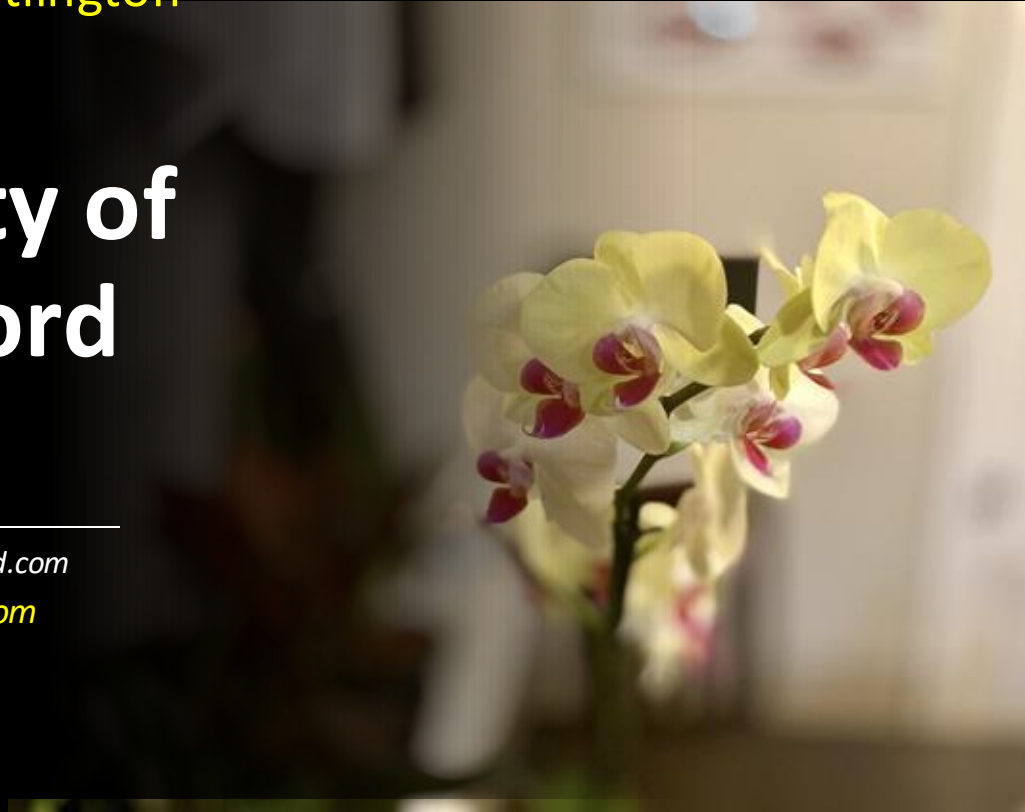


Larry & Aida Watlington

Simplicity of The Word

www.simplicityoftheword.com

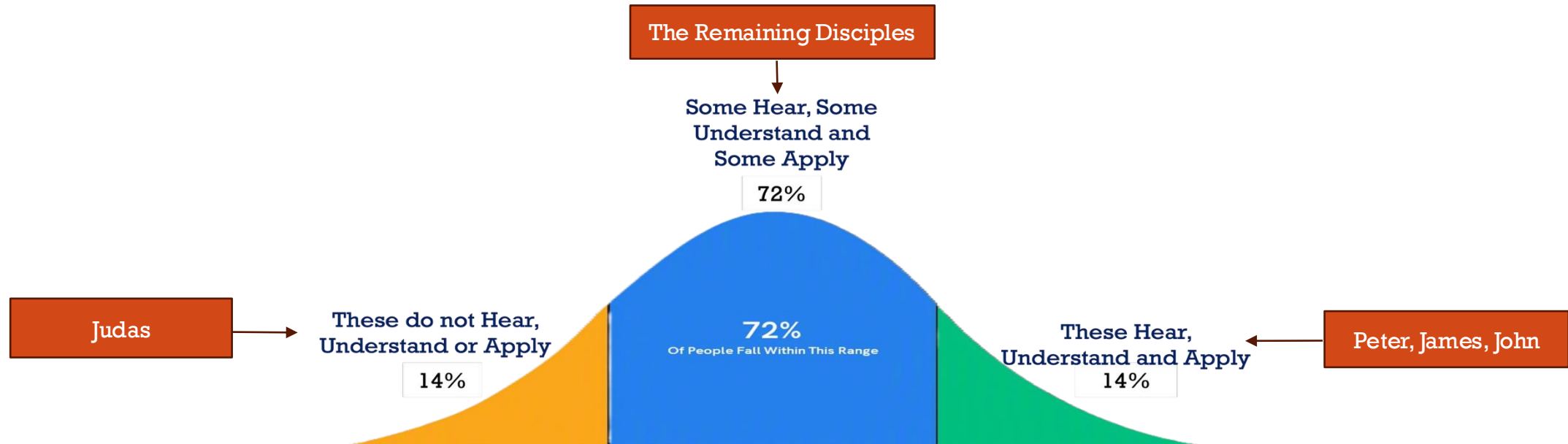
SOTW724@gmail.com



He That has an Ear, Let Him Hear, What the Spirit Says to the Churches

MEASURE OF EFFECTIVENESS (JOHN 17)

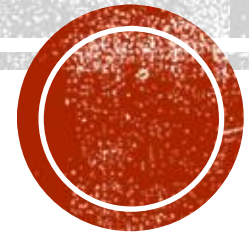
- I was asked: *“How many people do you think receive what you are teaching?”*
- My answer: **“The Normal Distribution”** which is similar to the percentage that received Jesus’ instructions (including His Disciples)
- Jesus Prayer to the Father in John 17 is His Measure of Effectiveness of the work He was sent to earth to accomplish



- **Example based on a class of 12 students:**
 - ~ 3 students will grasp the material and apply it even if I taught nothing
 - ~ 3 Students will not grasp the material or be able to apply it if you spent all of your resources teaching them
 - The 6 students in the middle will grasp some of the material and be able to apply some of the competencies

1ST PETER

Lesson 1: The Introduction



Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:1-2

BACKGROUND

- **Purpose:** Encouragement to suffering Christians
- **Audience:** Jewish Christians scattered through Asia Minor
- **Date Written:** Approximately 62-64 AD
- **Useful Analogies:** The Rock (Petra), The Shepherd and the Flock
- **A Topical View of 1st Peter**
 - Chapter 1:1 – 2:10 - God's great blessing to his people
 - Chapter 2:11 – 4:19 - The conduct of God's people in the midst of Suffering
 - Chapter 5:1-14 - The Shepherding of God's people in the midst of Suffering

THE DECLARATION OF SALVATION (1 PETER 1:1-2)

- Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ
- To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to:
 - The foreknowledge of God **the Father** (Eph 1:4)
 - Through the sanctifying work of **the Spirit** (2 Thess 2:13)
 - To be obedient to **Jesus Christ** and sprinkled with his blood (Romans 5:6-10, Heb 9:12, Levi 16)
- Grace and peace be yours in abundance.



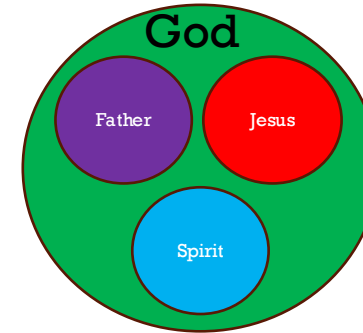
VIEWS OF THE FATHER, SON, HOLY SPIRIT

- **Tritheism** - the belief in three separate gods.
- **Modalism** - the Trinity is composed of three modes or aspects of divine self-revelation, rather than three parts of God.
- **Subordinationism** - asserts the Son and the Holy Spirit are subordinate to the Father, implying a hierarchical ranking within the Trinity.
- **The Trinity** - defines one God existing in three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit.
- **Scripture References**
 - Matt 3:16-17 / Matt 17:5
 - John 5:19 / John 11:41-42

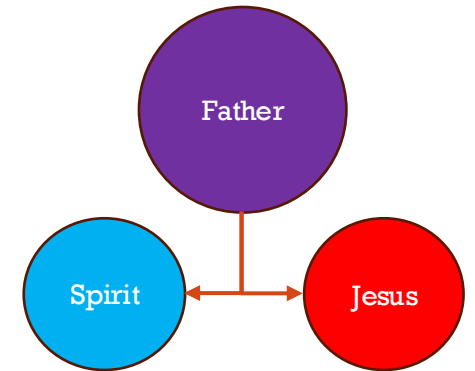
Tritheism



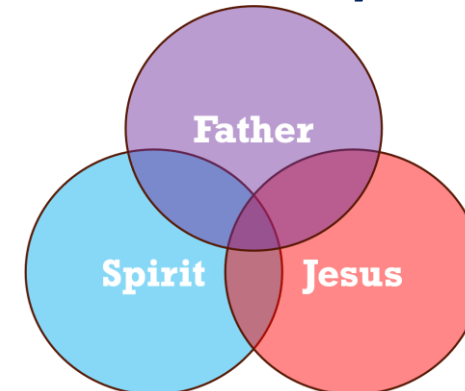
Modalism



Subordinationism



The Trinity

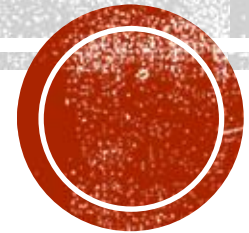


The Egg (3 in 1)



1ST PETER

Lesson 2: The Inheritance

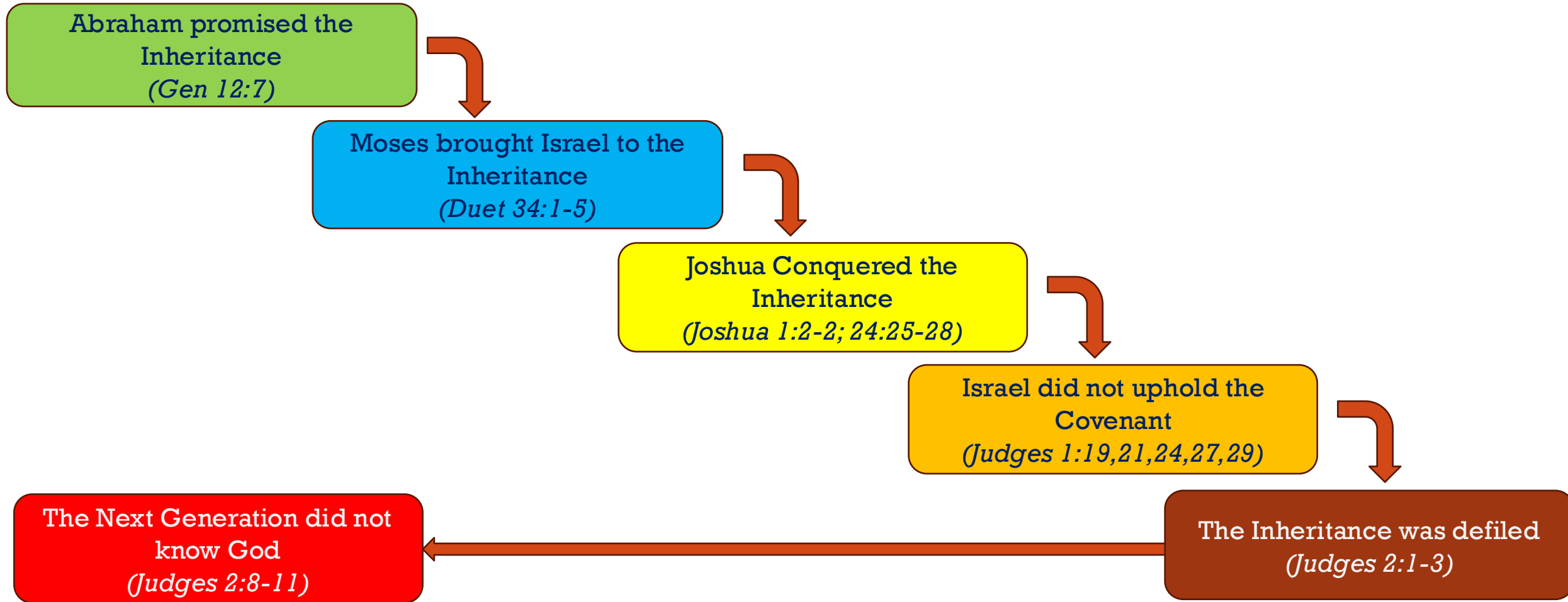


“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”

1 Peter 1:3-5

THE OLD INHERITANCE

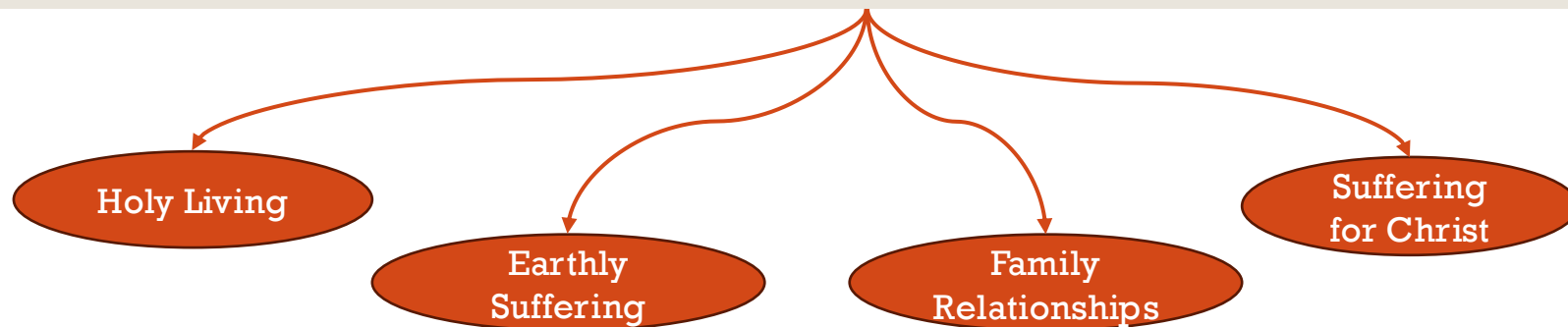
Inheritance: The practice of receiving property, titles, debts, and rights after someone's death.



We have a responsibility to teach the next generation about Jesus in order to receive the inheritance

THE NEW INHERITANCE (1PETER 1:3-5)

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”



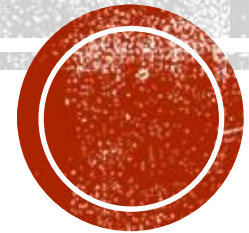
The Thesis Statement for the rest of the 1st Peter
and provides the Foundation of our Faith

THE INHERITANCES COMPARISONS

The Old Inheritance	The New Inheritance
Located in Canaan (Israel today)	Located in Heaven
Established by the Blood of animals	Established by the Blood of Jesus Christ
Faded away over time	Will never fade away
Hope was not everlasting	A Living and eternal Hope
Revealed in History	To be fully revealed in the End Times
Based on the hope of a better physical life	Based on eternal life
Had to be conquered by hands	It is reserved in heaven (not made by hands)

1ST PETER

Lesson 3: Salvation



“That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you”

SALVATION (1PETER 1:6-12)

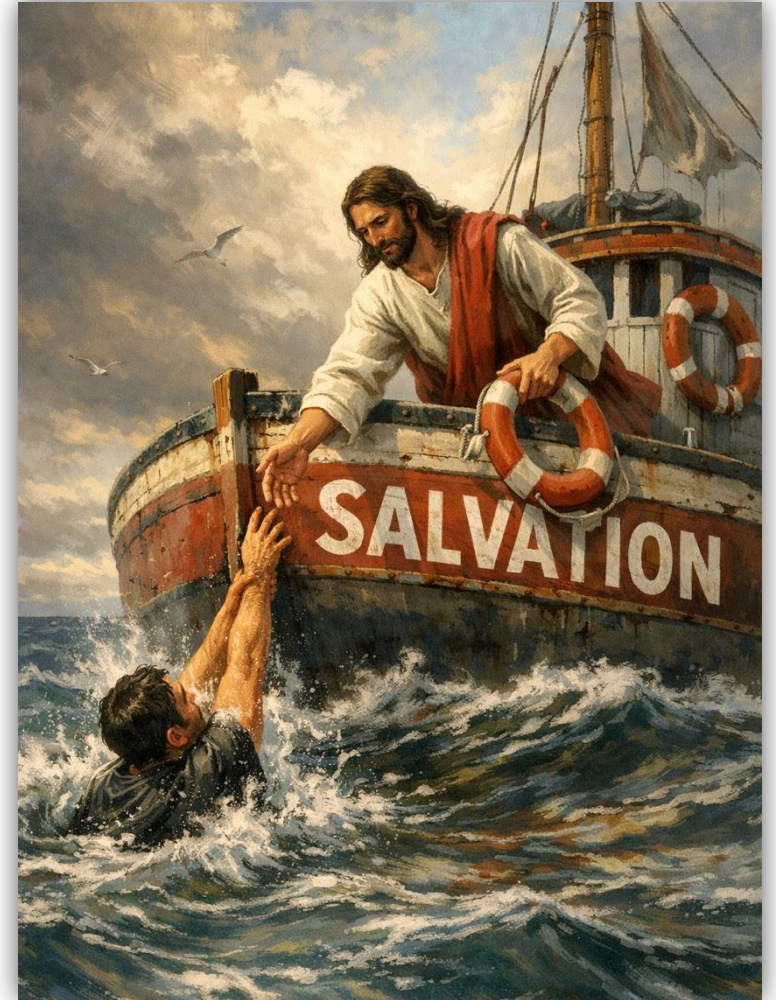
■ What is Salvation?

- Preservation or deliverance from destruction, difficulty, or evil.
- Deliverance from the power or penalty of sin; redemption

■ Is “Being Saved” and Salvation the same?

- **Saved** – Reflects your current state or current condition at that moment in time.
- **Salvation** -Reflects something that you obtain that is permanent for a Christian

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men (Titus 2:11)



SALVATION FROM THE OLD TO THE NEW (1 PETER 1:10-12)

The Old Testament

The God of My Salvation
The Rock of My Salvation
The Horn of my Salvation
The Joy of my Salvation

Genesis (1), Exodus (2), Deuteronomy (1)
1 Samuel (4), 2 Samuel (5), 1 Chronicles (2)
2 Chronicles (2), Job (1), *Psalm (63), Isaiah (26)*, Jeremiah (1), Lamentations (1), Jonah (1), Micah (1), Habakkuk (3), Zechariah (1)



The New Testament

The Grace of Salvation
The end of our faith
Revealed in the last times

Luke (5), John (1), Acts (5), Romans (4)
2 Corinthians (3), Ephesians (2), Philippians (3), 1 Thessalonians (2), 2 Thessalonians (1), 2 Timothy (2), Titus (1), Hebrews (6), 1 Peter (3), 2 Peter (1), Jude (1), Revelation (3)

1 Peter 1:10

Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you

1 Peter 1:11

Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow

1 Peter 1:12

Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into

THE “ROMANS ROAD” TO SALVATION

Romans 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Romans 10:9-10

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

Romans 10:13

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

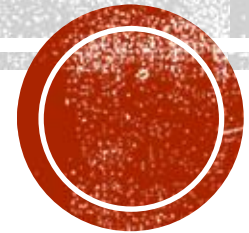
There should no doubts with respect to source of our salvation

JESUS (SALVATION) IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

<u>Genesis</u> – He is the Seed of the Woman, the Second Adam, the Sacrificed Son	<u>Isaiah</u> – He is the Virgin-born Saviour and the Suffering Servant
<u>Exodus</u> – He is the Passover Lamb, the Deliverer, and the Tabernacle Presence.	<u>Jeremiah</u> – He is the Righteous Branch and the Weeping Prophet
<u>Leviticus</u> – He is our Perfect High Priest and the Final Atoning Sacrifice	<u>Lamentations</u> – He is the Man of Sorrows
<u>Numbers</u> – He is the Bronze Serpent lifted high, the Living Water, the Pillar of Fire by night	<u>Ezekiel</u> – He is the Son of Man, the Shepherd, and the Restorer
<u>Deuteronomy</u> – He is the Prophet Like Moses	<u>Daniel</u> – He is the Son of Man, the Fourth Man in the Fire, and the Coming Judge
<u>Joshua</u> – He is the Captain of Salvation, leading us into the promised inheritance	<u>Hosea</u> – He is the Faithful Husband to the unfaithful bride
<u>Judges</u> – He is the True and Righteous Judge.	<u>Joel</u> – He is the One who pours out the Spirit
<u>Ruth</u> – He is the Kinsman-Redeemer who covers and restores.	<u>Amos</u> – He is the Righteous Judge
<u>1–2 Samuel</u> – He is the Anointed One, the Son of David	<u>Obadiah</u> – He is the Mighty Avenger
<u>1–2 Kings and Chronicles</u> – He is the Reigning and Eternal King	<u>Jonah</u> – He is the Risen Prophet, three days in the belly of the earth
<u>Ezra and Nehemiah</u> – He is the Rebuilder of what is broken	<u>Micah</u> – He is the Ruler born in Bethlehem
<u>Esther</u> – He is the Hidden Deliverer and Advocate, working behind the scenes	<u>Nahum</u> – He is our Stronghold in the day of trouble
<u>Job</u> – He is our Living Redeemer who will stand on the earth (Job 19:25)	<u>Habakkuk</u> – He is the Justifier of those who live by faith
<u>Psalms</u> – He is the Good Shepherd, the Suffering King, and the Risen Lord	<u>Zephaniah</u> – He is the Mighty Saviour in our midst
<u>Proverbs</u> – He is the Wisdom of God personified	<u>Haggai</u> – He is the Desire of All Nations
<u>Ecclesiastes</u> – He is the true Meaning and Purpose of Life	<u>Zechariah</u> – He is the Humble King riding on a donkey, the One who is pierced
<u>Song of Songs</u> – He is the Lover and Bridegroom of the Church	<u>Malachi</u> – He is the Sun of Righteousness with healing in His wings

1ST PETER

Lesson 4: The Quest for Holiness



“Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

1 Peter 1:13-16

THE QUEST FOR HOLINESS (1PETER 1:13-25)

The Foundation to Holiness

- **What is 'Holiness?'** - Devoted or dedicated to God
- **Commands to be Holy**
 - Preparatory Command - Gird Up, Be Sober, and Hope (*1Peter 1:13*)
 - Command of Execution - Love God, Love Self, Love the Brethren (*1Peter 1:22*)
- **God Remove the Jews from Egypt - Exodus**
 - **Preparation for Holiness** - Exodus Ch 20 - 39 (*The 10 Commandments, the Tabernacle, the Ark and the Altar*)
- **God Remove Egypt from the Jews - Leviticus**
 - **Execution of Holiness** (*Levi 19:2 'Be Holy for I Am Holy'*)
 - **How to worship a Holy God (Ch 1 – 17)**
 - *Instructions for Offerings (Brunt, Grain, Fellowship, Sin, Guilt)*
 - *Instructions for Priests and the Altar*
 - **How to live a Holy Life (Ch 18 – 27)**
 - *Standards and rules for the People and priests*
 - *Festivals (Passover, Unleavened Bread, First fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles)*



LEVITICAL OFFERINGS						
Leviticus 1-7						
1. BURNT OFFERING (OLAH)  WHOLE ANIMAL BURNT • Voluntary offering • Total surrender to God • A sweet aroma to the Lord Leviticus 1	2. GRAIN OFFERING (MINCHAH)  FINE FLOUR, OIL, INCENSE • No blood • Thankfulness and devotion • A pleasing aroma to the Lord Leviticus 2	3. PEACE OFFERING (SHELEM)  ANIMAL SHARED IN A MEAL • Fellowship with God • Shared by offering, priest, and for the poor • Thanksgiving and vows Leviticus 3	4. SIN OFFERING (CHATAT)  FOR UNINTENTIONAL SIN • For individuals or the community • Atonement and cleansing • Restores relationship with God Leviticus 4-5	5. GUILT OFFERING (ASHAM)  FOR SPECIFIC OFFENSES • Includes restitution • Brings forgiveness • Restores what was wronged Leviticus 5-7	SUMMARY ✝ Atonement for sin ✝ Express worship and devotion ✝ Fellowship with God ✝ Make things right (restitution) ✝ Approach a holy God	
LEVITICAL FEASTS (MO'ADIM)						
Leviticus 23						
SPRING FEASTS (Fulfilled in Christ's First Coming)					FALL FEASTS (Future Fulfillment)	
1. PASSOVER (PESACH)  14th day of 1st month • Lamb sacrificed • Deliverance from Egypt • Picture of Christ, our Passover Lamb Leviticus 23:5	2. FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD  15th-21st day of 1st month • No leaven (sin) • Purification • Separation unto God Leviticus 23:6-8	3. FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS  Day after Sabbath during Unleavened Bread • First of the harvest • Resurrection of Christ • Hope of eternal life Leviticus 23:9-14	4. FEAST OF WEEKS (PENTECOST)  50 days after Firstfruits • Wheat harvest • Giving of the Law • Outpouring of the Holy Spirit Leviticus 23:15-22	5. FEAST OF TRUMPETS  1st day of 7th month • Blowing of trumpets • Awakening • Gathering of God's people Leviticus 23:23-25		
A FULL CYCLE OF REDEMPTION					 7. FEAST OF TABERNACLES 15th-21st day of 7th month • Dwelling in booths • God dwelling with His people • Future kingdom joy Leviticus 23:33-44	
6. DAY OF ATONEMENT  10th day of 7th month • Atonement for sin • Cleansing of the nation • Judgment and forgiveness Leviticus 23:26-32						
THE OFFERINGS DEAL WITH OUR APPROACH TO GOD.						
THE FEASTS REVEAL GOD'S PLAN THROUGH TIME.						
"There are no appointed feasts; the appointed feasts of the Lord, which you shall observe as holy convocations." - Leviticus 23:2						

Love God – Love Yourself - Love Others

LEVITICAL OFFERINGS AND FEASTS

LEVITICAL OFFERINGS

Leviticus 1–7

The offerings were acts of worship and atonement that provided a way for the Israelites to approach a holy God.



1. BURNT OFFERING (OLAH)



WHOLE ANIMAL BURNT

- Voluntary offering
- Total surrender to God
- A sweet aroma to the Lord

Leviticus 1

2. GRAIN OFFERING (MINCHAH)



FINE FLOUR, OIL, INCENSE

- No blood
- Thankfulness and devotion
- A pleasing aroma to the Lord

Leviticus 2

3. PEACE OFFERING (SHELEM)



ANIMAL SHARED IN A MEAL

- Fellowship with God
- Shared by offerer, priest, and for the poor
- Thanksgiving and vows

Leviticus 3

4. SIN OFFERING (CHATAT)



FOR UNINTENTIONAL SIN

- For individuals or the community
- Atonement and cleansing
- Restores relationship with God

Leviticus 4–5

5. GUILT OFFERING (ASHAM)



FOR SPECIFIC OFFENSES

- Includes restitution
- Brings forgiveness
- Restores what was wronged

Leviticus 5–7

SUMMARY

- ✝ Atonement for sin
- ♥ Express worship and devotion
- 🤝 Fellowship with God
- ⚖ Make things right (restitution)
- 🙏 Approach a holy God

LEVITICAL FEASTS (MO'ADIM)

Leviticus 23

God's appointed times for Israel to remember His faithfulness and anticipate His future work.

SPRING FEASTS (Fulfilled in Christ's First Coming)

1. PASSOVER (PESACH)



- 14th day of 1st month
- Lamb sacrificed
 - Deliverance from Egypt
 - Picture of Christ our Passover Lamb

Leviticus 23:5

2. FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD



- 15th–21st day of 1st month
- No leaven (sin)
 - Purification
 - Separation unto God

Leviticus 23:6–8

3. FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS



- Day after Sabbath during Unleavened Bread
- First of the harvest
 - Resurrection of Christ
 - Hope of eternal life

Leviticus 23:9–14

4. FEAST OF WEEKS (PENTECOST)



- 50 days after Firstfruits
- Wheat harvest
 - Giving of the Law
 - Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Leviticus 23:15–22



A FULL
CYCLE OF
REDEMPTION

FALL FEASTS (Future Fulfillment)

5. FEAST OF TRUMPETS



- 1st day of 7th month
- Blowing of trumpets
 - Awakening
 - Gathering of God's people

Leviticus 23:23–25

6. DAY OF ATONEMENT



- 10th day of 7th month
- Atonement for sin
 - Cleansing of the nation
 - Judgment and forgiveness

Leviticus 23:26–32

7. FEAST OF TABERNACLES



- 15th–21st day of 7th month
- Dwelling in booths
 - God dwelling with His people
 - Future kingdom joy

Leviticus 23:33–44

THE OFFERINGS DEAL WITH OUR APPROACH TO GOD.

THE FEASTS REVEAL GOD'S PLAN THROUGH TIME.

"These are My appointed feasts, the appointed feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim as holy convocations."
— Leviticus 23:2

THE QUEST FOR HOLINESS (1PETER 1:13-25)

Holiness – Comparing the Old Testament with the New Testament

Love God

1 Peter 1: Called by God (2-3) | God is Holy (16)
| Incorruptible (23) | Endures Forever (25)

The 10 Commandments

- I. *You shall have no other gods before Me.*
- II. *You shall not make for yourself a carved image.*
- III. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
- IV. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

Love Others

1 Peter 1:22 Unfeigned love for the Brethren

- VI. *You shall not murder.*
- VII. *You shall not commit adultery.*
- VIII. *You shall not steal.*
- IX. *You shall not bear false witness*
- X. *You shall not covet.*

Love Yourself

1 Peter 1:13-14 Obedient Children

V. *Honor your father and your mother.*

God

Love - 1 Corinthians 13
Holiness – 1Peter 1:22)
Fellowship – 1 John 1:1-7

Me

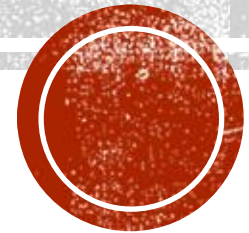
You

As (Grace)

Love God with all thy Heart, Soul, Mind and Strength
Love your Neighbor as Thyself
Duet 6:5 | Mark 12:29-31 | Matt 22:37

1ST PETER

Lesson 5: Sincere Milk



“Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”

1 Peter 2:1-3

DESIRE SINCERE MILK

“Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”

1 Peter 2:1-3

■ The New Birth Process

- A time to *lay aside* the old way of umbilical feeding on the world's environment
- Acquire a different appetite and digestion process

■ What are Attributes of ‘Sincere or Pure Milk’

- The Gospel is not too complex, but digestible
- Adapts us to the environment (The Body of Christ)
- Provide spiritual connections with the Holy Spirit
- The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the **Gold Standard**
 - *Founded in God's Law (Psalm 1)*
 - *Rooted in Love - God, Self, Others (Mark 12:29-35)*

■ What drives our desire to ingest the Word

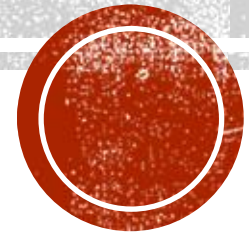
- To become better people?
- To become *“New Testament Lawyers”*?
- To Grow into spiritual and natural maturity?
 - *Daily learn to love God, Ourselves and Others*

Qualities and Comparisons of Milk

Attribute	Breast Milk	Infant Formula	Cow's Milk
Age	0–24+ months Gold standard from birth	0–12 months Safe alternative to breastfeeding	12 months+ only Too harsh for young kidneys
Protein	Whey-dominant (60:40) Easily digested; immune-active	Modified to mimic breast milk Varies by brand	Casein-dominant (80:20) Hard on infant kidneys
Immunity	IgA, IgG, live white cells Adapts to baby's environment	No live antibodies Some add pre/probiotics	No human antibodies Not infant-protective
Brain Dev.	Rich DHA & ARA + HMOs Supports neural connections	DHA/ARA often added Partially approaches breast milk	Low DHA; lacks HMOs Not optimized for infant brain
Suitability	★★★★★ WHO Gold Standard WHO - World Health Organization	★★★★☆ Best evidence-based alt.	★★☆☆☆ Not recommended <12 mo.

1ST PETER

Lesson 6: The Chief Cornerstone

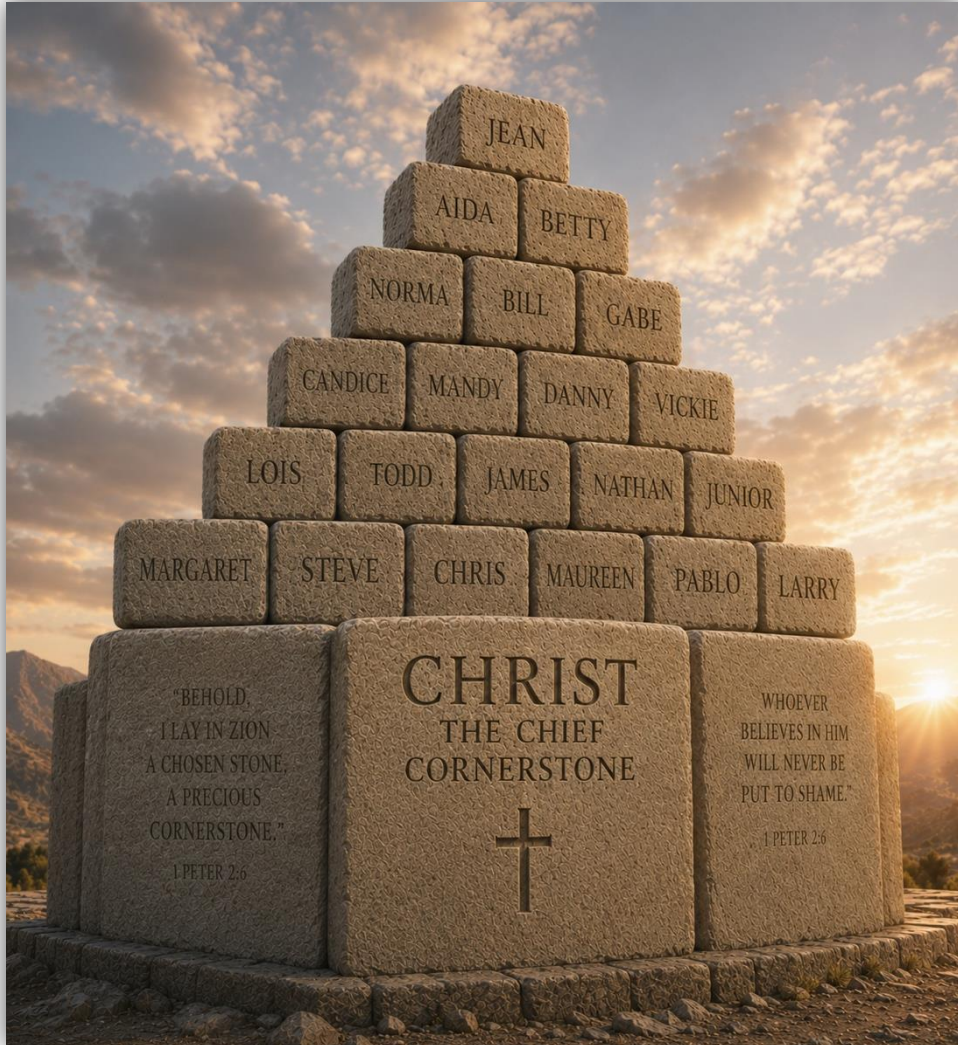


“To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 2:4-10

THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE

Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.
(1 Peter 2:6)



The Corner Stone

- The cornerstone is the initial stone placed during the construction of a building, usually in a corner.
- It marks the building's orientation and serves as a reference point for all other stones, determining the position and angles of the entire structure.

Job 38:6	Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof
Psalms 118:22	The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.
Isaiah 28:16	Therefore, thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.
Matthew 21:42 Mark 12:10 Luke 20:17	Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner
Ephesians 2:20	And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

RECONCILIATION AND ATONEMENT

The Chief Cornerstone is God’s solution to Reconciliation and Atonement

The Problem



	Dead Sacrifice	Dead Sacrifice	Dead Sacrifice	Living Sacrifice
The Solution	God	God	God	God
Mediator <i>One who stands in the middle</i>	A Servant (i.e. Moses / Abraham)	Aaron (Levitical Priesthood)	The Sanhedrin (High Priest i.e. Zacharias/)	Jesus Christ (The Chief Cornerstone)
Sacrifice <i>Blood for Atonement</i>	Animals	Animals	Animals	Spiritual sacrifices
Offering <i>Worship & Thanksgiving</i>	Animals	Animals & Grain/Oil	Animals & Grain/Oil	Praises
Platform <i>The place of worship</i>	Altars	Tabernacle	Temple	The Church (A Royal Priesthood)
				

A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD

- **Roles of a Levitical priest**

- Performed sacrifices and offerings
- Maintained the Sanctuary
- Provided teaching and guidance

- **Role of our priesthood today (Royal Priesthood)**

- What is the quality of our Spiritual Sacrifice and Praise Offering
- How well are we maintaining our Sanctuary
- Are we equipped to teach and provide guidance within the body of Christ

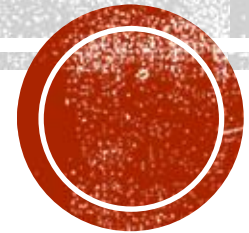
- **Aaron's sons and the strange fire they offered (Leviticus 8 -10)**

- Chapter 8 – Moses' Consecration and Ordination of Aaron and his sons
- Chapter 9 – Aaron's first Administration of the Offerings
- Chapter 10 – Defamation of the offering and the consequences

- **Other sacrificial breaches** - Korah (Num 16); Uzzah (2 Sam 6), Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5)

1ST PETER

Lesson 7: Spiritual Maturity



But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people;
that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his
marvelous light

1 Peter 2:9

THE SPIRITUAL MATURITY ROADMAP (1ST PETER)

Preparatory Instructions

Chosen by God, Jesus, Holy Spirit (1:1-2)

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The call to live Holy (1:13-25)

Maturity in our Salvation (2:1-3)

Build on the Living Stone (2:4-8)

Chosen as a Royal Priesthood (2:9-10)

Executionary Instructions

▪ Mature Conduct with Others

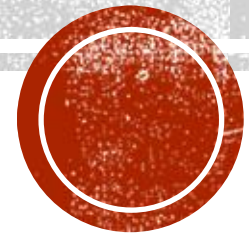
- **Before the World** (2:11-12)
- **With Governmental Authority** (2:13-17)
- **In the Workplace** (2:18-25)
- **In Marriage** (3:1-7)

▪ Mature Conduct Amid Suffering

- **For doing good** (3:8-22)
- **Suffering as Christ** (4:1-11)
- **Suffering for Christ** (4:12-19)
- **Leadership amid Suffering** (5:1-4)
- **Followship amid Suffering** (5:5-11)

1ST PETER

Lesson 8: Spiritual Maturity in Marriage



Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered

1 Peter 3:7

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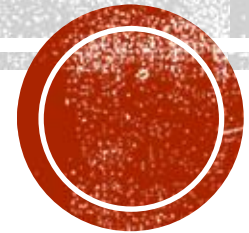
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- Fellowship amid Suffering (5:5-11)

MATURITY IN THE MARRIAGE (1 PETER 3:1-7)

- Two “**Likewises**” used in this passage of instructions
 - Be in Subjection - the same as Christ in the previous verses (2:21-25)
 - Reveals the soul-saving power of a godly wife in the marriage
 - Compares ‘standards of appearance’ and ‘a dress code’
 - Gives reasons for unanswered prayers by husbands
- Key word in verse 3:1 is your “**own**” husband
 - Not the pastor, prophet, apostle, evangelist, etc.
 - This opens the door to seductive spirits and representative of the “**Last Days**” (see *1 Tim 3:1-13*)

1ST PETER

Lesson 9: Spiritual Maturity in Suffering



Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.”

1 Peter 3:13

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PREPARE FOR SUFFERING

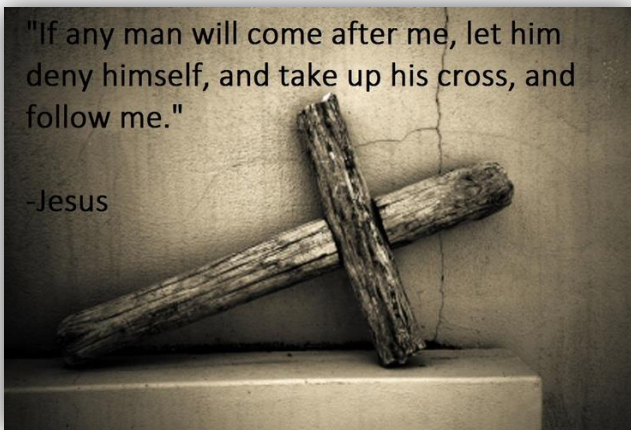
- **God's "Suffering Preparation" Guide (1 Peter 3:8-12)**

- Be of one Mind (the mind of Christ)
- Have compassion and Love as Brethen
- Be pitiful (*humble*) and courteous
- Keep the tongue and lips from evil and deceitful speech
- Seek Peace and Pursue it

- **Peter's growth path to learning these Characteristics**

- Mark 8:31-38 - Peter Rebukes Jesus - Jesus rebukes Peter
- John 13:2-10 – Jesus washes Peter's feet
- Matthew 17:1-4 – The Mountain of transfiguration
- Matthew 17:24-27 – Paying the Temple Tax and the miraculous fish

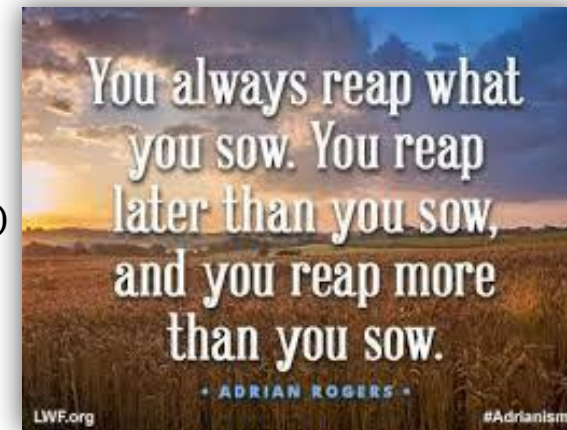
SUFFERING FOR DOING GOOD 1PET 3:13-22



Crosses or Crops

Crosses – Things we endure for Christ Sake (Luke 14:27)

Crops – Things we reap after we have planted (Gal 6:7-9)



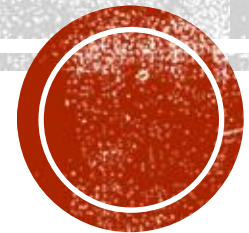
- Do not Fear Threats – Because we are Blessed (v14)
- Sanctify Christ in your Heart (v15)
- Prepare a bold response for your Hope in Salvation – Deliver it with gentleness and respect (v15)
- Our Godly behavior will convict the ones who speak evil of us (v16)
- Be like Christ and suffer from doing good, not evil (v17)
- The outreach of the Power of the Holy Spirit is not bound by time or physical limitations (v18-20)
- Baptism – the pledge of a clear conscience toward God, saves us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ (20-21)
- Jesus reigns in heaven and reigns above angels, authorities and powers (20-21)

LIVING FOR GOD 1PET 4:1-11

- **Be armed with the mind of Christ**
- **Live for God and not the lust of men** (Lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, etc.)
- **Prepare to give account at the judgement**
 - Salvation is based on our Belief – Judgement is based on our Walk
 - No one will escape judgement (living or dead)
- **Preparation for the End by investing in Others**
 - Be sober and pray
 - Have fervent Love for one another – (Matt 22:37-40)
 - Use hospitality
- **Differences between the Gift, Spiritual Gifts, and Talents**
 - Everyone has received “the gift” of Salvation (Romans 6:23, Ephesians)
 - Use our ‘Spiritual gifts and talents to minister ”the gift of Salvation” to others (Romans 11:29-30)
 - John 4:10 | Acts 2:38 | Acts 8:20 | Acts 10:45 | 1 Tim 4:14 | 2 Tim 1:6 |

1ST PETER

Lesson 10: Leadership and Followership during Suffering



Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.

1 Peter 5:6

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CHURCH LEADERSHIP ROLES 1 PET 5:1-2

1Peter 5:1-2

The elders (*presbuteros*) which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder (*presbuteros*), and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock (*poimainō*) of God which is among you, taking the oversight (*episkopeō*) thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

- **Poimen – Pastor**

- To serve as a tender of sheep, herd, tend to.

- **Episkopos - Bishops or Overseer**

- To accept responsibility for the care of someone, oversee, care for.

- **Presbuteros - Elders**

- Elders are leaders, in part, due to the wisdom and spiritual maturity they have obtained through a life-long walk with Christ.

Roles often used synonymously or can refer to a single person

CHURCH FOLLOWSHIP ROLES 1 PET 5:5-9

■ Diakonos - Deacon or Servant

- Submission and Subjection to one another with Humility
- Humble yourself before God
- Be sober and vigilant to resist Satan

Receiving Crowns *(1 Pet 5:4)*

Crowns	Reference	Scripture Text
Crown of Life	James 1:12	Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
	Rev 2:10	Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life
Crown of Rejoicing	1 Thess 2:19	For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?
Crown of Glory	1 Pet 5:4	And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away.
Imperishable Crown	1 Cor 9:24-25	And every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
Crown of Righteousness	2 Tim 4:8	Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Culmination of our Crowns – to be cast before the throne *(Rev 4:10)*