

Bethel Bible Series

The Good News of Jesus

Review - NT Studies 1-8

Humans: Seeing is believing. God: Believing is seeing. - PK

Welcome

Opening - What new insight have you gained from our Bethel New Testament studies so far?
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

New Testament Study 1 - *In the Fullness of Time*

Hour Glass = *When the time had fully come* (Galatians 4:4-5)

Sword = World was brought together by conquests of Alexander the Great

Greek Pillar = Cultural barriers were removed by spread of Hellenism

Greek Letters = Common language allowed unhindered communications

Golden Eagle = Roman rule and unity left no question for power struggles

White Flag = People lived without fear under the Pax Romana (Roman Peace)

Roads to Coliseum = Network of roads was built for quick army response

Manuscript = Hebrew Traditions and Dispersions

Clasped Hands = Foreign gods and philosophy led to spiritual confusion

Bowed Head = The Roman way of life was filled with moral corruption

Upraised Arms = Many searched for decency and justice

New Testament Study 2 - *The Word Became Flesh*

John 1:1-3 = *In the beginning was the Word ... and the Word was God.*

John 1:14a = *The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

John 14:9 = *Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father*

New Testament Study 3 - *Jesus the Man*

Kneeling Figure = *Jesus of Nazareth - The Messiah, though God, was totally human*

Cradle and Infant = *Born of a woman*

Hand and Dust = *True creature of the earth, had all of original man's attributes*

Halo Behind Head = *Born in the image and likeness of God*

Bowed Head = *Had a perfect willingness to follow the will of the Father instead of His own*

Crown = *Crown of God's creation, Showed man as God designed him to be*

Flower-decked Staff = *Perfectly obedient, He had full powers, promises and potentials of man*

Shaft of Light = *Displayed a fulfilled humanity, This is my beloved Son...*

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New Testament Study 4 - *Jesus, Spokesman to Distortion*

Law Tablets = Israel's moral, civil and ceremonial Laws (L)

Scroll = Israel's Traditions (T)

White Band Around Tablets and Scroll = Israel's emphasis on Separation (S)

Bright Sky and White Clouds Behind Symbols = LT&S originally intended for good purpose

Distorted Reflection in Water = As time passed, LT&S were put to distorted use

Hands Reaching out of Water = Distorted use of the good tended to destroy life

Figure = Jesus of Nazareth

Figure Facing Distortion in Water = Jesus spoke to distortion and proper use of LT&S

Figure in Stance of a Rescuer = Jesus fulfills the Law and the Prophets

New Testament Study 5 - *Jesus the Teacher*

Lighted Lamp = As a teacher, Jesus cast heaven's light on important issues

Parted Curtains = He unveils the hidden and makes known the unknown

Great Crown Over Earth = He declares the Father is Sovereign of heaven & earth

First Diamond in Crown = He proclaims God's will & purpose for ALL to be saved

Second Diamond in Crown = He reveals the nature of God (God made visible)

Small Crown at End of Staff = He reveals the true nature and purpose of man

Beams from Crown Bathe Kneeling Figure = He taught us to live in God's presence

Discarded Masks = He calls us to abandon the false values of life

Storm Clouds = He identifies the threats to our relationship with God

Towel and Basin = He gives the responsibilities of a right relationship with God

Evaluate Motives

Love Others

Forgive Others

Serve Others

Make Disciples

Flower Bed = He declares the promises, powers & blessings of the God-filled

Power Over Satan

Forgiveness of Sins

Eternal Life

Diamond and Key = He asserts that God's treasures are appropriated by FAITH

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New Testament Study 6 - *Jesus the Savior*

Jesus the Savior

Did God send Jesus to save the Jews? = Jesus came to save all people, Jews were just vehicle
Isaiah 49:6 = Too small a thing ... to restore ... Israel .. salvation to the ends of the earth

Are all of God's people going to join Him in heaven?

Matthew 7:13-14 = No, the road is narrow, only a few find it

What is this narrow road, the only true way to eternal life in heaven?

John 14:6 = Jesus is *the way* ... *No one comes to the Father except through Me*

Picture Concepts

Great Waterfall = The human predicament of eternal death resulting from sin

Broken Boats = Man's attempts to save himself are inadequate

Person Clinging to Cross = God's saving act in Christ solved human predicament

Large Pointed Rock = Jesus saves from God-imposed and Self-imposed Separation

Second Pointed Rock = Jesus saves from guilt and from a "sense of guilt"

Third Pointed Rock = Jesus saves from the threat and power of evil (God's armor)

First Grave = Jesus saves from spiritual death

Second Grave = Jesus saves from temporal death (dead lives)

Third Grave = Jesus saves from eternal death

Cross Spanning Chasm = Jesus brings man to God and the blessings of His plan

Ascending Stairway = Jesus cross gives a pathway to God's eternal mansion

Pathway to Placid Lake Scene = God's salvation includes redemption of creation

New Testament Study 7 - *A Light in the Darkness*

Purpose of the Gospels

Intended to tell as much of Jesus' story as is needed for salvation

Mark = First and shortest of the four Gospels, Peter's gospel, Written to Gentiles, a Gospel of Action

Matthew = Bridge between OT and NT, Written for Jews - Shows Jesus as the promised Messiah

Luke = Longest and most literary, Only Gentile to write a New Testament book, Synoptic with Mt and Mk

John = Last written, most theological, Thematic with rich symbols, Written to strengthen Christians

Picture Concepts

Dark Clouds Over Earth = Evil covered God's earth like darkness

Manger Scene = The Redeemer came as an innocent child in this darkness

Light Around Child = The Messiah brought God's light into the dark world

Cross and Thorns = Men loved the darkness and crucified the source of light

White Clouds and Beam of Light = God turned this evil deed into a victory

Infant and Crucified Hands = A baby's hands took the world's sins to a cross

Golden Crown = Christ's kingdom was ushered in by His death

Ring of Light Encircling Globe = Jesus is the Light of the World

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New Testament Study 8 - *The Empty Tomb*

Review of Last Week - Responses to Jesus' Death and Resurrection

How did people respond to Jesus' Death?

Witnesses expressed despair & gave up hope in Jesus as the Messiah

Centurion proclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Pilate was surprised he had actually died, Chief priests asked for guard to seal tomb

How did people respond to the Empty Tomb?

Guards & women afraid, shook, froze like dead

Women ran away from the tomb, Mary returned to the tomb & cried

Guards reported to priests & elders, Elders bribed guards to say disciples stole body

Apostles disbelieved women & went home; Peter ran to tomb, saw linens, wondered

Disciples were confused and hid behind locked doors in fear of Jews

How did people respond to Jesus' Resurrection?

Mary Magdalene & disciples recognized Jesus and told apostles

Apostles did not believe Mary nor two walking disciples

When Christ appeared, the apostles thought they saw a ghost

After proof, apostles were overjoyed; Thomas said, *My Lord and my God!*

At ascension, the apostles worshipped him, but some doubted

Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism - Apostles' Creed, Third Article, IV and V

195. What do the Scriptures teach of the resurrection of the body?

God will raise up me and all the dead, so that our bodies...shall be made alive.

196. What difference will there be in the resurrection of the dead?

A. The believers will rise with glorified bodies to everlasting life in heaven.

B. The unbelievers will rise to eternal death,...shame, contempt and torment in hell.

197. What do the Scriptures teach of eternal life?

A. At...death the soul of the believer is at once received into the presence of Christ.

B. The believer will live with Christ, according to body & soul, in eternal joy & glory

198. To whom will God give eternal life?

God will give eternal life to me and all believers, but to believers only.

199. Are you sure that you will enter eternal life?

I firmly believe..God has..called me by the Gospel,..chosen me..unto life everlasting

200. Why do you close this article with the words "This is most certainly true"?

Because all that I confess in this article is taught in the Bible; I firmly believe it.

The Empty Tomb - Picture Concepts

The Empty Tomb = Christ is risen

The Descending Dove = The outpouring of the Spirit is promised

Closing Prayer

Next Lesson - *Christ the Lord* (The Early Church)