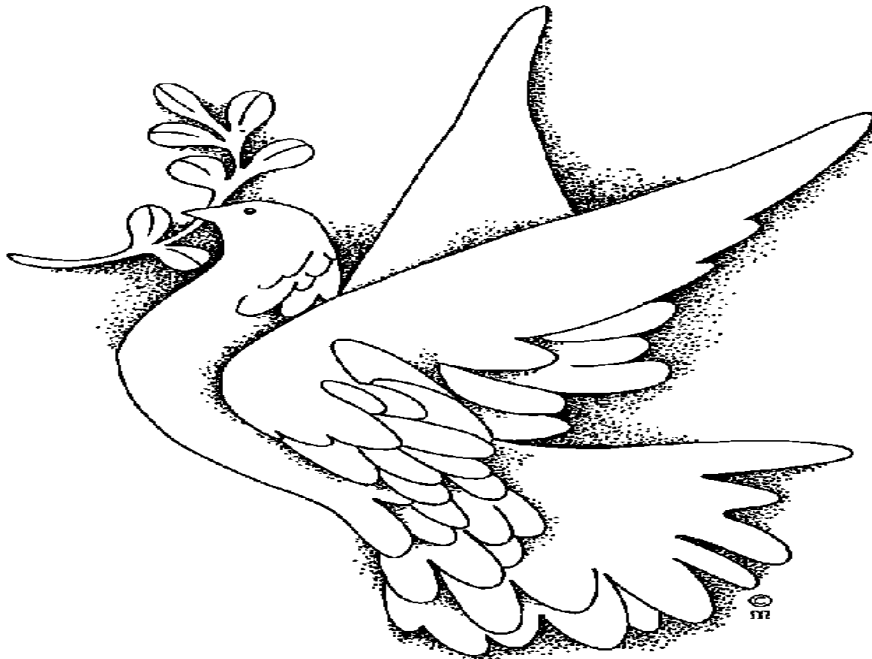


The Spirit World

*A Thirteen Lesson
Bible Class Study*



*a study of spiritual beings, including the
Godhead and the devil*

*by
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Introduction

A great deal of superstition, ignorance and fantasy surround the matter of spirit beings in our universe. False ideas seem to outnumber what the Bible actually says about the Holy Spirit, angels and demons. This series on *The Spirit World* is written to assist Bible students in gaining a better understanding of the members of the Godhead and the various spirit creatures who exist in the world.

The initial lesson in this series summarizes the Bible doctrine on the Godhead. Following that are six lessons that deal with the Holy Spirit and his person and work. Jesus is emphasized in two lessons; his father in another. The next three lessons deal with created beings: angels, demons and the devil. The final lesson has to do with the departed spirits of the dead.

Syllabus

Lesson One Understanding the Godhead

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen.”

Lesson Two Christ’s Promise of the Comforter

“And I will pray the father and he will give you another helper, the Spirit.”

Lesson Three The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

“Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Spirit was given.”

Lesson Four Being Filled With the Spirit

“And do not be drunk with wine ... but be filled with the Spirit.”

Lesson Five Holy Spirit Baptism

“And they were all filled with the Spirit and began to speak with other tongues.”

Lesson Six Sins Against The Spirit

“The blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.”

Lesson Seven Christ: Past, Present and Future

“For in him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”

Lesson Eight Jesus, The Miracle Worker

“This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested his glory.”

Lesson Nine The Personality of Jehovah

“I AM WHO I AM”

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“Are they not all ministering spirits sent ... for those who will inherit salvation?”

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“Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion.”

Lesson Twelve Demons

“Even the demons believe and tremble.”

Lesson Thirteen Disembodied Spirits of the Dead

“Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Lesson 1: *Understanding The Godhead*

The term “Trinity” means different things to different people, and since it is not found in the Bible, this should come as no surprise. A better term to express a Bible concept with a Bible word is “Godhead.” This word means simply, the essence of deity that defines our God and makes him God. The Trinity was coined to describe the fact that there are three persons who share this Godhood in the Bible: Jehovah, the father; Jesus Christ, the son; and the Holy Spirit.

Questions

1. The three members of the Godhead are evident in the creation of the world, as the three persons discuss the work and especially the creation of man (Gen. 1:26). Summarize the description of the role of each of the following, according to the scripture references given:

a. The Spirit (Gen. 1:1):

b. Christ (Heb. 1:2):

c. The Father (Eph. 3:9):

2. When Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus, he was dealing with a group of people that was very religious and yet devoted to superstitions and false gods, rather than the one true and living God (Acts 17:19-34). From his speech, we learn certain things about the Bible’s true deity:

a. What did God create?

b. Does God dwell in manmade temples?

c. Does God need anything?

d. What does God hope we will do?

e. Is his nature comparable to the idols?

3. In his letter to the Roman saints, Paul referred to the Godhead as the nature of deity, whose imprint is observable throughout material creation (Rom. 1:18-32). Explain what is meant by God’s “invisible attributes” and the consequence of rejecting such evidence .

4. From these descriptions and other scriptures on the nature of God, we come to the conclusion that the divine nature is marked by certain qualities, which include eternity. How did Habakkuk describe the origin of God (Hab. 1:12)? What did the psalmist say (Psalm 90:1-4)?

5. In Exodus 3, Moses met God at the burning bush. How does the name that God told Moses establish his eternal nature? What other person of the Godhead described himself this way (John 8:58)?

6. When the Father proclaimed through Isaiah that besides him, there was no God, did this mean that Jesus is not God (cf. Rev. 1:9-11)?

7. Omniscience is the ability to know all things which distinguishes the Godhead from humans and other beings. We see that the members of the Godhead share this power. How did God describe it to Samuel (1 Sam. 16:7)?

8. How did Jesus exercise omniscience in his ministry (Matt. 9:4, 12:25, Luke 6:8, 11:17)?

9. What solemn warning is attached to God's omniscience in Hebrews 4:12-13?

10. What do the following passages state about the omnipotence (all powerful nature) of God?

- a. Luke 1:37:
- b. Isaiah 26:4:
- c. Revelation 19:6:

11. What is the extent of the power of God, according to the following passages?

- a. Ephesians 3:20:
- b. Ephesians 1:19-20:
- c. Hebrews 10:31:

12. Did Christ ever exercise the power to raise the dead back to life? List three occasions when Jesus exercised power to raise the dead back to life.

- a.
- b.
- c.

13. What is meant by God's omnipresence (Jer. 23:23-24)? What other famous prophet learned this lesson the hard way?

14. How can we partake of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4-11, 1 Peter 1:13-16)?

Lesson 2: *Christ's Promise of the Comforter*

John's gospel account includes the last intimate conversation between Christ and his apostles prior to the crucifixion. In chapters 14-16, Jesus promises his closest followers that another helper would come after the Lord departed and infuse them with certain blessings that would enable the message to spread more effectively. That helper is identified as the Comforter, or the Holy Spirit.

Questions

1. Read John 14:1-14. Clearly two divine personages are identified in this passage and they are not one in the same, but distinct from one another. Identify them:

- a.
- b.

2. Read John 14:15-18. How were the apostles to show their love for Jesus? How can disciples today show their overwhelming love for the Master (cf. 2 John 6, 1 John 2:3-6)?

3. How would Jesus avoid leaving the apostles "orphaned" following his ascension into heaven?

4. How can we tell the difference between the influence of the spirit of truth and that of the spirit of error (1 John 4:1-6)?

5. Read John 14:25-31. Verse 26 identifies two vital objectives for the Holy Spirit. List them.

- a.
- b.

6. What became of the knowledge that the Comforter brought to the apostles (2 Peter 1:19-21)?

7. Paul told Timothy that the Holy Spirit's inspired message was profitable in four areas for the evangelist (2 Tim. 3:16-17). List them.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

8. Beyond the scriptures, what does the servant of God need to fulfill his ministry?

9. Read John 15:26-27. From whom will Jesus send the Helper? Of whom will he testify? What would that testimony cause the apostles to do (cf. Acts 5:30-32)?

10. Read John 16:5-15. Why was it to the apostles' advantage that Jesus go away?

11. List the three things of which the Spirit was to convict the world and why.

a.

b.

c.

12. How much knowledge necessary to man's salvation would the Holy Spirit fail to deliver, requiring latter day prophets to fill the gaps (cf. 2 Peter 1:3 and Jude 3)? Explain your answer using all the references given.

13. Read Luke 24:48-49. Why did Jesus instruct the apostles to tarry in Jerusalem following his crucifixion?

14. When did the helper arrive? How?

Lesson 3: *The Gifts of the Holy Spirit*

In giving the great commission, Jesus promised that certain signs would accompany the preaching of God's word by the apostles. "And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs" (Mark 16:20). These signs are gifts of the Holy Spirit, present in the first century, but with a special purpose and limited duration.

Questions

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. List the nine gifts of the Spirit listed in this passage. We will define them in class.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

2. Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13. This passage establishes a termination point for these miraculous abilities. Refer back to Mark 16:20. What was the stated purpose of these gifts?

3. What does Paul identify as the reason miraculous gifts existed then, according to 1 Corinthians 13:9?

4. The coming of what would usher in the termination of miraculous gifts (verse 10)?

5. Which of the following fits the context and is the meaning of the phrase "that which is perfect"?

- a. Eternity (Heaven)
- b. Jesus, in the second coming
- c. complete delivery of God's will to mankind (Jude 3)

6. Read Acts of the Apostles 2:1-13. How did the apostles receive the gift of tongues? Were these “tongues” gibberish? What were they?

7. Read Acts of the Apostles 8:4-17. Did Philip have miraculous abilities of the Spirit? Did he pass them along to the people he was converting in Samaria?

8. Read Acts of the Apostles 8:18-19. What great fact about miraculous gifts did Simon the former sorcerer notice?

9. What ingredient are we missing today in order to have miraculous abilities among men?

10. Is witnessing a miracle necessary to have faith (John 20:30-31)?

11. Those who claim miraculous abilities today usually claim either to be able to heal sicknesses, speak in tongues, or receive direct revelation from God. Do they heal sicknesses as Jesus and his apostles did—repairing a withered hand before the audience’s eyes? How do they do their work?

12. How do modern tongue speakers violate the scriptural example in their work (Acts 2:11 and 1 Cor. 14:28)?

13. Many claim they have no control over their gifts and they often are exhibited against the gifted one’s will. What does Paul say on this in 1 Corinthians 14:32?

14. What is the ultimate test of any prophet (Deut. 18:20-22)?

Lesson 4: *Being Filled With the Spirit*

It is a glorious fact that the Holy Spirit dwells within each believer today, but the means by which this is accomplished is one of great controversy. Some believe that the Holy Spirit influences, illuminates and directs the Christian through a supernatural method by which the word of the Spirit is bypassed in favor of something more mysterious and akin to demon possession. Indeed, the Spirit indwells the saint, but he does this as Jesus and Jehovah indwell the Christian, after the figure of the influence of these personages through the word.

Questions

1. Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. How does Paul describe the body of the Christian? What is the obligation in this passage that results?
2. Summarize the teaching of Romans 12:1-2 as it relates to the body as a temple of the Spirit.
3. Which member of the Godhead is said to dwell within the Christian in the following passages?
 - a. 1 John 4:12, 15-16:
 - b. Colossians 1:27:
4. Do these members abide *literally* within the Christian?
5. In the age of miracles during the first century, men could be filled with the Spirit in a miraculous measure, allowing them to speak beyond their natural ability and knowledge. In such cases, there was not a command to be filled with the Spirit, but it was a gift given to them. Identify who was miraculously filled with the Spirit in the following passages and what they were led to do:
 - a. Acts of the Apostles 4:8:
 - b. Acts of the Apostles 4:31:
 - c. Acts of the Apostles 13:9:
6. What is the sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)? What does this tell us about the manner in which the Spirit operates on the hearts of men?

7. Read Acts of the Apostles 6:3. When the apostles wanted to find seven men to serve the widows' tables, they demanded applicants be full of the Holy Spirit, but no part of their task would require them to work miracles. In the midst of the other qualifications as context—good reputation and wisdom—what is “filled with the Spirit” likely describing here?

8. On other occasions, the Holy Spirit issued a decree that saints should obey him and be filled with the Spirit. Read Ephesians 5:17-20. List the things involved in being filled with the Spirit, according to this passage.

a. verse 17:

b. verse 18:

c. verse 19:

d. verse 20:

e. verse 20:

9. The Colossian letter is very similar to the one to the Ephesians, but its differences sometimes serve as a valuable commentary to the other. Where Paul commands us to be filled with the Spirit in Ephesians 5, he commands us to be filled with something different in Colossians 3:16-17. What is it?

10. What does it then mean to be filled with these two items (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16-17)?

11. Read Galatians 5:16-26. What is the evidence that someone is walking in the spirit or against the Spirit?

12. Consider the list of fruits of the Spirit. Can we know how God defines these terms without the benefit of the Scriptures to explain them to us?

13. Not only does the Spirit dwell in us, but we are also told that we dwell where?

14. Can one be filled with the Spirit today? If not, why not? If so, how?

Lesson 5: *Holy Spirit Baptism*

To many, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a most curious and mysterious matter in New Testament history. Promised by the prophets Joel and Jesus, the Spirit was poured out on all flesh early on in the apostolic ministry. The Bible records only two instances in which people received Holy Spirit baptism and on both occasions, the miraculous ability to speak in tongues provided evidence.

Questions

1. Read Joel 2:28-29. On whom would the spirit be poured out?
2. Would this outpouring be marked by miraculous gifts or something subtle and invisible?
3. Read Matthew 3:11. Whom did John predict would bring about the baptism of the Holy Spirit?
4. Read Luke 24:46-49. Why were the apostles to tarry in the city of Jerusalem after Christ's ascension (cf. John 14:16)?
5. Read Acts of the Apostles 1:4-5. What was the "Promise of the Father"? From this context, which people received this instruction and promise?
6. Can the baptism of the Holy Spirit then be obeyed in the way that water immersion can be obeyed unto the remission of sins (Acts 2:38)?
7. Read Acts of the Apostles 2:1-4. Who are all together with one accord in one place (cf. Acts 1:26)?
8. What happens to them on the first day of Pentecost after Christ's ascension?

9. Read Acts of the Apostles 2:5-13. Which of the apostles was speaking gibberish or a language that no one present could identify as his own?

10. "All flesh," or mankind, was basically divided into two sections in this era, Jews and Gentiles. Which of these divisions had received the baptism of the Holy Spirit at this point?

11. Read Acts of the Apostles 10:1-8. Was Cornelius a Jew? How did Jews like Peter treat Gentiles?

12. Read Acts of the Apostles 10:9-23. What was the lesson in this vision to Peter (cf. Acts 10:34-35)?

13. Read Acts of the Apostles 10:44-46. What was the impact on the Jews when they saw Holy Spirit baptism upon these Gentiles?

14. What baptism did they undergo immediately after this? Which of these two baptisms has a record of being associated with "the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16)?

15. What outward proof of Holy Spirit baptism is present in both cases (Acts 2 and Acts 10)?

16. Many teach that it is Holy Spirit baptism that precedes salvation and that immersion in water may follow, but is not necessary to salvation. Arrange the following statements in chronological order, according to the account in Acts 8:4-17:

Event

Order

- The converts received the Holy Spirit.
- Philip preached to the people of Samaria.
- Men and women of Samaria were baptized.
- The people of Samaria heeded Philip's teaching.

17. Holy Spirit baptism allowed the apostles to be guided into all truth and speak by inspiration to men of every tongue. It later showed the entire church that the Gentiles should become fellow citizens of the kingdom with the Jews. Why is Holy Spirit baptism no longer necessary?

Lesson 6: *Sins Against The Spirit*

The Holy Spirit is a person of the Godhead, and as such, can be sinned against by men and women in the world. Actually, one such sin is labeled unforgivable, but all the sins against the spirit are serious and can lead to eternal condemnation if uncorrected.

Questions

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22. What is the offense against the Spirit mentioned in this passage? To what then is the Holy Spirit compared in this imagery (Acts 2:3)?
2. Judging by the context in Paul's letter, quenching the Spirit primarily dealt with wrong uses of miraculous gifts. Identify how the following passages regulate misuses of such gifts:
 - a. 1 Corinthians 14:26-27:
 - b. 1 Corinthians 14:28:
 - c. 1 Corinthians 14:34-35:
 - d. 2 Timothy 1:6:
3. In this age in which miracles have ceased, how does the Holy Spirit's flame yet burn (James 1:21)?
4. How can one quench the Spirit today (1 Thess. 2:13, James 1:22-25)?
5. Read Mark 3:20-30. What sin against the Spirit is mentioned in this passage? How had these men committed this sin?
6. How does Jesus emphasize the seriousness of this sin?
7. Why did Jesus do signs (John 20:30-31)? Can one be saved though he deny the power and person of Christ (Heb. 11:6, Acts 4:12)? Why is this sin unforgivable?

8. Read Hebrews 10:26-31. What sin against the Spirit is noted in this passage? How is this sin against the spirit committed?

9. Why is he called the “Spirit of grace” (1 Cor. 2:7-10, Heb. 2:3-4 and John 16:8)?

10. What is the penalty for this sin against the Spirit?

11. How is this type of sin and ultimate apostasy characterized in Hebrews 6:4-6?

12. Read Ephesians 4:25-32. What is the sin against the Spirit mentioned in this passage? With what member of the body is it committed, according to this context?

13. List at least three such activities of this member which grieve the Spirit, according to this passage:

a. Ephesians 4:25:

b. Ephesians 4:29:

c. Ephesians 4:31:

14. What achieves the opposite of grieving the Spirit (verse 32, James 1:19-20)?

15. How does James describe the reason the Spirit is grieved by this member’s sin (James 3:10-12)?

16. Read Acts of the Apostles 7:51-60. What sin against the Spirit is here identified? How was it committed (Acts 13:44-46)?

17. Can it be committed today (2 Tim. 3:1-9)?

Lesson 7: *Christ: Past, Present and Future*

It can safely be assumed that Jesus shocked his audience in John 8 when he announced, “Before Abraham was, I AM” (verse 58). That designation had been applied to Jehovah when he made himself known to Moses at the burning bush. Now this itinerant carpenter from Nazareth was taking the same name for himself and claiming eternity in the process.

Questions

1. Read Revelation 1:9-11. What phrases suggest the eternal nature of Jesus Christ? How does Isaiah 44:6 establish that Jesus is both eternal and divine?
2. Read John 1:1-14. Who is the “Word” under consideration in this text (cf. Matt. 1:23)? How does John describe him?
3. If Christ is eternal and divine, is it also possible that he is a created being? What about Jesus was prepared for him (Heb. 10:5)?
4. Read Colossians 1:15-18. What was Christ’s role in the creation?
5. Read Colossians 2:8-10. In what “degree of deity” does Christ exist?
6. Read John 5:17-18. Why did the Jews want to kill Jesus?
7. Read Philippians 2:5-11. In one word, describe what was the “mind of Christ” concerning the incarnation.

8. Where did Christ spend the three days between the crucifixion and the resurrection (Luke 23:43, Acts 2:22-31)?

9. Read Acts of the Apostles 2:22-33. Where was Christ seated following the resurrection and his ascension back to the Father?

10. Read Hebrews 5:5-9. What did Christ “learn” from the crucifixion? What role did he take by virtue of this lesson?

11. According to the following passages, what is Christ’s role today?

- Hebrews 7:23-25:

- Hebrews 8:6:

- 1 John 2:1-2:

- Romans 5:6-11:

12. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17. This passage describes the second coming of Jesus Christ. At what point will he set foot on Earth again and take up residence in the city of Jerusalem to sit on a throne, which someone will have to build for him that day?

13. Where will both the living and dead righteous be united with Christ?

14. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10. What kind of a day will that be when Jesus returns for those who have refused to obey the gospel and those who do not genuinely know the Lord?

Lesson 8: *Jesus, the Miracle Worker*

The new revelation of God's will that Jesus Christ was delivering in his earthly ministry was accompanied by signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit" (Heb. 2:4). Evidently the gospels do not contain all the miracles that Jesus performed, for John commented that he "did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book" (20:30). The purpose of Christ's miracles went beyond the immediate circumstances—healing this one or feeding that one—to advancing evidence that he was divine and his message was genuine.

Questions

1. Read John 20:30-31. Why are Christ's miracles recorded in the gospel accounts?
2. Read Mark 16:19-20. What was Christ's role in the miracles done by the apostles after his ascension?
3. Read Matthew 14:22-33. What natural law did Jesus overcome in this miracle? How did the group respond when the wind had ceased and the miracle was allowed to settle in their minds? What practical lesson should Peter have gained from this (cf. James 1:5-7)?
4. Read John 4:46-54. What made this miracle of healing all the more spectacular? Did this particular man wait until he saw the miracle to believe?
5. Read Mark 4:35-41. How did Jesus demonstrate power over the elements?
6. Read Luke 6:5-12. Beyond the surface features of this miracle, what point was Jesus making?
7. Have you ever seen a modern day "healer" accomplish anything of this nature?

8. How did Jesus anticipate that the Pharisees would object to this miracle being done this day?

9. Read John 1:43-51. What caused Nathanael to confess Jesus to be the king of Israel? What did Christ promise him?

10. Read John 2:1-11. What was the first miracle Christ performed?

11. Read Luke 5:17-24. Which act is greater and displays greater power, healing disease or forgiving sins? How did the two acts work together?

12. Read John 6:1-27. Why were these people wanting to follow Jesus; was it because they saw a sign which inspired faith?

13. Read John 6:52-69. Did Jesus continue to feed them in order to keep them anyway? Who left? Who stayed?

14. Read John 11:1-48. What natural law did Jesus overcome to perform this miracle? How long had Lazarus been gone? Why did this great miracle frighten the Pharisees' council?

15. Read John 10:17-18. What did Jesus mean by the expression "take it again"? When did he perform this miracle?

Lesson 9: *The Personality of Jehovah*

No mere man who ever lived knew God better than Moses, who met him at the burning bush and then served as his chief lieutenant throughout 40 years of wilderness wandering. The nature and personality of Jehovah became well known to Moses, and through his and others' writings can become known to us also, because God changes not.

Questions

1. *Faithfulness*: The relationship between man and God has always been described as a covenant, based on promises and conditions. Although man has failed to uphold his part of the compact on many occasions, God has always proven himself trustworthy. From the following passages, identify what promise we can count on because God has proven to be faithful.

- Genesis 9:8-17:

- Hebrews 6:13-18:

- 1 Peter 4:17-19:

- 2 Peter 3:1-9:

2. *Fatherhood*: Both fleshly Israel in the Old Testament and spiritual Israel (the church) in the New Testament have been described by the Lord as his children. How does God fulfill his fatherly role toward us, according to the following passages?

- Matthew 7:7-11:

- Mark 11:25-26:

- James 1:17-18:

- Hebrews 12:7-11:

- 1 John 3:1:

3. *Reverend*: The psalmist said that God's name was holy and to be revered. The glory of God is an awesome thing and ought always to remind man of his power. In the day of judgment, will confession of Christ still be optional (Rom. 14:11-12)?

4. Read 1 Timothy 6:13-16. How does the apostle describe Christ's glory in this passage?

5. *Goodness*: What do these passages indicate about the goodness of God?

- 1 John 4:7-11:
- John 3:16:
- Romans 2:1-4:

6. *Justice*: Justice demands that our Lord be impartial and true to both his promises and warnings (1 Peter 1:17). Read Romans 2:5-11. According to what will God make his final judgment of each man? What causes men to be accepted in God's sight (Acts 10:34-35)?

7. *Holiness*: The Bible describes God as holy. Define that word. Since it applies to God, does this mean that men should not aspire to such a description of themselves (1 Peter 1:15)?

8. *Jealous*: For what is God jealous (Exod. 34:14)? What provokes his jealousy (James 4:4)?

9. *Merciful*: How does God show his mercy to men (Heb. 8:12)?

10. *Compassion*: How does James describe God's compassion (4:8-10)?

11. *Vengeful*: To whom does vengeance belong exclusively (Rom. 12: 19-21)? Of what is man guilty when he executes his own vengeance?

12. Could God still be described as just if, in the day of judgment, he allowed universal salvation by rewarding the wicked and those who did not obey the gospel (2 Thess. 1:3-10)? Why or why not?

13. How can a loving God send anyone to hell?

Lesson 10: *Angels*

A fascination with angels developed toward the end of the twentieth century in popular television programs and motion pictures. In fictional presentations like *Highway to Heaven*, *Touched by An Angel*, *City of Angels*, and *Michael*, angels were described as dwelling on Earth to intervene in the lives of humans. Angels could communicate and be seen while doing supernatural works as well. All this added to the mystery and fantasy about angels and resulted in their elevation in interest even above God and Jesus. There is much we do not know about angels and what the Bible does not reveal, we should not seek to explain or imagine.

Questions

1. Using a concordance (such as *Strong's*, *Young's*, or *Cruden's*) list the passages that use the word “halo” and “guardian angel.” What do we learn from these lists?

2. The mission of the angelic order of creation is nicely identified by the Greek word from which angel derives—*angelos* (αγγελος), meaning “messenger.” How did an angel serve this role in the process of the incarnation of Christ?

3. In the Old Testament, especially during the Exodus, angels were identified as helping the people of God along their way. Examine the following passages and describe how angels assisted God’s people.
 - Genesis 19:1-13:

 - Genesis 24:1-7:

 - Exodus 23:20-24:

 - 1 Kings 19:1-8:

4. Since the church was instituted on the first Pentecost after Christ's ascension back into heaven in the first century, did angels ever intervene in the affairs of Bible characters? When?

5. These angelic visits are obviously connected to the age of miracles, during which the word of God was being revealed and confirmed. Since this supernatural age has expired according to 1 Corinthians 13 with the complete delivery of God's will (Jude 3), should such angelic visits have likewise ceased?

6. Does this mean that angels are then dead? What role can they continue to occupy (Heb. 1:14, , Luke 15:10, Matt. 18:10)?

7. Are all angels good (Matt. 25:41 and 2 Peter 2:4)? Prove your answer.

8. Mormonism founder Joseph Smith claimed that an angel named Moroni visited him and delivered a "newer testament of Jesus Christ" which differs from the New Testament in our Bibles. How should Smith have responded to such an angel delivering such a "newer gospel" (Gal. 1:5-9)?

9. What is the role of angels when people die (Luke 16:19-23)?

10. What will be their role at the second coming of Christ (Matt. 13:37-43)?

11. Two groups of beings are mentioned by the major prophets and are presumed to be separate orders of angels. Identify them from Ezekiel 10:1-5 and Isaiah 6:2-6.

12. What does the Hebrew writer say about angels in Hebrews 13:2?

Lesson 11: *Satan*

The Bible presents Satan as a genuine character, not a fictional creation of fertile minds in order to personify all that is evil among men. Throughout the Old and New Testaments, we find the devil engaged in negative works against the plan of God. Indeed, the climax of Christ's mission involved the folly of the devil as well.

Questions

1. Read Isaiah 14:1-17 and pay special attention to important context clues. Is Isaiah talking about Satan and revealing his origin in this passage? What name is mentioned in this passage that is generally attributed to Satan today?
2. Is Satan an eternal being like Jehovah, or is he a created being, like angels and demons (Col. 1:15-17)?
3. Read Genesis 3:1-7. The word Satan can be translated "adversary" and this description summarized well the career of the devil. We first see him in this role in the garden of Eden. Explain the way in which the serpent persuaded Eve to sin.
4. By what means does he attempt to overcome people today, according to 1 John 2:15-17?
5. What prediction did God make about the serpent in Genesis 3:14-15? When and how was this prophecy accomplished?
6. No book is better known for its portrayal of the devil than Job. To what did the devil attribute Job's faithfulness when God suggested him as an example (Job 1:6-11)?

7. How does this passage prove that Satan's power is limited by God (Job 1:12-19)?
8. Describe the career of the devil, as revealed in the following passages.
- a. John 8:44:
 - b. 1 John 3:7-9:
 - c. Hebrews 2:14:
9. The Holy Spirit identifies one particular attitude that led to the devil's condemnation, which also serves to prove that God did not create him to be evil. What attribute is noted in 1 Timothy 3:6?
10. How do the following passages teach that Satan's power can be overcome by the faithful?
- a. Ephesians 6:11-13:
 - b. 1 Corinthians 10:12-13:
 - c. 1 Peter 5:8-9:
 - d. James 4:7-8:
11. Satan is often cast as a mysterious being whose ways are beyond our comprehension and whose power has the potential to surprise. What did Paul say on this subject in 2 Cor. 2:11?
12. What is his prime device, according to 2 Cor. 11:3?
13. How did Jesus overcome each of the devil's three temptations in the wilderness (Matt. 4:1-11)?

Lesson 12: *Demons*

Demons were quite prevalent in the days of Christ and provided him a welcome opportunity to display his power by exorcising them. While the existence of demons is not in question, the possibility that men may be possessed by demons today is controversial.

Questions

1. Read Mark 1:23-28. What particular aspect of this event astounded the witnesses?
2. Read Matthew 8:28-32. How did these demons feel about Christ?
3. How is this exorcism different from dramatic presentations in modern motion pictures?
4. Read Matthew 12:22-32. What false accusation did the Pharisees make against Jesus? Explain his defense. Of what sin did Jesus accuse them?
5. Was this power also given to others besides Christ (Matt. 10:1, Mark 16:17)? If so, whom?
6. Read Luke 10:17-18. What did Jesus say in response to the disciples' amazement at being able to cast out demons? Explain.
7. Do demons have faith (James 2:18-20)? If so, is it a saving faith?

8. Read Luke 8:26-33 and identify the effect that demons had on the individual they possessed.

9. Read Acts of the Apostles 19:11-16. Did the Jewish exorcists have as much success as Christ and his servants?

10. The question of whether demons continue to possess people today must be answered in light of certain obvious Bible facts. Answer the following.

a. What was the effect of Christ's ability to exorcise demons (Mark 1:23-28)?

b. Was the ability to exorcise attached to other miraculous gifts (Mark 16:17-18, Matt. 10:1)?

c. What was the purpose of miraculous gifts (John 20:30-31, Mark 16:20)?

d. Was this objective accomplished (Jude 3)?

e. Has the age of miraculous gifts expired (1 Cor. 13:8-13)?

f. If the ability to exorcise has ceased, what would be the case if demon possession continues?

11. Read Zechariah 13:1-3. What age is spoken about in verse 1? What three things would be cut off in this age?

12. Does evidence of wickedness, disease and insanity on Earth today prove that demons still possess people today (1 Peter 5:8)?

Lesson 13: *Disembodied Spirits of the Dead*

The account of the rich man and Lazarus reveals to us that there is an intermediate state between this life and each man's eternal abode. This state is not the Catholic purgatory, but a place called Hades, with separate regions for the righteous dead and wicked dead, divided by a great fixed gulf.

Questions

1. Where did the body of Jesus go upon the Lord's death on the cross (John 19:38-42)? Where did his spirit go (Acts 2:25-28 and Luke 23:39-43)? (The King James Version gives a somewhat confusing translation in Acts 2:27. Try to obtain a different translation which will likely render it more precisely.)

2. Read Luke 16:19-31. Where did the rich man go upon his death? Is this the same place that Jesus said he would hold his spirit? What is the difference?

3. Why did the rich man go where he went? Had the final judgment taken place before he was assigned a place there?

4. How does Peter assure us that this assignment before the judgment is just and a proper understanding of the Lord's statements (2 Peter 2:4, 9-10)?

5. Describe the existence of the rich man after he died. What was his attitude toward those yet alive?

6. Describe the transformation in the lot of Lazarus from life to death.

7. The Catholic doctrine of purgatory holds that people too good for hell or not good enough for heaven go there to earn their salvation and make the leap into heaven. Nowhere is this doctrine taught in the Bible. How does the passage in Luke actually defy it? What does 2 Corinthians 5:10 add to the matter?

8. What event will conclude this intermediary state and commence the eternal judgment (1 Thess. 4:13-18, 2 Cor. 5:9-11)?

9. According to the following passages, what do the residents of Hadean Torments and the wicked who yet live when Jesus returns have to anticipate at the final judgment?

- Matthew 13:47-50:

- Matthew 25:41-46:

- 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10:

10. What do the following passages state about the righteous one's hope of heaven?

- Matthew 6:19-21:

- Hebrews 11:13-16:

- 1 Peter 1:3-5:

11. Was it permissible under the law of Moses to attempt to contact the spirits of the dead (Lev. 19:31)? What happened when Saul wanted to consult Samuel, who had so departed (1 Sam. 28:7-20)?

12. Where does Isaiah send people in such need instead (Isa. 8:19-20)?

13. Has God's attitude toward sorcery changed under the law of Christ (Gal. 5:19-20)?

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