

Bethel Bible Series

The Christian Faith

Review - NT Studies 1-14

Not I was baptized but I am baptized. - 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, 14 = *In the beginning was the Word ... and the Word was God. The Word became flesh.*

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...

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

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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
- Flower Bed* = He declares the promises, powers & blessings of the God-filled
- Diamond and Key* = He asserts that God's treasures are appropriated by FAITH

New Testament Study 6 - *Jesus the Savior*

- 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*

- 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

New Testament Study 8 - *The Empty Tomb*

- The Empty Tomb* = Christ is risen
- The Descending Dove* = The outpouring of the Spirit is promised

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New Testament Study 9 - *Christ the Lord*

Figures Approaching City = Disciples go to Jerusalem to await promised power
City, Green Pastures and Globe = Believers are to spread the gospel ...
First Spire = The fellowship was empowered
Second Spire = The fellowship increased in number
Third Spire = The fellowship was unified and dispersed by persecution
Arched Doorway and Path to Pastures = Witness is carried to Samaritans
Broken Portion of City Wall = Message is brought to the Gentiles
Globe Surrounded by Light = Christ's message is proclaimed to the world
Open Book = Christ was more than man, spokesman, teacher, Savior - He is:
Xristos 'O Kurios = "Christ The Lord" - Christ is King!

New Testament Study 10 - *Reversion*

Figures Walking Away From Light = Reversion to Jewish traditions - Christ inadequate
Figures Stopped and Pointed Back to Light = Leaders stop reversion - saved by Christ alone
Three Scrolls = Letters to Galatians, Hebrews and Romans speak to reversion
Galatians Scroll Over Dead Tree = Dependence on the Law for salvation can only lead to death
Hebrews Scroll Over Man in Pit = Christ is superior to all things in the old era
Man in Pit = Christ is superior to the Patriarchs and Prophets
Green Robe = Christ's priesthood is superior to Levitical priesthood
Scroll = Christ is superior to the law and traditions
Stone Block = Christ is greater than the temple
Lamb = Christ represents a better sacrifice
Romans Scroll Over Second Man in Pit = The believer is justified by faith
Scrolls in Arm = Law and traditions cannot and will not save
Grain Sheaf in Arm = Good works will not justify in God's eyes

New Testament Study 11 - *Justification*

Figures Reaching for Bubbles = Man seeks justification in ways that can't justify
Mortarboard and Book = Not justified by Human Wisdom
Law Tablets and Scales = Not justified by Works of the Law or Morality
Ivory Tower = Not justified by Idealism and Noble Intentions
Microscope and Vials = Not justified by Self-Efforts
Bubbles Reflect Heaven's Light = Bubble things are good, but do not justify
Pathway From Mountaintop = We're justified by what God did through Christ
Figure in White Robe Extends Arms Heavenward = Justification is through faith

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New Testament Study 12 - Faith

Three Hands = The 3 elements of an adult faith

Notitia = Knowledge

Assensus = Assent

Fiducia = Trust

Dead Wreath by Notitia = Knowledge alone does not constitute faith

Dead Wreath by Assensus = Combination of knowledge and assent are not faith

Flowered Wreath by Fiducia = With knowledge, assent and trust, faith is born

White Flowers on Wreath = Faith becomes purer as KA&T grow deeper and stronger

Spiral of light around upper hand = Faith is a gift of God

New Testament Study 13 - 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Banner and Two Quills = Two of Paul's letters were to the Thessalonians

First Quill = Paul's 1st letter to Thessalonians, Timothy returned with good report

Quill is Red = Praised for courage and steadfastness in face of persecution

Figures Laying Stone Blocks = Instructed to be steadfast in their work

Grave = Paul answered "What happens to those who die before Christ returns?"

Figure Looking Upward = Explanations were given about Christ's Second Coming

Second Quill = Paul's 2nd letter to Thessalonians, Written a few months after 1st

Quill is Blue = Concern over misconceptions about Christ's Second Coming

Throne and Serpent = Described specific events and circumstances before return

Sundial = Concern over church's emphasis on time of Christ's return

Shovel and Trowel = Rebuked members who have abandoned their work

New Testament Study 14 - 1 & 2 Corinthians

Structures in Background = The city of Corinth

Green Vapors & Ominous Sky = Idolatry, immorality & paganism filled Corinth

Group of People = Corinthian Church existed in the midst of this culture

Column on Right = Paul's First Letter to the Church at Corinth

Columns are Separated = Church rebuked for allowing worldly factions

Figure Holding Books = Warns against undue emphasis upon worldly wisdom

Figure in Dark Cloak = Deep concern over open immorality within the church

Figure Holding Gavel = Folly of lawsuits between believers

Woman in Wedding Veil = Counsel given on marriage and divorce

Stone on Monument Edge = Don't let Christian Liberty be a stumbling block

Figure with Clasped Hands = All temptations can be resisted with God's power

Figure Holding Chalice & Bread = Speaks against misuse of the Lord's Supper

Figure with Multicolored Garment = Church is a body with different members

Prism on Manuscript = People are given gifts to build Christ's body

Figure Aiding Fallen Person = Love is the prime virtue of the Christian life

Figure with Hand at Forehead = Answers questions about the resurrected body

Dual Columns = Paul's Second Letter to the Church at Corinth

Descending Dove on Column = God's grace is sufficient for all things

Crown on Column = Those in Christ become new creatures

Grain Sheaf on Column = Motives and attitudes about true Christian giving

Closing Prayer

Next Lesson - *The Church* (Ephesians)