

# **Gary Sharp's Sunday School Lessons**

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**100: Genesis**

Source / Credit: Gary Sharp

Date: 5/25/2023

# of Documents: 32

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| <b>GSE-00101</b> | <b>Creation</b>                                    |
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| <b>GSE-00128</b> | <b>Jacob sends his sons to Egypt</b>               |
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**200: Exodus - Numbers**

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# of Documents: 30

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|------------------|---|
| <b>GSE-00201</b> | <b>Moses in the Bulrushes</b>   |
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| <b>GSE-00203</b> | <b>Moses' Mission I</b>   |
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| <b>GSE-00205</b> | <b>The Plagues I -</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00206</b> | <b>The Plagues II - Snakes and Blood</b>                              |
| <b>GSE-00207</b> | <b>The Plagues III - Frogs and Lice</b>                               |
| <b>GSE-00208</b> | <b>The Plagues IV - Flies Swarm, Cattle Die &amp; Boils Break Out</b> |
| <b>GSE-00209</b> | <b>The Plagues V - Hail</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00210</b> | <b>The Plagues VI - Locusts &amp; Darkness</b>                        |
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| <b>GSE-00213</b> | <b>The Manna</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00214</b> | <b>The Water and the Rock</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00215</b> | <b>Fight with Amalak</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00216</b> | <b>When God gave His Law</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00217</b> | <b>The Golden Calf</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00218</b> | <b>The Hebrew Servant</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00219</b> | <b>The Tabernacle</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00220</b> | <b>Day of Atonement</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00221</b> | <b>Judgement of the 2 Men</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00222</b> | <b>Israel Murmurs &amp; God Answers</b>                               |
| <b>GSE-00223</b> | <b>Hobab Makes a Choice</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00224</b> | <b>Two Faithful Spies &amp; a Million Fools</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00225</b> | <b>The Rebellion</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00226</b> | <b>Serpent of Brass</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00227</b> | <b>Balaam - the Man who was dumber than His Donkey</b>                |
| <b>GSE-00228</b> | <b>Balaam - the Rest of the Story</b>                                 |
| <b>GSE-00229</b> | <b>Two Strange Funerals</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00230</b> | <b>The Successor of Moses</b>   |

**300: Joshua - II Samuel**

Source / Credit: Gary Sharp  
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|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>GSE-00301</b> | <b>Rahab and the Two Spies</b>      |
| <b>GSE-00302</b> | <b>Passage Over Jordan</b>          |
| <b>GSE-00303</b> | <b>Destruction of Jericho</b>       |
| <b>GSE-00304</b> | <b>Achan &amp; His Death</b>        |
| <b>GSE-00305</b> | <b>The Trick of the Gibeonites</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00306</b> | <b>The Wonder in the Heavens</b>    |
| <b>GSE-00307</b> | <b>Cities of Refuge</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00308</b> | <b>Final Message of Joshua</b>      |
| <b>GSE-00309</b> | <b>Deborah &amp; Barak</b>          |
| <b>GSE-00310</b> | <b>God's Call to Gideon</b>         |
| <b>GSE-00311</b> | <b>Victory of Gideon</b>            |
| <b>GSE-00312</b> | <b>The Word to Samson</b>           |
| <b>GSE-00313</b> | <b>Death of Samson</b>              |
| <b>GSE-00314</b> | <b>Decision of Ruth</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00315</b> | <b>Ruth is Redeemed</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00316</b> | <b>Samuel Called</b>                |
| <b>GSE-00317</b> | <b>Ark is Captured and Returned</b> |
| <b>GSE-00318</b> | <b>Saul, King of Israel</b>         |
| <b>GSE-00319</b> | <b>Saul Disobeys</b>                |
| <b>GSE-00320</b> | <b>Saul Disobeys Again</b>          |
| <b>GSE-00321</b> | <b>David Appointed King</b>         |
| <b>GSE-00322</b> | <b>David and Goliath</b>            |
| <b>GSE-00323</b> | <b>David and Jonathan</b>           |
| <b>GSE-00324</b> | <b>David is Pursued</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00325</b> | <b>David and the Enemy Slave</b>    |
| <b>GSE-00326</b> | <b>David is Crowned</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00327</b> | <b>David and the Ark</b>            |
| <b>GSE-00328</b> | <b>David &amp; Mephibosheth</b>     |
| <b>GSE-00329</b> | <b>Death of Absalom</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00330</b> | <b>The Shepherd</b>                 |

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**400: I Kings - Malachi**

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|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| GSE-00401 | The Glorious Kingdom of Solomon   |
| GSE-00402 | The Queen of Sheba                |
| GSE-00403 | Idolatry in Israel                |
| GSE-00404 | Elijah & the Time of Famine       |
| GSE-00405 | Elijah and the Prophets of Baal   |
| GSE-00406 | Elijah Goes Up to Heaven          |
| GSE-00407 | Elisha and the Shunammite's Son   |
| GSE-00408 | Elisha and the Widow's Oil        |
| GSE-00409 | Naaman the Leper                  |
| GSE-00410 | The Liberation of Samaria         |
| GSE-00411 | Joash the Young King              |
| GSE-00412 | Rebellion of King Uzziah          |
| GSE-00413 | Hezekiah is Healed                |
| GSE-00414 | Vision of Isaiah                  |
| GSE-00415 | Jonah & the Fish                  |
| GSE-00416 | Jonah in Ninevah                  |
| GSE-00417 | King that Burnt the Word of God   |
| GSE-00418 | Jeremiah in the Dungeon           |
| GSE-00419 | The Lord and Ebedmelech           |
| GSE-00420 | Jerusalem is Destroyed            |
| GSE-00421 | Daniel & Companions               |
| GSE-00422 | Nebuchadnezzar's Dream            |
| GSE-00423 | In the Furnace                    |
| GSE-00424 | King Belshazzar's Banquet         |
| GSE-00425 | In the Lion's Den                 |
| GSE-00426 | Esther is Made Queen              |
| GSE-00427 | Haman & Mordecai                  |
| GSE-00428 | Esther Intercedes Before the King |
| GSE-00429 | Captives Return to Judea          |
| GSE-00430 | Nehemiah Builds the Walls         |
| GSE-00431 | Joshua & the Angel of the Lord    |
| GSE-00432 | Visions of Dry Bones              |

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**500: The Life of Christ**

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|           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| GSE-00501 | Announcement of Christ's Coming       |
| GSE-00502 | The Birth of the Lord Jesus           |
| GSE-00503 | The Wise Men                          |
| GSE-00504 | Childhood of Jesus                    |
| GSE-00505 | The Forerunner & the Baptism of Jesus |
| GSE-00506 | John's Disciples and Jesus Disciples  |
| GSE-00507 | The Wedding in Cana                   |
| GSE-00508 | Passover & the First Cleansing        |
| GSE-00509 | Nicodemus                             |
| GSE-00510 | The Samaritan Woman                   |
| GSE-00511 | Temptation in the Wilderness          |
| GSE-00512 | Nazareth & Capernaum Have a Visitor   |
| GSE-00513 | When He Rebuked the Fever             |
| GSE-00514 | The King's Man and His Son            |
| GSE-00515 | A Wonderful Catch of Fish             |
| GSE-00516 | The Leper is Cleansed                 |
| GSE-00517 | The Paralytic is Healed               |
| GSE-00518 | Choice and Call of Matthew            |
| GSE-00519 | Sabbath Controversy - The Sick Man    |
| GSE-00520 | Sabbath Controversy - The Corn        |
| GSE-00521 | Sabbath Controversy - Withered Hand   |
| GSE-00522 | Choice of 12 & Sermon on the Mount    |
| GSE-00523 | The Two Builders                      |
| GSE-00524 | The Centurion's Servant               |
| GSE-00525 | The Nain Lad                          |
| GSE-00526 | The Two Debtors                       |
| GSE-00527 | The Sinful Woman                      |
| GSE-00528 | The Sower                             |
| GSE-00529 | The Treasure & The Pearl              |
| GSE-00530 | Jesus Calms the Storm                 |
| GSE-00531 | Demons & the Gadarene                 |

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**600: The Life of Christ #2**

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|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>GSE-00601</b> | <b>Jarius' Daughter</b>                         |
| <b>GSE-00602</b> | <b>Woman who Touched the Hem of His Garment</b> |
| <b>GSE-00603</b> | <b>What Jesus said about John the Baptist</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00604</b> | <b>John the Baptist's beheading</b>             |
| <b>GSE-00605</b> | <b>Feeding of 5000</b>                          |
| <b>GSE-00606</b> | <b>Jesus Walking on the Water</b>               |
| <b>GSE-00607</b> | <b>Peter's Confession</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00608</b> | <b>The Caananite's Daughter</b>                 |
| <b>GSE-00609</b> | <b>Deaf and Dumb No More!</b>                   |
| <b>GSE-00610</b> | <b>The Transfiguration</b>                      |
| <b>GSE-00611</b> | <b>Wicked &amp; Unthankful Servant</b>          |
| <b>GSE-00612</b> | <b>Bring the Lunatic to Jesus</b>               |
| <b>GSE-00613</b> | <b>The Light of the World</b>                   |
| <b>GSE-00614</b> | <b>The Man Born Blind</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00615</b> | <b>What will it cost me?</b>                    |
| <b>GSE-00616</b> | <b>The Good Samaritan</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00617</b> | <b>Jesus at Bethany</b>                         |
| <b>GSE-00618</b> | <b>Disciples Taught to Pray</b>                 |
| <b>GSE-00619</b> | <b>Reformation is Not Enough</b>                |
| <b>GSE-00620</b> | <b>The Rich Fool</b>                            |
| <b>GSE-00621</b> | <b>The Barren Fig Tree</b>                      |
| <b>GSE-00622</b> | <b>Jesus Straightens a Woman</b>                |
| <b>GSE-00623</b> | <b>Two Ways</b>                                 |
| <b>GSE-00624</b> | <b>The Watchers &amp; The Wedding</b>           |
| <b>GSE-00625</b> | <b>The Great Supper</b>                         |
| <b>GSE-00626</b> | <b>NO WEDDING GARMENT</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00627</b> | <b>The Cost of Discipleship</b>                 |
| <b>GSE-00628</b> | <b>The Lost Sheep</b>                           |
| <b>GSE-00629</b> | <b>The Lost Coin</b>                            |
| <b>GSE-00630</b> | <b>The Lost Son(s)</b>                          |
| <b>GSE-00631</b> | <b>Rich Man &amp; Lazurus</b>                   |

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**700: The Life of Christ #3**

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# of Documents: 29

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|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>GSE-00701</b> | <b>The Good Shepherd</b>                                 |
| <b>GSE-00702</b> | <b>Lazarus Raised out of the Grave</b>                   |
| <b>GSE-00703</b> | <b>Ten Lepers</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00704</b> | <b>The Pharisee &amp; Publican</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00705</b> | <b>Jesus &amp; the Children</b>                          |
| <b>GSE-00706</b> | <b>Rich Young Ruler</b>                                  |
| <b>GSE-00707</b> | <b>The Lord and the Laborers</b>                         |
| <b>GSE-00708</b> | <b>Blind Bartimaeus the Beggar</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00709</b> | <b>Zacchaeus</b>   |
| <b>GSE-00710</b> | <b>THE TEN POUNDS</b>                                    |
| <b>GSE-00711</b> | <b>He Enters Jerusalem</b>                               |
| <b>GSE-00712</b> | <b>Problems in the Vineyard</b>                          |
| <b>GSE-00713</b> | <b>Marriage Feast for the Son</b>                        |
| <b>GSE-00714</b> | <b>The Widow's Mite</b>                                  |
| <b>GSE-00715</b> | <b>5 Wise &amp; 5 Foolish</b>                            |
| <b>GSE-00716</b> | <b>The Living People's Judgment</b>                      |
| <b>GSE-00717</b> | <b>Mary Anoints Him</b>                                  |
| <b>GSE-00718</b> | <b>Greeks Seek Jesus &amp; Jews Question Him</b>         |
| <b>GSE-00719</b> | <b>The Last Supper &amp; The First Breaking of Bread</b> |
| <b>GSE-00720</b> | <b>Garden of Gethsemane</b>                              |
| <b>GSE-00721</b> | <b>The Denial</b>  |
| <b>GSE-00722</b> | <b>Jesus Teaches How to Wash Feet</b>                    |
| <b>GSE-00723</b> | <b>The COMFORTER Promised</b>                            |
| <b>GSE-00724</b> | <b>The Betrayal</b>                                      |
| <b>GSE-00725</b> | <b>Jesus Standing before Pilate</b>                      |
| <b>GSE-00726</b> | <b>The Barabbas Story</b>                                |
| <b>GSE-00727</b> | <b>The Crucifixion, Death &amp; Burial</b>               |
| <b>GSE-00728</b> | <b>The Dying Thief</b>                                   |
| <b>GSE-00729</b> | <b>HE is Risen from the Dead</b>                         |



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**800: Acts - Revelation**

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|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>GSE-00801</b> | <b>The Ascension</b>                                      |
| <b>GSE-00802</b> | <b>Peter and Pentecost</b>                                |
| <b>GSE-00803</b> | <b>Peter &amp; the Lame Man</b>                           |
| <b>GSE-00804</b> | <b>Ananias &amp; Sapphira</b>                             |
| <b>GSE-00805</b> | <b>Stephen's Testimony &amp; Death</b>                    |
| <b>GSE-00806</b> | <b>Philip meets Simon the Sorcerer</b>                    |
| <b>GSE-00807</b> | <b>Philip and the Ethiopian</b>                           |
| <b>GSE-00808</b> | <b>Peter visits Cornelius</b>                             |
| <b>GSE-00809</b> | <b>Disciples Called Christians</b>                        |
| <b>GSE-00810</b> | <b>Peter's Jailbreak</b>                                  |
| <b>GSE-00811</b> | <b>Saul's Conversion</b>                                  |
| <b>GSE-00812</b> | <b>Paul &amp; Barnabas in Cyprus &amp; Regions Beyond</b> |
| <b>GSE-00813</b> | <b>Paul's Troubles &amp; Triumph</b>                      |
| <b>GSE-00814</b> | <b>Timothy &amp; Lydia</b>                                |
| <b>GSE-00815</b> | <b>The Philippian Jailor got Shaken Up</b>                |
| <b>GSE-00816</b> | <b>Paul at Thessalonica &amp; Berea</b>                   |
| <b>GSE-00817</b> | <b>Paul Preaches in Athens at Mars Hill</b>               |
| <b>GSE-00818</b> | <b>Crispus' Conversion &amp; Gallio's Decision</b>        |
| <b>GSE-00819</b> | <b>The Possibilities in Apollos</b>                       |
| <b>GSE-00820</b> | <b>Paul in Ephesus</b>                                    |
| <b>GSE-00821</b> | <b>They Arrested Paul in Jerusalem</b>                    |
| <b>GSE-00822</b> | <b>Paul in the Court of Felix</b>                         |
| <b>GSE-00823</b> | <b>Paul Before Festus &amp; Agrippa</b>                   |
| <b>GSE-00824</b> | <b>Shipwrecked!</b>                                       |
| <b>GSE-00825</b> | <b>Bitten by a Viper!</b>                                 |
| <b>GSE-00826</b> | <b>Paul in Rome</b>                                       |
| <b>GSE-00827</b> | <b>Paul Answers for Onesimus Sin</b>                      |
| <b>GSE-00828</b> | <b>The Believer's Story</b>                               |
| <b>GSE-00829</b> | <b>The Christian's Responsibility</b>                     |

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GSE-00101 Doc. # 2.001

## Creation

Series: 100: Genesis (# 101)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 1:1 - 2:25

### Memory Verse

(1) Genesis 1:1-31

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Genesis 1:1

### Attention Getter

Guess what I made this week? ie cookies, bird feeder, model etc

### Point 1

Created out of nothing - compare to how we make things.

### Point 2

It was in the beginning - nothing would have been without Him

### Point 3

Triune God involved in Creation

### Point 4

God spoke "Let there be light"

### Illustration

Meal, cookies to share

### Notes

Make something together as a group or have individual students bring in something they have made. Put it on display or present briefly in front of whole SS or another class.

### Summary

Look around at what God has made - why did He do it? He wanted to reveal Himself to you. You can know this Great and Wonderful God

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GSE-00102 Doc. # 2.002

## Man was Blessed of God

Series: 100: Genesis (# 102)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Goodness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 3:1-7

### Memory Verse

By one man sin entered in to the world. Rom. 5:12

### Attention Getter

Tell a story of someone who was so good to you even though they had no reason - how would you treat them?.

### Point 1

Incredibly & wonderfully made - physically Provided for materially (Garden had all he needed) - emotionally (Eve - the perfect counterpart) - spiritually (God came near in the cool of the day) He was given dominion - God raised him up and gave him his place. Given suitable work & satisfaction. Given guidelines for his own good.

### Point 2

God put him in the garden (God had a purpose for him) It is important for man to have a purpose. God has a high purpose for each of us.

### Point 3

Specify about the two trees in the midst of the garden. Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil and the Tree of Life. Prohibition - it was God's garden, under God's rules. So was Adam.

### Point 4

Specify about man being given a Free Will - not a robot. Show how the Serpent questioned God's Goodness (v5) God's Word (v1) then lied (v4). He's the same today. Show how Eve twisted what God had said so that it sounded better.

### Illustration

Tell of one who lied & the cost/mistake resulting

### Summary

Trust the ONE whose Word is true - not the ONE who lies. God wants the very best for us.

### Miscellaneous

Homework: List God's gifts to us.

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GSE-00103 Doc. # 2.003

## Consequences of Sin

Series: 100: Genesis (# 103)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Doesn't Forsake Fallen Man

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 3:8-24

### Memory Verse

The Lord made coats of skins and clothed them Genesis 3:21

### Point 1

They were afraid - they hid from God

### Point 2

God called "Where art thou?" Why? God knew where they were. He wanted them to know.

### Point 3

What should Adam have said when God came near? "I have sinned" How did he answer when God asked him, "Hast thou eaten?" How did Eve answer? Why did they do that? Sin has a bad effect on the mind and heart. Did their excuses change anything?

### Point 4

God made them coats of skins. How did God get the skin? God made a promise @ the Saviour v15. God put them out of the beautiful garden.

### Notes

Note effects of sin - fear, distance, tears and sorrow, increased childbirth, shortened lives, certain death, cursed ground, sweat.

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GSE-00104 Doc. # 2.004

## **Cain and Abel**

Series: 100: Genesis (# 104)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Only One Way is Right

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### **Reading**

(2) Genesis 4:1-17; Genesis 4:25-26

### **Memory Verse**

Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain. Hebrews 11:4

### **Attention Getter**

If we could visit the Prime Minister / President / Queen etc, what would you bring if you could that they would want?

### **Point 1**

Raised in the same home. Heard the same stories. Likely the story of Adam and Eve's sin the story told most of all. Perhaps a favourite. It was true and had a good ending.

### **Point 2**

Both must have given thought about how they, as individuals, could come to God. Have you? Each of us has to come to God on our own! No one else can do it for you. When you would come to God, you'd probably think about what kind of a person you'd be coming to. How would they know what God was like? Parents!

### **Point 3**

God respected Abel and what he brought. Why? God refused Cain and what he brought. Why? Yet God spoke to Cain even after he made his offering in self-will.

### **Point 4**

The consequences of Cain's offering - brought judgment on him. The outcome of Abel's - God accepted the offering for him and Abel went to be with his God.

### **Illustration**

Story of child or driver -went wrong way!

### **Summary**

Can't go wrong if we go God's way!

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GSE-00105 Doc. # 2.005

## Flood Conditions

Series: 100: Genesis (# 105)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Darkness and Danger

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 6:1-13

### Memory Verse

God saw that the wickedness of man was great. Gen. 6:5

### Attention Getter

Do you know what I saw? (perhaps someone stealing etc) What do you think I did? What should I have done?

### Point 1

Cain was sent away but eventually married and had children. Hundreds of years passed and men only seemed to get worse. Seth, another of Adam's many sons, had children. Noah was his great great great (many times) grandson.

### Point 2

Emphasize the many mentions in ch 6 of words like wickedness, evil, corrupt, corrupted, violence. God is grieved - note mentions of repented, grieved etc.

### Point 3

God warns - My spirit shall not always strive with man. Time was running out. Shortens man's lifetime to 120 years.

### Point 4

God noticed Noah - Noah walked with God. God made a difference - why? He was still a sinner! - but he continued to avail himself of God's provision to cover his sins.

### Illustration

Dad took son to steal apples-looks each way but up

### Summary

God saw it and God did something about it. He always does!

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GSE-00106 Doc. # 2.006

## In the Ark

Series: 100: Genesis (# 106)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 7:1-24

### Memory Verse

Noah, moved with fear, prepared an ark. Heb. 11:7

/or/

In Thee do I put my trust. Psalm 141:8

### Point 1

God's voice governs what Noah did as he acted to preserve the creatures. Note that there were 2's of every creature and 7's of the clean animals. Clean animals were to be used for sacrifice as well as food therefore God planned that there would be more available.

### Point 2

They entered as the Lord commanded him. The Lord shut them in. Shut in by God, with God, what matters the storm?

### Point 3

The waters prevailed. Covered the mountains. Depending on the age of your class, it may be well to remind them that there is geological and scientific evidence of a worldwide flood. Also it could be shown how quickly that water must have risen so that the deluge would have overwhelmed the unbelievers very quickly.

### Point 4

Outside the ark - all died v21, 22, 23 Inside was life - Noah and them that were with him in the ark v23.

### Notes

Keep in mind that if all your class are saved, it may be profitable to show them that, in reality, Noah does not appear as a sinner but rather a just man, fearing God and working righteousness, yet needing to know the salvation which the gospel brings.

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GSE-00107 Doc. # 2.007

## After the Flood

Series: 100: Genesis (# 107)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Eternal Security; God's Promise - He Keeps It

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 8:1-22

### Memory Verse

God remembered Noah. Genesis 8:1

#### Point 1

God remembered Noah AND every living thing. The ark comes to rest and Noah sends forth the raven after 40 days. Ravens would find satisfaction and remains occupied in it's old activities.

#### Point 2

Sends forth a dove, which can find satisfaction only when all things are become new. Could not rest. Sends it forth again after another 7 days. The dove returning brings a sign (olive leaf) that growth has begun. When sent away again after another 7 days, the dove finds delight in new things.

#### Point 3

Noah removes the covering of the ark. Ground was dry. Yet he does not go forth till God speaks to him, Go forth.

#### Point 4

His first deed after coming forth was to build an altar and take of every clean beast and every clean fowl and offer a sacrifice to God. The greatness of his giving shows the depth of his appreciation of the deliverance. Something for God - a sweet savour! Note the promise at the end of the chapter is not based on God thinking that man's heart was now changed and that His faithfulness would be in reponse to man's.



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GSE-00108 Doc. # 2.008

## God's Blessings on Noah

Series: 100: Genesis (# 108)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Made a Covenant with Man

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 9:1-19

Genesis 9:1-19 Nb - more mature classes could consider v20-29 with it's appropriate warnings.

### Memory Verse

His mercy is on them that fear Him Luke 1:50

### Point 1

Promises made - blessing of God rests with those who have obeyed His voice and taken shelter within His provision. Noah had been delivered, blessed in fruitfulness, and given sovereignty.

### Point 2

Requirements imposed - as to responsibility towards all creatures, reproduction was encouraged, the food they themselves could eat, murder and capital punishment.

### Point 3

Sign of that covenant to appear from time to time was a reminder of God's faithfulness. Note that God would look upon it - and remember his everlasting covenant between God and the earth. How good to see that this pertinent reminder should call the heart to remember the God who spared Noah.

### Point 4

More mature classes. A warning about drinking, losing control, and immorality is not out of line. Kids are far more aware of the incidents of sexual abuse, immorality and homosexuality that we ever were.

### Notes

If you do handle Point 4 with your class. Take care in the way you present it. Take counsel with both male and / or female partners or mature believers as to how to mention what you want to cover.

### Summary

Express the joy and appreciation that must have been Noah's at his deliverance, but also remind them of how obvious it was that, sadly, he was still subject to temptation and vulnerable to sinful tendencies. Sad to say, Noah's snare came even out of the abundance of God's blessings.

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GSE-00109 Doc. # 2.009

## Tower of Babel

Series: 100: Genesis (# 109)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness; Sin's Blindness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 11:1-9

### Memory Verse

God hath power to help and to cast down. 2 Chronicles 25:8

#### Point 1

Settled down in the world, their ambition is to build themselves a name and show forth their power. The Plains were not so hard on the flesh - life was easier there.

#### Point 2

Even their building materials are different than they would have been in the hills and mountains - slime and mud rather than stone.

#### Point 3

The Lord saw it v5 - due to their motive to exalt themselves, he did not come down to strengthen but to destroy their plans and leave behind them the evidence of their folly.

#### Point 4

God ways are different than ours but it was so effective. The LORD scattered them. He still interferes in the lives of men lest v6 they be allowed to pursue all their wicked imaginations.

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GSE-00110 Doc. # 2.01

## God's Call to Abraham

Series: 100: Genesis (# 110)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Speaks to Man

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### Reading

(2) Genesis 11:27-32; Genesis 12:1-9

### Memory Verse

Abraham, when he was called, obeyed. Heb. 11:8

### Attention Getter

Story about boy playing with friends and mother calls him. Did you hear? Yes, but I don't have to go now. She called repeatably and no move. Then she called again. He jumped up, I gotta go right now! He knew from the way she spoke.

### Point 1

Assyrian and ready to perish was my father Deut. 26:5

### Point 2

A voice from the unseen world

### Point 3

Promises - remind class how He speaks today!

### Point 4

An Altar and obedience - he didn't know where he was going. God knew where He was taking him and all that the future held. The fullness of what God promised is yet to be seen. God keeps His promises.

### Summary

Tell quickly of one thing God has asked you to do, and what happened when you did or didn't obey!

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GSE-00111 Doc. # 2.011

## Faith Tested and Favoured Man Fails

Series: 100: Genesis (# 111)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Way Seems Right

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 12:10 - 13:1

### Memory Verse

Doth He not see my ways? Job 31:4

### Attention Getter

Did you ever make a choice that turned out wrong? Any class member have a good example?

### Point 1

Famine - sad things happen - sorrows occur. God's promises never fail but He tests us.

### Point 2

The man who obeyed God's Word and trusted His Promise for eternal and spiritual blessings couldn't trust God for temporal needs

### Point 3

Choice - sad choice - lots of consequences - Hagar came out of Egypt, Sarah affected by it, Lot's choice of Sodom may have been because of going down to Egypt here.

### Point 4

Fear and disobedience always brings trouble. If class are well informed, see if class can recall and compare other incidents where this was true.

### Illustration

A personal story - a purchase gone wrong or ?

### Notes

World rebuked Abraham twice. Even though Isaac not born - parental example was followed by him later on.

### Summary

God still promises to bless those that trust Him. But if you take your own way and trust your own thoughts, don't be surprized if you find trouble.

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GSE-00112 Doc. # 2.012

## Lot makes his Choice

Series: 100: Genesis (# 112)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Attractiveness; Two Ways

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 13:2-18

### Memory Verse

They are all gone out of the way. Romans 3:12

### Attention Getter

A handful of high denomination (imitation) money! Allow their imagination to tell you what they would do if it were real and actually theirs.

### Point 1

Riches brings it's own problems. Strife between brethren.

### Point 2

Abraham, the friend of God, wanted no trouble between them.

### Point 3

A choice is made based on externals.

### Point 4

Afterward God gives it ALL to Abraham. Lot loses everything later on. An Altar for Abraham / a place in administration and the company of the wicked for Lot v13.

### Illustration

Tell how a choice you pursued caused hurt/shame

### Notes

2 Peter 2: 6-9 Note - for believing children how Lot grieved his righteous soul and dwarfed his own usefulness.

### Summary

Lot made a big blunder. You and I must choose who and at path we will follow. Be careful how you choose!

### Miscellaneous

Pin up the pictures when complete and compliment them for their efforts and any insight it reveals

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GSE-00113 Doc. # 2.013

## God warns Abraham about Sodom

Series: 100: Genesis (# 113)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Promise - He Keeps It; God's Wonderful Ways

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 18:1-33

### Memory Verse

The prayer of the upright is His delight Proverbs 15:8

### Point 1

God comes to visit in human form

### Point 2

Abraham welcomes the visitors and shows them hospitality & kindness

### Point 3

God promises Sarah will have a son. God also reveals the future - as He does through the Written Word today. The friend of God would know and pray for the unsuspecting, while those in Sodom wouldn't know till it happened.

### Point 4

Abraham's prayer - note it's content and extent & God's willingness to agree.

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GSE-00114 Doc. # 2.014

## **Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrha**

Series: 100: Genesis (# 114)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger & Consequences

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### **Reading**

(1) Genesis 19:1-29

### **Memory Verse**

Because there is wrath, beware. Job 36:18

### **Attention Getter**

Calouses - how do you get them. Relate to conscience and acceptable sins!

### **Point 1**

20+ years in Sodom had made Lot rich and powerful but unaware of what was happening. Obviously his daughters loved it and married men who were in for a good time.

### **Point 2**

God sent messengers - for a reason. God didn't mean maybe - we're talking about fire and destruction - not an active imagination or a doom and gloom mentality.

### **Point 3**

Homosexuality - if kids are mature enough to deal with it. Violent society, pleasure lovers.

### **Point 4**

Slowness to respond.

### **Notes**

If applicable, note the importance of decisions that affect children and others in a bad way.

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GSE-00115 Doc. # 2.015

## Hagar, Sarah and Abraham

Series: 100: Genesis (# 115)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 16:1-16

### Memory Verse

Thou God seest me. Gen 16:13

### Attention Getter

Ever play hide and seek?

### Point 1

Abraham's impatience about a child. His foolishness about the whole thing and carelessness about God's promise.

### Point 2

What seemed so sensible to Sarah now has become unbearable and a reproach. Sarah calls it, "My wrong".

### Point 3

Hagar - God was good to her, in that, she had been blessed by health and conception. She now uses God's goodness as a tool to provoke her mistress who didn't deserve it.

### Point 4

Can't run away from God. God doesn't desert her. God has wonderful purposes for her still. Abraham's actions had consequences. Sarah had to live with her barrenness till God's time of deliverance.

### Illustration

Story about small child who tried to hide from mom

### Summary

No one is smart enough to run away from God.



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GSE-00116 Doc. # 2.016

## Hagar & Ishmael delivered by God

Series: 100: Genesis (# 116)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness; Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 21:1-21

### Memory Verse

Whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17

### Point 1

The true son of promise was born as God had said.

### Point 2

Ishmael "born after the flesh" mocked the promised son. Note mocked could mean played with, teased, taunted. There was a conflict between the promised son and the results of the flesh. Gal 4:28-31

### Point 3

The water in the skin ran out. Brought to an end of themselves.

### Point 4

God heard the voice of the lad. Might be a good idea to emphasize that God was keenly aware of their need and was quick to respond though Ishmael was only a lad. God called to Hagar from heaven. God opened eyes to behold the well of water (provision made long before they knew or saw it). But they had to take it and drink it.

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GSE-00117 Doc. # 2.017

## Abraham Gives All

Series: 100: Genesis (# 117)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Substitute

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 22:1-19

### Memory Verse

He spared not His own Son. Rom. 8:32

### Attention Getter

How do you treat your friends? How did God treat His friend?

### Point 1

God tests Abraham, His friend, to see if He would now fully rest in His promise.

### Point 2

God's test - take Isaac whom thou lovest and offer him. Tho he left immediately what a mental struggle must have filled Abraham's mind during that journey.

### Point 3

God will provide Himself - was this statement by Abraham a real grasp of God's ultimate purpose? Good for discussion if the timing is right.

### Point 4

Abraham's obedience in spite of the personal cost involved. Isaac's obedience and compliance - not resisting in spite of his concern. Ram provided - God's renewed promises and revelation of His purposes follow.

### Illustration

Man who fell from tower onto passing sheep

### Notes

God never asks us to do something that He is not prepared to do as well.

### Summary

Love gives it's all - look how much God was willing to give to save our souls!

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GSE-00118 Doc. # 2.018

## **Servant & Rebecca**

Series: 100: Genesis (# 118)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### **Reading**

(1) Genesis 24:1-67

### **Memory Verse**

Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go. Gen. 24:58

### **Attention Getter**

How would you like your parents to pick your marriage partner?

### **Point 1**

Father sought a gentile bride for Isaac. Sends a servant (like to Holy Spirit and His work)

### **Point 2**

God was in the search - "the Lord led me" v27 Even Rebeccah's family said, "This thing proceedeth from the Lord" v50

### **Point 3**

Rebecca is told of the Father's desire and greatness and his loving purposes for the Son of the Promise.

### **Point 4**

It was Rebecca alone who must ultimately answer the call.

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GSE-00119 Doc. # 2.019

## The Twins & the Birthright

Series: 100: Genesis (# 119)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Mocker's Consequences; Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 25:20-34

### Memory Verse

Esau . . . sold his birthright. Hebrews 12:6

### Point 1

(1)

Choices - Jacob quiet thinker - clever, clear goals. Esau macho - cunning but not thinking ahead - likely more likeable!

### Point 2

Mention - sorrows of favouritism v28 Birthright - ie heir to the Promises God made Abraham

### Point 3

Not always the more likeable that will be saved. Outsmarted - someone else got it and he missed it.

### Point 4

Need of the moment satisfied - sold for a meal of soup and bread. Something of far more value in future despised

Esau - Just living for the NOW! Despised God's Word & Promises

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GSE-00120 Doc. # 2.02

## Jacob & Esau - the Blessing

Series: 100: Genesis (# 120)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; God's Provision - It's Fullness; God's Undeserved Favor - Grace; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 27:1-40

### Memory Verse

The blessing of the Lord . . . maketh rich. Prov. 10:22

### Point 1

Isaac old and blind. Picture of his failing spiritual perception. Time was near that he would die - wanted the blessing for Esau.

### Point 2

Jacob valued it and Rebecca knew it. There was hatched a plan to do Esau out of it.

### Point 3

Even though Jacob lied and cheated his brother and deceived his father yet the story shows that God's grace is bestowed on the most undeserving material because he longed for it.

### Point 4

Esau's remorse - make the class go to the passage in the New Testament as a final comment. Hebrews 12:17 This is what God says about Esau's loss.

### Notes

Make it clear that Jacob's lies and deceit were SIN.

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GSE-00121 Doc. # 2.021

## Jacob's Pillow and Ladder

Series: 100: Genesis (# 121)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 28:1-22

### Memory Verse

Tremble at the presence of the God of Jacob. Psalm 114:7

### Point 1

Even though Esau purposes later on to kill Jacob and even though Jacob is most unworthy, v3, a great blessing is pronounced. Jacob is an outcast and has no possessions in his hand.

### Point 2

Jacob sent away with all this on his conscience but as yet he feels no direct consequences. Likely he would experience fear, and guilt. Perhaps even mild regret.

### Point 3

Laid down to sleep with a stone for a pillow. Dreams - marvelous ladder! Away from home and family yet contact with Heaven not cut off. No companions but messengers from God.

### Point 4

Made to realize there is no where you can go that you can get away from God. "Surely the Lord is in this place" He would never forget Bethel, the House of God. God revealed Himself to Jacob there.

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GSE-00122 Doc. # 2.022

## Jacob meets Esau Again

Series: 100: Genesis (# 122)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Judgment's Certainty

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 32:1 - 33:17

### Memory Verse

God shall bring every work into judgment. Ecclesiastes 12:14

### Point 1

Years after, the man who tricked his parents and stole from his brother is told by God to return to the land, and there he is going to meet Esau again. Before he does however, he must meet with God if ever he is to be the man that God intends him to be, and free from his own devices.

### Point 2

Sends messengers to Esau. He is now told that Esau, the one he feared is coming to meet him with 400 men. Fear falls upon him though God had promised 32:12. Divides and sends a large present ahead. Still plotting.

### Point 3

Others pass over the brook Jabok on their way. Jacob alone. Reminds of another night when he found himself alone. Wrestles - prevails - won't let go without blessing. Name is changed to Israel "A Prince of or with God" What a change. Only God could bring it about. Marked for the rest of his life by Peniel (seeing God face to face.)

### Point 4

A reunion takes place - far different that Jacob had imagined. God had worked in Esau too and turned about his thinking so that he was gracious and forgiving.

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GSE-00123 Doc. # 2.023

## Joseph's Dream

Series: 100: Genesis (# 123)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Mocker's Consequences

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 37:1-11

### Memory Verse

Every knee shall bow to me. Rom. 14:11

#### Point 1

Joseph was a favourite of his fathers. There likely was a moral reason for this if Jacob could have perceived it. His father couldn't help showing it and he was seen as unique amongst his brothers. It would be foolish to show favouritism in our families since all have failed in some way.

#### Point 2

He had a revelation from God in a dream - so God also marks him out as unique. God tells him in a special way what the future holds. How does He tell us today?

#### Point 3

His brothers hated him but his father kept the saying v11 in mind.

#### Point 4

Read with class Gen 43:26 to show the fulfillment of God's promise. Remind all - He will keep His every word.



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GSE-00124 Doc. # 2.024

## Joseph's Brothers Plot His Death

Series: 100: Genesis (# 124)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 37:12-36

### Memory Verse

The wicked shall not be unpunished. Proverbs 11:21

### Point 1

Joseph comes, doing his father's will, seeking the good of his brothers.

### Point 2

Brothers mock him as the "Dreamer" and determine to kill him. His brother, Reuben, tries to save him from death but Joseph is thrown into a pit - likely intent to die there.

### Point 3

God sends a band of strangers (Midianites) to serve His purpose and save Joseph's life. The brothers outsmart themselves by selling him and think they will never see him again. "Tune in later for the rest of the story!" God is not done with those brothers yet.

### Point 4

Deceived their father into thinking a wild beast had devoured Joseph. Father is sure he will never see him again. No matter how sure you may be that you've got all the angles covered. Remember God is going to bring all to the light.

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GSE-00125 Doc. # 2.025

## Joseph is falsely accused and put in prison

Series: 100: Genesis (# 125)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Conscience - How it's Regulated/Activated

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 39:1-23

### Memory Verse

Joseph said unto them. . . "I fear God." Genesis 42:18

### Attention Getter

Use a compass and show how it is affected by a magnet. What regulates it? What guides us? A conscience regulated by God's Word.

### Point 1

In his work in Potiphar's house, the Lord was with him. Potiphar was pleased. Potiphar trusted him with everything he had. The Lord blessed Potiphar for honouring Joseph.

### Point 2

Potiphar's wife was attracted to Joseph for another reason. He was far from home. Life had given him a rough deal yet still HE REFUSED. Why? This is great wickedness. SIN AGAINST GOD.

### Point 3

Even though faithful - falsely accused. His master should have known better and may have for ordinarily, a man accused as Joseph was, would have been executed. Even so, he is unjustly imprisoned.

### Point 4

Note - even there v21, The Lord was with Joseph and gave him favour.

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GSE-00126 Doc. # 2.026

## The Dream Interpreter

Series: 100: Genesis (# 126)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 40:1-23

### Memory Verse

There is a God that revealeth secrets. Daniel 2:28

### Point 1

2 others imprisoned justly with Joseph because of what they had done. Deserved it. "He was numbered with the transgressors"

### Point 2

In spite of his own troubles, Joseph noticed their sad faces v7. Joseph, with God's help, revealed the meaning of their dreams.

### Point 3

One would be freed - one would be hung. Like thieves on crosses - one saved - one forever lost. Which one was freed? The one with the cup - reminds of shed blood. Which one died? the one with baked goods - reminds of man's best efforts.

### Point 4

Asked only to be remembered - but he forgot.

### Notes

1st hanging in Bible. Judas was the last !

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GSE-00127 Doc. # 2.027

## Joseph is Praised

Series: 100: Genesis (# 127)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 41:1-57

### Memory Verse

Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out. John 6:37

### Point 1

When God's time came, He invaded Pharaoh's mind with a dream that troubled him and He stirred the butler's thoughts and God helped Joseph interpret Pharaoh's dream. God saw to it that Pharaoh was so impressed that he would choose a prisoner to be acting ruler of the land v38-44. He was 30 years old now after long years in prison.

### Point 2

Note the "Bow the knee" of v43 and remind of his dreams ch 37. Note a great and long famine over the whole of the lands nearby. God was setting the stage for the rest of His purposes,

### Point 3

Joseph acts wisely. Takes a gentile bride. There was bread in Egypt. All had to come to him for bread v57.

### Point 4

Apply v55 "Go to Joseph, what he saith to you, do!" to saved and unsaved in class. You need to come to him and you can, but remember you must "Bow the knee" to Him as well.

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GSE-00128 Doc. # 2.028

## Jacob sends his sons to Egypt

Series: 100: Genesis (# 128)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin Acknowledged - Leads to Salvation

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 42:1-38

### Memory Verse

Every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Romans 14:12

### Point 1

News came that there was corn in Egypt. 10 brothers go down. Jacob won't let Joseph's only full brother go. Mother was Rebecca who had died when Benjamin was born.

### Point 2

Note - they bowed themselves v6 before Joseph and didn't know it was him at all. Joseph knew them v7-8. Spoke harshly to them, accuses them, They tell their story. Joseph fears God - this is significant or he would have treated them the way they treated him.

### Point 3

Demands that they bring their youngest brother to prove they aren't spies. Hears them confess v21-23. What a reminder that all of us will give account of ourselves to God.

### Point 4

Joseph had a purpose in bringing them to this dark hour of their lives. He knew why God had allowed all this Gen 45:5

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GSE-00129 Doc. # 2.029

## Joseph takes His Brothers to His House

Series: 100: Genesis (# 129)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 43:1-34

### Memory Verse

The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance. Romans 2:4

### Point 1

Famine remains hard. God allowed 7 years of severe famine in order to bring a reconciliation between Joseph and his family. How important this was to God. Think of what God has done to bring about reconciliation for us.

### Point 2

Benjamin must go but only after Judah is willing to bear the blame. God must have been working because this is a very different attitude than he used to have. They are to take a present (act of homage) for the man on the throne.

### Point 3

Joseph is moved when he sees his younger brother. Prepares a meal for them. They expected that he would try to seek occasion against them. Joseph had another test for them, by giving Benjamin such a double portion as belongs to the eldest.

### Point 4

Note - bowed themselves - v26, 28. Joseph brings God into his dealings with them v 23,29

### Notes

Their wrong thoughts and suspicion about him.

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GSE-00130 Doc. # 2.03

## Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers

Series: 100: Genesis (# 130)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 44:1 - 45:8

### Memory Verse

Joseph was made known unto his brethren. Acts 7:13

### Point 1

His brothers were unsettled when they found their money in their sacks even the first time. Now they are accused of stealing. Joseph specifies that it is Benjamin's sack that the cup is put into.

### Point 2

Before they knew how things would go, the brothers v9 said, let the guilty one die and we will be servants. Note - when it was found v14, they fell before him. They now bring God and their guilt into their situation v16.

### Point 3

All this was done to see if they had learned from their earlier mistakes. Now Judah, not only takes the place of a servant before him v18, but volunteers as a substitute for Benjamin, for fear his father would die! Hadn't cared about his father's thoughts before either.

### Point 4

Joseph couldn't refrain himself. He couldn't wait. Sends all away - alone with His brothers. They are terrified. Reveals himself. Draws them near. Brings them into God's thoughts and why God allowed it all. Gen 45:5, 7, 8 God did it all!

### Notes

When Joseph couldn't refrain - what a reminder of the desire of our Lord to have all distance, doubt removed that we might be with Him.

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GSE-00131 Doc. # 2.031

## Jacob Called Down to Egypt

Series: 100: Genesis (# 131)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Sympathizer; God's Provision - It's Fullness; Restoration

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### Reading

(2) Genesis 45:9 - 46:7; Genesis 46:29-34

### Memory Verse

Come down unto me, tarry not . . . and thou shalt be near unto me. Gen. 45:9-10

### Point 1

Haste is called for 45:9,13,24. A kiss is given, communion restored, weeping with joy v14-15.

### Point 2

Note - what they were to tell to Jacob. It started with God v9, made me Lord - spoke of a dwelling place prepared, a near place 45:10, nourishment v11. Tell Jacob of all my glory.

### Point 3

Wagons are sent, provision for the way, their former possessions are to be counted as nothing 45:20, presents to the father.

### Point 4

Moment of revelation for Jacob, the words of Jacob's sons didn't convince him, the wagons from Joseph did. Moment of meeting v29-30. Best of the land was for them 47:11



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GSE-00132 Doc. # 2.032

## Death of Jacob and Joseph

Series: 100: Genesis (# 132)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Faithfulness

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### Reading

(1) Genesis 49:33 - 50:26

### Memory Verse

He abideth faithful. 2 Tim. 2:13

### Point 1

Jacob died. Joseph kept his promise to his father and buried him in the land of Canaan.

### Point 2

Joseph's brothers are afraid of him again. They still didn't seem to know him. They still expected to reap what they had sowed. Notice - they fell down before him again 50:18

### Point 3

Joseph's attitude toward them is unchanged. That's what happens when God is a reality to His people. He removed their fears again v19,22. He reminds of God's purposes for him again - are we reminded that God has a purpose for the things He allows in our lives? He comforts and speaks kindness. He promises to sustain and nourish them. What a wonderful man!

### Point 4

110 years - 80 years of glory and grace. Amazing yet can't compare with what God has in mind for His people - eternal ages. Prophecies - God will visit them and He did - Moses! Makes them promise that his bones will not rest in Egypt but rather in the promised land.

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GSE-00201 Doc. # 2.033

## Moses in the Bulrushes

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 201)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Satan's Character - Enemy of God, Christian

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### Reading

(2) Exodus 1:1 - 2:10; Hebrews 11:23

### Memory Verse

The Devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5:8

### Point 1

Many years passed - about 400. A new king, didn't know Joseph. From 300+ people to 1.5 - 2 million or more.

### Point 2

Plot to control and burden and weaken them. Taskmasters to afflict them with burdens. They built cities of treasure and store houses. Made lives bitter Ex 1:14. Plot to destroy sons - the Devil put it in Pharaoh's heart to kill the deliverer that God had promised. Cf to Herod

### Point 3

Courage of Amram and Jochebed to hid Moses. He was the hope of their hearts - they expected that God would send a Saviour! Wonderful ways of God that the very one who should save Moses and nourish, educate and protect him, should be the daughter of the one determined to destroy him.

### Point 4

Perhaps we could remind the children that have Christian parents of the tremendous importance of having not only caring parents but look at the difference that praying & obedient parents made.

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GSE-00202 Doc. # 2.034

## Moses' Decision Time

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 202)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(3) Exodus 2:1-22; Acts 7:22-24; Hebrews 11:24-26

### Memory Verse

By faith, Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Hebrews 11:24

### Point 1

Came to a point in his life - more mature - realized his own potential for God

### Point 2

Saw their burdens - compassion moved him. Witnessed their abuse - realized the lost potential of God's people

### Point 3

Wanted to do something - possible to do something before God's time and not in God's way. Discuss what he hadn't yet balanced out eg God's character and ways - kills the Egyptian. God's people might well be afraid to have such a man for a leader.

### Point 4

God had much to teach him yet that he couldn't learn in Egypt. It must be learned in the Desert. Notice - Ex 2:17,19 he had learned something already - he didn't kill the shepherds

### Notes

He still looked like an Egyptian - you can get out of the world and away from it's influence but still have marks that need to go.

GSE-00203 Doc. # 2.035

## Moses' Mission I

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 203)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 3:1-14

### Memory Verse

Great is the LORD... His greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:3

### Point 1

Had learned to keep sheep and raise a family. He's run away from Egypt now God wants to send him back but not until!

### Point 2

God took the initiative to reveal Himself.

### Point 3

Bush burned with fire but not consumed. No special kind of bush. It was God in the Bush that made the difference. What a lesson for Moses and ourselves... It is God in us that makes the difference.

### Point 4

God is the great I AM (Explain). The man who is going to serve God must know how great his God is! Must also know how humble man is - shoes off his feet.

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GSE-00204 Doc. # 2.036

## Moses' Mission II

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 204)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 3:14 - 4:9

### Memory Verse

He forgetteth not the cry of the humble. Psalm 9:12

### Point 1

v16 What God wanted Moses to say to the Elders - I am visiting you (amazing thought) - I have seen - I will bring you up out of Egypt

### Point 2

What God wanted for His people - 3 days journey out of Egypt - a clear distinction - all gathered to Him without distraction or rival. This wouldn't take place without problems.

### Point 3

What Moses said - I know they won't listen to me. How quick we are to doubt the greatness of the One who reveals Himself and speaks through us.

### Point 4

A lesson for Moses - something to remember. Rod turned into serpent - God could made him run! Leprosy - appalling, awful - we don't read of him saying anything! God shows how He can cleanse the vilest thing.

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GSE-00205 Doc. # 2.037

## The Plagues I -

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 205)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Seeker - hindered

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 5:1-23

### Memory Verse

Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

### Point 1

Went to the great, powerful and proud Pharaoh to speak what God said, "Let MY PEOPLE go"

### Point 2

Pharaoh has no respect for God. Thinks he himself is a god. Has no appreciation for what the Lord wants. God's will and God's people mean nothing to him. Didn't want the people to leave their burdens. Egypt and His pleasure were all that mattered to the King.

### Point 3

Didn't get better gradually. Rather worse - Further burdens were added and hurtful conditions afflicted.

### Point 4

Doubts of the people - worse off - more hurts - greater hardship - less family time and time for God's things resulted. Doubts of Moses - WHY?

### Notes

God reveals in chapter 12 that He wanted His people released so that they could 1. Sacrifice v27 2. Feast v14 and 3. Serve v25. It is clear that salvation starts us on the road to WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE

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GSE-00206 Doc. # 2.038

## The Plagues II - Snakes and Blood

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 206)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger & Consequences

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### Reading

(2) Exodus 6:1-3; Exodus 7:10-25

### Memory Verse

See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh. Hebrews 12:25

### Point 1

6:3 Jehovah - the Self Existing One (who needs no one) but reveals Himself (even to sinners) This is the Name linked with redemption.

### Point 2

Aaron's rod - turned into a snake but so did the Magicians (with their tricks) "See we have power just like you..." then Aaron's serpent swallowed up theirs! There are lots of imitations but only one real thing!

### Point 3

Meet Pharaoh at the river. Repeats God's demand. River made into blood in the sight of all. Magicians - though they'd witnessed the reality of the serpent insist on trying the same. Satisfied with their pretence, self-impressed with their power and still unrepentant.

### Point 4

Neither is Pharaoh repentant but hardens his heart. How stupid can he be? Shuts his ears. He is supposed to be the leader but his foolish heart is darkened.

### Notes

PLAGUES - 1. Water turned to blood 2.Frogs 3.Lice 4.Flies 5.Cattle Die 6.Boils 7.Hail 8.Locusts 9.Darkness 10.First born dies

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GSE-00207 Doc. # 2.039

## The Plagues III - Frogs and Lice

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 207)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Depravity

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 8:1-23

### Memory Verse

God speaketh yet man perceiveth it not. Job 33:14

### Point 1

God again renews His demand. Who is going to win?

### Point 2

Frogs - one of the things that Egyptians worshipped. They had more than enough frogs. Pharaoh asks for frogs to be removed. A great miracle in itself - frogs died - whole land stinks. He makes a promise but hardens his heart again.

### Point 3

Dust is smitten - LICE. Magic couldn't do lice! This is the finger of God. Comment on the great things God can do with his finger. God can teach magicians a thing or two.

### Point 4

Pharaoh still leads the people in unbelief and stubbornly refuses to recognize that he has seen God's work, and he was incapable of overcoming it.



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GSE-00208 Doc. # 2.04

## The Plagues IV - Flies Swarm, Cattle Die & Boils Break Out

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 208)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 8:20 - 9:11

### Memory Verse

I set before you the way of life and the way of death. Jeremiah 21:8

### Point 1

Pharaoh is once again reminded of God's requirement and claims, "Let MY PEOPLE go ...."

### Point 2

Clear division seen between the land of Goshen and Egypt 8:22 & 23. God made a difference. Discuss the kinds of difference God puts between saved and unsaved today.

### Point 3

God did just what He said He would v24. He can and will do just what He says then or now. When the King says "Ok you can go - notice v28 only don't go very far. Devil never wants us far from the world and it's control.

### Point 4

The difference is again seen with the cattle. Egypt feels the judgement. No judgement for the Lord's people. Not so much as one 9:7 Still again with the boils. Egyptians could not stand the awful scourge but no mention of it affecting the Lord's people.

### Notes

Perhaps it should be noted very clearly - that while God puts a difference between His own and the World, yet today that does not mean that Christians have no sorrows or pains but rather the Power and Presence of God is granted to help them be overcomers even with their problems.

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GSE-00209 Doc. # 2.041

## The Plagues V - Hail

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 209)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 9:13-35

### Memory Verse

The simple pass on and are punished. Proverbs 27:12

### Point 1

Notice the one way that this 7th plague of the 10 differed from all the rest, except the last one - they were warned of God and a way of escape was announced through Moses.

### Point 2

There was a difference now even in the servants of Pharaoh v20. There was a move to be made - if they stayed as they were there was a judgement as only God could send, THUNDER, HAIL, LIGHTNING and BLOOD - what a combination!

### Point 3

Once again, during this most severe warning of even greater judgement, the Lord's People were spared v26. Pharaoh sends for Moses and says, "I have sinned this time." Warn class against incomplete and insincere repentance. He knew also that God could reverse it v 28.

### Point 4

Moses testifies to Pharaoh, "The earth is the Lord's" Yet v34 when danger is passed "he sinned yet more" and stubbornly hardened his heart. Perhaps this is a good point at which to give a warning on stubbornness.

### Notes

Older classes might like to check out the plague of the Hail in Revelation 8:7 and 11:19 and 16:21

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GSE-00210 Doc. # 2.042

## The Plagues VI - Locusts & Darkness

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 210)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Dark; Sinner is Dead; Sinner is Diseased

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 10:1-29

### Memory Verse

They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness. Psalm 82:5

### Point 1

Notice what God wanted all Israel to know, "I am the LORD" v2 (Jehovah - the Self-Existing One who needs no one yet reveal Himself)  
Call is given to Pharaoh, "How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before ME?" v3

### Point 2

Even Pharaoh's servants now press him to release them. And now he is partly willing but only the men can go, knowing they would come back for their kids. God wants to deliver all. We cannot afford to leave the young in the world. His terms are unacceptable and he drives Moses and Aaron out of his presence.

### Point 3

God again makes the moves. Most voracious locusts eat up everything left over after the hail. Pharaoh calls for M & A in haste. Again asks for favours of the Lord with no true desire to change.

### Point 4

DARKNESS - be absolutely clear that when a person rejects God and His Word, they are inviting Spiritual darkness too. This darkness could be FELT - some will feel their darkness for all eternity. Pharaoh seems again to relent and now allows the children to go but not their flocks and herds. God says, " Not a hoof will be left behind." Drives them from his presence. His fate has been decided by the king himself.

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GSE-00211 Doc. # 2.043

## The Passover & the Last Plague

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 211)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Redemption - Purchase and Purpose

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### Reading

(2) Exodus 12:1-13; Exodus 11:1-10

### Memory Verse

When I see the blood, I will passover you. Exodus 12:13

### Point 1

They had been slaves, and were under condemnation. God makes provision so the Israelites do not feel the judgement he has reserved for the wicked and unbelieving.

### Point 2

Take a Lamb - although 1000's of lambs died - God only sees the Lamb that all of this spoke of. "a lamb"v3, "the lamb"v4, "your lamb"v5  
Speak of how one may take a lamb for himself.

### Point 3

Kill the Lamb - there was a day appointed, a time set when the lamb (and THE LAMB) was to die. Apply the blood - here it shows how the lamb must be accepted for me. With hyssop (common weed and could be oregano plant) that speaks of faith.

### Point 4

When I see the Blood. Not their personal experiences or feelings. God had to be satisfied. All they had to do was accept what God said was sufficient. He does the rest. Notice He passes over (protects and shelters) so the angel cannot enter.

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GSE-00212 Doc. # 2.044

## The Red Sea

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 212)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Salvation - Provision for All

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 13:17 - 14:31

### Memory Verse

Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. Exodus 14:13

### Point 1

God had given his people a reward (gold borrowed from the Egyptians as payment for their labour) Now, God personally led His people - another miracle - fire by night and pillar of cloud by day. More than just a symbol, it meant that God was with them. He is still able to lead today and wants to through His word.

### Point 2

Pharoah's heart was "changed"v5 so that he and his army pursued them. The Israelites wail and doubt v10 but this is all in God's plan. He might have all the weapons and soldiers and chariots but they have the Lord with them. Somehow, neither the Egyptians nor the Israelites really see Him.

### Point 3

Another REAL Miracle - Rod stretched out - sea parts while God confuses the Egyptians and hides his own from their revenge. All Israel passes through. What a great God we have. Then the rod is stretched out again and with one simple act of God the feared enemies are brought to nothing.

### Point 4

What Israel SAW - 14:30-31 SONG -ch 15 Only the saved really have something to sing about. "Isn't He wonderful?"

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GSE-00213 Doc. # 2.045

## The Manna

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 213)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 16:1-36

### Memory Verse

I am the bread of life, he that cometh to me shall never hunger. John 6:35

### Point 1

Wilderness conditions - they were hungry - murmured -- remembering what they had had in Egypt which likely wasn't very much at all. The fact that the Glory of the Lord was seen amongst them didn't seem to mean much when hungry.

### Point 2

The Lord heard their murmurings v 12 yet the Lord spoke, "I will rain bread upon you." Came from above. Free! Available - on the ground, even children could get it - Sweet - satisfied their need.

### Point 3

Like the Lord Jesus Christ. Another of those marvelous pictures that God gives us of His amazing ability to meet the need of our souls whether sinner or saved.

### Point 4

Provided for 40 years - as long as they were in the Wilderness - on their way to the promised land.

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GSE-00214 Doc. # 2.046

## The Water and the Rock

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 214)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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### Reading

(2) Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 20:2-13

### Memory Verse

If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. John 7:37

### Point 1

First occasion: They were where they were because of the commandment of the Lord - No water - v1 Murmured to Moses and he cried to the Lord. Couldn't see anything good about it their circumstances or their leaders or their God.

### Point 2

God was there along with Moses and the elders - God spoke "Smite the Rock" with his rod and there was an abundant supply. A picture of the smiting of the Saviour (the Rock of our Salvation) and what has flowed forth from Calvary to meet the sinner need.

### Point 3

Second Occasion: Miriam had died. People seem to have forgotten all about the former occasion and what God had done. Now there is a Tabernacle - should have all been even more impressed by the reality of God with them. M & A went and fell on their faces. The Lord Speaks again. "Take the rod, and SPEAK to the Rock" Smote the Rock twice in anger. Again there is provision for all.

### Point 4

Consequences to Moses that he would not be able to lead the people into the promised land. How tremendously important to hear and obey what the Lord says.

### Notes

Other things the rod had been used for: Serpent to make Moses run, Swallowed rods of the Magicians, Waters into blood, initializing other plagues, Red Sea divides and closes again YET it was not a special rod to worship. It was God who made the difference.

### Miscellaneous

God's Rock only ever needed to be smitten ONCE. Never again.

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GSE-00215 Doc. # 2.047

## **Fight with Amalak**

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 215)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Satan's Character - Enemy of God, Christian

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### **Reading**

(2) Exodus 17:8-16; Deuteronomy 25:17-19

### **Memory Verse**

He is able also to save them. Heb. 7:25

### **Point 1**

Amalek - Esau's grandson. A picture of the flesh that is at enmity with God. Gal 4 Fought against them when weary, attacking the hindermost Deut 25

### **Point 2**

The people of Israel have been redeemed from Egypt but they are not safely in the promised land and still subject to attack and danger from enemies and elements without.

### **Point 3**

Character of a Christian in this world is that of a stranger and a pilgrim passing through. 1 Peter 2:11-12

### **Point 4**

Joshua means Saviour - so he does the fighting but Moses is seen interceding while supported by Aaron and Hur. Notice who really won the victory, Jehovah Nissi ie the Lord my Banner and His banner over us is Love S of S 2:4

### **Notes**

Flesh is that evil corrupt nature all possess through Adam. God does not remove it when we are saved. Rather a new nature (that in itself cannot do those kinds of things) is imparted. The flesh is incurably bad and will not change.



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GSE-00216 Doc. # 2.048

## When God gave His Law

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 216)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Law of God - It's Purpose & Character

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 19:1 - 20:26

### Memory Verse

By the Law is the knowledge of sin. Romans 3:20

### Attention Getter

Picture a mom and little child who is anxious to explore everything around. She says, "No that fire is HOT" Does she say it because she hates the child? WHY?

### Point 1

God had been so good to His people and now He is going to give them a most valuable lesson and a guide to preserve them. When they are told what the Lord is going to do, they are very quick to say, "All that the Lord hath spoken we will do" so they promised to perform it even before they knew how high God's standards were.

### Point 2

Note the Holiness with which even the mountain of meeting with Moses is to be respected. Remember Moses and the burning bush? There was a need to be cleansed before they could even come near 19:10 and even then the darkness and thunders caused the people to tremble with reverence and fear.

### Point 3

God called Moses up, no others allowed to even come nigh or there would be death 19:23-24 The Law itself, perhaps the teacher should discuss each point with the class (even it meant two weeks or more to cover it all) and have the kids provide examples of each type of sin thus making it all more real to them.

### Point 4

Note how the Law was necessary that Israel might understand the Holiness of the One who had redeemed them and so that they could understand what was required that they might maintain a proper relationship with Him. 20:20

### Miscellaneous

It's a good idea to have the kids memorize a simplified form of the commandments so that it's power to awaken them to the reality of their sin might be made very real. Could be a class project shared by 2's and a small reward or recognition given.

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GSE-00217 Doc. # 2.049

## The Golden Calf

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 217)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Law's Lack of Power to Control

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 31:18 - 32:35

### Memory Verse

Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. James 2:10

### Point 1

Here they are still at Mount Sinai and they have promised to keep all that God says, and they now break his law (first three commandments) before they even receive it. It reveals the incurable character of the depravity of man's heart that, for some reason, they keep going back to idolatry even after they learn this great lesson.

### Point 2

Aaron (who was to be a priest to the Lord) was the one who made the calf, which the people further distorted and engaged in immorality. What a mark of his failure - yet the Lord forgives and still uses him later on.

### Point 3

A lot of their wages from the Egyptians went into the making of the calf. Earrings v2 are often connected with idolatry. Those who used these things now missed the opportunity to use them later for the service of God. Lost potential!

### Point 4

Tablets are broken when Moses sees what had happened lest the full judgement of the Lord be brought upon them. Still there was a call - Who is on the Lord's side? And 3000 were slain v28

### Notes

Their sin - worshipped the calf - made a graven image or idol - when worshipping the calf they called it a feast unto the Lord.

### Miscellaneous

What a comparison to God's grace - 3000 saved at Pentecost.

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GSE-00218 Doc. # 2.05

## The Hebrew Servant

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 218)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Consecration

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### Reading

(1) Exodus 21:1-6

### Memory Verse

The Son of Man came... to minister and to give His life a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

### Point 1

Law of the Servant - obviously from the whole of the passage - the servant was to be treated with respect, compassion and care if ever he was to be respond in this way. God never intended the type of treatment that men, who were not God-fearing, gave to slaves elsewhere.

### Point 2

There comes a time when the normal requirements for the servant have all been discharged. There also comes in this Hebrew servant a time of reckoning regards the kind of master he has served.

### Point 3

I love my master - I will not go out free. That is what brings forth this devotion and unending service. All of this is a picture of the true Hebrew Slave - our Lord Jesus - and of those who recognize all that He has done for us and want to be just like Him.

### Point 4

Marked forever - ear bored through with an awl. The reality is - he was marked by his love first of all.

### Notes

Isaiah 50:5 may well be a reference to this. The Lord was truly the SERVANT who bore this character and He was not rebellious.

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GSE-00219 Doc. # 2.051

## The Tabernacle

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 219)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Faithfulness

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### Reading

(2) Exodus 25:1-9; Exodus 40:17-38

### Memory Verse

I will be their God and they shall be my people. II Cor.6:16 /or/ Great is the glory of the Lord. Psalm 138:5

### Point 1

God was the One who revealed what was needed so that He might dwell amongst them. Expected a willing offering.

### Point 2

God Himself had given the Pattern that it might truly be His Dwelling Place.

### Point 3

After much care and intricate work, the tabernacle is reared up - yet in spite of all that was done, it was nothing if God were not in it!

### Point 4

O the wonder that God would make His presence know in such a humble place, in spite of it's considerable glory. The outward sign of the Cloud and Fire accompanied them in all their journeyings.

### Notes

There was coming a day when God would forsake the Temple. "your house is left unto you desolate". O the tragedy of God leaving us to falter onwards on our own.

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GSE-00220 Doc. # 2.052

## Day of Atonement

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 220)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lamb

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### Reading

(1) Leviticus 16:1-34

### Memory Verse

(1) John 1:29

Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:29

### Point 1

There was a prohibition about entering within the veil where the Presence of God was. Only one man was allowed to come inside.

### Point 2

It was necessary for that one man to prepare himself before he entered. He was to be washed, clothed with the appropriate and designated holy garments according to what God demanded.

### Point 3

TWO Kids of the goats for the Israelites - one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering and in addition a bullock for himself and for his family. First his bullock must be offered, then the first goat is killed, and the blood is taken and applied for uncleanness.

### Point 4

Then upon the living goat's head is confessed all the sins of the people, both iniquity and transgressions. Get a good grasp of what these sins are and explain them. The goat is then taken away to die under the eye of God where no human eye can see.

### Notes

Note how serious uncleanness and defilement was to God. If we had God's thoughts, would we think differently of our sin today?

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GSE-00221 Doc. # 2.053

## Judgement of the 2 Men

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 221)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God is Holy

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### Reading

(1) Leviticus 10:1-11

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 89:7

God is greatly to be feared. Psalm 89:7

### Point 1

Privileged sons of Aaron. Should have been taught. Do we understand from v 8-11 that Aaron had failed to convey this great truth to his sons. What a cost.

### Point 2

You cannot come before the Lord any way you want. He is not like any other. He is altogether Holy. He deserves our total respect. God is not a man.

### Point 3

Note: God did not give any warning of what He was going to do. He has taken great care to reveal His Character in His Word. Disaster came suddenly and with finality.

### Point 4

Their bodies were taken outside the camp as not fit to be there. There was to be no mourning them, as that would show our tolerance and sympathy for the sinner who had so grossly offended God by not giving Him the respect and reverence due to Him.

### Notes

Our attitudes, thoughts, words, and actions should be suited to His presence. It would be good to touch on some ways we might make a difference as we deal with His Word, & His Presence when we meet Him in prayer or listen to the Word.

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GSE-00222 Doc. # 2.054

## Israel Murmurs & God Answers

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 222)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger & Consequences

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### Reading

(1) Numbers 11:1-35

### Memory Verse

(1) Hebrews 12:29

Our God is a consuming fire. Heb. 12:29

### Attention Getter

It happens again! See Lesson 133A. Not just to the sons of Aaron but the fire of the Lord reached to the uttermost of the people!

### Point 1

Complaining doesn't seem too bad does it? Until you see it from God's point of view. God had continued to manifest Himself amongst His people. They seemed to take His goodness all for granted. God was about to make them reconsider!

### Point 2

God had provided for them. They could never have continued through the desert without Him. O the awful danger of pride and selfishness. The mixed multitude ( a group who accompanied them from Egypt) lusted after the (nearly imaginary) flesh pots of Egypt. Likely as slaves they had had so little of what they now hunger for.

### Point 3

The focus of their complaint was the Manna - that is, the sustaining healthy food that God provided faithfully morning by morning. God was angry. Beware of arousing His righteous displeasure.

### Point 4

God sends the wind that brought them quail. They greedily took far more than they could ever eat. And while God gave them what they had desired, He sent them a great plague along with it, many died. Was it worth it after all?

### Notes

Manna speaks of Christ.

### Summary

Sin when it is finished bringeth forth death. Take care lest you get what you want and more besides!

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GSE-00223 Doc. # 2.055

## Hobab Makes a Choice

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 223)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(1) Numbers 10:28-36

### Memory Verse

(1) Hebrews 3:15

Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts. Hebrews 3:15

### Point 1

God had been revealing His goodness, greatness, purposes and power amongst His people and Hobab (Moses father in law) had seen and heard about it much.

### Point 2

Moses tells him God's purpose behind the travel from Egypt and the Promised Land. Tells of a Land, & what he would share if he came with God's chosen people. The opportunity for great blessing was not a dream. God had spoken it.

### Point 3

Hobab refuses. Excuses himself on the grounds of his kindred. Sad to say, there are others like him. Intreated further and told of a usefulness he might claim. Still unmoved. "I will not go" Notice: God went before His people and cloud and fire accompanied them. Of all people, none were more unique than those the Lord had chosen.

### Notes

It might be helpful to compare Ruth who was intreated to leave, but made her choice for God and His people. "I will go"



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GSE-00224 Doc. # 2.056

## Two Faithful Spies & a Million Fools

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 224)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(1) Numbers 13:1 - 14:45

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 106:24

They despised the pleasant land, they believed not His Word Psalm 106:24

### Point 1

As they near the promised land, the LORD tells Moses to select spies to check it out. They select 12 great men. Great men are not always wise. Not only that, beware of the majority!

### Point 2

They go up to see the land, and Caleb and Joshua see the land and it's tremendous possibilities knowing that God will be with them, and bring back a true report and sample of it's bounty,

### Point 3

Caleb & Joshua were no fools. They saw the enemies and the great cities, but amidst it all they saw GOD and His Faithful Word. The others discouraged the people because they saw the GIANTS but they didn't see a God who was far greater than it all.

### Point 4

Some wanted to go back to Egypt. God was provoked with them. When they knew this, some presumed to enter the land after God had said they never would and they died. All of that generation wandered and perished in the wilderness.

### Notes

The majority had seen the abundance of the land, but never got to enjoy it. God's promise to Caleb and Joshua came true as God said it would, but even they had their hopes delayed for many frustrating years.

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GSE-00225 Doc. # 2.057

## The Rebellion

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 225)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger & Consequences

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### Reading

(1) Numbers 16:1-40

### Memory Verse

(1) Hebrews 10:31

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God Hebrews 10:31

### Point 1

Korah, Dathan and Abiram and other men of importance, influence and power, rise up in opposition to the men (Moses and Aaron) whom God had given place and authority to. These men had been given Levite responsibility but wanted more place than the Lord had given.

### Point 2

It is plainly pointed out that such actions and words are against the Lord v11. They are told that there will be a reckoning before the Lord tomorrow v 16.

### Point 3

The Glory of the Lord was manifest. God calls upon Moses and Aaron to separate themselves. He is ready to destroy them all. They fall upon their faces. God then gives them a message for Israel to flee from those men. Response is necessary or they will perish too. A declaration is made that God is about to act. The earth opens and they go down quick into the pit. Israel then made to flee further because of the cry of them. Fire came out from the Lord.

### Point 4

Some of the sons of Korah must've realized their danger in time - because we find some precious things in the Psalms later on. Aaron stands between the dead and the living with a reminder of the altar and the plague comes to a halt. But the experience is there to teach us for centuries afterwards.

### Notes

This is the idea of railing. A speaking against those who are given authority and established by God. That could even mean those given authority in Government or the Assembly. Perhaps it would be wise if there are a number of older ones who are Christians in the class to make this distinction and press for respect.

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GSE-00226 Doc. # 2.058

## Serpent of Brass

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 226)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Salvation - Provision for All

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### Reading

(1) Numbers 21:4-9

### Memory Verse

(1) John 3:14

Even so must the Son of Man be lifted up. John 3:14

### Point 1

People still have not learned their lesson in spite of all that God has done for them. Complaints fill their mouths again. Why is it that God needs to show us so often the awfulness of our sin?

### Point 2

Particularly note their complaint again about the Manna. Note they said, Our soul, indicating that "feelings" oriented part of our beings.

### Point 3

Response was clear. Serpents. Bitten once and death is before them. They cried out to Moses. Their words reveal their understanding of where their sin lay. "we have spoken". Perhaps it would be helpful to show that the thoughts and intents of the heart are the real cause. Words are the outcome of what is within.

### Point 4

They ask for prayer that the serpents may be taken away. This also shows their shortsightedly and their limited faith. Those bitten would still die. God was going to do something so much better. What a wonderful God we have!

GSE-00227 Doc. # 2.059

**Balaam - the Man who was dumber than His Donkey**

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 227)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Detected; Sin Found Out

**Reading**

(1) Numbers 22:1-35

**Memory Verse**

(1) 2 Peter 2:16

Balaam. . . Was rebuked for his iniquity. II Pet. 2:16

**Point 1**

King of Moab sends important men to Balaam. Their whole purpose is to get him to do something that is wrong! Sin. There are many folks and influences in the world that seek the same thing. The distance they may have come could have been quite great. Up to 400 miles!

**Point 2**

Balaam not only entertains these men but the thoughts they have suggested to him. A very dangerous combination. Be careful who you allow to be close to you.

**Point 3**

God speaks plainly to Balaam. You can't go! Suggest ways to the class ways that Balaam may have conveyed that message to the princes. They return to the King and are immediately sent back with a greater offer.

**Point 4**

Balaam, urged by the princes, is drawn by his own lust and what God calls madness 2Pet. 2:16. The donkey could see better than he could. We should thank God for others in our lives that God may use to awaken us.

**Notes**

Perhaps it could be noted that the world says every man has his price. It could be mentioned that we as believers do too, but we must keep in mind that that price has already been paid at the Cross. We are not our own.

**Summary**

What would have happened if he had kept going the way he was going?

**Miscellaneous**

Balaam longs for a sword - there is one very near - not for the donkey but for him! Note his impatience when hindered in his way - the sinner is often very impatient when things don't work out his way.

GSE-00228 Doc. # 2.06

**Balaam - the Rest of the Story***Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 228)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin Admitted - Not Always Saved

**Reading**

(2) Numbers 22:35 - 25:18; Numbers 31:8

**Memory Verse**

(1) Psalm 90:12

Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Psalm 90:12

**Point 1**

Balaam in the previous lesson admitted his sin, but that confession was not real. God knew that but outwardly it might have seemed real. Balaam does begin to behave himself in Moab and though he was instructed to curse Israel - he was not allowed to.

**Point 2**

He speaks prophetically for God yet no real change has taken place in his heart. He, as a Seer, sees what God purposed for His people, and even expresses a desire to have Israel's Blessings and that his last end might be like theirs. A good desire if it proceeds from an honest heart.

**Point 3**

When he was unsuccessful at cursing God's people he resorts to causing the Lord's redeemed people to mix with the ungodly and partake in idolatry. This worked so well that God judged it harshly.

**Point 4**

Most interesting to see that the man who did not die by the Sword in Num. 22 now dies by the sword in Num. 31 when it is obvious that he was in the camp of the enemies. How careful our God is that everything is done righteously.

**Notes**

Balaam actually is made to speak to God's glory in Num. 23:19 as he is caused to reveal God's character and faithfulness. God can make the wicked to praise Him.

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GSE-00229 Doc. # 2.061

## Two Strange Funerals

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 229)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(3) Numbers 20:12; Numbers 20:22-29; Numbers 27:12-17

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Samuel 15:22

To obey is better than sacrifice. 1 Sam.15:22

### Point 1

Aaron & Moses are told that they will not be able to bring God's people into the Promised Land. They are also told why! Because they did not believe God! The sin of UNBELIEF is very close to all of us. Does that sin seem big to you? It's very serious to God.

### Point 2

Aaron is taken to the top of Mount Hor (the highest of the peaks near the border of the Promised Land) God graciously gives him a look into it all. The priesthood is transferred to his son, Eleazar according to the mind of God. He dies there and his death marks the end of the wanderings. From here on the people marches and halts but no more wanders.

### Point 3

Moses blesses the tribes of Israel. Overall that is a statement of what his whole ministry for them had been. He also sets before the people the new leader, Joshua. Moses goes at God's instruction to see the Land that God had promised.

### Point 4

Gets right to entrance to the land near Jericho. Reminded why he could not enter. O to have the wisdom we need to foresee what might have been. The Lord showed him it all. The Lord buried him there. No one knows the sepulchre but God. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

### Notes

Make sure you are familiar with Numbers 33:38-39 and Deut 32:48 - Deut 34:12 as well.

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GSE-00230 Doc. # 2.062

## The Successor of Moses

Series: 200: Exodus - Numbers (# 230)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Faithfulness

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### Reading

(3) Numbers 27:15-23; Deuteronomy 34:9-12; Joshua 1:1-9

### Memory Verse

(1) Joshua 1:5

I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Joshua 1:5

### Point 1

The LORD spoke to Joshua. If someone is going to be any help to the Lord's people this is absolutely necessary. It is not 'Moses is dead' but Moses, my servant! What a reminder of what all true leaders must be.

### Point 2

Rather than being overcome with this loss, God's Word calls them to action, "Go over this Jordan" God reiterates the promises He had made before. His intentions remain the same for His people. Joshua is reminded of God's power that would make it happen v5

### Point 3

A call goes out for courage of heart. It takes courage to obey God and go on. Be not afraid! Sometimes that is easier said than done.

### Point 4

God's important counsel should be noted - 1.Do all 2.Turn not from it 3.Book of the Law to be with him always 4.Importance to the leader to meditate

### Notes

Perhaps it would be a good thing to get the class to help you by suggesting a person they know about who had courage, and to tell you of some bible character who showed it ie Samuel meeting Saul, Daniel in the den, David and the lion etc.

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GSE-00301 Doc. # 2.063

## Rahab and the Two Spies

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 301)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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### Reading

(1) Joshua 2:1-24

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 17:1

O Lord, attend unto my cry, give ear unto my prayer. Psalm 17:1

### Point 1

Spies are sent. Rahab received them. What she had heard v9-11 caused her to receive them. She would have been called disloyal but better to be on the Lord's side no matter what people think of us.

### Point 2

God was mightily with His people and her eyes were open to the danger. Her city and people were in danger. She did not wait for the judgement to fall.

### Point 3

She pleads her case starting with what she knew of God! She wants to be spared - what one of us wouldn't want the same? She wants a sure token as she is sure such a God would give.

### Point 4

She is given God's people's word of promise. She is told to bind the scarlet cord in her own window. A picture of the sinner's only hope - the precious shed blood of the Lord Jesus.

### Summary

The best thing about it all - it worked! Just as promised. Her only hope lay in the scarlet cord and the word that they gave her.



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GSE-00302 Doc. # 2.064

## Passage Over Jordan

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 302)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Life Giver & Resurrection

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### Reading

(1) Joshua 3:1 - 4:24

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Corinthians 15:4

He was buried and He rose again the third day according to the scriptures. I Cor. 15:4

### Point 1

Likely this lesson should be used for the more advanced classes. Showing the picture of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Point 2

Some references should be used to show that the Ark is a true picture of Christ. This will require some digging and it is possible that older students could do some of this research and be supplemented by you.

### Point 3

There was Heaven sent instructions for the passage before it took place. Likewise we are told that the Lord would rise again. They were also told that there was to be a holy distance maintained and that is a reminder of how unique and distinct is the glory of our Lord.

### Point 4

The Ark stayed in the midst of the river till all the people had passed over. God intended that all would know 4:21-24 the great significance of it all. So too the stones in the river and placed upon the banks were a lasting testimony to it.

### Notes

This will give you a good opportunity to show interested believers the advantage and usefulness of having a concordance, as well as a bible dictionary and even how to get some help from a commentary.

### Miscellaneous

It's awkward to mention circumcision, the change in life that expected (ch5) afterwards. Perhaps it can be done in general. But it is vital to explicitly mention the fact that there was a new food and its importance to the believer.

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GSE-00303 Doc. # 2.065

## **Destruction of Jericho**

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 303)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### **Reading**

(2) Joshua 3:13-15; Joshua 6:1-27

### **Memory Verse**

(1) Hebrews 11:30

By faith Rahab perished not with them. Heb. 11:30

### **Point 1**

God reveals Himself to Joshua to fill his mind with the greatness and the holiness of the One who was the true Leader of His people.

### **Point 2**

It is the Lord who orders the battle and He declared the victory before the battle started. When God is with us, there is no doubt about the outcome, though the proposed strategy was strange to our thinking.

### **Point 3**

Note - the order of the people, their silence, and their unity. When the people all gave a great shout the walls literally fell into the earth so the people could go straight forward. Here the city was to be for God first of all, and all is to be utterly destroyed. Shows us that God's value of earthly things are far different than ours.

### **Point 4**

Their promise to Rahab was kept to the letter and she was brought into the godly line - see Rachab Matt 1:5. Also note, the Lord was with Joshua. What confidence that would give for future work.

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GSE-00304 Doc. # 2.066

## Achan & His Death

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 304)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Detected; Sin Found Out

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### Reading

(1) Joshua 7:1-26

### Memory Verse

(1) Numbers 32:23

Be sure your sin will find you out. Numb. 32:23

### Point 1

It all came about in a most unusual and awful way. 36 men died and the rest were chased away. Joshua falls down before the Lord and stays there till the Lord reveals the problem. He was not in God's thoughts and the Lord made him feel it.

### Point 2

SIN - calls for action. Tomorrow, they are warned is a day of reckoning. Why does Achan wait when he knows tomorrow is coming? He thinks he can elude detection.

### Point 3

In the morning - no delay. God comes very close. Why does Achan still delay? O the folly of the sinner who does not know GOD. Finally exposed, he admits his guilt. The garment - does not look so attractive now, the gold won't buy him a right relationship with His God.

### Point 4

Everyone was made to see what God had seen. Stoned - and a pile of stones raised over him so that all would remember that sin will find you out! Achor means trouble. Sin is big trouble in the midst of God's people.

### Notes

For those of us who are saved. How wise it would be of us, to follow Joshua's example (Point 1) and upon our knees God will show us the reason for our failure, and how to deal with it.

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GSE-00305 Doc. # 2.067

## The Trick of the Gibeonites

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 305)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Attractiveness; Distractions

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### Reading

(2) Joshua 9:1-27; Joshua 8:1-35

### Memory Verse

(1) Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart: and lean not unto thine own understanding. Prov. 3:5

### Point 1

Appearances can be deceiving! The Gibeonites were afraid because of what they had heard. They make plans and carry them out to save their own skins, desiring to make an ally out of Israel. Perhaps they'd heard what Rahab had gotten - a sure word and knew that it would stand.

### Point 2

Israel had the Living and Omniscient God with them, how could they ever be fooled. Joshua 8:30 he had an altar, 32 he wrote out the law, 34 he read it all to the people. Once again (First attempt at Ai) Joshua acts independently and does not ask God what they should do. Trusted his own opinions and judgment even though he had his suspicions.

### Point 3

The Gibeonites acted wisely and the Israelites were made to look like fools when they came to the cities on the 3rd day. They were bound by their word to spare the Gibeonites. But they were made bondmen all their days.

### Point 4

Now Israel is bound to defend their allies from the Amorites in chapter 10 - thus hindering them from pursuing their own goals.

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GSE-00306 Doc. # 2.068

## The Wonder in the Heavens

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 306)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) Joshua 10:1-27

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 1:37

With God nothing shall be impossible. Luke 1:37

### Point 1

Israel now finds out that their word and league with the Gideonites will keep them from other things that the Lord intended. So often Satan entraps us by our involvement with others or things and keeps us from progress.

### Point 2

The Amorites attack the Gibeonites. 5 kings in a mighty effort and in one accord. They hated the fact that some had made peace with God's people and turned from Idolatry.

### Point 3

God works with His people in spite of their presumption and lack of looking to Him. Showing both in the battle and with hail God's might through His people and power even in the elements. A man, in the midst of God's work, commands the Sun to stand still and it did until the battle was over.

### Point 4

There was no day like it before or since. But there was a day near Jericho when the SON stood still, and that is a greater miracle than the first!

### Notes

You should do some research and find a tract about this miracle. There was scientific evidence of this missed day in history. The class would be helped by taking it home.

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GSE-00307 Doc. # 2.069

## Cities of Refuge

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 307)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Salvation - Provision for All

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### Reading

(1) Joshua 20:1-9

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Ps. 46:1

### Point 1

It all started with God. He knew that there would be a need. He knew what they needed. He went about to see that it was provided.

### Point 2

The enemy was identified. The Avenger of Blood. Amongst men, vengeance is often hastily and poorly considered and quickly brought to pass in the heat of the offence.

### Point 3

The guilty was to have a fair hearing. There would be a cooling off period for the mourners. There were to be six cities across the land, nearby to all that would avail themselves.

### Point 4

It should be noted that the cry of David later on about Abner who was slain by Joab for the killing of Joab's younger brother, had to do with the fact that Abner died right in the gate of a city of refuge.

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GSE-00308 Doc. # 2.07

## Final Message of Joshua

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 308)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(1) Joshua 24:1-33

### Memory Verse

(1) Joshua 24:15

Choose you this day whom ye will serve. Joshua 24:15

### Point 1

After Joshua had led God's people and they are well established in the land, the time comes for him to die. He had fought a good fight, finished his course (as we all shall) and he had seen God at work with him in it all.

### Point 2

The people, no doubt, began to appreciate the blessings of the land more than the Great Giver of it all. Joshua rehearses before them all that the LORD had done and all that the LORD had brought them into.

### Point 3

Joshua commands them to reaffirm their choice v14-15 - Their words are excellent words v16-18 though quickly enough their commitment to them is forgotten. In the days of the Judges, everyman did that which was right in his own eyes. Judges 17:6 Joshua clearly reminds them again v19 about God's character and the response He expects from those He has redeemed. They are also told of the cost of disobedience v20.

### Point 4

Joshua dies at 110, having this testimony Josh 24:31 that Israel served the Lord all his days.

GSE-00309 Doc. # 2.071

**Deborah & Barak***Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 309)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

**Reading**

(1) Judges 4:1 - 5:31

**Memory Verse**

(1) Psalm 9:10

Thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee. Ps. 9:10

**Point 1**

The people are now in the land, however they have not completely subdued the territory ch 1. The people do evil in the sight of the Lord Judges 3:5-8,12-14, serving Baal, and suffer by having to serve their ungodly oppressors as well. God raises up Judges to lead them. Othniel, Ehud and Shamgar have been the first judges.

**Point 2**

The third time they do evil and Israel is allowed to suffer for it. They cry out to God, and, in spite of such great and repeated failure, the Lord raises up Deborah and Barak.

**Point 3**

It was Deborah who called upon Barak to tell him of what God had revealed, and the promise to deliver. Barak is unwilling to do anything without Deborah, a further sign of the weakness of the people. Sisera was the army commander of the Canaanite king. God said he would draw Sisera to them that he might be judged.

**Point 4**

No matter how great the forces and how mighty the chariots of Sisera, God makes the battle go badly. Sisera runs and was met by Jael who offers refuge, comfort and refreshment. Sisera is soon asleep and as he lies helpless, a tent nail is driven through his temple. He dies and the people of Israel are delivered once more. The prophet and the prophetess then lead the people in a great song of Praise to the One who had brought it all about!



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GSE-00310 Doc. # 2.072

## God's Call to Gideon

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 310)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways

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### Reading

(1) Judges 6:1-40

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Corinthians 1:27

God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. I Cor. 1:27

### Point 1

After the great deliverance under Barak and Deborah the people go back to their old ways. How soon they forget, and fall into the same traps. The cost - 7 years of serving the Midianites.

### Point 2

A special messenger is sent by God to Gideon. He is seeking to provide food for God's people. God had seen him and knew his burden v13 before it was expressed. God now encourages him and usges him forward, promising His power and presence.

### Point 3

Gideon first objects and tries to excuse himself and then asks for a sign (as though that was better than a promise from God!) God demonstrates His ability with fire from the rock. God appears to him and tells him to build an altar to the LORD and to cut down the grove for Baal. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. The Spirit of the Lord came upon him for a specific purpose and he blows a trumpet in the land.

### Point 4

Though God has said He will use him, though God has shown him His power, Gideon now requests another sign, fleece, which God worked a further miracle upon. Still He further asks another yet, and God graciously works again. How patient he is with this man's failure and unbelief. How wonderful it is that God would ever choose to deliver and use such as us at all.

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GSE-00311 Doc. # 2.073

## Victory of Gideon

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 311)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) Judges 7:1-25

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 18:27

The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Luke 18:27

### Point 1

Gideon gets an early start. God's business requires haste and complete obedience.

### Point 2

God tells him there are two many. Israel may think that with a good leader they could've won this victory alone. God calls for those with the courage to trust him. Others need not apply! There are still 10,000. God tests them for alertness to their enemy and danger now.

### Point 3

Brought down to the water - most were not vigilant. God excludes all but 300. What a reminder that we need to be on guard against the attacks of the enemy. How few there are, but God can do His work with a few trusting, obedient and vigilant men.

### Point 4

God lays out the battle plans. He knows Israel's enemy and ours. The enemies camels and host were without number. Nevertheless, with trumpets and lights and a great shout, that told of sword the LORD with them, the enemy is put to confusion and fight against themselves! God's ways are best and they work and bring Him the glory.

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GSE-00312 Doc. # 2.074

## The Word to Samson

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 312)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Deception

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### Reading

(1) Judges 14:1 - 15:16

### Memory Verse

(1) Proverbs 1:10

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. Prov. 1:10

### Point 1

Samson becomes the 13th judge. Moved (he saw, she pleaseth me 14:1,3) by his own selfishness and lust, he tells his parents to get a wife from the enemy of his people. God was to use this to bring about His purposes. Sad, that God has to use us in spite of ourselves at times!

### Point 2

As they go down to Timnath - a lion attacks. He tore the lion apart easily with his bare hand. Coming back to Timnath the second time, he saw the remains of the lion and the bees had made honey in the unclean carcass. He gave it to his parents to eat and didn't tell them where it came from. This shows how little regard he had for God's requirement for the Nazarite and for his people and himself who would be rendered ceremonially unclean by touching the dead.

### Point 3

Samson puts forth as riddle, offering a large reward, to create an offense and provoke an attack on the Philistines. When they could not solve it, they use Samson's wife to make him reveal the answer. She prevails upon him and she tells his enemies. What a reminder that our families or loved ones can become points of attack that the Adversary can use to bring us down.

### Point 4

Samson goes to Askelon - kills 30 of their own people to pay his vow. More death and defilement and his wife is lost to him as well.

### Notes

Make sure you know something about the Nazarite - Numbers 6

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GSE-00313 Doc. # 2.075

## Death of Samson

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 313)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger & Consequences

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### Reading

(2) Judges 16:4-31; Galatians 6:7

### Memory Verse

(1) Proverbs 13:15

The way of transgressors is hard. Proverbs 13:15

### Attention Getter

Have you ever heard. The bigger you are - the harder you fall? Here's a story that says it loud and clear!

#### Point 1

No matter how strong you are. You have enough weak points to bring you down. Though Samson did lots of mighty acts against the enemies of the Lord's people - see ch15 the foxes and the fire, and slays 1000 enemies using a jawbone of a beast (touching the dead things again!) Even though he must have known it was God who gave him that power and provided for his thirst 15:19, yet he presumes to think that he can do anything he wants, go anywhere he desires and have anything no matter what it is. He was a very self seeking man.

#### Point 2

Again he sees a woman that he wants and while with her, the enemy is told he is there and can be captured as the gates are closed. Samson, rises up in the night and took the gate and the doors, bars and all, 20-25 miles away with him. What tremendous physical power in such a tremendously weak man. God allowed it and gave him the strength.

#### Point 3

Once more he is attracted to a Philistine woman, Delilah. She is of the Lord's enemies but that does not seem to concern him. The enemies try to use her to catch him and while he fools her and them and has a similar experience behind him in ch 14, yet his weak point shows again and at last he tells Delilah that his strength comes from the sign of his Nazarite'ness! The hair soon falls and his strength is gone. Poor man thinks nothing has changed. Didn't know that the Lord had departed from him. How are the mighty fallen. Loses his sight, mocked by his enemies as he grinds their corn.

#### Point 4

However his hair begins to grow again - his enemies soon forget what had made him strong. He prayed when they mocked him in the house of their god Dagon. Slew more in his death than he did in his life.

### Notes

God allowed Samson to act in this way but God did not approve of Samson's sin and lust. It would be good preparation to remind your own soul of the passages in Prov. 6:20-26 and Gal. 5:16-25

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GSE-00314 Doc. # 2.076

## Decision of Ruth

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 314)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(1) Ruth 1:1-22

### Memory Verse

(1) Ruth 1:16

Thy God shall be my God. Ruth 1:16

### Point 1

Elimelech, leaves Bethlehem, the house of bread, in a time of famine brought on by the failure and unbelief of the Lord's people. God had not failed them but was using circumstances that they might truly turn to him again. Instead of calling upon God to meet their need and heal their land they leave. O the resolute wickedness, inclinations and unbelief of the human heart.

### Point 2

Naomi, (pleasant), finds all her hopes swept away in the deaths of those dear to her. Down in Moab, God brings her to a decision. Her two daughters in law accompany her on the way. But this woman, now made bitter, leaving empty, seeks to discourage her daughters in law from coming along. Perhaps she can see no good before her even in the land.

### Point 3

Orpah turns back - what a choice. We never hear of her again! Lost! Ruth, in spite of all that was against her, senses something real about the True God and makes her choice clear (steadfastly minded v18). It should be emphasized that each of us has a choice to make that is even more important than hers. Have we all made a clear choice. Perhaps we even know far more than Ruth and have had better influences on us too.

### Point 4

All the city was moved about Naomi! Though bitter she recognizes the Almighty one had been the One who worked to bring her back through affliction. Interesting that their return comes at the beginning of the beginning of the harvest.

### Notes

The last words of Judges sets the background for the story of Naomi and Ruth.

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GSE-00315 Doc. # 2.077

## Ruth is Redeemed

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 315)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Redemption - Purchase and Purpose

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### Reading

(2) Ruth 2:1 - 4:22; 1 Peter 1:18-19

### Memory Verse

(1) Ephesians 1:7

We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins Eph. 1:7

### Point 1

There was a kinsman 2:1. O the importance of this great fact. Ruth is seeking something better, there is a need. She goes after it. God guides her to the field of Boaz. O the blessedness of the fact that God has watched over and guided us long before we were ever truly His.

### Point 2

He took notice of her. Thank God the Lord of Glory ever took notice of us. He made sure there was special care taken on her behalf. He protected her and saw to it that she was blessed above many. Gave her counsel to come to Him and find all her need met in Him.

### Point 3

He spoke to her in grace. Naomi works to see Ruth come into the fullness of his blessing. Ruth is willing and obedient and finds a place at his feet. Beseeches him to graciously undertake for her.

### Point 4

He knew how things stood and what needed to be done. The man would not rest till he had done what was necessary even at his own cost. He pays the price. She is so blessed and by the grace of God, she who was a stranger, is brought into the royal line of our Lord Jesus Christ. She owed it all to Boaz, the mighty man of wealth.

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GSE-00316 Doc. # 2.078

## Samuel Called

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 316)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Calls

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### Reading

(2) 1 Samuel 1:2; 1 Samuel 3:1-21

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 55:3

Hear, and your soul shall live. Isa. 55:3

### Attention Getter

Tell the story of a child at play called by their mother to dinner. Not till that certain tone of voice does the child respond!

### Point 1

Sad state of the priesthood v1 and of the man Eli v2. It was into this dark night scene that God shined.

### Point 2

Lord called Samuel - not the priest - not a great and recognized man - but a lad. God's wonderful ways include children! The importance of a life for God may very well have it's roots at the beginning.

### Point 3

Samuel's lack of perception that it was the Lord. Possibly also due to the prevalent thinking of the day in which he lived too. He did not YET know the Lord. Eli finally perceives that it was the Lord who called. What a moment that must have been for Eli - knowing that he had been passed by!

### Point 4

Eli's counsel is good. "Say 'Speak Lord- I want to hear what you say!'" God grace - came and stood as He had before. Samuel's choice - he alone could decide whether he would ask God to speak to him.

### Notes

Note the emphasis on the Word in the passage. V1 precious, v7, v21 Lord revealed Himself to Samuel by the Word of the Lord

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GSE-00317 Doc. # 2.079

## Ark is Captured and Returned

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 317)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways; Mocker's Consequences

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### Reading

(1) 1 Samuel 4:1 - 6:21

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 96:5

All the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Psalm 96:5

### Attention Getter

Ever seen a live high tension power line sparking and been tempted to take hold of it? No! What would happen? Just like that - God is not to be trifled with.

### Point 1

The two sons of Eli are to be judged for their sins. They are guilty of bringing dishonour on the testimony of the Lord and here are linked with the Ark. 4:4 "The time is come that judgement must begin at the house of God" 1 Pet. 4:17

### Point 2

Israel did not seem to be able to discern that God was offended. All shout at the presence of the Ark 4:5 The Philistines are victorious and the two sons are slain. When the news comes to 98 yr old Eli - he drops dead at the mention of the Ark being taken. It was still dear to his heart.

### Point 3

Phineas' wife in birth - names her son, "the glory has departed!" The Ark (emblem of the presence of God) was dear to her as well.

### Point 4

Ark is taken but only causes trouble to the Philistines. Their idol falls before it. The people are plagued with tumours and death so that they learn that no one can stand before the Lord 6:20 and send the Ark back. Note too, that part way was not sufficient, even in Beth-Shemish where they failed to show reverence, they were smitten with a great slaughter.



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GSE-00318 Doc. # 2.08

## Saul, King of Israel

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 318)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Way Seems Right

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### Reading

(1) 1 Samuel 8:1 - 10:27

### Memory Verse

It is better to trust in the Lord. Ps. 118:8

### Attention Getter

Ever wished for something that your parents didn't want to give you. You insisted and they finally allowed it, and then you discovered why they didn't want to give it to you.

### Point 1

Samuel when old made mistakes with his family. 8:1-5 but the answer (a King) the people wanted was not what God wanted for His people. God reminds Samuel that the people had not rejected Samuel only but HIMSELF. O the folly of leaving God out.

### Point 2

People are warned as to the cost of having a king but still they demand that they have one like all the other nations. Sometimes we are so sure we know what is best, but only God really knows what is for our good!

### Point 3

Saul was selected - taller than the others - choice, handsome - the best! Even at his selection - Saul shows that he is not the best - even his servant was better prepared for meeting the prophet Samuel than he was.

### Point 4

Saul hid himself when the time came to be presented to the nation. Perhaps an early indication of a problem that would develop later on. God touched some hearts through him all the same. 10:26 but so did the Devil take notice. 10:27

### Notes

Note - the best was not going to be good enough when it came to facing a real giant for an enemy. His troubles were still going to be bigger than he was!

GSE-00319 Doc. # 2.081

**Saul Disobeys**

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 319)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger &amp; Consequences

**Reading**

(1) 1 Samuel 13:1 - 14:52

**Memory Verse**

(1) Jeremiah 38:20

Obey I beseech thee the voice of the Lord. Jeremiah 38:20

**Point 1**

Jonathan's 1000 men win a battle and Saul makes a name for himself, blows the trumpet. However the Philistines gather in force and the people are afraid. What they expected of Samuel does not come about and Saul takes it upon himself to make a burnt offering in order to keep the people with him. Samuel says it best - Saul has done foolishly 13:13 and is told his kingdom will not continue.

**Point 2**

His disregard for God's order may seem but a little thing but little things show how the rest of his life will develop.

**Point 3**

ch14 Jonathan wins another great victory - it is interesting to see how small a role Saul plays in battles or victories! Saul stayed where there was comfort 14:2. Jonathan meanwhile looks to the Lord for victory 14:6 and gives the Lord his respect and his faith. Saul orders his men foolishly that they are not to eat anything even though a soldier would need his strength for the battle.

**Point 4**

Not knowing the command, Jonathan partakes of honey. His father condemns his greatest supporter and warrior to death but the people stand up for him 14:45 recognizing that Jonathan had worked with God to accomplish the victory and obtain peace with the Philistines for a time.

**Notes**

Saul had eyes to recognize a strong or valiant man - but seemed to have no thought of what had value to God or His glory.

**Miscellaneous**

Did Saul condemn Jonathan because he was jealous of him - just as he became jealous of David when he comes on the scene and brings about a more glorious victory?

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GSE-00320 Doc. # 2.082

## Saul Disobeys Again

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 320)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Blindness

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### Reading

(1) 1 Samuel 15:1-35

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Samuel 15:22

To obey is better than sacrifice. 1 Sam 15:22

### Point 1

Notice how God sends his prophet with a special message to Saul that he "hearken... unto the voice of... the Lord".

### Point 2

God has not forgotten the sin of Amalek, Ex 17:8-14 nor His promised retribution. Clear and complete instructions are given and God has given Saul the power and the people to accomplish His will. Saul considers his own materialistic thinking more important than the Lord's and disobeys sparing Agag and the best of the flocks and herds. Notice God's assessment that Saul "WOULD NOT" utterly destroy them.

### Point 3

The Word of the Lord comes to Samuel. Samuel brings the Word to Saul. Saul claims complete obedience v13. How easily we can rearrange God's Word so it sounds more palatable to us. Also tries to blame the people for what he is ultimately responsible for.

### Point 4

Found out. Samuel does not hesitate to obey the Lord. Now Saul pleads for honour before the people and the blessing of Samuel's company - but the time and opportunity for it has gone forever. Samuel puts it to him plainly, "thou hast rejected the Word of the Lord."v

### Notes

Samuel mourns for Saul. How sad that such a day should come.

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GSE-00321 Doc. # 2.083

## David Appointed King

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 321)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) 1 Samuel 16:1-23

### Memory Verse

(1) Daniel 4:37

Those that walk in pride He is able to abase. Daniel 4:37

### Point 1

Samuel continues to mourn for Saul but God does not. It is time to move on. God's purposes are not put aside because a great man falls. Samuel in a moment of weakness also worries that Saul will kill him. How human God's servants are! God promises His worried servant that He will show him what to do.

### Point 2

One look at Jesse's eldest son, Eliab and Samuel is convinced that this is God's choice. He was wrong all the way. God reminds him that when He chooses a man, God looks upon the heart. God is still looking and still interested in the heart.

### Point 3

Once having started Samuel would not rest till he had done what he was told to do. David is sent for. He was outwardly appealing but the Lord saw beyond all that to the man who had a heart like unto His own, with a shepherd care.

### Point 4

When David is presented to the king, Saul does not see him the way the Lord did, but took comfort mentally from his playing and person and God put it into his heart so that he loved him greatly in spite of his own sad state. God had left the disobedient man to fare for himself.

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GSE-00322 Doc. # 2.084

## David and Goliath

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 322)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Power - Both Control and Habits

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### Reading

(1) 1 Samuel 17:1-53

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 John 3:16

He laid down His life for us. 1John 3:16

### Attention Getter

Ever had an enemy bigger than you? What could you do about it? Perhaps one answer would be to have a friend at your side who was bigger and stronger still.

### Point 1

Goliath was a giant of a man. 9'10" to 11'4" tall. Now that is big - and scary! Do some research and find out how heavy his coat and his spears head were! He was big enough to put fear in a whole army and he wanted even more than that. He wanted them to be slaves one and all.

### Point 2

Worse still he defied God's people and in so doing defied the Living God of His chosen people.

### Point 3

David comes to his brothers at his father's request. He is put down for his simple faith. His brothers were looking at the size of their enemy not the size of their God.

### Point 4

David is brought to Saul's attention again - he tries to fit him up his way. David who has already proved his God with bare hands and a sling, goes out with simple faith and a great God at his side to win a mighty victory. Makes his position clear to Goliath vs45-47. Goliath couldn't see the mighty God at David's side and boasts his empty words in vain.

### Notes

Ever kicked a beehive? That's ok so long as the bees don't care but if you get them riled up - you're the one who's going to run.

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GSE-00323 Doc. # 2.085

## David and Jonathan

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 323)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(1) 1 Samuel 17:54 - 19:17

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 John 4:19

We love Him, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

### Point 1

Jonathan's heart was won to David when he saw him go into the battle and win the victory. Though naturally Jonathan would have been the next king if Saul had his way, Jonathan perceives that the Lord had other plans and gives up his own rights and place and prospects to add to David's glory.

### Point 2

Saul, on the other hand, is threatened by David's victory as it exposes his own weaknesses and the people's hearts were taken up with the hero of the day. His jealousy threatens to destroy David but God protects David more three times.

### Point 3

Jonathan intercedes for David and persuades his father to bring him back into favour because ch 19:5 the Lord had wrought a great salvation through him and even Saul had rejoiced in that day.

### Point 4

Though when war breaks out again - and David wins another great battle -- Saul again seeks to destroy David. Like Saul, the hearts of some may turn against Christ, but how wonderful there are always those like Jonathan who can never forget the great battle at Calvary - and our hearts are eternally won to him!

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GSE-00324 Doc. # 2.086

## David is Pursued

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 324)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Eternal Security; God's Faithfulness

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### Reading

(3) 1 Samuel 24:1-22; 1 Samuel 26:1-25; Psalm 57:1-11

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 34:19

The Lord delivereth him out of them all. Ps. 34:19

### Point 1

Saul now relentlessly hunts for David with three thousand men. Though hunted David has men with him who have been won over by his victory in the valley with the sling and are totally loyal to him.

### Point 2

God brings David's enemy right to him. Saul falls asleep in the very cave where David and his men are hiding. David's men are sure that this is his chance to rid himself of the King and seize the kingdom for himself.

### Point 3

David knows that God's ways are better than man's. He takes a piece of the bottom of his clothes while Saul sleeps and then makes known what he has done. Saul again repents for a time.

### Point 4

History repeats itself in ch 26. Saul's hatred grows towards David. He hunts for him again. Once more David is urged to take advantage of the situation since Saul's spear is right there so close. David takes the spear and water bottle and reproaches Abner for his lack of vigilance. Interesting - that God makes Saul to praise David in spite of himself as will ultimately take place in this world when our Lord is honoured as He should be. 26:25

GSE-00325 Doc. # 2.087

**David and the Enemy Slave***Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 325)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour

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**Reading**

(3) 1 Samuel 27:1-12; 1 Samuel 29:1-11; 1 Samuel 30:1-31

**Memory Verse**

(1) Psalm 34:4

He heard me and delivered me. Psalm 34:4

**Point 1**

A lapse in David's life. He is sure that Saul will someday kill him and it certainly was not for lack of trying 27:4. God does not use superhuman men.

**Point 2**

David is given favour in the king's eyes and given Ziklag as a city to base his army in. David actually uses his new friendship with the Philistines to do battle against other enemies of Israel 27:8. God too has moved the Philistine princes so that they do not want David to join them in their battles 30:9.

**Point 3**

Amalekites smite Ziklag while David and his men are away. Wives and children and possessions are lost. David's men are sore grieved. David and his men pursue. Found an Egyptian (man of the world ) abandoned by his Amalekite master ( man of the flesh) who left him with nothing to die. David does not kill him, but rather revives him, saving his life and gaining an ally. He wants David to promise that he will not give him back to his old master. A picture of a soul won over!

**Point 4**

David and his men gain a complete victory and all is restored again. David sets up a new principle regarding the spoils of battle 30:24-25 that remained as a statute in Israel.

**Notes**

The man of the flesh cares nothing that the Egyptian will die. He abandons him without a second thought as he cares only for himself.



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GSE-00326 Doc. # 2.088

## David is Crowned

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 326)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(2) 1 Samuel 31:1-13; 2 Samuel 1:1 - 5:25

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 32:1

A king shall reign in righteousness. Isaiah 32:1

### Point 1

The battle goes badly against the Philistines. Many of Israel fled and many die. Saul dies. He is mortally wounded by an arrow. Tries to get his armour bearer to kill him, and when he would not, falls on his own sword. A dishonourable end at last. David's hand does not fall upon him.

### Point 2

Saul's head is removed and his body hung on a gall that he might be further shamed. Brave men risked their lives and took down the body and buried it.

### Point 3

David grieves when he hears of Saul's and Jonathan's death and only speaks well of them both. David avenges Saul's death when the Amalekite claims that he killed him 2Sam. 1. Never forgot Jonathan. David is accepted as King over more and more of the land - he does not take revenge on Saul's family though they fear he will. In fact, he avenges the death of Saul's son, Ish-bosheth, who was slain by those who wanted to gain favour with David, the new King.

### Point 4

David has acted righteously and fairly all through. Now he comes into the fullness of His kingdom and God is with him to establish him over all. His old enemy, the Philistines, come up against him and at the Lord's urging, he fights against them and the Lord delivers them into his hands.

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GSE-00327 Doc. # 2.089

## David and the Ark

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 327)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God is Holy

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### Reading

(2) 1 Chronicles 15:1-24; 2 Samuel 6:1-12

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 93:5

Holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, for ever. Ps. 93:5

### Point 1

There are some things that we are commanded to do - this was not one of them, but God had put it in his heart. Nevertheless he needed to discover that there is a right way to do what needs to be done. A new cart is all wrong! God had given instructions about how it was to be handled long ago.

### Point 2

Uzzah touches the ark and God strikes him down in sudden judgement. David was made afraid! Fear can be a very good thing. The ark was taken to the house of Obed-edom and the Lord blesses him and his household.

### Point 3

Inquiry must have been made and the ark is now brought up to Jerusalem in the right way on the shoulders of the Levites. There follows much joy and rejoicing when the symbol of the Presence of God is once more in it's proper place.

### Point 4

Obed-edom then is linked with the ark for the rest of their days. He and Jehiah became doorkeepers.

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GSE-00328 Doc. # 2.09

## David & Mephibosheth

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 328)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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### Reading

(2) 2 Samuel 4:4; 2 Samuel 9:1-13

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 John 4:10

He loved us. 1 John 4:10

### Point 1

David thinks on the house of Saul in kindness. "Is there any...?" Mephibosheth, grandson of Saul, lame on both feet from age 5. "The kindness of God" - what a great purpose.

### Point 2

When told, he sends for Mephibosheth, who lived at a distance, and in a poor area. Likely afraid and anxious about the possibility that David would seek him out and destroy any competition for the throne. Fear likely justified when he remembered what his grandfather had done to David.

### Point 3

M. is brought near by another. Falling at David's feet, he hears David speak his name in kindness. David restores to him all that was his fathers and grandfathers (and gives him servants to maintain it all too) then welcomes him to his own table and house in grace. M. confesses his low estate " a dead dog!"

### Point 4

M. now sits as a son of David! Seemed content to abide by the one who had blessed him so richly and not as he deserved due to his association with David's enemy. .

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GSE-00329 Doc. # 2.091

## Death of Absalom

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 329)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Judgment's Finality

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### Reading

(3) 2 Samuel 15:1 - 16:23; 2 Samuel 18:1-33; 2 Samuel 17:1-29

### Memory Verse

(1) Galatians 6:7

God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Galatians 6:7

### Point 1

Absalom, handsome and charismatic wins the hearts of the people. Through fair speeches and lies he sets out to get everything going his way. In spite of his waywardness, the King kisses him, and Absalom bows in pretence before the King. But all is not right.

### Point 2

He continues and steps up his program to dethrone the one that God had made king. This was tolerated for a time and David even is made to flee from his son and suffers mocking abuse from some of his subjects.

### Point 3

The day comes when the tide turns. Absalom is now the one who flees in battle. Perhaps he thinks he will look out for himself but not knowing that the woods in which he would take cover, held the very instrument that would bring about his death.

### Point 4

The saddest part of the story is the grieving of David. Only a parent can fully understand the enormity of such a loss, made even greater by the eternal loss that resulted for poor Absalom.

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GSE-00330 Doc. # 2.092

## The Shepherd

Series: 300: Joshua - II Samuel (# 330)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Shepherd

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### Reading

(2) Psalm 23:1-6; 1 Samuel 17:34-51

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 23:1

The Lord is my Shepherd. Psalm 23:1

### Point 1

Keeping sheep trained David for a work God would give him on the throne over all Israel. There are enemies. A bear - powerful - A lion - cunning and swift. Took a lamb. O the audacity of the Wicked One - loves to get the lambs.

### Point 2

David tells how he took the lion right by the beard. Face on. He smote him and killed him. David further sees the Giant Philistine as nothing more than a puny man who had defied the Living God.

### Point 3

The giant despised David 1 Sam 17:42 but David had the Lord with him v37. David makes it clear that he does not come alone v45.

### Point 4

The greatest champion of the enemy is dead and his power removed and his weapons taken from him. Hallelujah what a Saviour.

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GSE-00401 Doc. # 2.093

## The Glorious Kingdom of Solomon

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 401)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) 1 Kings 1:1-53

### Memory Verse

(1) Proverbs 29:25

Whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe. Prov. 29:25

### Point 1

David is old - others like Adonijah would take the kingdom if they could- and he tried. David knows that God has a man in mind for the throne - Solomon. Solomon is anointed - then Adonijah fears and Solomon promises that he will live if he obey but if not he will die.

### Point 2

David counsels Solomon, as to the charge of God's people and as to those who may rise up to defy him and how to treat those who are loyal and faithful. He becomes immensely wealthy and wise. But the glory of a Solomon is still as nothing compared to the glory of the Saviour who came here to die.

### Point 3

Shows his wisdom in regard to the two woman with babies 1Kings 3:16-18. Solomon in spite of all his wisdom makes a peaceful agreement with Egypt and marries Pharaoh's daughter which leads to lots of trouble later.

### Point 4

Solomon builds a glorious temple for God. God recognizes it.

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GSE-00402 Doc. # 2.094

## The Queen of Sheba

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 402)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(1) 1 Kings 10:1-13

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 12:42

Behold a greater than Solomon is here. Matt. 12:42

### Point 1

After a very busy time of building ch 9 there comes a royal visitor. Note how what Solomon was and did was linked with the Name of the Lord 10:1.

### Point 2

Queen of Sheba comes with a great retinue of servants and gifts of high value. She comes with questions too - communing with Solomon of all that in her heart. He answers her questions with God given insight.

### Point 3

When she saw it all - astounded with his glory and works and wisdom - she tells him that it exceeds all she had heard of him. It is going to be like that for the believer in a coming day when he shows us through eternal ages the glory of His person and work. She offers great gifts of priceless worth. He is worthy.

### Point 4

She had much to give to him adding to his glory. Still she went away enriched of him.

### Notes

What we do enhances either with the glory of the Lord or the works of the Devil.

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GSE-00403 Doc. # 2.095

## Idolatry in Israel

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 403)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Blindness

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### Reading

(1) 1 Kings 12:1-33

### Memory Verse

(1) Proverbs 4:26

Ponder the path of thy feet. Proverbs 4:26

### Point 1

Rehoboam - a man whose heart was in Egypt (worldly) - Solomon's son reigned in the place of his father. Most unwise - though he got good counsel from the wise men about Israel - he disregarded it all and took the counsel of younger men and added to the tax burden they must pay. Then Israel separated from Judah causing endless trouble between the 10 tribes and the 2 of Judah.

### Point 2

Further to this, Jeroboam (the new king of Israel) caused even more departure by building another place of sacrifice at Peniel. Confusion results and unity is further affected thus weakening the nation more than ever.

### Point 3

Going even further Jeroboam sets up two golden calves - leading Israel into idol worship - an abomination to God. Going yet further, he makes priests of the lowest of the people thus forsaking the Divine standard altogether.

### Point 4

Heaven looked on - and apparently did nothing. But the full harvest of this departure was going to mean many deaths and much sorrow in both Israel and Judah.

### Notes

When a nation or individual begins to stray - there's no telling how many steps downward they will take.



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GSE-00404 Doc. # 2.096

## Elijah & the Time of Famine

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 404)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways

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### Reading

(1) 1 Kings 17:1-24

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 2:2

We are sure that the judgement of God is according to truth. Rom. 2:2

### Point 1

Elijah enter the scene with a Word from God. Neither dew nor rain - a real hardship in an arid climate. This was as a result of departing from God's ways into idolatry and unbelief. It was a judgement from God. Does God still speak like that? Is anyone listening?

### Point 2

But Elijah is sustained of God at Cherith - water from the brook and the ravens - in a way that would be totally unnatural to them - fed him there. When the Brook dried - he was sent on to Zerephath.

### Point 3

God had commanded a woman in the place to sustain him, only she didn't know it yet. As she gathers sticks for her last meal, He asks for water and a little bread. Stells him the situation. He says Make me a little cake first - o the wonder of what took place then. God provides for her and her son and the prophet.

### Point 4

The widow's son sickens and dies. Calling upon Elijah, he prays and the Lord heard his voice, and the boy revived. The reality and faithfulness of the prophet is clearly indicated through seeming tragedy v24.

### Notes

Do not fail to point out the important principle of something for God first! Another principle is that of prayer and God's wondrous provision.

GSE-00405 Doc. # 2.097

**Elijah and the Prophets of Baal***Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 405)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways

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**Reading**

(1) 1 Kings 18:1-46

**Memory Verse**

(1) 1 Kings 18:21

How long halt ye between two opinions? 1 Kings 18:21

**Point 1**

After 3 years, God sends Elijah to King Ahab who hates him. There is sore famine in the land and Ahab sends out Obadiah to find grazing for his animals. Elijah met him and Obadiah is told to tell the king that Elijah is coming. .

**Point 2**

Ahab blames Elijah for troubling Israel because he will not face up to the fact of his own sin and consequences. Elijah tells him to gather all the prophets of the false god Baal at Mount Carmel. There he challenges the people to choose God or Baal.

**Point 3**

A contest is set up. Baals 450 prophets build an altar and set up a sacrifice and pray and afflict themselves hoping for fire to fall upon the sacrifice. Elijah mocks them all day long as they plead with a god who cannot hear nor answer.

**Point 4**

Then he repairs the altar of the Lord. He puts the sacrifice upon it and then has the people pour water over it all and fill the trench around it. When we called on the Lord the fire fell and even licked up the water in the trench. Baals prophets are slain and then the refreshing rain falls.

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GSE-00406 Doc. # 2.098

## **Elijah Goes Up to Heaven**

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 406)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Return of the Lord Jesus Christ

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### **Reading**

(2) 1 Kings 19:19-21; 2 Kings 2:1-25

### **Memory Verse**

(1) Matthew 24:44

Therefore be ye also ready. Matt. 24:44

### **Point 1**

God calls a new man to take Elijah's place. Elisha is a busy man but he recognized that God's claims were over and beyond all others. He companies with Elijah till the time came when Elijah would be taken up to heaven without dying. This is no small thing!

### **Point 2**

Going down to Bethel - other sons of the prophets tell Elisha that his master will be taken away. Elijah has tried to get Elisha to stay at Gilgal and then at Bethel but Elisha perseveres. Fifty other sons of the prophets also follow and watch as Elijah smites the Jordan R with his mantle and the two went over on dry ground.

### **Point 3**

Elisha's request that a double portion of Elijah's spirit be given. Obviously he recognized the uniqueness of God's gift to his master. There appears a chariot and horses of fire and Elijah is taken up leaving his mantle behind. Elisha then uses the mantle in faith but the sons of prophets exhibit no faith as they want to seek for Elijah. Elisha shows signs first of all healing the waters.

### **Point 4**

In spite of the proofs of his reality - he is mocked by irreverent children telling him to go up to heaven like his master! Two she bears came out of the woods and attacked 42 of them.

### **Notes**

Point 4 shows the importance of respect for God and His things. Never hurts to underline and emphasize that in a day of disrespect.

### **Summary**

Just like Elijah was taken up supernaturally, so the Lord Jesus is coming again to take all believers home. What a day that will be! Are you ready?

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GSE-00407 Doc. # 2.099

## Elisha and the Shunammite's Son

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 407)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Life Giver & Resurrection; The New Birth

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### Reading

(1) 2 Kings 4:8-37

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 6:23

The gift of God is eternal life. Romans 6:23

### Point 1

At Shunem, Elisha makes the acquaintance of a great woman. He was welcome there and she had a special place for him any time he was passing through that area. She had no child. Elisha asks - what shall be done for thee? She seemed content but the longing of her heart was for a child.

### Point 2

Elisha tells her that she shall have a child. It comes to pass. Years pass, the child grows and is out in the busy harvest fields with his father - headache - taken to his mother. Dies.

### Point 3

She goes to the man of God. He sends Gehazi first - he concludes the child is dead. Elisha however goes in - the child is revived. A great miracle.

### Point 4

She comes in and falls at Elisha's feet. Sometimes we see a great miracle just like this. A soul is saved. Was dead and is alive again. May we never become accustomed to it but in genuine humility fall at his feet!

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GSE-00408 Doc. # 2.1

## Elisha and the Widow's Oil

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 408)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness

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### Reading

(1) 2 Kings 4:1-7

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 4:12

We must be saved. Acts 4:12

### Point 1

One of the widows called out to Elisha. Her husband is dead and has left a debt behind and her two sons will be taken as slaves.

### Point 2

There is a need. The need is great - it seems hopeless. What hast thou? Nothing but a little cruse of oil.

### Point 3

Instructions are given. A miracle takes place. More direction sought. O the fullness of the provision.

### Point 4

Notice - there is not just enough to pay the debt but more "live thou and thy children of the rest". We can safely assume that this provision met not only present need but also all her need as long as she had the responsibility of raising those boys.

### Notes

We've got a wonderful God. The fullness of this provision is just like Him and what he has done in our salvation, providing not only payment for sin but also imparting all we need till travelling days are done.

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GSE-00409 Doc. # 2.101

## Naaman the Leper

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 409)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Dark; Sinner is Dead; Sinner is Diseased

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### Reading

(2) 2 Kings 5:1-27; Luke 4:26

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 1:18

Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Isa. 1:18

### Point 1

Envied, admired, thought a great deal of. Seems to have treated his servants well. The favourite of the day!

### Point 2

But leprosy spoiled it all. Like a beautiful day - sparkling with possibilities but thousands of biting bugs spoil any enjoyment of it.

### Point 3

He had the problem, the little maid knew the cure. Must go to God's man if he is to have cleansing. Makes many mistakes even after pointed in the right way - perhaps 10 mistakes - wrong person, thought he could pay etc.

### Point 4

The cure is sure - most humbling but most effective. It worked just as God had said. Point out the fact that he was better than he ever had been!

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GSE-00410 Doc. # 2.102

## The Liberation of Samaria

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 410)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Salvation - Provision for All

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### Reading

(2) 2 Kings 6:24-33; 2 Kings 7:1-20

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 55:1

He that hath no money, come ye, buy and eat. Isaiah 55:1

### Attention Getter

Most things - if they sound too good to be true.... They probably are!

### Point 1

Famine was great. Give some details from 6:25 and add some comparison that children can relate to. Danger was also great since the city was besieged. Time was running out. Horrible atrocities were taking place due to their desperation.

### Point 2

There came a Word from God. A Promise from the One who could meet the need. It was mocked at by a man in high position. It happens often today as well.

### Point 3

Four Lepers - destitute and desperate at the gate. All hope is gone but they determine to give themselves up to the enemy. God uses them to discover what He has done. The battle is fought, the victory is won - all they have to do is enter into it by grace.

### Point 4

They are used to pass on the good news. So God uses the saved ones today to do the same and the result is that many are blessed but some who refuse to recognize God's ability die without it.

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GSE-00411 Doc. # 2.103

## Joash the Young King

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 411)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(1) 2 Kings 11:1-21

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 2:36

God hath made that same Jesus, both Lord and Christ. Acts 2:36

### Point 1

Royal children are destroyed. Devil behind this move to destroy the Royal Line and in reality, the lineage through which the Lord would eventually come.

### Point 2

But God saw to it that he was taken care of and sheltered for six years in spite of the evil attempt.

### Point 3

The young King (7 years) they tried to destroy was crowned v12. Not only that - but he was given the testimony - that is, the charge of the Lord for the Kings of His people. His great enemy - Athaliah - was destroyed.

### Point 4

There was great rejoicing and great peace when the rightful king reigned and the enemy was slain.

### Notes

There are pictures here of a coming day when the Lord Jesus (that men sought to destroy all through His life) will reign unhindered and the Old Enemy will be confined to the Lake of Fire.



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GSE-00412 Doc. # 2.104

## Rebellion of King Uzziah

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 412)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness

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### Reading

(1) 2 Chronicles 26:1-23

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 18:14

Everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased. Luke 18:14

### Point 1

Here another young king is put upon the throne. He reigned for a long time. 52 years. He did what was right, he sought the Lord and he prospered. He warred and was successful for God helped him v7. He built machines of war for defense.

### Point 2

His name was spread abroad in fame. Now this is very important. V15 FOR he was marvellously helped. It was God who was the secret of the man's strength and abilities.

### Point 3

When we are blessed it is a real danger as well. We are very vulnerable to disaster if we think it was because of something special in us. Note these disastrous words.v16 His heart was lifted up to his destruction.

### Point 4

He transgressed. We must never forget that God hates sin wherever he finds it. He took upon himself a privilege that was not given him. He became a leper. The Lord had smitten him.

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GSE-00413 Doc. # 2.105

## Hezekiah is Healed

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 413)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Dark; Sinner is Dead; Sinner is Diseased

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### Reading

(2) 2 Kings 20:1-11; Isaiah 38:1-22

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 38:20

The Lord was ready to save me. Isaiah 38:20

### Point 1

Hezekiah was a king. Even kings are not immune from disease. So today - no matter how greatly blessed we may be, we all have the disease of sin within. His sickness was one that was sure to be fatal.

### Point 2

Set thine house in order - was the Word from the prophet Isaiah. It was God who sent the warning. God still warns men today that they need to be prepared - Amos 4:12

### Point 3

His fear. His face to the wall (shutting all other things out). His fervent prayer v14. There comes another Word from the Lord. He had heard and added to his life fifteen more years. Only God could do that. How did he know it was so? He had the WORD of the UNFAILING GOD!

### Point 4

Notice that God had dealt with his sins v 17. He rejoices and pledges to praise the God who had delivered him all the days of his life.

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GSE-00414 Doc. # 2.106

## Vision of Isaiah

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 414)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) Isaiah 6:1-13

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 6:3

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts. Isaiah 6:3

### Point 1

Before a man can do anything for God he needs to know the One he is serving. He needs to have dealings with His God.

### Point 2

King Uzziah died. God sets up kings and takes them away. He is the Lord of Lords. He is the King Eternal. Perhaps Isaiah was greatly troubled as he thought of the vacancy on the throne. He learns that there is a higher and greater Throne occupied by ONE who is above all.

### Point 3

He saw the Seraphim, Some of us would be amazed to have a vision of these mighty beings. Far better to see the One that they were in awe of. Note first of all - the emphasis on the fact of God's great HOLINESS.

### Point 4

He senses his sin when He sees His God. Note he confesses his own defilement first then his people's. There was a provision. It was on the altar - and it was enough to cleanse him. After cleansing - it is the Lord Himself who sends him.

### Notes

It should be clearly noted that we need to know Him as Saviour first of all. The teacher should carefully study this passage and allow themselves to be searched out relative to Isaiah's experience, and their own work with the young.

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GSE-00415 Doc. # 2.107

## Jonah & the Fish

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 415)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(2) Jonah 1:1-16; Jonah 2:1-10

### Memory Verse

(1) Jonah 2:9

Salvation is of the Lord. Jonah 2:9

### Attention Getter

Ever tried running away?

### Point 1

A Word from the Lord to any of us should call for our obedience. He is our God and Creator. We are responsible and accountable to Him. A Word from the Lord to someone like Jonah should be enough to direct our service.

### Point 2

God gave us a free choice. Jonah did not obey. But at the same time tries to run away. The nearness of the Lord bothered him. How foolish. What did he think would happen?

### Point 3

Lord sends a great wind. A mighty tempest hit the ship and the mariners were afraid. First they tried their own efforts (lightened the ship) then they call upon their God. Jonah somehow is able to sleep through it all till another wakens him. He should have been convicted from their words. But the lots told the story and Jonah finally is made to confess to his own shame and to witness even though unwilling.

### Point 4

He thinks only the worst of His God - thinking that God meant to kill him. Likely even as the great fish swallowed him he thought he would surely die. But God's plans were far more encompassing. God had a lesson to teach him, and when he finally comes to an end calling for deliverance - God has only to speak a word and he is set forth on dry land.

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GSE-00416 Doc. # 2.108

## Jonah in Ninevah

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 416)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(2) Jonah 3:1-10; Jonah 4:1-11

### Memory Verse

(1) Jonah 4:2

Thou art a gracious God, and merciful. Jonah 4:2

### Point 1

Word of the LORD comes again. Even now Jonah is still pouting and reluctant but knowing there is no running away, he goes and does the bidding of the Lord.

### Point 2

Nineveh was a very large city. 3 days walking distance across it. His message was a message of doom and these ungodly people not only heard but felt the power of it. They 3:5 "believed God."

### Point 3

The king immediately repents and calls on the people to do the same. And to "cry mightily unto God". Who knows the blessing that might result when such is the case. They had no guarantee or promise that God would spare them but HE was their only hope.

### Point 4

Jonah is still mad even though God has used him so mightily in the salvation of Nineveh. God deals with him further to show him his own folly and to reveal that God is Sovereign. Amazing that God should be so gracious with one who was so ungracious and unappreciative.

### Notes

It is significant that the Name of the LORD here means the Self-Existing One (ie He needs no one) who reveals Himself

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GSE-00417 Doc. # 2.109

## King that Burnt the Word of God

Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 417)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: It's Important Who You Listen To

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### Reading

(1) Jeremiah 36:1-32

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 40:8

The Word of our God shall stand forever. Isaiah 40:8

### Point 1

Jeremiah is given a Word from God to be hand delivered to King Jehoiakim. God wanted the people to hear His warning and then turn from their sin - and he would forgive them. Baruch the Scribe writes the words and goes in to read the Word to the king and all the people in the whole land.

### Point 2

God was looking for a response to His entreaties, but His anger was kindled and there was a fury to be visited upon them if they did not repent. The Word was read, it's message was grasped for Michaiah was able to declare it's contents 36:13.

### Point 3

They inquired and were told the source of the message and it was read again in the king's hearing. They were not afraid. What awful foolishness. God looks for those who will tremble at His Word (see Isa 66.2). They burned it. Wise men spoke against it, but the king's heart was fully set in him to do this evil. They would have destroyed the messengers too but the Lord hid them.

### Point 4

God gives the same Words with the same warnings and promises of certain judgment for those who had rejected his word.

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GSE-00418 Doc. # 2.11

## Jeremiah in the Dungeon

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 418)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Blindness

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### Reading

(1) Jeremiah 37:11 - 38:28

### Memory Verse

(1) Jeremiah 38:20

Obey, I beseech thee, the voice of the Lord. Jeremiah 38:20

### Point 1

Jeremiah is falsely accused. He was put into prison. They were trying to keep him quiet and not alarm the people or their own consciences. The king must have had some serious thoughts as he has him brought out of the prison and he questions him. What a question! "Is there any Word from the Lord?" What an answer! "There is!" And the message from the Lord is the self same one that Jeremiah has been bringing to the people for years!

### Point 2

Others were stirred up about Jeremiah's earlier message and the princes demand that Jeremiah be put in a prison. Zedekiah listens to men rather than God or conscience and allows the princes to put Jeremiah in the dungeon.

### Point 3

Ebed-melech - an Ethiopian - hears and in spite of the fact he is only a slave and could easily be put to death for his bravery, he goes to the king and says that the princes have done the wrong thing for he will die down there and where would the people be then without one to bring them a Word from the Lord.

### Point 4

A rescue is effected. Old rotten rags and thirty men are needed to get him out. It may not have been the method of choice but no doubt to Jeremiah, it was a welcome relief. Saved from above.

### Notes

The dungeon was really a cistern - mud floors - no rest - no food.

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GSE-00419 Doc. # 2.111

## The Lord and Ebedmelech

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 419)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin Acknowledged - Leads to Salvation; Opportunity - Real

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### Reading

(1) Jeremiah 37:1 - 39:18

### Memory Verse

(1) Jeremiah 39:18

I will surely deliver thee. Jeremiah 39:18

### Point 1

Though for the most part, the king, the princes and the people refused the Word of the Lord, there were those who would have obeyed His voice. God takes notice of such though they may seem insignificant.

### Point 2

Ebed-melech was an Ethiopian, a slave in the king's house. No doubt he heard the message that was read to the king and couldn't understand why the ruler did not obey the voice of the Lord. We have heard of him before when Jeremiah was pulled out of the dungeon.

### Point 3

The Word of the Lord against the city is being fulfilled just as God had said it would be but God worked so that Jeremiah would be released and he did not forget the trust that Ebed-melech had put in his God.

### Point 4

A special message is sent to Ebed-melech through Jeremiah, 39:16 He reminds him that His words will come true for the unbelieving and he promises the slave that he will not suffer the same fate. And he clearly tells him why - 39:18 "because thou has put thy trust in ME" Best of all - He kept His promise as He always does.

### Summary

I'd rather be a slave that believes God than a King that doesn't!



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GSE-00420 Doc. # 2.112

## Jerusalem is Destroyed

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 420)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Judgment's Certainty

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### Reading

(4) 2 Chronicles 36:1-21; 2 Kings 23:34-37; 2 Kings 24:1-20; 2 Kings 25:1

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 59:12

Our transgressions are multiplied before Thee, and our sins testify against us. Isaiah 59:12

### Point 1

Zedekiah was a young king (21) and was king 11 years - did evil in the sight of the Lord 2Chr36:12 - what a description of a man's life! What description would be true of you and me? He would not humble himself - thought more of what the princes and great men thought than he did of God and of what God had said.

### Point 2

This was a very willful man - rebelling against mighty Nebuchadnezzar was foolish - 2Chr36:13 but rebelling against God is even more foolish! Many years passed before God brought all His words to pass and the city fell but He was faithful to His Word.

### Point 3

The way of Life and the way of Death had been set before them (Jer. 21.8). The loss was great. All the precious vessels of the House of the Lord were taken. Thousands of lives were lost through famine, illness and the sword. Many became slaves and were carried away into captivity. The City was laid waste for seventy long years.

### Point 4

The king did not escape. He tried to look out for his own skin. Had laid his plans well. His own special plan but as he fled he was caught, brought back to see his own son killed by the sword, then his eyes were put out and he was taken away a captive to die in an enemy's land.

### Notes

It would be helpful to be familiar with the story in Jeremiah 37-39 as well.

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GSE-00421 Doc. # 2.113

## Daniel & Companions

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 421)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(1) Daniel 1:1-21

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 1:1

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly. Ps. 1:1

### Point 1

When Jerusalem fell and the people were taken captive to Babylon, God brings to light a great man and his companions even in the midst of difficult circumstances. Babylon was a beautiful but wicked city full of idol worshippers and superstition.

### Point 2

The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord Pr 21.1. Several young captives were selected. Daniel and his three friends were chosen. It is obvious right at the start that these young men were unusually gifted -see v4.

### Point 3

It is also evident that the King had designs on them for himself v4. For three years they were to be specially treated and taught. Thank God that Daniel had purpose of heart v8, and it seems that his influence also affected his friends.

### Point 4

Testing comes. Melzar is asked to let them be proved. God had put it in his heart also to be considerate of the young captives. At the end of the test, they were better physically and God had given them more beside v17. The king comes to the conclusion that they were 10 times better. He always wins who sides with God.

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GSE-00422 Doc. # 2.114

## **Nebuchadnezzar's Dream**

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 422)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### **Reading**

(1) Daniel 2:1-49

### **Memory Verse**

(1) Daniel 2:28

There is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets. Daniel 2:28

### **Point 1**

Nebuchadnezzar was a very mighty king and conqueror. But he has a dream that deeply troubled him! And he forgot what it was! The hand of God was in all of this. He demands of those who claimed great powers as wise men the dream and the interpretation. All were helpless.

### **Point 2**

He suspects their lies in the past and he demands their death if they cannot tell. They are forced to admit that there is no man who can do it v10. Daniel hears and asks for time to seek Divine Help. His three friends join in prayer and the secret was revealed.

### **Point 3**

Before he goes before the king he gives the praise and honour to his God. V20-23 Daniel stands before the king and again clearly declares that it is God who gives the answer. He tells of the image and what it represents.

### **Point 4**

The mighty king fell upon his face and honours God at least in his words and honours the man that spoke for God before him.

### **Notes**

For older students it may be good to tell them that there is a prophetic significance to the dream. Most of it has already been completed and the rest shall be - even perhaps before the student's eyes if they remain unsaved.

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GSE-00423 Doc. # 2.115

## In the Furnace

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 423)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(1) Daniel 3:1-30

### Memory Verse

(1) Daniel 3:17

Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us. Daniel 3:17

### Attention Getter

Ever think that you were pretty good. Even great or better? Smarter? Careful!

Prov 16:18 says,

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

### Point 1

Nebuchadnezzar has had his dream interpreted about the great image. He may have understand that his kingdom would some day pass away and now perhaps tries to make himself (the image may have been made to resemble him) and his glory extend in a greater way.

### Point 2

He builds an image of pure gold. 90 feet high. His vast kingdom is called upon to worship the image.

### Point 3

It seems that Daniel may have been occupied in some other part of the kingdom at this time and Daniel's 3 friends do not have his physical support in this hour of testing. Note however, that they very likely had his earnest prayer support as he was known to pray at least 3X daily. God allows us to see that their personal convictions were just as genuine as Daniel's.

### Point 4

They would not bow. They are reported. They are threatened. They stand firm and confident. V16-18 The fury of the king is obvious but he is proved helpless against the preserving power of God. After learning his lesson, his decree acknowledges that there is no other God of this sort. They are promoted to higher honour. But a greater honour will be theirs in a coming day.

### Notes

It might be a very good thing to acquaint yourself with the true vastness of his world dominion that spread so far.

GSE-00424 Doc. # 2.116

**King Belshazzer's Banquet**

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 424)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Mocker's Consequences

**Reading**

(1) Daniel 5:1-31

**Memory Verse**

(1) Daniel 5:27

Thou art weighed in the balances and art found wanting. Daniel 5:27

**Attention Getter**

What do you weigh? How do you know? Did you ever say you weighed more / or less?

**Point 1**

Belshazzar was the grandson of Neb. His father was not interested in the throne and continued in military life as Bel. reigned. He throws a great party to the thousand. Mocked God by using the vessels taken out of the House of God when Jerusalem fell.

**Point 2**

Notice: Judgement was swift v5. He saw the writing. The man who would mock God was mocking no more v6. Calls for someone to interpret. No one is found. Then the queen remembered Daniel and what he had done for Neb.

**Point 3**

Daniel enters. How good to see that Daniel has not changed. He still plainly testifies of his God. He wants none of the gifts of the king. He rehearses the great errors of Neb. and reminds how he learned. Then speaking plainly about Bel. He reminds him that God holds him accountable since he knew this and did not humble himself before the Lord. Not only had not humbled himself but, in his pride and foolishness, thought he could do what he wanted with the things of God!

**Point 4**

The writing is interpreted and though the king rewards Daniel, he was slain since the armies entered the city by closing off the flow of a river that entered through the walls. Another took his place as king and Daniel was somehow preserved by God to serve him as well.

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GSE-00425 Doc. # 2.117

## In the Lion's Den

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 425)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Salvation - Provision for All; Judgment's Finality; Sin's Deception

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### Reading

(1) Daniel 6:1-28

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 119:170

Deliver me according to Thy Word. Psalm 119.170

### Point 1

Daniel has conducted himself very well before several kings. His habits are well known (eg prayer 3X daily), his spirit was excellent and his abilities were such that he was raised over all the 120 princes of the wide spread kingdom.

### Point 2

The princes being jealous and self seeking attempt to find fault or occasion against him. They come to the conclusion that the only way they can accuse him is in connection with his God so they hoodwink the king into signing a decree that will condemn Daniel.

### Point 3

The king does not see through their scheme against his most trusted servant and signs the decree against prayer to any god. Daniel knew it was signed but does not change his habit and continues as he has all his long life. He is accused and though the king now sees thru the plot - his word is law and Daniel must be thrown into the den of lions.

### Point 4

God preserved Daniel and he is able to clearly testify that God shut the lions' mouths. No hurt comes to him and the enemies are all cast in and they died since they had no God to deliver them in that awful day.

### Notes

There may well have been a hundred lions in the den since when the princes and their families were cast in they were killed before they reached the den's floor.

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GSE-00426 Doc. # 2.118

## Esther is Made Queen

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 426)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Faithfulness

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### Reading

(1) Esther 1:1 - 2:23

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 143:8

Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk, For I lift up my soul to Thee. Psalm 143:8

### Point 1

King Ahasuerus - a mighty king over Persia and Media - had a party to show his riches, his majesty and to be honoured by all his princes. The party went on for a full six months! Hard for us to imagine the power and pomp and splendour and excesses of such a grand party.

### Point 2

On a whim, he called for Vashti his queen to be brought before him and she refused. Worried about what effect that might have on other women - she was demoted from being queen and another queen was to chosen in her place.

### Point 3

God worked behind the scenes in order to preserve his people from an enemy's hatred and a scheme that would have wiped out all Jews. Esther was a most beautiful young orphaned Jewess (raised by her older cousin) and she not only attracted the king's interest but became the loved wife and was crowned queen of the land. Though in all of this she had not revealed that she was a Jew.

### Point 4

Her cousin, Mordecai, had also saved the king by warning him, through Esther, of a plot against his life, and when they were found out they were hung on a tree to die.

### Notes

In those days women had very few rights, and it was a very dangerous thing to disappoint or anger a mighty king like Ahasuerus. Nevertheless, God is far more mighty than any earthly monarch.

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GSE-00427 Doc. # 2.119

## Haman & Mordecai

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 427)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways; Satan's Character - Enemy of God, Christian

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### Reading

(1) Esther 3:1 - 4:17

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 23:12

He that shall humble himself shall be exalted. Matt. 23:12

### Point 1

Here are two very different men. Haman is an ungodly self-seeking man who flatters the king to gain popularity and plots to destroy the people of God. Mordecai is a godly man who seeks the glory of the Lord and the blessing of the Lord's people and wants the Lord's approval.

### Point 2

Mordecai has saved the king's life but has not been recognized for his loyalty. Haman has done little but try to become greater and has been recognized and set above all other princes in the realm. It seems that Mordecai alone does not give him the honour he so much craves in the eyes of men.

### Point 3

The plot is a diabolical scheme to kill a man and widened to destroy all those who could witness to the true God. The writing was signed and the day of their destruction was set. All seemed lost. But Mordecai began to pray. He informs Esther that she is also in danger and that God has put her there for just such an occasion as this 4:14 to come before the king with a counter petition.

### Point 4

Though deeply afraid - she also asks that all the Jews humble themselves, fast and pray for three days. Though it seems Haman has it all going his way, yet when men depend on God, nothing is impossible. Even one man plus God is always a majority.

### Notes

Remember that to humble yourself does not mean to think less of yourself than you would - but to think rightly of yourself!



GSE-00428 Doc. # 2.12

**Esther Intercedes Before the King***Series: 400: 1 Kings - Malachi (# 428)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Faithfulness; Mocker's Consequences

**Reading**

(1) Esther 6:1 - 8:17

**Memory Verse**

(1) Psalm 145:18

The Lord is night unto all them that call upon Him. Psalm 145:18

**Point 1**

Praying time is over. It is time for action. Esther's moment has come but Esther does not move forward alone. Her God is with her. Her king could have had her killed for coming before him without being summoned. But he holds out the sceptre.

**Point 2**

He promises a great and magnimonious response to anything she asks, but wisely she simply invites the King and Haman to a banquet. He still seeks her petition and again she asks him and Haman to come to another banquet the following day.

**Point 3**

Haman was delighted at this special treatment. And seeing Mordecai unmoved to honour him, his anger is kindled against him all the more. He decides to seek Mordecai's life immediately and has a gallows built to hang him. However - the king could not sleep that night and hears the story read to him of Mordecai's loyalty and decided to honour him.

**Point 4**

Asking Haman what should be done. Haman thinks it must be him that was to be honoured so makes the reward good only to see that he had to carry it out for his despised enemy. Called to the banquet - the request is finally put forth and Haman is exposed and hung on the very gallows he had created. God moves in mysterious ways and the king makes a way for the people to be saved on that day!

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GSE-00429 Doc. # 2.121

## Captives Return to Judea

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 429)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(2) Ezra 1:1-11; Ezra 2:62 - 3:13

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 103:12

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12

### Point 1

After the years of chastening, God again takes up the remnant. The Lord stirs up the heart of Cyrus. It always starts with Him. Knowing that God had given him the place and power that he had, he wants to do something for Him and calls for the captives to go forth to rebuild the house of the Lord.

### Point 2

All the things that had been carried away into captivity are given into their hands. Time and energy were put into the restoration and the altar is again set up and the sacrifices renewed.

### Point 3

The people work together to put things right and the foundation of the temple was laid with much rejoicing and weeping! Truly the Lord had visited His people. What a thrilling yet humbling experience.

### Point 4

However - whenever there is something for God, the enemies of the Lord are stirred up and there was an evil plot being hatched (4:1) even while they were rejoicing that the mercy of the Lord had been visited upon them in spite of their sin.

GSE-00430 Doc. # 2.122

**Nehemiah Builds the Walls**

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 430)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Restoration; It's Important Who You Listen To

**Reading**

(1) Nehemiah 1:1 - 6:19

**Memory Verse**

(1) Romans 8:31

If God be for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31

**Point 1**

The work of rebuilding had stalled. There was much reproach. Nehemiah is moved to tears and mourning and earnest prayer. He acknowledges again his sin and the peoples and their unworthiness. But he remembers that God promised restoration Neh1:8-11

**Point 2**

Nehemiah, the king's cupbearer, is given the king's attention and speaks of why he is sad. He makes what might seem an impossible request and a more unexpected answer that he may go to build the city of Jerusalem. Even more is granted - ie the supplies to do it - because "the hand of God" was upon him 2:8

**Point 3**

God put this work in his heart. And a few good men joined with him. He encourages others by telling them of the good hand of God upon him. Opposition follows ch 4, and prayer is the natural response of Nehemiah and they continued to build the wall 4:6. More outward opposition still and discouragement falls on some of the builders. Problems arise from within as well - Selfishness slows the work ch5. Sanballat and Tobiah and others try to harm the leader by distracting him 6:1-2 but Nehemiah is aware of the great work he is doing and will not yield. Even the threat of a murderous plot does not cause him to be discouraged for God was with him in the work.

**Point 4**

The wall was finished after 52 strenuous days. Their heathen enemies were cast down because they "perceived that this work was wrought of our God!"

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GSE-00431 Doc. # 2.123

## Joshua & the Angel of the Lord

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 431)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness; Sin's Defilement

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### Reading

(1) Zechariah 3:1-10

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 64:6

All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6

### Point 1

Things that can't be seen with our eyes are shown us here by the Lord. The representative of God's people was standing before the Angel of the Lord. His garments are filthy. There to accuse him is Satan, the great Adversary.

### Point 2

Satan is rebuked for his schemes and plots against the Lord's own. God shows that he already knows that the only hope for His people is like a brand plucked out of the fire. It is the Lord's next work to take away the filthiness of his garments and the Lord Himself provides a change of raiment!

### Point 3

The Angel of the Lord stood by to see that it was all done according to His plan. It took the Lord's work to bring about this change and He Himself sees to it that it is done to His satisfaction.

### Point 4

Now, he is introduced to God's Servant, the Branch. He is God's eternal solution to take away the pollution of our sin and satisfy the heart of God who has made us His own. This also pictures the desired change God had in mind for Israel through the work of John the Baptist in preparation for the "One who coming after me is preferred before me: John 1.27

### Notes

This is a picture of the change from self righteousness to the righteousness of God in preparation for the welcome of the Lord Jesus (pictured here as The Branch)

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GSE-00432 Doc. # 2.124

## Visions of Dry Bones

Series: 400: I Kings - Malachi (# 432)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Future Events; The New Birth

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### Reading

(1) Ezekiel 37:1-14

### Memory Verse

(1) John 3:7

Ye must be born again John 3:7

### Point 1

The vision comes from God. The hand of the Lord was upon him v1. What a disagreeable start. A valley of dry bones - very dry. No life, no hope humanly speaking. A picture of Israel in her sad state. The prophet responds in faith to the question of the Lord.

### Point 2

God calls upon the prophet and gets him involved. "Hear the Word of the Lord" Here is the true source of all life in the One who spoke and it was done!

### Point 3

There was a noise - something was happening. There was a shaking - things began to move at His Word. There was a joining and putting in order of these dismembered and scattered bones - God was showing him how he alone could produce true unity. Flesh and sinew and skin came up on the bones - Only the Lord can do this. And now there's a mighty army!

### Point 4

All of this to show what God was going to do with His own people. Notice - all His work was in order that "ye shall know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it." God wanted them to know again Himself and His power.

### Notes

Isaiah 66:6-9 speaks of the coming of the Lord before the actual birth pangs of Israel at the time of great tribulation, and telling of the day when the Israelite nation shall be born in a day. What a conversion that will be!

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GSE-00501 Doc. # 2.125

## Announcement of Christ's Coming

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 501)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ's Birth

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### Reading

(5) John 1:1-18; Matthew 1:1-25; Luke 1:25-56; Luke 2:1-38; Luke 3:23-38

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 2:11

Unto you is born... a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

### Point 1

Who He was - the Word - Who He was - as to His earthly birth - his lineage and his parents. Matthew announces Him as the King, Luke announces Him as the Son of Man and John announces Him unashameably as God.

### Point 2

Where he had been before - 1 Tim 1:15 came into the world! Note Zacharias words "The Dayspring from on High shall visit us!" Lu 1:78 Some time could be spent on heaven and what is like and who dwelt there.

### Point 3

It is important to emphasize that this One is different than all others. His character and Person should be noted carefully.

### Point 4

Note the announcement 1. to Mary - 2. to Joseph - 3. by the Angels to the Shepherds as they kept their flocks in lambing season. Never been a Lamb born like this One.

### Notes

It would be good for older classes who could appreciate it, that in Mark, there is no account of His Birth which is in keeping with the Servant Character of the Gospel account of Mark.

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GSE-00502 Doc. # 2.126

## The Birth of the Lord Jesus

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 502)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(5) John 1:1-18; Matthew 1:1-25; Luke 1:26-56; Luke 2:1-38; Luke 3:23-38

### Memory Verse

(2) Matthew 1:21; Acts 10:43

Thou shalt call His Name Jesus. Matthew 1:21 /or/ To Him give all the prophets witness. Acts 10:43

### Point 1

Where He was born - Bethlehem Judah - just as had been prophesied. In the field (perhaps shelter in a cave) but not in the Inn. The circumstances that caused the prophecy to be fulfilled Lu 2:1.

### Point 2

Perhaps emphasis should be laid on the fact that Mary was told of His birth and how He would be conceived. In spite of her amazement. She is most willing, and this emphasizes the fact that Mary knew she needed a Saviour. See Luke 1:47 That is a most important point to get across to any who might have been under RC influence.

### Point 3

Note the poverty - swaddling clothes - lying in a manger. Note the glory - a heavenly host praising God. Note the joy of the the humble shepherds when they made known what they saw.

### Point 4

Carefully note the parents offering - the offering of the poor at the temple. Note too that His coming was expected in the words of Anna and Simeon.

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GSE-00503 Doc. # 2.127

## The Wise Men

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 503)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 2:1-18

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 2:11

They fell down and worshipped Him. Matt. 2:11

### Point 1

Unlike the Wise Men of Esther and Daniel's day, they were not merely impressed by the Sign, but recognized it was HIS star! They came to Worship HIM. Such was their report that King Herod was deeply disturbed. Christ always causes a stir - to some, it is one of delight and to others one of disdain. Wise men still seek HIM!

### Point 2

They didn't know everything. Sought the illumination of the Scriptures. It was that revelation that showed them the city and God graciously gave the seekers light that would lead them to the very place - note it is a house not a stable nor a cave.

### Point 3

They were on the Search of their Life and they rejoiced not only in the Star that led them but in the One who had come. They gave of their gifts - tell them what the gifts would speak of in the simplest possible terms. Not all felt that way - the king was set to destroy the young child - that should remind you to tell them that it could be 1.5 - 2 years after the Shepherds came that night. How do we know - the king destroyed all the children 2 years old and younger.

### Point 4

Note - God was not caught unprepared. The king's murderous attempt was thwarted. God frustrated the king by sending the Magi home another way, and warning Joseph to flee into Egypt.

### Notes

Incidentally - for older ones - the Magi going home another way has instruction for us. Everyone should be affected by a meeting with the Lord - either at His Birth here, or His death as in Lu 23:48



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GSE-00504 Doc. # 2.128

## Childhood of Jesus

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 504)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lamb; Christ the Son

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### Reading

(2) Matthew 2:19-23; Luke 2:29-52

### Memory Verse

(2) Luke 2:49; 1 John 4:14

I must be about My Father's business. Luke 2:49 /or/ The Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the World. 1John 4:14

### Point 1

The Saviour was here - He had come unto His own people and His own things - yet Mt 2:14 was made a stranger to His own people and made to dwell in a strange land. Even when God tells Joseph to return they dwell in Nazareth again - a place despised because it was poor and inhabited by many gentiles.

### Point 2

The Feast - that is, the Passover in Jerusalem. His parents were devout and sought to obey God's instruction to His people by attending the Feast. God never intended Passover to be forgotten. Who would know more about it than the One who was the true Passover Lamb?

### Point 3

After the feast and all its deep meaning - his parents left behind the One who was the True Center of the Feast. He is the Center of another gathering though. The Rabbis ask and receive answers. They are amazed even after 3 days at His understanding!

### Point 4

Parents come seeking Him. Though there is much delay - they who truly seek Him, find Him. The Lord Jesus at 12 (when a young Israeli was to take on responsibility) tells them who His Father is and reminds them that He has more important business and yet in spite of it all and the fact that He truly knows far more than they, he goes home and is subject to them. In all things, He did that which was becoming as a man under the law.

### Notes

Point 3 - how easy it is for us - to be occupied with the things of God and yet to go on with our lives without Him near.

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GSE-00505 Doc. # 2.129

## The Forerunner & the Baptism of Jesus

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 505)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(7) Luke 1:57-80; Mark 1:1-13; Matthew 3:1-4; Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:1-4; Luke 3:11; John 1:19-34

### Memory Verse

(1) John 10:41

All things that John spake of this man were true. John 10:41

### Point 1

John was clearly sent of God. His work and message were prophesied ahead of time by Malachi and Isaiah.

### Point 2

His birth was a miracle. His life was simple. His message was plain He sought no glory for himself. He saw results to his preaching. His testimony was given by the Lord Jesus Himself.

### Point 3

He spoke plain words about sin. He baptized many who confessed their sin and the sins of the nation to prepare them for the coming One. His greatest honour came when the Lord Himself came to be baptized at Jordan. Though he resisted at first, he bowed to His Lord's will and did as He had bidden him.

### Point 4

He saw the Spirit of the Lord rest upon the One he served. And heard a voice from heaven.

GSE-00506 Doc. # 2.13

## John's Disciples and Jesus Disciples

*Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 506)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Christ the Lamb

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### Reading

(1) John 1:35-51

### Memory Verse

(2) John 1:35; John 1:37

Behold the Lamb of God. John 1:35 /or/ They followed Jesus. John 1:37

### Point 1

John carries out his work and the second time is constrained to testify that Jesus is the Lamb of God. A true servant of Jesus will always point to Christ and not to themselves even though it may mean personal loss. John's disciples have been well taught and now follow Jesus.

### Point 2

Jesus speaks to the root of the matter. What seek ye? A question that needs to be heard and responded to today. They call Him teacher at this early stage but will learn much more about Him.

### Point 3

We aren't given a description of the place, nor the meal they enjoyed. When they return the thing that has impressed them is Himself note v 41. He must always be the true attraction. All other activity and settings pale beside the Glory of Himself.

### Point 4

We then see another soul-winner at work. With his own heart now won to Christ, Andrew brought Simon to Jesus. Simon later on will see many many more brought to know the Lord. Philip too becomes a soul winner. Nathaniel is doubtful at first but his heart is totally surrendered as the Lord reveals himself to him.

### Notes

It would be good to point out to older kids that Point 1 is valid today. Beware of those who go in for sensationalism and do not point clearly to Christ. For He is the only hope for sinners and the true example for the believer.

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GSE-00507 Doc. # 2.131

## The Wedding in Cana

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 507)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness

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### Reading

(1) John 2:1-12

### Memory Verse

(1) John 16:20

Your sorrow shall be turned into joy. John 16:20

### Point 1

Marriage - the Lord Himself came. Honouring marriage by His very Presence. In the midst of what should have been a joyous occasion there was a need - something missing. How true even in life. What we thought should have brought us joy is oftimes a disappointment.

### Point 2

Mary - who had pondered so much for so long in her heart, knew what to do. She told the Lord Jesus. She knew what to tell others too v5. Perhaps by experiences in her own life and home. Note - there is no mention of Joseph who may have pre-deceased.

### Point 3

He said "Fill" - and they did. "Pour out" and they did. What and how it all happened they didn't know. But they knew who made the difference!

### Point 4

This wine was pronounced not good but best. What He gives is far better! He'll do better for you than this world can do!

### Notes

Don't forget to use this opportunity to enhance the true meaning and purpose of Marriage. Children often only have the distorted views of parents and the world for an example.

GSE-00508 Doc. # 2.132

**Passover & the First Cleansing**Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 508)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Sin's Defilement

**Reading**

(1) John 2:13-25

**Memory Verse**

(1) John 2:25

He knew what was in man. John 2:25

**Attention Getter**

In the last lesson, when the Lord Jesus was in someone else's house, he acted as a guest ought to. But here he is in HIS OWN house and acts accordingly.

**Point 1**

The Lord goes up to Jerusalem at the Passover (always as a man keeping the law). One look and He could see what was wrong!

**Point 2**

He remembered what they forgot - it was His Father's House! Men cannot do what they like and get away with it. There are things that do not belong in His house and what is done there reflects on HIM. It is important to give God the respect that He deserves.

**Point 3**

Destroy this temple - speaking of His body! Yet three years would pass before His death. They spoke of the temple that they gloried in. It was still being built and wouldn't be complete till AD63 and would be torn down totally by Titus in AD66.

**Point 4**

His actions reminded the disciples of the Word of God vs 17,22. What a thought for us to apply to ourselves! Note: He not only saw what was wrong in the temple but He sees what is wrong in us. John 2:25

**Notes**

Passovers In His Public Ministry #1 John 2:13,23 #2 John 6:4 #3 John 11:55, 12:1, 13:1, 18:28,39, 19:14

**Miscellaneous**

When you speak of His body as a temple - remind any who are saved that their body is not their own but also a temple of God. 1 Cor 6:19

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GSE-00509 Doc. # 2.133

## Nicodemus

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 509)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: The New Birth; Religion's Inability

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### Reading

(1) John 2:23 - 3:21

### Memory Verse

(1) John 3:15

Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:15

### Point 1

All he knew as THE Teacher of Israel - yet did not know what it was to have eternal life! You can't 'learn' salvation. The Lord knew what was in man John 2:25 and He knew Nicodemus true state too. No matter how good - he wasn't good enough.

### Point 2

What Nicodemus did know - was that the Lord had God with Him v2. Perhaps this was something that Nicodemus longed for. How remarkable is the grace of God that would ever put such a longing in his heart.

### Point 3

The Lord points out the importance of the WORD (water) and the SPIRIT in this work. This is something that none of us can afford to forget!

### Point 4

Verses 14-15 are vital to this story. The Lord tells him that only through God's Gracious Provision is the sinner freely given life eternal!

### Notes

Man has no capacity to SEE or ENTER INTO the New Birth!

### Miscellaneous

We got life at birth - it is for this world only. It allows us to enter into all that life offers. It is soon done. To dwell above, we need life from above (v7 again = from above). Essential to enter heaven & to enter into all that heaven offers.

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GSE-00510 Doc. # 2.134

## The Samaritan Woman

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 510)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner's Need and Helplessness; World's Attraction

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### Reading

(2) John 4:1-42; Matthew 4:12

### Memory Verse

(1) John 4:49

He told me all that ever I did. John 4:39

### Point 1

"MUST NEEDS" v4 - shows how important this one person was to Him. "Weary" The way He had to come was hard. Not the way others would have chosen. Thank God He was not like the others!

### Point 2

Notice - He was waiting for her to come to well. He knew she would. He knew when. He knew what thoughts she had beforetime and in spite of her sin - He loved her. She marvelled that He would speak to her v9 - the disciples marvelled that He spoke to her v27. Imagine the day to come when she thought on it all again - it truly was a marvellous thing.

### Point 3

He is the One who starts the conversation. He interferences in the lives of men. He is the Lord and knows how to deal with His creature and how to reach the heart. He uses ordinary things to catch her interest.

### Point 4

O the wonder of the moment - when He said "I... am HE!" Others were reached by her words - she brought them to Him. He met their need as well. He is still the Same!

### Notes

Note His skill at using the right kind of thing to initiate a conversation. The Teacher needs to pray that the Lord will give them that touch.

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GSE-00511 Doc. # 2.135

## **Temptation in the Wilderness**

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 511)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Substitute; Christ the Sinless

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### **Reading**

(3) Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:11-12; Luke 4:1-15

### **Memory Verse**

(1) Luke 4:4

Man shall not live by bread alone but by every Word of God. Luke 4:4

### **Attention Getter**

ONE PERSON did not sin. He could NOT sin! Who was it?

### **Point 1**

The Lord Jesus was God - He was perfect. He was also man - and He was just as perfect but here we see just how perfect He was as He is allowed to be tested by the Evil One - a master at that trade.

### **Point 2**

The Lord was hungry and the Evil One is quick to test Him on that - the Lord shows that the Word of God has far more effect upon Him than appetite. He quotes each of these verses from Deuteronomy and shows how real the Word of God was to Him.

### **Point 3**

His next appeal is the Kingdoms of the World that he claims are His to give. The Lord doesn't even respond to that appeal but shows how as man, God was always highest in His affection.

### **Point 4**

The Devil seems to try and make Him show His power and be recognized now without going to the Cross - even quoting the Word of God - the Lord's attitude shows He is content with His Father's Will and Time.

### **Notes**

The THEME of the Substitute is brought in here because it shows His qualification not because this lesson teaches substitution.

### **Summary**

If the Devil had the nerve to do all of this with the Sinless Spotless Son of God, just think of how his temptations could affect us. How do we respond when he comes near?

### **Miscellaneous**

The points at which the Lord was tested are the self same ones that we are tested on so frequently and fail. The flesh, the world and the Devil.



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GSE-00512 Doc. # 2.136

## Nazareth & Capernaum Have a Visitor

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 512)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Blindness; Christ Refused

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### Reading

(2) Luke 4:16-37; Mark 1:23-26

### Memory Verse

(1) John 1:1-11

He came unto His own and His own received HIM not. John 1:11

### Point 1

The Lord Himself who has given the Word now reads it and expounds it in the synagogue at Nazareth. They wonder at the spirit of His Words but refuse the message and the One who brings it.

### Point 2

He teaches two lessons from the outcasts of the OT. V 25 a widow - that was sustained by God when all Israel were suffering for lack of bread because of their sin and waywardness. V 27 a leper - Naaman - cured of his leprosy when there were many others in Israel who never knew his joy of deliverance. When they heard his news - why wasn't there a line up at the door of the Prophet that the same blessing might be theirs? Unbelief and Pride.

### Point 3

In their wrath, they seek His death - but He passes through them and they dare not touch Him. Left them (what a tragedy!) and came to Capernaum and taught them - astonished!

### Point 4

Satanic activity was manifest in those days after the preceding 400 years when God had ceased speaking to a disobedient people. The unclean spirit knew HIM. Of course! Others saw a demonstration of His mighty invincible power v36.

### Notes

There's a principle here for the messenger of the Lord in v16 to speak it first where they grew up. The response may be as here - refusal or as in other places - a humble obedience and true repentance.

### Miscellaneous

Perhaps for older ones it is important to emphasize the dangers of trifling with the Devil. Demon possession is not just a thing of the past.

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GSE-00513 Doc. # 2.137

## When He Rebuked the Fever

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 513)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Diseased; Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(3) Luke 4:38-44; Matthew 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-38

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 4:40

He laid His hands on every one of them, and healed them. Luke 4:40

### Point 1

It was a great fever. Fever had several grades even in those days. This was most severe - a galloping fever that caused the body to work as hard as it could to bring the temperature down but at the same time continued to escalate the problem because of the effort.

### Point 2

He stood over her. He who knew the need had come near. He spoke and it was done. Demons or disease are no match for Him.

### Point 3

No recovery time. It was virtually impossible for someone who was afflicted like this to have risen and served but such is His power that even the faint are able to soar like the eagle! Word seemed to get around and there were others in great need and just as hopeless apart from Him.

### Point 4

His compassion reached to "every one of them" and His power availed to meet every kind of need even demonic. They would have kept Him there but there were others who needed to hear it all as well.

### Summary

He too has come near to us. But He may not linger long if you delay. There are others upon His heart as well who will embrace Him.

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GSE-00514 Doc. # 2,138

## The King's Man and His Son

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 514)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Promise - He Keeps It; Faith

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### Reading

(1) John 4:46-54

### Memory Verse

(1) John 4:50

The man believed the Word that Jesus had spoken unto him. John 4:50

### Point 1

The Lord comes again to Cana where he had done a mighty miracle. The fame of which was likely well known. News travels and it was known that Jesus was near. A Royal Officer from Capernaum (+/- 25 miles or 40 km) comes to Jesus in his distress. Wanted Christ to come to Capernaum and heal (save) his son from death.

### Point 2

The Lord puts his finger on the tendency of the officers heart - to think he needed some sign or ceremony, and also upon the thing he was not inclined to do - just believe! What does He find in our hearts?

### Point 3

The man continues to plead his importunity. The Lord speaks, Go thy way, thy son liveth. He took the Word as being real. He acted upon it. How did He know? Only by HIS WORD.

### Point 4

He leaves and as he travels he meets his servants who tell him the son lives. Consider the possibility that his question was not because he doubted. But rather to prove that what the Lord had spoken was now assured. It was at the very same hour. What a story he had to tell to his household. They all responded in faith. What a day of rejoicing that would be.

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GSE-00515 Doc. # 2.139

## A Wonderful Catch of Fish

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 515)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; God's Power and Greatness

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### Reading

(3) Mark 1:16-20; Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 5:1-11

### Memory Verse

(2) Luke 5:11; Luke 5:8

I am a sinful man, O Lord. Luke 5:8 /or/ They forsook all and followed Him. Luke 5:11

### Point 1

Wonderful to see the desire of the people to hear the Word of God. He then works to instruct and reveal Himself to His disciples. He uses Simon's ship to preach a message from and uses Simon's nets to impress him. He still uses what we have and desires to reveal Himself.

### Point 2

He gives the call. Launch out. Though reluctantly and confessing their lack, they do as they are told. They inclose a great multitude of fish under His direction and Peter recognizes that he stands in the presence of One who is far greater than himself.

### Point 3

The harvest is so great - they are not sufficient for it - James and John are called in too. They are all filled with astonishment at what the Lord could do.

### Point 4

They are faced with a choice in view of such a revelation. They forsake all for Him. He has called them to higher service.

### Notes

He called men who were busy already to serve Him. They had a legitimate occupation and had obviously known success as partners in fishing. It is likely that this had been their life (inherited from their fathers) but He has higher claims.

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GSE-00516 Doc. # 2.14

## The Leper is Cleansed

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 516)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Diseased; Sin's Defilement

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### Reading

(3) Mark 1:40-45; Matthew 8:2-4; Luke 5:12-16

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 5:12

Lord if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. Luke 5:12

### Point 1

Leper - full of leprosy - leprosy at it's worst. Everyone would now know it. At first it may have been easily hidden, a mere rising in the skin (like a pimple perhaps) but now he is made to know the awfulness of his state. There is significance too in the fact that he is a leper (Matt 8:2) - the problem is not just what he has but what he is! Like the sinner.

### Point 2

Lord, if thou wilt - his faith was simple and plain. For another to stretch out his hand would have defiled him but the Lord touches him with a healing hand that can never be defiled.

### Point 3

The leper seemed to doubt the Lord's willingness not His ability, but the Lord quickly banishes that notion "I will, BE thou CLEAN" Same sort of language that brought light into being in the creation, "Light BE!" Here it is no more difficult for Him to banish defilement "Clean BE!"

### Point 4

The Leper was counselled to go to the priest and offer a sacrifice for his cleansing. A sacrifice that had been rarely seen. It was for a testimony to them that sin had reigned so long amongst them unchecked. The One who could heal their diseases had left them alone in their folly.

### Notes

Leprosy is often thought of as causing parts of the body to fall off. This is not so. Leprosy deadens nerves, both motor and sensory. Loss of the sense of pain often caused a leper to be burned or cut and with no accompanying pain often permanent damage was done. There is many more lessons that could be applied in the gospel with a little research of your own.

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GSE-00517 Doc. # 2.141

## The Paralytic is Healed

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 517)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Diseased; Pardon and Forgiveness

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### Reading

(3) Mark 2:1-12; Matthew 9:1-8; Luke 5:17-26

### Memory Verse

(1) Mark 2:5

Thy sins be forgiven thee. Mark 2:5

### Point 1

Another miracle in Capernaum where He had cast out the unclean spirit. Someone let the people know that He was back again. The crowds came - filling the house to beyond the doors. He preaches the Word.

### Point 2

A man in need is brought along. His friends are so anxious to see him cured that they break up the roof and let him down so that he can get to Him who has the power to deliver. The man before Him has NO power, but the One to whom they brought him had ALL power.

### Point 3

The Lord speaks words to forgive. What an indication this is to show that He was concerned with the real problem that plagued the people. His ability to pronounce His forgiveness was not hindered by the presence of the Scribes and Pharisees who were quick to criticize.

### Point 4

He then shows that His words to forgive are just as effective as His words to heal. He demonstrates His ability to heal and the man who was powerless receives power and rises up before the critics - causing the people to be filled with amazement and to glorify God.

### Notes

Palsy in this passage refers to him being a paralytic.

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GSE-00518 Doc. # 2.142

## Choice and Call of Matthew

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 518)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(3) Mark 2:13-17; Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 5:27-32

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 5:32

I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Luke 5:32

### Point 1

Matthew was a despised Tax Collector but I like the way the King saw him in Mt9:9 "He saw a man!" Thank God for the way He sees us. The man was in a place of authority and he was busy & successful. Matthew recognizes and bows to One with Higher Authority than all others and when He called him he left it all to follow Him.

### Point 2

The man who has felt the eyes of the One who knew everything about him, now shows his appreciation and makes Him a feast! Note - he did what he could. Perhaps (since we have no recorded word that he spoke) he was not a man to speak but that did not stop him from doing something for His Lord. To the feast he invites his friends and business acquaintances that they might meet the Lord. Into this scene of fellowship and joy, comes the voices of the critics.

### Point 3

Jesus knew what the Pharisees and Scribes were saying. He also knew the hearts that they were speaking from. He speaks a Word that ought to have reached them. They thought they were alright and needed nothing. They would receive nothing.

### Point 4

He tells us that He came to call the sinners to repentance. Repentance is a change of mind, which involves a choice and change of direction.

GSE-00519 Doc. # 2.143

**Sabbath Controversy - The Sick Man**Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 519)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; Christ the Lord

**Reading**

(1) John 5:1-47

**Memory Verse**

(1) John 5:39

Search the Scriptures; they are they which testify of ME! John 5:39

**Point 1**

A feast of the Jews. In Jerusalem the first mention of anything is a man who is sick & helpless! The people there believed that an angel troubled the pool and when that happened - the first one into the water was made whole of whatever disease he had.

**Point 2**

This man was perhaps the worst case of them all. 38 years he had had this infirmity. He'd laid there a long time hoping to be cured. "Jesus saw him" - what a statement! Jesus spoke "Wilt thou...?" He confesses that he has no man to help. Here were words so full of meaning to the One who had said he would be father to the fatherless and help to the helpless.

**Point 3**

Jesus speaks a Word of Power. "Rise up" The Word is not a mere Word that ceases to sound the moment it is uttered but carries with it omnipotent result producing power and the powerless one now walks! As he carries his bedroll, he is accused of breaking the Sabbath, by poor blind critics that cannot see the miracle! He later identifies Jesus as the One who had so blessed Him.

**Point 4**

Persecution arose and they claimed he was in the habit of doing these things on the Sabbath day. They wanted to kill Him for this alone. Then He uses the occasion to reveal that the things He does it is because this is what His Father is working for and now they want to kill Him because of this claim as well.

**Notes**

Jewish Feasts were intended by God to be Holy Gatherings. Probably best to remind the children that the Sabbath was a Jewish Day. It is the last day of the week (Saturday) not Sunday which is the Lord's day or Sunday. The commandment about the Sabbath is the only commandment the Lord did not quote while here on earth.



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GSE-00520 Doc. # 2,144

## Sabbath Controversy - The Corn

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 520)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; Law's Lack of Power to Control

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### Reading

(3) Mark 2:23-28; Matthew 12:1-8; Luke 6:1-5

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 12:7

I will have mercy and not sacrifice. Matthew 12:7

### Point 1

In their hunger the Disciples plucked some heads of wheat to eat as they went. How diligent and observant the accusers were! "They watched HIM" and when they found nothing wrong in Him they accuse those who associated with Him.

### Point 2

The \*Pharisees call it to His attention. His response is right from the Word of God. His message was clear - the sabbath was made for man not the other way around as they were construing it. How easy it is for us to get the cart before the horse also. Nothing works that way!

### Point 3

Note His CLAIM - in this place is One greater than the Temple (Matt. 12:6). So very true, but what a stinging comment to those who had put the Temple on a higher level in their thinking than the ONE who dwelt in the Midst of His People.

### Point 4

Notice - He is most conscious of His Authority as evidenced in the Title of The Son of Man. He was the anointed and sent One - with authority over man and all else.

### Notes

\*Pharisees had started out as a devout group intending to call the Nation back to God but had degenerated to being ultra legal in their observance of Jewish laws (often times of their own contrivance) and had drifted far from God in heart. Nb. See Matthew 15:8

GSE-00521 Doc. # 2,145

**Sabbath Controversy - Withered Hand**

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 521)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Sympathizer

**Reading**

(3) Mark 3:1-6; Matthew 12:9-15; Luke 6:6-11

**Memory Verse**

(1) Matthew 12:18

Behold My Servant whom I have chosen. Matthew 12:18

**Point 1**

The authorities watch Him with malice and intent! Knowing it, and seeing a man with a withered hand. He brings Him forth as an example. He was really a picture of the Jewish People (as are many of these healing miracles) who had no power to please God. Their hand was withered and could not do anything to please God in their own efforts.

**Point 2**

Is it lawful? - they ask. He puts His finger on their own hearts and wallets as He uses the example of a sheep in distress. They would have delivered their own sheep because it was important to them - He was going to deliver a man who was of infinite importance to Him.

**Point 3**

Again a Word of Power - Stretch forth - it was made whole like his other. Now not only could the man feel good about himself but able to be useful as well. He shuts the accusers mouths with the truth of God and a work they cannot deny!

**Point 4**

Now the Pharisees are resolved to destroy Him. Notice he withdrew himself from these religious bigots. Beware lest your attitude towards Him causes Him to draw back from you. He did however make Himself available to every seeker Matt. 12:15. What wondrous love and mercy!

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GSE-00522 Doc. # 2.146

## Choice of 12 & Sermon on the Mount

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 522)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways; Saved - evidences; Sinners - evidences

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### Reading

(2) Matthew 5:1 - 7:29; Luke 6:12-45

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 6:44

Every tree is known by his own fruit. Luke 6:44

### Point 1

Prayed all night before He identifies those He had called to be His Disciples. Note - he even choice Judas Iscariot knowing what he would be! Traitor!

### Point 2

Great crowds gathered about Him. Over and over we are told He healed them all. There was no lack of Power, no cure that eluded Him, no demon that could deny Him.

### Point 3

Blessed are ....! He gives the rules and guidelines for the future kingdom that will be manifest and those who would join themselves to Him now - these are truths to live by in the here and now.

### Point 4

He teaches lessons about the heart Luke 6:42-45. Basically He reduces us all to two categories. Good tree - bad Tree. Thorns - Vines. Good man - evil man. The fruits are vastly different!

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GSE-00523 Doc. # 2.147

## The Two Builders

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 523)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways; It's Important Who You Listen To

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### Reading

(2) Matthew 7:24-29; Luke 6:46-49

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 6:46-49

Why call ye ME, Lord - Lord - and do not the things that I say? Luke 6:46

### Point 1

The Lord puts the Sayings He has spoken on the highest ground. Every Word He uttered was the Breath of God. He always means what He says. He always keeps every promise. He fulfills every prophecy.

### Point 2

Foolish Man hears - but does not act accordingly or obedience. How many there are who think that because they are aware that He has spoken and of what He has said that they are better or Okay as they are.

### Point 3

Wise Man hears - and follows that Word or Revelation with obedience and simple trust. All that the Foolish Man has done will be swept away in the day of Judgement. Great was the fall of it - how devastating to find yourself with nothing to cling to in that day. What the wise man has done - will be preserved in that day. Are we living in light of that day?

### Point 4

Why call ye me Lord Lord and do not the things that I say? O the folly of boasting in our relationship or privileges and not making sure our lives are built on the ROCK. O the tragedy of presuming that our puny hopes are unshakeable! Only that which was built on the ROCK was not shaken Luke 6:48

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GSE-00524 Doc. # 2,148

## The Centurion's Servant

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 524)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness; God's Promise - He Keeps It

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### Reading

(2) Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

### Memory Verse

(1) Hebrews 4:12

The Word of God is quick (living) and powerful. Hebrews 4:12

### Point 1

A Centurion (Gentile) Army Leader of a hundred men comes to Jesus. As a Gentile he has no claim on the Lord. He realizes this and requests through the mediacy of the Jews that the Lord do this. However the Jews come and tell the Lord that he is worthy (not what the centurion thought or asked them to do) for he loveth their nation and has built a synagogue. This seems to be evidence that the centurion was a Jewish proselyte therefore, in spite of it's weakness, he has shown faith in the only God Given religion!

### Point 2

The Lord goes with them but the centurion sends other messengers who report that he does not even now see himself as worthy that the Lord would come under his roof. Just SPEAK THE WORD ONLY - the Lord marvels that this kind of faith has not been seen at all in Israel yet this stranger gives Him the respect of believing that He can heal with a Word.

### Point 3

Go thy way - and it was done in that moment. The servant was whole. No evidence at all remained of the grievous life threatening sickness.

### Point 4

What a lesson for us this is! The Lord's Word is not unlike the Word of a Centurion giving orders to his men. It will be done. There is no question. The only difference I can see is that HIS WORD HAS THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY and HE HAS NEVER KNOWN FAILURE!

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GSE-00525 Doc. # 2.149

## The Nain Lad

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 525)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Sympathizer; Christ the Life Giver & Resurrection

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### Reading

(1) Luke 7:11-17

### Memory Verse

(2) Luke 7:16; John 10:28

God hath visited His people. Luke 7:16 /or/ I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish. John 10:28

### Point 1

A Widow - she had suffered loss - her husband was gone - now a second blow - her son. He was the one she might have hoped would show some care and provide for her, but her grief was also more intense because he was her ONLY son. She'd really lost her all.

### Point 2

The Lord demonstrates the Words He had spoken long before Deut.10:18 & Psalm 146:9. Israel had been given instructions many time and reminded countless more that they were to do whatever they could for such as this widow and her son. They failed miserably and often took advantage of them instead. Our Lord did what He could for this poor widow. And O what He could do.

### Point 3

The son was dead. The Lord stops the procession and changes the scene from sorrow to rejoicing. Death never took place in His Presence and fled when He came near. He had compassion. He was touched with her grief and loss. He spoke to the DEAD and he heard and obeyed and rose to life! Now the one who was dead begins to speak.

### Point 4

There came a fear on all. Respect is given for God had visited His people. Let us never forget that when a dead sinner is brought to new life, God deserves the glory. The actions of the Lord Jesus brought glory to God from the hearts of others. Do we?

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GSE-00526 Doc. # 2.15

## The Two Debtors

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 526)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Depravity; Debt Owning; Debt Paid

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### Reading

(1) Luke 7:41-43

### Memory Verse

(1) John 3:17

God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world. John 3:17

### Point 1

Use this lesson as a prelude to the one that follows about the sinful woman. Then you can make reference to it if you wish or have time in that story. It is a parable from the lips of the Lord. No one is named, but the conclusions are obvious.

### Point 2

TWO Debtors - they both the same in that they owed a debt.

### Point 3

TWO Debtors Unable to pay - they were both the same in that as well. They had nothing - here we see the absolute depravity of the sinner - totally destitute of anything to satisfy God's judgement against them.

### Point 4

TWO debtors with the same benefactor. Let us remember who it is that we owe the debt to. Our hearts should be filled with wonder and appreciation when we remember that when He saw we had nothing to pay. He frankly forgave both.

### Notes

In order to forgive the debt - the One to whom it was owed had to assume the cost Himself. So it was with our Lord, sin demanded payment in blood and He gave Himself to pay what we owed.

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GSE-00527 Doc. # 2.151

## The Sinful Woman

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 527)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Detected; Sin Found Out; Debt Paid

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### Reading

(1) Luke 7:36-50

### Memory Verse

(2) Luke 7:48; Luke 7:50

He said unto her, "Thy sins are forgiven." Luke 7:48 /or/ Thy faith hath saved thee; Go in peace. Luke 7:50.

### Point 1

One of the Pharisees - usually proud of their compliance with the outward form of the law. Loved to be seen and recognized as devoted to God's law. Invited the Lord to his home. In the midst of the meal, an uninvited woman turns up. She is well known. She is a sinner - and the word used describe exactly what kind of sinner she was.

### Point 2

Amidst the inward groan from Simon's heart, she comes to the feet of the Lord. She weeps and washes them, drying them again with her long hair. To all of this it appears that the Lord is silent and for all we know, does not even look at her.

### Point 3

The Lord knows what Simon thinks in his heart. Simon forgot something in his silent accusation - the Lord not only knew what kind of a sinner she was, He knew what Simon was. The Lord speaks to Simon about the woman. Likely those words fell on her ears in wonder! O can it be?

### Point 4

The Lord then speaks directly to the woman. He wanted her to know firsthand. Sins forgiven - Saved - Peace. O the blessedness of it all. How did she know? She had his unfaltering word.

### Notes

This passage in a chronological bible arrangement seems to fall after the words of Matthew 11:28 - perhaps she stood at the back of the crowd when the words were spoken and that is why she came! There is no clear reason to believe that this is Mary Magdalene.

### Miscellaneous

It is also significant in the gospel of Luke 7 that this story follows the truth that Christ is received by the publicans and sinners and rejected by the Pharisees and lawyers.



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GSE-00528 Doc. # 2.152

## The Sower

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 528)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Seeker - hindered; Opportunity - Real; Seeker - earnest

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### Reading

(3) Mark 4:3-25; Matthew 13:3-23; Luke 8:5-18

### Memory Verse

(1) Mark 4:9

He that hath ears to hear - let him hear. Mark 4:9

### Attention Getter

The Devil doesn't want you to be saved!

### Point 1

The Sower - is identified in Mt 13:37. The whole purpose of the Sower is to place the Seed in the soil. His work is good. His desire is precious.

### Point 2

The Seed - is the Word of God Luke 8:11. The Seed is alive. It is good. It never becomes stale dated. It will do it's work. I has the power to produce the results.

### Point 3

The Soils - are they that hear the Word Luke 8:12-15. Here is where the difficulty comes. The wayside hearer brings before us the problem of the birds - the Devil comes quickly with many attractions in place to snatch away the Seed. The Stony Ground Hearer tells us that there was enough soil and moisture to cause the Seed to germinate but not to thrive. How often we only want the Word to reach so far and no further. There was never going to be fruit. The Thorny Soil tells of cares - the difficulties - and riches - the pleasures. Opposites yet having the same effect. The Devil doesn't care what it is that keeps us from producing fruit to God's Glory. The Good Ground Hearer - the sinner is not good in himself but an awakening and being plowed up by God can produce the right environment and lots of fruit.

### Point 4

The Sermon - he that hath ears to hear, let him hear Mark 4:9. O the simplicity of applying this lesson. Will we be good ground hearers even in this right now?

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GSE-00529 Doc. # 2.153

## The Treasure & The Pearl

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 529)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Redemption - Purchase and Purpose; Bought with a Price; Price Paid

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 13:44-46

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 13:46

When He had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that He had, and bought it. Matthew 13:46

### Point 1

The point of these stories is not the same but there are similarities! God's earthly people (Israel) are the Treasure so entwined in the world of men. Israel has lost the Peculiar Character God wanted them to bear. The Bride of Christ is the Pearl of Great Price in the great marketplace. That which is bought is meant to be His alone and forever.

### Point 2

God still looks forward to the day when He shall have joy in Israel. Christ sees the tremendous value of that one pearl.

### Point 3

One thing remains exactly the same. He had to see all that he had in order to buy. One aspect of the purchase points to it's overall character - He bought what is representative of the whole world to obtain the treasure. In the case of the pearl - it was specially the object of His delight.

### Point 4

Lesson from a Pearl - 1. Round - a symbol of completeness or perfection. 2. Formed - it is not manufactured or shaped. Comes about due to the pain of a Living Thing. 3. Glory- one of the reasons for having a Pearl of this sort is being able to display it to others.

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GSE-00530 Doc. # 2.154

## Jesus Calms the Storm

Series: 500: The Life of Christ (# 530)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Eternal Security; Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(4) Mark 4:35-41; Matthew 8:18; Matthew 8:23-27; Luke 8:22-25

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

### Point 1

It was the Lord who suggested that they cross the Sea. He falls asleep - He truly was a man and grew weary from all His constant labour.

### Point 2

A great storm arose. Galilee is known for these sudden storms, but one would wonder if this were not an attempt by the Devil. This was a real storm. They were in jeopardy.

### Point 3

They came to HIM. A move in the right direction! Their cry is a little different in each account and allows us to understand in a fuller way all that was involved.

### Point 4

He told the storm to Hush as one would a little child. He is absolute Master of wind and wave and storm and the elements. Is He my Master? Have I heard Him? Do I obey His voice?

### Notes

He will never lead us where He cannot sustain us.

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GSE-00531 Doc. # 2.155

## **Demons & the Gadarene**

Series: 500: *The Life of Christ* (# 531)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Power - Both Control and Habits

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### **Reading**

(3) Mark 5:1-20; Matthew 8:28-34; Luke 8:26-39

### **Memory Verse**

(1) Romans 5:8

God commendeth His love towards us. Romans 5:8

### **Point 1**

At the point where they came to land, there was a man waiting for Him. Because of the Demon within - he expresses no desire to be freed - even rather the opposite - Torment me not. His falling down before the Lord was not a self humbling but no Demon can withstand the Authority of the Son of Man.

### **Point 2**

He seemed a hopeless case. The Lord would not leave him in the grip of such masters. In spite of all he was and all that he had done, the Lord loved him. Lots of evidence of others who had tried to control him. The Demon says he is Legion. Requested that the Demons are not sent into the Great Abyss.

### **Point 3**

The Lord sent them into the swine. The WHOLE HERD rushed down a steep place into the sea. Lost money talks and the citizens and owners can only see the loss and not the gain. The distorted values of our day are no better and may well be worse.

### **Point 4**

They were afraid. Should have been more afraid of the sinister powers of Evil. They asked Him to leave. And He did. Think about your attitude to Him and be careful how you treat Him. He might do what you want.

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GSE-00601 Doc. # 2.156

## Jarius' Daughter

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 601)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Dead; Christ the Life Giver & Resurrection

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### Reading

(3) Mark 5:21-43; Matthew 9:18-26; Luke 8:40-56

### Memory Verse

(1) John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life. John 11:25

### Point 1

Many anxious to see Him. One man's need stands out above them all. Jairus, a teacher of the synagogue, has an only 12 year old daughter who is dying. He falls at His feet. "A broken and a contrite heart, thou wilt not despise"! Ps. 51:17 He wants Him to lay His blessed Hands upon her! O the joy Jairus must have felt when he thought the Lord would come and heal his daughter.

### Point 2

\*\*He sees a miracle along the way but not the one he wanted so badly. Bad news comes running. The daughter is dead. Jesus speaks to reassure him. Then tells him to fear not but just trust Him.

### Point 3

When they came to house - all weep and wail greatly - Death is an awful thing, a dread reality - He speaks again and they scorn His Precious Words. He took her by the Hand - we have HIS TOUCH (Cf with the next lesson when we have her touch) here and He speaks again, "Maid, arise!"

### Point 4

She arose and walked! He does not ask for fame or recognition - it is enough for Him to have brought it all about!

### Notes

\*\*The Next Lesson fits with this one. So while the readings cover both stories, remember that you may not want to give all the details along with this one. You may want to say, As he was going, another very interesting thing happened which we'll talk about next week.

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GSE-00602 Doc. # 2.157

## Woman who Touched the Hem of His Garment

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 602)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Diseased; Opportunity - Real; Forgiveness

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### Reading

(1) Mark 5:21-34

### Memory Verse

(1) Mark 2:10

The Son of Man hath power to forgive sins. Mark 2:10

### Point 1

This story follows Matt 9:1-8 The Paralytic so she had likely heard the news. She may also have been aware that when the Messiah came, "He would heal their diseases" Exactly why she came - we may not know - but the Lord said she acted in faith v34.

### Point 2

She'd spent all she had - O the bleakness of her situation. But at least - when she had an opportunity she was aware of, she decided not to let it (Him) get away from her! He knew all about her struggle. He knew what was in her heart.

### Point 3

Perhaps thought that the problem that had plagued her for 12 years was too small to trouble Him with since He was on His way to heal Jairus daughter. Just a touch but what a difference. Immediately cured. Note - he asks "Who touched my clothes?" He knew exactly what she had touched. She came and told Him all the truth. How easy to tell Him all about it now.

### Point 4

He could have let her go without this conversation but He wanted to speak to her. He had something to say - something more to impart. He assures her that the plague will never trouble her again. He gives her peace and let her know that He recognized the simplest faith!

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GSE-00603 Doc. # 2.158

## What Jesus said about John the Baptist

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 603)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways

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### Reading

(2) Matthew 11:2-19; Luke 7:18-35

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 22:42

What think ye of Christ? Matthew 22:42

### Point 1

John had heard the prophecy and had carried out his purpose as the forerunner but now in deep trial the questions or need for assurances arise Mt 11:3

### Point 2

The Lord responds by naming the evidence (his miracles) that prove He is the One He claims to be. He also reminds him that it is possible to stumble. A lesson to believers of all ages that trials can cause us to slip from our assurance and hope and calling.

### Point 3

He then examines the hearts of John's hearers as He powerfully questions their response to the Forerunner. He highly praises dear John for his faithfulness and reminds the people of how John was both chosen and sent with a message for THEM. Further examination shows that He knows their response to HIS OWN PERSON as well.

### Point 4

Mat 11:19 is such a great reminder of the great truth that what men said in derision is wonderfully true to all those who will humble themselves at the counsel of God and believe His gracious offer of mercy. A Friend of publicans and sinners.

### Notes

Two responses: The people JUSTIFIED God by the baptism of John while the Pharisees Lu 7:30 justified themselves and rejected the counsel of God.

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GSE-00604 Doc. # 2.159

## John the Baptist's beheading

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2 (# 604)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Judge

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### Reading

(5) John 3:25-30; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 3:19-20; Luke 9:7-9; Matthew 14:1-12

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 2:4

Despise you the riches of His goodness and forbearance and longsuffering? Romans 2:4

### Point 1

John had made it clear that he was not the Christ. Yet what an honour to have ever been taken for Him! John had shown them the One who was the Way, the Lamb. John had condemned sin and stood for what was right. John had fulfilled his ministry. He had done what he could.

### Point 2

John had boldly testified against Herod's sin. That sin is still wrong and still needs to be plainly spoken against \*. He was known to be holy and true and Herod (conundrum!) liked to hear John in spite of his plain words that condemned him. Later in Lu9: he even desired to hear and see the Lord Jesus. Sometimes this is still true today. There are some who seem to be willing to go on hearing as long as they continue to do nothing about the Word they hear thus mocking God and not giving Him the respect He deserves.

### Point 3

Herodias hated him. Waited - plotted - and with guile got her desire to shut up the man that spoke for God. The foolish king is caught by his own words and his weakness and sin is clear in this ultimate test of whether he was willing to do the right thing and honour God after all. "We ought to obey God rather than men!"

### Point 4

The truth is Herod loved his sin and darkness rather than light. Note two things at the end of the story. His disciples came and took his body away to bury - does that mean it's over? No! they went and told Jesus! Is it over - no! Acts 17:30-31 that clear.

### Notes

\* While it needs to be plainly spoken against some of the children in the class may be the unwilling and innocent victims of it all. It behoves us to speak kindly and with consideration yet still plainly.



GSE-00605 Doc. # 2.16

**Feeding of 5000**Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2 (# 605)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ's Power

**Reading**

(4) Mark 6:30-44; Matthew 14:13-21; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14

**Memory Verse**

(1) John 6:51

I am the living bread which came down from heaven. John 6:51

**Point 1**

Lord Jesus desires to take His busy disciples aside to rest. But such was the miraculous power of His works that the throngs followed Him even there. There was little rest for Him while here. What an indicator of His great love for us and His devotion to the heart and will of His Father.

**Point 2**

Spoke to them and healed. His desire to reveal the Word Lu 9:11 preceeded the authentication by the miracles. O the tremendous importance of what He has to say and reveal.

**Point 3**

Darkness was nearing. Hunger and need were apparent to Him. He cares Mark 6:34! He tests His disciples. How often they failed to understand Him or His purposes. There is but little available for Him to use Lu9:13. Yet it was freely surrendered into His hands John 6:9. He prays. A dependent man\*.

**Point 4**

The result is that they are ALL FILLED. No lack with Him! He had enough power to bless them all. What a remarkable lesson that they should have been able to apply to their spiritual need. There were leftovers. Abundant yet fresh and good as at the first. Wonder who took them away with them.

**Notes**

\* Good lesson for us who are dependent on God as we break the bread to the young. Also a good time to remind the children that it is God we owe thanks to for everything including the food we eat.

**Summary**

The power to meet their need was all in HIM. That boy's lunch would not have even begun to meet the need without HIM. He is still the One we need.

**Picture of Miracle - WmMcDonald**

- (a) the perishing world;
- (b) the powerless disciples;
- (c) the perfect Savior

**Four Solutions**

The problem, of course, was how to meet the needs of such a vast crowd of people. Four solutions were proposed.

First, the disciples suggested that Jesus send the people away (Mar 6:35-36). Get rid of the problem (see Mat 15:23). But Jesus knew that the hungry people would faint on the way if somebody did not feed them. It was evening (Mat 14:15), and that was no time for travel.

The second solution came from Philip in response to our Lord's "test question" (Joh 6:5): raise enough money to buy food for the people. Philip "counted the cost" and decided they would need the equivalent of 200 days' wages! And even that would not provide bread enough to satisfy the hunger of all the men, women, and children (Mat 14:21). Too often, we think that money is the answer to every need. Of course, Jesus was simply testing the strength of Philip's faith.

The third solution came from Andrew, but he was not quite sure how the problem would be solved. He found a little boy who had a small lunch: two little fish and five barley cakes. Once again, Andrew is busy bringing somebody to Jesus (see Joh 1:40-42; Joh 12:20-22). We do not know how Andrew met this lad, but we are glad he did! Though Andrew does not have a prominent place in the Gospels, he was apparently a "people person" who helped solve problems.

The fourth solution came from our Lord, and it was the true solution. He took the little boy's lunch, blessed it, broke it, handed it out to His disciples, and they fed the whole crowd! The miracle took place in the hands of the Saviour, not in the hands of the disciples. He multiplied the food; they only had the joyful privilege of passing it out. Not only were the people fed and satisfied, but the disciples salvaged twelve baskets of fragments for future use. The Lord wasted nothing.

**Gave Thanks**

It is significant that twice John mentioned the fact that Jesus gave thanks (Joh 6:11, Joh 6:23). Matthew, Mark, and Luke all state that Jesus looked up to heaven when He gave thanks. By that act, He reminded the hungry people that God is the source of all good and needful gifts. This is a good lesson for us: instead of complaining about what we do not have, we should give thanks to God for what we do have, and He will make it go farther.

He cared  
He didn't waste  
He was thankful

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GSE-00606 Doc. # 2.161

## Jesus Walking on the Water

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 606)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(3) Mark 6:47-52; Matthew 14:24-33; John 6:16-21

### Memory Verse

(1) Mark 6:50

Be of good cheer: it is I. Mark 6:50

### Point 1

After the feeding of the 5000. It is time to leave but Jesus remains to pray on the mountain as the disciples cross the lake. A fierce storm arises. Perhaps the Devil is out to destroy those that the Lord is going to send forth into the world to do his work. Perhaps the storm is allowed of the Lord alone so the disciples will see how He can meet their need.

### Point 2

Praying on the mountain. An illustration of intercession for His own tossed on the sea of difficulties. Notice they were greatly troubled but He didn't wait till the ship went down before He came to meet their need. They cry out in fear. He speaks a word of cheer. How glad they would be to hear that familiar voice!

### Point 3

Peter's action on the sea were of his own volition. Sometimes we too put ourselves in situations where we have to prove Him. The Lord gives him encouragement and direction. COME. But he takes a look around. What a lesson that should be. We are so prone to look on circumstances and others around.

### Point 4

Peter "begins" - it wouldn't take but a moment. Likely not a swimmer, at least He knows who to cry out to. And in a split second - the Lord has rescued him. Another great sign of His ability is seen when He enters the ship. The storm is banished at His presence.

### Summary

The Lord Jesus is the only ONE who can make the awful storm of judgement cease. If we have Him in our lives, the storm is a thing of the past and peace is ours instead.

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GSE-00607 Doc. # 2.162

## Peter's Confession

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2 (# 607)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(3) Mark 8:27-30; Matthew 16:13-20; Luke 9:18-21

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 16:16

Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Matthew 16:16

### Point 1

It is in gentile territory - not Jerusalem where the incident occurs. It is the Lord who presents the subject matter. Who do men say I am. There was obvious confusion. Not because the Lord had not clearly revealed Himself, but because men seem to listen to their peers and trust their own wicked hearts.

### Point 2

If time and interest allow - it might be valuable with older ones to show who He was compared with and what the reasons might be.

### Point 3

It really comes down to the individual's confession. Notice Peter's own confession Mt 16:16 The original text indicates that he said it with EMPHASIS "THOU"! The repetition of the definite article also shows EMPHASIS on Christ being the only One. Each of us are called upon to own up to what Christ means to us. What about you?

### Point 4

NOTE the BLESSING of the Lord on Peter Mt 16:17 on the basis of his confession. This can be emphasized to the class. No one is truly blessed unless he is blessed of Christ. Peter's name was changed at this time. Our identity ought to know a difference depending on what He means to us as individuals.

### Notes

Could be profitable with older ones (particularly if saved but important to all) to show them the purpose of the Lord Jesus to have a gathering (Church) together of those who own His Name and Claims and nothing will prevail against His purposes.

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GSE-00608 Doc. # 2.163

## The Caananite's Daughter

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2 (# 608)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Mercy

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### Reading

(2) Mark 7:24-30; Matthew 15:21-28

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 25:7

According to Thy mercy remember Thou me. Psalm 25:7

### Point 1

Mk 7:24 Thank God "He could not be hid." Thankfully God's purpose was not to hide the One who was the Saviour but to reveal Him and all His grace.

### Point 2

The woman heard of Him. She would be forever grateful too! What a sad state for her daughter to be in - unclean spirit. Whatever she had heard - she realized that He was worthy of her homage and humility. If only sinners realized the wonder of the Person who draws near to them.

### Point 3

She besought Him to cast forth the demon - she knew what was the trouble and wasn't afraid to name it. She didn't beat around the bush. Came directly to the point. Didn't try and explain why she should be blessed. She knew it all depended on Him who could and then if He would.

### Point 4

The Lord reminds her that His purpose in coming was for the children (the Jews) and she was a greek. She takes the low place - even the little dogs eat the crumbs. She would be forever grateful that He even had crumbs to give to the little dogs. The result of His word was waiting for her when she got back home.

### Notes

Keep in mind that we deserved nothing either. We were at that time strangers etc - see Eph 2:12

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GSE-00609 Doc. # 2,164

## Deaf and Dumb No More!

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 609)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness; Sinner is Diseased

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### Reading

(2) Mark 7:31-37; Matthew 15:29-31

### Memory Verse

(1) James 1:21

Receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls. James 1:21

### Point 1

Here the sinner is pictured as one who does not hear. "Hear and your soul shall live". Not only so, but he cannot speak rightly - another picture of the sinner who cannot give God the glory He deserves.

### Point 2

He takes him aside. All alone with the Lord. He speaks a word - not unlike the words at creation "light be" here it is "open be" - the same results -omnipotent power knows no obstacle!

### Point 3

He spake plain. What a picture of the sinner when he tells of the work of grace God has done in his soul. Once like Naaman, he thinks, but now he knows!

### Point 4

The conclusion that the largely gentile (around the Sea of Galilee) multitude come to is the truth, "He has done all things well!" What has he done for you? Have you ever talked as plain as this man? Have you an ear to hear His voice?

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GSE-00610 Doc. # 2.165

## The Transfiguration

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 610)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Christ the Son

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### Reading

(3) Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36; Matthew 17:1-8

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 17:5

This is My beloved Son. Matthew 17:5

### Point 1

As man He prayed. As the Son He communed with His Father. Note the pleasure He found (and frequency if suitable and you have time). A good study for young Christians. Perhaps we could ask - have we ever known what it is to be altered by our communion with the Father? Good check-up for teacher and young believers alike.

### Point 2

Elijah - great(est?) prophet. Moses great Leader. Both talking with Him. Though great - the greatest of all was the One who condescended to talk with them. No doubt the 3 disciples were amazed. They highly esteemed these two - perhaps - even more highly than the One who was with them. Need to take care that we always give HIM the Highest Honour. Too easy to become familiar with these things.

### Point 3

Peter has an idea - it seemed good to him. Likely to the others too. Our thoughts are not God's thoughts.

### Point 4

God clearly declares both His pleasure and the wonder of His relationship with this glorious One who was visiting amongst the sons of Men. Left alone with Him. Did they finally realize the Wonder of the Person who was with them - who has no equal and to whom none can compare!

### Notes

Peter later tells of the event with wonder. 2 Peter 1:16-18. Make sure YOU read it and let the wonder of it fill your soul, even if you never refer to it as you teach.

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GSE-00611 Doc. # 2.166

## Wicked & Unthankful Servant

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 611)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Mercy

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 18:23-35

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 18:32

I forgave thee all that debt. Matthew 18:32

### Point 1

There's a day of reckoning. And it's coming for us as well.

### Point 2

They owed HIM - no dispute! NOTHING TO PAY. He'd wasted it or he'd lost it or whatever and the COST was going to be greater than he ever dreamed Mt. 18:25

### Point 3

Asks for mercy and time - neither of which he deserves. Got far more - FORGIVEN - why? His Master is moved with compassion (pity that touches the whole being!) At His own cost - He has forgiven.

### Point 4

What lesson did the First Debtor learn? None. What did the blessing he received so freely do for him? Nothing. How sad - the same is true of so many today who have been shown mercy from the Lord who undertook their debt and endured the cost Himself. Remember Someone is watching all that we do and seeing what lessons we have learned from His love to us.

### Notes

Speaking very conservatively - The talent is probably worth about (750 ounces of silver) \$1000.PLUS - That makes a MILLION PLUS owing for the 1st debtor. A hundred pence is like \$7,500 ie 100 days work @ \$75.

### Summary

There was another day of reckoning for that man who never learned the lesson! And there was no mercy in that day.



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GSE-00612 Doc. # 2.167

## Bring the Lunatic to Jesus

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 612)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(3) Mark 9:14-29; Matthew 17:14-22; Luke 9:37-42

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 John 4:10

He loved us and sent His Son. 1 John 4:10

### Point 1

The cause of THIS Lunacy is from the World of Evil Spirits. This lad, was an only child: he had also had this problem for some time. The father, sorely grieved as only a loving father could be, comes kneeling and calling for mercy. The spirit assumes control and tears him from time to time, foaming and gnashing teeth and the father has watched his son thrown into the fire and water - out of control and hopeless. He seems to be slowing dying.

### Point 2

The disciples were helpless and could do nothing. BRING HIM TO ME. The evil spirit, when brought near, tears him again - observe that the spirit purposes to destroy him.

### Point 3

In Matthew and Luke - the Lord rebukes the demon but Mark gives us a little more insight, as to the Lord's purpose in delivering this lad. He speaks to the father - if you can believe - then - makes a grand statement - all things are possible. His distress is evident but he acknowledges he believes but confesses the need of help with his doubt.

### Point 4

The Word the Lord speaks is a commanding word that brings results - and the deaf and dumb spirit is never allowed to return. His work and results endure.

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GSE-00613 Doc. # 2.168

## The Light of the World

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 613)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; Sinner is Dark

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### Reading

(4) John 8:12-25; John 1:1-9; John 3:19-21; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

### Memory Verse

(1) John 12:46

I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. John 12:46

### Attention Getter

Use a flashlight or a lighthouse to catch attention or prompt a story to get started with

### Point 1

THE LIGHT is a title of the Lord Jesus and what a remarkable title it is! Sometime we talk of people who light up a room with their smile or personality. He "Lights" a LIFE forever.

### Point 2

In John 1, the WORD is the LIGHT - which explains how the Light dawns in the lives of Sinners. We know that the Lord is the "Logos" and words give understanding. He literally sheds light on every man 1:9. In John 1 light and life are brought together and just as light is necessary in the natural world for life - so He is necessary if a sinner is ever to have spiritual life.

### Point 3

John 3 tells us that men love darkness rather than light and it tells us why, their deeds are in fellowship with the Prince of Darkness. A person who does the truth, is not afraid of Light because truth is in fellowship with the LIGHTGIVER.

### Point 4

The Devil is opposed to The True Light ever reaching those he has duped. He knows what will happen. Use the example of Acts 9:3-5 Saul. The Light that shone spoke, Saul called the One who spoke, Lord.

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GSE-00614 Doc. # 2.169

## The Man Born Blind

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 614)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Sin's Blindness

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### Reading

(1) John 9:1-41

### Memory Verse

(2) John 9:33; 2 Corinthians 4:3

If this man were not of God, He could do nothing. John 9:33 /or/ If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost. 2Corinthians 4:3

### Attention Getter

Ever tried to pretend you were blind. How did you make out. Pretty good sometimes. Did you cheat? Anyone want to stay that way?

### Point 1

Man was blind from birth. Could not, had not, seemed like he would never SEE. What a blessing it is to see.

### Point 2

The Lord makes a wonderful declaration about the life of this poor handicapped man. "That the works of God should be made manifest in him". Is there not a sense in which the Lord looks at every one of us and whatever handicap we may face with the same wonderful possibility?

### Point 3

He proclaims Himself to be "the Light of the World" and shows that fact in what He does for the man. The man obeys the instruction. Simple faith. Direct obedience brings him to experience the wonder of what the Lord has done. Same is true today.

### Point 4

Questioned about it all - he is afterward somewhat uncertain about who but never what took place. Then he meets HIM, and sees HIM and hears HIM... and he'll never forget HIM! And you could meet HIM too.

### Notes

The importance of seeing. We gain knowledge by smelling 3% - by tasting 3% - by touching 6% by hearing 13% but by seeing - 75%. That is why we need to make use of visuals!

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GSE-00615 Doc. # 2.17

## What will it cost me?

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 615)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; God Calls; World's Attraction

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### Reading

(2) Luke 9:46-62; Mark 9:33-37

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 143:10

Teach me to do Thy will. Psalm143:10

### Point 1

It is interesting that just after they have all failed to cast out the demon Mark 9:37-43 and all are amazed at the Lord Jesus v43. It should be very obvious who is the greatest and that there is no else even near His standard.

### Point 2

Nevertheless - there is a dispute and the Lord (of course!) perceived it. He takes a child - his interest in the children is well documented - as an illustration of what it means to be least or smallest! But His Rules are transforming see Luke 9:48. Are we honestly willing to take the low place?

### Point 3

Next - it is seen that He is on His way to Jerusalem (and all the rejection and sorrow that will surround Him there). The Samaritans prejudice and bias caused them to refuse Him - what does He do? Fire from heaven? No - he shows grace. Are we willing to show grace when abused.

### Point 4

Some with seeming potential as disciple come to Him. The Lord reminds them of what it will cost. Comforts, Common Expectations, Convenience are all on the block.

### Summary

The man in v59 calls the Lord Jesus "LORD" but in the same breath says "ME FIRST" - this cannot be! Either He is LORD OF ALL, or not LORD AT ALL. What do you say today. Think not of what it will cost me, but what did it cost HIM to save us. 1John 3:16

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GSE-00616 Doc. # 2.171

## The Good Samaritan

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 616)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Love of God

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### Reading

(1) Luke 10:25-37

### Memory Verse

(2) Titus 3:5; Luke 10:33

When he saw him, he had compassion on him. Luke 10:33 According to His mercy He saved us. Titus 3:5

### Point 1

Story is told to show the reality of love. Love is revealed by the things we do. Here's a man who could say 'No one cared for me like that Samaritan Stranger!'

### Point 2

The man is on his way! He was on the way down. Which way are you going? His journey was taking him farther from the City of God, the City of Peace. Every single step was taking him further away.

### Point 3

He joined up with others quite innocently\*. They seemed okay to him or he never would have done it. Then, when opportunity came, they showed their true colours. They beat him, robbed him, and left him for dead. Many are the thieves of good conscience, morals, good intentions, time etc.

### Point 4

Who made all the difference. Not the ones who should have cared... the priest who should have been there for God, the levite who boasted in the law and the privileges of God's people. It was the Kind Stranger who showed how much he cared by what he was willing to do! He had to do it all - the poor beaten man could do nothing at all.

### Notes

\* but had he been more aware, less self confident about his own discernment he might have been warned and saved himself this grief! Too many in the world are saying, I know what is good for me!

### Summary

No doubt, visitors would come to the Inn where the poor man was recovering. Can't you see him straining to see if it was the MAN who now meant everything to him?

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GSE-00617 Doc. # 2.172

## Jesus at Bethany

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 617)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; Christ the Sympathizer

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### Reading

(1) Luke 10:38-42

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 1:18

Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord. Isaiah 1:18

### Point 1

He wanted to come to their home. Martha wanted to have him there. What a wonderful thing. She received Him. Not only did she receive Him, but right into her house. How would the Lord feel if He came to your house? How would you feel?

### Point 2

She made a supper - likely put on her very best - pulled out the best recipes she had - nothing was too good for Him. What about you and me, what do we think of Him? Has there ever been anything we've done just for Him?

### Point 3

But look at Mary - she's at His feet. Why? That's where she wanted to be. Why? She wanted the best He had to give. Martha is upset cause Mary doesn't help with what she thought was important.

### Point 4

She wanted the Lord to rebuke her but she was rebuked instead. Did He yell at Martha? No. Perhaps sadly He chides with her to consider what is best. There's room at His feet for you too.

### Summary

What do we learn at His feet as we listen to Him? He'll tell us what is really important, He'll show us things that have real value, He'll reveal how much He loves us etc etc.

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GSE-00618 Doc. # 2.173

## Disciples Taught to Pray

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 618)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Sympathizer

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### Reading

(1) Luke 11:1-13

### Memory Verse

(2) Luke 18:1; Psalm 66:18

Men ought always to pray. Luke 18:1 /or/ If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me. Psalm 66:18

### Point 1

He was praying. His example alone ought to teach us that we need to pray. If He needed to pray as He met the difficulties of life on earth. Even more do we! Their request was Teach us TO PRAY not HOW TO pray.

### Point 2

It should be pointed out (especially to older classes) that the disciples are Jewish and this is a prayer that the people of Israel will pray especially in the 7 year Tribulation period after the Lord Jesus returns. Also it was never intended to be a repetitive prayer such as is used in Churches etc. It is a model prayer that is - these are things that should concern us when we pray.

### Point 3

First - Holiness ascribed to God. Then - A desire that HIS KINGDOM would come ON EARTH (Millenium - 1000 years. Following that - the request is for daily bread - importance of recognizing that God is the Great Provider and being thankful for food can be mentioned \*\*. Forgiveness of sins likely a recognition of Israel's past rejection of Christ and the Word. Temptation\* - the danger of being lured by their extremity into Idolatry by the Beast

### Point 4

He then tells a parable to remind us of how willing and able God is to meet our need. And the importance of continuing in prayer till we receive the answer we seek. It would be a very good idea right there and then to bow your head with the class and name them all praying specifically for them.

### Notes

\*\*but in particular this means that in tribulation times, those who would be faithful to God would be denied food etc because they would not take the mark of the Beast! \*Note God leads no one into wickedness but often into trial that at times seem very evil - also in this case, it may even mean they would be brought to the attention of the Evil One.

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GSE-00619 Doc. # 2.174

## Reformation is Not Enough

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 619)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Power - Both Control and Habits

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### Reading

(2) Luke 11:14-26; Matthew 12:43-45

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 13:3

Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Luke 13:3

### Point 1

When the Lord does a mighty miracle there are those who attribute it to the Devil. He shows the difference between the work of the Evil One and the Righteous One. Satan working against his own work is most unlikely foolishness.

### Point 2

Using a fortress idea - he calls the Devil the Strong Man - but Himself the Stronger than he! - What a title for the Mighty One. He shows the folly of self reformation too - like a house swept and cleaned up - but with no defense against the evil onslaught of sinfulness and depravity.

### Point 3

Notice - the UNCLEAN spirit gathers up others worse than himself. How like a man who has cleaned up his act - yet the very accomplishment brings pride and self will that are far more deadly. More people go to hell because of pride and self-will than because of murder and other vile sin that we would quickly condemn and eschew - yet we embrace the monsters of our depravity, feed them and give them a home within our lives.

### Point 4

The sinner's only hope is to acknowledge his utter hopelessness and turn to God that the STRONGER THAN HE might altogether save and keep him.

### Notes

Repent = to think differently - So since our thinking is wrong then differently means rightly - and where will we get right thoughts about ourselves. From the word of God - "we are all as an unclean thing and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags"



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GSE-00620 Doc. # 2.175

## The Rich Fool

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 620)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; World's Attraction

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### Reading

(1) Luke 12:13-21

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 12:15

A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. Luke 12:15

### Point 1

God blessed and gave the increase in the harvest. God gave the man the intelligence and skills and strength he had. God gave him the persistence and abilities he had. But God got nothing from the man who had given him it all. Not even a mention. Not a single word of thanks. Not to mention a portion set aside for God which the Jew was required to do by the law of God.

### Point 2

Here is blind reason without God 'reasoned within himself'. Like thought it all through well considering all the pros and cons - but the highest human wisdom cannot compare with the knowledge of God - see Isa. 55:8-10

### Point 3

The decision is made to pull down and built up - how is this man different from the sinners in the days of Lot Luke 17:28-29? Not at all. They did what they did without thought of consequence or God. So did he. Romans 15:4

### Point 4

GOD SAID - the final word. If making plans - beware - God always has full knowledge of the basis of your decision making and always has the Final Word. Always.

### Notes

Note this incident and lesson is really about covetousness. Something that is growing more and more obvious each year in our day. Far too many decisions are being made on the basis of monetary gain only.

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GSE-00621 Doc. # 2.176

## The Barren Fig Tree

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 621)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Turning Point

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### Reading

(1) Luke 13:1-9

### Memory Verse

(2) Isaiah 55:6; Acts 3:19

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found. Isaiah 55:6 /or/ Repent ye therefore and be converted. Acts 3:19

### Point 1

He is told of Pilate's harsh treatment of the Galileans. He also reminds them of the Tower of Siloam that fell. Tragedies both manmade and accidental occur. But the lesson is not to decide the cause but rather to recognize that this is a voice to be prepared.

### Point 2

Preparation - readiness is to repent. Repentance is not to be sorry but to turn from your indifference & fruitlessness and to look to God to make that complete turnabout in you.

### Point 3

Fig tree in a vineyard. Unusual - must have been put there with very special intent and design. Same is true with where & how God has placed us. It was a place where there was a special caregiver. He had spent years trying to make it fruitful. He was will to extend extra effort to make it fruitful.

### Point 4

No fruit. A picture of a life without Christ. Nothing for the Master. His heart yearned for the figs. Had come often but no pleasure from the tree. Must have been painful for the Owner to say "Cut it down"! Pleadings that it might be left till further work and time would bring the desired result.

### Notes

Fig tree is a very special picture of Israel. Just a thought - while an additional year is asked for, there is no word from the Master consenting to it. We all assume it will be given but no promise of even tomorrow!

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GSE-00622 Doc. # 2.177

## Jesus Straightens a Woman

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 622)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Promise - He Keeps It

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### Reading

(1) Luke 13:10-27

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 33:9

He spake and it was done. Psalm 33:9

### Point 1

Sabbath Day Object Lesson: Still hadn't learned the lesson he had taught them so clearly in Matthew 12:11 - Woman reduced to utter uselessness. Helpless in her awful state. What a picture of the sinner only the sinner doesn't seem to realize how desperately sin has affected him.

### Point 2

He saw her. What a word that is! But then to read, He called her! What a moment when the Creator takes notice of the lost and undone. Called her to Him - He calls still to many today. She obeyed.

### Point 3

He speaks a word - like at the beginning of the Creation. 'He spake and it was done.' How we need to wonder at His words and learn to give them total respect. He can do all He says He can.

### Point 4

Interesting to see the response of puny men who quote the Lord's own Words to Him from the law. Thank God - at his response - they at least were put to shame!

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GSE-00623 Doc. # 2.178

## Two Ways

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2 (# 623)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Two Ways

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### Reading

(2) Luke 13:22-33; Matthew 7:13-14

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 7:14

Broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Matthew 7:14

### Attention Getter

It is too easy to go to hell ! But no one ever goes there without having the opportunity to go to heaven! Some say that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. Do you intend to be in Heaven? Need to do something about it.

### Point 1

It is the Lord who tells us of the two ways. So we can trust Him. He would not tell us that if it were not true. IF THEN it is true - we should pay very close attention to WHY he is telling us.

### Point 2

Notice where the Lord is going v22 and v35. He knows what will take place. At Jerusalem is the answer to our need. What is the answer? There is no other way than for Him to die in order to provide that Way to heaven. Herod - the Fox - a reference to his cunning - but no instrument of cunning or man's wisdom could ever be successful against the One who knew all things. They could not tell Him anything He did not already know.

### Point 3

Someone is going to close the DOOR! And likely soon. Which side are you on? Do you want to be on that side forever? This door will never open again.

### Point 4

A tremendous difference is pointed out between IN Luke 13:24(2x),28,29 Matthew 7:13,14 and OUT Luke 13:24,25,27,28 & Matthew 7:13,14. Note there are people from all over the world who will be in v29! But will you be OUT?

### Notes

This is perhaps a good time to use a class size copy of the Two Roads Chart. Handy to have this visual expression of the Lord's words.

### Miscellaneous

A good activity might be to get the kids to write down one reason they think it is so easy to go to hell.

GSE-00624 Doc. # 2.179

**The Watchers & The Wedding**

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 624)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Sinless; Religion's Inability

**Reading**

(1) Luke 14:1-15

**Memory Verse**

(1) Luke 14:9

Give this Man place. Luke 14:9

**Attention Getter**

There are two stories here. They watch Him for faults in the first one - He watches them in the second and He knows what's wrong!

**Point 1**

Was there a plot behind the invitation? Likely for they watched Him. Even so, our Lord was not afraid of any or all of them. He acted before His God without fear. Were they the ones who saw to it that this pitiful man was "before Him" knowing He could not resist releasing him. Dropsy is not a disease itself but a symptom involving swelling of the limbs. It's cause due to some inner problem of heart or kidneys and may even have been some judgment for sin. Don't press Nu. 5:11-27 but consider it.

**Point 2**

These men cared about profit (thus they would pull and animal out of a pit) but no care for this poor individual. No man like this is going to go away unblessed when the Lord Jesus is there, no matter what the Pharisees or anyone else says. No one, with the disease of sin, needs to go away unblessed now either.

**Point 3**

He tells a story to these same men, whom He had observed wanting the best seats at the meal, to reveal His knowledge of them. At a wedding, he reminds them it is better not to choose the place of honour for yourself (like these men did) as you may be embarrassed when someone worthy of more honour displaces you. How much better to take the lowest place (as He did) and then be exalted in the eyes of others as you are placed at a seat of honour.

**Point 4**

Directly he now speaks to His host about who to invite. It is wrong for any man to isolate himself (with friends, brethren, kinsmen & rich neighbours) so that he does not consider the needs of the less fortunate. God will reward.

**Notes**

While our verse is in the story. Make sure that the class understand that this is a reference to the Lord Jesus. Have you any room for Jesus? If the response is Yes - then what place are you giving Him right now?

**Miscellaneous**

This is a very good time to speak to young believers so that the idea (so often promoted in the NT and becoming more infrequent in many areas) of showing hospitality is promoted. It ought to be a vital part of the believers planning and life.

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GSE-00625 Doc. # 2.18

## The Great Supper

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 625)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; God's Provision - It's Fullness

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### Reading

(1) Luke 14:16-24

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 14:17

Come for all things are now ready. Luke 14:17

### Point 1

The Certain Man is clearly a Great and Caring Man. The gospel supper is loaded with forgiveness, peace, the Hope of the believers, joy, the greatness of His love etc. A Boundless supply.

### Point 2

Simple to avail themselves of it. COME. Excuses are not reasons. THEY MISSED IT because of their own folly. All these same things were evident in Noah's day. Man's attitude towards God's grace is tragic. Look what happened then.

### Point 3

The response of the kind & generous hearted man is to send forth His Servant with great haste to the highways and hedges - to the poverty stricken. Is that why the gospel is being accepted in 3rd world countries today but so few are reached in our own land?

### Point 4

The desire of the Man and the efforts of the Servant (Cf servants in Matt. 22 - like the Holy Spirit) to see that the table is filled is quite noticeable. God is doing everything to see that all men are invited to enjoy the great feast He has prepared.

### Notes

You may want to choose which of these two stories - this or "No Wedding Garment" as you may find it rather duplicates the truth. However, you may want to take two sessions and use both to emphasize both truths more effectively.

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GSE-00626 Doc. # 2.181

## NO WEDDING GARMENT

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ #2* (# 626)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Provision - It's Fullness; Judgment's Finality

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 22:1-14

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 64:6

We are all as an unclean thing. Isaiah 64:6

### Point 1

It is no less than a great King who sends forth the Invitation to the Feast. The greatness of the supper will reflect the greatness of the One who provides.

### Point 2

In the case of the king the response extends even to mocking, and the murder of those that brought them the invitation. The tragedy is that they MISSED it. The violence & carelessness of their reaction is alarming. THE extent they were willing to go reveals the depravity resentment in their hearts.

### Point 3

THE RESPONSE - the king sends forth His armies vs 8 . This story can be related for older students to the Revelation of the Lord after the tribulation when so many have been abused and martyred.

### Point 4

The king comes in to see the guests. A picture of those who would fain join the ranks of heaven on their own merit. What this man had on could not begin to compare with what the King had offered.

### Miscellaneous

The lack of the wedding garment in the Wedding Feast story shows not ignorance but willfulness, pride and shows great disrespect for the Mighty Man of Wealth who provides all (both the means of getting there and the garments) that they might come.

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GSE-00627 Doc. # 2.182

## The Cost of Discipleship

Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 627)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Consecration

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### Reading

(1) John 14:25-31

### Memory Verse

(1) John 9:28

Then they reviled him and said, THOU ART HIS DISCIPLE. John 9:28

### Point 1

It is the Lord who speaks of the Cost. He wants them to come to Him but also makes the multitude aware that it is not without cost. HATE = relative word meaning to love LESS\*\*! Family claims.

### Point 2

It is the Lord who says - that unless this is true - HE CANNOT be my disciple! Note - there were many types of disciples (John Baptist's, Pharisees etc all with their particular characteristics) but the Lord here reveals the characteristics of 'His' disciples.

### Point 3

The standards are His to set, NOT ours to decide upon. The Cross v27 is not a disease or burden as some think, but a man who took up a cross, was only headed for one thing - eternity. And in that moment - only what he had (with eternity's value) had any worth. World and it's claims.

### Point 4

Now he takes up the comforts and claims of things. The word is RENOUNCE - to turn the back on the claims those things would have on our time, energies and abilities and say "NO". Our only fit response then to Him is "YES, I will follow Thee"

### Notes

\*\* Mal. 1:2,3 "Jacob have I loved, Esau have I LOVED LESS"



GSE-00628 Doc. # 2.183

**The Lost Sheep**Series: 600: *The Life of Christ* #2 (# 628)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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**Reading**

(1) Luke 15:7

**Memory Verse**

(1) Luke 15:2

This Man receiveth sinners. Luke 15:2

**Point 1**

Sheep has wandered - that is it's nature. Sheep cannot clean themselves like a dog or other animal - they need a diligent Shepherd to watch for disease that can easily claim them. Sheep cannot find his way back - no sense of direction - always seems to take the wrong way - need the watchful Shepherd to bring them back. Sheep cannot protect themselves - need a strong deliverer for they are easy prey.

**Point 2**

99 sheep are not enough for this Shepherd. While the story seems to be about Sheep - really it is about the Shepherd of the Sheep for without Him they cannot continue to exist.

**Point 3**

He goes after ONE. He cares, His movement and purpose show how much. He does not abandon any - not even one. Though this one may have strayed many times previously and is seeming hopeless - yet all are important to HIM.

**Point 4**

He goes so far. He does not stop. He will not stop until He finds it. When He does - He rejoices - it means so much that He calls others to rejoice with him as well. This "MY SHEEP".

**Notes**

Allow the children to use a little imagination with regard to the enemies of the Sheep (Wolf, Lion, Bear at least) if they were to find that sheep wandering without HIM.

**Summary**

Another note on the Shepherd's Care:

Isa 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. - His gentleness - care - and tenderness are very evident.

**Miscellaneous**

At some point in the TRILOGY of Luke 15 you need to do a review of repentance because that is emphasized in the Lost Sheep v7, the Lost Coin v10, and illustrated in the Lost Son v18-19. You will know with which lesson you have the more time.

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GSE-00629 Doc. # 2.184

## The Lost Coin

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 629)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Dark

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### Reading

(2) Luke 15:1-2; Luke 15:8-10

### Memory Verse

(2) Luke 15:10; 1 John 5:19

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Luke 15:10 /or/ The whole world lieth in wickedness.  
1John5:19

### Point 1

The Coin is unconsciously lost. Yet it is valued and missed. It cannot bring itself to the place of being saved. It cannot even sense it's lostness yet may grow more defiled as time goes by and less likely in the natural sense to ever be recovered.

### Point 2

The coin was a drachma approximately equal to a denarius and about the amount paid in Bible times for a days labour. It's value was not so much in it's own worth but rested in the value set upon it by the woman who sought it.

### Point 3

Lights a lamp - o the need for the light to expose what lies in the darkness. Searches DILIGENTLY - with great care - she was doing it in a manner that could not possibly miss it.

### Point 4

She wanted others (neighbours) to share in the joy of the moment. Here we find the estimation of heaven is brought before us in the rejoicing over the recovery of the lost.

### Notes

In this lesson the emphasis is on the Work of the Spirit of God. Lost Sheep - the emphasis is on the Son. In the Lost Son - the emphasis is on the Father. The Godhead is involved in the work of Salvation.

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GSE-00630 Doc. # 2.185

## The Lost Son(s)

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 630)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin Admitted - Not Always Saved; Sin's Depravity; World's Attraction

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### Reading

(1) Luke 15:11-31

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 15:18

I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight. Luke 15:18

### Point 1

The "Father" is mentioned so frequently in this story (12x). It is clearly his heart that is revealed in the good things that take place. The prodigal(s) for there really are two prodigals. Their hearts are also revealed in the things that they do.

### Point 2

The Prodigal takes his own selfish determined way with NOT ONE WORD of thanks or acknowledgement of all the good that the Father has provided him with all these years. \*Note the eldest son is unthankful too v29. How sad that in all that time he never felt the joy of a grateful appreciation for all the Father's love.

### Point 3

Gathering all - he leaves. Wasting all - he earns a bad conscience. Spending all - he feels his want. Considering all - he comes to himself and faces a momentous decision. Leaving all - he turns about. Admitting all - he finds out just how gracious and loving was his father's heart.

### Point 4

There are those who rejoice with the Father. But the eldest son will never understand - his hear and his sin is just as bad though he never left home.

### Notes

You may want to take a second week with this story since oftentimes the problem of the class (if believer's children) is that they are self-righteous like the older brother feeling they have never done anything so bad.

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GSE-00631 Doc. # 2.186

## Rich Man & Lazarus

Series: 600: The Life of Christ #2 (# 631)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Judgment's Certainty

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### Reading

(1) Luke 16:19-31

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 16:26

Between us and you, there is a great gulf fixed. Luke 16:26

### Point 1

Two men in life - one rich & one poor - one privileged & one so desperate - one who did not listen to God & one who did. Men may have spoken in his life of how shrewd and wise he was to have such a fortune.

### Point 2

Two men in death - Lazarus died - no surprise - we must all die - but it was a voice of warning to the rich man, and he paid no attention. Note - angels carried the rich man to glory while the body perhaps went to the garbage dump - no burial mentioned. The rich man also died - likely with much attention, glowing words of eulogy and great pomp and ceremony.

### Point 3

Two men in Eternity - one comforted & the other tormented. One blessed and rejoicing - the other in direst need and pain. Lazarus doesn't speak about need now because he has everything heart could long for but the rich man needs so much and has nothing even though he pleads for undeserved mercy.

### Point 4

What made the difference. What they did with the Word of God. The rich man now realizes how important the WORD was but his response to it proves him to be a fool forever!

### Notes

It is important for older classes to point out that this is not a parable. These were real men.

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GSE-00701 Doc. # 2.187

## The Good Shepherd

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 701)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Shepherd

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### Reading

(2) John 10:1-18; John 10:26-28

### Memory Verse

(1) John 10:11

I am the Good Shepherd: the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep. John 10:11

### Point 1

There are others who are interested in the sheep. The Thief and the Robber are interested but only so far as it might suit their pleasure or profit. There is a wolf in the passage. He too is interested I the sheep but not their welfare only his own.

### Point 2

The Shepherd cares. The Shepherd knows the sheep - by name and habit and need. The Shepherd speaks to the sheep and they know his voice and they follow him.

### Point 3

This Shepherd would give his life for the sheep in order that no harm might come to them. The Second picture of Him in the passage is that the Shepherd is the Door. That is when the Sheep are safe from all danger inside the fold, He (like the Judean shepherds) lies down in the door way. No danger will reach those that He counts dear.

### Point 4

MY SHEEP are distinguished in v 14,26,27 They are known, they hear His voice, they follow Him, and they are eternally safe

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GSE-00702 Doc. # 2.188

## Lazarus Raised out of the Grave

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 702)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Dead; Christ the Life Giver & Resurrection

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### Reading

(1) John 11:1-44

### Memory Verse

(2) John 11:6; Romans 5:12

Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. John 11:6 /or/ Death hath passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Romans 5:12

### Point 1

Lazarus is sick. This sickness is to display God's glory v4. Sorrow comes to his own in spite of God's love for them V6,35,36. The Able One does not immediately relieve the problem and to their grief death seems to claim the victory.

### Point 2

Death and Corruption are well established - 4 days dead v17. The Lord Jesus speaks to illuminate and reveal Himself in spite of the obvious death and sorrow that existed. 'I AM ...'. Important for us to realize that this person wants to reveal Himself and be known in all our circumstances.

### Point 3

Notice how moved the Lord was about this. He does share a real part in our sorrow. He cares but somethings are needful for His Glory to be revealed v40. He takes over in spite of death and the unseen world. Note He acts in fellowship with God the Father. Take away the stone.

### Point 4

HE SPEAKS and all must yield to Him. Note the difference between Him saying, Come forth! And "Lazarus, come forth!" Note too - he was bound and the Word of the Lord brought him right out of the tomb. There are no limits to His power.

### Notes

Some feel that this tomb was more like a catacomb having many graves in it. The stone would be over the main entrance.

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GSE-00703 Doc. # 2.189

## Ten Lepers

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 703)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner is Diseased; Christ the Saviour

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### Reading

(1) Luke 17:11-19

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 145:8

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. Psalm 145:8

### Point 1

The Lord Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem and is passing through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. Ten Lepers meet him - but stand afar off. What a pitiful picture of the sinner. At such a distance from God and ruined by the loathsome disease of sin.

### Point 2

They plead both His Saving Name (Jesus) and also for mercy. HE saw them as no one else ever had. HE speaks to them as no one else ever could. "Go show yourselves to the priests"

### Point 3

They simply obey and as they go - they are cleansed as He had said. One of them turns back - falls on his face - with thanksgiving. A Samaritan - stranger to the covenants of Israel.

### Point 4

The Saviour noticed - there had been so little glory attributed to God even in all His works (though none had ever brought more glory to Him). The response of mankind so poor and pitiful compared to the abundant blessing imparted! He still takes pleasure in the praises of His people

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GSE-00704 Doc. # 2.19

## The Pharisee & Publican

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 704)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Way Seems Right; Religion's Inability

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### Reading

(1) Luke 18:9-14

### Memory Verse

(2) Proverbs 14:12; Galatians 3:11

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man. Proverbs 14:12 /or/ No man is justified by the law in the sight of God. Galatians 3:11

### Point 1

Note the purpose of the story v9. Trusting in themselves and their efforts. Claiming their own righteousness. Comparing themselves with others.

### Point 2

Both men felt their need of God. IN truth - all men need God and should be concerned about their relationship and standing with Him. Both men prayed to the same God but their approach to Him was different.

### Point 3

One claimed his own merit and righteousness. He never realized how holy God was and how he was a sinner by birth. Even pride is sin and God hates it "a proud look" Pr. 6:17. The other could not claim any righteousness in himself and smites upon his chest, bows his head and cries for "Mercy".

### Point 4

THE OUTCOME IS IMPORTANT. One man did not get anything. The other got more than he asked for "justified" (to be cleared from every charge of sin that could ever be brought up against him" because his only claim was the sacrifice that was right then being consumed upon the altar.

### Notes

Make sure you have an adequate idea of what Mercy is. Don't confuse Bible terms when you are speaking to them. Also - remember that the more simple an explanation and example are - they are more likely to be understood and remembered.



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GSE-00705 Doc. # 2.191

## Jesus & the Children

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 705)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour; Faith

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### Reading

(3) Mark 10:13-16; Matthew 19:13-15; Luke 18:15-17

### Memory Verse

(1) Mark 10:14

Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not. Mark 10:14

### Attention Getter

Why did Jesus want the little children to "suffer"?

### Point 1

Someone brought the children to Him. What a wise idea. Here was one who could bless them not only physically but also spiritually and eternally.

### Point 2

His disciples somehow thought He didn't want to be bothered. Perhaps from the example of other religious folks around. Note carefully. HE is not like anyone else! He is our Creator and God the Son.

### Point 3

He uses the children as an example for all. That if they are to come to Him they need to come with the trust and acceptance of a very little child. Use examples to show how trusting young children can be.

### Point 4

He had time for them v16. He had a place close to His heart for them and He was very willing to bless them. Think of what He could do and can do for you! Perhaps having the children suggest those things would be good as long as you can keep them on track.

### Notes

Important to make sure the class understands this old fashioned word. Perhaps you should read the text in several other versions for yourself before attempting to make it clear.

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GSE-00706 Doc. # 2.192

## Rich Young Ruler

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 706)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Sin's Attractiveness

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### Reading

(3) Mark 10:17-31; Matthew 19:16-20; Luke 18:18-30

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 18:22

Yet lackest thou one thing! Luke 18:22

### Point 1

Young Teacher seems so earnest - he runs to Jesus. Looks as though he can't wait. Kneels - looks as though he really knows who the Saviour is. Shows apparent respect. Seems a lovely young man! Asks an excellent question.

### Point 2

The Lord Jesus reminds him of the commandments which were given to awaken man to his need and sin Rom 3:19-20. He claims to have kept them and quotes some but not all - significant? Doesn't quote "Thou shalt not covet!" In the heart of the best of us lurks a nature that is clever at hiding sin.

### Point 3

Jesus beholding him. He could see what no one else could see. He knew there was enough in his sinful nature to reject the Saviour. LOVED HIM - in spite of all.

### Point 4

Puts the test before him that will reveal all that is hidden behind the respectable outward appearance. Touches on what is dearest to this young man. Focusses on what he holds dearer than eternal things.

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GSE-00707 Doc. # 2.193

## The Lord and the Laborers

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 707)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; God's Wonderful Ways

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 20:1-16

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 10:36

He is Lord of all. Acts 10:36

### Point 1

Lord wanted someone to work for Him in His vineyard. Makes a bargain with them for the going rate. A penny was the amount an average man would earn daily.

### Point 2

Later in the day the Lord seeks others to work for Him too. His only promise is that they will receive what is right! He always does what is right. We can count on that. They were happy enough to join the others without getting a specific rate. His work was enough.

### Point 3

The problem came when it was time to recompense what was done for Him. They "supposed" - we can count on His Word but not our suppositions! Their thoughts led them to murmur against Him. O the importance of recognizing that we have such a propensity for evil thoughts and actions.

### Point 4

They had measured themselves against the others v12. They accused Him of favouritism. How important for us to remember that He is sovereign - He can and will do what is right and what He wills.

### Notes

Kingdom of Heaven parable - check out for yourself the significance of that and the Lord may give you fresh ideas for input in this lesson.

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GSE-00708 Doc. # 2.194

## Blind Bartimaeus the Beggar

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 708)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Blindness

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### Reading

(3) Mark 10:46-52; Matthew 20:29-34; Luke 18:35-43

### Memory Verse

(1) Mark 10:52

He received his sight and followed Jesus. Mark 10:52

### Attention Getter

One day the SUN stood still. (add a detail or two about that old testament scene.) But there came a greater day than that. The SON stood waiting for a blind beggar to come to Him.

### Point 1

Jericho - the city that was cursed. Yet the Lord came there. Blind and Begging - a very real picture of the sinner.

### Point 2

Heard the crowd - Curious - no doubt! Heard it was Jesus. He must've known something. Perhaps he had gathered up many fragments of information from others to make him certain of who Jesus really was v47. Had he heard the prophecy that when Christ came He would heal their diseases?

### Point 3

Cries out. What a blessing when a sinner gets stirred enough to cry out. Others tried to silence him - they did not care. The Lord stood still. Thank God - He had time for the cry of a beggar! The blind man throws away any hindrance and comes. His life is about to change forever!

### Point 4

Saviour could have gone directly to him right at the first, but waited for the man to feel His need and cry out. Saviour knew what Bart wanted but wanted him to tell it. A WORD from Him was all it took and the only suitable response, for the man whose eyes were opened, was to follow Him.

### Notes

Blind people oftentimes speak of a more acute sense of hearing. Hearing is involved several times in this passage. 1. The things he had heard of HIM before this day. 2. The crowd passing by. 3. Homing in on the Voice of the Saviour as He comes to Him.

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GSE-00709 Doc. # 2.195

## Zacchaeus

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 709)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Seeker - hindered; Seeker - earnest

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### Reading

(1) Luke 19:1-10

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 19:10

The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10

### Point 1

A man - others might only see a no-good cheating sinful tax gatherer, but the Lord saw a man with all his need and potential. The man was rich but unsatisfied. He was clever but not too smart for his own good. He was seeking the Saviour. How wise.

### Point 2

He is earnest - repeatedly he was hindered from seeing him so made it his business to get into the tree where no one could hinder him. The Saviour was earnest too. He made it His business to come to where Zacchaeus was.

### Point 3

Zacchaeus heard the Saviour's voice that day. He even called him by name. He was obedient. He was ready to be saved. He was made to rejoice. What other accomplishment in life could compare with this. He had received HIM.

### Point 4

He was real - does not just call Him LORD but acts in keeping with that truth. Returned with interest the embezzlement of the past (which shows that he knew the OT Law and had acted all these years with a bad conscience) - and he also shows great compassion toward the poor.

### Notes

You may need to differentiate between what it means to call Him Saviour and LORD. Could have the class participate in this discovery.

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GSE-00710 Doc. # 2.196

## THE TEN POUNDS

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 710)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Christ the Lord; Future Events; Accountability

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### Reading

(1) Luke 19:11-28

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 2:11

There is no respect of persons with God. Romans 2:11

### Point 1

The Lord chose to put his property in the hands of his servants. The Lord gave them instructions what to do with it, but left leeway for their individual abilities. The Lord gave them opportunity v13 until His return. A pound - ie about 12.5 ounces of Silver Money

### Point 2

His citizens hated him. They refused to have him reign over them.

### Point 3

He came back as he promised. First he deals with his servants (like the judgment seat of Christ). They must account for what he has placed in their care. Application can be made to both saved and unsaved. Note how they differed in their ability but their responsibility was equal. They must account to him.

### Point 4

The thoughts of the servant who failed him are close to the thoughts of the citizens. Compare the thoughts of a worldly believer to the world around us. The world brings forth no fruit for God's glory. What a pity if we are like them. After he deals with his own, then he deals with his enemies (like the great white throne).

### Notes

Note - two reasons are given for this parable. v11 - 1. near to Jerusalem (his rejection and cross???) 2. They had wrong thoughts. 2nd

Note - v28 tells us that the Saviour literally and figuratively was ascending towards Jerusalem and the Cross - like the altar!

### Miscellaneous

3rd Note - the reward was immeasurably higher than the earlier responsibility.

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GSE-00711 Doc. # 2,197

## He Enters Jerusalem

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 711)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(3) Mark 11:1-11; Matthew 21:1-11; Matthew 21:15-17

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 145:3

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. Psalm 145:3

### Point 1

His foreknowledge - He knew the Scriptures that must be fulfilled Mt.11:4. He knew what they would find Mt. 11:2. He knew what would follow Mt. 11:3.

### Point 2

There was no higher claim than His: The Lord hath need of him. Have we felt His claims upon us?

### Point 3

The multitudes cry out His praises. The whole city is moved but some are moved with greater indignation than ever v15.

### Point 4

Choices are made on their part. But notice the choice on HIS PART - He left them v17. We need to be careful about the choice we make - he may take us at our word.

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GSE-00712 Doc. # 2.198

## Problems in the Vineyard

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 712)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Depravity

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 21:28-38

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 John 1:9

He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. 1 John 1:9

### Point 1

The Owner of the Vineyard has done everything and brings the renters in his favour and the fullness of what was his, expecting, at least, respect and consideration.

### Point 2

The servants are sent by him and they endure the mistreatment intended for him. They remain unrepentant and deliberately violent. What a picture of what man is today. Sending subsequent servants just shows forth the glory and grace that would forgive and bless them still.

### Point 3

Now - with all the grace the Owner has he sends his son. He cannot countenance that they would mistreat him after all he has done for them. But they murder him and yet hang on to the Owners property and things.

### Point 4

Those who hear the story know the response such an action calls for - utter destruction and others blessed instead. He brings before them the practical prophecy of the Scriptures and in spite of what they have just heard and know: they manifest the very intent that he has just told them of.



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GSE-00713 Doc. # 2.199

## Marriage Feast for the Son

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 713)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Depravity; Christ the Son

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 22:1-14

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 3:10

There is none righteous, no, not one. Romans 3:10

### Point 1

What the King did - he did for the Son who was dear to his heart. Nothing was too good for him. All is provided in the manner of great kings. Even the garments so that none would feel unworthy in his sight.

### Point 2

Sends his servants to bring them along. They WOULD NOT come. Sends still other servants with an even clearer and more enhanced call. They MADE LIGHT of it. They WENT THEIR WAYS. Each of these points is easily adaptable to the depravity and sinfulness of man.

### Point 3

The rest treated his servants spitefully and KILLED those he had sent. This is a more obvious indication of the disrespect and dishonour they had in their hearts. BUT NOTE - NONE OF THEM were worthy.

### Point 4

Another shows his disrespect when he does not take advantage of the wedding garment, thinking he is acceptable in his own right. A picture of the self righteous sinner. NOTE how the Lord upgrades this to the supernatural - in v13 - outer darkness - weeping and gnashing of teeth. How careful He was to lay all the facts before them.

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GSE-00714 Doc. # 2.2

## The Widow's Mite

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 714)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Detected; Religion's Inability

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### Reading

(2) Mark 12:38-44; Luke 21:1-4

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 3:20

By the deeds of the law, there shall no flesh be justified in His sight. Romans 3:20

### Point 1

Religious men of the day loved to make an outward show. Compared themselves and measured one to another. Yet would devour a widows household if they could for financial gain rather than recognize the interest and care God has encouraged towards those who are in need.

### Point 2

Here we are shown that He not only observes all we do, but also knows the reasons for what we do. And not only so, but He alone can rightly value what a person may do.

### Point 3

Others drop in of their abundance - the widow only two mites - next to nothing. Yet He says that she put in more! And in fact, when the whole picture is revealed, she put in all that she had to live on!

### Point 4

When a believer does something for the Lord however small, let us remember it is not up to us to value what it means. But He will and does value every mite.

### Notes

Widows today still oftentimes offer greater sacrifices and sweeter praise to the Lord than many who are very active but devotion is lost.

### Miscellaneous

Many times in the scripture God tells us of His special care for the widow and the fatherless Psalm 68:5, and makes clear declaration that He expects us to be like him. See James 1:26-27

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GSE-00715 Doc. # 2.201

## 5 Wise & 5 Foolish

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 715)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Future Events; Return of the Lord Jesus Christ

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 25:1-13

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 25:13

Ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh. Matt. 25:13

### Point 1

All of these appeared the same. Seems that they had an outward moral life. They all professedly were doing the same thing - waiting for Him. They all had lamps - speaking of some kind of testimony.

### Point 2

There were differences. The foolish had a testimony but no oil (speaks of the Spirit of God who indwells every saved one). There was also the Divine Distinction - that is in this story they were called wise or foolish.

### Point 3

While waiting they were all sleeping. Even the wise! At the midnight cry - there was a stirring and a revelation. Some lacked what they needed most. In that hour the wise have nothing to impart to them. While they went - the Bridegroom came!

### Point 4

The door was shut - final, just, universal. Some left outside - He never knew them! And they never knew Him. The story ends with the Saviour's own warning.

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GSE-00716 Doc. # 2.202

## The Living People's Judgment

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 716)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Future Events; Christ the Judge

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### Reading

(1) Matthew 25:31-46

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 25:46

These shall go away in everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. Matthew 25:46

### Point 1

This is not a parable - this is a revelation. Note it is His Coming in Glory. Not his return to the air but to the earth at least 7 years later.

### Point 2

All those living at that time of the nations shall be brought before Him. During the 7 year tribulation which precedes this - all men will reveal their state by their treatment of the Jews who will be fiercely persecuted by the Beast.

### Point 3

Those gentiles who are saved will protect those that are precious to the Lord. By this evidence of salvation will all men be divided. Some to inherit the kingdom with Israel and some to everlasting fire.

### Point 4

What the sheep do, the Lord says they have done it to Him. The contrasting destinies are clearly seen in v46.

### Notes

You will likely be wise to use a good chart of Future Events when you deal with this subject in order to clearly differentiate between events.

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GSE-00717 Doc. # 2.203

## Mary Anoints Him

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 717)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Saved - evidences

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### Reading

(3) John 12:1-11; Mark 14:3-9; Matthew 26:6-16

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 116:12

What shall I render unto the LORD for all His benefits toward me? Psalm 116:12

### Attention Getter

Many others had come to Him to have their needs met - but Mary came to give Him His due - the worship of a grateful heart.

### Point 1

After the Resurrection of Lazarus, Martha serves, Lazarus communes and Mary worships. There was no command for Mary to do what she did but her sacrifice pleased Him. What could we bring - what could we give to cause Him pleasure?

### Point 2

It was very costly - and was prized because the odour would fill the house and linger for days on both the Lord and also her long hair. The value set on it by Judas could not possibly compare to the value of it in the eyes of the Lord.

### Point 3

The Lord notes that it is in anticipation of His burying. How did she know? What did those who heard it think this meant? She definitely knew something. Those who spend time at His feet will always know things that others cannot fathom.

### Point 4

Many who were there came to see the man risen from the dead. Such was the attention he was getting, that the Rulers were consulting to even put Lazarus to death. How could they ever justify such a thing? But there were others who witnessing the reality of Lazarus resurrection, were impacted by the fact that the Christ had come and they believed on Him!

GSE-00718 Doc. # 2.204

**Greeks Seek Jesus & Jews Question Him**Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 718)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Christ the Saviour; Christ Refused

**Reading**

(1) John 12:20-48

**Memory Verse**

(1) John 12:32

I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me. John 12:32

**Point 1**

After His anointing by Mary in Bethany and the entry in Jerusalem and just before the Last Passover and His crucifixion - some Greeks (Jewish Proselytes) come seeking Him. Philip seems to be the most approachable of the disciples or more constantly watchful of opportunities like this. John 1:45 also involved with the lad in John 6.

**Point 2**

They wanted to see Jesus. The whole countryside ought to have shared their desire. Do you? Would you like to know Him? Would you like Him to speak right to your need?

**Point 3**

The Lord Jesus brings before them the fact of His impending Crucifixion. V24, 27. AS He speaks to His Father, there is an answering voice from above! Others overhearing this are told that the voice was for their sake and He further develops what He had been saying to the Greeks v31-33. How willfully blind is the response of the Jewish crowd in v34!

**Point 4**

It is then followed by several solemn warnings - examine verse 35 Light now but darkness coming, v36 believe the Light while it is available. Note - at this point - He departs and hides Himself from them. He had done so many miracles yet - see v37. He speaks of blindness & hardened hearts v40. And finally of what will certainly take place if they refuse Him and His words v47-48. DARKNESS for EVERMORE.

**Notes**

In the verse - ALL MEN - means all without any distinction. Men will be drawn to Him because of the Cross to meet Him in grace or when He is upon the Great White Throne, they will be drawn to Him for judgment and doom.

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GSE-00719 Doc. # 2.205

## The Last Supper & The First Breaking of Bread

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 719)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lamb; Price Paid

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### Reading

(4) Mark 14:12-25; Matthew 26:17-29; Luke 22:7-30; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Corinthians 11:26

For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come. I Corinthians 11:26

### Point 1

The time draws near when His sacrifice must be made. It is the Passover. This is the recollection of a night long to be remembered and He is the true fulfillment of it all.

### Point 2

The place chosen is an upper room. The hour comes - the Saviour sits down with His disciples. He reveals His desire for this hour Luke 22:15 and speaks of suffering. How little they knew what those words conveyed.

### Point 3

After the Passover celebration with all its beauty and meaning, He speaks with pain of the Betrayer. Even in the midst of such a lovely time with His own, there lurks a dreadful reminder of what is to come. The betrayer is dismissed to do his nefarious deed.

### Point 4

He takes bread - breaks it and gives to His own telling them of the significance of it. Likewise of the cup (speaking of both its significance and also the New Covenant). Matthew tells us plainly that this blood is shed for many for the remission of sins. What a reminder that nothing else but precious blood would do.

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GSE-00720 Doc. # 2.206

## Garden of Gethsemane

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 720)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God is Holy; Redemption - Purchase and Purpose

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### Reading

(4) Matthew 26:30-46; Mark 14:26-42; Luke 22:39-46; John 18:1

### Memory Verse

(1) Matthew 26:42

If this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done. Matthew 26:42

### Point 1

He went forth from the Upper Room. Ever moving closer to the reality that lay before. His disciples follow Him but little do they know. He longs over them, encouraging them to pray that they not fall in the testing ahead (while His own need so vastly overshadows theirs).

### Point 2

As to the physical aspect. He goes a little farther - this indicates that there was some aspect that they could not share in - this was HIS cup. He kneels Luke 22:41. He falls on the ground according to Mark 14:35. He fell on His face Matt. 26:39. Bowed under the weight of it all. Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows!

### Point 3

Prays 3 times similarly yet perhaps you can perceive a subtle difference. What seems to be a request about the cup at first becomes a revelation to us that He knows and (that since there is no way we can be saved apart from this cup being endured), He willingly embraces the Will of the Father who will have all men to be saved.

### Point 4

He finds them sleeping again and again. They do not know the trials He is enduring nor do they understand their own need as all things move forward to the great hour of Crisis. He knows the time - He knows what is going to take place. He stirs them and moves forward notwithstanding all. Hallelujah - what a Saviour!

### Notes

The "if" of the verse is not a question, it is the idea of 'since this cup cannot pass from Me' if salvation is to be accomplished and there is no other way, then "Thy will be done".



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GSE-00721 Doc. # 2.207

## The Denial

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 721)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Danger & Consequences; Saved - evidences

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### Reading

(9) Matthew 26:33-35; Matthew 26:66-75; Mark 14:27-31; Mark 14:53-56; Mark 14:66-72; Luke 22:31-34; Luke 22:54-62; John 13:36-38; John 18:15-27

### Memory Verse

(1) Psalm 51:4

Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned. Psalm 51:4

### Point 1

The Lord has prayed that Peter will be preserved though tested sore. He predicts that Peter and the others will be offended and Peter insists that he will remain faithful to Him.

### Point 2

Sad to say - a very little while later, and Peter, in spite of all his boldness, denies Him with curses. We are often tested and found wanting on what we may think is our strongest point. How unlike the Lord Jesus - who when He was tested in all points as we are - remained true and faithful.

### Point 3

Peter follows afar off and sits with those who follow the proceedings as the Saviour is accused and mistreated. He (2x) attempts to warn himself at the fire. Soon he is identified - but denies Him before them all! Twice more and with greater vehemence, he denies the One who loved him so. Then the alarm bell rings (rooster crows!)

### Point 4

He remembered the Word of Jesus. His bitter tears are at least an evidence of the reality of conviction and understanding. The Saviour will later complete the work of restoration in this beloved disciple.

GSE-00722 Doc. # 2.208

**Jesus Teaches How to Wash Feet**Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 722)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; Christ the Lord; Christ the Shepherd

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**Reading**

(1) John 13:1-17

**Memory Verse**

(1) Philippians 2:8

He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. Philippians 2:8

**Point 1**

In the Passover Room, there are three statements that set the scene for what follows, yet what follows is hard to understand in light of them. "Knew that His hour was come" v1 "Knowing that the Father had given all things into His Hands" v3. Then v11 "knew who should betray Him". The first would distract any of us from thinking on others. The second would likely cause us to think more highly than we ought. The third would have influenced us to treat Judas far differently. But He stands alone, supreme, sinless and pure.

**Point 2**

From the Passover supper - he rises and girds himself with a towel. Note - no servant who was a Jew would be asked to do this for fear of defilement. Only Gentile servants. Yet the Lord of Might and Glory takes a servant's towel. What grace O Lord and beauty shone around Thy steps below!

**Point 3**

He comes to Peter and while Peter does not offer to take the Lord's place - he refuses to let the Lord do it for him at first. The Lord teaches him a lesson in grace but he blunders again - showing how little he understood His Lord and the Lessons He would impart.

**Point 4**

There are 4 more KNOW's in the passage. V7, v12, 18 and v17. There are lessons in all of them. Verse 17 is the practical application of the EXAMPLE He has set.

**Notes**

Washing their feet points out at least two things: First, they would be weary and He wanted to refresh them. Second, their feet would be dusty and He would remove the defilement of the Way. Important Truths for all believers. Are we like HIM?

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GSE-00723 Doc. # 2.209

## The COMFORTER Promised

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 723)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Promise - He Keeps It

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### Reading

(2) John 14:16-26; John 16:7-15

### Memory Verse

(1) John 16:8

He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. John 16:8

### Point 1

The Holy Spirit is called The Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, & the Holy Ghost (though Holy Spirit is a better rendering).

### Point 2

His work is defined. To encourage and comfort and impart truth to those who are true believers. To Reprove the World of sin - the sin of unbelief John 16:9 - and righteousness - because God has brought about justification and Christ lives to prove it's value - judgment - not judgment to come but the fact that this world is already under judgment and reserved unto fire. Worldlings make their nest in a world that has been judged already.

### Point 3

He will guide into all truth. He will glorify the Lord Jesus. Beware of any (Charismatics who make more of the Spirit and gifts than they do of the Lord Jesus.)

### Point 4

He was to come after Christ departed. He was to be with the believers constantly. See the lesson called Peter and Pentecost for reference and the initial fulfillment.

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GSE-00724 Doc. # 2.21

## The Betrayal

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 724)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Refused

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### Reading

(3) John 13:20-30; Mark 14:43-52; Matthew 26:47-56

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 John 1:7

The Blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

### Point 1

Judas has made his bargain and now comes to do his deed. Thinks perhaps that there is safety in numbers and comes with a multitude. His way to identify the Lord Jesus is with a kiss (perhaps that had been his customary way of greeting him).

### Point 2

The Saviour calls him "Friend" - was there something that the Saviour found so appealing about him in spite of his betrayal Cf Ps.55.21, Ps. 41:9. Peter tries to defend the One who has all-power. Seems like a noble act but the Saviour acts more nobly still by putting the ear back and reminding Peter that if He were to call, the angelic legions would respond.

### Point 3

The anguish of rejection, the accusations and afflictions of His trial and the pain of Calvary could be avoided but how then could the scriptures be fulfilled? Note - the importance of the scriptures to Him Matt. 26:54,56.

### Point 4

All His disciples forsake Him utterly and flee. So much for brave words and best intentions. He is left alone to face the heartless venom of men's sinful hearts.

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GSE-00725 Doc. # 2.211

## Jesus Standing before Pilate

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 725)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Christ Refused; Christ the Sinless

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### Reading

(3) Mark 14:53 - 15:15; Matthew 26:57 - 27:26; John 18:28 - 19:16

### Memory Verse

(1) Isaiah 53:3

He is despised and rejected of men, a Man of Sorrows. Isaiah 53:3

### Point 1

There are many stages in the trial of the Lord Jesus. He suffered a religious trial before the High Priest and the High Council of the Jews. He endured a political trial before Herod as well. Then He stood before Pilate to be judged of him. All were unjust and all charges were unfounded.

### Point 2

Pilate hears the trumped up charges of the people, but repeatedly (careful reading may show you 5 times) says there is no reason (fault) for judgment in Him.

### Point 3

Knowing this Pilate tries to distract them by offering Barabbas. Crying for the blood of Christ - Pilate has Him scourged in the hope that will be blood enough. Don't underplay scourging. Many people died under it.

### Point 4

Finally - to content the people - to show that he was Caesar's friend - he takes sides against the Son of God and pronounces the death sentence. All of this in spite of the words of the Lord Jesus -John 19:11

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GSE-00726 Doc. # 2.212

## The Barabbas Story

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 726)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Substitute

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### Reading

(4) Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-15; Luke 23:17-25; John 18:38-40

### Memory Verse

(2) Isaiah 53:5; 1 John 4:11

The chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5 /or/ God so loved us. 1John4:11

### Point 1

Pilate once again has tried to appease the people by giving up a prisoner as was his custom - Barabbas - a brazen murderer and a major troublemaker or releasing Jesus. Their voices will not be stilled and they ask that Barabbas be released.

### Point 2

The world would rather have a well known sinner amongst them than the Saviour of Sinners. Barabbas (Murderer) was desired -Luke 23:25. Christ (LifeGiver) was not desired.

### Point 3

So the one who was obviously guilty and deserving was let go. The One who was obviously innocent and undeserving was made to die the death that Barabbas was worthy of.

### Point 4

This was a CHOICE they would regret forever, but Barabbas would benefit from. We do not know, but surely as the story was unfolded to this released convict, he would make his way to the cross - and there behold the Man who died in his place. What response would there be? Surely even this reprobate could see the value of His death on his behalf.

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GSE-00727 Doc. # 2.213

## The Crucifixion, Death & Burial

Series: 700: The Life of Christ #3 (# 727)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Substitute

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### Reading

(4) Mark 15:20-47; Matthew 27:27-66; Luke 23:26-56; John 19:16-42

### Memory Verse

(1) Luke 23:33

When they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him. Luke 23:33

### Point 1

Scourged, stripped, crowned with thorns beaten down, mocked, taunted, ridiculed with a robe and a reed, spitten upon and smitten - there in my place, condemned He stood.

### Point 2

Simon is made to support the trailing part of the cross that the Saviour bore. Golgotha, Calvary - the place of a skull - what a scene. Know before of and anticipated by God, it was now destined to be a place that all would look back to forevermore.

### Point 3

They crucified Him, the soldiers shared His garments and gambled for His handwoven vesture. They watched Him. They mocked Him. They said "He saved others (and the word they used for others meant others like himself) - there was no one like HIM. Himself He could not save for there was no other way that we could be delivered.

### Point 4

Darkness - that's all the NT tells us about his suffering at the hand of God for our sin. The Prophetic Scriptures tell us of the horror of those hours and the NT later reveals all it's wondrous blessed purpose.

### Summary

There they laid Him. But this is not the end of the Story. They had silenced His voice but they will hear it again. They had crucified the Lord but they will never treat Him that way again.

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GSE-00728 Doc. # 2.214

## The Dying Thief

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 728)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour; Christ Refused

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### Reading

(5) Luke 23:27-43; John 19:18; John 19:31-32; Mark 15:27-28; Matthew 27:38-44

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Peter 3:18

Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. 1Peter 3:18

### Point 1

The men and women of their day had determined that these two thieves deserved death - a cruel death. In their case they were right as one of the thieves acknowledges Luke 23:41, but in the case of the Lord Jesus - they were all wrong!

### Point 2

When did this guilty thief notice that there was a tremendous difference about the Man on the middle Cross? He had joined in the mocking at first. But were the words of Christ so different (unlike the cursing swearing and remorse he himself might have felt)? Were the early statement of the Lord enough to touch him (Forgive them for they know not what they do!)? Was it the accusation over His head (so different from the list of the thief's crimes over his own head) or the accusations of those who crucified what finally sunk in? He saved others!

### Point 3

Perhaps it was thoughts of Eternity - a fear of God? But he is brought to recognize that this man had done nothing amiss - who else could this be? There was no one else in all history that fit that description. Carefully consider this - if it is true that He did nothing amiss, then His cross has a wonderful purpose too.

### Point 4

Note - his desperate cry "Lord" This called for a decisive CHOICE. He believes in the resurrection. He doesn't know much - but His Cry reached the heart of the Saviour. In spite of what little the thief knew - he is given a promise that leaves nothing out. He is to enjoy the presence of His Lord that very day in a place bright and fair!



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GSE-00729 Doc. # 2.215

## HE is Risen from the Dead

Series: 700: *The Life of Christ* #3 (# 729)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; Christ the Life Giver & Resurrection

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### Reading

(4) Mark 16:1-18; Matthew 28:1-20; Luke 24:1-49; John 20:1 - 21:25

### Memory Verse

(2) Romans 14:9; Revelation 1:19

Christ both died, and rose and revived, that He might be Lord. Romans 14:9 /or/ I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore. Revelation 1:18

### Point 1

The powers of Rome had secured the Tomb and the Seal of Rome was upon it. The women come to the Tomb - a great Earthquake and a mighty Angel's visit caused the keepers to shake and become as dead men. All Rome's power could not match this authority and majesty.

### Point 2

While the soldiers feared rightly - the women are told not to fear. He is risen, AS HE SAID. They are told to go with the message but as they went - Jesus met them! They worshipped Him and rightly so. His resurrection ought to cause fear in unbelievers and worship and joy in those that are His.

### Point 3

The High Counsel of the Jews bribe the soldiers and secure their secrecy and give assurance that their lives will not be forfeited. Why were they so determined to hide the truth? Because a Resurrected Christ means that they will have to meet Him again.

### Point 4

The Saviour gives instruction to His own in Matt. 28 to go and make disciples of all nations(gentiles) - Israel that once found itself the object of God's special favour and grace is now set aside because they have refused the Lord of Glory.

### Notes

Risen Lord Comforts, Restores, Teaches, Confirms, Commissions

### Summary

YES, up from that grave HE AROSE - HE LIVES and all will meet Him again. How will you meet Him? Will you fall at His feet with appreciation? Or will you fall at His feet in fear?

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GSE-00801 Doc. # 2.216

## The Ascension

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 801)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(3) Acts 1:3-12; Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:49-53

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 3:11

This same Jesus.... shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven. Acts 3:11

### Point 1

Having been erroneously taught that Christ would immediately vanquish their foes and set up His kingdom. They ask Him when they met HIM in Galilee if He would set it up now. His answer was - that it was not for them to know but that there was a work He wanted them to do for Him and He would provide all they would require in order to do it.

### Point 2

He gave them further instructions and details about the witness they must maintain first in Jerusalem then all Judea then further out and onwards to the uttermost parts of the earth. (You can follow that very expansion if you read the book of Acts carefully.)

### Point 3

He had spoken to them. He is now taken up from them and surrounded by a cloud of heavenly beings. With hands upraised in blessing He vanishes from their sight and as they are still gazing upwards - a message is imparted that He shall come (to the earth) to be revealed as King, in the same manner as He departed. Zech. 14.4,9

### Point 4

The Lord had left instructions for the Disciples to stay in Jerusalem until they received the Promised Comforter. The Indwelling Holy Spirit was the link with Power and Blessing. They needed this to carry on the commission He had given them. As instructed they returned to Jerusalem and waited 10 more days for the Day of Pentecost.

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GSE-00802 Doc. # 2.217

## Peter and Pentecost

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 802)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways; Seeker - earnest

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### Reading

(2) Acts 1:1 - 2:47; John 20:24-29

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 17:30

God... now commandeth all men everywhere to repent. Acts 17:30

### Point 1

The Lord has gone back to Heaven. Matthias is chosen to replace Judas Iscariot. Now in Acts 2 - we are presented with a wonderful picture. They were all in one place with perfect agreement and accord amongst themselves.

### Point 2

Tongues of Fire sat upon them and the Spirit of God for the first time "dwelled"\* in created men. In Jerusalem at that feast there were many devoted Jews who had come from many countries. Note Acts 2:11. A miracle\*\* was witnessed questions were raised!

### Point 3

Peter rises - how precious to see that all the rest stood 'with him'. They were not the speaker but in full agreement & fellowship with him. There to encourage and strengthen the hands of the man who would speak for God.

### Point 4

He preaches the claims of God and the need for Christ the Lord weaving the OT scriptures into the message. Pricked in their heart they cry out "What shall we do?" The only suitable response for sinners is REPENT and BELIEVE the gospel and follow it with evidence of their faith - Baptism. They gladly received the Word and 3000 were saved. The secret to such a work is still to gladly receive the WORD.

### Notes

\* You should briefly differentiate between OT believers who had the Spirit of God "come upon" them for specific purposes. \*\*It is also important to show that this miracle meant that they understood clearly what the men spoke. These were not unintelligible sounds or words.

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GSE-00803 Doc. # 2.218

## Peter & the Lame Man

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 803)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sinner's Need and Helplessness; Christ's Power

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### Reading

(1) Acts 3:1 - 4:31

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 14:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other Name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12

### Point 1

Ninth hour (3p.m.) is the time of the evening sacrifice. The same time the Lord Jesus died and likely the same time the Pharisee and Publican (Luke 18) went up to pray. A man 40 years lame (Acts 4:22) was there begging.

### Point 2

Peter claims to have no silver and gold personally - perhaps all that he had had went into the all things common of the early church. However what he did have was worth far more. Power with God and the blessing of the Lord accompanies his words. What a thing to covet!

### Point 3

Christ of Nazareth (the despised One) has all power in spite of what men may think. Many saw the once lame man now leap up, walking, praising God and holding Peter and John. There was a very real difference in his walk, his words and his company.

### Point 4

There is much conjecture and animosity about it all. But seeing the man standing with them and witnessing the reality of Peter and John as they plainly identify the source of such power - their mouths are shut Acts 4:14,16. Still in unbelief they try to minimize the effects - but what can hold back the glory of such a God - Acts 4:21.

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GSE-00804 Doc. # 2.219

## Ananias & Sapphira

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 804)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God is Holy; Saved - evidences; Accountability

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### Reading

(1) Acts 5:1-42

### Memory Verse

(2) James 1:22; Matthew 15:8

Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. James 1:22 /or/ Their heart is far from ME. Matthew 15:8

### Point 1

Ananias and Sapphira were likely what appeared to be very fine believers - but at least one sin in their lives was unjudged. Seems as though they were afflicted with pride and wanted the admiration of others.

### Point 2

They had not been constrained to give all. They wanted to appear as making a great sacrifice - and made pretence that they had given all. Note - in this act -Peter charges Ananias with lying - not to men - but to God. Immediately he drops dead and great fear comes upon those who know what has taken place.

### Point 3

Sapphira comes three hours later, and unknowingly, also lies about it. She too is taken in death. What a message about the seriousness of sin. For the second time in this story, "great fear" comes upon all the infant church.

### Point 4

Many other signs and miracles were done and there was much accord amongst them as God continued to add to their numbers. However the fear of God was upon them to such an extent that pretenders didn't dare walk with the true believers. Persecution begins to rear it's ugly head but in spite of it there is further growth and joy even in being counted worthy to suffer for His sake. And their unceasing gospel activity magnified the Name and Person of the Lord Jesus.

### Notes

Note - this FIRST public SIN in the Church - a severe judgment follows. This points out a PRINCIPLE (OT has a similar judgment in relation to Israel) though subsequent sins were not treated with death as was this one.

GSE-00805 Doc. # 2.22

**Stephen's Testimony & Death***Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 805)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Refused; Saved - evidences

**Reading**

(2) Acts 6:1-15; Acts 7:54-60

**Memory Verse**

(1) Acts 7:60

Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. Acts 7:60

**Point 1**

One of the real and remarkable men of the Bible. Stephen is a man of God, Acts 6:5 who is a real testimony, active and a help amongst the people of God. The secret of his power and effectiveness seems to be his absolute trust in His God Acts 6:8 and his likeness to the Person of the Lord Jesus. Anyone with those characteristics to bound to amount to something for God.

**Point 2**

It is also inevitable that such character will result in persecution - see 2Tim.3:12. When unable to resist his wisdom and spirit they determined to destroy him as they had his Master.

**Point 3**

Falsely accused and detained. They saw his face as it were the face of an angel. They heard his words as he speaks of the unbelief of Israel in spite of all God's OT dealings finally leading God to send the Just One whom they had murdered!

**Point 4**

Their attitude is unchanged. Indeed, becomes more hateful. He on the other hand, gets a glimpse of a glory greater than earth by far, and a look at His Lord and as he speaks of it, they rise up and stone him to death. And like his Lord, he speaks words of forgiveness to those who abused him.

**Notes**

Chapter 8:1 tells us Paul was there. He too condemned him and aided those who killed Stephen, but God was goading this man who would ultimately bring many to the Light.

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GSE-00806 Doc. # 2.221

## Philip meets Simon the Sorcerer

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 806)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Detected; Sin Admitted - Not Always Saved

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### Reading

(1) Acts 8:1-25

### Memory Verse

(2) Psalm 69:5; 1 John 3:8

My sins are not hid from Thee. Psalm 69:5 /or/ He that committeth sin is of the devil. 1John3:8

### Point 1

Due to Philip's testimony and death and the persecution that followed, the believers are scattered but do not stop testifying Acts 8:4. Notice what they preach - the Word of Salvation. Another man is raised up, and Philip preaches in Samaria - see the direction the gospel is taking according to Acts 1:8.

### Point 2

A wonderful work is done there and great joy results. Possibly some of the reason for such a great work lies with those who believed in John 4. Simon, a man with demonic links, and seeming power also joins himself with the believers professing salvation.

### Point 3

He offers money for the same kind of power. Notice that this man does not have any understanding of God's ways. On the other hand, Philip shows that God knows the true condition of Simon altogether and that he needs to repent and cry out to God. Simon is bound by sin and like a bitter root produces bitter fruit (metaphor of extreme wickedness).

### Point 4

His heart was not right in the sight of God. How do we stand before Him today - Luke 16:15? Simon, at least outwardly, pleads for mercy, fearing the wrath of God. Was he real? What about you today? Are you being honest with the God who knows all the truth about you?

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GSE-00807 Doc. # 2.222

## Philip and the Ethiopian

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 807)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Substitute; Seeker - earnest

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### Reading

(1) Acts 8:25-39

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 8:32

He was led as a sheep to the slaughter. Acts 8:32

### Point 1

Philip has been busy and greatly blessed in his preaching at Samaria. God calls him away from what seems so successful, to meet one man in the desert miles away. Notice his obedience - he went! No questions just simple obedience.

### Point 2

A black man likely - of great authority and power. A man who would know wealth and it's power - yet seeking something more. He was likely a Jewish proselyte having already found his own national religion to be flawed and lacking. He is still searching. He comes to Jerusalem but it seems evident he has not found the satisfaction he craves there either.

### Point 3

He buys a copy of the book of Isaiah. What led him to buy that book - which could be called the gospel book of the OT? He is already reading it when Philip arrives. Not above asking for aid, he invites Philip to help. The passage brings Christ before him, but he doesn't know about Him. Philip takes that very scripture and preaches Christ.

### Point 4

In evidence of true faith - this man wants to be identified with Christ and obey Him in baptism. The reality of his confession is all that is required - the mode of baptism is very clear - he rejoices in the rest of his journey and likely became one who would spread the gospel to Ethiopians. Ethiopia is not mentioned in Acts 1:9-11!

### Notes

Drawing attention to the fact that he was a eunuch is probably not particularly profitable. Perhaps it would be better just to call him an Ethiopian. After his salvation - Philip is found in Azotus and preaches in all the cities till he comes up the coast to Caesarea. There are 14 more mentions of Caesarea in the NT which indicates a mighty work was done there.



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GSE-00808 Doc. # 2.223

## Peter visits Cornelius

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 808)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Speaks to Man; Religion's Inability

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### Reading

(1) Acts 10:1 - 11:18

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 10:33

Now are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God. Acts 10:33

### Point 1

Peter has come to help the saints in Lydda but the Sea and is now staying with Simon the Tanner at Joppa. God begins a work with a Gentile who is another Jewish proselyte. At the same time God is going to do a work in His servant, Peter, who still has many Jewish thoughts. First the Lord impresses Peter through the vision to listen to God only and set aside his personal prejudice, when there is a difference.

### Point 2

Peter is still in doubt when messengers arrive - but God tells him, "I have sent them!" "GO, doubting nothing." Cornelius is a man of character, a respectable man of high principle and a love for the Jews and their God.

### Point 3

Cornelius' attitude is seen - in his words. He does not delay. He obeys God's word. He gathers others with the same respect to listen. He is ready to hear and obey ALL that God has spoken.

### Point 4

Peter's preaching is plain, direct, and reveals a full orb'd gospel - with warning of sin, presentation of the Sent One and promise of salvation and cleansing from sin. God does a work upon believing and those who trust Christ show their reality as they are baptized, then seek further teaching from the Word.

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GSE-00809 Doc. # 2.224

## Disciples Called Christians

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 809)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord

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### Reading

(1) Acts 11:1-30

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 11:26

The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. Acts 11:26

### Point 1

Others shared Peter's prejudice and contention arose with him when Gentiles were saved. Peter gives an account of God's work through him. They honestly recognize God's work and glorify Him. This was to be the first of a very great work. Note again the text in Act 1:8 as the gospel spreads to others.

### Point 2

Persecution spreads further and intensifies Acts 11:19 and the believers seeking to move out of it's path are scattered as Seed (they preach everywhere they go and God blesses). Some take the gospel to Antioch in the north of Syria.

### Point 3

The simplicity of their message - preached the Lord Jesus. The reality of it - the Hand of the Lord was with them. The blessing that resulted - great number repented (turned). News of this blessing got back to Jerusalem and Barnabas is sent.

### Point 4

He sees the grace of God in them and this work. He comforts and encourages them. Teaching them that with purpose of heart to bind themselves to the Lord and His word. It is this people who are firstly identified as Christians. Literally Christ's Ones" - they must have shown likeness to Him. They also show their reality as they communicate help to others of the Lord's people who are suffering deprivation.

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GSE-00810 Doc. # 2.225

## Peter's Jailbreak

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 810)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Faithfulness; Judgment's Certainty

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### Reading

(1) Acts 12:1-25

### Memory Verse

(2) Psalm 145:18; Psalm 18:17

The Lord is nigh unto all that call upon Him. Psalm 145:18 /or/ He delivered me from my strong enemy. Psalm 18:17

### Point 1

The persecution began to get very ugly. Herod has James, John's brother executed with a sword. When it pleased the agitating Jews, he took Peter too. Peter is put in prison, and four groups of soldiers rotate to guard him. He intends to satisfy the lust for blood by later bringing him out to the people.

### Point 2

God's people pray. Perhaps even Peter thought this was the time the Lord had spoken of in John 21:18 (crucifixion) though he was not yet old! Though so closely guarded, God's messenger goes where no one else would dare, and delivers him. He does not kill the keepers - to whom Peter had likely communicated the Word of Salvation. Some may have even been saved as a result.

### Point 3

When Peter arrives at the house where so many are gathered. They can scarcely believe it is true. In spite of their prayers for his deliverance - they expected the worst - and in spite of Rhoda's testimony thought it was his spirit v15.

### Point 4

Peter gives God all the credit for his deliverance. This is a good picture of salvation from the grip of sin and Satan. Sad to say - the keepers were killed by Herod. No mercy or respect shown for them. What if some were not ready? Hopefully some were by the grace of God.

### Summary

Men, not even kings, can do what they like. Herod dies an awful death. He got away with killing James and imprisoning Peter, but the man who would not give God the glory for his skills, dies a wretched death. He died and God's great work went on.

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GSE-00811 Doc. # 2.226

## Saul's Conversion

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 811)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ Revealed; God's Undeserved Favor - Grace

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### Reading

(4) Acts 7:58-60; Acts 9:1-25; Acts 22:3-16; Acts 26:4-18

### Memory Verse

(1) 1 Timothy 1:15

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. 1Timothy 1:15

### Point 1

God had had his eye on this man for sometime. As we understand the scripture, God had had his eye on him from the very beginning. Only much later on did it really dawn on him Galatians 1:15.

### Point 2

His good life - exemplary and energetic so far as human standards - Philippians 3:4-6 - all stands for nothing, and he was found to be an enemy of God and His Christ. God had been speaking to him - goading him - and never more loudly than at Stephen's death.

### Point 3

God brings the man to a halt. Though bent on the destruction of the believers. God is determined to make him one himself. The various things - his journey - light from heaven - bringing him to a halt - humbling him - causing him to cry out in his distress, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? Are all things that picture the work of God in the salvation of a sinner. Use them to your advantage as you press home the story.

### Point 4

Overwhelms him in a moment. Saves him and changes him and then motivates and uses him. Use the various accounts and references to Paul's conversion in preparing the lesson.

### Notes

The story of God's grace to him - expanded over the telling, for the more he thought about it and told it, the work of grace was enlarged and enhanced.

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GSE-00812 Doc. # 2.227

## Paul & Barnabas in Cyprus & Regions Beyond

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 812)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God is Holy; Sin's Deception

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### Reading

(1) Acts 13:13 - 14:28

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 14:15

Ye should turn from these vanities unto the Living God. Acts 14:15

### Point 1

Paul and Barnabas are sent because the Spirit of God urged the Leaders of the people of God to do so. They too were willing to be sent and preach the Word on this first Missionary journey. They see the blessing of the Lord but almost immediately meet with opposition in the form of Elymas the Sorcerer.

### Point 2

Remarkable that a man close to Elymas would seek out Paul and Barnabas but Sergius Paulus desired to hear the Word of God. The Devil seeks to defend his territory through the Sorcerer. Paul faces him and pronounces a curse which having witnessed convinced S P.

### Point 3

Paul rehearses God's gracious and governmental dealings to the people (Jews and Proselytes) of Antioch (in Pisidia not Syria) - preaching the wonderful word of Salvation that is sent unto them and all others that fear God. They see the Lord's hand again and persuade those who believe to follow the truth in spite of opposition.

### Point 4

Moving on they preach in Iconium, Derbe and Lystra and there was a cripple. He heard Paul's preaching - was healed - stood on his feet. The heathen worshippers of that day attribute the names of mystical gods to Paul and Barnabas but they retrain the people yet later Paul is stoned. Not killed - he rises up to confirm the saints and appoint elders in the newly formed assemblies of the area.

### Notes

Good idea to follow this on a map with the class. Should also take note that it is likely that the groundwork for Timothy's salvation was laid at this time. See Timothy and Lydia Lesson

GSE-00813 Doc. # 2.228

**Paul's Troubles & Triumph**

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 813)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Lord; God's Faithfulness

**Reading**

(17) Acts 9:15-16; Acts 9:26-29; Acts 13:5; Acts 13:50; Acts 14:2; Acts 14:19; Acts 15:23-26; Acts 16:22-24; Acts 17:5; Acts 17:13; Acts 21:13; Acts 21:27; Acts 21:30-32; Acts 22:22-24; Acts 23:12-26; 2 Corinthians 11:23-30; 2 Timothy 4:1-22

**Memory Verse**

(1) 2 Timothy 4:17

The Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known. 2Timothy 4:17

**Attention Getter**

Why bother? Paul - all that pain and trouble! Why?

**Point 1**

This I do for the Gospel's sake! This is why God saved me. I am to be a chosen vessel unto him.

**Point 2**

I count it all joy! Human accomplishments I count as offal that I might win Christ.

**Point 3**

That I might be as a lesser drink offering poured out upon your sacrifice.

**Point 4**

There is laid up for me a crown!

**Notes**

You will certainly not want to read all the scripture above with the class but likely with an older class you should hand out reading assignments to all and get them to bring some observations to contribute to the class and discussion.

**Summary**

Paul's last days were full of hope and usefulness. His was not a wasted life. What will your last days be like?

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GSE-00814 Doc. # 2.229

## Timothy & Lydia

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 814)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Opportunity - Turning Point; Seeker - earnest

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### Reading

(1) Acts 16:1-15

### Memory Verse

(1) 2 Timothy 3:15

Thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation. 2Timothy 3:15

### Point 1

Paul comes to Derbe and Lystra for the second time - this time with Silas. There is evident fruit of his earlier labours. Particularly in the life of Timothy. His believing mother and grandmother had greatly influenced his life and the foundation of God's word had been effective in his salvation and his on-going testimony.

### Point 2

His father was a Greek and may not have been a believer. Paul sees the potential in this young man and takes him along with him. They impart the teaching of those in Jerusalem and strengthen the believers and with them see the work grow and increase. What a training ground for the work Timothy was later called to do as he serves the saints in Ephesus while Paul goes across the Aegaen sea to Macedonia once more perhaps on his 3rd missionary journey - see 1Timothy1:3.

### Point 3

Paul is given the vision of Macedonia and as they come to Philippi - they are quickly encouraged by Lydia who seems hungry for the gospel and ready to receive it.

### Point 4

Please note - it is the Lord who opened her heart. There is much talk by some today who encourage the sinner to open their heart and invite the Lord Jesus in. In this case, note it was a heart that God opened to receive His Word. There is clear evidence to follow of the work of grace in her life.

### Notes

It is quite likely that Timothy has only been saved a short time when Paul takes him along. Perhaps 7 years at the maximum. Yet there was abundant evidence of God's grace in him as he was known and respected in both cities amongst the believers.

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GSE-00815 Doc. # 2.23

## The Philippian Jailor got Shaken Up

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 815)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Saviour; Saved - evidences

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### Reading

(1) Acts 16:16-40

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 16:31

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. Acts 16:31

### Point 1

Lydia must've been such an encouragement to Paul and Silas but they almost immediately encounter a young woman who was possessed. A reminder of the dreadful grip of Satan. Her constant crying moved Paul to command the demon to come out of her. By the grace and power of God - there was deliverance. Now - even with such a victory - persecution arises.

### Point 2

The two faithful servants are stripped and beaten - then cast into the most secure part of the prison. But at midnight - these two preachers are singing. What a testimony. God has a work to do yet and sends a most unusual earthquake. Just strong enough yet not too strong. He is still in control of all things.

### Point 3

The keeper was sleeping. No one is so asleep that God cannot awaken him! God woke him up. He is about to kill himself knowing the Roman officials will hold him responsible but Paul's cry reaches him in the darkness. Obviously enough impression had been made upon him - he cries out for salvation.

### Point 4

They (both it would seem) present the same simple salvation message. In a moment, all has changed for him, and the others of his family who took in the gospel. Evidence follows of his change - and the treatment he gives these dear servants now shows the reality of his conversion.



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GSE-00816 Doc. # 2.231

## Paul at Thessalonica & Berea

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 816)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Opportunity - Real

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### Reading

(2) Acts 17:1-14; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 17:11

They received the Word with all readiness of mind. Acts 17:11

### Point 1

Paul and Silas come to Thessalonica and after their custom enter the synagogue and reason with them about the OT Scriptures. Some believe and follow those who have brought them the truth of the gospel. But others are greatly moved with ENVY - O the damage done by this evil thing!

### Point 2

Those who had believed sent Paul and Silas away. 1 Thessalonians 1 however reminds us that the gospel is self-propagating when believers appreciate His deliverance from wrath, follow the Lord, allowing His truth to shape them, and live with the reality of His Second Coming before them. 1Thessalonians 1:8 tells the results.

### Point 4

Many of them believe. The Jews of Thessalonica come 50 miles (80 km) to stir things up again against Paul. Likely Paul is a special target because of his defection from such prominence amongst the Jews at the time of his conversion. Amazing how far the Devil's advocates will go to hinder the work of the Lord. Yet Silas and Timothy are left here to encourage the people and work of God.

### Point 3

Again entering into the Berean Synagogue they find those who diligently search the OT scriptures and with honesty of heart and mind welcome the Word. God is still looking for honest hearts and ready minds.

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GSE-00817 Doc. # 2.232

## Paul Preaches in Athens at Mars Hill

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 817)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Power and Greatness; Opportunity - Real

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### Reading

(1) Acts 17:13-34

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 17:31

He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness. Acts 17:31

### Point 1

Paul likely moves on by ship to Athens. A city given to idolatry. Others have accompanied him there and he sends them back to Berea with a message for Silas and Timothy to come. As Paul waits - he is stirred as he sees the ungodliness of the city. He speaks in the synagogue and in the market. He was met by some who bring him to Mars hill - a meeting place for those in v21.

### Point 2

He preaches plainly to them of their altars and devotions to the many heathen gods - showing the folly of thinking that God is like unto something fashioned with gold or silver. He declares to them the ONE GOD that they do not know.

### Point 3

His message is full orbed - warning, the need for repentance, and a risen Christ. Notice - he does not even name the Saviour. It was likely a well published thing that Christians claimed this. It seems that they had already discussed and dismissed it as impossible. O the folly of the wise of this world 1Cor.1:20.

### Point 4

Some openly mocked. Their minds were closed. Others proclaimed that they would like to hear this all again. Unconvinced yet thinking they could trifle with the Word and had the right to subject it to their mind and opinions without the desire to obey or respond to it.

### Summary

Paul walked away - never to come back to Athens! It was their only chance. They missed it.

GSE-00818 Doc. # 2.233

**Crispus' Conversion & Gallio's Decision***Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 818)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Choices; Two Ways; Religion's Inability

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**Reading**

(1) Acts 18:1-17

**Memory Verse**

(1) Psalm 39:6

Verily, every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Psalm 39:6

**Point 1**

Paul now moves on to Corinth - 45 miles away. Corinth was populous and wealthy but it is unlikely that there was a more profligate city in the ancient world. It was a city of splendour, commerce, show and corruption. Lust and wantonness not only practised and allowed but actually consecrated in the temple of Venus. Yet - God had much people here- v10.

**Point 2**

Paul first meets a Jew (with a gentile name!) who is going to figure much later on. He dwells with him and supports himself while he waits for Timothy and Silas to catch up. While there - note it is on the Sabbaths that he reasons in the Synagogues - likely indicating that at this time he was busy with tentmaking during the week. Total time spent here 18 months.

**Point 3**

Pressed to plainly preach Christ - his message is refused by the Jews and the great change in his ministry comes about as he turns to the Gentiles - note Acts 9:15. Nevertheless - the chief teacher of the synagogue is converted and many Corinthians as well. The Jews stir things up and bring him to court. Their charges are heard but judged of no concern to Gallio who had no time for the Jews pranks & subterfuge. Most students of God's Word believe that this man was not careless at all - but rather this was considered of no concern to his office. He was known in those times as capable and honest in his duties. Sosthenes (the Chief Teacher who replaced Crispus) is grabbed and pummelled by the Greeks who seem to resent his behaviour.

**Point 4**

While this matter was officially of no concern to Gallio's jurisdiction and court - it would be an excellent time to remind your class that God's Word and the Saviour are matters that fall into the court of our minds and we must make a choice!

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GSE-00819 Doc. # 2.234

## The Possibilities in Apollos

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 819)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Speaks to Man; Accountability

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### Reading

(3) Acts 18:24 - 19:1; 1 Corinthians 1:12; 1 Corinthians 3:4

### Memory Verse

(1) Romans 3:4

Let God be true, but every man a liar. Romans 3:4

### Point 1

Here was a man who knew the OT scriptures and was well educated and very capable. He was also a man who had an excellent spirit and genuine convictions. He was diligent and careful and wanted to honour the Lord. He was willing to speak out and stand and be counted. BUT - he didn't know everything.

### Point 2

It didn't take very long for Aquila and Priscilla to figure it out either. The wisdom of this couple is really quite remarkable. They did not criticize or act condescendingly. They took him unto them - this can literally mean several things and likely all of them in their case! It means they made him a friend, took him to their home, they provided food and fellowship.

### Point 3

Wisely they use this time to carefully instruct him further. He was a very valuable man - as he was teachable. They opened up to him through their knowledge of the Word - the things of God more carefully.

### Point 4

Notice - they encourage him v27 in his exercise and encourage others to put this fine exercised man to work. The result being - he helped them MUCH. Thank God for a couple like that who could see the true potential.

GSE-00820 Doc. # 2,235

**Paul in Ephesus**

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 820)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace; Christ the Saviour

**Reading**

(2) Acts 18:18-23; Acts 19:1-41

**Memory Verse**

(1) Ephesians 2:8

By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8

**Point 1**

Ephesus was larger and richer than Corinth. Here the Power of Rome and the splendour of Greek Culture mixed with superstition and magic. The Temple of Artemis (Diana) was one of the 7 wonders of the World. The city was centered on major trade routes - a busy bustling city that seemed have everything but Christ.

**Point 2**

These people were all that Paul spoke of in Ephesians 2:2-3,11-12. Paul sees a work done with some who already had an incomplete understanding then moves on to the synagogue where he presents the truth of God for three months. Some hardened themselves and Paul moves the focus of his work to the school of Tyrannus which was likely a lecture hall loaned to him for this purpose.

**Point 3**

It would seem that though his overall time in the area was 3 years Acts 20:31, he centered his activities for two years in this location. It sums up his activities in these words "all they which dwelt in Asia here the word of the Lord Jesus."

**Point 4**

Two incidents follow. The teacher may wish to teach both or one. In the first an attempt is made by Jewish exorcists to imitate God's work by Paul - they are overwhelmed and the spirit speaks to their shame. In the second, there is a great outcry from the commercial world as the gospel cuts into their profits. It seems as though Paul had never directly attacked their goddess v37. That is a good example to follow - never to directly malign any group or religious form but rather teach and preach the WORD of GOD. It will do it's work and if opposition or persecution arises it will not be because you have directly offended anyone.

**Notes**

From the mighty work of God in Corinth Paul sails from Cenchrea (a port for Corinth), to Ephesus for a brief visit of which little is recorded Acts 18:21-23 back across the Mediterranean to Caesaria, then visiting Antioch before starting his third missionary journey back through Cappadocia and Phrygia in order westward till he came back to Ephesus.

**Miscellaneous**

The Book of Ephesians and the Book of Revelation ch 3 expands upon the value of this work and opens up some of the future of this assembly.

GSE-00821 Doc. # 2,236

## They Arrested Paul in Jerusalem

*Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 821)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways

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### Reading

(1) Acts 21:1-40

### Memory Verse

(1) 2 Timothy 1:12

I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed. 2Timothy 1:12

### Point 1

Paul says goodbye to the believers in Ephesus leaving there to Greece - where he spent three months till the Jews were determined to kill him. It would seem that he went to Thessalonica and perhaps even Corinth before returning by way of Troas (where they specifically waited till the Lord's day in order to remember the Lord) enroute again through Miletus - and it was here he called for the Ephesian Elders to meet with him.

### Point 2

He reminds them of both his past and his present purpose. He reminds them of God's grace which is sufficient to help them in the care of the Church and also the responsibility that they have as shepherds (plural) to protect and guide God's flock.

### Point 3

There is great sorrow as they part knowing what he is certain will befall him in Jerusalem. They then sail to Tyre and on to eventually arrive at Caesarea. Paul confesses "I am ready" Acts 21:13. At Jerusalem he gives a missionary report and less that a week later he is falsely accused and when the Jews were about to kill him, he is rescued by the Roman forces.

### Point 4

Eventually given permission to speak - they give him an ear until he speaks of the Gentiles and rise up against him. That night the Lord stands by him with specific instruction and encouragement. The Jews plan to make occasion to slay him but word leaks out and Paul is secreted away and remanded to a higher court.

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GSE-00822 Doc. # 2.237

## Paul in the Court of Felix

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 822)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Opportunity - Real; World's Attraction

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### Reading

(1) Acts 24:1-27

### Memory Verse

(1) 2 Corinthians 6:2

Behold now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation. II Cor. 6:2

### Point 1

The Jewish Leaders appear in force with a noted orator to present their case with class. Using flattery and pleasant words Tertullus tries to malign Paul as though he were a trouble maker and a political foe. Also seeks for sympathy by hinting that their privileges and rights were violently abused when Paul was spirited away by Lysias.

### Point 2

Paul is called to defend himself. He speaks forthrightly and clearly and yet in a manner which would glorify his Lord. He uses his opportunity wisely. Aptly showing that they had not yet managed to outline any evil action on his part.

### Point 3

Felix knew more than he would admit to. He deferred the issue likely because it was politically expedient to defuse the troublemaking Jews. Later Paul is able to speak again of the faith in Christ and with such obvious power that Felix trembled but yet put the matter off.

### Point 4

Sadly he was more interested in money than he was in the matter of his eternal welfare. Though he heard him often - we never hear of him trembling again. Sad when a person gets hardened to these truths. Felix - even after two years of Paul's influence - does what was politically correct - to please the Jews - he leaves Paul unjustly bound.

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GSE-00823 Doc. # 2.238

## Paul Before Festus & Agrippa

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 823)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Foolishness and Carelessness; Christ Refused

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### Reading

(1) Acts 25:1 - 26:32

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 26:28

Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. Acts 26:28

### Point 1

Festus replaces Felix. And like him is just as influenced by the World and it's pomp and position. Also, he is as unresponsive to God and God's Truth. Though the Jews could not prove anything against Paul, Festus leaves Paul bound - more concerned about the pleasure of the wicked Jews than the thoughts of God.

### Point 2

When Festus suggests that Paul go back to Jerusalem, as a Roman, he appeals to Caesar's court. King Agrippa wants also to hear the story and the arrangements are made. Paul begins his defence by relating his life as a Jewish Pharisee - telling the story of his conversion and subsequent call and the message he has brought to men everywhere.

### Point 3

He again plainly summing up and stating 25:22-23. Evidently the power of his message reaches Festus again - and he says that Paul must be mad. He not only reminds Festus that he not only speaks serious 'words of truth' but points to King Agrippa and reminds them all that Agrippa is well aware of the truth of these things.

### Point 4

He directly puts it to the King. Believest thou? Agrippa says, With a little persuasion you would make me a Christian? Paul confirms his intent - he would like to see Agrippa not only almost but altogether as he is. Perhaps it is too intense - Agrippa feels the heat of conviction - but he walks out.



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GSE-00824 Doc. # 2,239

## Shipwrecked!

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 824)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God Speaks to Man; Sinner's Need and Helplessness

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### Reading

(1) Acts 27:1-44

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 27:25

Sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God that it shall be even as it was told me. Acts 27:25

### Point 1

Paul and other prisoners are being conveyed to Rome by ship, though this will mean several stops along the way. He is trusted and given some liberty. Verse 10 reveals that Paul knew there was going to be a problem ahead. Though he seems to respect Paul, Julius believes the Ship Master and go on in spite of the warning. What a picture of unheeding sinners who would rather listen to fair promises than the truth.

### Point 2

The winds seemed favourable for a while. Then v14 the storm begins in earnest and they are driven by a power they could not control - till all hope was gone. They got a little look into eternity.

### Point 3

Paul has a Divine Visitor in the night! Paul reminds the others that they should have listened to the man who unabashedly claimed to be God's servant - but now still - there is room for cheer - and he clearly declares - I believe God.

### Point 4

Seems like Paul is now in charge. And just as the Angel revealed, all 276 souls are saved from perishing just as was promised. What a word - 'all safe' - what about you today - will you arrive safe on that other shore, dear sinner?

### Summary

There's a tremendous difference between SAFE and LOST. Which will it be for you?

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GSE-00825 Doc. # 2.24

## **Bitten by a Viper!**

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 825)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Wonderful Ways

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### **Reading**

(1) Acts 28:1-10

### **Memory Verse**

(1) Psalm 145:20

The Lord preserveth all them that love Him. Ps. 145:20

### **Point 1**

Landing at Melita (called the island of Malta today) where Paul was given three months to powerfully influence the people there. These gentiles were so kind - but an incident was going cause these people to see Paul in a new light.

### **Point 2**

Bitten by a viper - he shakes it off into the fire. Perhaps this caused Paul a moments concern but he had the promise of God that he would not die here - see Acts 23:11.

### **Point 3**

First the attention of the people is focussed on him and they are convinced that he is very bad. Then when no harm comes - they concluded he must be a god. God has marvelous ways of making our testimony more effective. Now when Paul speaks - they are going to listen.

### **Point 4**

Not only so - but Paul is instrumental in the wonderful healing of Publius' father. Others too got in on the blessing and we may be sure Paul did not miss the opportunity of preaching just who was really responsible!

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GSE-00826 Doc. # 2.241

## Paul in Rome

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 826)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Sin's Blindness; Christ Refused

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### Reading

(1) Acts 28:11-31

### Memory Verse

(1) Acts 28:28

Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and they will hear it. Acts 28:28

### Point 1

The journey goes on. Word had somehow reached the believers, and Paul is greeted by Christian Brethren near Rome. What a joy that must have been to him. Nonetheless, he is at last brought to Rome but allowed to dwell in his own place under guard.

### Point 2

Paul immediately begins to reach the Jews of Rome - tirelessly working to convince them from the OT Scriptures about the Saviour of sinners. Some believed and some believed not.

### Point 3

IN finality, He brings before them the truth of Isaiah and having sought to win them to the best of his ability he turns to the Gentiles. At least those who heard it considered what he said v29.

### Point 4

Notice his activity for two years while waiting for his own trial. Plainly powerfully and confidently he preaches the Lord Jesus Christ (the full title no doubt reminds us of the fullness of the presentation of His claims).

GSE-00827 Doc. # 2.242

**Paul Answers for Onesimus Sin***Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 827)*

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Christ the Substitute; Debt Owning; Price Paid

**Reading**

(1) Philemon 1:1-25

**Memory Verse**

(1) Philemon 1:18

If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on mine account. Philemon 18

**Point 1**

Paul has been a prisoner in Rome. Yet with a certain amount of freedom. He now writes to his fellow and friend Philemon, in Colosse, with a mission on his heart. After greetings and genuine encouragement for his friend and others, he comes to the main purpose of writing.

**Point 2**

Onesimus was a slave to Philemon, but robbed his master & run away. Paul asks that the punishment due to the runaway be eliminated for the guilty one. Paul sends him back (now saved and dear) knowing that Philemon has the right to do what the law demands to the delinquent - but expecting that mercy will be shown.

**Point 3**

Paul gives Philemon every reason to show this grace as he is willing to pay the whole price himself. Nevertheless, Onesimus had to go by himself (no one else could go for him!) Onesimus had to cast himself on the mercy of the one he'd offended. But thank God, Onesimus could claim that there was another who was the guarantor of payment in full.

**Point 4**

Note the confidence Paul had as he attempted this reconciliation in v21. He knew the man who had been offended and he knew he would do even more than Paul sought for. How like the One we've offended. 'To God be the glory - great things He hath done' etc.

GSE-00828 Doc. # 2,243

**The Believer's Story**

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 828)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: God's Undeserved Favor - Grace; Redemption - Purchase and Purpose

**Reading**

(1) Ephesians 2:1-22

**Memory Verse**

(1) Romans 5:10

When we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son. Romans 5:10

**Point 1**

Notice in this passage - the verbs that are in the past tense - he is talking of something we once "were"! Similarly Romans 5:6,8,10. Dead - because of sins. Walked according to the "course of this age" and seemingly encouraged by the Evil One and his emissaries. Our manner of life showed our lusts and nature. Speaking of Gentiles - we had no covenant with God, no promises, no hope and no God.

**Point 2**

We were without Christ - alienated and strangers. The only things we had to our credit were things we didn't need. Sin, distance from God,

**Point 3**

Notice the verbs and indications that are present tense. NOW v13,19. We or ye are v5,8,10. Quickened v5. He is -v14! Nigh v13. Now therefore ye are NO MOREv19. There are more.

**Point 4**

And not only so - but look for the future tense too v14. Then trace it all to the cause - great love v4, He came v17, grace v8, gift v8.

**Notes**

This is a passage that needs to be studied together with more mature children or young believers.

GSE-00829 Doc. # 2.244

**The Christian's Responsibility**

Series: 800: Acts - Revelation (# 829)

Source/Credit: Gary Sharp

Labels: Consecration; Bought with a Price

**Reading**

(1) Romans 12:1 - 13:7

**Memory Verse**

(1) Romans 12:2

Be not conformed to this world. Romans 12:2

**Point 1**

Romans 12 starts off with an appeal to the Believer on the basis of all that God has done in the past: received grace and righteousness ch1, glory, honour and peace accredited to us ch2, righteousness through the Just One ch3, justified known through the resurrection ch 4 and many more in the intervening chapters.

**Point 2**

To whom do we owe our allegiance for all this work of Grace? Then show it by your realistic surrender of your life in the only reasonable way - sacrifice. Present your bodies -"living" - on the altar. Note God is most interested in what you do with your BODIES. The whole you.

**Point 3**

We are clearly admonished in v 2 not to be pressed into the mold of the thinking and ways of the age in which we live. God expects that those He has redeemed will be transformed as their thinking is shaped by His Word. It is in this way, we put to the test and prove the WILL of GOD, which is complete and perfect for us.

**Point 4**

The rest of the chapter gives us practical direction in which to show the reality of what we have done in the earlier verses. Right estimate of self, proper appreciation of others, and a life that shows the work of Grace that was begun in us.