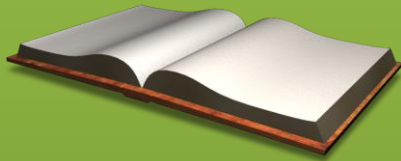


# Theology Proper

## Notes From The Textbook



Clifton H Carpenter  
Pastor/Teacher

Theology

Christology

Soteriology

Pneumatology

Christian Truth Produces Christian Morality

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
August 2, 2009

Lesson One

THEOLOGY  
“The Study of God”

Introduction to Theology  
Isaiah 40:12-31

Key Verse: Isaiah 40:18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

**I**ntroduction: The Doctrine of Theology The Study of God is the most neglected study in the Christian church. Many of today’s churches are encased in a system contrary to Scripture. These churches do not deny the Bible, but they neglect the Bible when it comes to Order, Worship and Ministry. It is this neglect of Scripture that results in unhealthy and immature believers; carnal and blind to sin. **1 Corinthians 1-3** and **Hebrews 5:12-14**

- Christian Truth produces Christian Morality: Doctrine first, then Life; not Life first, then Doctrine.

Study of Theology: Why is the study of Theology so important? Theology “*The Study of God*” was once known as the “*Queen of Sciences*” Teachings about God was once the number one science being taught. Science is knowledge-base that is capable of resulting in a prediction or predictable type of outcome

- Social Science: Anthropology, Economics, Education, Geography, History, Law, Linguistics, Public Administration, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology
- **Isaiah 40:12-31** The three Omni’s of God: OMNISCIENT “*all knowing*” OMNIPOTENT “*all powerful*” and OMNIPRESENT “*everywhere present*”

Before the American Revolution 1775-1783: Higher Education offer “*Academic Degrees*” or “*Professional Certifications*”

- Schools of the Colonies: Chartered by the 13 Colonies; IVY League Schools: Harvard, Yale, Penn, Columbia, Brown, Dartmouth, William and Mary, Rutgers Today they are Non-Sectarian. The Presbyterian Church started many schools.

Secularism: George Jacob Holyoake, a British writer coined the term secularism in 1846. He promoted that light (knowledge) and guidance can be found in “*secular truth*”

- Secular Knowledge is knowledge found in life, which relates to conduct of life and experiences conduces to the welfare of life. Secularism draws its intellectual roots from Greek and Roman Philosophers.
- Enlightenment Thinkers: Voltaire, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine
- Free-Thinkers: (Agnostics & Atheists) Bertrand Russell, Robert Ingersoll, Albert Einstein

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August 9, 2009

Lesson Two

THEOLOGY  
“The Study of God”

Exodus 3:7-15

- His Names
- His Attributes

Key Verse: Exodus 3:13b –14 What is his name? What shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

Introduction: Is there a supreme being? Canst thou by searching find out God? **Job 11:7**  
The Study of Theology is based upon two pre-suppositions:

- That God exists: **Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:6**
- That God has revealed himself: **Exodus 3:2** Burning Bush, a Theophany  
“pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus Christ” i.e. **1 Corinthians 10:4** “The Rock”

All study whether scientific or theological is carried on the basis of truths which are assumed. Therefore, everyone begins with certain assumptions. People know that God exist by intuition, by innate knowledge.

- Intuitive Senses: Seeing, Smelling, Hearing, Tasting and Feeling i.e. “we react naturally when we are burned”
- Intuitive Truths of Intellect: Truths that need not be reasoned up i.e. “the shortest distance between two points is a straight line”
- Intuitive Truths of Morality: That we are held responsible for wrong-doings

There are three things which can affect our innate knowledge of God:

- Environment: Our culture and surroundings
- Education: things that we are taught
- Self-Interest: what we choose to believe

1. His Names: God is a Person and His names are a reflection of who He is.

- God: El’ohim, plural form in the Hebrew language. 1 = singular; 2 = dual and 3 or more = plural

**Deuteronomy 6:4** Hear O Israel, the LORD our God is one LORD. The Hebrew word one is Echad “a compound unity” i.e. **Genesis 1:5** and **Genesis 2:24**

- GOD and LORD: **Exodus 6:1-3** JEHOVAH, the personal name of God
- Lord: Adonai, denotes “master”
- I AM: The self-existent one, lit. “he is” **Revelation 22:13** God is the first and last, the beginning and the end

2. His Attributes: Those things which describe God: Immutability of God, **Malachi 3:6**  
Infinity of God, **Psalms 139:7-10**; Unity of Uniqueness, **Exodus 15:11**

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August 16, 2009

Lesson Three

THEOLOGY  
*"The Study of God"*

1 Corinthians 2:9-16

- Proper Revelation
- Proper Redemption

Key Verse: 1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Introduction: **Exodus 15:11** Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

The Trinity: Why is it so difficult for people to accept the Trinity doctrine? *"Because the finite mind can not grasp infinite truth"*

- Human illustrations of things which consist of three elements: A Tree has roots, a trunk and branches; An Egg has a shale, white and yoke; The United States Government has its functions of Legislative, Judicial and Executive.

1. The Trinity doctrine is essential to a Proper Revelation: **John 4:24** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

People cannot understand and interpret the Bible as they understand and interpret other things: With our Ears, *"we hear"* With our Nose, *"we smell"* With our Hands, *"we touch"* With our Mouth, *"we taste"* With our Eyes, *"we see"* How to approach Bible Study:

- Human Activity: Interpretation. We read the Bible and look at the words, we notice the grammatical relationship of the words one to another and we use our dictionary to understand the words, a concordance and Greek and Hebrew lexicons to aid in the process.
- Divine Activity: Illumination. The Holy Spirit is the revealer of spiritual truth.  
**1 Corinthians 2:11-12** and **Ephesians 1:15-19**

The Natural Man: A person that does not possess the Spirit of God. This person sees the things of God as foolishness. **Romans 8:9** and **Jude 19**

2. The Trinity doctrine is essential to a Proper Redemption: **2 Corinthians 5:19**  
There was a need for a *"perfect sacrifice"* **Hebrews 10:1-10**

The Uniqueness of God: God is Indivisible *"not capable of being divided"*

- The Bible recognizes three as God: The Father, **John 6:27**; The Son, **John 1:1,14** and The Spirit, **Acts 5:3-4**
- The Bible recognizes three as being distinct: **John 14:9-18**

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August 23, 2009

Lesson Four

THEOLOGY  
“The Study of God”

Psalms 104:1-31

- The Attributes of God
- The Decrees of God
- The Providence of God

Key Verse: Revelation 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Introduction: Theology “The Study of God” has raises some very interesting questions: **Isaiah 40:18a** to whom then will ye liken God? **Isaiah 40:18b** what likeness will ye compare unto him? **Exodus 3:13b** what is his name? **Exodus 15:11a** who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? **Exodus 15:11b** who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders

What is Theology? Theology is a rational teaching about God. Systematic Theology is a systematic study about God. Theos (God) and Logos (Word, Teaching, Doctrine)

Theology grows from God. If God did not exist there would be no theology. God has revealed Himself by different means i.e. creation, intuitive sense of man and the revelation of Scriptures:

- Perception: we perceive the facts about God from the Word of God
- Systematize: the facts about God are arranged in an orderly fashion
- Disbursement: to set forth the results of its teachings

The idea of systematic study found in **Romans 6:15-17** Paul taught a “specialized system of truth” Form of Doctrine. Form “*tupos*” an impression made by a blow

1. The Attributes of God: The essential, prominent and distinguishing quality or characteristics of God.

- Attributes that are absolute to God: His self-existence; His immutability; His infinity; His Unity of Uniqueness
- Attributes that He shares with human beings: Spirituality; Intelligence; Morality; Volition

2. The Decrees of God: His eternal plan by which He has rendered certain, all the events of the universe, past, present and future. The nature of God’s Decrees: **Romans 11:36** and **Revelation 4:11**. The final cause “*is to the glory of God*”

- Of Him “*everything came from God*”
- Through Him “*everything that happens is by His agency and instrumentality*”
- For Him “*to His glory the ultimate aim*”

3. The Providence of God: **Ephesians 1:11** and **Colossians 1:17** God’s hand over nature, individuals and nations of the world. It is God’s care for each part in relation to the whole.

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August 30, 2009

PNEUMATOLOGY

Lesson Five

THEOLOGY  
“The Study of God”

GOD THE SPIRIT  
John 14:15-27

- His Personality
- His Deity
- His Names

Key Verse: Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

**I**ntroduction: We are living in the age of the Spirit. The Old Testament is the age of the Father, the Gospels are the age of the Son, and since the day of Pentecost we have been living in the age of the Spirit.

A proper understanding of the Spirit is basic to the doctrines of the Bible i.e. Salvation and the Christian life. Activities related to the Holy Spirit is found in every book of the Bible, with the exception of the three, one chapter books of the New Testament: **2 John**, **3 John** and **Jude**

1. His Personality: Why is the personality of the Holy Spirit questioned? Because in contrast with the Father and Son the Spirit seems impersonal

What constitutes personality? Most people think of a “*human being*” as someone having only a physical body “*a material being*”. However, they fail to realize that individuals also consist of “*immaterial*” parts: the soul and the spirit. **1Thessalonians 5:23**

2. His Deity: God the Spirit possesses divine attributes.

- He is eternal **Hebrews 9:14**
- He is Omnipotent **Luke 1:35**
- He is Omniscient **1Corinthians 2:10-11**
- He is Omnipresent **Psalms 139:7-10**

3. His Names: The word Spirit “*pneuma*” refers to “*air*” or “*breath*” like pneumonia. **Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7**

Personal Names: The Spirit is referred to as “*He*” a masculine pronoun. **John 14-16**

- Holy Spirit **Luke 11:13**
- Spirit of Grace **Hebrews 10:29**
- Holy Ghost **Acts 5:1-5**

Names in Type and Figures:

- Dove: The dove denotes “*purity*” and “*peace*” **John 1:32**
- Fire: Fire denotes “*light*” “*warmth*” and “*to purify*” **Acts 2:2-3**
- Oil: Oil denotes “*anointing*” **Luke 4:18**

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
September 6, 2009

PNEUMATOLOGY

Lesson Six

THEOLOGY  
*"The Study of God"*

The Work of the Holy Spirit  
John 16:1-16

- The Old Testament
- The New Testament

Key Verse: John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

**I**ntroduction: We are living in the age of the Holy Spirit. This does not mean that there was no activity on the part of the Spirit of God prior to this age. However, His work is seen throughout the Bible, in Old Testament times and New Testament times.

- The Bible recognizes the Godhead as *"three separate and distinct personalities"*
- The Bible also recognizes that the Godhead is *"one in essence"*

In lesson three we pointed out the likeliness of the trinity concept, by providing three natural illustrations: A Tree *"roots, trunk and branches"* An Egg *"shale, white and yoke"* and Our Government *"Legislative, Judicial and Executive Branches"*

The Activity of the Godhead as illustrated by the operation of a business: A business own by three equal partners, with equal investments of 33 1/3%

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) The Executive responsible for the overall operation of the business: The President, Chairman of the Board
- Chief Operating Officer (COO) The Executive responsible for the day-to-day running of the business: procedures; production and distribution, providing timely operational information and assistance to the CEO
- Chief information Officer (CIO) The Executive responsible for development, implementation and operation of the business; providing oversight of all information, standards and policies of the business

1. Work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament:

- In Creation: **Genesis 1:2** *"and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters"*  
Genesis 1:2 *"let us make man in our image"* **Genesis 2:7** the LORD God *"formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul"*
- In relation to Man: He came *"upon men"* enabling for service to God.

**Genesis 41:38** the life of Joseph: *"and Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?"*

**Exodus 31:3** the life of Bezaleel: *"and I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship"*

**Numbers 27:16-18** the life of Joshua: *"Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation"*

**Daniel 4:8** the life of Daniel: *“O Belshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the holy gods is in thee”*

## 2. Work of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament:

- The Spirit is the author of Scriptures: **2Peter 1:20-21**; **2Timothy 3:16**
- The Spirit is the interpreter of Scriptures: **John 16:14-15**; **1Corinthians 2:11**
- In the life of Jesus: His virgin birth; His anointing; His baptism; His ministry
- In process of Salvation: Regeneration; Indwelling
- In the life of Christians: He teaches; He guides; He commands; He restrains; He intercedes; He speaks



BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
September 13, 2009

PNEUMATOLOGY

Lesson Seven

THEOLOGY  
"The Study of God"

The Work of the Holy Spirit  
I Corinthians 12:1-13

- In Relation to Jesus
- In Relation to Salvation

Key Verse: Hebrews 13: So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

**I**ntroduction: In our study of Theology we have discovered that the Godhead consist of three "*distinct persons*" The Father, Son and Spirit "*co-equal in deity*" and "*one in essence*" The aim of Theology is to learn from Scripture the nature of God; Who He is?

What He is like? How can I get to know Him?

- Personal names of the Godhead: The Father (Jehovah) **Exodus 6:3**; The Son (Jesus) **Matthew 1:21**; The Spirit (Comforter) **John 14:26**

Before returning to the Father, Jesus promised that He would send another Comforter: Another "*another of the same kind*" Comforter "*one called along-side to help*" Therefore, the Spirit is our "*Helper*"

1. In Relation to Jesus: In His virgin Birth: **Luke 1:35**; At His Anointing: **Luke 4:18**; His temptation by the devil: **Matthew 4:1-11**

2. In Relation to Salvation: Pre-Conversion, Conversion and Post-Conversion

Pre-Conversion Experience: He Reproves the World: **John 16:7-11** He Restrains Sin: **2Thessalonians 2:7** The Holy Spirit works conviction in the hearts of the unconverted long before they hear the Gospel message. The Holy Spirit witnesses to the person the positive reasons for salvation. The Holy Spirit holds back sin from its spread and harm to individuals.

Conversion Experience: He Regenerates: **Titus 3:5**; **John 3:3; 31**; **Ephesians 2:8-9** The Holy Spirit makes new the sinner and gives "*new life*" He Baptizes: **I Corinthians 12:13** The Holy Spirit baptizes the person "*putting them into the spiritual body of Christ*" He Indwells: **John 14:17**; **I Corinthians 6:19** The Holy Spirit takes up His residence in the believer

Post-Conversion Experience: The Holy Spirit teaches the believer: **John 14:26** The Holy Spirit guides the believer: **John 16:13** The Holy Spirit intercedes for the believer: **Romans 8:26**

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
September 20, 2009

PNEUMATOLOGY

Lesson Eight

THEOLOGY  
*"The Study of God"*

The Work of the Holy Spirit  
1Thessalonians 5:14-28

In Relation to Christians

- To Resist the Holy Spirit
- To Grieve the Holy Spirit
- To Quench the Holy Spirit

Key Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men

**I**ntroduction: As the Spirit of the LORD, the Holy Spirit is the key to our having a vital relationship with God. This relationship with God began during our Pre-Conversion Experience, followed by our Conversion Experience, then into our Post-Conversion Experience.

1. A Sinner can Resist the Holy Spirit: **Act 7:51** Note the text within the context. This is a sin committed by the non-Christian. It is the initial stage of rejecting the message of truth about God and His love. It is something that the sinner does against the Holy Spirit. The word resist means *"to withstand or oppose" "to arrange in battle against" "to set oneself against"*

- A warning to the sinner. To continue resisting the Holy Spirit can ultimately lead to *"a climatic rejection"* People cannot repent merely at their own will. **Hebrews 3:7-8** and **Romans 1:18-32**

2. A Christian can Grieve the Holy Spirit: **Ephesians 4:30** Note the text within the context. The word Grieve is *"a love word"*

It is a sin committed by the believer: When we use our tongue for *"corrupt communication"* When we utter things that are not good for edifying. The Holy Spirit is *"grieved"* when we say negative things about a fellow-believer.

3. A Christian can Quench the Holy Spirit: **1Thessalonians 5:19** Note the Text within the context. The word quench is used *"as the quenching a fire"* **1Corinthians 14**. The Holy Spirit is quenched by hindering His operations in oral testimony in the gathering of believers.

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
February 28, 2010

Lesson Nine

SOTERIOLOGY  
“The Study of Salvation”

Sin, Salvation, Sanctification, Security  
Romans 5:12-21

- Man’s Creation
- Man’s Fall

OBJECTIVES

1. To learn the Meaning and scope of Salvation
2. To learn the Motivations of Salvation and who is responsible for it
3. To learn the Necessity of Salvation and why we need to know.

**I**ntroduction: Soteriology, the study of salvation must be the greatest theme in the Bible. It embraces all of time as well as eternity past and future. It is the theme of both the Old and New Testaments and it centers on the greatest person, Jesus Christ.

As we look around and see the world (people) it quickly reveals man’s condition in sin and the awful plight in which this fallen condition has left him. **Romans 3:10-19**  
The condition of mankind is completely helpless in spite all the efforts put forth to bring about peace and prosperity. The world remains shattered and torn by the ravages of sin, locally, nationally and internationally.

1. Man’s Creation: Man was created by God at the conclusion and consummation of all creation.
  - **Genesis 1:26-27** Man was created in the image and likeness of God: Intellect, Emotion and Will.
  - **Genesis 2:7** Man’s creation included two distinctions: that which was material “*the dust*” and that which was immaterial “*the breath of life*”
  - The body is a “*temple*” **1Corinthians 6:19** and “*earthen vessel*” **2Corinthians 4:7**
2. Man’s Fall: Adam before the fall was “*very good*” implies innocent and without sin. Adam after the fall became subject to both “*spiritual and physical death*”
  - **Genesis 2:16-17** The freedom of Adam with one exception “*but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it*”
  - **Genesis 3:1-7** The worse day in history when Adam and Eve passed immediately into spiritual death “*separation from God*” In due time they also suffered the penalty of physical death “*separation of the soul from the body*”
  - **Genesis 3:17-19** The very creation itself was changed by the sin of man. Briars and thorns were introduced, labor and sorrow were added, and the enjoyment of Eden was withdrawn.

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
March 7, 2010

HAMARTIOLOGY

Lesson Ten

SOTERIOLOGY  
“The Study of Salvation”

The Nature of Sin  
Genesis 5:1-5

- Man’s Present State of Sin
- Man’s Present State of Alienation

Key Verse: Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

**I**ntroduction: The worse day in history was when Adam and Eve passed immediately into spiritual death “*separation from God*” and in due time they also suffered the penalty of physical death “*separation of the soul from the body*”

1. Man’s Present State of Sin: **Genesis 3:3**

The Fall of Adam and Its Consequences: **Genesis 3:9-19**

- Separation: Where art thou? **Genesis 3:9**
- Guilt: Hast thou eaten? **Genesis 3:10-11**
- Condemnation: Cursed. **Genesis 3:14-19**

Depravity: Man’s essential condition since the fall is characterized by corruption. Every individual born into the world has an evil and perverted nature.

- Inherited Sin: The fallen “*image of Adam*” **Genesis 5:3; Psalm 51:5; Psalm 58:3**
- Imputed Sin: Death by sin has been “*passed over*” to every individual. **Romans 5:12**

2. The Extent of Sin: How sin is evidenced in the fallen nature of man. **Romans 3:10-18**

- Its character: verse 10
- Its practice: verse 11-12
- Its speech: verse 13-14
- Its walk: verse 15-17
- Its purpose: verse 18

2. Man’s Present State of Alienation: **Ephesians 2:1** “*dead in trespasses and sin*”

The Results of Sin: Man’s intellect is darkened, his sensibility is debased and his will is bent toward evil.

- Enmity: Man’s inward attitude toward God. **Romans 8:7-8**
- Separation: Man’s external relationship toward God. **Ephesians 2:11-13**

Barriers: Sin has created a barrier between God and man which hinders access to God.

- Incapable of pleasing God: **Isaiah 64:6a**
- Under the power of sin
- Incapable of saving ourselves, in whole or in part

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
March 14, 2010

Lesson Eleven

SOTERIOLOGY  
“The Study of Salvation”

The Meaning and Scope of Salvation  
Matthew 14:22-33

- Deliverance from the Penalty of Sin
- Deliverance from the Power of Sin
- Deliverance from the Presence of Sin

Key Verse: Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

**I**ntroduction: Salvation, what it is and why it is so important. Our lesson today addresses the Meaning and scope of salvation and the Motivation of salvation and who is responsible for it. The basic meaning of the word salvation is “*deliverance*” There are four different ways in which salvation is used in Scripture:

Physical Deliverance [Matthew 14:31](#); National Deliverance [Romans 11:26](#); Spiritual Deliverance [Matthew 1:21](#) and Eternal Deliverance [Hebrews 5:9](#)

The Theological Usage: Salvation is of the Lord. [Jonah 2:9](#) Understanding the truth about salvation can relieve a lot of tension from the standpoint of security and enable the believer to relax in the Lord and His grace.

1. Deliverance from the Penalty of Sin: As to time, it is a work done in the past.
  - The theological term related to this act is JUSTIFICATION. [Romans 5:1](#) and [Ephesians 2:1](#)
2. Deliverance from the Power of Sin: As to time, it is a work being done in the present.
  - The theological term related to this act is SANCTIFICATION. [2 Thessalonians 2:13](#)
3. Deliverance from the Presence of Sin: As to time, it is a work done in the future.
  - The theological term related to this act is GLORIFICATION. [Romans 8:30](#)

**S**alvation is a done proposition. Man’s only responsibility is “*to accept*” the finished work of Christ on the cross. What resulted in Adam’s sin (our sin) Separation, Guilt, Condemnation, Death and Depravity; Jesus has “*tasted death*” for us. [Hebrews 2:9](#)

It Is Finished! The phrase is written in the perfect tense expressing “*a completed action with continuing results*” [John 19:30](#)

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
March 21, 2010

SANCTIFICATION

Lesson Twelve

SOTERIOLOGY  
“The Study of Salvation”

Sanctification  
1Thessalonians 4:1-7

- Preparatory Sanctification
- Positional Sanctification
- Practical Sanctification
- Perfect Sanctification

Key Verse: 1 Thessalonians 4:7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

**I**ntroduction: Our standard of living, viewed from the financial and “*material side*” has risen to an all time high; but our standard of living viewed from the “*spiritual side*” has dropped to an all time low. Christians have time for sports, entertainment, travel and socializing, but little or no time for communion with God in prayer and study of His Word. Salvation requires that our new life correspond to our exalted position in Christ (sanctify ourselves). [Titus 2:11-12](#)

The Doctrine of Sanctification: One of the most misunderstood doctrines of our Christian faith. Many Christians either withdraw from it completely or else they associate it with experiences of fanaticism. The result has been neglect or a mistreatment of the truth about Sanctification. How do we pursue Sanctification? How are we personally responsible? [2 Timothy 2:19-21](#)

Sanctify Defined: The root word means “*to separate*” or “*to set apart*”

- A day can be sanctified. [Genesis 2:3](#)
- A building and its contents can be sanctified. [Exodus 39:44](#)
- A house in which a person lives can be sanctified. [Leviticus 27:14](#)
- A mountain can be sanctified. [Exodus 19:23](#)
- A husband can be sanctified by his wife. [1Corinthians 7:14](#)

Theological Definition: Sanctification is the sovereign act of God, whereby He sets apart a person, a place or an object for Himself in order that He might accomplish His purpose in the world by means of that person, place or object.

1. Preparatory Sanctification: That initial sovereign work of God preliminary to any experience in the life of the person who is to be sanctified.

- Jeremiah “*before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee...*” [Jeremiah 1:5](#)
- Jacob “*the Lord said unto Rebekah two nations are in thy womb...*” [Genesis 25:23](#)
- John “*thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son...*” [Luke 1:13-17](#)
- Jesus referred to himself as the one whom the Father sanctified. [John 10:36](#)
- Paul “*was set apart for ministry long before the cradle*” [Galatians 1:15-16](#)  
His conversion, commission and career were foreseen and foreordained.

2. Positional Sanctification: That act of God the Holy Spirit in which He sets apart every saved person. It is the first step in the experience of the believer.

Positional Sanctification is the fact and act of belonging to God. The believer is now actually set apart as God's possession and for God's purpose. Who then are the sanctified? All who have received Jesus Christ as savior have been sanctified.

- **1Corinthians 1:2** Two words in this verse stem from a common root: The verb "*sanctified*" and the noun "*saints*" The verb sanctified means "set apart" and the corresponding noun "saints" are those who have been set apart, the set-apart ones.
- **1Corinthians 6:11** "*and such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified*" Notice the order, sanctified precedes justified.

3. Practical Sanctification: The Christian's responsibility in the process of Sanctification. This has been a neglected phase of Christian doctrine. Things the believer must do in the Sanctification process:

- The Word of God in the Christian's Practical Sanctification. **John 17:17**  
The Bible becomes a cleansing, sanctifying power in life.
- Know and reckon on the fact that you are dead to sin and self. **Romans 6:6**
- Believers are to yield their bodies to God. **Romans 12:1** and **1Corinthians 6:19-20**
- Practical Sanctification involves the surrender of the will. **Psalms 119:105**
- We sanctify ourselves when we walk in the Spirit. **Galatians 5:16**

4. Perfect Sanctification: That aspect of Sanctification related to the final perfection of the Christian. **1Thessalonians 5:23** has in view the perfect sanctification of the whole person: Body, Soul and Spirit.

BELIEVERS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
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SECURITY

Lesson Thirteen

SOTERIOLOGY  
*"The Study of Salvation"*

Security

- Salvation and Security
- Salvation and Assurance

Key Verse: John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Introduction: Dr. Charles Ryrie has written a book titled: *So Great Salvation*. In his book Dr. Ryrie addresses the subject of Salvation and the object of Salvation.

Warren Wiersbe, former Bible teacher with Back to the Bible, in his Forward states *"concerning salvation there are many misleading books, bad photographs that are over-exposed and under-developed, So Great Salvation presents the Gospel picture with clarity, accuracy and maturity"*

The Importance of Semantics: Dr. Ryrie *"Bible students and preachers must pay careful attention to semantics"* Words have meaning and the definition set words apart. i.e. the pronunciation of the words *"red and "read"* sound the same but the meanings are different.

1. Salvation and Security: **John 10:27-29** Sure signs of a genuine believer in Jesus Christ are the mark of the ear *"they hear his words"* and the mark of the feet *"they follow him"* Salvation is of the Lord. We are kept by the Love of God and the Power of God.

- Insecurity Passages: **Matthew 24:13** Many of the so called *"insecurity passage"* belong to another dispensation and are misunderstood or misapplied.

2. Salvation and Assurance: A person can be saved but not sure of it. Assurance depends upon *"a personal confidence"* **2Corinthians 5:17** A new creation in Christ.

- The knowledge of God as Father: **Galatians 4:6** Abba *"from the lips of infants"* and Father *"expresses an intelligent apprehension of the relationship"* Scripture never refers to God as *"the man upstairs"*
- A New Reality in Prayer: **1Timothy 2:1-3** Prayer becomes more than *"now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep"* or the Lord's Prayer.
- A New Ability to Understand the Scriptures: **Luke 24:31-32** the men on the road to Emmaus; their spiritual eyes were opened and they experienced spiritual indigestion.
- A New Sense of the Sinfulness of Sin. **Mark 14:66-72** Peter's denial of Jesus and his *"godly sorrow"* that followed
- A Manifestation of the Character of Christ. **Philippians 2:5; 4:8-9** The life that Jesus' lived and the Christ-likeness that should be displayed in the believer.