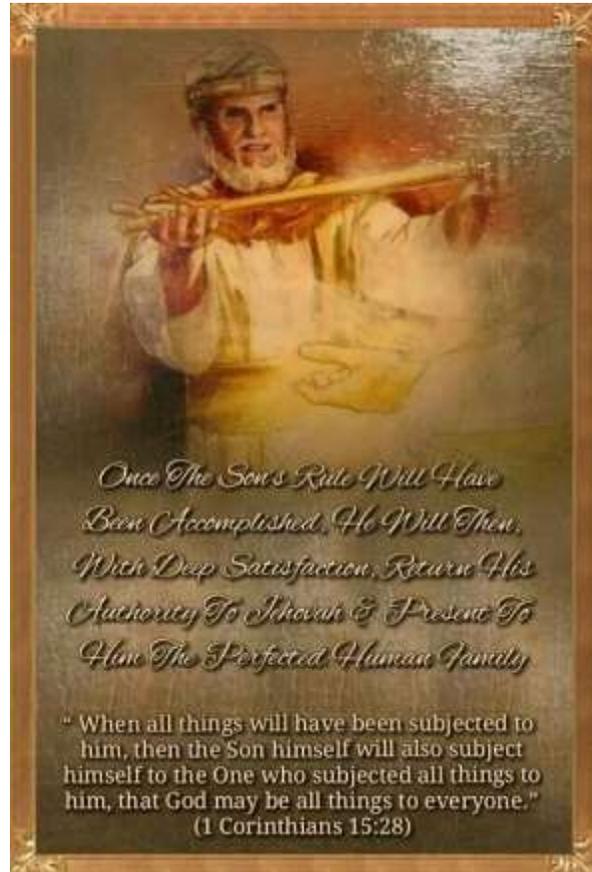


PTB # 13a: “That God (the Father) May Be All in All” (I Corinthians 15:14-28)

INTRODUCTION: Since this sermon begins a series of 4 on the topic of the Son of Man/Son of God from Job and Psalms, we must add an insert into our table of quotes, the famous outburst of faith about the Redeemer.

**“Oh that my words were now written!
oh that they were printed in a book!
That they were graven with an iron pen
and lead in the rock for ever!**

**For I know that my redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day
upon the earth: And though after my
skin worms destroy this body, yet in my
flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see
for myself, and mine eyes shall behold,
and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.” (Job 19:23-27)**



*Once The Sons Rule Will Have
Been Accomplished, He Will Then,
With Deep Satisfaction, Reserve His
Authority To Show & Present To
Him The Perfected Human Family*

*“ When all things will have been subjected to
him, then the Son himself will also subject
himself to the One who subjected all things to
him, that God may be all things to everyone.”
(1 Corinthians 15:28)*

(1) This series of 4 messages could well by exegesis be labeled or entitled as “Redeemer” instead of Son of Man/Son of God, or along with; of course with the revelations of these redeemer passages in the OT we are beginning to see that the emphasis is placed on God the Father. That is observed also as we review and preview the 12 topics in our sweep through the Bible, starting with topic # 1 of “The Living God of the Living” and going thru to topic # 12 of “The Living God wants others to Live.”

(2) Job’s prayer for his words to be in a book were answered by God the Holy Spirit as the book of Job is one of the 39 of the OT and 66 of the whole Bible.

(3) Redeemer is mentioned several times in the Old Testament: (a). here in Job 19:25, (b) in Psalm 19:14 where the LORD, capitalized for God the Father, is prayerfully request by David and through the Holy Spirit to accept his words and mediations of prayer, and David calls the Father of the Trinity “my strength and my Redeemer” (c) in Psalm 78:35 where they remembered the High God (once again God the Father, who said Trinity was not in the OT), (d) Proverbs 23:11 where in that passage, the wisdom includes “Labor not to be rich”, do not eat the bread of “an evil eye”, and do not enter the field of the fatherless as they have the special care of the mighty Redeemer, and with a dialogue between the Trinity as He tells that this mighty Redeemer of Christ will plead the cause of the fatherless to God the Father—many such dialogues in the Bible

including at Creation and the creation of joint heirs in the grace of life of marriage; (e) Isaiah 41:14—

“For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 41:13,14)

...As “I the LORD thy God”, for once again God the Father is guaranteeing the holding of the right hand of Israel (which of course includes the new Israel of the book of romans of believing Jews and Gentiles, and of the NT church and kingdom), addressing “the men of Israel” with help and that He will also help “the Holy One of Israel”, which God calls “thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel”, which of course is the Lord Jesus Christ.

(f) again in Isaiah 43:14 it is “LORD”, “Holy One of Israel”, and Redeemer; (g) in Isaiah 44:6 more on the redeemer—

“Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.”

As Jesus Himself calls Himself “The Lord the King of Israel”, speaking for Himself and “the LORD of hosts”, again God the Father, the Trinity is the first and last and beside them there is no God!

NOTE: Perhaps you are beginning to see that in the progressive revelation of the Bible we have to more that call it “a gradual revelation of God coming to an eternal climax in Christ; for the bottom line story is that AT THE END Christ will deliver the kingdom to God the Father in that God the Father might be ALL IN ALL. This is one of the great mistakes and shortcomings of Scofield theology which is so busy striving to create a false millennium kingdom for the Israel of Zealots to rule the world again, but under King Jesus, forgetting about God the Father, that it leaves little space or time for the forever kingdom that the Lord Jesus Christ in the end delivers to God the Father.

“Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death. For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says, “all things are put under *Him*,” *it is* evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.” (I Corinthians 15:24-28)

Strange that Scofield mites want not only to rob people of a priority for the forever kingdom that Christ and God create for believers, but also since they in so many places are also contradicting the words God has given, modifying them by adding and subtracting from the words, but also further minimize God the

Father with a false short (one thousand years) for Christ to reign under the ALLness of God the Father. Amen, at least they are consistent. It takes seducing spirits as well as doctrines of devils, in short, the fruition of the falling away, to do all that. You see in 1000 that evil combination ruins the Roman Vatican, losing them the continuity with Christ, and in 1909 with fruition in the SBC today likewise losing their continuity with the Christ and God the Father of the Bible. We are in no way belittling the work of Christ for He has the awesome responsibility given to Him by God the Father of bringing under the rule the whole universe and destroy all rebellion; but we are saying that the sweeps and revelations of the Bible do not fail to consider that AT THE REAL END of this old heaven and earth, the forever kingdom will be delivered to God the Father that He becomes ALL IN ALL and rules supreme in the new Jerusalem lowered down from heaven and rules over the new heavens and the new earth. Recently the astrophysicist on PBS showed their obvious prejudice in spite of a supposed scientific method to eliminate God with black holes, yet we remember that God the Father with the Lord Jesus Christ now at His right hand sitting on the great white throne stands between us the black holes as the Bible says His feet are in the clouds. And you know, it may turn out that these black holes which sucks into them any mass like stars that come near it just may be the entropy that the Universe is running down. Sorry, if I compare Scofield mites to the black holes since they try to suck into their false theology many of the massive and good things of the Bible.

(4). The trend of Isaiah 49:7 continues 6 more times in Isaiah with more on the Redeemer, making it perfectly clear that it is “Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One”, God the Father talking and calling Himself the Redeemer of Israel and also speaking for “his Holy One”, the Lord Jesus Christ; sub-climaxing in the OT in Jeremiah 50:34. Redeemer is not mentioned with that word in the NT as son of man and son of God take over, and with new revelations the Redeemer, praise God becomes that of the Redemption of salvation in (a) Luke 2:38 as the Prophetess that fasted day and night in the temple with all the other signs of the birth of salvation in Israel thanked God and gave witness to this redemption to others in the temple at the very instant the Prophet Simon blessed Mary for the birth of Jesus to come; (b) Jesus in Luke 21:28 and in the passage of another redemption at the Second Coming of Christ as they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory”—note that here with the words of Jesus we have Son of Man and redemption brought together; (c) in Romans 3:24 it is justified by faith and grace in “redemption in the Lord Jesus Christ”; (d) in Romans 8:23 the redemption of our bodies at the Second coming; (e) and then there is I Corinthians 1:20, again with the emphasis on God the Father as you “that are in Christ Jesus” are MADE many things in God—wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, hallelujah; (f) Ephesians 1:7 where we have redemption through his blood (the cross); (g) and Ephesians 1:14 where we are sealed with the Holy Spirit, our earnest assurance until full redemption of the purchased possession; (h) it is in Ephesians 4:30 the “day of redemption” by the sealing of the Holy Spirit with the warning not to grieve Him...

I. Thanks to God the Father that Made us Partakers of the Inheritance of the Enlightened Saints.

(i) and we just must look at the next in Colossians 1:14 IN CONTEXT—

“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.” (Colossians 1:12-20)

1. What has God the Father done for us IN CHRIST?
 - a. Delivered us not only from darkness itself, but from the POWER of darkness.
 - b. Translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son, and friends with that kingdom now in the heart and later in the eternal Forever Kingdom you have not need of the false hope of a millennium kingdom.

2. What we get in God the Father’s Dear Son?
 - a. Redemption through His Son,
 - b. and all the way to forgiveness of sins.

3. Who is this Dear Son of God?

NOTE: Start here and now with good Bible to replace the bad theology of Scofield, with Bible doctrine.

 - a. Jesus is the image of God Himself making God the Father whom we cannot see visible as He lived and died on earth 33 and one half years, was crucified, arose from the dead, and Ascended by to heaven to sit on the right hand of God until God the Father makes all of His enemies His footstool.
 - b. Here we see one good reason the Word calls Jesus, as Himself did, the SON OF MAN, little do people think about it, but Jesus was the firstborn of creation, God created His own Son.
 - c. All things were created in heaven or earth.
 - d. All things consist through the Lord Jesus Christ including the black holes.
 - e. And something else of which we seldom here, ALL THINGS WERE CREATED TO HONOR THE SON, “for Him” in the words of the Bible. Satan did with the introduction of sin into the Garden strive to take some of those things away from the

Son and did as Satan bruised the heel of Jesus; however Jesus on the cross take them back eliminating even death with the resurrection from the dead.

f. Who is the Dear Son of God? He is the Christ promised in the Old Testament and now the Head of the BODY which God the Holy Spirit identifies in His word as the CHURCH, and who are we to say anything different. Sure, that are many local churches visible on thousands of blocks on many cities; but there is also one total body of Christ also visible as you see some of the members of those many local churches.

a. Jesus Himself is the beginning of that one church.

b. He is the beginning of the Firstborn by the resurrection, member of that one church.

c. As also head of the one body of the church, it finalizes with the kingdom His preeminence IN ALL THINGS, of course until He delivers the kingdom and the body to God the Father on the new earth and in new Jerusalem AT THE END.

d. All this pleased God the Father as this is the way He wanted it, to get fulness and completeness by the way of His own Son.

II. A Review of what has been covered in the Bible so far in Preaching Thru the Bible in one year. In homiletics at Ouachita, we were taught along the line of (1) tell them what you are going to say, (2) then tell them, and (3) tell them what you told them, which is really important during this sweep of the Bible in one year.

1. In the Top 12 Topics.

I. The Living God of the Living

II. Righteousness of God and Man

III. The Composite Witness of the Bible

2. In the present Topic that takes us into Job and the first of Psalms under the topic of:

IV. God, Man and the Son of Man

3. In both exegesis, topical summary, and outline of the Bible from Genesis to the first of Psalms, of course with Job the first written book of the Bible.

The Review of Sweeps from Genesis until Psalms

13a-1:

THE LIVING GOD OF THE LIVING

I. God, Man, and Marriage.

Genesis

1. Genesis 1:26,27, Matthew 19:4, and Mark 10:6.

(1). Let US make man in OUR image bespeaks of the plurality of God during the time of creation.

(2). In our image and after our likeness tells of some of the glory of man that during Creation was acquired from God.

(3). The dominion of man over all the other works of Creation tells of the First Commission of man to be a pioneer in the exploration and control of the works of Creation.

(4). The Bible refers to man as male and female so that in marriage male and female becomes a complementing couple of male and female. That is the way God originally created them; and in marriage that is the way He intends for it to keep going according to Jesus, and absolutely no person is to have any part in the separation of those two which God has joined together.

2. Genesis 2:7,24, I Cor 15:45, Matthew 19:5, I Cor 6:16, and Mark 10:7,8.

(1). From Gen 2:7 we learn that: (a) God created man physically from something that already existed, from the elements of the earth; (b) As far as the actual existence or inward spirit of man that came from God breathing into him the breath of life; and (c) With that spirit of life also man became a living soul.

(2). From Gen 2:24 we learn of the one flesh characteristics of marriage that God still intends and has always intended, that oneness emphasized by Jesus and the Apostles in the New Testament.

(3). While Paul in I Cor 15:45 is emphasizing the difference between the first Adam and Christ the second Adam, also the difference between the natural and the spiritual body, the first man from earth and the second from heaven, he also contrasts the living soul and the living spirit.

(4). As a man departs from the household of his mother and father, cleaving to a wife in marriage, the two become in Gods sight as one flesh (Matthew 19:5,6 and Mark 10:7,8).

(5). So serious is this matter of joining with God that the Bible considers when a man has a relationship with a harlot that he becomes one body with her (I Cor 6:16).

3. Genesis 5:1,2, Matthew 19:4, and Mark 10:6.

(1). Genesis 5:1,2 reinforces and builds on previous doctrine as God calls their name, male and female, Adam.

II. God and the Gospel.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 and Galatians 3:8,9.

(1). With Gods call to Abraham to another land, God gave the ever-lasting covenant of: (a) From Abram's seed God would make the great nation of Israel; (b) Through his seed Christ the name of Abram would be great; and (c) Through Abram all the families and nations of the earth would be blessed.

(2). Paul writes in Galatians 3:8,9 that:

a. When God said, "In thee shall all nations be blessed" God was preaching the Gospel to Abraham;

b. This all nations meant the Gentiles, or heathen which is the favorite word of the Bible for Gentiles;

c. This Gospel is justification through faith; and

d. All Gentiles and Jews who believe in Christ becomes the seed of Abraham through faith.

2. Genesis 15:5,6, Romans 4:18, and James 2:23.

(1). In Genesis 15:5 God identifies that the seed of Abram will be as numerous as the stars of the sky, and in Genesis 15:6 since Abraham believed God will He said this the belief was counted for righteousness.

(2). In quoting "So shall your seed be" from Genesis in Romans 4:18, Paul emphasizes how Abraham believed in hope against hope that he would indeed be the father of many nations although he had at the time no sons.

(3). The Apostle James in James 2:23 reiterates how the faith of Abraham was counted as righteousness, adding that Abraham was called the friend of God.

3. Genesis 17:5 and Romans 4:17.

(1). As God changes the name of Abram to Abraham, He says "A father of many nations have I made thee".

(2). Paul tells us in Romans 4:17 that this quote from Genesis 17:5 tells us two things about God Himself:

a. God is a life-giving God; and

b. God is a God that can call into existence what did not previously exist.

III. God of the Living, our Father in Heaven.

1. Genesis 18:12-14 and Mark 10:27.

(1). God told Abraham and Sarah that though old and stricken in years they would have a son, and when Sarah laughed God said, Is any thing too hard for the LORD'

(2). Jesus in Mark 10:27, not in the same context but with a paraphrase of the same meaning, talks of salvation as all things are possible with God.

2. Genesis 22:18 and Galatians 3:16.

(1). All nations will be blessed with salvation through the seed of Abraham.

(2). That Seed is singular, the Seed is Christ.

3. Genesis 38:8 and Mark 12:19.

(1). Judah told Oman to raise up children to his brother Er whom God had slain.

(2). When the Sadducees brought up the matter of raising children by a died brothers wife and as to whose wife she would be in the resurrection, Jesus told them that

what was important was that God was the God of the living, the God of the living Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Exodus

4. Exodus 3:6 and Luke 20:37.

(1). God told Moses in the call at the burning bush that He was the God of Moses father, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

(2). About the dead being raised to life, Jesus quotes Moses and Exodus 3:6 how God is the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and with the emphasis on God as each time God with repeated with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

5. Exodus 9:16 and Romans 9:17.

(1). God has Moses tell Pharaoh that he has been put on the throne of Egypt for two reasons: (a) To demonstrate the power of God in securing the freedom of Israel; and (b) That the name of the living God and the God of the living might be declared over all the earth.

(2). In quoting that in Romans 9:17 and in explaining the meaning in Romans 9:16,18, Paul is telling us of how God is in control of world events; and what is important does not depend on the will of man or the competitive-ness of man, but rather on the mercy of God, and that ultimately God will have mercy on whom He alone desires.

6. Exodus 12:46 and John 19:36.

(1). The Passover feast in remembrance of Gods rescue of Israel from Egyptian bondage among other things included that the lamb of the feast should not have a bone of the body broken, a direct quote of which we will see later in Psalms.

(2). When the Apostle John in John 19:36 tells of how at the Crucifixion of Jesus, and since Jesus was already dead contrary to custom, not a bone in His body was broken, John is quoting from both Exodus and Psalms 34:20. **{Psalms 34:20 is directly quoted, and the reference from Exodus 12:46 is closer to a paraphrase.}**

7. Exodus 16:18 and II Corinthians 8:15.

(1). During Gods supply of manna during the 40 years in the wilderness, those who gathered much had nothing left over and those who gathered little were not hungry so that it was completely by the grace of God and according to the individual needs.

(2). Paul quotes this in II Corinthians to illustrate equality among Christians in the churches, or to illustrate the democratic nature of salvation.

13a-2: Righteousness of God and Man.

I. The Ten Commandments.

1. Exodus 20, Luke 18:20, Mark 7:10, Matthew 5:38, Romans 13:8,9, and James 2:11. **{These are the Ten Commandments according to Jesus and the Apostles.}**

2. Exodus 21:17 and Mark 7:10: speaking evil of mother and father was considered so serious to God that those who did such were to be put to death.

3. Exodus 21:24 and Matthew 5:38: under the law it was to be life for life, eye for eye, and tooth for tooth s greatly did God respect human life and welfare and desire Israel to do the same.

4. Exodus 32:6 and I Corinthians 10:7: Paul reminds Christians at Corinth not to be idolaters even as the children of Israel were while Moses was on Mount Sinai getting the Ten Commandments.

II. The Laws of a Holy God **{the laws went beyond the commandments to regulations, civil law which would be the law of the new nations, and how to organize}.**

Leviticus

1. Leviticus 4:18-20 and Hebrews 9:22: not a paraphrase or a quote, but rather in Hebrews 9:22 Paul summarizes what blood could do in the laws and ordinances of the Old Testament, the practices of which Leviticus 4:18-20 is typical.

2. Leviticus 11:44 and I Peter 1:16: God requires that His people be Holy since He Himself is Holy.

3. Leviticus 18:5,16 and Galatians 3:12: any person who desires to live under the Laws must live by keeping the Laws.

4. Leviticus 19:12 and Matthew 5:33.

(1). In these just and holy requirements of the Law of Leviticus since "I am the LORD", His name is not be sworn by falsely nor profaned.

(2). With this quote as a starting point, Jesus says don't make any oath.

III. How Did the Law Read during the time of Jesus.

1. Luke 10:26: "And He **{Jesus}** said to him, 'What is written in the Law' How does it read to you'" (NASV)

2. Leviticus 19:18 and Luke 10:27: (1) To Love God with all the heart, mind, and soul; and (2) To Love your neighbor as yourself.

3. Leviticus 18:5 and Luke 10:28: "And He (Jesus) said to him, 'You have answered correctly; DO THIS, AND YOU WILL LIVE.'" (NASV) **{NOTE: If you could really do this, keep these laws, you would live eternally. If now and during NT times, as the Scriptures tell us is true, that is if "the law is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, was it also the schoolmaster to bring the remnant of the remnant in OT times to Christ. I think so, although they looked forward to the atonement while we look behind; and we are told that the Gospel was preached to Abraham, how can we fail to see that it was also preached to all God's people of the OT times. Indeed we will see how much in the last chapters, with all the "Prophet Messiah" references in the Prophets, how much really the Writing Prophets did speak of Christ, and of the Gospel aspects of Christ. Can we say then that God's people of the OT, like the Gentiles and the Jews of whom Paul wrote in Romans, that "they are without excuse for their sins".}**

IV The Laws Jesus Came to Fulfill, not Destroy.

1. Leviticus 19:18 and Matthew 5:43: You have been told to love your neighbors and hate your enemies'

2. Be like God (Matthew 5:44,45): **"But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you in order that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."** (NASV)

3. Galatians 5:14, Romans 13:8,9, and James 2:8: All the Law is fulfilled in Love for Neighbor as yourself.

4. Leviticus 20:9 and Mark 7:10 (with Exodus 20:12 and Deut 5:16): Since in the Law the requirement to "Honor father and mothers has already been established and quoted here, it follows also on the ordinances of the law, or applications, that those who curse mother and father should die. {NOTE: **The emphasis of Jesus in Mark 7:13 is that the religious leaders were trying to invalidate the Word of God by their traditions.**}

5. Leviticus 28:12 and II Corinthians 6:16: God desires a distinct or special people among whom He can dwell and be their God. {NOTE: **In Isaiah 52:11 as quoted in II Corinthians 6:17 this is to be a clean and separate people.**}

V. The real way to eternal life, to fulfillment of righteousness and the Laws, is through faith in the Crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ for the sins of the world.

Numbers

1. Numbers 9:12 and John 19:36 reminds us that as predicted in the Old Testament not a bone in the body of Christ was broken during Crucifixion.

13a-3: The Composite Witness of the Bible.

I. The Importance of Witnesses.

Deuteronomy

1. Deuteronomy 5:16, Exodus 20:12 and 21:17, Leviticus 20:9, and Mark 7:10 where with Honor to parents and the law of death with dishonor, Jesus teaches that what is inside man rather than what goes inside him is defiling.

2. Importance of knowing the Commandments: Deut 5:16-20 and Mark 10:19. **{You know the commandments, DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, DO NOT DEFRAUD, HONOR FATHER AND MOTHER. (Mark 10:19 NASV)}**

3. What Commandment is Foremost' Mark 10:28-31 and Luke 10:26,27.

(1). First is THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD, Deut 6:4,5 and Mark 10:29,30.

(2). Second is Love Neighbor, Lev 19:18 and Mark 10:31.

4. Worship God only and serve Him: Deuteronomy 6:13 and Luke 4:8.

5. The importance of a special people to bear witness to God begins here and runs throughout the Old Testament: Deut 7:6 and Titus 2:14.

6. Deuteronomy 8:3, Matthew 4:4, and Luke 4:4: Man should not live by bread alone.

II. OKAY, HOW IS MAN TO LIVE'

1. Live by Listening to what Jesus, the Prophet Messiah has to say: Deut 18:15,19, Acts 3:22,23, and Acts 7:37. **{Listen to the Apostle Peter as he preaches quoting from the Prophet Moses in Deuteronomy: Moses said, 'The Lord God shall raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed in everything He says to you. And it shall be that every soul that does not heed that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people. (Acts 3:22,23 NASV)}**

2. Live by Listening to the testimony of God the Father to God the Son: Mark 9:7, a paraphrase of Deut 18:15,19 except from God Himself, and a direct quote in Psalm 11:7. **{Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, 'This is My beloved Son, listen to him! (Mark 9:7 NASV)}**

3. Live by Listening to other reliable and trustworthy witnesses: Deut 19:15. **{One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth; at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established. (Deut 19:15 KJV)}**

(1). Deut 19:15 and Matthew 18:16: if your brother sins against you but refuses to listen, take your grievance to him by way of two or three witnesses; and if that does not work take it before the local church.

(2). Deut 19:15 and II Corinthians 13:1: Listen to the Apostle Paul! **{This is the third time I am coming to you; EVERY FACT IS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES. (II Cor 13:1)}**

(3). Deut 19:15 and John 8:17: Listen to Jesus Himself! **{Even in your law it has been written, that the testimony of two men is true. I am He who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me. (John 8:17,18)}**

(4). Deut 19:15 and I Timothy 5:18: Listen to the elder of any local church **{same as the pastor or bishop}** right up to the point that any accusation against him has been established in that local church at the mouth of two or three witnesses.

III. How Can you Listen to a Common Criminal Like Jesus of Nazareth who was cursed in that He was hanged or crucified on a tree **{cross}**' Deut 21:22 and Galatians 3:13

1. Deuteronomy 21:22.

"And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree; His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled; which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance." (Deut 21:22,23 KJV) **{NOTE: Jesus was very familiar with this portion of the Word of God as He was with all of the Old Testament, and when crying "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me", a cry of grief more than questioning He knew that God had to turn His back on such a curse on Christ for the sins of the whole world.}**

2. Galatians 3:13. **{ALL OF GODS WORDS AND WORD IS SERIOUS AND TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY WHETHER WRITTEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OR NEW TESTAMENT! Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree. (Galatians 3:13 NASV)}**

(1). We were cursed by the Law since striving to live by them and therefore keeping them, we knew ourselves to come far short; and therefore without real life!

(2). Jesus in the death on the Cross became a curse in our place.

IV. Listen to Jesus seriously on a few other matters. **{NOTE: Especially if you think you were not under a curse because of your failures to live up to the Law and therefore did not need for Christ to become a curse in your place!}**

1. Deuteronomy 24:1, Matthew 5:31, and Mark 10:4.

(1). Deuteronomy 24:1.

“When a man hath taken a wife (this is not necessarily the way you are cursed), and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her; then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another mans wife.” (Deut 24:1,2 KJV)

(2). Matthew 5:31.

“And it was said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of dis-missal; but I say to you that every one who divorces his wife, except for the cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. (Matt 5:31,32 NASV)

(3). Mark 10:4.

“And some Pharisees came up to Him, testing Him, and began to question Him whether it was lawful for a man to divorce a wife. And He answered and said to them, what did Moses command you’ And they said, Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away. But Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, And the two shall become one flesh; consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.” (Mark 10:2-9 NASV)

2. Deuteronomy 25:3-5, I Corinthians 9:9, and I Timothy 5:18.

(1). Be just in judgment in that the punishment correspond with the violation; don't muzzle the ox as he treads the corn, and let a brother raise up children to his dead brothers wife.

(2). It was written for our sakes more than for oxen in order that the worker may work with hope of reward for his works.

(3). The elder (pastor or bishop) that works hard at preaching and teaching should receive likewise double compensation.

3. Deuteronomy 25:6, Luke 20:28,38, and Mark 12:19.

(1). Your dead brothers name is not to disappear from Israel. **{NOTE: Why should the eternal laws of God be so concerned about this one single name of a brother who died before he could have any children. After all the last name of the dead childless and the brother would be the same!}**

(2). According to Jesus it is more important to realize that in heaven there is no marriage, rather men are like the angels; and that men do not did who believe in God and Christ like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because they are still alive with the Living God! (Luke 20:28,38 and Mark 12:19) **{NOTE: The real concern is that any mans name, alias himself and his real existence, not disappear from the eternal Israel of Gods real people of believing Jews and Gentiles!}**

V. Listen also to a few other matters from the Apostle Paul in the Word of God!

1. Deuteronomy 27:26 and Galatians 3:10: (1) Cursed is every man that does not confirm all the laws of God by doing all of them; and (2) None can truly be justified by the Law, only by faith.

2. Deuteronomy 32:12 and I Corinthians 10:20: (1) The LORD God led Israel and there were no strange gods among them; and (2) The Gentiles sacrifice to demons not to God, and the Christian is to have no part in this worship of demons.

IV. And beginning now on God the Father, Man, and the Son of Man. (We will look at this is over four sermons.)

13a-4: God, Man, and the "Son of Man".

I. How God deals with men and with men Through Christ!

1. Some evident things about God in the Bible of Job and Psalms.

(1). God can do everything and anything without any limitations to His power in heaven and on earth.

(2). God knows every thought and every action of every man on earth.

(3). God tricks the wise men in their own methods of craftiness like an adult playing with toys and children.

(4). God exalts the humble in His sight. They can be down and out and still though humble in the ways of the world not necessarily be humble in the sight of God, and it is even harder for the up and out to be humble in Gods sight for they trust in their own riches or financial security.

Job

2. Job 5:13 and I Corinthians 3:19: God catches the wise in their own craftiness.

3. Job 22:29 and James 4:10: God exalts the humble.

4. Job 42:2 and Mark 10:27.

(1). Job 42:2.

“Then Job answered the LORD, and said, I know that thou canst do everything, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge’ therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not. Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me. I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but no mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes.” (Job 42:1-6 KJV)

(2). Mark 10:27. {NOTE: TWO MOST IMPORTANT AND FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF ALL THE BIBLE ARE SET FORTH HERE: (1) THE POWER OF GOD, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD; AND (2) WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED SINCE IT IS SO DIFFICULT FOR A RELIGIOUS AND WELL ESTABLISHED LEADER IN SOCIETY TO BE SAVED’}

“And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, how hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God. And the disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. (Why, because most of them unlike Job can not say, ‘Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.) And they were even more astonished and said to Him, ‘Then who can be saved’ Looking upon them, Jesus said, with men it is impossible, but now with God; for all things are possible with God.” (Mark 10:23-27 NASV) {NOTE AGAIN: IF NO OTHER QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED IN THIS BOOK, THE ESSENTIAL AND MOST ESSENTIAL QUESTION THAT MUST BE ANSWERED IS THAT OF THE DISCIPLES TO JESUS, WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED’ AND WHERE WE START IN THE REST OF THIS BOOK TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION IS WITH THE IMMEDIATE REPLY OF JESUS, WITH THE POWER OF GOD TO WHOM NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.}

II. God the Creator and Father observes man, men, and then testifies to men.

Psalm 1-15

1. God the Creator notices that the Gentiles rage against Him and that the people of Israel imagine a vain thing and things about Him: Psalm 2:1,2 and Acts 4:24-26.

2. God the Father has decreed and testified in the Bible as well as at the baptism of Jesus in the presence of many as the voice came from heaven that Jesus of Nazareth is, was, and is His Son: Psalm 2:7, Matthew 3:17 and 17:5, Hebrews 1:5 and 5:5, II Peter 1:17, and Mark 9:7.

(1). Psalm 2:7.

“I will declare the decree: the LORD hat said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.” (Psalm 2:7 KJV)

(2). Matthew 3:17.

"And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matt 3:16,17 NASV)

(3). Matthew 17:5.

"And Peter answered and said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; hear Him!'" (Matthew 17:4,5 NASV) **{NOTE: What God adds in His own testimony to Jesus as compared to the transfiguration after a similar testimony at the baptism is HEAR HIM. Paul did not mean in Ephesians 4:20,21 that like Peter, James, and hundreds of others you had to be there physically as Jesus taught. What he meant was that through the help of the Spirit of God you must see and hear from yourself, personally. This is the key to who can be saved! By listening to Jesus and His words of life!}**

(4). Hebrews 1:5.

"For to which of the angels did He ever say, 'Thou art My Son, Today I have begotten thee' And again, 'I will be a father to Him, and He shall be a Son to Me'" (Hebrews 1:5 NASV)

(5). Hebrews 5:5.

"So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, 'Thou art my Son, Today I have begotten thee..." **{NOTE: This is the first time in this Bible study of the progressive revelations of the Bible from Genesis to Malachi that we have encountered Jesus as the great high priest}.**

"...just as He says also in another passage, 'Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.'" (Hebrews 5:5,6 NASV) **{NOTE CONTINUED: And we will come to this second quote in Hebrews 5:5,6 when we get in the progression to Psalm 110:6.}**

(6). II Peter 1:17.

"Moreover I will endeavor that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance, for we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him the holy mount. (II Peter 1:15-18 KJV) **{NOTE: So that the Apostle Peter in writing for a permanent record adds his own testimony as a witness to Jesus with the witness of God the Father and that of Jesus Him-self!}**

(7). Mark 9:7.

"Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, 'This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!'" (Mark 9:7 NASV)

LISTEN TO HIM, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE BELOVED SON OF GOD!

3. God chooses men and ways less esteemed among men as far as status in order to receive Honor and Praise to His name: Psalm 8:2 and Matthew 21:16.

III. What Can God tell us about ourselves as men and women'

1. Psalm 8:3,4: When we consider the magnitude and vastness of all that God created in the Universe, how in the world can He give mind to a little man and beyond that visit man on the planet earth through the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ'

2. Psalm 8:5,6: What does God specifically think of man based on the way He created him.

(1). God made man a little lower than the angels and recall that this is the generic man of Genesis of male and female.

(2). God gave honor and glory to man by creating him in His own image or likeness, and God keeps that thought pattern in mind in all His dealings with man.

(3). God entrusted man with all the other works of His Creation, placing man in dominion over all these works of Creation.

(4). God remembers man.

(5). God visits man.

3. Hebrews 2:6: We must go beyond the primary level of meaning about Man to that about the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus Christ, who in Himself fulfilled all that God originally meant for man and more; and you see that in Hebrews 2:8

"Thou hast put all things in subjection under His feet. For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him, but now we do not yet see all things subjected to him." (Hebrews 2:8 NASV)

4. I Corinthians 15:27. **{Granted that there are many stories, many chapters, verses, and books in the Bible; but the total subject matter for the practical purposes of Christian faith can be summarized as faith in God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and Salvation. Get that and you have enough of the Bible for life. The following important passage helps to establish the present and eternal relationship between God the Father and Christ the Son.}**

"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things re put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all." (I Corinthians 15:26-28 KJV)

(1). There are still some enemies such as death that has not be subjected to Christ as the Son of Man, or Christ as the Lord of heaven and earth.

(2). God the Father has ordained that all in heaven and earth be under the feet of Christ, and heaven is already there. May Gods will be done on earth as it is in heaven as more people still on earth are subjected to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

(3). God the Father did not put Himself in subjection to the Christ.

(4). After the Second Coming of Christ when everything on earth also comes under the actual Lordship of Jesus then Jesus will Himself be subjected to the LORDSHIP of the Father.

(5). God the Father may ultimately be all in all.

IV. What did God find during the time of David and before when He looked down from heaven to take a close look at man **{I suspect this was and is all the time}**'

1. Psalm 14:1-3: (1) God found fools who said in their hearts that there is no God; (2) He found a corrupt humanity of abominable works and an absence of doing good; (3) When He searched again among men to see if any of man understood and sought God, He found that they all had missed the essential way, found filthiness, and a lack of doing good.

2. Romans 3:10.

"As it is written, 'There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is one who seeks for God; All have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is one who does good, there is not even one.'" (Romans 3:10-12 NASV) **{THIS IS HUMANITY WITHOUT FAITH AND RIGHTEOUSNESS THROUGH FAITH, HUMANITY WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST!}**

Conclusion: The Great Maker of History in the Bible, with the Bible, with the Holy Spirit, and with direct intervention in human affairs. Part I.

The Great Maker of History

(Top Topic 10-12)

1. The Salvation of God.

The Falling Away has gone so far in American churches that no longer can funerals distinguish between church members that are Christians and church members that are "of the world" (1 John 2:15-17). Granted that even before the Falling Away in America it was a problem to really know who was going to heaven and who was not as the funeral was preached, never has it on such a large scale and so publicly been so obvious as when Kevin Costner spoke at the funeral of Whitney Houston. Of course, the mere reality that an admired and talented expert on fiction and the acting out of fiction, assured the public not only that Whitney Houston was in heaven, but that God Himself was make adjustments for her immediate and dramatic arrival.

Kevin Costner's remarks at the funeral and many others shows just how far sound thinking and sound Bible doctrine has deteriorated during the last 20 or so years of the Falling Away in America. More years ago than 20, Peter Marshall warned us then that if "we stand for nothing, we will fall for anything"; and certainly that "anything" of unsound doctrine has been arrived at when even saints do not have the assurance and dogmatism of salvation asserted on that one day by funeral speakers and commentators. All of a sudden it is as if salvation automatic belongs to the talented, rich, and persons of fame and status. In the comforts and rationalizations about salvation, how quickly as assailed by the

NDT, Jeremiah and Prophecy

During the Falling Away have Americans both accepted a new authoritative priesthood of actors and singers for salvation spokesmen, completely forgetting what Jesus, the real ultimate authority of Christianity and salvation said about the difficulty of a rich man or women entering the kingdom of God.

Long ago the Apostle John in the preface to the Gospel of John made it obvious that church membership alone, or blood and raising, or even the will of a famous and admired citizen-actor would guarantee salvation, only evidence of a "born of God" experience would suffice.

"And as many as received Him were given the power to become sons {and daughters} of God; which were born not of the flesh, or blood, or the will of man, but of God." (John 1:12,13)

Certainly the rich and famous, if just for their own sake, would love to wipe out any distinction between "the worldly" and Christian; yet no matter with what confidence of acting ability they attempt to do so, God has given an objective counter for all such unsound doctrine in the Bible. In short, it is a timely point in current history to objectively and in the words of the Bible itself review what the standards of the Bible have been laid down very long ago for SALVATION.

NOTE: Recently you saw a short form of the following outline on Salvation along with all 12 of the Top Topics in the Bible in an effort, as part of the Bible studies on Life and Letters on Paul, to "Spare no effort" at keeping the Bible studies in the total context of the Bible! This Houston funeral service remarks and assumptions are an extremely good example of what happens when Bible is taken so far out of context, that it is not even used for a reference.

2: The Salvation of God {called the One Baptism in Ephesians}.

NOTE: The problem that allows us to tolerate as Christians and church members the funeral remarks of Costner and others, much less even the concept of movie stars and singers delivering funeral messages at a Baptist church is the increased loss of distinction between the "in the world" and "not of the world". The world {success and the world system and value standards} has invaded Christian churches {not the kingdom as that is inaccessible to the world and worldly}, and church members have become so overcome by worldly values as to allow this invasion. Somehow magically the leadership of the world system has convinced Americans that there is no distinction between status in America and Christianity, what a farce. Perhaps part of

this delusion away from Absolute Truth {R.A. Millikan's descriptive words for truth like the 10 commandments and other Bible that remains of what is right and popular from age to age and country to country}, comes from the Satan whose existence is either denied in America or ignored. Unfortunately movie fiction has also come to portray Satan as ugly, mean, with horns and all that; when in fact Satan if personified in human form would be more convincing and magnetic, even likeable, like one of those movie stars or singers at Houston's funeral.

I. God chose the time! Man has always tried to chose salvation on his own terms and in the wisdom of his own little mentality, but God choses the time, the place, and the recipients of salvation. In the well-developed American wisdom and thought, even custom and tradition as lived out in American character, a specific image of God and God's salvation has evolved, with the help of Satan and the extreme worldly influences, that has replaced the absolute standard of God and salvation in the Bible. Its allusion and delusion will suffice for a lifetime; however they will completely dissipate at the end as the world loss complete control over their souls and bodies, the standards of God taking control over them and their eternal future.

NOTE: If we can add just a little hint of absolute truth of the Bible that can invade our allusions, half-truths, and fictions about God and salvation, it will be just the lighting of one little candle in this delusional world of America. In fact, when exposed to the truth of God in the Bible, there is always the possibility and real salvation!

3. Isaiah 40-52

1. First, there was John the Baptist saying in effect THIS IS THE TIME: Isaiah 40:3-5, Matthew 3:3, Mark 1:2,3, John 1:23, and Luke 3:4-6.

Even as in the early days of the first century, John the Baptist was the "voice of one crying in the wilderness" about the way of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ (Isaiah 40:3-5), real Bible truth cries out today as it were in a wilderness surrounded by ignorance and indifference to truth. {Never forget that the last of the 4 stages of the Falling Away, presently going on in the world as well as America, in spite of the reluctance to admit it--the "turning away from truth" (II Timothy 4:4,5) which has come behind (1) an American refusal even in churches and among Christians to "endure sound doctrine"; (2) motivation by personal desires and wants over Christ and the Spirit {"out of their own desires"}; (3) the "heaping up" in churches and on TV of popular preachers of prosperity, those with "itching ears"; and finally (4) after the soon to happen in American a complete "turning away from truth", a determinative and destructive personality collapse as (5) the world and even church members are "turned automatically into fables". Unfortunately it would seem that at the funeral of Whitney, an active and talented group of attendees have already been turned into a major fable about God and salvation.

2. It was inevitable since these things were already recorded in the Word of God that they would happen: Isaiah 40:8 and Luke 21:32,33: (1) Most to happen during Christ's generation; and (2) The rest on the final One Day of the LORD as the old earth and old heavens pass away.

3. The Mind of the LORD became the incarnated Mind of Christ: Isaiah 40:13 and I Corinthians 2:16.

II. God Himself took the initiative by sending His own Son to planet earth.

1. This is My Beloved Son, God said of Jesus of Nazareth: Isaiah 42:1-4, Matthew 3:17, Mark 1:11, Matthew 17:5, Mark 9:7, and Matthew 12:18-21.

2. God is faithful, but He will listen to the cries of men for salvation in a time acceptable to Him: Isaiah 45:14 and I Corinthians 14:25.

3. It is inevitable that every knee will voluntarily now and involuntarily at the end of time bow and worship to the praise of God: Isaiah 45:23 and Romans 14:11. III. Men will come from the four corners of the earth to worship God.

1. Men will come from north, south, east, and west: Isaiah 49:7-12 and Matthew 8:11.

2. Heaven and earth will pass away, not Gods Word: Isaiah 51:6 and Luke 21:32,33.

3. Gentiles will come in large numbers in spite of the fact that Gods name has been blasphemed among them because of the Jews: Isaiah 52:5 and Romans 2:24.

4. Paul preached widely the Gospel of Christ where Christ was not already named in order that those who did not previously see and hear might both see and hear: Isaiah 52:15 and Romans 15:21.

IV. Who Has Believed the Reports from God? {Another way the Bible asks the question how many and who has believed the Prophets and Apostles, the book of the Bible as the Word of God and respect them!}

Isaiah 53

1. To whom has the salvation, or arm of God, been revealed: Isaiah 53:1, John 12:38, and Romans 10:16.

2. Who and how many believed the miracles of healing as Jesus took on Himself the infirmities: Isaiah 53:4,7 and Matthew 8:17.

3. Who and how many believed when John the Baptist made the report, "Behold, the Lamb of God..." (Isaiah 53:4,7 and John 1:29,36)

4. The great report of Jesus from the cross as He is made a criminal and curse for mankind, and according to the predictions of the Old Testament: Isaiah 53:12 and Luke 22:37.

4: The New King of the New Israel

I. Jews and Gentiles as fellow citizens in the new kingdom. {yes, back to the kingdom again!}

Isaiah 54-66

1. The unmarried have more children than the married, the Gentiles have more children of God than the Jews: Isaiah 54:1 and Galatians 4:27.
2. None comes to the Father except as drawn by the Father, and all those who are taught by the Father: Isaiah 54:13 and John 6:45.
3. God gave in the Temple to the Jews a House of Prayer, but they had turned it into a den of thieves by the time of Jesus: Isaiah 56:7 and Matthew 21:13 and Luke 19:46.
4. All the nation of Israel that is really the Israel of the children of God will be saved: Isaiah 59:20,21 and Romans 11:26.

II. Characteristics of the New King of Israel.

1. The message to Zion is that your new King comes meekly, riding on a donkey: Isaiah 61:11 and Matthew 21:5.
2. Jesus told them in Nazareth of how the Spirit of God was upon him: Isaiah 61:1,2 and Luke 4:17,18.

(1). God anointed Him to preach the gospel to the poor. {A King especially for the poor people.}

(2). God sent Him to start the release of captives, and to make provisions that the blind might be able to see.

(3). To provide freedom for the downtrodden.

(4). To make a Proclamation as to when is the Acceptable Year of the Lord (the last days) that leads to the One Day of the LORD and Lord.

3. Happiness in this new kingdom will come only to those who first mourn because of their inability to do it for themselves: Isaiah 61:1,2 and Matthew 5:4.

III. The Method of Citizenship Only That from God, on Gods terms as dictated in the Old Testament and made evident in the New Testament.

1. The New Citizenship found of those who sought it not or who searched not for it (grace): Isaiah 65:1 and Romans 10:20,21.
2. Jerusalem is the city of the Great King: Isaiah 66:1 and Matthew 5:33.

5. Micah.

3. The Christ, the Prophet Messiah, born in Bethlehem, Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:5,6, and John 7:42, to be: (1) A ruler of the people; and (2) A shepherd of the people.
4. The sowers of the Old Testament and the reapers of the New Testament will rejoice together in this New Kingdom: Micah 6:15 and John 4:37.

IV. The Good News of the Gospel of the Kingdom preached by messengers.

NOTE: You will notice that with the Roman Numerals, generally IV in number, you have some good teaching and preaching outlines.

6. Nahum

1. How welcome across the way on the mountain is the first sight of those who come with the Gospel: Nahum 1:15 and Romans 10:15.

Jeremiah 1-30

2. Yet most do not believe the report, foolish people without the ability to see or hear Jeremiah 5:21 and Mark 8:18.

3. God established a House of Prayer, but the nation of Israel turned it into a den of thieves: Jeremiah 7:11 and Matthew 21:13, and Mark 11:17.

4. Trust in God: (1) Whoever boasts, let him boast only in God: Jeremiah 9:24 and I Corinthians 1:31; and (2) Trust only in God: Jeremiah 17:5,7 and II Corinthians 11:9.

7. The Living God Wants Others to Live.

I. God's desire after His originally chosen nation of Israel has continuously broken His covenant, forsaken Him, and served other gods.

Jeremiah 31-52

1. Rachel weeps for her children: Jeremiah 31:15 and Matthew 2:17,18.

2. God's desire to walk among and dwell in His own people: Jeremiah 31:1 and II Corinthians 6:18.

II. The just, justified, or righteous must live by faith in God.

Habakkuk

1. Righteousness by faith; Habakkuk 2:4, Galatians 3:11, and Romans 1:17.

Daniel

2. Kingdom of God starts out small then grows larger: Daniel 4:9 and Mark 4:32.

III. The sanctified and glorified must live by faith in God.

1. The beginning of glorification is when see the Son of Man coming in great power and glory: Daniel 7:13, Matthew 24:20, and Mark 13:26.

2. The end of the ordinances of the law and the temple worship came during the Abomination of Desolation of Daniel, 80 A.D.: Daniel 9:27, 11:31, and Mark 13:14, and Matthew 24:15.

3. Before the Second Coming there will be a time of tribulation in which even the heavens and earth are affected: Daniel 12:1-3 and Mark 13:19.

4. Shook only the earth before, the last time will shake earth and the heavens: Haggai 2:6 and Hebrews 12:26.

IV. Final Messages to Disciples and to All.

Ezekiel

1. To Disciples: do you not see, hear, and remember: Ezekiel 12:2 and Mark 8:

2. To Jewish religious leaders: in vain they do worship: Ezekiel 33:31 and Matthew 15:7.

Zechariah

3. Zion: your King is Coming: Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 21:4, and John 12:14.

4. Crucifiers: they gaped on Him whom they pierced: Zechariah 12:10 and John 19:37.

5. Disciples: will strike down the Shepherd and the sheep will be scattered: Zechariah 13:7 and Mark 14:27.

Malachi

6. Jacob I loved, and Esau I hated: Malachi 1:2 and Romans 9:13.

7. The Voice of One Crying in the wilderness "NOW": Malachi 2:10 and Matthew 11:10 and Mark 1:2.

8. THE NEW KING OF ISRAEL.

11-1: Jews and Gentiles as citizens in the new kingdom.

1. The unmarried have more children than the married, the Gentiles have more children of God than the Jews: Isaiah 54:1 and Galatians 4:27.

2. None comes to the Father except as drawn by the Father, and all those who are taught by the Father: Isaiah 54:13 and John 6:45.

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11-4: The Good News of the Gospel of the Kingdom preached by messengers.

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2. Yet most do not believe the report, foolish people without the ability to see or hear Jeremiah 5:21 and Mark 8:18.

3. God established a House of Prayer, but the nation of Israel turned it into a den of thieves: Jeremiah 7:11 and Matthew 21:13, and Mark 11:17.

4. Trust in God.

(1). Whoever boasts, let him boast only in God: Jeremiah 9:24 and I Corinthians 1:31.

(2). Trust only in God: Jeremiah 17:5,7 and II Corinthians 11:9.

9: Mark, Pivotal in the Bible

Paul's Plan for Peace and Unity in the SBC based on Ephesians and Colossians.

We have a plan and a program in the Southern Baptist Convention for almost everything, let me ask you why it is that we do not have a plan and program for peace and unity in the Southern Baptist Convention? We have a plan for Bible study in the Sunday School; we have a plan for worship and giving in the Sunday morning and Sunday evening service; we have a plan for prayer in the Wednesday night prayer meeting and Bible study; we have plans for men's work and women's work; and for missionary activity and evangelism in revival meetings. Now, I ask you again, does it not seem strange that at associational meetings, and convention wide meetings, and even church business meetings, why is it that we do not have a plan for peace and unity in the Southern Baptist Convention? Perhaps the more ignorant of what is happening in Baptist life, would respond that it is not needed! That would be gullible and would overlook the Baptist news in the New Mexican Baptist and what is secular news in terms of what has been happening to Texas Baptist and to the splits in the Southern Baptist Convention. I recall about 20 years ago when people said that the Southern Baptist Convention would never split; and then approximately 15 years ago when after two more Conventions had split off, people said, "Just be patient it will all work out." Well, it has not worked out. It is getting worse, not better. Every week we hear of additional split and divisions and controversies among Texas Baptists and in the Southern Baptist Convention. Brother, this should not be true among Christians. We need a plan and a program to promote peace and unity in the Southern Baptist Convention; and what better place to start, a place with which all of us should be able to agree, than with the Bible--specifically the place in the Bible where the very subject of Peace and Unity is discussed, in Ephesians 4:3.

10: The Text from Ephesians and Colossians.

"...Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:3 KJV)

I want this to be our text this morning, the focus upon which I ask you to cast your mental tents for a few minutes, except I want you to think of it in terms of the New English Version.

"Spare no efforts to make fast with bonds of peace the unity which the Spirit gives." (Ephesians 4:3 NEV)

Now notice that there are two aspects to the textual verse, the matter of securing with “bonds of peace”, an effort to be exerted on our part; and the matter of the “unity which the Spirit gives” which should be the work of the Holy Spirit among us. And I submit to you if there is not peace and unity right now in the Southern Baptist Convention, and if there has not been peace and unity in the Southern Baptist Convention for at least the last 20 years--and surely I would beg that you see this is so--then there has been a failure on our part as Southern Baptists at either one or both of the aspects of this verse.

Where have we failed? (1). Have we not made positive efforts to make fast or secure with bonds of peace; or (2). Do we not have the unity of the Spirit which Paul identifies in terms of the seven One’s that we will look at together briefly; or (3). Have we failed and or we continuing to fail on both counts--is it possible that not only do we lack the unity of the Spirit given by the Seven One’s, and also that we are not making conscious and concerted efforts at peace in the Convention and in our churches?

(4). And I would offer one other possibility: that if we are extremely deficient on the unity of the Spirit given by the Seven Ones that are listed in the following verses of Ephesians--4:4-6--then it would be impossible to promote with bonds of peace a unity among our church members that does not exist in the first place.

1. We stress keeping positive and keeping the text in the context of the whole book of Ephesians, and Colossians.

We must keep positive about this; therefore our subject is: PAUL’S PLAN FOR PEACE AND UNITY IN THE SBC. And we must keep our study of Ephesians 4:3 in the context that it was written, that is of the whole book of Ephesians. Also we will expand to study to include the book of Colossians since they both were written almost simultaneously and essentially have the same subject matter. Paul mentions both in the conclusion of the letter to the Colossians.

“And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans: and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.”

(Colossians 4:16)

(1). So what we will do first is to start a sort of Harmony between Ephesians and Colossians.

You know how A.T. Robertson has written “A Harmony of the Gospels”. It compares the parallel subject matter of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. So we will try to do that for Ephesians and Colossians by first looking through the book of Colossians for a single verse that compares to Ephesians 4:3. Ideally, if possible, we would want this verse to speak of both “peace” and “unity”. After reading again through Colossians, we find that the closest that we can come to a parallel or harmony is to be found in Colossians 3:14,15. Yes, it takes two verses to come close to the expression of Ephesians 4:3; and then again the wording goes beyond that of Ephesians 4:3. But that is the real benefit of comparing Scripture with Scripture. What we are going to read in Colossians 3:14,15 should help with our understanding of Ephesians 4:3.

“And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”
(Colossians 3:14,15)

(2). A look at Colossians 3:14,15 and the context.

While we do have the word “peace” in Colossians 3:14,15, we do not have the word “unity”; however you will notice something very interesting as a possibility, that is, “the bond of perfectness”. I could easily see a harmony between the “bond of perfectness” and the unity of the Spirit.

(3). If we expand the context beyond the one verse of Ephesians 4:3 and beyond the two verses of Colossians 3:14,15, I think we will really start to appreciate a Harmony of Ephesians and Colossians and on the subject of PAUL’S PLAN FOR PEACE AND UNITY IN THE SBC.

a. Ephesians 4:1-3.

**“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness, and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”
(Ephesians 4:1-3)**

b. Colossians 3:12-15.

“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” (Colossians 3:12-15)

Notice the similarity of subject matter: in Ephesians it is “walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called” and in Colossians it is that you are “the elect of God”; in Ephesians it is “lowliness and meekness” while in Colossians it is “humbleness of mind and meekness”; in Ephesians and Colossians both, it is “longsuffering”; in Ephesians it is “forbearing one another in love” while in Colossians it is “forbearing one another” and later it is “charity” which is the equivalent of “love”. Charity is love with wheels on it, or love put into action!

11: The Unity Which the Spirit Gives as Summarized in the Seven One’s.

NOTE: You were warned earlier that Ephesians would be used as a commentary on Preaching thru the Bible, and Romans would be used as a commentary on both Ephesians and Preaching the Bible.

Remember we had agreed to take the text of Ephesians 4:3, as amplified and explained by Colossians; and from that Ephesians 4:3 text to look at it in the two parts--The Peace Which we

are to Promote; and the Unity which the Spirit gives which are summarized in the Seven ONE's. Let us take the second part first because this is the basis for the peace we can promote. If we do not have that unity of the Spirit as given in the Seven ONE's, then we have not basis for peace among church members. Paul does not leave us dangling about what that "unity of the Spirit" is. Having mentioned it in Ephesians 4:3, he then amplifies on specifically what it is in the next three verses; and in such we have the great Seven doctrinal statements of the Bible on what is most basic and fundamental in all of the Bible. If you could have only one short statement of Baptist beliefs and doctrines, only one short church charter, then these three verses should be it. And may I say parenthetically that if we as Southern Baptists disagree on many things, and it is obvious that we do, we must agree on these fundamentals of the Seven ONE's. Without agreement here there is no salvation, and without agreement here there is no basis for unity and peace!

"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (Ephesians 4:4-6)