

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Genesis***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF GENESIS**

### **1. Generation - Chapters 1-2 ... A book of beginnings**

- The beginning of Theology - the science of God
- The beginning of Cosmogony - the science of the universe
- The beginning of Anthropology - the science of man
- The beginning of Sociology - the science of society

### **2. Degeneration - Chapters 3-11**

The beginning of Harmartiology - the science of sin

- Adam and Eve (chapter 3)
- Antediluvians (chapter 6)
- Civilization after the flood (chapter 11)

### **3. Regeneration - Chapter 12-50 ... Abrahamic Covenant, Chapter 12:1-3**

The beginning of Soteriology - the science of salvation (every major subject and doctrine have their beginnings in Genesis...beginnings but not endings...commencement but not consummation...the foundation principles but not the finished product!)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. In Generation: The Principle of Divine Greatness**

God's greatness teaches us to FEAR HIM, Psalm 33:6-9

### **2. In Degeneration: The Principle of Divine Government**

Three universal judgments:

- Man banished from the garden (chapter 3:23)
- Man destroyed in the flood (chapters 7-8)
- Man scattered at Babel (chapter 11:5-9)

God's government teaches us to OBEY HIM.

He is sovereign over all and we disobey Him at our own peril.

### **3. In Regeneration: The Principle of Divine Grace (Chapter 12:1-3)**

God's severe judgment is followed by God's sovereign grace! Abram is called out of paganism to be the father of a nation that will bring universal blessing through the scriptures and the Savior! Revelation and salvation! (Genesis 15:6; Matthew 1:1; Romans 4; Galatians 4) God's grace teaches us to BELIEVE HIM

*Some thoughts developed here are from G. Campbell Morgan in "Living Messages of the Books of the Bible"*

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Exodus***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF EXODUS**

- 1. The Birth of Israel ... Her Emergence** (1:5,7; cf. Gen.12:1-3)
- 2. The Bondage of Israel ... Her Enslavement** (1:8-14)
- 3. The Blood-Redemption of Israel ... Her Exodus** (12:13; 15:11-13; cf. Gen.13-16)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to redemption:

### **1. The Preliminaries in Redemption**

- Misery (2:23) No redemption until we are miserable in our bondage and desire release.
- Mercy (2:24-25, 3:7)
- Moses (2:1-2, 3:8-12)

### **2. The Processes in Redemption**

- The Lamb (chapter 12)...The Relationship Established ... Redeemed by blood and freed from Pharaoh.
- The Law (chapter 19)...The Relationship Maintained ... She had been under the rule of Pharaoh, now she comes under the rule of Her God.

### **3. The Purpose in Redemption**

A threefold purpose:

- Israel was Redeemed **FROM EGYPT** (6:6)
- Israel was Redeemed **FOR THE LORD** (6:7)
- Israel was Redeemed **UNTO CANAAN** (6:8)

Her redemption was from poverty to plenty...from rags to riches...from being under the yoke of cruel a despot to the freedom of her loving God.

She was delivered from the realm of bondage to the realm of blessing. This illustrates the great truth of Col.1:13-14.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Leviticus***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF LEVITICUS**

1. **The Institution of the Offerings** ... Burnt, Meal, Peace, Sin, and Trespass
2. **The Consecration of the Priest**
3. **The Inauguration of the Holy Days** ... 1st Month: Passover, Unleavened Bread and First Fruits ... 3rd Month: Pentecost ... 7th Month: Atonement, Trumpets and Tabernacles (cf. Ex. 34:23)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to holiness..."holy" in some form is used 150 times in the book:

### **1. The Holiness of God's People in their WORSHIP**

- True Worship is a **REVELATIONAL** Experience 1:1 ... "The Lord called to Moses and spoke"
- True Worship is a **PERSONAL** Experience 1:2 ... "when any one of you brings an offering"
- True Worship is a **SACRIFICIAL** Experience 1:2 ... "brings an offering"
- True Worship is a **MEDIATORIAL** Experience ... No worship apart from a priest (1:5; cf. Heb.10:19-22)
- True Worship is a **SEASONAL** Experience ... "Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Lord" (Ex.34:23)
- True Worship is a **CONGREGATIONAL** Experience ... 1:2 "speak to the children of Israel"

### **2. The Holiness of God's People in their WALK**

- Principles related to a Holy Walk (11:44-45). A holy people because they knew a holy God.
- Prohibitions related to a Holy Walk (18:1-3). They were to be a separate people in sharp contrast to the Egyptians and the Canaanites. (cf. II Cor. 6:17-18; 7:1)
- Position related to a Holy Walk (20:24, 26). God's people have a unique place among all the peoples of the world.
- Promises related to a Holy Walk. The Promise of: Provision 26:3-5 ... Peace 26:6 ... Power 26:7-8 ... Productivity 26:9-10 ... Presence 26:11-13

Leviticus is to Exodus what the Epistles are to the Gospels: It interprets and applies the historical events that preceded it.

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Numbers***

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF NUMBERS**

The primary theme of Numbers is congregational order. "Congregation" is used over 130 times.

1. **Congregational Direction** (chapters 1-10)
2. **Congregational Discontent** (chapters 11-12)
3. **Congregational Disbelief** (chapter 13)
4. **Congregational Discipline** (chapter 14)
5. **Congregational Delay** (chapters 15-36)  
Disbelief always creates delay! Israel went in circles for 40 years!

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

1. Note the **Divine Government** in the Congregation
  - God authorized their census (chapter 1: They were "numbered")
  - God appointed their leaders (chapter 1:4-5)
  - God arranged their placement (chapters 2-3; cf. I Cor. 12:18)
  - God assigned their service (chapter 4; cf. I Cor.12:4-11)
2. Note the **Divine Guidance** in the Congregation (chapter 9:15-23)
  - See His Presence in Guidance.
  - See His Prerogative in Guidance.
  - See His Pace in Guidance.
3. Note the **Divine Goodness** in the Congregation (chapter 10:29-36: "The Lord has promised good things to Israel.")
  - He is the Source (chapter 10:29)
  - We are to Share, "Come with us and we will treat you well."
4. Note the **Divine Grace** in the Congregation.
  - The Grace of Pardon (chapter 14:19-20: "Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray"; "I have pardoned according to your word."...Moses prayer and God's pardon!)
  - The Grace of Perseverance (chapter 14:29-31: "You shall by no means enter the land...But your little ones...I will bring in, and they shall know (experience) the land which you have despised.")

God perseveres in what He promises and purposes. Men may postpone His plans but they can never prevent them!! Numbers records a failing people but a faithful God.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Deuteronomy***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF DEUTERONOMY**

- 1. The Five Discourses of Moses** (chapters 1-31)
  - Historical Resume (chapters 1-3)
  - Legal Restatement (chapters 4-11)
  - Congregational Regulations (chapters 12-27)
  - Prophetical Revelation (chapters 28-30)
  - Providential Review (chapters 31-32)
- 2. The Final Days of Moses** (chapters 33-34)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. The Principle of Retrospective Truth (The Past).** "Remember" is used 13 times in the book. As Israel looked back, she was to learn two important lessons:
  - The Tragedy of Unbelief, chapter 1:26-40. The classic example of unbelief in the Bible, cf. Heb. Chapters 3-4.
  - The Triumph of Faith, chapters 2:31-35; 3:1-7; 3:21.
- 2. The Principle of Introspective Truth (The Present).**
  - The Reception of the Truth, chapter 5:1.
  - The Application of the Truth, chapters 5:1-3; 6:1-6.
  - The Communication of the Truth, chapters 6:7-9; 20-25. One of the great passages on parental responsibility to teach their children.
- 3. The Principle of Prospective Truth (The Future).** The prophet Moses saw two things in the future for Israel:
  - The Failure of Man, chapter 28:58-68.
  - The Faithfulness of God, chapter 30:1-10.

This book has great devotional content ... Moses at his best! There are more New Testament references to this book than any other. This book was Christ's total defense against Satan (chapters 6:13; 6:16; 8:3). His summary of the Law and Prophets is taken from chapter 6:4-5. Moses repeatedly said "Hear O 'Israel" (chapters 4:1; 5:1; 6:3-4; 9:1; 20:3; 27:9). These were his final messages and he wanted them to hear and heed!!

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Joshua***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JOSHUA**

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>1. The Commander Commissioned</b>      | Chapter 1      |
| <b>2. The Canaanites Conquered</b>        | Chapters 2-12  |
| <b>3. The Country Claimed</b>             | Chapters 13-22 |
| <b>4. The Concluding Charge (Counsel)</b> | Chapters 23-24 |

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

Israel had been redeemed out of poverty and now she is entering into the land of plenty. She who had nothing is now to learn how to possess everything that is essential to her welfare. Deuteronomy 8: 7-10, what Canaan was to the Israelites the Lord Jesus Christ is to the New Testament believers, only infinitely more. They had their possessions in a place; we have ours in a person. Ephesians 1:3, Colossians 2:3, 10-11

### **1. The Prerequisite of Possessing**

- A redeemed experience Exodus 6:6-7
- A redeemed Enlightenment Deuteronomy 6:23
- A redeemed Entry Deuteronomy 11:31, Joshua 3:17, no bridges, boats or barges!

### **2. The Procedure for Possessing**

- Conquer by faith Hebrews 11:30, "by faith the walls of Jericho fell down".
- Claim by faith Joshua 1:3, they must place their feet on the real estate!

### **3. The Problems in Possessing**

- Failure to obey by faith Joshua 7, Defeat at Ai.
- Failure to obtain by faith Joshua 18:3, All of Canaan was Israel's potentially, but only what she claimed was hers actually! No blessing is our automatically.

### **4. The Purpose of Possessing**

- Israel was to enter into rest Joshua 21:43-45; 23:1, New Testament rest, Hebrews 3:19; 4:1-13
- Note the progression of her history:  
In Genesis we see her ROOTS  
In Exodus we see her REDEMPTION  
In Leviticus we see her RITUALS  
In Numbers we see her REGIMENTATION  
In Deuteronomy we see her REVIEW  
In Joshua we see her REST

Yes, Israel rested in the riches of her God-given resources!

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Judges***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JUDGES**

"All relate to lawlessness...no king...everyone did what was right in his own eyes."  
(Judges 21:25)

### **1. The Causes of Lawlessness** (chapters 1-2)

- Israel was devoid of National Leadership...Moses had trained Joshua to succeed him, but Joshua had trained no successor.
- Israel was disobedient in Tribal Obligations...She permitted to live what God had marked for death, cf. Deuteronomy 7:1-5.
- Israel was delinquent in Parental Responsibilities...She didn't teach her children and there arose a generation that knew not the God of their fathers, Judges 2:8-10.

### **2. The Cycles of Lawlessness** (chapters 3-16)

- Seven cycles of lawlessness recorded: SIN, SERVITUDE, SUPPLICATION, SALVATION (chapter 2:13-19). When God's people departed from Him, they came under harsh rule of their pagan neighbors. In this bad situation, they cried out to the Lord and He sent them deliverers (Judges). This cycle was repeated seven times over several years.

### **3. The Corruption of Lawlessness** (chapters 17-21)

- Horrible things are here recorded of God's covenant people. This is another historical proof of man's total and utter depravity.

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. Principles related to Degeneracy.**

- Degeneracy often begins with spiritual ignorance..."they knew not the God of their fathers," (chapter 2:10).
- People will not remain a spiritual vacuum. If they are ignorant of the true God, they will worship false gods, (chapter 2:11-13).
- A degenerate life is hard. "They were greatly distressed", (chapter 2:15; cf. Proverbs 13:15).
- Rejecting the rule of God brings on the rule of evil, (chapter 2:14; cf. John 8:32-34).

### **2. Principles related to Discipline.**

- The basis of discipline is relationship (chapter 2:1). God destroyed the pagan nations, but He disciplined His covenant people (cf. Heb.12:5-11).
- The means of discipline were Israel's pagan neighbors, cf. "Assyria is the rod of my anger," (Is.10:5).
- The result of discipline was rest, "the land had rest", (chapter 3:11).

**3. Principles related to Deliverance.**

- People are often the instruments of His deliverance (chapter 3:9). God raised up Judges in answer to the pleas of His people. I can be the answer to someone's prayer!!
- This is a book of failure and FAITH! There are more Judges listed in the faith chapter (Heb.11), then Kings or Prophets!!
- This is a book of the Holy Spirit:
  - Othniel gained VICTORY by the Holy Spirit (chapter 3:10).
  - Gideon gained COURAGE by the Holy Spirit (chapter 6:34).
  - Jephthah gained FAVOR by the Holy Spirit (chapter 11:29).
  - Samson gained STRENGTH by the Holy Spirit (chapters 13:25; 14:19; 15:14).

The failure of others will often create for me my greatest spiritual opportunities!!

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Ruth***

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF RUTH**

1. **A Maiden** (chapter 1)
2. **A Man** (chapter 2)
3. **A Meeting** (chapter 3)
4. **A Marriage** (chapter 4)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

Lessons from the **Maiden** in our Story:

1. We learn from the **DECISION** in Her Life (chapter 1:15-18).
  - It was Personal ... 9 personal pronouns.
  - It was Spiritual ... "your God (shall be) my God".
  - It was Emotional ... she wept.
  - It was Volitional ... "will" is used 4 times.
  - It was Unconditional ... this was not a trial trip with the possibility of a return to her native land. She would live and die in Judah
  - It was Practical ... she actually went with her bitter old mother-in-law.
2. We learn from the **DESTITUTION** of Her Life
  - She was a widow with no breadwinner. She had an old mother-in-law to support. She later entered the field of Boaz as a gleaner. Gleaners were always beggars. (Deut. 24:19-20)
3. We learn from the **DIRECTION** for Her Life
  - She went to the barley fields hoping to find grace or favor in the eyes of the owner. It just so happened that she came into a part of the field belonging to Boaz. He was the richest bachelor in Bethlehem and he was a near kinsman who could redeem her from her poverty!! (Chapter 2:1-3)

Lessons from the **Man** in our story:

1. Note the **MAN OF GRACE** (2:1-7) He was indeed very gracious to Ruth.
2. Note the **MANNER OF GRACE**. Gleaners got only what the reapers missed in the harvest; however, Boaz instructed his reapers to drop grain on purpose for Ruth (chapter 2:8-16).
3. Note the **MANIFESTATION OF GRACE**. When Ruth returned home Naomi could see that Ruth had far more barley than she could possibly glean in one day. She knew someone had shown her special favor. She saw the grace of Boaz in the gleanings of Ruth!! (Chapter 2:17-23) All of this pictures for us the man "full of grace", the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:14, 17)

Lessons from the **Meeting** in our story:

1. See what the **MATCHMAKER** did (chapter 3:1-4).  
Based on Deut. 25:5, 7-10, Naomi must get Ruth to make herself available to Boaz who could redeem her from poverty and make her his wife.
2. See what the **MAIDEN** did (chapter 3:5-9).  
Ruth followed Naomi's instructions and went to the public threshing floor and lay at the feet of Boaz. Her abandonment marks the beginning of his activity. She cannot redeem herself but she can give herself to the one who can!
3. See what the **MAN** did (chapters 3:10-18; 4:9-10).  
He received Ruth with great joy and sent her home with the promise that he would redeem her and the land that her family lost through the famine. He also sent some barley for Naomi. He knew who the matchmaker was!! The following day he paid the full redemption price for the land and the lady and announced that he was taking Ruth home as his bride, cf. I Peter 1:18-19.

Lessons from the **Marriage** in our story:

1. Ruth got a **HUSBAND** (chapter 4:13) She is no longer alone...she is joined to her rich redeemer. She is not a beggar now, she is a bride!! This is a beautiful portrait of the relationship between Christ and his bride in the New Testament.
2. Ruth got a **HOUSE** (chapter 4:11) Naomi had said may you find rest in the house of your husband (chapter 1:9). Ruth now is resting in the house of her husband. She will never glean again in the hot sun. She will rest forever in the rich resources of her redeemer husband and all that he has belongs to her!
3. Ruth got an **HEIR** (chapter 4:13). Ruth became the great-grandmother of the greatest king Israel ever had...David. And all of us now as New Testament believers are saved by the Son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ!! So this love story goes on for all time and eternity!!

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – I Samuel***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I SAMUEL**

All the primary points relate to the principal personalities of the book...Samuel, Saul and David:

- 1. Samuel---Transition to the kingdom** (from anarchy to monarchy). He was the last judge (chapter 7:15-17); he was the first prophet (chapter 3:20-4:1); and he was a priest (chapter 7:9).
- 2. Saul---Tragedy in the kingdom** "I have sinned ...I have played the fool and erred exceedingly," (chapter 26:21).
- 3. David---Training for the kingdom.** Shepherd – Soldier – Statesman.

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

Principles are found in four categories:

### **1. Human Problems and Divine Providence**

- The Problem Stated...Hannah could not have children (chapter 1:2)
- The Problem Interpreted...The Lord had closed her womb. This was done not to keep her from having a baby but in order to give her a baby HIS WAY!! (Chapter 1:5-6)
- The Problem Processed...Her anguish caused her to pray. Precisely what God wanted.

### **2. Human Prayers and Divine Provision** (chapter 1:10-18)

The prayer was:

- Earnest.
- Unselfish.
- Specific.
- From the heart.
- Ongoing...She kept praying.
- Believing.
- Answered. The Lord caused a problem for Hannah in order to solve "His problem". His problem was that there was no prophet through whom He could give His Word to the people. "The Word of the Lord was rare ...there was no widespread revelation," (chapter 3:1). When Hannah had her baby, she said to the priest, "For this child I prayed and the Lord has granted me my petition...Therefore I also have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives he shall be lent to the Lord," (chapter 1:27-28). When Samuel grew to manhood we read, "All Israel...knew that Samuel had been established as a PROPHET OF THE LORD," (chapter 3:20). PROBLEM SOLVED!

### **3. Human Perversity and Divine Progress**

- Priestly Perversion---House of Eli rejected and the House of Samuel elected (chapters 2:12, 17, 22-35).
- Political Perversion---House of Saul rejected and the house of David elected (chapter 13:11-14). G. Campbell Morgan says, *"The ultimate*

*destiny of individuals is dependent on their attitude towards Him. Samuel was obedient, and was used and saved. Saul was disobedient, and was used and destroyed. David was obedient, and was used and saved. It does not at all matter what my attitude towards God is, as to His ultimate victory. It matters everything as to my ultimate destiny. Everything depends upon me as to my own destiny. Nothing depends upon me ultimately as to His victory."*

#### **4. Human Potential and Divine Preparation**

Between David's anointing and his taking the throne as king, there were many years of preparation. This book records that very strenuous period in his life.

- He was prepared as a shepherd (chapters 16:11; 17:15, 20).
- He was prepared as a statesman (chapter 16:21).
- He was prepared as a soldier (chapter 17:1-58).

And all of this resulted in "the man after God's own heart" becoming the greatest king Israel ever had. And his house produced the Son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ!!

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - II Samuel***

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II SAMUEL**

- 1. David's Training---The Kingdom Delayed**
- 2. David's Throne---The Kingdom Delivered**
- 3. David's Triumphs---The Kingdom Distinguished**
- 4. David's Transgressions---The Kingdom Disgraced**
- 5. David's Trials---The Kingdom Declines**

### **II. THE PRACTICE PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. David's Training---Lessons on Patience** (cf. I Sam.26:9-11)

"The LORD forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the LORD'S anointed." David could have killed Saul and taken the throne by force (after all had not the LORD chosen him to be king?), but he did not. He waited God's time. Even after Saul's death he was careful about taking power (II Sam. 2:1, 11 cf. Psalm 37:1-7, 34). He who has true God-given authority is never anxious about using it.

#### **2. David's Throne---Lessons on Propriety**

A real test of a leader's character is how he treats power after God gives it to him...will he abuse it? Will he use it to advance his own cause? David demonstrated wisdom and tenderness in his treatment of his subjects and the people took notice of it. (II Sam. 3:36; 5:1-5; 7:16; 8:15-16). He had throne responsibilities not throne rights!!

#### **3. David's Triumphs---Lessons on Praise**

Another test of a leader is how he deals with his successes...does he take credit? Does he get puffed up with pride? David traced all victories and advances in his rule to the LORD Himself (II Sam. 22:1-4; 33-39; 50-51). Many other Psalms reflect this same attitude of glorifying God in all situations.

#### **4. David's Transgressions----Lessons on Penitence**

The sordid details of David's sin are recorded in II Sam.11. Another example of human depravity. Even the mighty and good fall. The prophet Nathan courageously pointed to David and said, "You are the man!" He went on to predict the dire consequences of the king's moral failure (II Sam. 12:7-12). David immediately repented. The full text of his expression is found in his "Psalm of sobs", Psalm 51. It contains Confession, Cleansing and Confidence.

#### **5. David's Trials---Lessons on Perseverance**

In both the trials that came from his own sin and those that came from the ugly people in his life, David cast himself upon the mercy of his God. (II Sam.15:25-26; 16:12).

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - I Kings***

I and II Kings focus on THE THRONE...I and II Chronicles focus on THE TEMPLE

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I KINGS**

- 1. Note the Material Display of the Kingdom** (chapters 10:1-7; 10:14-29)
- 2. Note the Political Division of the Kingdom** (chapters 12-22)  
Southern---1 Dynasty, 20 Kings.  
Northern---9 Dynasties, 19 Kings, all apostate.
- 3. Note the Spiritual Decline of the Kingdom** ... From King David (the best) to King Ahab (the worst).

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the government of 2 thrones.

### **1. THE EARTHLY THRONE---A FAILING THRONE**

- Note the Governing Potentates (Solomon 11:1-10; Jereboam 12:25).
- Note the Governing Policy  
Solomon---Autocratic Materialism (chapter 12:10-11).  
Jereboam---Paganistic Manipulation (chapter 12:28 and following).
- Note the Governing Purpose, TOTALLY EGOCENTRIC.  
(Solomon and Rehoboam abused the THRONE...  
Jeroboam abused the TRUTH).

### **2. THE ETERNAL THRONE--- A FAULTLESS THRONE**

- Note the Governing Potentate, Micaiah, the prophet, said: "I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right and on His left," (chapter 22:19). When earthly thrones failed, the prophets always saw the Lord on His throne overruling.
- Note the Governing Principles,
  - The Principle of Conscience (chapters 13:33-34; 14:1-20).
  - The Principle of Control, chapter (19:15-16; cf. Proverbs 21:1).
  - The Principle of Communication (cf. Nehemiah 9:26). "Your prophets testified (warned) against them."
- Note the Governing Purpose, TOTALLY THEOCENTRIC. The Lord ruled with best and the worst of kings. You may ignore Him but you can NEVER DETHRONE HIM!

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - II Kings***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II KINGS**

- 1. The Continuing Political and Moral Decay in the Kingdom** (chapter 3:1-3; repeated over 20 times).
- 2. The Counteracting Spiritual Deterrents in the Kingdom** (chapters 22:1-8; 15-20).
- 3. The Complete National Destruction in the Kingdom** (Northern Kingdom by Assyria ... Southern Kingdom by Babylon). There was a united kingdom for 120 years ... a divided kingdom for 253 years and a single kingdom for 136 years.

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. We learn from the Tragedy of the Unfaithful Earthly Throne**
  - An Unquickened National Conscience, "they would not hear, but stiffened their necks, like the necks of their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God," (cf. Prov.29:1).
  - An Unyielded National Control (chapter 1:1-4). The apostate kings were looking to the pagan god Baal for help.
  - An Unheeded National Communication (chapter 17:7-18). The rulers ignored both the messages and the miracles of the prophets. Between Moses and Jesus, this was the greatest period of miracles. The non-literary prophets of Elijah and Elisha were God's instrument for most of these supernatural demonstrations.
- 2. We learn from the Triumph of the Unfailing Eternal Throne**
  - Triumph in His Remnant People, "Yet I have left Me 7,000 in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed to Baal and every mouth which has not kissed him." (I Kings 19:18 cf. Isaiah 1:9). Elijah thought he was alone, but he was not. It is easy to over-estimate the enemy and under-estimate the Lord.
  - Triumph in His Refining Purge (cf. Jer.21:12-14). The Lord did not destroy His people, He disciplined them. He punished them in order to purge them of the idolatry.
  - Triumph in His Restoring Purpose, "For thus says the LORD: after seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give a future and hope," (Jer. 29:10-11)

Thus we see how the LORD overrules man's unfaithfulness by His unfailing power and grace.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - I Chronicles***

Kings: Focus on the Throne--The Prophet's Perspective.

Chronicles: Focus on the Temple--The Priest's Perspective.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I CHRONICLES**

- 1. David's Passion for the Temple Described** (chapter 17)
- 2. David's Project for the Temple Delayed** (chapter 17)
- 3. David's Plans for the Temple Delivered** (chapter 28:11-12)
- 4. David's Provisions for the Temple Dedicated** (chapter 29)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to God's work.

### **1. Desire and the work of God**

- Nothing gets done in the work of God apart from strong desire. The driving and distinctive desire of David's heart was to build God a temple. It was the passion of his life. Note the progression of this passion (chapters 13:1-5; 15:1-3; 16:1; 17:1-6).
- He was jealous for God's glory and honor. He was very disturbed when he sat in his palace and thought about the crude tent that housed the Ark of the Covenant (chapter 17:1).
- But my passion must be in harmony with God's purpose. God had not spoken a word about David building Him a house (chapter 17:3-6).
- God's desire for me is infinitely more important than my desire for Him! The Lord desire was to build David a house (chapter 17:7-15).

### **2. Delay and the Work of God**

- True God-given desires may be delayed but the will never be denied (cf. II Chronicles 6:6-9).
- David's passion becomes Solomon's project. David conceived the temple...Solomon constructed the temple.
- Each person is a golden link in the glorious chain of divine providence.
- David had three major contributions in his life: He finished one (destroyed the Philistines and established the kingdom), started one that was finished by his son, and began one that will go on forever through his greater Son, King Jesus. The Lamb, David's Son is the eternal Temple! (Rev. 21)

### **3. Duty and the work of God**

- My duty is often the thing that is my obvious responsibility (chapter 18).
- When I do my duty, it makes another person's work much easier. Solomon had great success primarily because his father "set things up for him."
- Doing my duty brings blessing to me, to others and to God! "The people rejoiced...King David also rejoiced greatly...Then King David said to all the congregation, Now bless the Lord your God," (chapter 29:9:20).

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - II Chronicles***

This historical book gives a priestly perspective ... Probably written by the priest, Ezra. At the beginning we see:

- 1. An Unprecedented Peace** (II Chron. 22:6-10)
- 2. An Unlimited Prosperity** (II Chron. 9:13-28)
- 3. An Undivided People**

What begins with ideal conditions ends in irreparable calamity, because we are looking at Israel's history through the eyes of a priest, our focus is on the Temple.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II CHRONICLES**

- 1. The Dedication of the Temple**
- 2. The Desecration of the Temple**
- 3. The Destruction of the Temple**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. Lessons from the Temple's Dedication**

- Dedication is the peak of a believer's experience ... it puts ordinary things to extraordinary uses ... from material to spiritual ... from temporal to eternal ... from the earthly to the heavenly. When Solomon dedicated the Temple, Israel was at a most glorious moment in her history.
- Dedication is releasing to God what is already His. "For all things come from You, And of your own we have given You" (I Chron. 29:14)
- The Lord possesses what we dedicate to Him (7:1)
- The Lord is glorified by what is dedicated to Him (7:2-3 cf. I Cor. 6:19-20)

### **2. Lessons from the Temple's Desecration**

- It fell into disrepair (Ch. 24) ... The doors were closed and it collected trash (Ch. 29) ... The Word of God was lost in the rubble (Ch. 36)
- There were two causes for the Temple's desecration:
  - False Religion – Heretical – Devoid of LIGHT (33:1-10)
  - Formal Religion – Heartless – Devoid of LIFE (Isaiah 1:11-24)

### **3. Lessons from the Temple's Destruction (7:19-22)**

- God's warning – the warning was ignored and destruction followed (36: 15-19)
- A thing has value only as long as it fulfills the divine purpose. In the New Testament, when any of the churches in Asia Minor refused to repent, the Lord removed their lamp. (Rev. 2:1-5)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Ezra***

There are 6 Post-exilic books...Three are Historical: Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther...Three are Prophetical: Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. Ezra ministered in an era of reconstruction...Jeremiah 29: 10-11...Ezra 9: 8-9.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF EZRA**

1. **The reconstruction of the Temple (ch.1-6)**
2. **The renewal of the People (ch.7-10)**

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. Principles related to Reconstruction**

- People...Note their:
  - Diversification: Pagan Cyrus (Prov. 21: 1), Prince Zarubabbel, Prophets Haggai and Zechariah, Priests Joshua and Ezra
  - Motivation (1: 1, 1: 5)
  - Cooperation (3: 1, 5: 1, 6: 14)
- Providence: (5: 5) "the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews..."
- Performance: (6: 14-15) "they built...and prospered...and finished..."

#### **2. Principles related to Renewal**

- When is renewal needed? (9: 1-2)
- How is renewal produced?
  - Through Prepared People (7: 1-10)
  - Through Penitent People (9: 3-6)
  - Through Praying People (9: 5-15A)
- When is renewal demonstrated?
- When God's people put into practice the Word of God (10: 1-3)

All of the reconstruction and renewal are fulfillments of Jeremiah's experience in the potter's house. (Jeremiah 18: 1-6)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Nehemiah***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF NEHEMIAH**

1. **The Reconstruction of the Walls (ch.1-6)**
2. **The Renewal of the People (ch.7-13)**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

1. **Principles related to Reconstruction**
  - We have PEOPLE
    - Note their INTENSITY (1:4, 2:18)
    - Note their DIVERSITY (ch.3) Priests, Goldsmiths, Perfume-makers, Rulers, Merchants and many not identified by their occupations.
    - Note their UNITY – They worked side by side, both men and women, at their assigned places. Many worked but one project.
    - Note their INADEQUACY (4:1-3) they were called “feeble” by their enemies and they didn’t deny it! The job was too big for them by every human measurement.
  - We have PROVIDENCE - God’s good hand was upon Nehemiah (2:8-18) Providence saw them through:
    - OPPOSITION (4:1-3)
    - EXHAUSTION (4:10)
    - DIVISION (5:1-13)
  - We have PERFORMANCE (6:15-16) - “this work was done by our God”
  - The People of God + The Providence of God = The Performance of God
2. **Principles related to Renewal - The walls will keep evil out...the gates will let good in.**
  - Note the COMMUNICATION (8:1-4, 8) there is no renewal apart from the preaching/teaching of the word of God
  - Note the CONVICTION (9:1)
  - Note the CONFESSION (9:2-3)
  - Note the COVENANT A Pledge of Marital Fidelity (Relationships) A Pledge of Sabbath Keeping (Time) A Pledge of Tithe (Money) (9:38, 10:28)
  - Note the COMPROMISE (13:40-5)
  - Note the CORRECTION (13:7-9, 13:10-12, 13:15-21)

Nehemiah’s strong leadings brought about these corrections, so whether we look at reconstruction or renewal leadership is crucial.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Esther***

Esther is the last of the historical books...God's name is never mentioned...There is no reference to prayer, worship or sacrifice.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ESTHER**

- 1. The Perilous Condition** (chapters 1-3)
- 2. The Providential Care** (chapters 4-8)
- 3. The Purim Celebration** (chapters 9-10)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The Principles Relate to Divine Providence. Satan's design: Extermination...God's purpose: Purification, Jer.29: 10-11.

- 1. Providence in a Monarch's Choice** (chapters 2:5-11, 17). "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord," Prov.21:1. "And the God in whose hand your breath is, and WHOSE ARE ALL YOUR WAYS, have you not glorified," (Dan.5:23).
- 2. Providence in a Man's Convictions** (chapters 2:21-23; 3:1-5). "Surely the wrath of man shall praise You," (Ps. 76:10; cf. Deut. 24:17-19). Note Mordecai's response (chapters 4:1-3; 8).
- 3. Providence in a Maiden's Courage** (chapter 4:9-16). "Who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this." "I will go to the king, which is against the law; AND IF I PERISH, I PERISH!" Providence doesn't relieve us of responsibility, it defines our responsibility. "Duties are ours; events are God's." Courage did not make Esther careless ... Note her wisdom and sensitivity, chapter (5:1-9). She is restrained and checked in her spirit.
- 4. Providence in Madman's Conspiracy** (chapter 5:10-14)
  - Note the Madman's Scheme (chapter 5:10-14)
  - Note the Monarch's Sleeplessness (chapter 6:1-3). "You hold my eyelids open," (Ps.77:4).
  - Note the Perfect Timing, chapter (6:4-10)
- 5. Providence in a Miraculous Climax** (chapter 7:1-8:2)
  - Haman is hanged (chapter 7:10)
  - Mordecai is exalted (chapter 10:1-3)
  - God's people are saved (chapter 9)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Job***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JOB**

They all relate to Dramatic Poetry.

- 1. The Prologue---Job Afflicted** (chapters 1-2)
- 2. The Dialogue---Job Counseled** (chapters 3-42:6)
- 3. The Epilogue---Job Delivered** (chapter 42:7-17)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They all relate to the purpose of Job's suffering ... Why do the righteous suffer?

- 1. The Purpose Related to Satan.**
  - Notice the behind the scenes dialogue ... God's claim and Satan's charge (chapter 1:1-12).
  - Notice what God permits ... Job's losses. Satan must honor God's control. God opens the hedge and gives limited access (chapter 1:10-2:1-7).
  - Job was God's living proof that men can and do live for Him and love and serve Him out of genuine devotion (chapter 1:8).
- 2. The Purpose Related to Self.**
  - Suffering has a purging and purifying effect on people (chapter 23:8-10).
  - Suffering brings us to a deeper knowledge of God and self (chapter 42:5-6).
- 3. The Purpose Related to Salvation.**
  - My personal suffering should issue in a redemptive work in the lives of others. "My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him."
  - Job's sufferings enlarged his ministries...His priesthood is greater than ever (chapter 42:7-10; cf. II Cor. 1:3-7).
- 4. The Purpose Related to Stewardship.**
  - A believer's losses are always temporary....they are never final.
  - God prepared Job through his losses for a greater stewardship (chapter 42:10-17). "Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and have SEEN THE END BY THE LORD---that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful." (James 5:11)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Psalms***

This is the lyrical poetry book of the Bible, a collection of inspired writings collected over 1000 years from Moses to the post-exilic period. It is quoted in the New Testament almost 70 times.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF PSALMS**

#### **1. The Contributors to the Psalter**

David 73, Asaph 12, sons of Korah 12, Solomon 2, Heman 1, Ethan 1, Moses 1, Anonymous 48.

#### **2. The construction of the Psalter**

Divided into 5 books 1-41 (Early Kingdom), 42-72 (Middle Kingdom), 73-89 (Late Kingdom), 90-106 (Exilic Period), 107-150 (Post-Exilic Period).

#### **3. The content of the Psalter**

Examples of the four predominate themes:

Devotional	Psalm 104:33-55
Theological	Psalm 139:1-2;5-9;13-15
Historical	Psalm 78, 105, 106
Practical	Psalm 22 (savior), Psalm 23 (shepherd), Psalm 24 (sovereign)

*"...all things must be fulfilled, which were written in ....the Psalms, concerning me."*  
Luke 24:44. There are 22 prophecies in the Psalms regarding the Lord Jesus.

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They relate to deep human experiences that were translated into worship.

*Example:*

<b>1. Experience of Perplexity</b>	Psalm 13
<b>2. Experience of Prosperity</b>	Psalm 21
<b>3. Experience of Peril</b>	Psalm 56
<b>4. Experience of Pain</b>	Psalm 22
<b>5. Experience of Penitence</b>	Psalm 32, 6, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143. "Sin" is used 65 times, "righteous" is used 130 times in the Psalms.
<b>6. Experience of Prayer</b>	Psalm 27
<b>7. Experience of Pleasure</b>	Psalm 126
<b>8. Experience of Praise</b>	Psalm 103

There is a Psalm to match every mood in life. Find a Psalm to match your mood and use it as a vehicle of praise and worship to the Lord.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Proverbs***

Wisdom writings: Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes...Wisdom is the personal affirmation and application of Truth. It is knowledge put to practical use....A proverb is a profound maxim...a brief statement of Truth.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF PROVERBS**

### **1. The CONTRIBUTORS to the Proverbs**

- Solomon 1-29; I Kings 4:29; 32-34. He was a philosopher, poet, botanist, zoologist, architect and politician.
- Agur 30
- Lemuel 31

### **2. The CONSTRUCTION of the Proverbs**

- Synonymous Parallelism ... 2nd clause repeats the 1<sup>st</sup> (16:18, 32)
- Antithetic Parallelism ... 2nd clause contrasts the 1<sup>st</sup> (13:9)
- Synthetic Parallelism ... 2nd clause complements the 1<sup>st</sup> (15:1)

### **3. The CONTENT of the Proverbs**

- Practical Themes....The Psalms are more Devotional
- Philosophical Themes....The Psalms are more Theological
- Sociological Themes....The Psalms are more Historical

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. A DISTINCTIVE AFFIRMATION**

- Hebrew philosophy always begins with an affirmation. God's existence is declared or assumed all through Scripture.
- This is in sharp contrast to secular or pagan philosophy which always begins with questions...nothing is certain. At best, things are relative.

### **2. A DISTINCTIVE ATTITUDE**

- "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." (Prov.1:7: cf. 9:10; 8:13)
- G. Campbell Morgan reminds us the fear of the Lord is the emotional recognition of God. Since He is ultimate and absolute wisdom, we must begin with Him.

### **3. A DISTINCTIVE APPLICATION**

- There is **RECEPTIVITY** in True Wisdom (1:5; 2:1-5: 8:22-36)
- There is **SECURITY** in True Wisdom (3:21-26)
- There is **MORALITY** in True Wisdom (5:1-13) You cannot be a bad person and a good philosopher!
- There is **PROSPERITY** in True Wisdom (3:13-18) "Wisdom is more precious than rubies."
- There is **MINISTRY** in True Wisdom (22:17-21)

**4. WISDOM IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

- **Prayer** is Involved (James 1: 1-5)
- A **Person** is Involved (I Cor. 1:26-31) "In Whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and Knowledge." (Col. 2: 3)
- A **Practice** is Involved (James 3: 13-18)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Ecclesiastes***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ECCLESIASTES**

- 1. The Discourse Introduced** (chapter 1:1-3)
- 2. The Discourse Developed** (chapter 1:4--12:12)
- 3. The Discourse Concluded** (chapter 12:13-14)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to learning about life. Solomon learned by:

### **1. Philosophical Inquiry----Investigation ... Looking at life objectively--The intellectual approach**

- Life is monotonous (1:4-11)
- Life is cruel (2:22-23; 4:1-2)
- Life is frustrating (1:14-15; 5:10-11)
- Life is unjust (6:1-4; 7:15; 9:1-3, 11-16)

### **2. Personal Involvement-----Experimentation ... Living life subjectively---The sensual approach**

- He knew life's pleasures (2:1-3)
- He knew life's projects (2:4-6)
- He knew life's possessions (2:7-11)  
(How to cope? Pretend ... Grin and bear it....Compensate...  
Give up and give in)

### **3. Spiritual Insight-----Revelation---12:13-14**

Revelation concerning:

- The immediate---"Fear God...keep His commandments."
- The ultimate----"For God shall bring every work into judgment ... good or evil." "This is not a terror it is a hope. While bad men may read the words and tremble under them, good men should repeat them and take heart again." Joseph Parker. Yes, with all the problems, evils and mysteries of life, God will have the final word and justice will prevail. At times, "all may seem vanity under the sun" but for those who fear God and keep His commandments, there is meaning both now and forever.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Song of Solomon***

Key words: LOVE 26x BELOVED 28x

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF SONG OF SOLOMON**

### **1. Considered Domestically:**

Pictures the Purity of Love between Husband and Wife

### **2. Considered Typically:**

Pictures the Power of Love between Christ and His Bride, the Church (II Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:25)

### **3. Considered Prophetically:**

Pictures the Promise of Love between Jehovah and Israel (Jer. 3; Hosea 2; Isaiah 54:1-8)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The Principles all relate to Love

### **1. The SOURCE of True Love (1:2)**

- The Bridegroom initiates love ... He is the giver
- The Bride responds to love ... She is the receiver ... (I John 4:10, 19)

### **2. The SINGULARITY of True Love (2:2-4)**

- The Bride is the lily among the thorns ... (Eph.5:25)
- The Bridegroom is the apple tree among just trees ... (I John 2:15)

### **3. The SERVICE of True Love (2:8-13; 4:8; 5:2-6; 6:1-3; 7:1; 7:11-12)**

- The climax of true love is not in the banquet room or the bedroom but rather in the field ... the place of labor and service!

### **4. The STRENGTH of True Love (8:6-7)**

- True love cannot be DENIED ... strong as death
- True love cannot be QUENCHED ... love burns on eternally
- True love cannot be PURCHASED ... it is priceless

### **5. The SUPREMACY of True Love**

- The Bridegroom (4:9-10)
- The Bride (5:9-16)

"AND NOW ABIDES FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE, THESE THREE; BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE" I Cor.13:13

## **A Summary of the major themes of the Major Prophets:**

**Isaiah: GRACE - DIVINE SALVATION**  
**Jeremiah: GLOOM – DIVINE RETRIBUTION**  
**Ezekiel: GLORY – DIVINE MANIFESTATION**  
**Daniel: GOVERNMENT – DIVINE ADMINISTRATION**

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD—Isaiah***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ISAIAH**

- 1. The Government of God** (chapters 1-39)
  - Key Chapter: 6 - conviction, confession, cleansing, consecration, commission
  - Key Word: “Woe” – 26 times
- 2. The Grace of God** (chapters 40-66)
  - Key Chapter: 53
  - Key Word: “Salvation” – 20 times

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The Principles relate to God’s Government (The Throne) and God’s Grace (The Tree)

- 1. The Throne of God’s Government and the Tree of God’s Grace Compared**
  - Both are occupied by the same Divine Person
  - Both are occupied by the same Divine Principle
- 2. The Throne of God’s Government and the Tree of God’s Grace Contrasted**

### **THRONE**

- \* Sovereignty
- \* Glory
- \* Exaltation
- \* Diety
- \* Speaking

### **TREE**

- \* Saviorhood
- \* Groanings
- \* Humiliation
- \* Humanity
- \* Silent

- 3. The Throne of God’s Government and the Tree of God’s Grace Combined**
  - In the earthly reign (Is. 61; Rev. 11:15-19)
  - In the eternal reign (Rev. 5:6; 6:16; 7:9-10,17)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Jeremiah***

He prophesied 60 years after Isaiah for a period of 40 years. He was contemporary with Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Ezekiel and Daniel.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JEREMIAH**

#### **1. Note the FACTS about JEREMIAH**

- Birth and call (Chapter 1)
- Marital status (Chapter 16:1-4)
- Lifestyle (Chapter 16:5-8)
- Imprisonment (Chapter 20, 32, 37, 38)
- Carried to Egypt (Chapter 43-44)

#### **2. Note the FACTS about JUDAH**

- She had forsaken God (Chapter 2:1-13)
- Clever in sin (Chapter 4:22)
- A lip profession (Chapter 5:1-2)
- Dull, blind and deaf (Chapter 5:20-21)
- Rebellious (Chapter 5:23-25)
- Loved error (Chapter 5:30-31)
- Hypocritical (Chapter 7:1-11)
- Obstinate (Chapter 17:1)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The Principles relate to Jeremiah's two-fold relationship.

#### **1. His relationship to Jehovah was that of a PROPHET**

- Through him Jehovah shed HIS TEARS (Chapter 8:20-9:2, 14:7)
- Through him Jehovah spoke HIS TRUTH (Chapter 2:1-2, 7:1-2, 10:1-2, 11:1-2, 24:1-4, 26:1-2, 30:1, 44:1-2)
- Through him Jehovah shared HIS TRIUMPHS
  - PERSONAL (Chapter 20:9-11)
  - NATIONAL (Chapter 18:1-4, 29:10, 32:37-41, cf. Daniel 9:1-3)

#### **2. His relationship to Jehovah was that of a PATRIOT (Chapter 38:1-4)**

We often think of Jeremiah as very negative and melancholic but when we study his life and prophecies we discover that he was one of the most positive of all the prophets. He saw through the immediate gloom to the ultimate glory (Chapter 31:31-34). He saw the day when his failed people would be a forgiven people and when those who had rejected the first covenant would have a second covenant written on their hearts. He was a "futurist" of the first order!

The following are words that define the several subjects that Jeremiah dealt with in his deep lament before the Lord: **(Lamentations)**

- **RETRIBUTION** (1:1-11, 2:1-9, 4:1-22)
- **CONTRITION** (1:12-19)
- **CONFESSION** (1:20-22, 5:16-18)
- **HUMILIATION** (2:10-22, 5:1-15)
- **AFFIRMATION** (3:3:1-39)
- **PETITION** (3:40-66, 5:19-22)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Ezekiel***

"The Word of the Lord came to me" – 49 times

"Son of Man" – 90 times

"The glory of the Lord" – 15 times

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF EZEKIEL**

These relate to Ezekiel's three-fold ministry:

**1. His Priestly Ministry** (1:1-3)

**2. His Pastoral Ministry – in exile** (14:1-5, 22-23; 33:30; cf. 3:15-21)

**3. His Prophetic Ministry**

- On Retribution ... Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, Zidon, Egypt (chapters 25-32)
- On Restoration (chapter 37) The "Spiritual Resurrection of Israel"

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The Principles relate to the 'GLORY OF THE LORD'

**1. Note how the Glory was Departed NATIONALLY** (8:4; 9:3; 10:4, 18; 11:23; cf. I Kings 8:10-11)

**2. Note how the Glory was Revealed PERSONALLY**

- Three Stages
  - Manifestation
  - Prostration
  - Ministration

**3. Note how the Glory was Predicted PROPHETICALLY**

- Every exile was presented with the hope of future glory (43:1-6; 44:1-4)
- "The Lord is there" (48:35; cf. Hab. 2:14)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Daniel***

Daniel was contemporary with Jeremiah and Ezekiel and ministered for 70 years through 4 pagan dynasties. He addresses God as the "God of Heaven" ... the "Most High God" ... most frequently. "El Elyon" ... cf. Genesis 14:19. His ministry was primarily to kings and magistrates ... the political leaders of the day.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF DANIEL**

1. **Historical Section** (chapters 1-6)
2. **Prophetical Section** (chapters 7-12)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

1. **Principles relating to PROVIDENCE (Care and control)**
  - Divine Providence is **POLITICAL** in nature (1:1-2; 2:37; 4:17)
  - Divine Providence is **ETERNAL** in nature (4:34)
  - Divine Providence is **UNIVERSAL** in nature (4:35; 6:26)
  - Divine Providence is **TOTAL** in nature (5:23)
  - Divine Providence is **PERSONAL** in nature (6:20)
2. **Principles relating to PURITY**
  - Note how purity was **TESTED** (1:3-7)
  - Note how purity was **MAINTAINED** (1:8-16)  
Conviction.....courtesy....creativity
  - Note how purity was **REWARDED** (1:17)
3. **Principles relating to PRAYER**
  - He was **POSITIVE** in prayer (Chapter 2)
  - He was **PERSISTENT** in prayer (6:10-11)
  - He was **PENITENTIAL** in prayer (9:3-6)
  - He was **PATIENT** in prayer (chapter 10 ... 3 weeks)
4. **Principles relating PROPHECY**
  - All prophecy is by divine revelation (2:19)
  - All prophecy comes with a practical and spiritual application (2:47)
  - All prophecy is developmental and moves toward a historical climax with Christ enthroned. (2:31-35; 2:44-45)

*"I see that its living message to this age is that of the wisdom and might of God; of the fact of His actual government, setting up and casting down, guiding evil on the one side to its full development and its ultimate destruction and on the other, preserving good to its full development and final victory." Dr. G. Campbell Morgan*

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Hosea***

Minor Prophets: Pre-exilic: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Micah, Habakkuk and Zephaniah  
Post-exilic: Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi  
To Gentiles: Obadiah, Jonah and Nahum

Hosea ministered in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. He was contemporary with Amos in the Northern Kingdom and Isaiah and Micah in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. His ministry covered a span of 60 years.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF HOSEA**

- 1. Hosea's Relationship to Gomer Symbolizes Jehovah's RELATIONSHIP TO ISRAEL (1:1-2)**
- 2. Hosea's Repudiation of Gomer Symbolizes Jehovah's REPUDIATION OF ISRAEL (2:1-13)**
- 3. Hosea's Restoration with Gomer Symbolizes Jehovah's RESTORATION WITH ISRAEL (3:1-3 cf. 2:14 and following)**

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the great subject of LOVE

- 1. REJECTED Love (11:1-4; cf. Deuteronomy 7:6-11)**
  - "Ephraim is joined (married) to idols; leave him alone." (4:17)
- 2. REDEEMING Love**
  - Redeeming love **PERSISTS** (3:1; 11:8)
  - Redeeming love **PURCHASES** (3:2)
  - Redeeming love **POSSESSES** (3:3)
- 3. REMEDIAL Love (14:1-2; 6:1-2; 14:4-8)**

If I return, He will restore...He will heal and love freely without measure or limit!! My spiritual infidelity will never cancel His love for me. He doesn't excuse me but he does forgive me!

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Joel***

The most common phrase: "The day of the Lord" (1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14)  
Joel was a prophet in Judah and contemporary with Elisha and Amos in Israel.  
He was the "Prophet of Pentecost" (2:28-29 cf. Acts 2:16-21)  
Isaiah saw the Messiah's coming ... Joel saw the Holy Spirit's coming.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JOEL**

- 1. Joel Saw the Day of the Lord as a Contemporary Event (1:1-12)**
- 2. Joel Saw the Day of the Lord as a Coming Event (2:30-32)**

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the meaning of "The Day of the Lord"

#### **1. There was IMMEDIATE meaning**

- Joel made an interpretation of the plague of locusts...  
**DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY** (1:15; 2:11 cf. Deut. 28:15-21, 42)
- Joel made an application of the plague of locusts...  
**HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY** (1:13-14; 2:12-18; 2:23-27)  
(Human repentance brings divine restoration)

#### **2. There was an ULTIMATE meaning**

- When we see "The Day of the Lord" in its ultimate meaning, it does two things:
  - a) It makes us realistic (3:9-16)
  - b) It makes us optimistic (2:30-32; 3:17-21)

Some final thoughts:

- Repentance always brings restoration (2:25-27)
- Salvation, not retribution is God's ultimate purpose (2:30-32)
- God's best promises come in the worst of times (2:28-29)

New Testament on the "Day of the Lord" (I Thessalonians 5:1-3; II Thessalonians 2:2; II Peter 3:10)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Amos***

Amos was a prophet from the Southern Kingdom who preached in the Northern Kingdom. He was contemporary with Isaiah, Micah and Hosea.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF AMOS**

**1. The MESSENGER of the Book** (1:1; 7:10-17 from Tekoa near Bethlehem)

**2. The MESSAGE of the Book**

- A Message to the Nations in General (1:1-2:3)
- A message to Judah and Israel in Particular (2:4-3:1)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES....We learn truth from:**

**1. The FAVORED RELATIONSHIP of Israel**

- She knew the Favor of **DIVINE REDEMPTION** (3:1-2)
- She knew the Favor of **DIVINE RESOURCES** (2:10)
- She knew the Favor of **DIVINE REVELATION** (2:11-12; 3:7)

**2. The FALSE RELIGION of Israel**

- She was False in **RELATION TO THE WORD** (4:1-5; cf. I Kings 12:28-33)
- She was False in **RELATION TO WORSHIP** (5:21-27)
- She was False in **RELATION TO WORKS ...**
  - Immorality (2:7-8)
  - Injustice (2:6-7)
  - Indulgence (6:1-5)
  - Indifference (6:6)

**3. The FUTURE RESTORATION of Israel ...** Characterized by:

- The **PRESENCE OF THE LORD** (9:11)
- The **PROSPERITY OF THE LORD** (9:14)
- The **PLANTING OF THE LORD** (9:15)

### **Lessons:**

- God uses common people in uncommon ways ... a farmer with no official connection with the prophets, becomes a great preacher (7:14-15)
- God will often call me away from home to serve him in unfamiliar places (7:12)
- God's message through His servant will often be met with resistance (7:13)
- God will over-rule and correct evil ultimately for our good and His Glory (9:9-15)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Obadiah***

This book deals with God's treatment of the Edomites who were descendants of Esau. Hebrews 12:16 calls Esau a "profane" or godless person and he brought forth after his kind! The Edomites lived in Mt. Seir in fortified "security".

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF OBADIAH**

- 1. Obadiah dealt Presently with Edom's Exaltation and Israel's Humiliation** (1-3; 10-14)
- 2. Obadiah dealt Prophetically with Edom's Humiliation and Israel's Exaltation** (4-9; 17-18; 21)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. The Principles related to PRIDE ...** Pride is the root sin of a "profane" person.
  - A "profane" or godless person:
    - Has an exaggerated sense of physical need...sensual. (Genesis 25:27-34; Hebrews 12:14-17)
    - Has an uncontrolled desire to live for the immediate.
    - Has a low estimate of spiritual values.
    - Has a life of immediate gain and eternal loss.
    - Has an impulsive life style...lives by impulse not convictions.
    - Has an awareness of loss but is without repentance
- 2. The Principles related to PERSECUTION** (Psalm 137:7; Ezekiel 35:1-15)
  - Not only does a profane person despise God's blessing, he also despises the one who has it.
  - Pride toward God is always expressed in persecution toward God's people..."Saul, Saul why do you persecute Me?"
- 3. The Principles related to PUNISHMENT**
  - The measure of a person's sin is the measure of his punishment (v. 15)  
We reap what we sow! (Galatians 6:7-8)
  - Punishment is never the final event! (v. 21; I Peter 5:6)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Jonah***

He served during the reign of Jereboam II in Israel. II Kings 14:23-25. He was after Elisha and just before Amos and Hosea. His assignment was to go to Nineveh 500 miles to the North-East but he fled to Tarshish 2,000 miles west. This is modern Spain.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JONAH**

- 1. Jonah's Problem (chapter 1) DISOBEDIENCE**
- 2. Jonah's Prayer (chapter 2) DISTRESS**
- 3. Jonah's Preaching (chapter 3) DECLARATION**
- 4. Jonah's Pouting (chapter 4) DISPLEASURE**

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They relate to the essentials factors in preaching:

- 1. There is a REVELATION factor in preaching (1:1-2; 3:2)**
  - The preacher has no message except what the Lord says ... God has spoken therefore we speak
  - The Lord is perceptive of and responsive to the spiritual needs of people. (1:1)
- 2. There is a PERSONIFICATION factor in preaching "And how shall they hear without a preacher?" Romans 11:14**
  - God embodies truth ... He fleshes it out in a human personality...The Lord is the subject, Nineveh the object, but Jonah is the vital link. God could have thundered His message from heaven but He didn't...He spoke through His prophet.
  - Most of this story is God getting His prophet ready to preach!
- 3. There a LOCATION factor in preaching (Acts 16:6-10)**
  - The Lord's preacher must change locations not just geographically but also culturally.
  - This was the hardest part for Jonah...He didn't like the Ninevites because of their cruelty to Israel. He had a strong prejudice against them. (4:1-3) He knew because God was "gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in loving kindness, One who relents from doing harm." that He would save the Ninevites, and he didn't want that!
- 4. There is a COMMUNICATION factor in preaching ... God will speak but only through His chosen preacher.**
  - Preaching truth will lift me above my prejudices and foibles. It will bring out the best in me!
  - Jonah's finest hour came when he preached. God used the Word through Jonah in spite of Jonah's problem.
  - Jonah was finally open to God VERTICALLY and open to the Ninevites HORIZONTIALLY.

**5. There is a SALVATION factor in preaching** (Chapter 3)

- This is the single greatest account of repentance in the Bible! ..."should I not pity Nineveh?"
- God's justice required that Nineveh repent or perish ... His mercy required that He spare them when they did!

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Micah***

Micah is the only prophet that ministered to both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. He came from the village of Moresheth which was 25 miles Southwest of Jerusalem near Gath of the Philistines. He was contemporary with Isaiah.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF MICAH**

- 1. Micah predicts JUDGMENT on Israel because of MAN'S SINFUL RULE (1:1-9)**
- 2. Micah predicts JUSTICE in Israel because of MESSIAH'S SOVEREIGN REIGN (4:1-8)**

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the contrast between **MAN'S SINFUL RULE** and **MESSIAH'S SOVEREIGN REIGN**.

#### **1. MAN'S SINFUL RULE IS A VIOLATION:**

- Against God (6:1-8)
- Against Man (3:1-12)  
The **PRINCES** failed in the exercise of their **CIVIL AUTHORITY**  
The **PROPHETS** failed in the exercise of their **MORAL AUTHORITY** (3:5)  
The **PRIESTS** failed in the exercise of their **SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY** (3:13; Deuteronomy 17:9-10)

#### **2. MESSIAH'S SOVEREIGN REIGN IS A VICTORY**

- For God (5:2)
- For Man (5:4; 7:16-20)

#### **Lessons:**

- Only by the power of the Holy Spirit can a prophet stand for the right and declare the truth.
- Man is incapable of maintaining a just and beneficial rule politically or spiritually.
- Man's failures cannot ultimately frustrate the purposes of God.
- Only the 2nd advent of the Messiah, Jesus Christ will solve the problems of men and nations.

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Nahum***

Nahum was the only prophet whose writings were addressed entirely to a pagan nation. His home was Elkosh near Capurnaum (City of Nahum). His name means "comfort". He wrote 150 years after Jonah and Nineveh's repentance and a few years after Israel's destruction and 100 years before Nineveh's destruction.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF NAHUM**

- 1. Note Nineveh's Wickedness (3:1-4)**
  - Assyria overthrew Israel in 722 B.C. by destroying 40 cities, capturing 200,000 people and practicing extreme cruelty.
- 2. Note Jehovah's Wrath (1:1-6; 8-9; 14)**
  - Nineveh's destruction is described (2:1-10; 3:5-13) Babylon was her destroyer in 612 B.C.

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the anger of Jehovah (1:1-6)

- 1. Anger is an ESSENTIAL DIVINE ATTRIBUTE**
  - "God is angry with the wicked every day." (Psalm 7:11)
  - Sin angers God. He is never pleased by it nor does He passively ignore it.
  - It is totally incompatible with His infinitely holy character.
- 2. Anger is an EXPRESSED DIVINE ACTION**
  - **A DISCIPLINED Expression** ... In man, anger often becomes the master and controls him. With God, He is master always of His anger. It is a perfectly controlled expression of His righteous indignation. (Isaiah 48:9; Hosea 11:8-9)
  - **A DELAYED Expression** ... "The Lord is slow to anger." (1:3) "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will He keep His anger forever." (Psalm 103:8-9) It was nearly 100 years after Nahum's prophecy before Nineveh was destroyed! (cf. Nehemiah 9:17)
  - **A DISCRIMINATIVE Expression (1:7)**  
The repentance of Nineveh is recorded that none might despair.  
The destruction of Nineveh is recorded that none might presume

*"When He arises to put down iniquity and save the world from irreparable moral collapse, He is said to be angry. Every wrathful judgment in the history of the world has been an act of preservation...God's wrath is His utter intolerance of whatever degrades and destroys."*  
A.W. Tozer

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Habakkuk***

We know nothing about the personal life of this prophet. He was unique in his ministry...he had no public discourses or preaching. His writing style was that of a dialogue ... a dialogue between himself and God. He frequently asked questions. He probably lived toward the end of Judah's history before the Babylonian captivity. He was a skilled poet and musician.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF HABAKKUK**

- 1. Note the Perplexity Expressed by the Prophet** (chapter 1)
  - He thought he saw **DIVINE INDIFFERENCE** (1-4)
  - He thought he saw **DIVINE INJUSTICE** (12-17)
- 2. Note the Principle Revealed to the Prophet** (chapter 2)
  - "the just shall live by his faith" (cf. Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38)
- 3. Note the Prayer-psalm Offered by the Prophet** (chapter 3)
  - Agnosticism Expressed
  - Answer Received
  - Affirmation Declared

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They all relate to faith.

- 1. Faith's SIGHT** (2:1-2)
  - Faith sees what God says ... Not human observation or speculation but **DIVINE REVELATION** ... "Watch to see what He will say"
  - Faith sees the immediate ... **DIVINE RETRIBUTION** ... 5 "woes"
  - Faith sees the ultimate ... **DIVINE REDEMPTION** (2:14)
- 2. Faith's SUPPLICATION** (3:2)
  - "O Lord, I have heard your speech and was afraid; O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy."
- 3. Faith's SONG** (3:17-19)
  - From sighing to singing!
  - From complaint to confidence!
  - From the depths of gloom to the heights of gladness!
  - From agnosticism to affirmation!
  - From observing judgment to experiencing joy!
  - From the absence of goods to the adoration of God!

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Zephaniah***

We trace Zephaniah's family history back 4 generations in the royal line to King Hezekiah. He was contemporary with Jeremiah in the dying days of Judah. "Day of the Lord" 4x

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ZEPHANIAH**

- 1. The Prophet's SILENCE IN REGARD TO REFORMATION**
- 2. The Prophet's STATEMENT IN REGARD TO RETRIBUTION**
- 3. The Prophet's SONG IN REGARD TO REDEMPTION**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. Lessons from the Prophet's SILENCE ...** There was a reformation under young Josiah (II Chronicles 34)
  - Josiah - Young people can seek and know the Lord - The faith of our fathers will have a profound influence on our faith - Knowing the Lord is progressive ... we are helped by others - I can know and live for God no matter what the spiritual or moral climate is - God will honor me if I honor Him (II Chronicles 34:26-28)
  - Zephaniah knew all of this but he does not mention it because he understood it was more personal than national...What happened in Judah was very superficial and there was no essential change.
- 2. Lessons from the Prophet's STATEMENTS**
  - Some of the most burning, searing and withering words ever uttered by a prophet were spoken by Zephaniah:  
"punish...desolation...wrath...trouble...distress...devastation...desolation...darkness...gloominess...fierce anger..."
  - These hard words were spoken against Philistia, Moab and Ammon, Cush, Assyria but first and foremost against Judah
  - The prophet was not impressed with the shallow religious posturing of Judah 1:4-6
  - The prophet noted ...
    - The CONDITION** (3:1-2)
    - The CAUSE** (3:3-5)
    - The CONSEQUENCES** (3:6-8)
    - The CONVERSION** (3:9-13)
- 3. Lessons from the Prophet's SONG ...** From gloom to gladness ... From sorrow to singing ... From the immediate to the ultimate.  
It was a song that celebrated:
  - **The Lord's PRESENCE** (3:15)
  - **The Lord's POWER** (3:17a)
  - **The Lord's PLEASURE** (3:17b; Isaiah 62:5)  
The New Testament Summation: II Peter 3:8-18
  - **The Lord's PURPOSE** (3:19-20; Zechariah 8:13, 23)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Haggai***

The post-exilic prophets are: Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. The exilic prophets are Ezekiel and Daniel. All the others are before the exile. As an introduction to Haggai, Ezra 4: 1-5, 24; 5: 1-2 should be read. The key verses: "Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: 'This people says, The time has not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built ' " "Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying, "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?" "Consider your ways!" There was a 16 year delay after the work shut down.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF HAGGAI**

They all relate to the 4 messages from the prophet.

- 1. Judah's DELAY and Jehovah's PUNISHMENT** (chapter 1:1-15 September 1)
- 2. Judah's DISCOURAGEMENT and Jehovah's PRESENCE** (chapter 2:1-9 October 21)
- 3. Judah's DEFILEMENT and Jehovah's PROMISE** (chapter 2:10-19 December 24)
- 4. Judah's DELIVERANCE and Jehovah's PRINCE** (chapter 2:20-23 December 24)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

A conflict between Judah's purpose and Jehovah's purpose.

- 1. Judah's purpose was egocentric** - She was concerned:
  - With the immediate rather than the ultimate
  - With the material rather than the spiritual
  - With the temporal rather than the eternal
  - With personal glory rather than God's glory
- 2. Jehovah' purpose was Theocentric...**
  - "Go... bring ... build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified." (1:8)
  - "For them that honor Me, I will honor, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed." (1 Samuel 2:30)

#### **Final Thoughts: Ezra 6:14-15**

- It is easy and natural to let problems STOP us rather than STIMULATE us.
- It is always easy and natural for us to put selfish interests first and rationalize about the interests of God.
- Man's ultimate and highest purpose is to please and glorify God.

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Zechariah***

This prophet comes from a priestly family whose name means "Jehovah remembers". Of the Minor Prophets, his writings are the longest and he has the most to say about the coming of Messiah. His most common statement is "The Lord of hosts ... The Lord Almighty". He was much younger than his contemporary, Haggai. For background, read Ezra 5: 1-2; 6: 14-15

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ZECHARIAH**

They all relate to the special truths emphasized in each section of the book.

- 1. RETROSPECTIVE** - Truths for Judah (chapter. 1:1-6) ... Looking back
- 2. INTROSPECTIVE** - Truths for Judah (chapter 1:7- 8:23) ... Looking within
- 3. PROSPECTIVE** - Truths for Judah (chapter 9:1- 14:21) ... Looking forward

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. The Principles derived from the prophet's VISUAL REVELATIONS** (chapters 1-6 ... 8 visions)
  - God's **PRESENCE WITH HIS PEOPLE** (1:7-17; cf. Jeremiah 29:10-14)
  - God's **PURIFICATION OF HIS PRIEST** (3: 1-7)
  - God's **POWER FOR HIS PRINCE** (4:1-10)
- 2. The Principles derived from the prophet's VERBAL REVELATIONS** (chapters 7- 14)
  - **The COMING KING**
    - \* His entry into Jerusalem (9:9)
    - \* His betrayal (11:12-13)
    - \* His crucifixion (12:10; 13:6-7)
  - **The COMING KINGDOM** (the extent 14:9; the blessing 8:20; 14:16)
    - \* The establishment of the kingdom (14:1-4)
    - \* The repentance of the people (12:10)
    - \* The cleansing of the people (13:1-2)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Malachi***

Malachi is the last of the Minor Prophets. He lived 100 years after Haggai and Zechariah and was contemporary with Nehemiah. Please compare: Nehemiah 13:29 and Mal. 2:8 ... Nehemiah 13:23-25 and Mal. 2:11-12 ... Nehemiah 13:10-11 and Mal. 3:8-10. In Haggai and Zechariah, the people **IGNORED THE TEMPLE** ... in Malachi, the people **ABUSED THE TEMPLE**. His name means "Messenger" His teaching method was "Question and Answer". He focused on the questions of the people and gave God's answers. However, they were not asking sincerely, but rather implying that God was not fair or that they were above reproach.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF MALACHI**

#### **1. The RELIGIONIST is Rebuked by Malachi**

(A religionist is one with EXTERNAL FORM without INTERNAL FAITH  
cf. II Timothy 3:5)

#### **2. The REMNANT is Encouraged by Malachi**

#### **3. The REDEEMER is Promised by Malachi**

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. Lessons from the RELIGIONIST in the Age of Failure**

- They **DOUBTED GOD'S LOVE** (1:1-5; cf. Deuteronomy 7:6-7)
- They **DESECRATED GOD'S ALTAR** (1:6-8; 2:1-9; 12-14)
- They **DEALT TREACHEROUSLY WITH GOD'S PEOPLE** (2:10)
- They **DISREGARDED GOD'S INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE** (2:11; 14-16)
- They **DENIED GOD'S TRUTH** (2:17)
- They **DEPRIVED GOD'S HOUSE** (3:7-12 They robbed Him!)
- They **DESPISED GOD'S SERVICE** (3:13-15)

#### **2. Lessons from the REMNANT in the Age of Failure (3:16-18)**

- Note their **ATTITUDE** ("feared the Lord")
- Note their **ACTIVITY** ("spoke often one to another"; their "activity" got God's attention. He heard and recorded what was said)
- Note their **ANTICIPATION** (4:2; "The Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings...")

400 years of silence after Malachi...It was broken by the prophet/messenger John the Baptist (3:1)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Matthew***

The 4 Gospels:

Matthew:	Christ's Royalty (Sovereign)
Mark:	Christ's Humility (Servant)
Luke:	Christ's Humanity (Son of Man)
John:	Christ's Deity (Son of God)

"Old Testament: Preparation ... Gospels: Manifestation ... Act and Epistles: Appropriation ... Revelation: Consummation" (Griffith Thomas)

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF MATTHEW**

**1. Christ the RIGHTFUL KING**

**2. Christ the REJECTED KING**

**3. Christ the RETURNING KING**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

**1. Truths on the RIGHTFUL KING ... He is the RIGHTFUL KING BECAUSE:**

- Of His ancestry (1:1; cf. II Samuel 7:11-13)
- Of His advent (1:18 – 2:1 – 3:1)
- Of his anointing (3:16,17; cf. Acts 10:38)
- Of his authority (7:28 & 29 – 28:18)
- Of his ability ... physical realm (Chapters 8-9); natural realm (8:23); spiritual realm (8:26)

**2. Truths on the REJECTED KING**

- Men had the liberty to receive or reject the King (23:37-38)
- The greatest historical evidence of man's depravity is the rejection of Jesus Christ (23:37-38)
- God used the worst crime ever committed to accomplish His highest and best good (cf. Acts 2:22; Isaiah 53:7-10)

**3. Truths on the RETURNING KING**

- The kingdom was DELAYED by man's rebellion and rejection but never DESTROYED! (24:27-30)
- Jesus Christ is in the future of every person ... as Saviour and King or Judge! (John 5:26-29)

"Surely I am coming quickly ... Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 2:20)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Mark***

The author is John Mark ... "Marcus my son" (I Peter 5:14). It is believed that Mark received most of his information for this gospel from Simon Peter. Barnabas was Mark's cousin. Mark accompanied Paul and Silas on their 1st missionary journey but later returned home (Acts 13:13) ... so-called missionary "casualty". However, Paul later said, "Take Mark, and bring him with you for he is profitable to me for the ministry." II Tim. 4:11. By God's grace he is restored to fellowship with the apostle and the ministry. The words, "Immediately, straightway or the equivalent" are used almost 40x. It is a gospel of action because Mark presents Christ in His role as a servant ... a gospel of doing more than doctrine.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF MARK**

- 1. The COMMENCEMENT of Christ's Service** (chapter 1:1-13)  
"The Son of man came..."
- 2. The CONDUCT of Christ's Service** (chapters 1:14—chapter 10)  
"not to be ministered to but to minister..."
- 3. The CLIMAX of Christ's Service** (chapters 11-15)  
"and to give His life a ransom..."
- 4. The CONTINUATION of Christ's Service** (chapter 16)  
"for many." Mark 10:45 Key Text

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. Lessons from the COMMENCEMENT of Christ's Service**
  - Note His **INTRODUCTION** (1:1-8) Like John the Baptist; every preacher should have a subject larger than himself. Jesus was a greater man than John and had a greater ministry.
  - Note His **ORDINATION** ... Anointed by the Spirit and approved by the Father (1:10-11)
  - Note His **TEMPTATION** (1:12-13)
- 2. Lessons from the CONDUCT of Christ's Service**
  - Note the **DYNAMICS** in the Conduct of His Service (1:10) ...All of His miracles, messages and ministry can be traced to the Holy Spirit.
  - Note the **DEVOTION** in the conduct of His Service...He was private with the Father BEFORE He was public for the Father! (1:34-37)
  - Note the **DIRECTION** in the conduct of His Service...His directions from the Father kept Him from the impositions of the people. (1:38-39)
  - Note the **DYCHOTOMY** in the conduct of His Service...He taught and then the disciples taught...The Teacher is teaching teachers! (6:1-2; 6:30)

**3. Lessons from the CLIMAX of Christ's Service**

- "(He came) to give His life a ransom..." "He gave up the ghost (spirit)." 15: 37 (KJV). Mark allots a disproportionate space to the last weeks of the redemptive service of God's Servant-son. The ultimate service was giving His life, a ransom for many.

**4. Lessons from the CONTINUATION of Christ's Service**

- "for many" "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (16: 15)
- "He was received up...they went out and preached everywhere..." (16: 19-20)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Luke***

The author is Dr. Luke, "the beloved physician" (Colossians 4:14). He joined Paul in his 2nd missionary journey and was with him in his 2nd Roman imprisonment... "only Luke is with me." (II Timothy 4:11). His focus is the humanity of Christ. "Son of man" is repeated 24 times.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF LUKE** ... Related to the key text 19:10

- 1. The PROOFS of Christ's Humanity** ("The Son of Man is come"...)
- 2. The PERFECTIONS of Christ's Humanity** ("THE Son of Man"...)
- 3. The PURPOSE of Christ's Humanity** (... "is come to seek and to save that which was lost.")

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. Lessons from the PROOFS of Christ's Humanity** ... Luke wrote about a real human being, not an apparition or spirit without flesh.
  - Note His human genealogy (3:23-38)
  - Note His human birth (1:30-35; 2:1-20)
  - Note His human development (2:40, 52)
  - Note His human emotion (19:41)
  - Note His human weariness (8:23)
  - Note His human anger (19:45-46)
  - Note His human agony (22:44)
  - Note His human humiliation (22:63-65)
  - Note His human body (24:36-43)
- 2. Lessons from the PERFECTIONS of Christ's Humanity**
  - Note His **MORAL** Perfection (1:35; 3:32; 4:1-2, 14-15)
  - Note His **INTELLECTUAL** Perfection (4:14-22, 31-32)
  - Note His **TEMPERAMENTAL** Perfection... He was a perfect blend of all human temperaments ... perfect balance.
    - \*Sanguine ... Jesus was very socially involved ... with women and children ... with the physically needy (many healings) ... with social outcasts (sinner 7:36; Magdalene 8:2; Zacchaeus 19:1-10; Thief 23:43) ... Parables: Good Samaritan (chapter 10); Prodigal (chapter 15); Publican (chapter 18)
    - \*Melancholic (19:41-44)
    - \*Phlegmatic (9:51)
    - \*Choleric (4:29-30) ... displayed great courage (cf. 19:45-46).
- 3. Lessons from the PURPOSE of Christ's Humanity**

He came to seek and to save the lost

  - He was the **PERFECT SIN-BEARER** (Hebrews 2:9-18)
  - He was the **PERFECT SYMPATHIZER** (Hebrews 4:14-16)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - John***

Synoptic Gospels: Matthew-Royalty-Jesus as Sovereign; Mark-Humility-Jesus as Servant; Luke-Humanity-Jesus as Son of Man; John-Deity-Jesus as the Son of God.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JOHN**

- 1. The Pre-incarnate ministry of the Son of God** (chapter 1:1-5)
- 2. The Public Ministry of the Son of God** (chapter 1:6-12:50)
- 3. The Private Ministry of the Son of God** (chapters 13-17)
- 4. The Passion Ministry of the Son of God** (chapters 18-19)
- 5. The Post-resurrection Ministry of the Son of God** (chapters 20-21)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to:

- 1. The Son of God's Unique Dualism** (chapters 1:1-2; 1:14)  
Pre-incarnate and incarnate...in eternity and in time...with God and with man.
- 2. The Son of God's Unique Deeds** (chapter 5:17-19)  
Seven Special Signs:
  1. Water to wine, 2:1-11.
  2. Healing nobleman's son, 4:46.
  3. Feeding of the 5,000, 6:6-13.
  4. Walking on Water, 6:16-21.
  5. Healing blind man, 9:1-7.
  6. Raising Lazarus, 11:1-45.
  7. Filling the nets, 21:1-6.
- 3. The Son of God's Unique Doctrine** (chapter 7:14-17)  
Seven Special Sayings:
  1. The Bread of Life, 6:48.
  2. The Light of the World, 8:12.
  3. The Door, 10:7.
  4. The Good Shepherd, 10:11.
  5. The Resurrection and the Life, 11:25.
  6. The Way, the Truth and the Life, 14:6.
  7. The Vine, 15:5.
- 4. The Son of God's Unique Death and Resurrection (John 10:15-18)**
  1. Unique because He is the only one to die for God's sheep.
  2. Unique because He is the only one to take back His life again.

The word "believe" is used in this gospel almost 100 times. The ultimate purpose for the writing of this book is stated clearly, *"these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name,"* (John 20:31).

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Acts***

Gospels: Biographical, Acts: Historical, Epistles: Doctrinal... "Holy Spirit" mentioned more than 70 times... "Witness" mentioned over 30 times.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ACTS**

- 1. The Christ (The Head), The New Testament Authority** (chapter 1)
- 2. The Church (The Body), The New Testament Assembly** (chapter 2)
- 3. The Commission (The Function), The New Testament Activity** (chapters 3-28)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. The Principles from the Christ** (cf. Luke 12:49-50)
  - We go just 12 words into this Bible book of church history before we come to the word "Jesus."... The history of the Church is really an extended history of the Lord Jesus Christ!
  - Dr. Luke says that in his former account, the Gospel of Luke, he gave all that Jesus **BEGAN BOTH TO DO AND TEACH** (Acts 1:1). The strong implication is that in this second treatise, the book of Acts, he will record what Jesus **CONTINUES TO DO AND TEACH!**
  - Acts is a partial fulfillment of Jesus' promise to build His church (Matt. 16:18)
- 2. The Principles from the Church**
  - Note the **FORMATION** of the Church:
    - The **People** with which it was formed:  
120 (chapter 1:15)  
3,000 (chapter 2:41)  
5,000 (chapter 4:4)  
Multitude (chapter 4:32)  
Multitudes (chapter 5:14)  
Number multiplied greatly (chapter 6:7)
    - The **Place** from which it was formed (chapter 2:2)
    - The **Person** by which it was formed ... The Holy Spirit (chapters 1:3-5, 2:1-4)
  - Note the **FUNCTION** of the Church:
    - The Church Gathered ... An internal function (chapter 2:4)
    - The Church Scattered ... An external function (chapter 8:1-4)
- 3. The Principles from the Commission** (chapter 1:8)

"You shall be witnesses to Me both...

  - ... in Jerusalem." Peter the principal witness (chapters 1-7)
  - ... and in all Judea and Samaria." Philip the principal witness (chapters 8-12)
  - ... and to the end of the earth." Paul the principal witness (chapters 13-28)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Romans***

The author is the Apostle Paul. The key word is "Faith" (40x) and the key text is 1:16-17

1. The **PERSON** of the Gospel ... "the gospel of CHRIST"
2. The **POWER** of the Gospel ... "it is the POWER of God"
3. The **PURPOSE** of the Gospel ... "to SALVATION"
4. The **PRINCIPLE** of the Gospel ... "to everyone who BELIEVES"
5. The **PEOPLE** of the Gospel ... "to the JEW ... also to the GREEK"

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF ROMANS**

1. The **DOCTRINAL** Section (chapters 1-8)
2. The **PARENTHICAL** Section (chapters 9-11)
3. The **PRACTICAL** Section (chapters 12-16)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. Principles related to the DOCTRINE OF SIN**

- It is **UNIVERSAL**
  - \*Pagans (1:18-23)
  - \*Jews (2:17-24)
  - \*Moral man (2:1-3)
  - \*The whole world (2:1-3)
- It is **RADICAL** (1:24-32; 3:13-18)
- It is **FATAL** (5:12; 6:23)
  - \*Three views of man's moral condition:
    1. He is well
    2. He may be sick
    3. He is DEAD!

#### **2. Principles related to the DOCTRINE OF SALVATION ... By FAITH:**

- There is salvation from **SIN'S PENALTY....JUSTIFICATION** (3:21-26)
- There is salvation from **SIN'S POLLUTION....SANCTIFICATION** (6:1-13)  
KNOW! RECKON! YIELD!
- There is salvation from **SIN'S PRESENCE...GLORIFICATION** (8:29-30)
- There is salvation from **SIN'S POWER ... MINISTRATION** ... We yield our body (12:1-2) ... We serve in HIS BODY! (12:3-21)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – I Corinthians***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I CORINTHIANS**

- 1. Corrective Truth is the Theme in chapters 1-11**
- 2. Constructive Truth is the Theme in chapters 12-16**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They relate to **CARNALITY IN THE CHURCH**

### **1. The CONDITIONS of Carnality in the Church**

- Divisions (1:10-12; 3:1-5)
- Fornication - Incest (5:1)
- Going to court before pagan judges (6:1)
- Drunkenness (11:21)
- Heresy (15:12)

Why does Paul "bother with such a bunch?"....

- He was an apostle of the church (1:1)
- The divine Nature of the church (1:2)
- He was speaking to a sanctified, holy and praying community (1:2)
- They were the repository of God's gifts and grace (1:3-7)
- They were waiting for the coming of the Lord (1:7-8)
- The faithful God had called them into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ. (1:9)

### **2. The CAUSES of Carnality in the Church**

- They failed to know **EXPERIENTIALLY** what they were **POSITIONALLY** ... They were saints by calling but they didn't act like it!
- They failed to realize **ACTUALLY** what they were **POTENTIALLY**.
- They failed to show in the **LOCAL CHURCH** what they were in the **UNIVERSAL CHURCH**

### **3. The CONSEQUENCES of Carnality in the Church**

- Lack of progress **INTERNALLY** ... Within the church, they were still "babes" (3:1-2). They lacked maturity.
- Lack of penetration **EXTERNALLY**...Because of internal problems, they had nothing to say to the pagan community of Corinth. Their moral standards were even lower than the society around them! (5:1)

### **4. The CURE of Carnality in the Church...Paul advances a fivefold cure:**

- The **GLORIFICATION** of a certain **PERSON** (1:26-31)
- The **DEDICATION** of a certain **PROPERTY** (6:19-20)
- The **APPLICATION** of a certain **PRINCIPLE** (10:23, 31)
- The **REALIZATION** of a certain **PRACTICE** (13:1-3, 13) "faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."
- The **CELEBRATION** of a certain **PROSPECT** (15:50-59)
- The **EXECUTION** of a certain **PLAN** (16:1-4)

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - II Corinthians***

Obviously, this letter is closely related to the 1st letter. It is quite emotional, somewhat unstructured and very personal. Paul has the delicate task of explaining his absence from Corinth and defending the authority of his apostleship. The most comprehensive statement on monetary stewardship in the entire New Testament is given in chapters 8 and 9. He describes with great ardor his intense sufferings for the gospel, his experience in Paradise and his "thorn in the flesh" lesson on weakness and humility (chapters 11-12).

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II CORINTHIANS**

- 1. An Apostolic EXPLANATION** (1:12-24; 2:1-4)
- 2. An Apostolic EXHORTATION** (chapters 8-9)
- 3. An Apostolic VINDICATION** (11:1-15; 12:11-21)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the minister and his ministry.

- 1. A True Minister Ministers by DIVINE APPOINTMENT** (1:1-2; 5:18-20)
  - "An apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God."
  - "(He) has given us the ministry."
- 2. A True Minister Ministers through DIVINE ABILITY**

God's ability produces a unique:

  - **COMFORT** in the Ministry (1:3-6)
  - **CONFIDENCE** in the Ministry (2:14-16) ..."God always leads us in triumph" (3:5-6); "our sufficiency is from God."
  - **CONSTANCY** in the Ministry (4:1, 7-18); "we do not lose heart" Someone has said, "A pessimist sees a difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees an opportunity in every difficulty."
  - **CONDUCT** in the Ministry (2:17; 4:2; 6:1-11)
- 3. A True Minister Ministers with DIVINE APPROVAL** (3:1-3; 10:7-18) "But he who glories, let him glory in the Lord. For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends."

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Galatians***

Unique features: A circular letter (1:1-2) ... Written by Paul's own hand (6:11) ... Very stern (1:6, 3:1) ... The key words are "Faith" (21x) and "Gospel" (12x) ... Someone has called this epistle the "Magna Charta" of the Church.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF GALATIANS**

- 1. The PERSONAL Section** (chapters 1-2)
- 2. The DOCTRINAL Section** (chapters 3-4)
- 3. The PRACTICAL Section** (chapters 5-6)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

All relate to the True Gospel.

- 1. The PERVERSION of the True Gospel**  
(1:6-9) ...Those who pervert the true gospel:
  - Emphasize **WORKS** rather than **FAITH** (2:16; 3:5)
  - Emphasize **RITUAL** rather than **RELATIONSHIP** (4:9-11; 5:2-9)
- 2. The REVELATION of the True Gospel**
  - Revealed by Christ (1:11-12)
  - Received by Paul (1:13-24)
  - Confirmed by the Church (2:1-2, 9)
- 3. The COMMUNICATION of the True Gospel**  
The revelation of the Gospel is never an end in itself...This Gospel is to be verbalized ... articulated ... communicated by men called to this ministry. (1:11-15) "Preach" (9x; cf. Romans 10:10-15 ... "And how shall they hear without a preacher?")
- 4. The DEFINITION of the True Gospel**
  - The **FACT** Principle (1:3-4; 3:13; 4:4-5)
  - The **FAITH** Principle (2:16; 3:11) ... A new position (3:26); A new person (3:2); A new power (2:20)
  - The **FREE** Principle (5:1)
  - The **FRUIT** Principle (5:16-23)
- 5. The APPLICATION of the True Gospel**  
(6:1-10) "restore" "share" "let us not grow weary while doing good"  
"let us do good to all"

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Ephesians***

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF EPHESIANS**

1. **The Character of the Church** (chapters 1-3)
2. **The Conduct of the Church** (chapter 4-6:9)
3. **The Conflict of the Church** (chapter 6:10-24)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to the church:

1. The church has a **spiritual** character (chapter 1:3)
2. The church has a **supernal** character (chapters 1:3, 2:6)
3. The church has a **vital** character (chapter 2:1-5)
4. The church has an **internal** character (chapters 3:16-17, 20)
5. The church has a **practical** character (chapter 4:1)
6. The church has an **eternal** character (chapters 1:4; 2:7; 3:11; 3:21)
7. The church has a **supernatural** character (chapter 5:25-27)

#### **1. Principles on the Conduct of the Church**

We see conduct in:

- Her **walk**, chapters (4:1; 4:17; 5:1-2; 5:8; 5:15)
- Her **work**, chapter (4:11-12)
- Her **worship**, chapter (5:18-20)

#### **2. Principles on the Conflict of the Church**

- Note our **adversary** (chapter 6:12)
- Note our **ability** (chapter 6:10)
- Note our **armor** (chapters 6:11; 13-17)

Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it (5:25). If I am a true believer in and a follower of Christ, I will also love the church and give myself to her for her edification and blessing. The church to whom this epistle is addressed later left her first love for Christ and His people. (Revelation 2:1-4)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Philippians***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF PHILIPPIANS**

### **1. It is a TESTIMONY Epistle (3:4-9)**

Paul's Jewish pedigree and Christian conversion.

### **2. It is a TEACHING Epistle**

- The **SUFFERING** of Believers (chapter 1) Paul's fetters resulted in the furtherance of the gospel ... He was attacked ... the gospel was advanced. Human persecution accomplished the divine purpose.
- The **SERVICE** of Believers (chapter 2) In this chapter we have:
  - **PATTERN** in Service (Jesus)
  - **POWER** for Service (God works in you)
  - **PERFORMANCE** of Service ... Examples in Paul, Timothy and Epaphroditus
- The **SUPREME GOAL** of Believers (chapter 3) "press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
- The **STEWARDSHIP** of Believers (chapter 4) This is a "thank you note" to the Philippians for their gift to him through Epaphroditus. There were three elements in this stewardship:
  - **FELLOWSHIP** (Shared)
  - **FRUIT** (that would abound to the Philippian's account in heaven.)
  - **FRAGRANCE** ... their gift was a sweet aroma to God.

### **3. It is a THANK-YOU Epistle (1:3-5)**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to "joy"; the word is used 17x. Joy is related to:

### **1. The PROVIDENCE of Christ--CIRCUMSTANTIAL (1:12-18)**

Through Paul's prison chains, the Roman believers were encouraged by his good example and became bold witnesses and Christ was preached. In this, the apostle greatly rejoiced. God arranges our circumstances. Paul always called himself "The prisoner of Jesus Christ" not of Rome! (Ephesians 3:1; 4:1)

### **2. The PEOPLE of Christ--FRATERNAL**

- Paul ministered Joy to the People of Christ (1:23-26; 2:17-18)
- Paul received Joy from the People of Christ (2:1-2; 4:1, 10)

### **3. The PERSON of Christ--POSITIONAL (3:1; 4:4; 4:10) "Rejoice IN THE LORD"**

All of us have a "location" and a "position". Paul's location was a prison cell in Rome. His position was "in Christ". Paul's joy was not found in his location but rather in his position, in Christ. His chains held him physically, but they could not hold him spiritually! Outwardly he suffered but inwardly he rejoiced!

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Colossians***

This is probably the most profound Christology Paul ever wrote. The church in Colosse was having a problem with an early form of Gnosticism which claimed superior knowledge in spiritual matters. It was a syncretism of: 1. Jewish Legalism 2. Greek Philosophic Speculation and 3. Oriental Mysticism. In their view, the person and work of Christ were not sufficient.

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF COLOSSIANS**

- 1. The Doctrine of Christ Declared** (chapters 1-2)
- 2. The Doctrine of Christ Applied** (chapters 3-4)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. In the Declaration of the Doctrine of Christ we discover: THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST**

- Supreme in His **WORK** ... Creation (1:15-17)
- Supreme in His **CHURCH** (1:18)
- Supreme in His **REDEMPTION** (1:19-22)
- Supreme in His **PERSON** (2:9; 3:11)

#### **2. In the Application of the Doctrine of Christ we discover: THE SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST**

(Believing in the supremacy establishes His sufficiency.)

False teachers were adding to Christ a number of things which they felt were necessary to a complete spiritual experience:

Intellectualism (2:4, 8)	Speculative Religion	CHRIST (2:3)
Ritualism (2:16-17a)	Shadow Religion	CHRIST (2:17b)
Mysticism (2:18-19)	Strange Religion	CHRIST (2:19)
Asceticism (2:20-23)	Severe Religion	CHRIST (3:1-15)

The conclusion is that Christ is **ALL** ... Preeminent above all and in **ALL** ... Present in **ALL** (3:11b)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - I Thessalonians***

This is the 1st of Paul's recorded writings. He authored this epistle about 20 years after Christ's ascension. We find truth about the 2nd advent of our Lord. It is a fine model for following up on new believers: 1. Minister directly (1:5-6; 2:1-12); 2. Pray (1:2); 3. Send others (3:1-2); 4. Write letters

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I THESSALONIANS**

1. Truth for the Present from **PAST EVENTS** (chapters 1-3)
2. Truth for the Present from **PROPHETIC EVENTS** (chapters 4-5)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. Principles from Past Events** (cf. Acts 17:1-10)

- Note Paul's **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHURCH**  
Three essentials:
  - The **MAN GOD** (1:6)
  - The **WORD OF GOD** (2:13)
  - The **SPIRIT OF GOD** (1:5-6)
- Note Paul's **EXAMPLE BEFORE THE CHURCH**  
He was exemplary in his:
  - **MESSAGE** (2:1-2)
  - **MOTIVATION** (2:3-6)
  - **MANNER** (2:7-12)
- Note Paul's **EXERCISE FOR THE CHURCH** ... He was exercised about their spiritual condition ... Sent Timothy to encourage them in the faith.

### **2. Principles from Prophetic Events**

- Enlightenment about Prophetic Truth (chapter 4) They were anxious about loved ones who had died ... where were they? ... would they see them again? ... when?
- Exhortation from Prophetic Truth (chapter 5) Don't sleep as others but let us watch and be self-controlled ... comfort each other and edify each other.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - II Thessalonians***

In the 300 chapters of the New Testament, 200 speak of the 2nd advent of Christ. In I Thessalonians we see Christ **COMING FOR HIS CHURCH ... UPWARD ... COMFORT FOR THE SAINTS**. In II Thessalonians, we see **Christ COMING WITH HIS CHURCH ... DOWNWARD ... CONDEMNATION FOR SINNERS**.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II THESSALONIANS**

1. Encouragement for **PERSECUTED Saints** (chapter 1)
2. Enlightenment for **PERPLEXED Saints** (chapter 2)
3. Exhortation for **PROBLEM Saints** (chapter 3)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. Lessons from the Apostle's Encouragement**

- He Commended them for their Suffering (1:3-5)
  - They had **FAITH...VERTICAL GRACE**
  - They had **LOVE...HORIZONTAL GRACE**
  - They had **PATIENCE...INTERNAL GRACE**
- He Comforted them in their Suffering (1:6-12)
  - He did this by **INSTRUCTION** (1:7-10)
  - He did this by **INTERCESSION** (1:11-12)

### **2. Lessons from the Apostle's Enlightenment**

- The cause of their perplexity (2:1-2) Because of their severe suffering, they thought they were already in The Day of the Lord.
- The correction for their perplexity (2:3-12)
  - Two things must occur before The Day of the Lord
  - 1. The revelation of the Man of Sin
  - 2. The removal of the One Who Hinders (Holy Spirit)

### **3. Lessons from the Apostle's Exhortation (3:6-12)**

They were to withdraw from those who walked disorderly ... As they waited for the coming of the Lord, they were to continue with their work responsibilities ... They were not to grow weary in doing good ... They were to warn those who did not obey the Apostle's Word.

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – I Timothy***

Timothy was converted on Paul's 1st missionary journey and was ordained on his 2nd in Lystra in Asia Minor.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I TIMOTHY**

- 1. This is a PERSONAL Epistle ... Paul...to Timothy (1:1-2)**
- 2. This is a PASTORAL Epistle ... Key verses (3:14-15)**
  - "the household of God" ... The **PERSONALITY** of the Church
  - "the Church of the living God" ... The **VITALITY** of the Church
  - "the pillar (pedestal) of the truth" ... The **MINISTRY** of the Church ... (putting the Truth on display)
  - "the ground (foundation) of the truth" ... The **STABILITY** of the Church
- 3. This is a PRACTICAL Epistle**
  - "how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God"

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They relate to the minister and his ministry.

- 1. The Minister:**
  - His **CONVERSION** (1:1-2; 6:12; cf. II Tim. 1:5; 3:14-15)
  - His **CALL** (4:14); Pauline example (1:1, 12-13; 2:7; cf. II Tim. 1:6)
  - His **CHARGE** ... Threefold:
    - Doctrinal Inflexibility (1:18-19)
    - Pastoral Impartiality (5:21)
    - Spiritual Integrity (6:13)
- 2. The Ministry ... Three vital areas related to pastoral ministry:**
  - Doctrine for the Church (4:1,6,13)
  - Discipline in the Church....regulations:
    - Prayer (2:1-8)
    - Women (2:9-15)
    - Deacons and Elders (3:1-13)
    - Widows (5:3-16)
    - Preaching Elders (5:17-20)
    - Masters and Slaves (6:1-2)
    - Heretics (6:3-5)
  - Deportment before the Church ... "be an example" ... "flee ... pursue ... fight ... keep this commandment without spot" (4:12; 6:11-12)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – II Timothy***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II TIMOTHY**

### **1. Note the Historic Placement of the Epistle (4:6-8)**

The time of Paul's "departure was at hand"

### **2. Note the Apostolic Purpose for the Epistle (4:9, 20)**

To summon Timothy to Rome and give final instructions

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They relate to God's minister. He must be:

### **1. INTENSE in the WORK of the Ministry (1:1-7)**

- Timothy had two vital things in him: **FAITH** (1:5) and **THE GIFT OF GOD** (1:6)
- Timothy was to "stir up (fan to a flame)" his gift (1:6) His natural tendency apparently was to be somewhat fearful (1:7) and timid.
  - The apostle is encouraging him to "burn for God" in his preaching and teaching ministry. In his little book titled simply "Preaching", G. Campbell Morgan speaks about the need for passion. "I am not arguing for mere excitement. Painted fire never burns, and an imitated enthusiasm is the most empty thing that can possibly exist in a preacher. Given the preacher with a message from the whole Bible...I cannot personally understand that man not being swept sometimes right out of himself by the fire and the force and the fervor of his work."

### **2. IMPECCABLE in the WALK of the Ministry (2:20-25)**

"Flee ... pursue ... avoid ... must not quarrel ... be gentle ... patient ... in humility correcting."

- Most of us would rather "see" a sermon than hear one.
- Truth must be demonstrated as well as articulated ... We must WALK THE TALK!
- People will forgive me for the occasional "poor sermon" but they will find it far more difficult to forgive me for a "bad life"

### **3. INSTRUCTED in the WORD of the Ministry (1:13-14)**

- "Hold fast (keep) the pattern of sound words (teaching)"
- "That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit"
- "Handle accurately the word of truth" 2:15
- "Continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of" 3:14-17
- "Preach the word! ... convince, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering (patience) and teaching."

### **4. INVINCIBLE in the WARFARE of the Ministry**

- Note Paul's **EXHORTATION** in this regard (2:1-4)
- Note Paul's **EXAMPLE** in this regard (4:7) - **FOUGHT ... FINISHED ... KEPT**
- Note Paul's **ENCOURAGEMENT** in this regard ... Though death was imminent, he knew that a "crown" and a "heavenly kingdom" awaited him! (4:8; 4:18) "To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!"

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Titus***

Key text: 1:4-5 ... "set in order the things that are lacking." (cf. "Let all things be done decently and in order." I Cor. 14:40) Key words: "good works" 6x "sound (healthful)" 4x

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF TITUS**

1. **Church Order for Cretian Believers** (chapter 1)
2. **Class Order for Cretian Believers** (chapter 2)
3. **Civil Order for Cretian Believers** (chapter 3)

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. Lessons from Church Order**

- The foundation of church order is **DIVINE REVELATION** (1:3)
- The function of church order is **DIVINE DELEGATION** ... There is a chain of authority that comes down from Jesus Christ through Paul to Titus and through Titus to the Elders and through the Elders to the church

#### **2. Lessons from Class Order** ... There are classes or groups within the church ... Each has a peculiar place and purpose. We are one In Christ but we are not the same and our roles vary according to God's own definition. Note the different groupings:

- Sex and Age (2:1-6)
- Pastoral leadership in Titus (2:7-8; 2:15)
- Social Status ... Masters and Slaves (2:8-9) Paul does not justify slavery but he is strong in his instruction about how masters and slaves are to work within cultural and political systems that are in place.

#### **3. Lessons from Civil Order** (3:1-3)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Philemon***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF PHILEMON**

We state the points by:

### **1. IDENTIFYING the PEOPLE in the Epistle:**

- Paul, the Apostle
- Philemon, a wealthy believer in Colossae who was led to Christ by Paul Apphia, his wife
- Archippus, a leader in the church which met in Philemon's home
- Onesimus, a run-away slave

### **2. INDICATING the PURPOSE for the EPISTLE ... Read Colossians 4:7-9**

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES ... The principles relate to:**

### **1. The PROVIDENCE of the LORD ... Providence is that constant and perfect care by Almighty God which causes His will to be done in all circumstances at all times in all places. It promises that all things will work together for good for all those who love Him (Romans 8:28)**

- Note Paul's **ATTITUDE** toward his circumstances (vs. 1, 23). He never called himself the prisoner of Rome ... He was always the prisoner of Christ Jesus ... He was in prison by the appointment of Christ! He looked above the second cause for his imprisonment to the primary cause! He never viewed himself as a victim.
- Note Paul's **ACTIVITY** in his circumstances (vs.4, 10). He prayed because he knew that the Lord was not "locked up" He also led Onesimus to Christ. Paul lost his liberty, but Onesimus gained salvation! Philemon lost a slave but gained a brother!

### **2. The POWER of LOVE**

- **Love Establishes Fraternal Relationships** (vs. 1-2)
  - A former proud Pharisee loves a former pagan Roman household.
  - A wealthy man loves a run away slave..."more than a slave ... a beloved brother"
- **Love Enables Spiritual Refreshment** (vs. 4-7)
  - The Love is VERTICAL before it is HORIZONTAL (vs. 5)
  - Philemon's spiritual and material wealth was being shared
- **Love Enhances Social Roles** (vs. 8-21)
  - Love never oversteps proper social bounds ... "without your consent I wanted to do nothing"
  - Love never abuses authority ... "I might be very bold to command you ... yet for love's sake I appeal to you"
  - Love always appeals to the highest and most noble Christian character qualities in others. "Receive him (Onesimus) as you would me ... having confidence in your obedience ... knowing that you will do even more than I say."
  - Love always takes responsibility for those who have failed ... "If he (Onesimus) has wronged you or owes you anything, put that on my account."

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Hebrews***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF HEBREWS**

### **1. Note the PECULIARITIES of the Book**

- No author is identified
- No church or group is addressed
- Begins as a treatise or essay
- Continues as a sermon
- Ends as a letter

### **2. Note The PURPOSE of the Book ... Twofold:**

- To Claim the **SUPERIORITY** of **CHRIST** ... No **EQUAL** ... "better" used 11x
- To Command the **STEADFASTNESS** of **CHRISTIANS** ... No **EQUIVOCATION**..."Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing (turns away) from the living God."

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They are seen in the author's:

### **1. Revelation of the SUPERIORITY and PERFECTION of Christ and His Work**

- Superior in His **PERSON** (1:1-4; 3:1-6)
- Superior in His **PERFORMANCE** (4:14-16; 7:23-28; 9:11-15; 10:10-14)

### **2. Exhortation for the STEADFASTNESS and PROGRESSION of the Christians and their Walk ... Note the "Let us":**

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Of concern (4:1)            | Of conviction (10:23)       |
| Of constancy (4:11)         | Of consideration (10:24-25) |
| Of confession (4:14)        | Of contest (12:1)           |
| Of confidence (4:16)        | Of charisma (12:28)         |
| Of continuance (6:1; 10-12) | Of courage (13:13)          |
| Of communion (10:22)        | Of communication (13:15-16) |
| Verbal--Vertical            | Material--Horizontal        |

The Benediction: "The God of peace ... **PEACE** ... who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead ... **POWER** ... that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant ... **PROVISION** ... make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight ... **PERFECTING** ... through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen ... **PURPOSE**."

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - James***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JAMES**

### **1. In James, Justification before God by Faith is Assumed** (Romans 3:28)

James uses the word "faith" 16x

### **2. In James, Justification before Men by Works is Asserted** (2:20-21, 25-26)

James uses the word "works" 13x

(God declares us righteous when He sees our faith ... The world declares us righteous when it sees our works.)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

The principles relate to faith:

### **1. A TRIED Faith** (1:1-4)

- A tried faith brings immediate results (1:1-4)  
Spiritual character is developed
- A tried faith brings ultimate reward (1:12)  
An eternal crown is promised

### **2. A THEORETICAL Faith**

- It doesn't **SAVE** (2:14)
- It doesn't **SERVE** (2:15)
- It doesn't **SHOW** (2:18)

### **3. A TRUE Faith**

- A true faith is **DEFINED** (2:17, 26)  
It is not dead but alive and active.
- A true faith is **ILLUSTRATED**  
Abraham (2:21-24); Rahab (2:25; cf. Mark 2:5)  
True faith can be seen!
- A true faith is **APPLIED**
  - Stability in prayer (1:5-8)
  - Practicality in the Word (1:21-22)
  - Impartiality in relationships (2:1-9)
  - Purity in conversation (3:1-12)
  - Humility in attitudes (4:6-10)
  - Honesty in business (5:1-6)
  - Constancy in waiting (5:7-20)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – I Peter***

Key words for the General Epistles:

- James ACTION
- I and II Peter AFFLICTIONS
- I II III John ASSURANCE
- Jude APOSTASY.

Most used words in I Peter: "suffer" 15x, "grace" 9x, "glory" 13x.

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I PETER**

### **1. Note the PECULIARITIES of the Epistle**

- Addressed to the pilgrims of the dispersion..."strangers in the world"
- Suffering is mentioned in each of the 5 chapters
- The only epistle written from Babylon...literal or figurative?

### **2. Note the PURPOSE of the Epistle....To encourage God's people in suffering**

Three kinds:

- Suffering that is common to all...not mentioned but is assumed
- Suffering for doing evil 2:20 4:15
- Suffering as a Christian 4:13

## **II THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. Suffering in the will of God PURIFIES us...an INWARD RESULT**

- Peter introduces the subject in a most positive way. A believer who suffers is:
  - Elected
  - Sanctified
  - Washed
  - Regenerated
  - Enriched
  - Preserved or kept. (1:1-7)
- Trials are:
  - Seasonal (a little while)
  - Varied (all kinds)
  - Precious (greater worth)

Trials are intended to show the genuineness of our faith and to ultimately show praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1:6-7)

### **2. Suffering in the will of God TESTIFIES to others...an OUTWARD RESULT. (2:9-12, 19-24, 3:12-17)**

### **3. Suffering in the will of god GLORIFIES GOD...an UPWARD RESULT. (4:12-16,19)**

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – II Peter***

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF II PETER**

#### **1. The Peculiarities of the Epistle**

- A follow up to his 1st Epistle 3:1  
External persecution in 1st Internal peril in 2nd
- Written just before his death 1:14-15
- Reflections on his experience with Christ on the Mt. of Transfiguration (1:16-18)

#### **2. The Purpose of the Epistle**

- To remind believers of certain fundamental doctrines before his decease
- To warn of false teachers 2:1-22
- To give instruction regarding the end times 3:1-18

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

#### **1. PROVISION for the Saints ch. 1 The spiritual provision for the saints is:**

- PERFECT (1:2-4) "given all things that pertain to life and godliness"
- PROGRESSIVE (1:5-7) "add to.."
- PRODUCTIVE (1:8-11)

#### **2. PERILS before the Saints ch. 2 One of our very great spirituals perils is false prophets:**

- Wrong in their MESSAGE (2:1-3)
- Wrong in their MOTIVATION (2:3)
- Wrong in their MORALS (2:12-14, 19)

#### **3. PREDICTIONS to the Saints ch. 3**

- The prediction of the DISOLUTION OF THE OLD...This makes us REALISTIC (3:1-12)
- The prediction of the CREATION OF THE NEW....This makes us OPTIMISTIC (3:13-14)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – I John***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF I JOHN**

### **1. The Peculiarities of the Epistle**

- No address
- Very intimate in tone "Little children...beloved"
- "Fellowship and love" are used more than in other N.T. book

### **2. The Purpose of the Epistle (5:12-13)**

- John writes so that the recipients of this epistle might have a "know so salvation"
- The word "know" is used more than 30x cf. John 20:31

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They all relate to FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD (gk. "koinonia")

### **1. The EXPERIENCE of Fellowship with God (1:1-3)**

- Three essentials before fellowship with God can occur:
  - God's MANIFESTATION OF LIFE...His life in His Son (1:1-2)
  - God's MOTIVATION OF LOVE (4:9-10)
  - God's MESSAGE OF LIGHT (1:3-5) "heard and declare" "looked upon and handled" "bear witness"

### **2. The ENJOYMENT of Fellowship with God (1:4)**

- Enjoying fellowship with God doesn't happen naturally or automatically. It requires personal effort and mutual agreement. "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3)
  - Fellowship with God is ESTABLISHED when we COME TO THE LIGHT (cf. John 8:12)
  - Fellowship with God is ENJOYED when we WALK IN THE LIGHT(1:6-7)

### **3. The EVIDENCE of Fellowship with God**

- We can know that we are walking in the light and having fellowship with God by applying a few objective tests. We know we are in fellowship IF:
  - We are obeying His commandments (2:3-5)
  - We are living righteous lives (2:29,5:18)
  - We are confessing our sins (1:8-9)
  - We are loving the brethren (3:14-17)
  - We are experiencing the Holy Spirit (3:24,4:13)

# ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – II & III John***

## **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS II AND III JOHN**

### **1. The Contrasts between the two Epistles**

- II John: No names, Warns of wrong BELIEFS, Written to a church.
- III John: 3 names, Warns of wrong BEHAVIOR, Written to a person, Gaius.

### **2. The Comparisons between the two Epistles**

- Both are brief, Same author, Similar wording
- Same theme-**TRUTH**: Key words: "truth" 11x, "walk" 4x, "love" 5

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They all relate to TRUTH

### **1. Our FELLOWSHIP in the TRUTH II John 1, III John 1**

- True fellowship is found as we love IN THE TRUTH....TRUTH is :
  - PERSONIFIED in the SON OF GOD (John 14:6)
  - VERBALIZED in the WORD OF GOD (John 17:17)
  - REALIZED in the SPIRIT OF GOD (John 14:17,16:12-23) "the Spirit of truth"

### **2. Our RELATIONSHIP to the TRUTH**

- To the believer, the TRUTH is:
  - INTERNAL as to its OPERATION II John 2 III John 3 (cf. Colossians 3:16, I Thessalonians 2:13)
  - ETERNAL as to its DURATION II John 2 "it will be with us forever"
  - EXTERNAL as to its DEMONSTRATION II John 4, 6, III John 4)"walk in the truth"

### **3. Our PARTNERSHIP with the TRUTH III John 5-8**

- "fellow workers for the truth"

### **4. Our GUARDIANSHIP of the TRUTH**

- TRUTH is attacked from WITHOUT THE CHURCH (II John 7-11) A rejection of TRUTH in the area of BELIEFS..."Receive not"
- TRUTH is attacked from WITHIN THE CHURCH (III John 9-11) A rejection of TRUTH in the area of BEHAVIOR..."Follow not"... "Do not imitate"

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD - Jude***

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF JUDE**

- The Peculiarities of Jude
  - Unaddressed
  - Brother of James
  - Tradition holds with some good evidence, that he and James were brothers of our Lord. (Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3)
  - The author originally intended some other theme vs. 3... "our common salvation"
  - He quotes from the noncanonical Book of Enoch

### **2. The Purpose of Jude (vs. 3-4)**

- To give an exhortation to contend for the faith... (That body of truth historically believed in the church.)
- To give a definition of an apostate... both doctrinally and morally defective (cf. Titus 2:11-12)

## **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

### **1. The Historical Examples of Apostasy:**

- Israel: UNBELIEF (vs. 5 cf. Numbers 13-14)
- Angels: REBELLION (vs. 6 cf. Isaiah 14, Ezekiel 28)
- Sodom and Gomorrah: SEXUAL PERVERSION (vs. 7, Genesis 19)
- Cain: BLOODLESS RELIGION (vs. 11, Genesis 4)
- Balaam: GREED (vs. 11, Numbers 22-25) Balak hired Balaam to curse God's people
- Korah: INSUBORDINATION (vs. 11)

**A summary:** "blemishes in your love feasts... clouds without water... trees without fruit... twice dead, pulled up by the roots... raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame... wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever."

### **2. The Practical Exhortation to Believers (vs. 20-23)**

- Build yourselves up in your most holy faith
- Pray in the Holy Spirit
- Keep yourselves in the love of God
- Look (wait) for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.
- Have compassion (mercy) on those who doubt
- Save (snatch) others out of the fire

The epistle closes with a great benediction. In it we see God's:

GREAT ABILITY... "To him who is able to keep you from falling (stumbling) and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy - GLORIOUS ATTRIBUTES..." to the only God our savior... be glory... majesty... power... authority through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen

## ***A WALK THROUGH THE WORD – Revelation***

This final book of the Bible which brings to completion and perfection God's word contains a series of 7's:

7 Spirits	7 Angels
7 Lamp stands	7 Churches
7 Seals	7 Trumpets
7 Bowls (Vials)	7 Personages
7 Dooms	7 New Things
7 "Prophecy"	7 References to His Coming
7 Blessings	

The number 7 appears 49 x or 7 times 7. There are 330 symbols used

### **I. THE PRIMARY POINTS OF REVELATION**

All given in the key text 1:19

#### **1. The SUPREME CHARACTER of Christ (ch. 1)**

- "The things which you have seen..." We see His PERSONAL GLORY

#### **2. The SEVEN CHURCHES of Christ (ch. 2 and 3)**

- "and the things which are..." We see His ECCLESIASTICAL GRACE

#### **3. The SOVEREIGN CONTROL of Christ (ch. 4-22)**

- "and the things which will take place after this." We see His UNIVERSAL GOVERNMENT

### **II. THE PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES**

They relate to the unique features of this book. It is unique in:

#### **1. The PERSON UNVEILED in its REVELATION (1:1) "Revelation"**

gk. "apokalupois" means unveiling

#### **2. The POCEEDURE INVOLVED in its COMPOSITION...No other book put together like this one:**

- (1:1) God to the Son His Angel to John (1:4 John) to the Seven Churches and The Spirit to all the Churches (1:7,3:22)

#### **3. The PURPOSE DISCLOSED for its INSPIRATION (1:1) Written especially for those who serve the Lord.**

#### **4. The PROMISES EXTENDED in its INTRODUCTION**

- (1:3) "Blessed is he who READS and those who HEAR the words of this prophecy, and KEEP those things which are written..."

**5. The PROPHECIES CONTAINED in its INSTRUCTION (1:3) ..."the things which WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THIS..."**

- The prophecies of this book focus on two certain future conditions:
  - TRIBULATION (ch.4-18)...The Church is never mentioned. Israel is the primary national group. (7:1-8, 12:1-6,13-14)
  - TRIUMPH (ch.19-22)
    - SPIRITUAL Triumph (19:1-10)
    - POLITICAL Triumph (19:11-20:10)
    - JUDICIAL Triumph (20:11-15)
    - UNIVERSAL Triumph (21:1-27)
    - ETERNAL Triumph (22:1-5)
- The Final PROMISE..."Behold, I am coming quickly!" (22:7, 12, 20)
- The Final PLEA..."The Spirit and the bride say, Come!"
- The Final PRAYER..."Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"