

Ever Lasting Life

Newsletter

September 2008

Study Guide

What Did Jesus Look Like?

by [Wayne Blank](#)

Many believe that [The Shroud of Turin](#) is the actual burial cloth of Jesus Christ, and that the man seen in the cloth's image (in photograph) is that of The Lord. Apart from (disputed) carbon-dating tests that show it to be only about 600 years old, there is at least one other strong proof that The Savior is not the man in the cloth which is idolized by millions of people.

[The Bible](#) makes no specific description of what [Jesus Christ](#) looked like, and there are no known images of Him in existence, such as their are, for example, for Roman emperors (e.g. [Emperor Nero](#)), or actual "faces from the past" that can be seen with the [Egyptian Mummies](#). There are however some very good indications of what He did, and did not, look like.

There was Nothing Unusual about His Appearance

Throughout the Gospel books of [Matthew](#), [Mark](#), [Luke](#), and [John](#), people made no mention of something different about how He looked. If anything, people wondered how such an ordinary-looking man could be The Savior. [John The Baptist](#) would not have known that his cousin was The Savior (their mothers, [Mary](#) and [Elizabeth](#) were related) unless an angel had told him just before Jesus' baptism at age 30 (John 1:33). The mob that came to arrest Him [The Fateful Night](#) could not tell Him apart from [Peter](#) or [John](#) or any of the others - Judas Iscariot had to actually point Him out (Matthew 26:47-49), and even then Jesus had to identify Himself, twice, to those who demanded Him by Name as He stood right in front of them in the bright light of their torches (John 18:3-9).

He Had a Natural, Rugged Appearance

The Lord did hard outside physical labor, with [Joseph](#) in [Nazareth](#), until He was about 30 years old. Back then, the building trade involved very strenuous physical labor with heavy stone and lumber,

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Pay the Price and Proclaim the Kingdom from the Heart

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13

Key Verse:

Matthew 13:20-21

He who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

It does not matter what you have heard, said, or read; everything that you receive from Jesus and the Holy Spirit will face testing. That is the only way you can absorb actual kingdom truths of God into your heart. Testing will stretch you, and you will feel like you have been through a life-and-death experience over that truth. You will even wonder whether or not God has forsaken you. He has not.

God will prove His Word true and He will meet you in the heart of that truth, *(Next Page)*

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The Rope by Internet

The Story tells about a mountain climber, who wanted to climb the highest mountain. He begun his adventure after many years of preparation, but since he wanted the glory just for himself, he decided to climb the mountain alone.

The night felt heavy in the heights of the mountain, and the man could not see anything. All was black. Zero visibility, and the moon and the stars were covered by the clouds.

As he was climbing, only a few feet away from the top of the mountain, he slipped and fell into the air, falling at a great speed. The climber could only see black spots as he went down, and the terrible sensation of being sucked by gravity. He kept falling... and in those moments of great fear, it came to his mind all the good and bad episodes of his life.

He was thinking now about how close death was getting, when all of a sudden he felt the rope tied to his waist pull him very hard.

His body was hanging in the air.. Only the rope was holding him, and in that moment of stillness he had no other choice but to scream: **HELP ME GOD!!**

All of a sudden, a deep voice coming from the sky answered:

What do you want me to do?

Save me God!!

Do you think I can save you?

Of course I believe You can.

THEN CUT THE ROPE TIED TO YOUR WAIST...

There was a moment of silence; and the man decided to hold on to the rope with all his strength.

The rescue team tells, that the next day a climber was found dead and frozen... His body hanging from a rope.

His hands holding tight to it...
ONLY 10 FEET AWAY FROM THE GROUND...

And you? How attached are you to your rope?
Will you let go?

Don't ever doubt the things from God. You never should say that He has forgotten or abandoned you. Don't ever think that He does not take care of you. Remember that He is always holding you with His right hand. Isaiah. 41:13

God Bless You!

(Continued from Page 1)

but He probably will not come in the way you expected or at the time you had hoped. Of this much you can be certain: God will always show up right on time.

The costly process of moving God's Word from the vast storehouse of the mind into the intimate chambers of the heart is rare in the church today. We do not like sacrifice, pain, or discipline. However, the path of testing and trial is the only way to receive God's "seeds" of truth in the heart.

We have four choices when the seed of the Word is sown. First, we can let the enemy snatch it away. We can receive it on "shallow ground" and watch it wither and die under the heat of trials and persecutions. Third, we can let competing priorities choke it out.

The fourth way is God's way. Most people do not realize that the fourth example in Jesus' parable of the seed—the "good soil" that received the seed and yielded a harvest—also endured all the calamities described in the previous three examples!

(See Matt. 13, especially verse 8.)

This "good soil" endured marauding birds (usually a picture of the enemy at work), scorching sun, and the dangers of encroaching weeds and thorns. In spite of these tests and trials, a harvest grew. Only a precious few are willing to pay any price to possess God's truth and become proven proclaimers of the kingdom.

Heavenly Father, I want to receive Your Word the right way. Grant me the grace to stand and endure tests, trials, or hardship to receive Your Word in my heart. Then I will boldly proclaim the kingdom from the heart and not from the head. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

Early Sunday Morning

by

Bro. Andrew Bernal, Big Spring, TX

Early Sunday morning, I woke up to the sound of thunder. I looked to check the time, but the lights on the alarm clock were flashing. It seems a blackout occurred some time during the night. Glancing at my watch, I knew that I was going to be late for my usual eight O'clock Mass. I was so cozy under my blankets that thoughts of sleeping in meddled in my head, but then decisively, I forced myself to get up. Jumping in the shower and realizing my water heater wasn't working, I figured it was meant for me to slouch around the house all day and just watch sports. After thinking about the situation, I decided to take a shower in the chilling water. While trying out the suit I'd picked up from the cleaners Saturday afternoon, I noticed a stain that wasn't there before. With no time to iron on outfit, I put on the pair of pants and T-shirt I was going to change into after I got home from church. Walking down the stairs, I thought of the big delicious breakfast I had planned on making before heading out, and with my stomach grumbling. I settled for a banana on the go.

Getting into my car, my I noticed the back passenger window down, and as a result, rain had drenched my seats. Besides that, there was a fowl smell which I assumed was that of a skunk, who for some reason, thought that my car was a better dwelling place than the wilderness. I wanted to scream, but instead held my peace and continued traveling through a lonesome farm road. I hit a pothole and blew out a tire. I was thinking this couldn't be happening to me! Taking a few minutes to gather myself, I reluctantly proceeded to exchange it with the spare. After struggling to loosen the bolts, I managed to change tires and while putting the flat one in the trunk I slipped. I didn't fall thank goodness, however the tire brushed up against me and muddied my shirt. By the time I hit the road again and running very late, thinking speeding would help me make it to 9:30 am Mass, I decided to break the law since after all, it was for a good reason. Guess what?

A state trooper pulled me over! As he approached my car, I realized that I'd left my wallet and license at home. After his prolonged inquiry and with no regard to my explanations, he gave me a hefty citation. Driving off, I couldn't help but wonder if this was God's form of tempting me to quit.

When I arrived at the church an hour later I pulled into a parking space and contemplated going home rather than wait for eleven O'clock Mass. I chose to get out and wait by the fountain in front of the church. While caressing the water and in deep thought, a man tapped me on the shoulder and handing me a ten-dollar bill, said "Lunch is on me." By the time I got over the shock of disbelief, he promptly got in his car and drove away. Still in dismay, I gathered my nerves and entered the church cautiously, somewhat embarrassed about what people might think since I wasn't fittingly dressed, my clothes were muddy and I reeked of skunk. Quickly sitting at the end of the furthest row, I surveyed the crowd to see if I saw any familiar faces. Other than the Pastor and one of the Ushers, I knew no one. During the sermon the pastor brought to light, certain aspects of life that I was able to relate to. A sense of tranquility settled over me and as my spirit lifted and my faith rejuvenated he hit me with it. These words still resonate through my body, "The Lord might test us, But He will never tempt us." I understood at that moment that everyday life is a challenge of my character. I can decide one way or the other; choose to look at life positively or negatively. Looking back at the mornings "Test," I could've had a burnt down house, a vandalized car, and quite possibly have been in jail. Even though that didn't happen my decisions today, know matter how meaningless the might have seemed at the time, were a show of my character. Smiling, I turned on my car; only to find out I didn't have enough gas to make it home! Knowing I left my wallet at home I boldly pulled into the gas station, and as I took out a crisp ten-dollar bill, I said "thank you Jesus." I relished the thought of facing the day's challenges with my new reinforced faith. AMEN!!!

Christian Discipleship The Return of Jesus Christ

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. Rev 22:12-14 KJV

One amazing thing about the Bible is that it tells us about the future. God knows that the future, and in his word he has told us many things that are going to happen. The Bible speaks of two coming of the Lord Jesus to the earth. Christ's first coming took place over nineteen hundred years ago. The second coming of Christ is still in the future.

Heb 9:28

In his first coming, the Lord Jesus came as a lowly man to die for our sins. In his second coming, the Lord Jesus will come in great power and glory. He will come to destroy his enemies and to establish his kingdom on earth.

Matt. 25:31

Jesus said He would Come Again.

Before he was crucified, the Lord Jesus spoke to his disciples and told them that he would soon be leaving them. But he promised that he would come again to take them to be with him.

John 14: 2-3

We know that the Lord Jesus is coming again because he said he would. Jesus said, "I will come again."

How will Jesus Come again?

The Lord Jesus appeared on the earth for forty days after his resurrection. He was seen by more than 500 people. Then one day he told his disciples that he was going back to heaven as they watched, he was taken up from them and a cloud received him out of their sight.

While they were standing looking toward the sky, two angels stood there in white clothing and said.

Acts 1:11

This verse says that Jesus will come again in the very same manner or way in which he went back to heaven. This means that the Lord Jesus will come back to the earth personally and visibly. Just as the believers saw Jesus go back to heaven, so the believers who are living here on earth when he comes again will see him in person at that time.

What will Happen when Jesus Comes?

Christ second coming will be in two parts. The first part is called "The rapture." This is when Christ comes for his believers. The second part is called "The revelations." This is when Christ comes back with his believers to establish his kingdom on the earth.

The Second Coming of Christ, Part 1 the Rapture.

The word "Rapture" means to "snatch away" or "to take out." This is exactly what will happen when Christ comes. He will take his believers out of the world just before a time of great trouble on the earth. The rapture will be a secret event.

Thessalonians 5:2

A thief comes when he is not expected. He comes secretly and quietly, and he comes to take something precious. When Christ comes, he will come secretly and quietly for something very precious to him-his believers. Suddenly all Christians, both the living and those who have died will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. Three great miracles will take place when Christ comes for his believers:

All believers who have died will be instantly resurrected.

The very first event at the coming of the Lord Jesus will be the resurrection of "The dead in Christ" those who have died before he comes. The early Christians were very concerned about the believers who had died. They knew that the Lord was coming back some day to take his believers to be with him. But what about those believers who had already died?

Would they miss out on this? No, not at all. The very first event at the coming of the Lord will be the resurrection of the believers who have died.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

The Living Believers will be Instantly Changed.

1 Corinthians. 15:50

The Bible says that "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. "We must have a different kind of body to go to heaven and God will give us one.

1 Corinthians. 15:51-52

From these verses we learn that there will be one generation of believers who will not die at all. Instead, they will be instantly changed. This is an amazing truth, but the word of God plainly tells us this. The believers who are alive when Christ comes will never see death. Their bodies will be instantly changed and made like Christ glorious resurrection body.

We will be Instantly Taken to Heaven.

When Christ comes for us, all believers will be instantly transported to a place more beautiful than anything we could ever imagine. The Lord Jesus himself will take us to heaven. All of this will take place so quietly that the world will not know what has happened. Two people may be working in a field, side by side, and one will be taken up to be with Jesus and the other left behind. A wife who is a believer maybe sitting at home with her unbelieving husband. Suddenly she will be caught up to be with the Lord, while her husband will be left behind.

Parents will be frantically trying to locate missing sons and daughters. Young people will be searching for brothers, sisters, or friends who have suddenly disappeared.

Matt. 24:40-42

If this sounds unbelievable to you, think of all the amazing things that are being done today. Think of putting a man on the moon. Think of transmitting color pictures around the world instantly by bouncing them off a satellite. Think of telephone engineers taking sand and making a half inch silicone cable through which they can send 13,800 conversations simultaneously!

If man with his limited ability can do all these amazing things, surely God can do what he says he will do.

What will Happen to the Unbelievers?

While the believers are in heaven with Christ. The unbelievers will go through a time of great trouble here on the earth such as the world has never seen before. There will be terrible wars, famine, earthquakes, and pestilences. The Bible calls it "The Great Tribulation."

Matt. 24:21

During this time, a man called "The antichrist" will come to power. The word "anti" means "against" and the antichrist is against God and against Christ. The antichrist will perform great miracles, but his power will not come from God, but from satan. The antichrist will be a great deceiver. He will deceive people and nations into believing in him and following him. The antichrist will require all men to have a certain mark or number in their right hand or in their forehead. No one will be able to buy or sell without this mark. All who worship the antichrist or receive his mark will be lost forever.

Rev. 14:9-10

An unbelieving person may say, "If this is all true and the believers are suddenly caught up and disappear, then I'll believe." But this is a false hope. The Bible says that many people will be saved during this terrible time on the earth, but these will be people who have not heard the gospel before. Those who heard the truth today and reject it will not be saved. They will be deceived by antichrist.

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

Believers will be Judged.

The believers who are caught up with the Lord Jesus will go with him to heaven. There each believer will be judged. This judgment is not to see whether or not the believer is saved. Every believer has eternal life and can never lose it. Every believer will go to heaven but each believer will be judged by the Lord for the things he did after he was saved, whether good or bad.

This judgment is called "The Judgment Seat of Christ."

2 Corinthians 5:10

This will be solemn occasion for every Christian as we stand before the Lord, one by one; to give an account of our lives everything will be brought out onto the open. Those things which we thought no one knows will be revealed.

Luke 12:2

Christian who has not been obedient to the Lord Jesus will be ashamed when they stand before him. All unconfessed sins will be dealt with. Those who held into things that were displeasing to the Lord will have to account to the Lord for their disobedience. Those who held bitterness and unforgiveness against others will have to answer to the Lord for this. The bible tells us that now is the time to confess and forsake our sins. Now is the time to make things right with others. Now is the time to judge ourselves. If we faithfully deal with our sins now, they are forgiven and we will never have to face them again.

1 Corinthians 11:31

The Lord Jesus will not only deal with the unconfessed sins in our lives, but he will also ask us about the things we should have done, but did not do. He may say to us, "You had certain abilities and talents which I entrusted to you. You had many opportunities to tell others about my great salvation. You had many months and years in which to serve me. Why did you not make use of the abilities, time, and opportunities that I gave you?" The Lord will judge our works, everything that we have said and done will be revealed. Our works will be tried "by fire."

1 Corinthians 3:13

Those things which were done by **SELF** and for **SELF** will be like "wood, hay, and stubble." When these things are "tried by fire," they will be burned up. We will have nothing to show for such works. Those things which we have done in obedience to the Lord and for his glory will be like "gold, silver and precious stones." Fire does not destroy these things we will be rewarded for these works.

The Second Coming of Christ Part 2 The Revelation

After the judgment seat of Christ and at God's appointed time, the Lord Jesus will return to the earth with his believers and his mighty angels. He will come in great power and glory. He will destroy the antichrist and his followers and put an end to the time of tribulation.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

All the believers who have been with Christ in Heaven will return with him to reign with Him. First, he comes for us; and then he returns with us.

When is Christ Coming?

The time of Christ second coming is one God's secrets. It may be at midnight, or in the morning, or at noon of any day. Some people have studied bible prophecy and attempted to predict the exact time of Christ's coming, but they have all been wrong. No man knows when Jesus will come. Even the angels in heaven do not know the exact time of his coming.

Matt. 24:36

The Lord Jesus may come at any time. Since this is true, we should be ready to meet him at any time. If you are not saved, the coming of the Lord Jesus will be a fearful time for you. You will have to face the reign of the antichrist and the terrible time of the great tribulation. If you are saved, the coming of the Lord Jesus will be a time of great joy for you. It will also be the time when we must give an account of our lives to the Lord Jesus. If we have served him faithfully, we can look forward to hearing him say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord."

If we have lived for ourselves and the pleasures of the world, we will be ashamed in that day some of us may wish that we could live our lives over again, but that will not be possible. The time to live for Jesus is now. The time to serve him is now. "Only one life, will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."

How can We be Ready?

The Lord Jesus is coming again!

As far as prophesy is concerned, the next great event will be the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. In the last chapter in the bible, the verse Christ says,

Rev 22:12

How can we be ready for the coming of the Lord Jesus? We can be ready for his coming by: (1) Loving him, (2) Obeying him, (3) Serving him, and (4) Looking for his return. If we do these things, we will not be ashamed before him when he comes.

1 John 2:28

If we truly love Jesus, we will want him to come soon. May our prayer each day be: "even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Rev 22:20

Jesus Christ is coming soon! I must be ready when he comes.

How to Please God.

Every believer should sincerely want to please the Lord, one way we know that we are saved is that we love the Lord and want to please him. The apostle Paul made it his life ambition to be well-pleasing to the Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:9

Here are some ways by which we can please God.

We please God when we Love Him.

Matt 22:37-38

Jesus said that the first and great commandment was to love God with all our heart. If we remember how our sins were forgiven we cannot help loving him. God makes seven wonderful promises to those who set their love on him. See if you can find them in the following verses. Underline each of them makes these promises personal by putting your name in the places where "he" and "him" are used.

Psalms 91:14-16

We please the Lord when we Worship Him.

God is pleased with true worshippers-those who worship him in spirit and in truth.

John 4:23

To worship God means to love him, to honor him, to reverence him, to adore him, and to exalt him.

Worshipping God is a matter of our heart attitude. We need to meet with other believers regularly to worship God, but we also need to worship him in our heart every day.

We please God when we Obey Him.

Obedience is the indispensable condition for God's blessing upon our life. God cannot possibly be pleased with a person who is not obedient, nor can he bestow his blessing upon him. We may talk about loving the Lord, but if we do not obey him, we do not really love him.

John 14:23

We please God when we Trust Him.

God takes pleasure in those who trust him-those who expect him to be loving and kind. Without faith, we cannot please him.

Heb. 11:6, Jeremiah 17:7

We please God when we Praise Him.

God delights in the praise of his people. He said, "Whoever offers praise glorifies me." God is pleased when his people praise him. David said.

Psalms 69:30-31, 50:23, Heb. 13:15

We please God when we are Thankful.

God loves to give good gifts to his children, and He pleased when they thank him.

1 Thess. 5:18, Dan. 6:10, 2 Cor. 9:15

We please God when we spend Time with him each day in Prayer and the Study of his Word.

God desires to have daily fellowship with his children. He is pleased when we take time to meet with him to study his word and to pray to Him.

Prov. 8:34, 1 Tim.4:5-6, Acts. 6:4

**Every Christian should Establish
a Daily Time,
A Time Set Aside for the Study of
God's Word and for Prayer.**

We Please God when we Grow as Christians.

Every believer begins his Christian life as a "newborn Babe" in God's family.

A newborn baby brings joy and delight to its parents, but if that baby does not grow and mature properly, the parents' joy is turned to sadness and grief. How tragic it is when a child remains a baby in thought and acting instead of growing into maturity. God is like wise saddened and disappointed when one of his new born babies fails to grow and mature. To please the Lord we must grow in our Christian life.

2 Peter 3:18

God has provided the food that we need for growing spiritually. That food is his word. 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Corinthians 2-3

We Please God when we are Faithful in Attending Church.

The Bible says that we must not neglect to meet regularly with other believers. We need the fellowship of other Christians, especially in these days just before the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Heb. 10:25, Acts. 6:5, Col. 1:24, Col. 4:15

We Please God when we Rejoice in Him.

We cannot always rejoice in our feeling and our circumstances, but we can always rejoice in the Lord. We rejoice in who he is and what he has done for us—this pleases God.

Phil. 4:4, Rom. 5:2-3, 1Thess. 5:15-18

God promises to bless those who choose to do that which pleases him. As we make these choices again and again, we establish Holy habits and develop a holy life. The great men of the bible were men who established Holy habits and lived by them. God could count on them! God said of Abraham.

Gen 18:19

Will you begin to establish Holy habits in your life? A Holy habit begins with a definite choice of your will, and it is confirmed by the repetition of that act until it becomes a habit. God wants us to be faithful in our prayer life, in reading and memorizing his word, and giving to his work, in telling others about Christ, and in attending worship services with fellow-believers.

These activities become Holy habits in our lives by choice, effort, and determination.

After we have a certain thing over and over, it becomes a part of our life, and we look forward to it and enjoy it. This is the way we develop a life that is pleasing to God.

Will you begin now to establish the habits of a Holy life?

This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down.

We know that his testimony is true.

Jesus did many other things as well.

If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

John 21:24-25

Put on Every Piece of God's Armor
by Terrilyn H (Internet)

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm (Ephesians 6:13 NLT).

God has fully equipped you today with everything you need to stand strong in the midst of any battle you may be facing. He's provided His full armor to protect your heart and mind. Ephesians 6:14-17, tells us about God's spiritual armor that covers us—He's given us the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace, the shield of faith which stops the fiery darts of the enemy, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. When you receive God's truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and His Word, you are fully protected to resist the enemy and stand firm. Remember, God holds victory in store for the upright. As you put on His armor by faith you will be positioned to receive His victory. You will be strengthened and empowered to live as an overcomer in every area of your life!

Father in heaven, thank You for equipping me with everything I need to live as an overcomer in this life. I receive your full armor knowing that with You I can stand and overcome every obstacle. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Lesson 9 by Min. Price

The Jobs: Living With Losses

(Job 1-2)

Let's jump into our lesson and look at the story of Mr. and Mrs. Job!

1. Job the Man

1. Read [Job 1:1-3](#). What important facts do we learn about Job? Lets list all the things that we learn about him.

1. *He was "the greatest man among all the people of the East."*
2. *He live in Uz (Edon, southwest of the dead sea).*
3. *He was blameless. The Hebrew word literally means "complete."*
4. *He was upright. The Hebrew means literally "straight."*
5. *He feared God (revered God).*
6. *He avoided evil. (Literally "turned off" evil.)*

6-b *How many of us can say that we "turn off" as opposed to "turn on" evil?*

7. *He was rich (7,000 sheep; 3,000 camels; 500 oxen; 500 donkeys).*

8. He was blessed by God to have seven sons and three daughters. (A complete number. Notice the same for his animals which also add up to multiples of 10.)

2. Read [Job 1:4-5](#). What kind of parent was Job? (He had a real concern about the spiritual welfare of his family--a man who believed in "family values.")

2-b Do you intervene with God for the spiritual welfare of your children?

3. Would you like to be like Job? Didn't he have a great life?

2. Tragedy Strikes

1. Read [Job 1:13-15](#). What kind of disaster is described?

1-a How would you guess it would affect Job? (Half of his livestock wealth just disappeared. Drop the oxen and the donkeys from the inventory.)

1-b Are we given a hint about Job's children when it says that they were having a celebration during a work day? Should they have been out directing the work of the servants?

2. Read [Job 1:16](#). What is the significance of the fact that the first reporter was still speaking when the second arrives with his report? (Job had not had a chance to recover from the first terrible news.)

2-a What kind of disaster is described here? How would it affect Job? (Write off the sheep and the servants from the inventory. Job has now probably lost more than 3/4 of his wealth.)

2-b What is this fire from God? Is this a direct judgment from God?(The servant is probably describing lightning which ignited the grass.)

2-b1 Was this actually fire from God? (Let's peek behind the curtain and read [Job 1:6-12](#). This shows that Satan, not God, caused this lightning strike.)

2-b2 Consider the ability of Satan to control lightning? How much ability does he have today to create natural disasters?

2-b3 Notice also that the work of Satan is ascribed to God. How much do you think that happens today?

3. Read [Job 1:17](#). Note that the second reporter is still speaking. What kind of disaster is described here? (Now scratch from the inventory the camels; the balance of Job's wealth.)

4. Read [Job 1:18-19](#). As you consider the list that we made earlier about Job, and we considered what it would be like to be him, what is gone? (Almost every one of his blessings. His material goods and his children are gone.)

4-a Tell me what you believe to be the impact of the loss of all of your children on a man whose regular custom ([Job 1:5](#)) is to give sacrifices for each one of them? (Job obviously cared a great deal for his children. His love and daily concern continued even when they had grown up. This is an unbelievable tragedy.)

4-b Once again, notice how they died -- a disturbance of nature that is apparently controllable by Satan.

5. Lets make this real personal: imagine that in the last twenty minutes you have: lost your job; lost all the money in your checking and savings account; lost all of your other sources of income; and all of your children have been killed.

5-a How do you react?

5-b What do you say about God if a lot of the loss seems to come from supernatural sources?

6. Read [Job 1:20-21](#). How did Job react? (What a trusting guy!)

7. Job does not say, "What horrid luck we had today: bad weather and unruly neighbors!" How close is Job to the truth? What role did luck and God play here?

8. Read [Job 1:22](#) Why does the Bible make this comment?

8-a Would it be the most natural thing in the world to blame God?

8-a1 Is Job attributing the loss to God, but just being a "good sport" about it? (He says "the Lord has taken away.")

8-b What evidence would Job have,

other than the lightning and the wind, that these tragedies have a supernatural source? (In those four disasters that overtook Job, notice the precision of the work. Four times only a single person survived: just exactly the number needed to convey the tragedy to Job. In the wind storm, all ten of Job's children were killed, not one survived, not one just injured. This does not seem like random work to me. Apparently, it struck Job the same way.)

8-c Since we know this is the work of Satan, not God, I suggest that if the precision of these disasters does not scare the living daylights out of you, that you need your head examined. We need to be very sure that we are not voluntarily placing our life and our welfare in the hands of Satan by doing his will.)

8-d Finally, was God ultimately responsible for these tragedies since He "authorized" them?

8-d1 Would it have been sin for Job to blame God for them? (The text suggests that it would be sin.)

3. The Second Test

1. Read [Job 2:7-8](#). What is taken from Job this time? (His health.)

2. What is notable about this skin disease? (That it is painful.)

2-1. Could you walk?

2-2. Sleep?

2-3. Does Satan have the knowledge and ability to ruin our health too?

3. Why is Job scraping himself with a piece of broken pottery? What kind of treatment is that? Where is his wife? (Matthew Henry, a very old commentary, has an interesting observation about Job's treatment. He says that others should be covering Job's sores with salve.

But Job cannot afford a doctor; his children and servants are dead, and his wife doesn't care. Job doesn't do a very good job of taking care of himself.)

4. The Wife

1. What does Job have left? (His life, his wife, and his friends.)

2. Lets talk about Satan's "precision bombing" for a minute. Why does Job have his life? ([Job 2:6](#) - the Lord restrained Satan from taking it.)

3. Why does Job have his wife? Was Satan restrained from taking her life?

4. Read [Job 2:9-10](#). How does Job's wife appear to view God?

4-a Do you blame her? (If she believed (as she likely did) that their blessings came as a result of Job following God, she would have to conclude that either her husband let her down (thus costing her the children) by failing to obey God, or God let them down in letting these tragedies occur. She is blaming either Job or God.)

4-b Is Job attacking the assumptions of his wife? (Yes. He is saying that just because he serves God that does not mean that everything good must come their way. He says his wife is foolish in making a contrary assumption.)

4-c What would be the point of cursing God? (Whoever is at fault would get their due reward. Cursing God would "get back" at God. Cursing God would also probably cause Job to die - thus doing "justice" and putting him out of his misery.)

4-d Should I ask you again why Satan left Job's wife alive?

4-d1 Who, in the cosmic conflict, wanted Job to curse God and die? (Satan! Read [Job 2:4-5](#). This was precisely what Satan had predicted that Job would do. If Job followed his wife's advice,

he would be doing the explicit will of Satan.)

4-d2 How would you compare Job to Adam?

4-d3 What does that teach us about marriage and our spouses today? (Your spouse may not always be giving you Godly advice. Grief, bias, anger can all skew a person's advice.)

5. Read [Job 42:13](#). What does this tell us about the future of Job and his wife? (That they came through this okay.)

6. Friend, part of marriage is putting God first, and testing the advice of our spouse against the commands of God. Adam failed that test. Job passed the test. How about you?

Min. Debbie Price

Next Month: Lesson 10

David and Bathsheba: Adultery and After

A Treasury of Devotionals by C.H. Spurgeon

Drawing Near to God

"Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you" (James 4:8).

The nearer we come to God, the more graciously will He reveal Himself to us. When the prodigal comes to his father, his father runs to meet him. When the wandering dove returns to the ark, Noah puts out his hand to pull her in unto him, When the tender wife seeks her husband's society, he comes to her on wings of love. Come then, dear friend, let us draw nigh to God who so graciously awaits us, yea, come s to meet us.

Did you ever notice that passage in Isaiah 58:9? There the LORD seems to put Himself at the disposal of His people, saying to them, "Here I am." As much as to say -- "What have you to say to me? What can I do for you? I am waiting to bless you." How can we hesitate to draw near? God is nigh to forgive, to bless, to comfort, to help, to quicken, to deliver. Let it be the main point with us to get near to God. This done, all is done. If we draw near to others, they may before long grow weary of us and leave us; but if we seek the LORD alone, no change will come over His mind, but He will continue to come nearer and yet nearer to us by fuller and more joyful fellowship.

Comprehensive Bible Study
Used for Sunday Morning Bible School
And a Daily Bread for the month of September

September 7, 2008

Seeking a Bumper Crop

Lesson Focus: God expects his people to produce good fruit.

'The Vineyard's Preparation'

Isaiah 5:1-4

'The Owner's Judgment'

Isaiah 5:5-7

Only the Best

When God places His name on our lives, His reputation is on the line. He wants His children's lives to be marked by quality. He invests the best care and provides the best conditions for optimum growth. He wants other people to taste only the best fruit when they "bite" into our lives.

Key Verse: What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? Isaiah 5:4 KJV

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Deuteronomy 1:12-22, Serve the Lord with All Your Heart.

Tues. Isaiah 6:1-5, Here I Am, Send Me!

Wed. Isaiah 6:6-13, The Lord Sends Isaiah.

Thurs. Matthew 20:20-28, Jesus Teaches about Serving Others.

Fri. Romans 12:1-8, Offer Yourself as a Living Sacrifice to God.

Sat. Ephesians 6:1-9, Serve Others as if You Were Serving God.

Sun. Philippians 2:1-11, Serve with the Same Attitude as Jesus.

September 14, 2008

Worship Is Service

Lesson Focus: Our Holy God inspires awe and service.

'Isaiah's Vision from God'

Isaiah 6:1-7

'Isaiah's Response to God'

Isaiah 6:8-12

A Straight-A Response to God's Holiness

Christians have moments when we are confronted with the awe and wonder of God's holiness.

Humbled and inspired, we then long to worship God and be made worthy of serving Him.

Our response to Him should be the same three A's as Isaiah's. First, we experience a sense of awe and of wanting to worship God: this is the A of adoring. Then, in response to God's holiness, we desire to confess our sin and be cleansed (See 1 John 1:9): this is the A of admitting. The third response is serving Him by obeying Him. When we respond with a wholehearted "Yes!" to His call, this is the A of answering.

Key Verse: Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. Isaiah 6:8 KJV

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Isaiah 7:1-6, Do Not Lose Heart.

Tues. Isaiah 7:7-12, Stand Firm in Your Faith.

Wed. Isaiah 7:13-17, Isaiah Tells of God's Sign.

Thurs. Isaiah 7:18-25, Horrible, Humiliating Things Will Happen.

Fri. Isaiah 8:1-10, Assyria Will Be the Lord's Instrument.

Sat. Isaiah 8:11-17, Wait for the Lord; Put Your Trust in Him.

Sun. Isaiah 8:18-22, Inquire of God, Not Mediums.

September 21, 2008

Living God's Plan

Lesson Focus: God's plan overcomes all obstacles. "The Defeat of Judah's Enemies"

Isaiah 7:1-6

"The Sigh of the Virgin-born Son"

Isaiah 7:10-17

God's Plan is Still at Work

In this week's lesson Scripture, we saw God's plan for Ahaz and Judah. Also, we have recalled how God has overcome obstacles in our lives to carry out His plan, and have been reminded of how faithful God has been in the past.

However, today's challenges are not yesterday's. God is always calling us to new levels of trust in His plan by allowing us to be presented with new obstacles that require us to make choices about how we will respond.

Key Verse: Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted. Isaiah 7:4a KJV

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Isaiah 44:1-5, The Lord Has Chosen Israel.

Tues. Isaiah 44:6-11, Look to the Lord, Not Idols.

Wed. Isaiah 44:12-20, No One Stops to Think.

Thurs. Isaiah 44:21-28, Return to the Lord.
Fri. Isaiah 45:1-8, The Lord Does All Things.
Sat. Isaiah 45:9-17, Listen to What the Lord Says.
Sun. Isaiah 45:18-25, Every Knee Will Bow
before the Lord.

September 28, 2008

Ready for the Extraordinary?

Lesson Focus: God wants to use us in extraordinary ways to do His will.

'God's Unchallenged Power'

Isaiah 44:24-26

'God's Appointment of Cyrus'

Isaiah 45:1,4-7

Lining Up Our Thinking with the Truth

God uses His unlimited power in many ways: to create, to know the future, to save, to fulfill His Word, and to use whomever He wishes for His purposes. He can use us in extraordinary ways to reach others with His message of love and grace. None of our limitations limit God. He delights to demonstrate His power through us.

Key Verse: I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee. KJV Isaiah 44:22

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Isaiah 55:1-7, The Lord Calls Us
to Listen to Him.

Tues. Isaiah 55:8-13, The Lord's Thoughts and
Ways Will Bless Us.

Wed. Isaiah 56:1-8, The Lord's Salvation Is
Close at Hand.

Thurs. Isaiah 56:9-12, The Wicked Turn to
Their Won Ways.

Fri. Isaiah 57:1-6, The Righteous Will Be
Spared from Evil.

Sat. Isaiah 57:7-13, Take Refuge in the Lord.

Sun. Isaiah 57:14-21, There Is No Peace
for the Wicked.

Where would you find the Ten Commandments?

- a. Genesis
- b. Exodus
- c. Numbers

Who interpreted the handwriting on the wall?

- a. Jonah
- b. Daniel
- c. Hosea

What Did Jesus look like (continued from pg. 1)
without any sort of power tools or mechanical digging equipment that are in use today. Unlike many religious pictures that portray Jesus as a pale, skinny, effeminate man with long hair and wearing a flowing white or pink robe (all of which may well be far closer to what Satan looks like), Christ could have looked nothing like that. His appearance would definitely have been that of a tanned, muscular, physically-fit young man dressed in durable and practical clothing - which made Him indistinguishable from the "blue-collar" [Fishermen](#) who were with Him when He was arrested. The prophet Isaiah confirms His ordinary appearance -

"He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:2-5)

Jesus Christ did not have long hair

Hair styles and socially-acceptable length have varied tremendously over the ages, sometimes very short, sometimes very long. Most religious artists portray Christ with long hair. The man in the Shroud of Turin also has long hair. But did Jesus have long hair?

The apostle Paul actually saw Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 9:1). Paul, a trustworthy man who wrote a large part of the New Testament, knew exactly what The Lord looked like. In 1 Corinthians 11:14, Paul wrote, "if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him." It's quite unthinkable that Paul would have made such a statement if Jesus Christ had long hair. How could anything about The Lord be called disgraceful?

Fact Finder: After His resurrection, what did Jesus Christ look like when he appeared to the apostle John when he was on [The Island Of Patmos?](#)
Revelation 1:9,12-18

Daily Scripture Reading:
Read the Holy Bible in a Year.

September

1. ΔJn 9:1-23 Δ2 Chr 6 ΔMal 2:17-3:18
2. ΔJn 9:24-41 Δ2 Chr 7 ΔMal 4
3. ΔJn 10:1-21 Δ2 Chr 8 ΔPs 73
4. ΔJn 10:22-42 Δ2 Chr 9 ΔPs 74
5. ΔJn 11:1-27 Δ2 Chr 10-11 ΔPs 75
6. ΔJn 11:28-57 Δ2 Chr 12-13 ΔPs 76
7. ΔJn 12:1-26 Δ2 Chr 14-15 ΔPs 77
8. ΔJn 12: 27-50 Δ2 Chr 16-17 ΔPs 78:1-20
9. ΔJn 13:1-20 Δ2Chr 18 ΔPs 78:21-37
10. ΔJn 13:21-38 Δ2Chr 19 ΔPs 78:38-55
11. ΔJn 14:1-14 Δ2 Chr 20:1-21:1 ΔPs 78:56-72
12. ΔJn 14:15-31 Δ2 Chr 21:2-22:12 ΔPs 79
13. ΔJn 15:1-16:4a Δ2 Chr 23 ΔPs 80
14. ΔJn 16:4b-33 Δ2 Chr 24 ΔPs 81
15. ΔJn 17 Δ2 Chr 25 ΔPs 82
16. ΔJn 18:1-18 Δ2 Chr 26 ΔPs 83
17. ΔJn 18:19-38a Δ2 Chr 27-28 ΔPs 84
18. ΔJn 18:38b-19:16a Δ2 Chr 29 ΔPs 85
19. ΔJn 19:16b-42 Δ2 Chr 30 ΔPs 86
20. ΔJn 20:1-18 Δ2 Chr 31 ΔPs 87
21. ΔJn 20:19-31 Δ2 Chr 32 ΔPs 88
22. ΔJn 21 Δ2 Chr 33 ΔPs 89:1-18
23. Δ1 Jn 1 Δ2Chr 34 ΔPs 89:19-37
24. Δ1 Jn 2 Δ2 Chr 35 ΔPs 89:38-52
25. Δ1 Jn 3 Δ2 Chr 36 ΔPs 90
26. Δ1 Jn 4 ΔEzra 1-2 ΔPs 91
27. Δ1 Jn 5 ΔEzra 3-4 ΔPs 92
28. Δ2 Jn ΔEzra 5-6 ΔPs 93
29. Δ3 Jn ΔEzra 7-8 ΔPs 94
30. ΔJude ΔEzra 9-10 ΔPs 95

October

1. ΔRev 1 ΔNeh 1-2 ΔPs 96
2. ΔRev 2 ΔNeh 3 ΔPs 97
3. ΔRev 3 ΔNeh 4 ΔPs 98
4. ΔRev 4 ΔNeh 5:1-7:4 ΔPs 99
5. ΔRev 5 ΔNeh 7:5-8:12 ΔPs 100
6. ΔRev 6 ΔNeh 8:13-9:37 ΔPs 101
7. ΔRev 7 ΔNeh 9:38-10:39 ΔPs 102
8. ΔRev 8 ΔNeh 11 ΔPs 103
9. ΔRev 9 ΔNeh 12 ΔPs 104:1-23
10. ΔRev 10 ΔNeh 13 ΔPs 104:24-35
11. ΔRev 11 ΔEsth 1 ΔPs 105:1-25
12. ΔRev 12 ΔEsth 2 ΔPs 105:26-45
13. ΔRev 13 ΔEsth 3-4 ΔPs 106:1-23
14. ΔRev 14 ΔEsth 5:1-6:13 ΔPs 106:24-48
15. ΔRev 15 ΔEsth 6:14-8:17 ΔPs 107:1-22

SEPTEMBER

- 1st Labor Day
- 6th BD: Marc Brooks #
UDT Ordinations @UDT, 6:00 pm
202 Hawthorne Ave. Newark, NJ
- 8th BD: A'Ishah Nath *
- 14th Apostle Robinson @ Vision of Promise,
Lakewood, NJ, 10th Anniversary Service
- 20th BD: Waverly Brooks #
- 21st UDT Covenant Fellowship @ AhhP,
Paterson, 5:00 pm
- 22nd BD: Christian Broddus *
- 23rd BD: Michael Grier
- 28th Feast of Trumpet Service, Overseer
Henry @ AhhP, Paterson, 6:00pm
- 30th Rosh Hashanah

Revival in Durham N.C., by Apostle Robinson
Sept. 17th thru 19th Friendship Fellowship Out-
reach Center, Pastor Julia Harrelson.

OCTOBER

- 1st BD: Evang. Keisha Henry
Sis. Shirret McFadden
Bedriyyan (Dee-Dee) Richardson
- 2nd BD: Bro. Bruce Simmons
- 3rd BD: Earl Perry
- 6th BD: Nyasia Yates *
- 9th Yom Kippur
BD: Evangelist Sarah Snead
- 11th BD: Khyeshia Nath *
- 13th Columbus Day
BD: Daniel Azariah Henry #
BD: James Covington
- 15th. BD: Shaquerra Sanford
- 16th BD: Tammy Peterkin #
- 17th BD: Bro. John Caldwell
BD: Sis. Kelly D. Smith
- 24th BD: India Johnson *
- 26th Anniversary Vernon & Shakema Melvin
- 29th BD: Brother Marcellus Brown #
- 30th BD: Ravynn Moody *
- 31st BD: Donnell Thigpen

Nov. 2nd Daylight Saving Time Ends, Clocks
go back one Hour.

Pastor Brian Nazareth of Atlanta, GA.
Will be at AhhP, Nov. 6th, 7th ,&8th

11/21 Birthday Celebration of Our Prophetess
Laura L. Robinson, at La Neve's , Haledon, NJ,

UDT = United Deliverance Tabernacle

PLEASE READ WITH FAITH.

This is an awesome prayer.

Believe it and you shall be blessed.

The problem with many of us is that we don't believe that God will open a window and pour out blessings that we won't have room to receive them. I dare anyone to try God. He is true to His word. God cannot lie and His promises are sure.

Three things will happen to you this coming Month:

- (1) You will find favor with someone you don't expect;
- (2) You will be too relevant to be ignored;
- (3) You will encounter God and you will never remain the same again.

My prayer for you today:

The eyes beholding this message shall not behold evil, the hands that will send this message to others shall not labor in vain, the mouth saying Amen to this prayer shall laugh forever. Have a lovely journey of life! Trust in the Lord with all your heart and He will never fail you because He is AWESOME !

Heavenly Father, most Gracious and Loving God, I pray to you that you abundantly bless my family and me. I know that you recognize, that a family is more than just a mother, father, sister, brother, husband and wife, but all who believe and trust in you. Father, I send up a prayer request for blessings for not only the person who sent this to me, but for me and all that I know. And that the power of joined prayer by those who believe and trust in You is more powerful than anything. I thank you in advance for your blessings.

Father God, deliver the person reading this right now from all burdens. Release your Godly wisdom that I may be a good steward over all that you have given me. Father, I know how wonderful and mighty You are and if we just obey you



SERVICES

Paterson & Penns Grove

Sunday

Sunday School 10:00 am
Morning Worship Service
12:00 noon

Monday

Business Meeting
(First Monday of Month)
Paterson

Wednesday

Bible Class, Paterson
8:00 pm

Welcome Victors!

You are always welcome at
Assembly Holy House of Prayer,
and we invite you to come back and
worship with us again.

God Bless

*Men and Women, Young and Old,
Please come and join our support groups.
Women of Zion Support Groups
A Righteous Man Group*

Assembly Holy House of Prayer

62 Arch Street
Paterson, NJ 07522
Penns Grove, NJ 08069

***Founders / Senior Pastors / Apostles
Apostle Joseph T. Robinson Sr.
Prophetess Laura L. Robinson***

The difference between major and minor prophets is that

- a. the major prophets had more accurate prophecies.
- b. the major prophets wrote longer books.
- c. the major prophets were older.

Which Old Testament book talks about the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem?

- a. Exodus
- b. Nehemiah
- c. Micah

and walk in your word and have the faith of a mustard seed , you will pour out blessings. I thank you now Lord for the recent blessings I have received and for the blessings yet to come.

I know you are not done with me yet. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen

Remain Blessed!!!

Life by Internet

Since food has replaced sex in my life
now even I can't get into my pants.

Marriage changes passion.
Suddenly you're in bed with a relative.

I saw a woman wearing a sweat shirt with 'Guess' on
it. So I said 'Implants?' She hit me.

How come we choose from just two people to run
for president and over fifty for Miss America ?

I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear
loose-fitting clothing. If I HAD any loose-fitting
clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place!

When I was young we used to go 'skinny dipping,'
now I just 'chunky dunk.'

Don't argue with an idiot; people
watching may not be able to tell the
difference. Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we
messed up our life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt
Delete' and start all over? AMEN, AMEN !!

Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our
life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt Delete' and start
all over? AMEN, AMEN !!

Why is it that our children can't read a Bible in
school, but they can in prison?

Wouldn't you know it...

Brain cells come and brain cells go, but FAT cells
live forever.

Why do I have to swear on the Bible in court when
the Ten Commandments cannot be displayed out-
side?

Bumper sticker of the year:

'If you can read this, thank a teacher -and,
since it's in English, thank a soldier'

And remember: life is like a roll of toilet paper. The
closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

Ya just might want to pass this along....



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