

Bible Doctrines

BTH – 106TD



www.seminary.ws

1-866-45-BIBLE

Operation Test Drive Course...

This abbreviated sample course will give the prospective student an idea of what a CTS course will be like. It also includes abbreviated homework. Exams are not included. Courses in programs which use materials from the National Christian Counselors Association or the Institute of Theological Studies will be different and are not in the Test Drive Program. In addition to reading the Study Guide and taking the exams, the student will need to do outside reading and paper writing per the Seminary catalog, website or mentor instructions in the regular program.

Colorado Theological Seminary

Table of Contents

I.	God	3
II.	The Bible	9
III.	Covenants	15
IV.	Repentance and New Birth	17
V.	Faith towards God	22
VI.	Benefits of the Cross	23
VII.	Water Baptism	30
VIII.	Baptism of the Holy Spirit	33
IX.	Prayer	39
X.	Tithes and Offering	45
XI.	Fruit of the Spirit	56
XII.	Gifts of the Spirit	61
XIII.	Praise and Worship	66
XIV.	Ministries and Gifts in the Church	70
XV.	Laying on of Hands	78
XVI.	Satan	79
XVII.	Resurrection of the Dead	85
XVIII.	Eternal Judgment	88

I. LESSON ONE - GOD

A. What Does the Word "God" Mean?

The word God, one who is worshiped, is a title men use to describe the Supreme Being. He is wise enough, able enough, and strong enough to create and maintain all things (De.4:39; Is.44:6).

B. Can We Understand God?

Yes. God does not hide from His creation in high and holy places. He made Himself a physical part of the creation and provision to dwell within His creation. He dwells in the bodies of men (Je.9:24; Ac.17:24,25,27,28).

The Judeo-Christian view is that the physical world declares God's glory and creative power (Ps.148:3-5; Ro.1:18-20). The view of many unbelievers is that the creation itself is a Divine entity (De.4:19; 2Kg.23:5) with a force that controls human destiny (Is.47:13). Others believe it came about by chance. The true Believer rejects these views, accepts the Scriptural revelation about the universe, and is thus moved to praise the Maker.

C. Is God in Nature?

Yes. All the laws of nature were spoken by God in the beginning. God is not worshiped by worshiping His creation, but by worshiping Him. We do not understand God by observing nature, but by the study of His Word (Ge.1:1; Ps.19:1; Jn.5:39).

D. What is God?

God is Spirit. He is a personal being without flesh and blood and therefore invisible (Jn.4:24; He.11:27).

1. The Bible reveals God.

God is revealed in the Bible as an infinite, eternal, self-existent being who the first cause of all that is. Never was there a moment when God did not exist. As Moses affirms, God was from everlasting to everlasting (Ps.90:2). In other words, God existed eternally and infinitely before creating the finite universe. He is above, independent of and prior to all that has been created in heaven and on earth (1Ti.6:16; Co.1:16).

2. In His image

God is revealed as a personal Being who created Adam and Eve in His own image (Ge.1:26-27). Because Adam and Eve were created in God's image, they could respond to and have fellowship with God in a loving and personal way.

3. Moral Being

God is also revealed as a moral Being who created everything good and is therefore without sin. After God had finished creating and was surveying what He had made, He observed that it was very good (Ge.1:31). Since Adam and Eve were created in God's image and likeness, they were also without sin. Sin entered human existence when Eve was tempted by the serpent or Satan (Ge.3; Ro.5:12; Re.12:9).

E. What Attributes (Qualities) Belong to God?

1. He is eternal, unlimited by time, a non-moral attribute. Read Psalms 90:1-2 and Genesis 21:33. This phrase refers to God's eternal existence, having neither beginning nor end.
 - a. Everlasting (Hebrew "olam"), does not necessarily mean that God transcends time, but rather connotes His endless duration in time (Ps.48:14; Ge.21:33; Job 10:5). Scripture does not teach that God exists in some kind of eternal present, where there is neither past nor future.
 - b. Those Bible passages that affirm God's eternity do so in terms of continuation, not timelessness. God knows the past as past, the present as present, and the future as future.
2. He is unchangeable, unaffected by circumstances, a non-moral attribute (Mal.3:6).

There is no change in God's attributes, in His perfections or in His purpose for humankind (Nu.23:19; Ps.102:26-28; Is.41:4; Mal.3:6; He.1:11-12; Ja.1:17). This does not mean, however, that God never alters His temporary purposes in response to the actions of humans. He may, for example, alter His intentions of judgment because of the sincere repentance of sinners (Jn.3:6-10). Furthermore, He remains free to respond to the needs of human beings, and to the prayers of His people. The Bible speaks of God changing His mind as a result of the diligent prayers of the righteous.

3. He is omnipotent, almighty, all powerful, a non-moral attribute (Ge.17:1; Mt.19:26; Re.19:6; Ps.62:11; Mk.14:62; Ep.1:19).

This does not mean, however, that God uses all His power and authority at all times; for example, God has the power to destroy all sin, but He has chosen not to do so until the end of history (1Jn.5:19). In many cases, God limits His power, channeling it through His people (2Co.12:7-10); in these cases, His power is dependent on our degree of availability and submission to Him.

4. He is omniscient, all knowing, a non-moral attribute (Ps.139:4; 1Jn3:20; He.4:13).

He knows not only our actions, but also our very thoughts (1Sa.16:7; 1Kg. 8:39; Ps.44:21; Je.17:9-10). When the Bible speaks of God's foreknowledge (Is.42:9; Ac.2:23; 1Pe.1:2), it means that He knows all things possible as possible, all things certain as certain, all things contingent as contingent, all things future as future, all things past as past, and all things foreordained as predestined certainties (1Sa.23:10-13; Je.38:17-20). Biblical foreknowledge does not entail philosophical determinism. God remains free to make decisions and alter His purposes in time and history, according to His own will and wisdom. In other words, God is not a prisoner of His own foreknowledge.

5. He is omnipresent, present everywhere, unlimited by space, a non-moral attribute (Je.23:24; Ps.139:8).

He is everywhere at the same time. The psalmist states that no matter where we go, God is there (Ps.139:7-12; Je.23:23-24; Ac.17:27-28). God observes everything we do.

6. He is holy, sinless and hating sin, absolutely pure, a moral attribute (Le.19:2; Is.6:3).

He is completely without sin and absolutely righteous (Le.11:44-45; Ps.85:13; 145:17; Mt.5:48). Adam and Eve were created without sin, but with the capability of sinning. God, on the other hand, cannot sin (Nu.23:19; 2Ti.2:13; Ti.1:2; He.6:18). His holiness also includes His dedication to carrying out His purposes and plan.

7. He is just, fair and impartial. Truth is the basis of His righteousness, a moral attribute (De.32:4).

Jesus called Himself the Truth (Jn.14:6), and the Spirit is known as the "Spirit of Truth" (Jn.14:17; 1Jn.5:6). Because God is entirely trustworthy and true in

all He says and does, His Word is also described as truth (2Sa.7:28; Ps.119:43; Is.45:19; Jn.17:17). In keeping with this fact, the Bible makes it plain that God does not tolerate lies or falsehood of any kind (Nu.23:19; Ti.1:2, He.6:18).

8. He is faithful, keeping His promises, absolutely trustworthy, a moral attribute (2Ti.2:13; De.7:9).

God will do what He has revealed in His Word, carrying out both His promises and His warnings (Nu.14:32-35; 2Sa.7:28; Job 34:12; Ac.13:23, 32-33). God's faithfulness should birth unspeakable comfort to Believers and great fear of judgment to all who do not repent and believe in the Lord Jesus (He.6:4-8; 10:26-31).

9. He is benevolent, good, kind, desiring our welfare, a moral attribute. (Ps.145:9; 52:1; 1Jn.1:5; 1Ch.16:34)

10. He is compassionate, full of pity, a moral attribute. (Ps.145:8; Ex.34:6-7)

To be compassionate means to feel sorrow for someone else's suffering, with a desire to help. Out of His compassion for humanity, God provided forgiveness and Salvation (Ps.78:38); likewise, Jesus showed compassion for the crowds when He preached the Gospel to the poor, proclaimed freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, and released the oppressed (Lk.4:18; Mt.9:36: 14:14; 15:32; 20:34; Mk.1:41).

11. He is gracious, showing undeserved kindness, forgiving, a moral attribute (Ex.22:27; Ps.145:8; 1Pe.2:3).

He does not cut off and destroy humanity as our sins deserve (Ps.103:10) but offers forgiveness as a free gift to be received through faith in Jesus Christ.

12. He is love, a moral attribute (1Jn.4:8).

His love is a selfless love that embraces the entire world of sinful humankind (Jn.3:16; Ro.5:8). The chief expression of that love was His sending of His only Son, Jesus, to die for sinners (1Jn.4:9-10). In addition, God has a special family love for those who through Jesus are reconciled to Him.

The more we learn of God's attributes the better we will know Him. We need to know His character. We will then understand His will clearer and have a better relationship with our God.

F. How big is God?

God is bigger than the entire universe. His hands are large enough to measure the waters. He can weigh the mountains in His scales. He covers all. There are no instruments of men that can measure Him (Is.40:12, 22).

G. Where is God?

God's home and throne are in a place called heaven, but He inhabits the whole earth. We cannot hide from God. His eyes see everything. We cannot escape from God, for He is everywhere (Is.66:1; Pr.15:3; Ps.139:7-8).

H. What is the Trinity?

The word trinity is not used in the Bible, but the Scriptures teach one God who has revealed Himself in three personalities - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The word "tri-unity" is a better way to describe the three-in-one (1Jn.5:7; De.6:4; Mt.28:19; Co.2:9; Ge.1:26; 3:22).

I. How are the Three Personalities Distinguished?

The Father has begotten the Son; the Son is begotten of the Father; Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. To the Father especially is ascribed the work of creation; to the Son, the work of redemption; and to Holy Spirit, the work of sanctification (Ps.2:7; Jn.15:26; Ga.4:6; 1Ti.3:16).

J. Is it Possible to understand the "Mystery of the Triune God?"

Not completely. Although God is a mystery, something beyond comprehension, we can gain a satisfactory understanding of Him through the anointed Word of God (Jn.1:1; 17:11, 23; 1Co.2:10).

1. The entire Trinity, not just the Father, had a role in creation.
 - a. The Son is the powerful Word through whom God created all things. In the prologue to John's Gospel, Christ is revealed as the eternal Word of God (Jn.1:1,3). Likewise, the Apostle Paul affirms that by Christ were all things made (Co.1:16). Finally, the author of the letter to the Hebrews asserts emphatically that by His Son, God made the universe (He.1:2).
 - b. Likewise, the Holy Spirit had an active role in the work of creation. He is pictured as hovering over the creation, preserving and preparing it for God's further creative activity. The Hebrew word for Spirit, "ruach", may also be translated as

wind and breath. Thus, the psalmist affirms the role of the Spirit when he says that by the Word of the Lord were the starry host made by the breath of his mouth (Ps.33:6). Also, the Holy Spirit continues to be involved in sustaining creation (Job 33:4).

K. What is God's Name?

God uses many names, and the various names of God reveal something of His character and His nature. But the name by which God originally revealed Himself was "YHVH". This is sometimes shortened to Yah in the Poetry Books. The meaning of this word is "I AM." When we read the word Yehovah in the Bible, this is God, revealed as "YAH" or "I AM." Yehovah, "YAH," or "I AM" is in the Bible 2,570 times (Ex.3:14).

I AM WHO I AM. The Lord gave Himself this personal name, from which is derived the Hebrew "Yahweh", a phrase that indicates action. God was in effect saying to Moses that He wanted to be known as the God who was present and active.

1. Inherent in the name "Yahweh" is the promise of the living presence of God Himself, day by day with His people. It expresses His faithful love and care and His desire to redeem His people and live in fellowship with them. This corresponds with the fundamental promise of the covenant (Ge.17:7). The Lord states that His will is to be His name forever.
2. It is significant that when Jesus Christ was born, He was called Immanuel, meaning God with us (Mt.1:23). He also called Himself by the name "I am" (Jn.8:58).

L. Was This Name Sacred?

Yes. Israel never pronounced this name. They were afraid they would take or use His name in vain. This is the reason we often find the word "LORD" (with all four letters capitalized) used in the Old Testament. Whenever the Old Testament scribes, those who copied the Scriptures, came to the word YHVH they wrote LORD, instead of YHVH (Le.24:16; Ex.20:7).

M. Does God Reveal Himself Through Jesus as the Great "I AM?"

Yes! (Jn.8:23-24, 58; 13:19)

N. How is God the Holy Spirit Identified With Jesus?

Jesus is identified with Holy Spirit because of Holy Spirit activity in His life and

ministry, but the most important identification is through the name. Holy Spirit is the anointing, meaning "the Christ." Jesus is called "the Christ" (Ac.2:36; Lk.2:26).

O. What is the New Testament Name for God?

Jesus commissioned the disciples to baptize "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." The Apostles, in obedience, used the name "Lord Jesus Christ" in their ministry (Mt.28:19; Ac.2:38).

P. What is the Complete New Testament Name for the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit?

"Lord," the YHVH (Yah) of the Old Testament

"Jesus," the earthly name, the name of His humanity

"Christ," the name of the Spirit, the Anointing, the Messiah

II. LESSON TWO - THE BIBLE

A. What is the Bible?

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. It is the only authoritative source for which we can give instruction about God (Ex.24:4; Jn.7:17; 1Th.2:13). The Greek word "biblios" means "The Book."

1. Scripture is God breathed.

Paul affirms that all Scripture is God-breathed (Gr. "*theopneustor*", from two Greek words: "*theos*", meaning God, and "*pneo*", meaning to breathe). Scripture is the very living Word of God. Down to the very words of the original manuscripts, the Bible is without error, absolutely true, trustworthy and infallible. This is true not only when it speaks of Salvation, ethical values and morality, but it is also without error on all subjects about which it speaks, including history and the cosmos (2Pe.1:20-21).

2. God's Word came to the writers.

The Old Testament writers were conscious of the fact that what they said to the people and what they wrote down was God's Word to them (De.18:18; 2Sa.23:2). Over and over the prophets prefaced their comments with, "This is what the Lord says."

B. Who Wrote the Bible?

The Bible was written by holy men of God. Prophets and certain Priests were moved by Holy Spirit to write the Books of the Old Testament, and the same Holy Spirit moved upon Evangelists and Apostles to write the Books of the New Testament (2Pe.1:21).

C. Why is the Bible the Word of God although it was written by Man?

Read 2 Timothy 3:16. This refers primarily to the Old Testament writings (2Ti.3:15). There is an indication that at about the time Paul wrote 2 Timothy, some New Testament writings were already viewed as inspired and authoritative Scripture (1Ti.5:18; Lk.10:7; 2Pe.3:15-16). For us today, Scripture refers to the authoritative writings of both the Old Testament and New Testament; in other words it is "the Bible." They are God's original messages to humanity and the only infallible witness to God's saving activity for all people.

D. What does "by Inspiration of God" Mean?

By "inspiration of God," we mean that God, the Holy Spirit, moved the holy men to write, and breathed into their minds the very thoughts which they expressed and the very words which they wrote (2Pe.1:21; 1Co.2:13).

E. Whose Word Then, is Every Word of the Bible?

Every word of the Bible is God's Word, and therefore the Bible is without error (Jn.17:17; 10:35; 2Ti.3:16). Jesus Christ taught that Scripture is God's inspired Word to even the smallest detail (Mt.5:18). He also affirmed that all He said He received from the Father and is true (Jn.5:19, 30-31; 7:16; 8:26). He further spoke of revelation to come from the Holy Spirit through the Apostles (Jn.16:13; 14:16-17; 15:26-27).

F. What is God's Purpose for Giving Us the Bible?

God gave us the Bible to make us "wise unto Salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" and to train us in holy living (Ps.119:105; 2Ti.3:15-17).

G. What Use Should We Make of the Bible?

We should study the Scriptures diligently and reverently. We should listen while they are being read, for God has magnified them above His great name. We should believe them and make them our guide to daily living. We must know them, for in the Scriptures God is speaking to man (Ps.138:2).

1. The Scriptures tell us about Jesus (Jn.5:39).

God's Word must be received, believed and obeyed as the final authority in

all things pertaining to life and godliness (Mt.5:17-19; Jn.14:21; 15:10; 2Ti.3:15-16). It must be used in the Church as the final authority in all matters for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteous living. One cannot submit to Christ's Lordship without submitting to God and His Word as the ultimate authority (Jn.8:31-32, 37).

2. We are blessed when we obey the Bible (Lk.11:28; Jn.13:17; Je.15:16).
3. When we obey the Bible, we prove our love for Jesus (Jn.8:31-32; 14:23).
4. We will not sin against God if we obey the Bible (Ps.119:11).

We must use the inspired Word to conquer the power of sin, Satan, and the world in our lives (Mt.4:4; Ep.6:12,17; Ja.1:21).

H. What are the Two Great Doctrines of the Bible?

The Law (Old Testament) and the Gospel (New Testament) are the two great doctrines of the Bible.

I. What is the Law?

The Law is a guideline that teaches us morality and how to live in harmony with God and others. It is the basis of all government (Le.19:2; Ex.34:11; De.6:6-7).

J. What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is the good news of our Salvation in Jesus Christ (1Jn.4:9; Jn.3:16; Ro.1:16).

K. What is the Difference between the Law and the Gospel?

1. The Law teaches what we are to do, not to do, and shows us our sin. It is based on works, producing frustration and confusion, and deals mostly with the flesh, showing the wrath of God.
2. The Gospel teaches us what God has done and is doing for us. It shows us our Savior and our righteousness in Him. The grace of God produces peace and deals internally with the spirit of man (Ro.8:3).

L. What Will the Study of the Bible Do For Us?

1. It uncovers sin and mistakes as well as our true motives and helps us

recognize the motives of others (He.4:12).

2. It continually cleanses us from the pollution of sin (Ps.119:9;1Jn.1:9).
3. It imparts strength (Mt.4:4).
4. It gives us foundation and direction to our lives (Mt.7:24-27).
5. It makes our lives fruitful and prosperous (Ps.1:1-3).
6. It provides us a sword for victory over sin (Ps.119:11).
7. It gives us power to pray (Jn.15:7).

M. What Other Books Should I Use to Supplement My Study of the Bible?

A good Bible Dictionary, a standard dictionary, and a good concordance are useful tools. We should not lean on other men's commentary, ideas and explanations, as a crutch in understanding the Bible. We are to rely on the Holy Spirit in us. Remember, other men's commentaries may be their opinions.

N. What Should I Do After Reading the Bible?

We should meditate on that which we have read and dedicate ourselves to the obedience of that Word of God (Ps.119:15, 48; Jos.1:8; Ps.19:14).

O. Definitions

1. Atheism: It is disbelief in God's existence.
2. Agnostic: It does not deny the existence of God, but does not believe there is proof of His existence.
3. Polytheism: It is a belief in many gods.
4. Pantheism: It is the worshiping of nature as god.
5. Deism: It is belief in a God that is distant and not in touch with us.
6. Theology: It is the study of the existence, nature and laws of God.
7. Canon: It is a reed or rod applied to measuring a rule, as they didn't have rulers; standard rule; official.

8. Canonized: It is something that has been established as being the standard rule, as the Canon of Scripture.

9. Apocrypha: It means, hidden or secret. The Apocrypha first showed up during the silent years, four-hundred (400) years between the Old and New Testaments when nothing canon was written. It was canonized in 1546 at the Council of Trent. The Catholic Bible chose 11 books of the Apocrypha to be in their Bible. The Protestant church rejected the Apocrypha. There are 4 reasons why Protestants rejected the Apocrypha:
 - a. Jesus never quoted from them. There is no evidence that the Apostles quoted from them either as authoritative Scripture.
 - b. Most of the early Church fathers did not consider them to be Scripture.
 - c. The Apocrypha was not in the ancient Hebrew Bible, or the New Testament.
 - d. There was inferior quality and writing style in the books.
 - e. The Canon of the Bible was written by hand, and copies were difficult. This is the main reason why there are not more ancient copies around.

10. Christian Theism: This is the proper name for the Bible doctrine, teaching, about God. There is one true God, Creator of all. Christian theism is the sum and substance.

P. What is the Bible Based On?

The Bible is not based on any original manuscript because there are no original manuscripts of the Bible! There are only ancient copies that came from originals available, also handwritten.

1. Codex Sinaiticus: It is a copy of the original Greek Bible in the fourth (4th) century. It was bought from Russia in 1933 and is in a British museum.

2. Codex Alexandrius: It is an entire Greek Bible with the exception of

about forty (40) pages. It was written in the fifth (5th) century. It is also in a British museum.

3. Codex Vaticanus: This is an original copy containing the entire Bible, except for some pages that have been lost. It is also from the fifth (5th) century.

Q. Bible Versions

1. Ancient Versions of the Bible include:
 - a. Vulgate: An entire Bible translated into Latin by St. Jerome.
 - b. Septuagint: The Old Testament translated into Greek about 285 B.C.
 - c. Samaritan Pentateuch: It is translated Hebrew text into Samaritan language of the fourth (4th) century.
2. English Versions of the Bible include:
 - a. 1380 - Wycliffe: The first English translation. The New Testament was translated in 1380 and Wycliffe died four (4) years later. His friends continued his work and the Old Testament was then translated in 1384.
 - b. 1525 - William Tyndale: He was a reformer. He thought the English commoner should also be allowed to have a copy of the Bible to read. He was liked for this before he finished.
 - c. 1535 - Miles Coverdale: This Bible was dedicated to King Henry VIII. He used a copy of the Tyndale Bible in conjunction with research from the Latin Vulgate.
 - d. 1537 - Matthew Bible: It is a combination of the Tyndale and Coverdale Bibles.
 - e. 1539 - The Great Bible
 - f. 1560 - Geneva Bible: It is a revision of the Great Bible, very scholarly and handy in size.
 - g. 1568 - Bishop's Bible, It was prepared under order of the Arch Bishop of Canterbury. It was built off the Geneva Bible.

- h. 1582 - Duvay: It is a Roman Catholic version made from the Latin Vulgate. They did not take into consideration any other version.
- i. 1611 - King James Version: It is the authorized Bible under King James I of England, and was developed by forty-seven (47) scholars. It has been in first place in the English speaking world for many years.
- j. 1884 - Revised King James: It has had various revisions, none of which were doctrinal.
- k. New World Translation: This is the Jehovah Witness Bible. It should not be considered for use by Christians.

Remember Paul's admonition to Timothy; *"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth" (2Ti.2:15).*

III. Lesson 3 - Covenants

A. What Does the Word "Covenant" Mean?

1. According to the dictionary, a covenant is a binding and solemn agreement made by two or more individuals.
2. In law, a covenant is a formal, sealed contract.
3. In theology, a covenant is the promises made by God to man.

B. What are the Two Main Divisions of the Bible, Called Covenants or Testaments?

There are two main divisions in the Bible called the Old Testament and the New Testament. They are called testaments because they are the testimony of God to man, the truths to which God bears witness. They are the covenants or agreements of God with man for man's Salvation.

C. What Does the Old Testament Contain?

The Old Testament records the relationship of man with God before the coming of Christ. The books are from Genesis to Malachi but the Old Testament was in effect until the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

D. In What Form and Language Was the Old Testament Written?

The entire Old Testament was originally written in the Hebrew language except for certain short passages which were in Aramaic. These writings were written on skins and rolled up into volumes, or scrolls.

E. Why Was the Old Testament so Difficult to Translate into Other Languages?

One of the difficulties in understanding the true meaning of the Hebrew lies in the fact that originally the writings consisted of consonants only, the vowels to be verbalized in speech as it was being taught orally. Think of the problems that would arise if our textbooks were written only in consonants leaving it to the teachers to fill in the vowels as they taught. An example is "YHVH."

F. Can We Fully Understand the Old Testament in Our Own Times and Experience?

No. We must study the times and the people to which the Old Testament writings were addressed.

G. What Forms of Literature Were Used in the Writing of the Old Testament?

Almost every form of literature is used in writing the Old Testament: prose, poetry, history, story, parable, drama, dialogue, lyric, epic, oratory, proverbs, epigram, satire, hymns, songs, visions, symbols. Each form must be interpreted according to its own laws or error will result. Every great truth is presented in various forms, in order that it may be seen from every point of view. No one form of language can make it clearly understood. We really need to rely upon Holy Spirit to give us understanding as we study and think, meditate, on the Scriptures.

H. Can We Find Jesus Christ in the Old Testament?

Yes. He was always a part of the Godhead and we can find Him in all the Old Testament Scriptures.

I. Who Wrote the Old and New Testaments?

God is the author of both the Old and New Testaments. He used many different people to write those including kings, farmers, mechanics, scientific men, lawyers, generals, fishermen, ministers, Priests, a tax collector, and a doctor.

J. What is the New Testament?

The New Testament is the fulfillment of God's promise to His people of a Savior

who would restore all that Adam had lost through sin.

The New Testament Epistles are more geared to the Church, to teach them how to conduct themselves. It is important to have knowledge of the history and customs of the day to understand fully what the Scriptures say, as well as what Holy Spirit is saying as the teacher.

K. Why was the New Testament Written?

The New Testament was written for our admonition, for our learning, that we might have faith, for our washing, that we might grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Ro.10:17; 1Co.10:11; 2Ti.3:16-17; Ep.5:26; Ro.15:4; Jn.20:31; 2Pe.3:18).

L. What Period of Time Does the New Testament Cover?

The New Testament begins with the birth, death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It will end with the return of Jesus Christ to claim His people and take them with Him to heaven.

M. The Word of God, Scripture, is the Final Authority!

The Bible is the final authority for our faith. It is the only reliable source of faith and truth.

IV. LESSON FOUR - REPENTANCE AND THE NEW BIRTH

A. What Does Repentance Mean?

It means a change of mind, or a change of heart and attitude. It means to have a radical change in ones attitude toward God and sin (Lk.13:3; Ac.17:30). The basic meaning of repentance (Gr. *metanoeo*) is to turn around. It is a turning from evil ways and a turning to Christ, and through him to God (Jn.14:1,6; Ac.8:22, 26:18; 1Pe.2:25).

1. From sin to Salvation

The decision to turn from sin and to Salvation in Christ involves accepting Christ not only as Savior from the penalty of sin, but also as Lord of one's life. Thus, repentance involves a change of lords, from the lordship of Satan (Ep.2:2) to the Lordship of Christ and His Word (Ac.26:18).

2. Repentance is a free decision.

It is made by sinners, and made possible by the enabling grace given to

them as they hear and believe the Gospel (Ac.11:21).

3. Saving faith

The definition of saving faith as mere trust in Christ as Savior is wholly inadequate in the light of Christ's demand for repentance. To define saving faith in a way that does not necessarily involve a radical break with sin is to dangerously distort the Biblical view of redemption. Faith that includes repentance is always a condition for Salvation (Mk.1:15; Lk.13:3,5; Ac.2:38, 3:19, 11:21).

4. Repentance

Repentance was a basic message of the Old Testament prophets (Je.7:3; Ez.18:30; Joel 2:12-14; Mal.3:7), John the Baptist (Mt.3:2), Jesus Christ (Mt.4:17; 18:3), and New Testament Christians (Ac.2:38; 8:22; 11:18; 2Pe.3:9). The preaching of repentance must always accompany the Gospel message (Lk.24:47).

B. How Do We Repent?

Repentance calls for a renouncing of self-will and initiating confidence in God. We must confess our sins and forsake our ways and turn toward God (Jg.10:15-16; Ps.38:18; Lk.15:18; Ro.10:9-10).

C. How important is Repentance?

1. It is a foundational truth basic to all Believers (He.6:1-2)
2. Repentance is essential for Salvation (Mk.1:14-15).
3. Repentance is the reason Christ came (Lk.5:32).
4. Repentance is commanded of God (Ac.17:30).
5. God desires that all men come to repentance (2Pe.3:9).

D. What is Dead Works?

Dead works are the man-made rites, customs, beliefs, and good works that men perform believing it will earn them the favor of God and entrance into His Kingdom (Co.2:8; Ti.3:5).

1. Examples of dead works:

- a. Animal sacrifices
- b. Any work a person thinks is producing Salvation. Our Salvation is the cause of work; the works are not the cause of our Salvation.

2. Deceptive philosophy

Paul warns us to be on guard against all philosophies, religions and traditions that emphasize humans functioning independently from God and His written revelation. Today, one of the greatest philosophical threats to biblically based Christianity is secular humanism. This has become the underlying philosophy and accepted religion in most of secular education, government and society in general, and is the established viewpoint of most of the news and entertainment media throughout the world.

3. What does this philosophy teach?

- a. It teaches that humanity, the universe and all that exists consist only of matter and energy shaped into their present form by impersonal chance.
- b. It teaches that humans have not been created by a personal God, but are the product of a chance process of evolution.
- c. It rejects belief in a personal, infinite God, and denies that the Bible is God's inspired revelation to the human race.
- d. It asserts that knowledge does not exist apart from human discovery and that human reason determines the appropriate ethics of society, thus making human beings the ultimate authority.
- e. It seeks to modify or improve human behavior through education, economic redistribution, modern psychology or human wisdom.
- f. It teaches that moral standards are not absolute but relative, determined by what make people happy, brings them pleasure, or seems good for society according to the goals set by its leaders. Thus, Biblical values and morality are rejected.
- g. It considers human self-fulfillment, satisfaction, and pleasure to be the highest good in life.

h. It maintains that people should learn to cope with death and the difficulties in life without belief in or dependence upon God.

4. Humanism's beginning

a. The philosophy of humanism began with Satan and is an expression of Satan's lie that humans can be like God (Ge.3:5). Scripture identifies humanists as those who have "exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator" (Ro.1:25).

b. All Christian Leaders, Pastors and parents must do their utmost to protect their sons and daughters from humanistic indoctrination by exposing its error and instilling in them a Godly contempt for its destructive influence (Ro.1:20,32; 2Co.10:4-5; 2Ti.3:1-10; Jude 1:4-20).

E. Why Must We Turn From Dead Works?

Unless we turn from dead works, our worship of God is in vain. When we trust in our own goodness or good works, we are saying that the blood of Jesus is not enough. God wants us to be totally dependent upon Him (1Pe.1:18-19).

The Gospel we have is the grace of God. Jesus saves by faith, by grace, and not by dead works (Ga.2:16).

F. What Are Some of the Works That People Put on Christians?

1. Cannot wear gold jewelry
2. Women cannot wear make-up
3. No musical instruments
4. Observing the Sabbath
5. It is a sin not to go to church on Sunday.

G. What Commandment are we under?

We are to love God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves (Jn.13:34; Mt.22:37-39. Mk.12:30-31)

H. What Did Jesus Say About the Law?

Jesus came to fulfill the law (Mt.5:17).

I. Why the Blood of Jesus?

We are redeemed by the blood of Christ (1Pe.1:18-19).

J. What does it mean to be Born-again?

To be born-again is nothing less than being converted or turned around, from sin. It is being born-again by the Spirit of God. Until this happens, we are dead in trespasses and sins. Then we are born to newness of life. This can only be done by being washed in the blood of Jesus (Jn.3:3).

In John 3:1-8, Jesus discusses one of the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith, regeneration (Ti.3:5), or spiritual birth. Without the new birth one cannot see the Kingdom of God, that is, receive eternal life and Salvation through Jesus Christ.

1. Regeneration is a re-creating and transformation of the person (Ro.12:2; Ep.4:23-24) by the Spirit of God.

Through this process eternal life from God Himself is imparted to the Believer's heart (Jn.3:16; 2Pe.1:4; 1Jn.5:11). He then becomes a child of God (Jn.1:12; Ro.8:16-17; Ga.3:26), and a new person (2Co.5:17; Co.3:9-10). He no longer conforms to this world (Ro.12:2), but is now created to be like God in righteousness and holiness (Ep.4:24).

2. Regeneration is necessary.

Apart from Christ, all people, in their inherent natures, are sinners, incapable of obeying and pleasing God (Ps.51:5; Je.17:9; Ro.8:7-8; Ep.2:3).

3. Regeneration

It comes to those who repent of sin, turn to God, and put their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

4. Regeneration is a transition.

Regeneration involves a transition from an old life of sin to a new life of obedience to Jesus Christ (2Co.5:17; Ga.6:15). Those who are truly born-again are set free from sin's bondage and receive a spiritual desire and disposition to obey God and follow the leading of the Spirit (Ro.8:13-14). They live righteous lives (1Jn.2:29), love other Believers (1Jn.4:7), avoid a life of sin (1Jn.3:9, 5:18), and do not love the world (1Jn.2:15-16).

K. Why Does Grace Set People Free and Why Is Legalism Bondage?

Grace produces peace in the life of a Christian because they do not have to worry about everything they should be doing and everything they did not do to be right with God (Ga.1:3-4). Legalism produces confusion and frustration.

Homework1, I - III

Name _____

1. What does the word "God" truly mean?

2. The _____ view is that the physical world declares God's glory and creative power.

3. How did God exist before He created the universe?

Name 5 of God's non-moral attributes as discussed in the Commentary.

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

9. God will never alter His intentions of judgment even in light of the sincere repentance of sinners.

True or False

10. The omnipotent God limits His power, channeling it through His people

True or False

Name 7 moral attributes of God as discussed in the Commentary.

11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____

19. The word _____ is not used in the Bible, but the Scriptures teach one God who has revealed Himself in three personalities.

20. It is possible to completely understand the mystery of the Triune God.

True or False

21. The Hebrew word for Spirit, _____ may also be translated as _____ and _____.

22. In the name _____ is the promise of the living Presence of God Himself, day by day with His people.

23. Whenever the Old Testament scribes, came to the word YHVH they wrote _____.

24. How is God, the Holy Spirit, identified with Jesus?

- A. By the activity of the Holy Spirit in His life
B. By the activity of the Holy Spirit in His ministry
C. By the identification through His name.
D. All of the above
E. None of the above

25. What is the Bible?

26. Define the Greek word *theopneustor*.

27. Scripture refers to the authoritative writings of both the _____ and _____.

28. Why did God give us the Bible?

For righteous living, the Scriptures must be used in the Church as the final authority in all matters for:

29. _____ 30. _____
31. _____ 32. _____

Name the 2 greatest doctrines of the Bible.

33. _____
34. _____

35. What is the Law?

36. Bible Study will:

- A. Give us a foundation for our lives
- B. Bring about only worldly wisdom
- C. Give us a reason to make excuses for our behavior
- D. All of the Above
- E. None of the above

Define the following words:

- 37. Atheism: _____
- 38. Polytheism: _____
- 39. Pantheism: _____
- 40. Theology: _____

Give 4 reasons why Protestants rejected the Apocrypha.

- 41. _____
- 42. _____
- 43. _____
- 44. _____

Define the following:

- 45. Codex Sinaticus: _____
- 46. Codex Alexandrius: _____
- 47. Codex Vaticanus: _____

Name 3 of the ancient versions of the Bible:

- 48. _____
- 49. _____
- 50. _____

51. Which version of the Bible has been the first place in the English speaking world for many years?

52. What is the theological meaning of the word covenant?

53. The _____ records the relationship of man with God before the coming of Christ.

54. The entire Old Testament was originally written in the _____ language.

Name each form of literature that is used in writing the Old Testament.

- 55. _____
- 56. _____
- 57. _____
- 58. _____
- 59. _____
- 60. _____
- 61. _____
- 62. _____
- 63. _____
- 64. _____
- 65. _____
- 66. _____
- 67. _____
- 68. _____
- 69. _____
- 70. _____
- 71. _____

72. The New Testament is the fulfillment of God's promise to His people of a Savior who would restore all that Adam had lost through sin.

True or False

73. The Bible is:

- A. Not the final authority in our lives
- B. Not a reliable source of faith and truth
- C. God's Word to us in written form
- D. All of the above