

# **APOSTOLIC DISCIPLESHIP COURSE**

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## **LEVEL 3**

Raymart C. Lugue

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by **Raymart C. Lugue**

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**PHASE 1**  
**UNDERSTANDING**  
**THE GODHEAD**

## LESSON 1

### THE NATURE OF GOD – PART 1

#### I. Introduction

- “And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God...” (Mark 12:29-30)
- *Nature* means the character or personality of a person

#### II. Body

##### A. *God is a Spirit*

- *spirit* is *pneuma* in Hebrew which means breathe; it is *ruwach* in Greek which means *air* or *wind*
- a spirit has no flesh and bones (Luke 24:39)
- “God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).

##### B. *God is Invisible*

- “And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live” (Exodus 33:20).
- “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him” (John 1:18).
- “Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see...” (I Timothy 6:16)

##### C. *God is Immutable (Unchanging)*

- “For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed” (Malachi 3:6).
- He repents and changes course due to the change of man, but changes not the nature.

##### D. *God is Eternal*

- Eternal means no beginning and no ending
- “Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last...” (Isaiah 44:6)
- “The eternal God is thy refuge” (Deuteronomy 33:27a)

#### III. Conclusion

Understanding the nature of God aids us to better understand especially the dual nature of Jesus Christ while on earth.

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## LESSON 2 THE NATURE OF GOD – PART 2

### I. Introduction – Recapitulation of Part 1

### II. Body

#### **A. God is Omnipresent (Everywhere Present)**

- Unlike Satan, evil spirits and angels who can be contained in a specific location (Mark 5:10, Jude 1:6, Revelation 20:1-3)
- "...he be not far from every one of us" (Acts 17:27)
- "Thus saith the LORD, The heaven *is* my throne, and the earth *is* my footstool: where *is* the house that ye build unto me? and where *is* the place of my rest?" (Isaiah 66:1)
- When the Bible says that God came to earth and appeared unto man it means that the focus of His activity was shifted to the earth

#### **B. God is Omniscient (All-knowing)**

- "I know that thou canst do every *thing*, and *that* no thought can be withholden from thee" (Job 42:2).
- "Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God..." (Acts 2:23)

#### **C. God is Omnipotent (All-powerful)**

- "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." (Romans 13:1)
- "Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;" (1 Timothy 6:15)

#### **D. God Has Individuality, Personality and Rationality**

- Intelligent with a will – "Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?" (Romans 9:19)
- Reasoning ability – "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD " (Isaiah 1:18)
- Emotions – "And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Genesis 6:6)

### III. Conclusion

Understanding the nature of God aids us to better understand especially the dual nature of Jesus Christ while on earth.

## LESSON 3

### OLD TESTAMENT EXPLANATIONS – PART 1

#### I. Introduction

##### **A. *Old Testament Teaches One God***

- “In the beginning God...” (Genesis 1:1)
- “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD” (Deuteronomy 6:4)

#### II. Body

##### **A. *“Let Us” in Genesis 1:26***

- God used singular pronouns and nouns in its fulfillment in Genesis 1:27 and Genesis 2:7
- God created everything alone or by himself (Isaiah 44:27)
- There is only one Creator (Malachi 2:10)
- Possible explanations:
  - Angels were present during the creation (Job 38:6-7)
  - God counseled with His own will (Ephesians 1:11)

##### **B. *Appearance to Abraham in Genesis 18:1***

- There were three angels who visited Abraham. In the latter verses it was apparent that the angel was a theophany of the Lord. This was confused to be manifestations of three gods.
- Explanation: Two of the angels that appeared to Abraham went to Sodom (Genesis 19:1) and the One was left talking with Abraham

##### **C. *Son (Messiah) in the Old Testament***

- Trinitarianism believes in three persons who are co-equal and co-eternal. It believes that the Son (Messiah) was con-existing with the Father and the Holy Ghost even in the Old Testament.
- Explanation: (1) The role of Sonship only began in the New Testament when Christ was born (Galatians 4:4). (2) Old Testament Scriptures referring to the Son or the Messiah are all prophetic in nature.

##### **D. *Holy, holy, holy in Isaiah 6:3***

- Threefold repetition does not indicate that God is a trinity
- In Hebrew literary practice, repetitions like this is used for emphasis
- “O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the LORD” (Jeremiah 22:29)”
- “Holy, holy, holy” (also in Revelation) simply emphasizes God’s holiness

## LESSON 4 OLD TESTAMENT EXPLANATIONS – PART 2

### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Part 1

### II. Body

#### A. *Elohim*

- The most commonly used Hebrew word for *God* is *Elohim*
- It is the plural form of *Eloah* which means *God* or *deity*
- However, this doesn't mean plurality of persons
  - “greatness” or “majesty” – the Hebrews pluralized nouns to express greatness (Flanders and Cresson)
  - See singular manifestation of *Elohim* in Genesis 32:30
  - *Elohim* is also used for the singular golden calf (Exodus 32:4)
  - *Elohim* is also used for singular pagan gods such as Dagon (Judges 16:23), Baalzebub (II Kings 1:2-3) and Nisroch (II Kings 19:37)

#### B. *Echad*

- The Hebrew word for *one* in the concept of *God* is *echad*.
- Some believe that it means *unity*. However, its real meaning is indeed *numerical oneness*. Examples:
  - Prophet Micaiah (I Kings 22:8)
  - Abraham (Ezekiel 33:24)
  - List of Gates (Ezekiel 48:3-34)
  - Angel Michael (Daniel 10:13)

#### C. *Ancient of Days in Daniel 7:9-14*

- The confusion comes from “*one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days” in verse 13
- From the description in Daniel 7:9 and Revelation 1:14-15, the Ancient of Days is Jesus Christ.
- The *one like the Son of man* are the saints whom the beast will make war with. The saints will then possess the Kingdom (Daniel 7:21-22 and Revelation 19:19-20)

#### D. *Wisdom of God in Proverbs 1:20-33, 8:1-36*

- Does not mean distinction of persons, but as a personification of wisdom as a literary or poetic device
- The proper view of wisdom in the Bible is to regard it as an attribute of *God* (omniscience)



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## LESSON 5

### NEW TESTAMENT EXPLANATIONS – PART 1

#### I. Introduction

##### **A. *New Testament Teaches One God***

- “...God is one” (Galatians 3:20).
- “One God and Father of all” (Ephesians 4:6).
- “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well” (James 2:19).

#### II. *Body*

##### **A. *Four Important Aids to Understanding (David K. Bernard)***

1. When we see a plural used in reference to Jesus, we must think of the humanity and deity of Jesus Christ.
2. When we read a difficult passage relative to Jesus, we should ask if it describes Him in His role as God or in His role as man, or both.
3. When we see a plural in relation to God, we must view it as a plurality of roles or relationships to mankind, not a plurality of persons.
4. We should remember that the New Testament writers had no conception of the doctrine of the trinity, which was still far in the future at the time they wrote Scripture. They came from a strict monotheistic Jewish background.

##### **B. *Baptism of Christ***

- God’s omnipresence can manifest in different ways at the same time (John 3:13, Matthew 18:20)
- The dove and the voice from heaven are symbolic manifestations:
  - Dove was for the benefit of John (John 1:32-34)
  - Voice was for the benefit of the people
- The purposes of baptism for Christ:
  - Fulfill all righteousness (Matthew 3:15)
  - Starting point of His ministry

##### **C. *Voice from Heaven***

- Three occurrences: (1) baptism of Christ, (2) transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9) and (3) His triumphal entry in Jerusalem (John 12:20-33).
- Again, God’s omnipresence can manifest in different ways at the same time without separating Him into distinct persons.
- The voice was a sign for the people around during the baptism of Christ, for onlooking disciples during the transfiguration and for the Gentile proselytes during the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ.

## LESSON 6 NEW TESTAMENT EXPLANATIONS – PART 2

### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Part 1

### II. Body

#### **A. Prayers of Christ**

- It's a distinction of the Son of God (flesh or Messiah) and God. He is praying as a man; not as God.
- If a God (Son) is praying to the Father as a different person, as Trinitarians believe, this will destroy their belief of co-equality.
- "Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears..." (Hebrews 5:7)

#### **B. "My God, My God, Why Has Thou Forsaken Me" (Matthew 27:46)**

- This doesn't mean separation of the Father and the Son because Jesus is the Father (John 10:30).
- This means that there's no help from the Spirit in His sacrificial death of substitution for humanity.
- It is the human nature feeling the judgment of God due to sins

#### **C. Pre-existence of Jesus**

- Some Scriptures referring to the pre-existence of Jesus: John 8:58, John 6:62, John 16:28 and John 17:5
- These don't teach that Jesus existed separate and apart from the Father because He is the Father (John 10:30)
- The Spirit of Jesus existed from all eternity but His humanity began only in the Incarnation (except as a plan in the mind of God)

#### **D. Matthew 28:19**

- Jesus commanded the disciples to baptize "in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost"
- These titles identify one name (in the *name*; not *names*) and therefore one being
- The disciples fulfilled this command in the Book of Acts (Acts 2:38, 3:6 etc.), baptizing "in the name of Jesus" because *Jesus* is the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

## LESSON 7

### NEW TESTAMENT EXPLANATIONS – PART 3

#### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Parts 1 and 2

#### II. Body

##### **A. *The Son Sent from the Father (John 3:17, 5:30)***

- God Himself manifested in the flesh (II Corinthians 5:19, I Timothy 3:16) and didn't send someone else (John 3:16)
- The Son was sent by God as a man, not as God (Galatians 4:4)
- *Sent* doesn't mean pre-existence, but appointment for a special purpose (like John the Baptist in John 1:6)

##### **B. *Another Comforter in John 14:16***

- This doesn't imply that the Holy Ghost is a separate person in the Godhead. But the Holy Ghost is simply Jesus in another form of manifestation.

##### **C. *The Right Hand of God (Acts 2:34, 7:55)***

- God has no physical right hand because He is a Spirit (John 4:24; I Timothy 6:16; I John 4:12)
- Right hand is symbolic of power (examples: Psalm 16:18, Psalm 98:1, Isaiah 48:13 and Luke 11:20)
- Stephen only saw the exalted Christ

##### **D. *Greetings in the Epistles***

- Such as "the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7)
- The writers simply emphasized two roles and the importance of accepting Jesus in both roles
- The word *and* is from the Greek word *kai* which means *that is* or *even*. Therefore, it is "the Father *that is* the Lord Jesus Christ"

##### **E. *The Lamb in Revelation 5***

- The Book of Revelation is symbolic
- The Lamb symbolizes Jesus Christ in His humanity and sacrificial role
- When we come to heaven, we will not see an actual lamb or a lion

#### III. Conclusion

"For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9)

**PHASE 2**  
**UNDERSTANDING**  
**THE SALVATION**

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## LESSON 8

### THE NEED FOR SALVATION

#### I. Introduction

##### **A. Results of the Fall on Human Race**

- All are concluded under sin (Galatians 3:22)
- Man became the child of the devil (John 8:44; I John 3:8)
- Physical death (Genesis 3:19), spiritual death (Ephesians 4:18; I Timothy 5:6) and eternal death (Revelation 20:14, 21:8)

#### II. Body

##### **A. Man's Condition Outside of Christ**

- "The wicked are estranged from the womb" (Psalm 58:3)
- "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity" (Psalm 51:5)
- "The heart is deceitful...desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9)
- "...bringing me into captivity to the law of sin..." (Romans 7:23)
- "For as many as are...under the curse" (Galatians 3:10)
- "Having the understanding darkened..." (Ephesians 4:18)
- "And God saw...thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5)
- "Being filled with all unrighteousness..." (Romans 1:29)

##### **B. Man's Entire Being Needed Salvation**

- "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly... your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Thessalonians 5:23)
- Man's entire being was affected by the fall:
  - spirit – capable of God-consciousness
  - soul – capable of self-consciousness
  - body – capable of world consciousness (senses)

#### III. Conclusion

##### **A. God's Role in Man's Need for Salvation**

1. God has to deal with sin in a way that is consistent with His justice and appeasing His wrath
2. God has to make man holy without taking away his free will
3. God has to bridge the gap between God and man and restore the lost fellowship (reconciliation).

## LESSON 9 ATONEMENT

### I. Introduction

#### A. *Definition and Origin*

- Definition: Atonement means “to cover”
- Atonement is ordained in heaven (Revelation 13:8; I Peter 1:19-20)
- Atonement is instituted on earth (Genesis 3:21)

### II. Body

#### A. *The Necessity of Atonement*

1. God’s holiness & man’s sinfulness (Leviticus 11:44; Romans 3:23)
2. Separation from God (Isaiah 59:2)
3. Wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23; Galatians 6:7; II Peter 3:9)

#### B. *The Kinsman Redeemer*

- To redeem means to buy back by the paying of a price
- Qualifications of a kinsman redeemer (Leviticus 25:47-49):
  - He must be kin to the man
  - He must be willing to redeem or buy back
  - He must have the price
- God manifesting in the flesh as Christ made these possible (I Corinthians 6:19-20; I Peter 1:18-19)

#### C. *The Effects of Atonement*

1. Pardon of Transgression (John 1:29, 5:24; Ephesians 1:7)
2. Freedom from Sin (Romans 6:14)
3. Deliverance from Death (Hebrews 2:9)
4. Everlasting Life (John 3:14-16)
5. Victorious Life (Luke 10:17-20; Hebrews 2:14-15)

#### D. *Not Just Covering after Christ’s Death*

- Blotted out (Jeremiah 18:23; Isaiah 43:25)
- Removed (Isaiah 6:7)
- Cast into the depth of the sea (Micah 7:19)
- Pardoned (Psalm 78:38)
- Cast behind God’s back (Isaiah 38:17)

### III. Conclusion

“Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us...and took it out of the way nailing it to the cross” (Colossians 2:14)

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## LESSON 10

### THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

#### I. Introduction

##### **A. *The Significance of His Resurrection***

- "...then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain... ye are yet in you sins... we are of all men most miserable" (I Corinthians 15:13-19)
- The resurrection of Christ's body proves the deity of Jesus and the atonement to save sinners

#### II. Body

##### **A. *Proof of the Resurrection***

- In Matthew 28:11-15, Mark 16:6 and I Corinthians 15, the following are witnesses to the resurrection:
  - The women at the tomb
  - The angels
  - The disciples
  - Roman guards
  - 500 brethren

##### **B. *The Nature of the Resurrection***

- Christ literally rose from the grave (John 20:27; Luke 24:37-39)
- Christ rose with a real body (Luke 24:36-43; John 20:24-29)
- Christ's body can no more taste death (Romans 6:9-10)
- Christ was the first-fruits of the resurrection (I Corinthians 15:20)
- He could pass through barred doors and vanish (John 20:19)
- He ate and drank in the presence of His disciples (Acts 10:41)
- His body bore the marks of His passion (John 20:24-29)

#### III. Conclusion

##### **A. *The Meaning of the Resurrection for Humanity***

1. The resurrection brings assurance of justification
  - "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification" (Romans 4:25)
2. The resurrection brings assurance of our resurrection
  - "...hath quickened us together with Christ" (Ephesians 2:5)
3. The resurrection makes eternal life certain (John 14:19)
  - "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again... that where I am, *there* ye may be also" (John 14:13)

## LESSON 11

### SALVATION IN THREE TENSES

#### I. Introduction

##### **A. *Salvation is by Grace***

- “For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law...But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh...” (Romans 2:4-6)
- “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8)

#### II. Body

##### **A. *Justification – Past Tense***

- We have been saved from the penalty of sin
- “In whom we have redemption through his blood the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace” (Ephesians 1:7)
- “According to his mercy he saved us” (Titus 3:5)
- “For by grace are ye saved through faith” (Ephesians 2:8)

##### **B. *Sanctification – Present Tense***

- We are being saved from the power (habit) of sin
- “Sin shall not have dominion over you” (Romans 6:14)
- “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” (Philippians 2:12-13)
- “Are changed into the same image from glory to glory” (II Corinthians 3:18)
- “...that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” (II Peter 1:4)

##### **C. *Glorification – Future Tense***

- We are to be saved from the presence (consequences) of sin
- “Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed” (Romans 13:11)
- “Unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (I Peter 1:5)
- “Who shall change our vile body” (Philippians 3:20-21)

#### III. Conclusion

“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid...” (Romans 6:1-2)



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## LESSON 12

### ASPECTS OF SALVATION: JUSTIFICATION

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Definition

- Justification is the change in a man's relation or standing with God.
- to declare or cause to appear innocent or righteous (Deuteronomy 25:1)
- "unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity..." (Psalm 32:2)

#### II. Body

##### A. What it Consist of

1. Forgiveness of sin and removal of its guilt
  - "Just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned"
  - "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk... after the Spirit" (Romans 8:1)
  - "...through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things..." (Acts 13:38-39)
2. Imputation of the righteousness of Christ
  - "Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe" (Romans 3:22)
  - "...so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous" (Romans 5:19)

##### B. How Are We Justified

1. Not By Works
  - "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified" (Romans 3:20)
  - "Not of works lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:9)
2. By Faith
  - "Therefore being justified by faith" (Romans 5:1)
  - "...but by the faith of Jesus Christ...that we might be justified by the faith of Christ" (Galatians 2:16)

#### IV. Conclusion

Works must follow our faith as evidence of our faith. "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" (James 2:20)

## **LESSON 13**

### **ASPECTS OF SALVATION: REGENERATION**

#### **I. Introduction**

##### ***A. Definition***

- By regeneration, we are admitted into the Kingdom of God
- Spiritual quickening: regeneration is the impartation of a new and divine life; a new creation. It is not the old nature altered or reformed; it is a new birth from above.
  - “By these ye might be partakers of the divine nature” (II Peter 1:4)
  - “Put on the new man... created in righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24)

#### **II. Body**

##### ***A. The Necessity of Regeneration***

1. The Need is Universal
  - “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God” (John 3:3)
2. Man’s Sinful Condition Demands It
  - “That which is born of the flesh is flesh” (John 3:6)
  - “...in my flesh dwelleth no good thing” (Romans 7:18)
3. The Holiness of God Demands It
  - “Follow peace with all men, and holiness: without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14)

##### ***B. The Means of Regeneration***

1. A Divine Work
  - “Born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man but of God” (John 1:13)
  - “Be born...of the Spirit” (John 3:5)
2. Man’s Part
  - “As many as receive him...” (John 1:12)
3. Born of Water
  - “By the washing of regeneration” (Titus 3:5)
  - “Except a man be born of water...” (John 3:5)
4. Born of Spirit
  - “Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Romans 8:9)

#### **III. Conclusion**

“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16)

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## LESSON 14

### ASPECTS OF SALVATION: ADOPTION

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Definition

- Adoption is the act of choosing and placing a child
- It signifies that we become God's adult sons (after regeneration or new birth) and heirs by His conscious choice
- It refers to our position as sons of God with all the rights associated with the status

#### II. Body

##### A. Paul's Analogy of Adoption in Galatians 4:1-7

- Paul used the word *adoption* to describe the change of status
- Before the death of Christ, people lived under the bondage to the world (Galatians 4:3)
- After the atonement made by Christ, we received the Spirit and became entitled to the inheritance which God had planned (Galatians 4:6-7)

##### B. Paul's Analogy of Adoption in Romans 8:14-17

- The man Christ is the only begotten of the Father and the only One who is entitled to be an heir.
- After the new birth experience, we were adopted into God's family as younger brothers and sisters of the man Christ, thus, we become co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17)

##### C. The Process of Adoption

- It originates in God's grace and choice (Ephesians 1:4-5)
- It comes through faith (Galatians 3:26)
- It occurs by water baptism and Spirit baptism
  - "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27)
  - "...but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father" (Romans 8:15)
  - "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body" (I Corinthians 12:13)

#### III. Conclusion

We have not yet inherited the full benefits of adoption; we are still awaiting for the fullness at Christ's return. "...even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." (Romans 8:23)

## **LESSON 15**

### **ASPECTS OF SALVATION: SANCTIFICATION**

#### **I. Introduction**

##### **A. Definition**

- Sanctification means separation from evil and dedication to God
- It is basically equivalent to holiness (see other chapters)
- It is the process of becoming righteous or like Christ

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. Relative Perfection**

- The Bible teaches that we can attain maturity and perfection in this life (II Corinthians 3:18; 7:1; Ephesians 4:11-15)
- This is not absolute perfection (referring only to God), but relative perfection, just as two children at different stages of development can both be perfectly normal and healthy.

##### **B. Tenses of Sanctification**

1. Past Tense – Instantaneous Sanctification
  - “And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified...” (I Corinthians 6:11)
2. Present Tense – Progressive Sanctification
  - “Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (II Peter 3:18)
  - “But we...are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of our God” (II Corinthians 3:18)
3. Future Tense – Complete Sanctification
  - “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after... I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:12-14)
  - “...we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is” (I John 3:2)

#### **III. Conclusion**

##### **A. How Sanctification Happens**

- By grace through faith on the basis of Christ’s sacrifice (Acts 26:18; Hebrews 10:10; I Thessalonians 5:23)
- Initial act of sanctification in new birth experience (I Corinthians 6:11)
- The progressive sanctification comes by the operation of the indwelling Spirit (II Thessalonians 2:13; I Peter 1:2)

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## LESSON 16

### QUESTIONS ON WATER BAPTISM – PART 1

#### I. Introduction

- “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15)

#### II. Body

##### **A. John's Baptism (Mark 1:2-4; Luke 3:3-4)**

- John's baptism was transitory and designed to prepare the Jewish people for Christ's message and Christian baptism (Matthew 3:3)
- John's disciples were rebaptized in Jesus' name after the Day of Pentecost (Acts 19:1-5)
- His baptism both motivated and displayed repentance (Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:5)
- John's baptism cannot remit sins, nor could it deal with future sins for it was before the atoning death of Christ.

##### **B. The Baptism of Christ**

- Christ was without sin (Hebrews 4:15), thus, He was not baptized to show repentance. The purpose of His baptism was for the following:
  - To manifest Himself to Israel as Messiah and the Holy Ghost Baptizer (John 1:31-34)
  - To fulfill all righteousness; an example to follow (Matthew 3:15)

##### **C. Infant Baptism**

- Saving faith is a conscious, voluntary response to God:
  - “He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved...” (Mark 16:16)
  - “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest...” (Acts 8:37)
  - “Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance” (Luke 3:8)
  - “Repent, and be baptized...” (Acts 2:38)
- Infant baptism, therefore, is not valid and can't be valid later in life since infants do not have a conscious faith.

#### III. Conclusion

It is important to clarify doubts on water baptism because baptism is Christ's command (Matthew 28:19) and part of our salvation (Mark 16:16).

## **LESSON 17**

### **QUESTIONS ON WATER BAPTISM – PART 2**

#### **I. Introduction**

- “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear” (I Peter 3:15)
- Recapitulation of Part 1

#### **II. Body**

##### ***A. Baptism Without Prior Repentance***

- “The eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest...” (Acts 8:36-37)
- If the candidate manifests a failure to repent, the minister could refuse the baptism even as John did.
- Possible cases and actions:
  - The person should be rebaptized if his baptism is an infant baptism.
  - If an adult is baptized for social pressure only, he should be rebaptized after he possesses personal faith and repentance.
  - When an adult sees his need of God and feels a desire to live for God, and is baptized, and realizes later he had not completely repented, there is no need for rebaptism.
  - A person who was baptized and was backslidden needs no rebaptism if he later returns to live for God.

##### ***B. Baptism for the Dead***

- “It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27)
- The Bible doesn’t teach that souls can be saved after death, thus, baptism in behalf of dead people is not biblical.

##### ***C. Sins After Baptism***

- “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (I John 1:9)
- “And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (I John 2:1)

#### **III. Conclusion**

It is important to clarify doubts on water baptism because baptism is Christ’s command (Matthew 28:19) and part of our salvation (Mark 16:16).

## LESSON 18

### QUESTIONS ON SPEAKING IN TONGUES – PART 1

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Definition

- Speaking in tongues is the supernatural gift of speaking in another language without its having been learnt (Vine).
- The languages can be either human or angelic in nature (I Corinthians 13:1)

#### II. Body

##### A. *Is Speaking in Tongues a Biblical Experience?*

- Day of Pentecost: “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:14)
- Cornelius: “...the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word... For they heard them speak with tongues” (Acts 10:44-46)
- Disciples of John the Baptist: “...the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues” (Acts 19:6)
- Apostle Paul: “I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all” (I Corinthians 14:18)

##### B. *Why Did God Choose Tongues?*

1. The last member of the body to be surrendered to God is the tongue for it seems that it is the most difficult part of the body to control (James 3:8)
2. In contrast to the repercussion of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9), speaking in tongues symbolizes the unity of the church.
3. Speaking in tongues is recognizable under any circumstances and universal in application.
4. Speaking in tongues provides certainty about one’s experience with God. One can know he is saved.

#### III. Conclusion

- Speaking in tongues is the only outward manifestation recorded in the Bible to appear in more than one account. It is also the only one to occur when one experience the baptism of the Spirit.
- Speaking in tongues is therefore the initial evidence that one has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

## LESSON 19

### QUESTIONS ON SPEAKING IN TONGUES – PART 2

#### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Part 1

#### II. Body

##### **A. Can Anyone “Learn” to Speak in Tongues?**

- It is the Spirit that gives the utterance (Acts 2:4)
- When God baptizes someone with His Spirit, He directs the speech using one’s physiological body – brain cells, voice box, mouth and tongue. It is possible that the words will be stored in the brain.
- The next time the Spirit is stirred, one can speak new words or God may activate the existing words in one’s memory.
- Therefore, even without the moving of the Spirit, the person can utter words that were at one time given by the Spirit.

##### **B. Can Tongues Be Imitated?**

- Satan has power to perform many supernatural things and often tries to imitate the workings of God (Exodus 7:10-12; Revelation 13:2).
- We must therefore be careful about this with proper discernment.

##### **C. Did Tongues Cease in the Early Church?**

- Notice I Corinthians 13:8-10 – “...whether there be tongues, they shall cease... But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away”
- Explanations:
  - The spiritual gifts, including tongues, will reside in the church until the second coming of Christ (I Corinthians 1:2, 7)
  - “That which is perfect” refers to Christ and His Second Coming
  - God uses miracles, signs and spiritual gifts to confirm the Word (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:4)
  - According to verse 8, tongues will cease at the same time as prophecy and knowledge. However, it is obvious that the church still has prophecy and knowledge

#### III. Conclusion

Many believe that the tongues and miracle cease on the day of Pentecost. Some believe that tongues are Satanic. Thus, the Bible warns us, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines” (Hebrews 13:8-9).



## LESSON 20

### QUESTIONS ON SPEAKING IN TONGUES – PART 3

#### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Parts 1 and 2

#### II. Body

##### **A. *The Gift of Tongues (I Corinthians 12-14)***

- Many believe that since *divers kinds of tongues* is one of the twelve supernatural gifts (I Corinthians 12:10), speaking in tongues is not necessary for all to experience.
- In order to explain this, we have to understand the three purposes of speaking in tongues in the New Testament Church:
  1. Speaking in tongues is the initial sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Because everyone needs to be baptized, everyone must therefore experience speaking in tongues for this purpose. (Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:6)
  2. A Spirit-filled person can exercise the gift of tongues in personal devotions (in private or public) for personal edification (I Corinthians 12:8-10; 14:1-5; 14-18)
  3. A Spirit-filled person can exercise the gift of tongues for the edification of the local congregation if it comes with an interpretation (I Corinthians 12:8-10; 28-30; 14:5; 12-13; 27-28)
- Paul was talking with the people of the church in Corinth who were already Spirit-filled about the gift of tongues; not with people who need to experience speaking in tongues as an initial sign.

##### **B. *After Holy Spirit Baptism***

- After the occurrence of the initial Spirit baptism, frequent tongues does not necessarily signify spirituality.
- Many more significant signs of God's abiding presence in one's life must exist; such as the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), love and obedience (John 13:34-35).
- Being filled with the Spirit of God is different from being led by the Spirit (Romans 8:4, 14)

#### III. Conclusion

Speaking in tongues is indeed a supernatural work of God. Material blessings and miracles are the least which the Kingdom of God offers. The highest form of miracle is someone who is being filled with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues.

# **PHASE 2**

## **EXTRATERRESTRIAL**

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## LESSON 21

### ANGELS

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Description

- Hebrew word *mal'ak* and Greek word *angelos* which both mean *messenger*
- They are *ministering spirits* (Hebrews 1:14)
- They have no gender (Matthew 22:30)
- They are multiple in number (Matthew 26:53)

#### II. Body

##### A. Various Orders of Angels

RANK	REFERENCE
Archangels	Daniel 10:13; 8:16
Cherubim	Genesis 3:24
Seraphim	Isaiah 6:1

##### B. Power of Angels

- “Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might” (II Peter 2:11)
- “Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength” (Psalm 103:20)
- One angel smote 185,000 Assyrians (Isaiah 37:26)
- One angel has power to lay hold of Satan (Revelation 20:2-10)

##### C. Fallen Angels

- “...the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment” (II Peter 2:4)
- “And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day” (Jude 6)

#### III. Conclusion

##### A. Angelic Ministry to the Church

1. Minister to the heirs of salvation (Hebrews 1:14)
2. Rejoice when a sinner repents (Luke 15:10)
3. Encampeth around about them that fear the Lord (Psalm 34:7)
4. Charge over them to bear them up (Psalm 91:11)

## LESSON 22

### DEVIL

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Description

- Greek word *diabolos* which means *accuser*
- Refers to Satan together with his cohorts.
- Satan's cohorts are (1) the evil spirits who are behind sins and can possess a body, and (2) the fallen angels who rebelled with him as Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12) and during the days of Noah (Genesis 6:2-4)

#### II. Body

##### A. His Distinct Titles

Angel of Light (II Corinthians 11:14)	Roaring lion (I Peter 5:8)
Power of darkness (Colossians 1:13)	Serpent (Revelation 12:9)
God of this world (II Corinthians 4:4)	Apollyon (Revelation 9:11)
Prince of this world (John 14:30)	Dragon (Revelation 12:9)
Prince of the power of air (Eph. 2:2)	

##### B. His Work

- “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (I Peter 5:8)
- “...the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night” (Revelation 12:10)
- “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy” (John 10:10)
- “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them” (II Corinthians 4:4)

#### III. Conclusion

- “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12)
- The destiny of the Devil: He will be cast out of heaven to the earth (Revelation 12:7-9), He will be chained by an angel (Revelation 20:1-3) and cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand years, he will be loosed for a little season and battle against God, and finally, he will be cast into the lake of fire forever (Revelation 20:7-10).

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## LESSON 23

### HELL

#### I. Introduction

##### A. *Today's Controversy*

- Many preachers, like Billy Graham, teach that hell and its fire is not literal (Billy Graham, *The Challenge*, Sermons from Madison Square Garden, pages 74-75)

#### II. Body

##### A. *Hell in the Old Testament*

- *Sheol* in Old Testament Hebrew
- Used by Old Testament writers in two manners:
  1. Figuratively
    - “The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me” (Psalm 116:3)
  2. Literally
    - “Hell from beneath is moved for thee” (Isaiah 14:9)
    - “But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell” (Proverbs 9:18)

##### B. *Hell in the New Testament*

- Greek words *hades* and *tartaroo* which are all literal places
- Hell is a literal place in the New Testament (and Old Testament)

##### C. *Five Compartments*

1. Grave – an excavation made in the earth to bury a dead body; any place of internment; a tomb
2. Tartaroo - compartment where fallen angels are kept, reserved in chains of darkness until the judgment of God (II Peter 2:4)
3. Bottolmess pit – place where the antichrist will come from (Revelation 17:8; 11:7) and where Satan will be bound (Revelation 20:3)
4. Hades – the temporary place for the wicked (Luke 16:23)
5. Lake of Fire – place where the beast, false prophet, Satan, death, hades and those who are not in the book of life will be cast down (Revelation 19:20; 20:10-15)

#### III. Conclusion

“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41).

## LESSON 24 HEAVEN

### I. Introduction

#### A. *Names Describing Heaven*

1. Paradise (Revelation 2:7; II Corinthians 12:4)
2. Father's House (John 14:2)
3. Heavenly Country (Hebrews 11:13-16)
4. A City (Hebrews 11:10)
5. New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:2)

### II. Body

#### A. *Three Phases of Heaven*

1. Intermediate state of rest in paradise awaiting the resurrection
2. Judgment for faithfulness (II Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 22:12)
3. New Jerusalem (Revelation 21)

#### B. *The Blessings of Heaven*

- Light and Beauty: "And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof" (Revelation 21:23)
- Fullness of Knowledge: "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (I Corinthians 13:12)
- Rest: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (Revelation 14:13)
- Joy: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Revelation 21:4)
- Service: "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple" (Revelation 17:5)

### III. Conclusion – The Greatest Blessing of Heaven

- "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also" (John 14:3)
- "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better" (Philippians 1:23)