mark 16:15-20**

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

- “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” NOT he that believeth and is saved should be baptized.
- Briefly explain signs and how they apply.
- Signs were not used to prove they were of god. The signs are to follow the believer, not the believer follows the signs.
- Verse 19: “Right hand of God” refers to being in a place of acceptance and authority with God, just as the left hand refers to a place of rejection with God (goats on the left, sheep on right) rather than a geographical location.

*Luke 24:44-53

44 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.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

- He opened “their understanding that they could understand the scriptures.”
- Jesus spent 40 days with the apostles teaching them the meaning of the scriptures and explaining what they should preach.
- (COMMENT: “Do you feel that if you spent 40 days with Jesus teaching you the scriptures that you would know what you were supposed to preach? I’ve never spent 40 days with Jesus, but I have the words of the men who did [the apostles]. No wonder He placed so much authority in their words.”)
- “Remission of sins should be preached in His name... beginning at Jerusalem.” We will have to go to the book of Acts to see how it was preached.

*Acts 1:1-8, 15

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

- Verses 1-4: “The former treatise” refers to the book of Luke.
- This proves He spent 40 days giving commandments to His apostles whom He had chosen.
- Verses 5-8: You shall be baptized before too many days.
- They will receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon them.
- Verse 15: Tells the number of people (about 120) waiting for the promise of the Holy Ghost. (You may read Verses 13-15, if you wish, because Verse 13 names the twelve apostles and Verse 14 proves Mary was there because she had to have the Holy Ghost too. That’s why we shouldn’t pray to Mary. She was just a human being even though she was the mother of Jesus.)

***Acts 2:1-21**

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.
6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.
7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?
8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?
9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,
10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,
11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.
12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?
13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.
14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:
15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.
16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:
19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:
20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:
21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

- All received the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance
- Verses 6-8: They heard them in their own tongue wherein they were born. In other words, God made sure someone in the 120 was speaking in the language of each of the 16 different countries represented there. (Example: The Cretes could understand the one speaking in the Cretian language and the Medes understood the one speaking the Medean language, etc.)
- Verses 9-10: More than just 12 received it because they were speaking about 16 or more different languages.
- Verse 13: The people were reacting to the Spirit in such a way that many mocked them and thought they were drunk.
- Verse 14: Peter stood up and began to tell them (probably in the Greek language, which was common to all), "This is that spoken by the prophet Joel" and explained that this is the Spirit of God being poured out.
- Verses 17-21 are a quotation of Joel's prophecy.
- According to what Paul wrote in Romans 10, they couldn't call on the Lord until they hear the gospel preached by a man sent of God, so notice that Peter starts preaching to them about Jesus. We'll pick up his message in Verse 36.

***Acts 2:36-42**

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.
37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

- Jesus has been made Lord and Christ.
- When asked, "what shall we do?" the answer Peter gave in Verses 38-39 is what we've been waiting to hear.
- "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (remember Luke 24:47)" and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."
- (COMMENT: "Was there a birth of water and Spirit involved? Yes.")
- Promise is to everyone God calls. Why? Must be born of the Spirit.
- Baptism is called a birth of water because it removes the record of sin from a person's life and their judgment starts over at the house of God; so, they are "born again."
- *1 Peter 3:20-21
- Baptism in water saves us just like the water saved Noah's family. It doesn't literally remove sin but it removes it from God's record book and your conscience.
- *Acts 22:16
- This tells us of the conversion of Paul, "be baptized and wash away thy sins calling on the name of the Lord." (The same thing Peter preached saved Paul.)
- *Acts 9:5, 17-18
- This further tells us about the conversion of Paul.
- Verse 5: The Lord himself said His name was Jesus.
- Verse 17-18: He received the Holy Ghost as well as being baptized to wash away his sins. It didn't say he spoke in tongues, but it doesn't say he didn't either. However, he did write in 1 Corinthians that he spoke in tongues more than any of them, so he had to start sometime.
- (COMMENT: "Some people say it doesn't matter what name you baptize in since they are all one anyhow. If the Bible says it doesn't matter, then it doesn't matter; but if the Bible says it matters, then it does make a difference. Let's read our next scripture and see what it says.")

*Acts 4:10-12

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

- "Name of Jesus Christ"—"none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."
- Where was the name given to men in the plan of salvation? In baptism. As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- It is the only name that will save us and remember, Peter said, "Baptism does now save us."

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

- Do all in Jesus' name—this includes baptism.
- (TEACHERS: You must listen to the tapes to be able to explain the next scripture, because some of the points will be new to you and they can't all be written out.)

***Colossians 2:8-12**

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

- Beware of philosophy and traditions of men.
- “Ye are complete in Him” (not them), “which is the head of all principality and power.”
- Verse 11: The New Testament church is “circumcised with the circumcision made without hands” (spiritual circumcision not physical), which the Old Testament physical circumcision was a type and a shadow of the spiritual circumcision in the New Testament. That involved “putting off the body the sins of the flesh” (not the literal cutting away of the flesh itself).
- (TEACHERS: At this point, explain the Old Testament covenant of circumcision (as explained on the tapes) that God made with Abraham, which was an everlasting covenant, that we must become a part of, in order to be saved. Salvation is of the Jews and we must get “grafted in” according to scripture or we can’t be saved.)
- Verse 12: Our circumcision is being baptized in the name of Jesus to remove the sins of the flesh.
- Explain: Israel (type of church) coming out of Egypt (type of sin) through the Red Sea (type of baptism) and drowning all of Pharaoh’s army (type of sin) and washing them away, because sin can go no further than the water. It is washed away in water in the name of Jesus.

***Acts 8:5-24**

Acts 8:5-24

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

16(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

- People were healed, received joy, and had demons cast out, but the question is, "Did they have the Holy Ghost yet?" Many people say, "I know I have the Holy Ghost because I got joy when I got it." If joy were a definite sign that a person has the Holy Ghost, then they would have to have it. The same would apply to the other two signs, but let's read on and see if they had it.
- Verse 12: They believed and were baptized. Some teach, "the moment you believe, the Holy Ghost automatically comes in" while others teach, "the moment you are baptized, the Holy Ghost automatically comes in." If either of these teachings were true, then they would have the Holy Ghost at this point.
- Verses 13-17: They had been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ but they still didn't have the Holy Ghost until Peter and John came over and prayed for them. This proves the Holy Ghost is a separate experience from believing and baptism.
- It didn't say they spoke in tongues as on the day of Pentecost, but it does say Simon offered them money for that power, so there must have been something outward and miraculous that happened.

(TEACHERS: Give a brief explanation of how Phillip and the eunuch got together before picking up the story in the next scripture.)

Acts 8:35-39

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

- Scriptures don't say what Phillip preached, but he must have preached baptism or the eunuch wouldn't have asked to be baptized.
- Phillip had to make sure the eunuch believed in Jesus or there would have been no need to baptize him in the name of someone he didn't even believe in.
- Believing is the foundation that the gospel (birth of water and Spirit) sits upon. Because if you don't believe in Him, why would you want His spirit?

*Acts 10:16, 33, 43-48

1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band,

2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

3 He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

6 He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.
46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,
47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?
48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

- He was a devout man, feared God, prayed always, but was he saved (born of water and Spirit)?
- Prayed an angel down and he told Cornelius to go get Peter and he would tell him “what thou oughtest to do.”
- (COMMENT: “You mean there was something else this good man had to do? Right! Goodness will not save a person; he must be born again.”)
- Why didn’t the angel tell him? Because the Bible says you must hear it from a man sent of God.
- (TEACHERS: Briefly fill in the story in Verses 7-32 in your own words so that student will understand the setting for Verse 33.)
- Verse 33: We want to hear all the things commanded you of God (refer back to Matthew 28:20). Let’s see how He commands them to get baptized.
- Verse 43: We can receive remission of sins through His name. (They preached this by baptism, which proves the power of the name.)
- Verses 44-47: The Jews knew they received the Holy Ghost “for they heard them speak with tongues.” (This must be the sound Jesus said you would hear when anyone receives the Spirit, John 3:8)
- Verse 48: He “commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.”

(TEACHERS: Give a brief setting for the next scripture.)

*Acts 16:30-34

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.
33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.
34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

- Jailer asks Paul and Silas what he must do to be saved. Here is a person that knows nothing about Jesus, so the first thing he has to do is believe on Jesus. They told him to believe in Jesus and “thou shalt be saved.”
- (COMMENT: Notice he said, “shalt be” not that “you are automatically saved” at that moment without anything else being done.)
- Remember that Paul wrote in Romans that what you have to believe is the gospel preached by a man of God.
- Verse 32: He preached unto him “the word of the Lord.”
- Verse 33: He baptized them “the same hour of the night.”
- If baptism were not essential, why would they risk having to evade the Roman army in the middle of the night just to find water in which to baptize them?

*Acts 19:1-6

1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,
2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.
3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.
4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

- They had believed on the Lord and had been baptized in water.
- Paul asked them if they had received the Holy Ghost since they believed; so he definitely believed that receiving the Spirit and believing were two separate experiences.
- When they said they had never heard of it, he questioned them concerning their water baptism.
- John just preached repentance and believing (which is what most denominations preach today).
- Paul re-baptized them in Jesus' name and they received the Holy Ghost and spoke with tongues (birth of water and Spirit).
- It is very evident that the gospel all the apostles preached was: repentance, baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, the infilling of the Holy Ghost, evidenced by speaking in other tongues.
- Does the church you have been or now attending preach this same message today, along with the other teachings of the apostles?

TEACHERS:

- Listen to the tapes for explanations on these final points. Be sure to invite them to attend church and be baptized in Jesus' Name.
- Also, leave them some tracts or materials on our beliefs (Apostles Doctrine). I recommend four or five doctrinal tracts (written by Bro. Eddie Jones of Minden, Louisiana): "Holy Ghost," "Water Baptism," "One God," "Speaking in Tongues," and "Meet the Originals" because they each have Biblical and historical proof in them.)
- Explain the difference in the gifts of tongues (in Corinthians) and receiving the Holy Ghost speaking in tongues (in Acts), along with showing that "that which is perfect" in Corinthians 13 is speaking of Jesus.

1 Corinthians 12:1

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

- Proves that he is talking of the gifts of the Spirit to the church and he continues through Chapter 14.

1 Corinthians 14:19, 23

19 Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

23 If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?

- Proves He is speaking of a time when the whole church comes together in one place; and, if the gift of tongues is in operation, it should be done for the edifying of the body.

1 Corinthians 14:27-32

27 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.

28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge.

30 If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace.

31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

- Proves the difference in the two operations of tongues, especially Verse 27, because he said let it be done by two, or the most three, and that by course, let another interpret.
- (COMMENT: It never happened that way in the book of Acts; 12 at one time in Acts 19, all of Cornelius' household, 120 on the day of Pentecost, etc.)

1 Corinthians 13:8-12

8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

- Many teach “that which is perfect” refers to the writing of the New Testament and say tongues ceased with that. But Verse 12 proves it is speaking of Jesus because when “that which is perfect” comes, we’ll see Him “face to face” not “face to book.” When Jesus comes, tongues and knowledge will cease because it won’t be needed any longer.

1 Corinthians 12:30

30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?

- “Do all speak with tongues?” Once again, this is speaking of the gift of tongues and everyone does not have the gift of tongues in the church, but all speak with tongues when born of the Spirit.

(TEACHERS: Explain a little about the prophecy of Joel concerning the early and latter reign with a dark age in between, and how the church was fully restored in about 1915. This lets the student know where the various denominations came from, but end this by saying, “There is a church in the world today that preaches repentance, baptism in Jesus’ name, the infilling of the Holy Ghost, and living a Holy life, just like the apostles preached in the book of Acts. I’m a part of the Oneness Pentecostals because they preach this message.”)

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