

This useful booklet had its origins back in 1981, when, while preparing for the Lord's ministry, I worked the telephones as a counselor, using the Bible to help callers with their personal problems and theological questions.

Just as the Lord's work continues in us, our work continues with this Booklet. Through the years, it has been refined and reworked, as our continuing study of the Word reveals better verses to help us understand various theo-logical topics.

We would like this Booklet to be used to the Glory of God by the people of God. It makes an excellent tool for teaching a young convert, a beginner's class, or a theology sermon series. It can be printed and modified to suit the user's needs.

A note concerning the use of our web literature: it matters not to us if we do not receive the credit for our work, but we do not want someone else to take the credit for our work. Keep this in mind as you produce your own literature and as you use someone else's.

Pastor Chris Baker

FOUNDATIONAL BIBLE DOCTRINE

Knotty Oak Baptist Church

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Dear Knotty Oaker,

I am glad to hear that you have enrolled in the Foundational Bible Doctrine class. It is my sincere desire that you study the notes, do your homework, and pay careful attention in class. One of the reasons that the church at large is in such poor shape is the lack of *deep* Bible knowledge. And, sadly, and one of the reasons for this lack of depth in our knowledge of the Bible is because a good foundation is not being laid.

When you think of Bible doctrine, think of a solid, sturdy cinder-block foundation. Think of *each line* of blocks as a general area of theological truth. Then think of *each block* in the line as a specific truth important to that area of truth. Next, *think of the life of the believer as the structure that is built on top of the foundation*. When you look at it from this perspective, learning Bible doctrine takes on the importance it deserves.

These lessons give a good, detailed analysis of the *milk* of the Word. If you learn them well, you will be equipped to go on to the meat of the Word without choking. In addition, you will become more familiar with the overall teaching ministry and theological approach that is characteristic of the Knotty Oak Baptist Church, for these lessons were years in the making and constitute the doctrinal foundation of our own ministry. With this said, we issue these lessons to the Glory of God.

Pastor Chris

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of the Bible

I. The Importance of This Doctrine

The Bible is the greatest book in the world! It is great in its authorship: God being the author! It is great in its subject: truths that reconcile man to God! It is great in its compilation: 40 writers over some 2000 years time! It is great in its readership: always a best seller with hundreds of millions of avid readers! Indeed, the Bible is the most unique and greatest book ever given to man!

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Importance of God's Word?

Romans 10:17

Hebrews 4:12

Joshua 1:8

Matthew 4:4

Psalms 119:9

II. How the Scriptures Came To Us

The Bible is no mere ordinary book because God Himself authored it. God partnered with holy men in a process called Inspiration. In this work of Inspiration God breathed His Word into the minds of the prophets and apostles. He then guided them to write down His word in such a fashion as to insure that it was free from error. The final product was God's written Word to man!

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the matter of Inspiration?

Matthew 4:4

II Timothy 3:16/Deuteronomy 18:18

II Peter 1:21

John 14:26/John 16:13

I Corinthians 2:9,10,13

III. The Truthfulness of God's Word

Since the Bible is the Word of God, it then follows that the Bible is perfect, like God. While various manuscripts may contain scribal errors, when God gave His Word originally, it was error-free. This concept of perfect truthfulness is also known as Inerrancy. The word inerrant means "without error." If God's Word is inerrant we may have complete confidence in it!

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Inerrancy of God's Word?

Matthew 5:18

John 10:35

Romans 3:4

John 17:17

I Peter 1:24,25

IV. God's Description of The Bible

It is quite interesting to find out how God Himself views the Bible. As we discover these truths, we find out what God intends His Word to accomplish in us. Since God is the Author of the Book, He knows what it is to achieve in the hearts and minds of those that diligently study and apply it. The Word of God is not just a spiritual instruction manual, but far, far more!

What do the following verses teach us with regard to God's Description of the Bible?

Luke 4:4

II Timothy 3:16

I Corinthians 2:16

James 1:25

Ephesians 6:17

V. Understanding The Word of God

It certainly is not God's desire that we should lack an understanding of His Word. After all, He did communicate it to us in order that we could learn! As spiritual food, God's Word has a portion that is "milk" and a portion that is "meat". Thus, some of it is easy to understand, and some of it is difficult to "swallow." Some of the truths are observed easily, while others must be dug out.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to Understanding God's Word?

Isaiah 28:9,10

II Timothy 2:15

James 1:5

I Corinthians 2:13

Ecclesiastes 12:9

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of God

I. The Existence of God

When we consider that that God wrote the Bible, it is quite understandable that the author makes no great effort to prove His existence! However, it is quite evident that God does exist! Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God..." which shows us that the Book of God in fact assumes the Existence of God. For any doubting this fact however, the Word does offer valid proof for God's existence.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Existence of God?

Psalm 14:1

Romans 1:19

Psalm 19:1

Hebrews 4:12

Acts 10:38

II. The Attributes of God

When we speak of the Attributes of God, we are discussing the things about God that distinguishes Him from mankind. What is it that makes God be God? While it is impossible to list everything unique to the being of God, it is extremely important to us that we know as much about Him as we are able. Each of these attributes has some impact on how God relates to man.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Attributes of God?

Ephesians 3:20 – Job 42:2 – Matthew 19:26

Psalms 147:4,5 – Romans 11:33 – Matthew 10:29,30

Psalms 139:7 – Jeremiah 23:23,24 – Acts 17:24-28

Isaiah 40:28 – Genesis 21:33 – Exodus 3:13-15

Deuteronomy 32:4 – I Samuel 2:2 – Isaiah 6:3

III. The Characteristics of God

When we speak of the Characteristics of God we are referring to the things about God to which we can relate. How does God express Himself to mankind? We cannot manifest the attributes of God (they are unique to God), but we can manifest His characteristics (as we grow in Christ-likeness). We cannot list all of God's characteristics, but we should seek to know and imitate them.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Characteristics of God?

Isaiah 6:3

Titus 1:2

Proverbs 2:6

I John 4:8

Psalms 107:1

IV. The Names of God

The God we worship and serve has many different names and titles, each one being descriptive of His work in behalf of man, and His relation to man as Sovereign Lord. God wants us to know and use His names as we worship Him through a personal relationship. The study of these various names and titles is not only interesting, but also reveals to us vital truths about our wonderful God.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Names of God?

Exodus 3:13,14 (LORD)

Genesis 1:1 (God)

Genesis 15:2 (Lord)

Romans 8:15

Matthew 1:23,25

V. The Tri-Unity of God

Although the word Trinity is not found in the Bible, the concept of "three in one" is certainly there! The doctrine of the triune God is much maligned by the world, but well attested to in the Word of God. This great doctrine teaches us that there is one God manifesting Himself simultaneously in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three persons are one God.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Tri-Unity of God?

Deuteronomy 6:4

Genesis 1:26

Matthew 3:16,17

Matthew 28:19

II Corinthians 13:14

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of Man

I. The Details of Creation

The biblical Doctrine of Man properly begins with an understanding of the general details of creation itself. When we consider the origin of mankind, we are faced with just one of two possibilities: either man was created by an act of God (as the Bible teaches), or man has evolved from the lower forms of life (as the secularists teach). Evolutionary theory and Bible truth contradict each other!

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Details of Creation?

Hebrews 11:3

Genesis 1:5,8,13

Genesis 1:11,12,21,24,25

Genesis 1:11,21,24,25

Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21,25

II. The Details of Man's Creation

As we take a closer look at the creation of man, we find some very interesting details, which serve to give us an understanding of our unique nature. The specific details regarding man's creation are important to us because they explain to us how man is different from other forms of life, and how the two genders of mankind are indeed different from each other.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Details of Man's Creation?

Genesis 1:26

Genesis 1:27

Genesis 1:28

Genesis 2:7

Genesis 2:21,23

III. The Being of Man

Man is very different from all other living creatures because he is made in the image of God. The Bible teaches that man is a "trichotomous" being. By this we mean that man is comprised of body, spirit, and soul (see I Thessalonians 5:23). Because each of these aspects of man was affected by the fall, and are affected by salvation, we need to understand the basic nature of each.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Being of Man?

Genesis 2:7

Ecclesiastes 3:19-21

I Corinthians 15:38-49

I Corinthians 2:11

Luke 12:20

IV. The Destiny of Heaven

While the Bible does not give us too many details about Heaven, there is just enough to put a yearning desire for it in our soul! God's Word is clear; every person will either spend an eternity in Heaven or in Hell. There is absolutely no Biblical basis for such ideas as reincarnation, purgatory, or limbo. The Word is clear: "it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment".

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the place called Heaven?

Psalm 2:4

II Corinthians 12:2-4

John 14:1-3

Revelation 21:1-6,10-21

John 3:3,5,7

V. The Destiny of Hell

Jesus spoke about Hell more than He spoke about Heaven. This is because He knew that often the greatest motivation to get saved is the fear of eternal damnation (see Jude 23). If believers could only get a glimpse of Hell, evangelism and revival could not be stopped. But though our mortal eyes cannot see that awful place, the Word of God portrays for us the horrors of it.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Destiny of Hell?

Luke 16:24

Matthew 8:12

Isaiah 66:24

Revelation 20:3

Luke 16:26

Foundational Bible Doctrines
Knotty Oak Baptist Church
The Doctrine of Sin

I. The Fall of Man

When we discuss the Doctrine of Sin, we must begin in the Garden of Eden, where the first human sin took place. It was here, in what was a perfect setting, that our forebears fell from that state of innocence, as Satan deceived Eve through 1) questioning the Word of God; 2) denying the plain meaning of the Word of God; and 3) giving an interpretation contrary to the plain meaning.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Fall of Man?

Genesis 2:17

Genesis 3:1

Genesis 3:4

Genesis 3:5

Genesis 3:6

II. The Result of the Fall

Beside the act of disobedience itself, the Fall of Man caused terrible consequences. Because God is a Holy and Just God, He will not let sin go unpunished. The sin of Adam and Eve not only affected them, but also the rest of creation and the entire humanity for which Adam and Eve were responsible. We must always be aware that our sin brings a penalty to us, and hurts others.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Result of the Fall?

Romans 5:17-19

Genesis 2:17

Genesis 3:16-19

Job 5:6,7

John 3:36

III. The Total Depravity of Man

When we speak of the Total Depravity of Man, we are saying that man's spiritual situation (due to the Fall) is that he has absolutely no merit before God. Not only is he separated from God due to his sin, man cannot save himself or do any good works before God. He is lost and without hope of rescue. However, man still has the ability to believe, and to choose to trust in the provided Redeemer.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Total Depravity of Man?

Romans 3:10-18

Isaiah 53:6

Isaiah 64:6

Jeremiah 17:9

Ephesians 2:3

IV. The Purpose of the Law

While it is obvious that man is under the bondage of sin, and thus is alienated from God, this is not something that man himself easily recognizes. In order to make man's situation clear to him, God gave us the Ten Commandments. God's purpose in the "Law" is that we might see our inability to obey (which is sin), and seek forgiveness for our sin, and find salvation in Christ.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Purpose of the Law?

Romans 3:28

Romans 5:20

James 2:10

Galatians 3:24

Romans 7:7

V. The Remedy for Sin

The Law cannot save, but Christ can! Jesus was the sinless Son of God, fulfilling the Law, and thus able to do for man, what man could not do for his self. Man's greatest attempts at righteousness always fall short of God's expectation (see Matthew 5:20). In Christ, the requirements of the Law are met (see Matthew 5:17) and Christ's righteousness is accounted to the believer.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Remedy for Sin?

II Corinthians 5:19,21

John 1:29

Revelation 1:5

Isaiah 1:18

Acts 16:31

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Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of Christ

I. The Deity of Christ

When we discuss the doctrine of Christ, one of the most important aspects is the fact that Jesus is God. We call this the "Deity of Christ." The word "Deity" means "God." This is a crucial stone in the foundation of doctrine. Jesus claimed to be God and He was mistaken, deceptive, or correct in His assertion. One of the marks of most cults is the denial of this doctrine.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Deity of Christ?

John 1:1

Matthew 1:23

John 5:18

I Timothy 3:16

John 20:28

II. The Humanity of Christ

It is important to remember that the correct doctrine of Christ strongly emphasizes that Jesus is God in a human body. The Scriptures tell us that "the Word was made flesh." While many deny Jesus' Deity, others take for granted His genuine humanity. The Lord was "fully God and fully man." This is indeed important; for it is through His humanity He was able to be our Redeemer.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Humanity of Christ?

Galatians 4:4

Philippians 2:7

Matthew 4:2

John 11:35

Hebrews 10:5,10

III. Prophetical Office of Christ

When we discuss the Doctrine of Christ, we speak about the Person of Christ and the Work of Christ. Teaching about the Work of Christ is focused mainly on the fact that Jesus is Prophet (His Work up to the cross), Priest (His present Work, beginning at the cross), and King (His Work in the future). In His Work as Prophet, Jesus is the great "Revealer of God," and the truths of God.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Work of Jesus as Prophet?

Deuteronomy 18:15

John 1:18

Matthew 11:27

John 3:2

Luke 4:32

IV. The Priestly Office of Christ

When we talk of the Priestly Work of Christ, we are dealing with His role in the Work of Salvation. This work began at the cross, and continues to this day. In this work, Jesus fulfilled the role of High Priest in the Old Testament by reconciling people to God through the blood sacrifice. But Jesus' Work as the High Priest is greater than those before Him because His sacrifice shed God's own blood.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Work of Jesus as Priest?

Hebrews 2:17

I Timothy 2:5,6

Hebrews 9:11,12

Acts 20:28

I Peter 3:18

V. The Kingly Office of Christ

When we consider the Kingly Work of Christ, we are dealing with His future Rule as Lord. The Bible teaches us that currently, Jesus' rule is limited to the realm of the heart of believers. While Jesus rules the "New man" in Christ, the Scriptures teach that Satan is the ruler of this present world system--see II Corinthians 4:4. However, one day the Lord will return, and rule in righteousness.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Work of Christ as King?

II Samuel 7:16,17

Luke 23:3

Acts 1:6,7

Revelation 19:11-16

Psalms 22:27,28

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of Salvation

I. The Author of Salvation

When we discuss the doctrine of Salvation, we must begin with the concept of the "Grace of God." In doing this, we start with the fact that man is completely unable to save himself from sin, and thus God must do all the work. Man's innate goodness, and the doing of good works, merit him absolutely nothing before God, and necessitate the Grace of God to effect salvation.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Author of Salvation?

Jonah 2:9

John 15:5

Luke 5:21

Ephesians 2:8,9

I Corinthians 1:29-31

II. The Basis of Salvation

The next concept to convey in the doctrine of Salvation is that of the Death of Christ. The two most important aspects of the Death of Christ are that of Substitution and that of Propitiation. By substitutionary, we mean that His death was for us; He paid for our sins. By propitiatory, we mean that in His death God's demand for Holiness and Justice was met, enabling God to forgive us.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Basis of Salvation?

Hebrews 9:22

Romans 5:8

I Peter 3:18

Colossians 1:20

Ephesians 1:7

III. The Means of Salvation

Next, we want to see how sinful man may be a beneficiary of the work of Christ. Again, God has been reconciled to us; now we will discover how we may be reconciled to Him. Although man does not "do" anything to earn his salvation, he still must, (through an act of his will) receive the free gift that God offers. God's Word makes it clear that the way to receive this gift is by faith.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Means of Salvation?

Romans 4:4,5

Psalms 2:12

Acts 16:30,31

John 1:12,13

Luke 7:50

IV. The Security of Salvation

Once saved, always saved! This is a vital and true doctrine of Scripture. It is also a doctrine that is both denied and greatly misunderstood. In a nutshell, this doctrine teaches us that whomever God saves, He also keeps saved. Sometimes this doctrine is referred to as "The Eternal Security of the Believer." The assurance of salvation should be the root cause of our joy.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Security of Salvation?

I John 5:13

John 5:24

I Peter 1:5

II Peter 1:4

John 10:28,29

V. Result of Salvation

The very moment a person receives Christ as Saviour, a change takes place. This change is called Regeneration. As the term implies, God gives new life when a sinner trusts in Jesus. This new life is both spiritual and eternal. It is also divine (of God). Due to these unseen changes in the inner person, outward changes should also begin to occur as the believer grows in the Lord.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Result of Salvation?

Colossians 1:13

II Corinthians 5:17

I Thessalonians 1:9

I Corinthians 6:19,20

II Timothy 1:7

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

I. The Holy Spirit is a Person

It is unfortunate when someone refers to the Holy Spirit as "it." The Bible is very clear that the Holy Spirit is a member of the Holy Trinity, just as is the Son of God. He isn't a "force" or a "mysterious presence," but is an actual person. We need to become familiar with the Spirit of God, since He plays such a vital role in the walk and success of the child of God.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Personality of the Spirit?

I Corinthians 12:

Ephesians 4:30

Philippians 2:1

I Timothy 4:1

I Corinthians 2:11

II. The Holy Spirit is Deity

Bible-believing Christians do accept the fact that God is a triune being; that is, that God manifests Himself in three persons, with each being fully God, at the same time. The "God-head" is comprised of God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit. Mortal minds cannot fully comprehend this, but the assertions of Scripture provide clear basis for our belief.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Deity of the Holy Spirit?

Acts 5:3,4

I Corinthians 3:16

Psalms 139:7-10

Hebrews 9:14

Luke 1:35

III. The Holy Spirit's Work in Salvation

Each Person of the Godhead (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) has a role to fulfill in the Plan of Salvation. As the Father devises the Plan of Salvation, and the Son performs the Work of Redemption, the Spirit executes the "Work of Regeneration." Without the Spirit's work we would remain outside of God's Family, without the New Nature, and without an Assurance of Salvation.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Spirit's Work in Salvation?

John 16:8-11

John 3:5,6

Ephesians 4:30

I Corinthians 6:19

I John 4:13/Romans 8:16

IV. The Holy Spirit's Work In Sanctification

Once we come to Christ, the Spirit of God begins His lifelong work of making us fit for the Master's use. We do not sanctify ourselves! (Galatians 3:3). However, it is our responsibility to co-operate with God's Spirit as He does His work in us. As the Holy Spirit sanctifies us, we are then transformed into fruitbearers, which is, of course, the chief end of our salvation, in that fruit bearing glorifies God.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the work of the Holy Spirit?

He alerts us to when we are doing wrong -- Ephesians 4:30

He enables us to overcome the flesh -- Romans 8:13

He leads us to do right -- Galatians 5:16

He strengthen us to walk with God -- Ephesians 3:16

He teaches us the truth in the inner man -- John 2:27

V. The Holy Spirit's Work of Assisting Us

As believers, we are called to do good works for the Lord God, such as praying, teaching, giving, witnessing, and so forth. Of course, God does not expect us to do these things in our own strength, for surely we would fail. In order to enable us to do what He has commanded, God has sent His Spirit to help. In fact, one of the titles of the Holy Spirit is "Helper" (Greek "paraclete.")

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Assisting Work of the Spirit?

Romans 8:26

John 14:26

I Corinthians 12:4-7

Acts 1:8

Ephesians 5:18

Foundational Bible Doctrines
Knotty Oak Baptist Church
The Doctrine of the Church

I. The Importance of the Local Church

When we discuss the "Local Church," we speak of the greatest institution on God's earth, after the family. Though neglected by many believers, the Local Church is the vehicle of growth for believers. Just as we would use a car to transport us from one place to another, so the work of the Local Church is to help believers grow from "grace to grace" into maturity in Christ.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Importance of the Church?

Matthew 16:18

Acts 20:28

I Timothy 3:15

James 5:14

Matthew 18:15-17

II. The Symbols of the Church

In the Word of God we find many symbols and pictures to describe the Local Church. Each of these symbols helps us to understand the various functions of this sacred institution. God wants us to love the church, respect it, participate in it, and benefit by it. Often, we fall short in these areas due to the fact that we do not know what God intends the church to be.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Symbols of the Church?

Colossians 1:18,24

Ephesians 2:19,20

Ephesians 4:11,12

II Corinthians 11:2

I Timothy 3:15

III. The Ordinances of the Local Church

The Church has no power to save people or to make them clean. Only God can achieve this! For this reason, we do not believe in what are commonly called "sacraments." Rather, we hold to the New Testament concept of ordinances. "Ordinances" are acts of obedience commanded by the Lord and are to be performed under the administration of the Local Church.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Ordinances of the Church?

Acts 2:41

I Peter 3:21

I Corinthians 11:18-34

Acts 20:7

John 13:17

IV. The Practices of the Local Church

As the spiritual institution of God on earth, and as God's instrument for the growth of the believer and world evangelism, the Local Church has many practices to help it toward that end. It should be the goal of every church to meet the standards and practices of the New Testament. These practices put a demand on the believer that is of individual and corporate benefit.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Practices of the Church?

Hebrews 10:24,25

Acts 12:12

Acts 5:42

I Corinthians 16:1,2

I Timothy 5:3

V. The Leadership of the Local Church

Since the church is God's institution, God alone has the authority to determine the manner in which it should be governed. Believers make a big and tragic mistake when they try to administrate God's Church by the standards and philosophies of the world. God's Word shows us that the Local Church is a theocracy, overseen by a chosen and gifted man of God, with the help of deacons.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Leadership of the Church?

Philippians 1:1

Acts 20:28

I Timothy 3:1-7

Acts 6:1-6

I Timothy 3:8-13

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of Sanctification

I. Positional Sanctification: Our Standing

The very instant we receive Christ as Saviour, God forgives us of every sin that we ever committed, and then declares us to be fully righteous in Christ. This act is so defined as "Justification" and refers to our "standing" or "position" before God. This "positional sanctification" is contrasted to what we call "progressive sanctification," which is our growth and maturing in Christ.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to Positional Sanctification?

Colossians 1:21,22

I Corinthians 1:30

I Peter 1:2

Hebrews 10:10

II Thessalonians 2:13

II. Progressive Sanctification: Our Growth

The term "sanctify" means "to cleanse and make fit for service." In short, sanctification refers to the process by which God makes us spiritually useful to Him. It is God's will that each believer be sanctified, since God wants to use each believer in His work of worldwide evangelism. This is just one of the goals of the NT minister -- to see his flock sanctified: Colossians 1:28.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to Progressive Sanctification?

I Peter 1:15,16

II Timothy 2:19-22

John 17:9,17

I Thessalonians 5:23

II Chronicles 29:4,5

III. The Tool Used In Sanctification

It must always be understood that we do not cleanse ourselves. Instead, we co-operate with the Holy Spirit in our sanctification. The Holy Spirit is the agent of spiritual growth, and the Word of God is the tool that He uses. We co-operate with God when we hear the Word, receive the Word, and obey the Word (James 1:19-22). If we neglect the Word our growth will be hindered.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Tool Used In Sanctification?

John 17:17

I Peter 2:2

II Timothy 3:16,17

Ephesians 6:17

Romans 12:1,2

IV. The Believer's Role In Sanctification

Although it is God the Holy Spirit that does the work of sanctification through the Word of God, it is equally true that believers play an equally important role! While God is patient with us, and will continue the work that He has begun in us, (Philippians 1:6) the child of God may resist God's efforts, and remain in spiritual infancy, continuing in the thoughts and behavior of the world.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Believer's Responsibility?

Matthew 4:1,4

II Timothy 2:15

Psalms 119:9,11

Ecclesiastes 12:9-12

Joshua 1:8

V. Other Important Disciplines To Help Us

Although a regular and varied diet of the Word of God is the primary means to growth, there are several other means that God gives us to help in the process of sanctification. However, even in these, a growing knowledge of the Word of God is important. We refer to these other activities as "disciplines" and they are designed to nurture or develop the Christian.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Other Important Disciplines?

Acts 2:42

Luke 6:38

Hebrews 10:24,25

I Thessalonians 5:17

I Corinthians 11:26-32

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine of Prophecy

I. The "Rapture" of the Church

In these lessons we will have a simple overview of the major events that are yet to unfold in these latter days. The very next event on God's revealed prophetic calendar is the Rapture of the Church, or, as it is more properly called, "the Resurrection of the Believers." The "Rapture" is the future event whereby God calls all the saints of God, both living and dead, up to Heaven to meet Christ.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Rapture of the Church?

John 14:1-3

I Corinthians 15:50-52

I Thessalonians 4:14-18

Philippians 3:12-14

I John 2:28-3:1-3

II. The Tribulation Period

Immediately after the believers are resurrected up into Heaven, a 7-year period of time known as the Tribulation will begin on the earth. The first half of this period will be relatively peaceful, with the Antichrist coming into a worldwide rule and power. The second 3 1/2 years will be filled with a series of greatly terrible catastrophes, finally resulting in the Lord's Return.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Tribulation?

Daniel 9:27

Matthew 24:15,21

II Thessalonians 2:3-10

Revelation 6:1-17

Revelation 12:6,13,14,17

III. The Antichrist

The Tribulation period will be characterized by the rule of "the man of sin". He will enter the world scene in a peaceful fashion, establishing peace in the Middle East (refer to Daniel 9:24-27). Because he is the father of lies, he will violate his treaty and thus demand worldwide power. The Antichrist is a part of the satanic trinity, the other two persons being the False Prophet, and the Dragon (Satan.)

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Antichrist?

Daniel 9:26,27

Daniel 11:36,37

2 Thessalonians 2:3,4

Revelation 13:1-8

Revelation 17:1,3-6,8,18

IV. The Return Of Christ

The Antichrist will not be allowed to finish that which he seeks to accomplish! The Word of God teaches us that the Lord is coming to earth again, to vindicate His Name and those that name His Name. Just when it would seem that the Devil had won, the Lord will arrive to conquer, and set up a new Heaven and new Earth. The Return of Christ is a promised, and thus certain event.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Return of Christ?

Acts 1:9,10

Matthew 24:23-27

Zechariah 14:1-5

Revelation 19:11-21

2 Peter 3:1-4; 10-13

V. The Millenium

Jesus' Return is culminated with the creation of a new Heaven and new Earth! Saved people will be able to enjoy living as God intended them to! This 1000-year period of time is known as the Millenium. The Millenium will mark the Earthly Rule of Christ as King. When the Millenium is complete, all of the Redeemed will live in the New Jerusalem, the heavenly city of God.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Millenium?

Acts 1:6,7

Romans 8:18-23

Revelation 20:1-8

Psalms 2:7-12

Isaiah 65:17-25

Knotty Oak Baptist Church
Foundational Bible Doctrines
The Doctrine Of Israel

I. The Progression Of The Nation Of Israel

Israel stands alone from all the other nations in that it is the only nation whose founding is clearly delineated in the Scriptures, and whose history is painstakingly recorded for us. It is important to study the development of the nation of Israel, for it is here that we find God's covenant promises with His chosen people, and where we find the seeds of Israel's future problems among the nations.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the founding of Israel?

Genesis 12:1-3

Genesis 17:17-21

Genesis 21:1-14

Genesis 25:21-27

Genesis 35:9-12

II. The Peculiarity Of The Nation Of Israel

Israel has a truly unique position among the nations of the earth! For reasons known to God alone, God chose to reveal Himself and His laws to a single nation rather than to the world at large. For this reason He established the nation Israel, and from the founding of that nation until their rejection of the Messiah, God dealt with Israel alone among the nations of the world.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to Israel's unique position?

Exodus 3:7-10

Numbers 23:9

Romans 3:1,2

Genesis 12:3

Matthew 1:1,2

III. The Promises To The Nation Of Israel

In order to carry out His ultimate plan for the human race, the Lord made a number of promises to the nation of Israel. These covenant promises are eternal in their scope and unconditional in their fulfillment. In our study of God's Word, we must always remember the promises that God made to Israel, and not confuse those promises with those He makes to the church.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to God's promises to Israel?

Genesis 13:15/17:19

Genesis 13:14,17/15:18/28:13/35:12

Genesis 12:2

Genesis 12:3/28:15

II Samuel 7:12-16

IV. The Problem For The Nation Of Israel

While it is true that that the promises God made to Israel were eternal and unconditional, it is also true that God stipulated that the enjoyment of the promises for each generation was conditioned on the faithful obedience of that generation. In other words, Israel's lack of obedience would preclude that generation from enjoying the promise, but would not nullify the promise itself.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the condition of faith and the promises?

Deuteronomy 28:1-14/15-66

Romans 10:21/Acts 7:51/Hebrews 3:16-19

John 1:11

Matthew 23:37-24:2

Luke 21:24/James 1:1

V. The Prospect For The Nation Of Israel

Paul says that Israel's eyes are now blinded to the Gospel. Yet, when the seventieth week of Daniel commences, God once again will deal with His earthly chosen people in a singular fashion. This period of time will prepare Israel for the return of the Messiah, and will culminate in their genuine acceptance of Him as their Saviour, resulting in their enjoyment of the covenant blessings.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to Israel's future?

Remembered: Romans 11:1,2

Regathered: Ezekiel 36:24

Restored: Amos 9:15

Rescued: Zechariah 12:1-10/14:1-9

Reigning: Jeremiah 23:5,6/Acts 1:6
