Survey of I Peter through Revelation

by

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Survey of I Peter through Revelation

A study of the books of I Peter through Revelation for Small Group or Personal Bible Study

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Survey of I Peter through Revelation

Small Group or Personal Study Course

Introduction

This is a small group Bible study course to help you grow in your understanding of the books of I Peter through Revelation. This study will be most effective as you get together with a small group to share the answers that each of you has written in your personal study. This can also be used as a personal study course to help you grow in your understanding of the books of I Peter through Revelation. This course is designed to help you grow in three ways. Throughout the course you will read a paragraph to help you grow in your knowledge of the verses that you will be reading. After each paragraph you will usually have three questions. These three questions will focus on three things: Knowledge, Understanding and Application.

The first question will ask you to find the answer to some question in the verses that you are reading. This question is to help you pick out a key fact in those verses to help you grow in your knowledge of those verses. The answer to this question will usually be found in the verses as you read them.

The second question will ask you a question that will help you to think through the verses to understand the meaning of the group of verses being discussed. As you read this question, pray that the Lord will give you understanding of the passage as well as knowledge of the facts.

The third question will ask you a question that will help you to apply what you have learned from those verses both to your own and to your service for Christ. It is as we understand and apply the Scripture to our lives that the Lord really begins to change and transform our lives.

At the end of each lesson there will be an opportunity to write down something that you have learned for your own life through the study of those verses. Our prayer is that as you work through these lessons that three things will happen in your life:
1. First, you will grow in your knowledge of the Bible.
2. Second, you will grow in your understanding of the verses that you have studied.
3. Third, you will learn how to apply the Word of God to your life.

The basic material in each of these lessons was originally written in one of six Bible Survey texts written between 1969 and 1974 that cover the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. We are making this material available in this new form to help you grow in your knowledge, understanding and application of the Bible to your life. The Lord willing, we will continue to make other books available as we have time to prepare them in this new form.

May the Lord bless you as you learn His Word.

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Survey of I & II Peter
Lesson 1
I Peter 1:1-2:25

Many Christian become discouraged when they have any kind of suffering in their lives. They cannot understand why they are being suffering or being persecuted for Christ. The early church also experienced suffering and persecution. As a result, Peter wrote to the Christians who were experiencing persecution in many different regions of the Roman Empire. Today in our lesson we will learn that it is a wonderful thing to have the privilege of suffering or being persecuted for Christ. Suffering and persecution help our lives to become what God wants them to be. Christ suffered for us so it should be a privilege for us to suffer for Him.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain why we suffer as Christians.
Tell how we know that the Bible is the Word of God.
Explain how we grow as Christians.
Explain how we should live as Christians.

As Peter begins this letter, we see that the letter is written to Christians in many different places. Peter had a concern for the Christians in all of these places. We read that God has chosen each person that is a Christian. Then that person has been set apart and made holy by the Holy Spirit. This all happened because Christ paid the penalty to set people from the penalty of their sin. Christ paid that penalty with His own blood. Now we can have peace because we know that we are the children of God. We also know that we have a living hope because Christ rose from the dead.

1. Read I Peter 1:1-12 and write what kind of an inheritance God has given us through Christ.
2. Explain why these verses teach that Christians can have a living hope.
3. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that Christ paid the penalty to set you free from your sin.

As Christians we have been promised a reward that can never spoil or rot. It is a reward that has never been spoiled by sin. It is a reward that will never fade or disappear. We know that it is waiting in heaven for us. God will keep us and take care of us just as He is keeping our reward for us. This is the reason that we can rejoice even when we suffer. We know that the things that we suffer on earth are to help make us more precious for Christ because that suffering gets rid of the things in our lives that hinder us from serving Christ.

4. Read I Peter 1:1-12 and write what kind of joy we have through Christ even though we have not yet seen Him.
5. Explain why Christians can rejoice even when they are going through trials because of their faith in Christ.
6. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that you are kept by the power of God.

We see that Christ gives us a joy that is so great that we do not even have the words to speak abut it. We have this joy because Christ has saved us. Christ gave us the salvation that was spoken of by the prophets. These prophets also spoke of the fact that the suffering of Christ would be followed by great glory. The prophets did not speak these things for themselves. They spoke them for our benefit. Now the Holy Spirit teaches us and helps us to understand these things. This causes us to grow in understanding and gives us great joy.

7. Read I Peter 1:1-12 and write what the prophets revealed about Christ before He even came to this earth.
8. Explain why Christians can have great joy when they suffer and are persecuted for their faith in Christ.
9. Explain why you are thankful that Christ has given you the Holy Spirit to help you understand the things that were written by the prophets.

Since we know that any suffering will be followed by great glory, we are to be encouraged and strengthened. The Lord encourages us to focus on minds on the future grace that God will reveal to us at the coming of Christ to take us to heaven. As we focus our minds on the promises of God, our desire will be to be obedient children. As the children of God, we are not to continue to live as we lived before we followed Christ. Instead it should be our desire and purpose to live a life that is holy and set apart to God. We realize that Christ is the Lord of our lives and that gives us a desire to please Him in every part of our lives.

10. Read I Peter 1:13-25 and write why we should be holy.
11. Explain why Christians should want to live a holy life rather than follow the sins of their lives before they trusted Christ.
12. Explain why you feel that it is important to you in your own life to want to live a holy life in all that you do.

God is a holy God that has never committed a single sin. He wants us to live holy lives also. That is one of the reasons that He gave us the Holy Spirit so that we would have the power to live holy lives. Because of our desire to live holy lives, we should confess any sin immediately so that it does not hinder us in our life. Since God is going to judge the works of every Christian so that He can see what works He can reward, our desire should be to serve the Lord in every area of our lives. Our sins were not paid for with silver and gold because that is not the way that God saves people from sin.

13. Read I Peter 1:13-25 and write how we are redeemed (saved).
14. Explain why Christians can rejoice in the fact that God chose to accept the blood of His Son to pay the penalty for our sin.
15. Explain why it is important to you to know that Christ paid the price with His own blood to see you free from your former life.

We see that it was the blood of Christ that paid the penalty for our sin and made us free. Christ could pay that penalty because He had never committed a single sin. Just as God chose to save us before He created the world, He also chose to send Christ to pay the penalty for sin even before He created the world. Christ could pay that penalty because His life was without any spot or blemish. By that

payment and our acceptance of it, He has given us life and taken away our sin.
16. Read I Peter 1:13-25 and write how we should treat each other as Christians since God has saved us.
17. Explain why the knowledge that Christ paid the penalty for our sin should give every Christian a desire to love one another fervently with a pure heart.
18. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to reflect the love that Christ has shown you by loving other Christians.

We see that the thing that makes it possible for us to have a great love for each other is the fact that Christ has saved us. Christ has given us life. Although Christ died, He did not remain dead. Instead He is alive. Now He speaks to us through the Word of God. The Word of God is not like the grass in the field or even like the lives of people. The grass of the field and even people just live for a short time and die. However, the Word of God never changes. This is why we know that we can always depend on the Word of God.
19. Read I Peter 1:13-25 and write how long the Word of God will endure.
20. Explain why it is important for Christians to know and understand that the Word of God will never change.
21. Explain why it is important to you in your life to know that the Word of God that brought you to Christ will abide forever.

Since Christ is alive and has given us life, it should be our desire to live for Christ. Because Christ is living in us and we take Him with us wherever we go, our desire is to lay aside the sins of our past life. We realize that when we became Christians we were like new spiritual babies. In order for a baby to grow strong and healthy, it must drink milk. As Christians, our milk is the milk of the Word of God. We will only grow as Christians as we study the Word of God. A growing and healthy Christian is one that is studying the Word of God every day and then applying what he or she learns to his or her life.
22. Read I Peter 2:1-12 and write what kind of stones we are called.
23. Explain why the pure milk of the Word is so essential to help a new Christian begin his or her spiritual growth.
24. Explain how you can personally help a new Christian begin spiritual growth by helping that person to understand the milk of the Word.

Christ came to us as the Living stone. He came from God but men rejected Him. Now Christ has made us alive. We see that we are now the stones that Christ is using to build the church. Every single Christian is a priest of God. We speak to God for people as we pray for them. We speak to people for God as we share the Word of God with them. It is the privilege of every Christian to be involved in bringing people to Christ by sharing the Gospel with others. This causes great joy in heaven. Since Christ is the foundation and cornerstone of the church, He is the most important part of the church. He is a very precious stone to each one of us.
25. Read I Peter 2:1-12 and write what kind of a stone Christ is to those that do not believe.
26. Explain why God says that every Christian is a living stone that the Lord is using to build a spiritual house.

27. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that you have been called a priest of God that offers up spiritual sacrifices.

We did not stumble when we heard about Christ. Instead all Christians are the people chosen by God Himself to be His priests. We have been called out of darkness to speak for Christ. Now our lives are to be examples for Christ. As people see our changed lives and hear us speak for Christ, some of them will turn to Christ also. In this way we are serving as the priests of Christ. We are to bring people to God as we tell them how they can have eternal life through Christ.
28. Read I Peter 2:1-12 and write what fleshly lusts do to the soul.
29. Explain why these verses teach that the good works of Christians have a powerful impact for Christ.
30. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that those who are not Christians are watching your life as they think about whether to follow Christ or not.

As Christians, we also have a responsibility to our human government. God has allowed our rulers to be rulers for a reason. As long as we do what is right, we will not get into trouble with the government. It is those who do evil that are usually punished except in countries where the government is persecuting Christians for their faith. It is the will of God for us to do what is right and pleasing to God. This will cause foolish people to keep quiet and not speak against Christians. Christ has made us free and so we should not do evil.
31. Read I Peter 2:13-25 and write whose servants we are.
32. Explain why the examples of Christians that are living to please Christ will silence the ignorance of foolish men.
33. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to obey the authorities and government leaders.

As the servants of God we are to honor and respect all people. We are to love all those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are to fear and worship God. We are to honor our rulers. We are to obey our employers. This is true even if they are evil and mean employers. If they punish us for things that we have not done, we are to suffer patiently because God will reward us for being patient. Here we see that as Christians we have responsibilities to many people. Our lives are to be witnesses and examples to them by everything that we say and do. If we suffer, Christ will reward us.
34. Now read I Peter 2:13-25 and write what Christ gave us by suffering for us.
35. Explain why these verses teach that it is important for Christians to submit to all that are placed in authority over them.
36. Explain what it means to you in your life to know that God is very pleased with you if you suffer wrongfully and take it patiently.

When Christ came to this earth. He suffered many things. He suffered those things even though He did not do any sin. He did not speak evil. He did not fight back when people spoke against Him. He did not threaten others when they made Him suffer. Instead Christ did all of these things without complaining so that He could be an example for us when we suffer. Christ gives us a wonderful example to follow when people persecute us and make us suffer.

37. Read I Peter 2:13-25 and write to whom Christ committed Himself when He suffered.
38. Explain how the suffering of Christ is an en example for every Christian when the Christian experiences suffering or persecution.
39. Explain what it means to you when it says that Christ committed Himself to Him that judges righteously when He suffered.

We see a real picture of the suffering of Christ for our sins. He carried all of our sins on Himself when He died on the cross. He did this so that we could die to sin and live for God. We were like sheep that were lost and had gone the wrong way. As lost sheep we were unable to help ourselves. This is why Christ had made the choice before the world was ever created to come to this earth to pay the penalty for sin. He knew that we could not help ourselves. As a result, He made the choice to come and do what we could not do for ourselves.
40. Read I Peter 2:13-25 and write what Christ is called because we were like lost sheep.
41. Explain why Christians should desire to live for righteousness since they have been made dead to sin by placing their trust in Christ.
42. Explain what it means to you to know that by His death for you Christ set you free so that you now have the power to live a righteous life.

Now reread I Peter 1:1-2:25 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of I & II Peter
Lesson 2
I Peter 3:1-4:19

In our last lesson we learned several important lessons about Christians suffering for Christ. Today we will learn some more lessons about suffering. Since Christ suffered for us, there is not a single reason why we should be unwilling to suffer for Him. In fact we can be filled with joy because we are given the privilege of suffering for Christ. As we suffer, we should not worry because we know that the Lord is coming soon. We also see that Christ has given each Christian spiritual gifts to serve the Lord more effectively. Some of these gifts are speaking gifts while other gifts are serving gifts. When we speak or serve we are to be good stewards of the gifts that the Lord has given us.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell how we should live as Christians in our homes.
Explain why we should be ready to answer every person who asks about the hope that we have as Christians.
Tell why we should be glad to suffer.
Explain what the coming of Christ should cause us to do.

We begin our lesson today by learning how we should lives as husbands and wives in our homes. First we are given some instructions for the wife. We see that wives are encouraged to place themselves in subjection to their own husbands. To submit means to place ourselves under the leadership of another. If a man that is not a Christian has a wife who is loving and placing herself in subjection to her husband, he will often be won to Christ by the life and testimony of his wife. A Christian man will be a better leader for Christ if he has a wife that has placed herself in subjection to her husband.

1. Read I Peter 3:1-12 and write what kind of a spirit a wife is encouraged to have.
2. Explain why the example of a submissive wife will often win a husband that is not a Christian to Christ.
3. Tell how you would explain the meaning of submission in your own words.

We also see that women are not to spend all of their time making their outward appearance look fancy. Instead they are encouraged to be more concerned about what they are like on the inside. God places a great value on a woman that has a gentle and quiet spirit. The Old Testament gives us many examples of women that had that kind of a spirit. Sarah is mentioned as an example because she was submissive to her husband. She showed honor and respect to her husband. She was not boasting in herself or talking about the things that she could do. Instead she chose to be a real encouragement to her husband.

4. Read I Peter 3:1-12 and write what husbands are told to give to their wives.
5. Explain what God means when He says that a gentle and quiet spirit is of great value in His sight.
6. Explain why the lives of Abraham and Sarah are examples for you in your own life by the lives that they lived.

We see that husbands are also given a great responsibility in the home. Husbands are to honor their wives. Sometimes men feel that they can treat their wives with little or no respect. In contrast, God says here that a man should treat his wife with great honor and respect. She is weaker and is to be treated with honor because they will both share the riches of God. If men are treating their wives with honor and respect, they will encourage their wives. The wife will be able to work better for the Lord because things will be going well in the home. We also read that if men treat their wives with honor and respect that the prayers of the husbands will be effective.
7. Read I Peter 3:1-12 and write what we are all to do regardless of what part of the family we are.
8. Explain why husbands who treat their wives with honor and respect are showing by their actions the way that Christ treats the church.
9. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to live your life in such a way that your prayers will be effective.

We see that we are all to be of one mind. This will only happen as we learn to think in ways that are pleasing to God because then we will put others first. This will cause us to show love and compassion to others. It will even cause us to be kind to those who are evil to us. As Christians we are to turn from evil and seek the good. That way we will be able to live with peace in our hearts. We will know that Christ is watching over us and protecting us. We will know that Christ hears and answers our prayers because we are living to please Him.
10. Read I Peter 3:1-12 and write what we are not to return for evil when others do evil to us.
11. Explain what these verses teach us about the responsibilities of husbands and wives in these verses.
12. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to live your life so that it will be a blessing to others.

We are to turn from evil and do good. We are to pursue peace by the things that we do. As we serve the Lord, it may be necessary to suffer for the Lord. However, we see that we can be happy when we suffer for the Lord because we know that we are suffering for what is right. Since we do not need to be afraid of those who might make us suffer, we should be ready at all times to speak for Christ. We should be very thankful for the opportunity to answer the questions of those who want to know what it means to follow Christ.
13. Read I Peter 3:13-22 and write what kind of a conscience we should have.
14. Explain why Christians are all to be trained how to explain the Gospel so that they are equipped to answer every person that asks them about the hope that they have.
15. Explain how the Lord has helped you to answer the questions of relatives, friends or co-workers about the hope that you have in Christ.

When people speak against us, we do not need to worry if we know that we have done what is right. We may have to suffer. However, it is better to suffer because we have done right than to suffer for the sins that we have committed. Christ has already suffered for our sins so that He could bring us to God. Since Christ has suffered for our sins, we should do the things that we know are right so that we

do not need to suffer for our sins also. When Christ suffered for sins, it was a just person who was without sin that was suffering for the sins of the unjust.
16. Read I Peter 3:13-22 and write to whom Christ by the Holy Spirit preached.
17. Explain why Christ was willing to suffer as the Just One for all of those who have sinned and are unjust.
18. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to have a good conscience because you know that you have done the things that are right.

Here we see that Christ spoke to the people of the Old Testament by the Holy Spirit. Christ did this by using men like Noah who spoke for God and warned people for one hundred years before God sent the flood. Although Noah faithfully preached, we see that none of the people listened. Finally after one hundred years of warning, God destroyed everyone that was on the earth except the family of Noah. Noah and his family showed that they had placed their faith in God by going into the ark. Today men show their faith in Christ by being baptized. Baptism does not save them. Instead baptism shows that a change has already happened in the life of that person.
19. Read I Peter 3:13-22 and write where Christ is right now.
20. Explain what these verses teach us about the meaning of baptism.
21. Explain why it is important to you that Christ is in heaven and that He is at the right hand of God.

Since Christ suffered for us, it is only natural that we should be prepared to suffer for Him. As we suffer for Christ, that suffering does a wonderful thing for us. That suffering causes our faith to grow stronger so that it is not as easy for the devil to tempt us to sin. Although suffering may seem bad at first, here we see that it can actually be a real blessing. As a result, it should be our desire to spend the rest of our lives following Christ instead of satisfying our sinful lusts and desires.
22. Read I Peter 4:1-6 and write whose will we should do.
23. Explain why God encourages Christians to have an attitude that prepares them to suffer for Christ.
24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to live so that you can carry out the will of God that He has for you.

Before we followed Christ, we followed the will of the devil. He led us to commit all kinds of sin because we were slaves to sin. Those sins involved satisfying ourselves and worshipping the devil. Now those who follow the devil think that we are very strange because we no longer do the things that we used to do. We are no longer concerned about satisfying ourselves by sinning. We no longer want to be involved in those things that are involved in worshipping the devil. At the same time we do not need to worry about these people who speak against us.
25. Read I Peter 4:1-6 and write to whom they must give an account.
26. Explain why the people who are not Christians find it surprising that we do not want to practice the same sins that they are doing.
27. Explain some of the new desires that God gave you in your life when you placed your trust in Christ.

God will judge the people that speak and do evil to Christians so we do not need to judge them.

Instead we have the opportunity to speak boldly for God just like the people who have died in the past for speaking about Christ. They received the Gospel and preached it to others. Many times evil men judged them and killed them for speaking about Christ. Although those Christians were killed for speaking about Christ, God has given them a great life and they are now alive with Christ in heaven.
28. Read I Peter 4:1-6 and write what happened to these people even though they were judged and killed by people.
29. Explain why it is a privilege for Christians to suffer and even die for Christ.
30. Since you asked Christ to forgive your sin, explain why you are thankful that you do not need to give an account to God for the evil that you have done in the past.

We go on to see that the Lord is coming soon. Since we know that Christ is coming soon, we should be ready at all times for His coming. To be ready at all times, we are to have a sober mind. We are to use the time that we have here on this earth for prayer. One of the most important things that we have the opportunity to do is have a great love for one another. A great love for one another will keep us from sinning against one another. Today many Christians have never developed this strong love the other Christians that Christ encourages us to have. That is one reason why many churches are weak. The Christians do not love each other.
31. Read I Peter 4:7-19 and write what we should show to each other without complaining.
32. Explain what makes it possible for Christians to be able to have a strong love for one another.
33. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord gives you the opportunity to show love to other Christians.

As Christians we also see that we are encouraged to invite others into our homes. We have the opportunity to do this gladly in Christian love. Every Christian has received gifts. God has given these to every Christian so that we can use those gifts to serve one another. Here we see that we are to use these gifts the right way. When we speak, we are to speak the Word of God. When we serve others, we are to serve others with the ability that God has given to us. When we speak or serve, we are to do all things to bring glory to Christ.
34. Now read I Peter 4:7-19 and write what we should not think is strange.
35. Explain why God has given some Christians speaking gifts and He has given other Christians serving gifts.
36. Explain why it is important to you in your life to use your spiritual gifts to bring glory to Christ.

When we suffer, we are sharing in the sufferings of Christ so we should rejoice. In fact we can even be happy when people speak against us because we serve Christ. The one thing we need to make certain is that we are suffering for Christ and that we are not suffering because we have done wrong. If we are suffering because we are a murderer, a thief or a gossip, we will be ashamed. However, if we suffer for Christ, then when we suffer we will not be ashamed. Instead we can rejoice and give glory to God because He is allowing us to suffer for Him.
37. Read I Peter 4:7-19 and write where these verses tell us that judgment must begin.
38. Explain why Christians can rejoice and be full of joy when they have the opportunity to suffer for Christ.

39. Explain why you think that it would be a privilege for you to suffer for the sake of Christ.

As Christians, we also need to examine our own lives to make certain that we do not allow sin to remain in our lives. God is a holy God and cannot look on sin with favor. If we continue to live in sin as Christians, God will discipline us while we are still alive on this earth. In contrast, those who are not Christians will receive their judgment after they die because they will experience eternal judgment. For us as Christians we know that God has saved us. We know that He will keep us so we do not need to worry.

40. Read I Peter 4:7-19 and write what we should commit to God.

41. Explain why it is important for Christians to regularly examine their lives and confess any unconfessed sin.

42. Explain what it means to you to know that you can commit the keeping of your soul to God because of the fact that He is a faithful Creator.

Now reread I Peter 3:1-4:19 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of I & II Peter
Lesson 3
I Peter 5:1 – II Peter 1:21

Today we will be learning more about the way that we should live as Christians. First we learn that the elders of the church are to provide an example of how to live. Then we are given instructions about the way that they should lead the church. We also see why we need to be watching out for the devil. Then we learn how we are to stand as Christians. We will see that the Lord tells us the things that we should develop in our lives so that we will not fall. In fact there are several things that we should add to our lives. Finally we will learn how the Word of God was given to us.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell how the elders are to lead the church.
Explain why we are warned to watch out for the devil.
Explain what our lives should be like as Christians.
Tell how we received the Word of God.

As we begin the first part of our lesson, we see that we are given instructions for the elders of the church. The elders are the spiritual leaders of the church. They are chosen by the Holy Spirit when they meet the qualifications given in I Timothy and Titus. Here we see the work that the elders are told to do. First, they are to feed the flock of God. The flock of God is the church. The most important responsibility of the elders as leaders is to feed and equip every Christian so that every Christian can grow and learn to serve Christ effectively.

1. Read I Peter 5:1-5 and write how the elders should take the oversight (leadership) of the church.
2. Explain why one of the most important responsibilities of the leaders in a church is to feed the congregation from the Word of God.
3. Explain how spiritual leaders have helped you in your own growth as they have taught you the Word of God.

Leaders in the church are not to lead because they are forced to lead. Rather they are to be willing leaders that have a desire to serve the Lord by helping other Christians grow and mature. They are not to lead the church just to get money or some other form of self-gain. Instead they are to lead the church because of their desire to serve and please God. In order to feed the Christians, the elders must spend much time teaching the Word of God to the Christians. It is the Word of God that will help the Christians grow and mature and not the words of man. Good teaching will help the Christians learn how to obey and serve Christ effectively.

4. Now read I Peter 5:1-5 and write what the elders are to be instead of lords.
5. Explain why the elders are instructed to lead because they have a desire to serve the Lord and help others grow.
6. Explain some of the ways in addition to teaching you the Word of God that spiritual leaders have helped you in your own spiritual growth.

These verses show us how we are to lead as Christian leaders. We are to lead by our example and not by telling people that they must do certain things. Instead of telling other Christians that they must witness, we can take two or three with us each week and show them how to witness by our example. As these Christians observe how we pray and depend on the Holy Spirit to guide us as we share the Gospel, they will learn to do what they observe. Soon these Christians will also be witnessing. If we spend our time teaching the Word of God and leading by our example, soon many Christians will be sharing the Word of God with others and serving the Lord.

7. Read I Peter 5:1-5 and write what kind of a shepherd Christ is called.
8. Explain why Christian leaders are told to lead by being an example to those that they lead and not by lording it over those that they lead.
9. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about the importance of learning to lead by example.

These verses also tell us why we are to lead by example rather than being leaders who try to tell others what to do. Christ is the One that is the Chief Shepherd. He is the One that has the right to tell Christians what they are to do. As Christians we are not to try and rule anyone else. Instead we are to teach every Christian to look to Christ for leadership and guidance. We are not to try and be the boss. Instead we are to be subject to one another. Christ tells us that we are to show others by our own example the importance of being humble instead of boasting.

10. Read I Peter 5:1-5 and write what these verses tell us that God does to the proud.
11. Explain why Christian leaders are to show others how to lead by their example of how they follow the Chief Shepherd.
12. Explain what it means to you in your own life to place yourself in submission to those spiritual leaders that God has given to lead you.

As Christians we see that we are to be humble instead of proud. We are not to boast about ourselves. Instead we are to take all of our problems to the Lord because He cares for us and loves us. We are also to be very alert to our real enemy. The devil is the great enemy of every person. His goal is always to steal, to kill and to destroy. Since he knows that he can no longer destroy the lives of Christians, he has a different goal as he opposes us. He tries to cause every Christian to live in sin so that our lives will not be examples for Christ.

13. Read I Peter 5:6-14 and write how the devil walks around.
14. Explain what God promises to do in the lives of each of the Christians that choose to humble themselves before Him.
15. Explain what these verses teach you about the way that you are to handle all of your problems that you face in your own life.

The devil is looking for people that he can destroy by causing them to remain in sin. As Christians, we have been given the power to stand against the temptations of the devil as we yield our lives to God. The way that we stand against the devil is to stand in the faith that we have been given by Christ. Then we are standing in the strength of Christ instead of trying to stand in our own strength. As long as

we are standing in the strength that Christ gives, we will not listen to the devil when he tries to tempt us. It is when we are trying to stand in our own strength that the devil is able to deceive us.
16. Read I Peter 5:6-14 and write what God is called in these verses.
17. Explain why Christians can only resist the devil by stand firm in their faith in Christ instead of trying to resist in their own strength.
18. Explain why it is important to you to realize that other Christians are also facing the same kind of testing from the devil.

As we close this book we have several promises of blessing. We see that God has called us and that He shows us His great love and kindness. God allows us to suffer so that we will be strong as we serve Him. God wants us to rest in Him and have His peace because we know that we have eternal life. The devil can never take that life away from us. Because we know that we have eternal life, we do not need to keep on worrying. Instead we can trust in the Lord for His strength and allow Him to fill our lives with His peace even in the middle of times of testing.
19. Read I Peter 5:6-14 and write what church Peter mentions in these verses.
20. Explain why these verses teach that Christians are to stand in the strength that Christ gives as they serve the Lord.
21. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that the reason God allows you to suffer is actually to help you become stronger.

As we begin II Peter we learn some additional things about the way that the Lord wants us to live our lives as Christians. God has called and chosen us. He has also given us His power through the Holy Spirit to live lives that are holy. It should be our desire to live lives that are holy because God also promises us that we will share everything that belongs to Christ for all eternity. We also see the Christ gives us the power to have victory over the things of the world. As a result, we can live our lives with a strong faith in Christ.
22. Read II Peter 2:1-14 and write what we should add to faith.
23. Explain what it means when it says that Christians have been given all things that pertain to life and godliness.
24. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that you have been made a partaker of the divine nature.

We see that we can do nothing unless we begin with faith in Christ. However, once we have put our faith and trust in Christ, we now have the power to show that faith by doing those things that will please God. Here we see that it is normal for service to follow salvation. Once we have become Christians, our greatest desire should be to serve Christ. We are told to add knowledge to our faith. Knowledge comes from studying the Word of God and applying it to our own lives so that we know how to serve Christ and live a life that is pleasing to Him. We are next told to add self-control to our knowledge.
25. Read II Peter 1:1-14 and write what we are told to add to self-control.
26. Explain why Christians are to add knowledge to their faith in Christ by studying and obeying the Word of God.

27. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to want to grow in your knowledge so that you can serve the Lord more effectively.

Self-control means that at each moment that we are yielding the control of our lives to Christ that we have the power to do those things that are right. Patience is learning to suffer with joy. We can do this because we are looking to Christ for the future so that suffering for the moment right now does not need to bother us. We are also instructed to add godliness to our life. Godliness is putting God first in all things. When we love God, we will be kind to all people. This is true because our lives are controlled by love instead of our own fear or sinful desires. If we live the life that Christ has given us the power to live, we will have fruit for Christ in our lives. If we do not live this kind of life, we will feel like our life is a life of discouragement and failure. If we do these things we will enjoy victory in Christ because we will not have doubts about whether we have eternal life.
28. Read II Peter 1:1-14 and write what Peter said would happen to him in a short time.
29. Explain why the things mentioned in these verses will transform the life of any Christian.
30. Explain why it is important to you to bear fruit for Christ in your life.

When we follow Christ, we know that we have life that will last forever. We do not need to worry about losing our salvation. Peter was glad to remind the Christians of this wonderful promise. Although we have eternal life, it is always encouraging to be reminded of this fact again. Peter said that as long as he was in this body (tabernacle) he would continue to remind the Christians of this wonderful promise.
31. Read II Peter 1:1-14 and write who had revealed to Peter that he would soon die.
32. Explain what these verses teach about the results of living our lives for Christ.
33. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to choose to live for Christ rather than for yourself.

Peter was joyful even though he knew that he would die very soon. Now he wanted to remind the Christians one more time about the power and coming of Christ. Peter had been given a little picture of the power of Christ when he saw what Christ would be like in heaven. This happened that Christ was transfigured or changed before Peter, James and John. On that day the three disciples saw a great picture of the glory and power that Christ has and will show at the time we will see Him when He returns for us to take us to heaven.
34. Read II Peter 1:15-21 and write what we have been given that is sure and unchangeable.
35. Explain what Peter learned about the power and glory of Christ from the time that He saw Christ in all of His glory on the Mount of Transfiguration.
36. Explain why you are looking forward to seeing Christ in all of His glory.

We are to obey the Word of God as we wait for the coming of the Lord. The coming of the Lord will be like the dawn of a new day. As we wait for the coming of the Lord, we are to realize that the Word of God did not come from the ideas of men. Instead men of God spoke the words that were given to them by the Holy Spirit. That is why we know that the entire Bible is true. It is not the words of men. Instead it is the living Word of God.

37. Read II Peter 1:15-21 and write what kind of a word of prophecy we have.
38. Explain why Christians are to pay attention to and obey the Word of God because of the fact that it is like a light shining into a dark place.
39. Explain why you are thankful that the Bible is the Word of God and not just the words of men.

We also learn that the Word of God is not of any private interpretation. If we will teach all of the Word of God in its larger context we will not be giving false teachings. There are many people who have tried to teach false doctrine from the Bible. They take a part of a verse and forget the rest of the chapter. Then they never compare that part of the verse with other parts of the Bible. They are making their own private interpretation of the Word of God. As a result, they teach false doctrine. This is why it is important to teach an entire section of Scripture or a whole chapter so that you will avoid teaching false doctrine.
40. Read II Peter 1:15-21 and write who moved the men that wrote the Bible.
41. Explain why God warns that people are not to give their own private interpretation of a verse or a part of a verse.
42. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to study the Word of God carefully so that you can interpret it correctly.

Now reread I Peter 5:1 through II Peter 1:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of I & II Peter
Lesson 4
II Peter 2:1-3:18

One of the dangers that Christians have always faced is the danger of false teachers. This was true in the time of the early church and it is still true today. There are actually many false teachers in the world today. In our study today we will look at some of the things that will help us to recognize when a person is a false teacher. One thing that many false teachers deny is the fact that Christ paid for our sins with His own blood. These false teachers try to ignore the fact that it was necessary for Christ to shed His blood in order for our sin to be forgiven. We need to be alert for such teachers because the fact that Christ shed His blood is absolutely necessary for a holy God to forgive our sin and set us free from the penalty of sin.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell what judgment is promised for false teachers.
Explain several ways that you can tell when a teacher is a false teacher.
Tell what these verses promise that people will say about the coming of Christ.
Explain what we learn about the new heavens and the new earth.

Today we are living in a day when there are many false teachers in the world. Many of these false teachers are in churches. In these verses we see that one of the things that false teachers refuse to believe is the fact that they can only be saved by the blood of Christ. These false teachers get many people to follow their evil ways. These false teachers want to get people to follow them so that they can use these people. Often these false teachers are either seeking money or power. These false teachers will be judged for leading others the wrong way.

1. Read II Peter 2:1-14 and write who God cast down to hell because of their sin.
2. Explain why false teachers will often deny that Christ paid the price to set people free from the penalty of sin.
3. Explain why it is important for you personally to know how to recognize those that are false teachers.

When Satan and his followers rebelled against God, God cast them out of heaven. Now they are waiting for their final judgment. In the time of Noah, God destroyed all of the people except the family of Noah because even the thoughts of the people were evil continually. Later we see that God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for their sin. Only Lot and two of his daughters escaped from that city and were spared by God. God spared them because Lot had faith in God even though he was living in sin. Today we know that God will always have victory over sin. Because of this, God is able to give victory to all Christians when they are tempted by the devil as they yield to God.

4. Read II Peter 2:1-14 and write what God has done with those who are unjust.
5. Explain why these verses show us that the thing that motivates most false teachers is covetousness.

6. Explain what lessons you learn about the fact that God will judge false teachers from the fact that He has judged evil angels and evil people in the past.

We also see a picture of those who choose to follow the devil. They do what they want to do. They speak evil of others. They sin continually. Their eyes are filled with lust and that causes them to commit adultery. They try to get others to follow their evil ways. Their only desire is to satisfy themselves. They have no desire to do what is right or to serve God. As a result, they must be punished because of their sin. Their only reward will be eternal judgment. They will not escape when God brings His judgment upon them.

7. Read II Peter 2:1-14 and write what these people are speaking about when they speak evil.
8. Explain what these verses teach about the final judgment of all those who continue to follow their evil ways.
9. Explain why you are thankful that you know that the Lord is able to deliver the godly out of temptation.

Many false teachers are like Balaam. Balaam was willing to do anything to get money for himself. He did not care whether he did right or wrong as long as he got money. He was willing to go and curse the people of Israel in order to get the riches promised by an evil king. At the same time he claimed to be a prophet of God. God spoke directly to Balaam and told him that the people of Israel were blessed. However, Balaam still wanted to get that money. God finally used the animal on which Balaam was riding to speak to Balaam. Here we see those false teachers and false prophets are often teaching their false teachings in order to get things for themselves.

10. Read II Peter 2:15-22 and write how Peter says these false teachers are like wells.
11. Explain why Balaam was willing to go to curse people that God had told him were blessed until God used his animal to cause him to fear.
12. Explain what you learn for your own life about false teachers from the example of Balaam.

We also see that false teachers are empty. They are like wells without water. They do not have the Holy Spirit in their lives because they are not Christians. Instead they speak words that appeal to the sinful desires of people. These words are what sinful people want to hear and so these people choose to follow these false teachers and continue to satisfy their own sinful desires. Sinful people always want to satisfy their own sinful desires and so they look for false teachers whose teaching encourages them to continue to live in their sin.

13. Read II Peter 2:15-22 and write what these false teachers promise.
14. Explain why sinful people are quick to follow false teachers that encourage them to continue to follow their own sinful desires.
15. Explain why it is important in your own life to avoid following any teacher that is teaching people to satisfy their own sinful desires.

Today we have many false teachers who tell people that they are free and can commit any kind of sin that they desire. However, this passage teaches that such teachers are not even free themselves. Instead they are slaves to their own sinful desires. They are only teaching people to become slaves to

their sinful ways. Christ is the only one that can make a person free. Those who think that they can become free by following their sinful desires will only find that their condition becomes worse and worse.
16. Read II Peter 2:15-22 and write what it would have been better for these false teachers not to have known.
17. Explain why false teachers will often tell people that they are free to follow their own sinful desires because God says that they are free.
18. Explain why you think a person will teach others that the others can become free when the one who is teaching is in bondage to his or her own sin.

Many false teachers have understood the truth but chose to turn from the truth. They chose to reject Christ instead of following Him. As a result, such false teachers will receive greater judgment. These false teachers are compared to dogs or pigs. A dog will return to its vomit. A pig will return to the mud. They will go back to these things because they are dogs and pigs. A person that is not a Christian will go back to his or her sin because Christ has not changed that person.
19. Read II Peter 2:15-22 and write whose servants these false teachers really are instead of being servants of God.
20. Explain why false teachers are compared to dogs and pigs in these verses.
21. Explain why you think that false teachers who knew the truth and rejected it will receive an even greater judgment.

Peter wrote this letter to remind the Christians to study the Word of God. Today we still need this reminder. There are many Christians who never study the Word of God for themselves. Some may pick up a Bible occasionally and read a few verses or a chapter but they never really study the Word and ask the Holy Spirit to give them wisdom and understanding. They feel that they can learn enough about the Bible by listening in church on Sunday morning. As a result, such people are very weak Christians and are not serving the Lord by the way they walk, the way they talk or the way they live. We need to study the Word of God so that we can serve the Lord because we are living in the last days.
22. Read II Peter 3:1-9 and write who will be on the earth in the last days.
23. Explain why it is important for every Christian to personally study the things that Christ taught and that His disciples taught and wrote for us.
24. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to study the Word of God so that you can grow in your understanding of what God wants you to do.

Today we are living in the last days. We have many people that are denying that Christ is coming soon. They are not prepared for the coming judgment. Such people are like the people in the time of Noah. Those people laughed when Noah spoke of judgment. They thought that they were safe and did not need to worry. Then one day the flood came and destroyed them all. They were not able to escape. People today have the same attitudes as the people had in the time of Noah. However, there will be no escape from judgment for those who fail to follow Christ.
25. Read II Peter 3:1-9 and write what God will use to judge the earth the next time that He judges the earth.

26. Explain why people today are like the people in the time of Noah and live as if there is no judgment coming.
27. Explain why you think that people today are not thinking about what is going to happen to them in the future.

Many people think that Christ is not going to return because He has waited so long. However, we see the reason why God has waited so long as we read these verses. Christ has waited this long because He does not want anyone to die in his or her sins. He wants everyone to have the opportunity to hear how to be saved from their sins. Christ desires for everyone to come to Him in repentance so that He can forgive their sins. This is why God is very patient and wants to give everyone the opportunity to repent and turn from sin to Christ.
28. Read II Peter 3:1-9 and write how long a day is in the sight of the Lord.
29. Explain why God is very patient with people and has waited a long time before bringing judgment on the earth.
30. Explain how you would answer a person that says that Christ is not coming because He has waited so long.

We go on to read that the day of the Lord will come. No one knows exactly when the Lord will come to bring judgment. People will be unprepared just like they are unprepared when a thief comes at night. People always think that they will be able to prepare and get ready tomorrow or the next day. They never stop to think about the fact that they need to get prepared right now while they have the opportunity or it might be too late. We read that when the Lord brings judgment that the heavens and the earth will be destroyed by fire. These things will all happen very suddenly.
31. Read II Peter 3:10-18 and write how we should live since the Lord is coming soon.
32. Explain why people are deceiving themselves when they say that they can get ready at some later time.
33. Explain how you would explain the future judgment to someone that has a desire to know what will happen in the future.

Since the Lord is going to come suddenly, we need to be expecting Him at any moment. We need to be prepared and ready ourselves. We also need to realize that we have the opportunity today to tell others about Christ and that tomorrow may be too late. We also have a promise that God will create a new heavens and a new earth. Only those that are right with God will see that new heavens and new earth. As Christians, we should be eagerly looking for the coming of Christ.
34. Read II Peter 3:10-18 and write how Christ wants to find us when He comes.
35. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that God will create a new heavens and a new earth.
36. Explain why it is important to you to tell others to get ready to meet Christ while they have the opportunity.

Peter goes on to speak about the books of the Bible that were written by Paul. Those who did not believe in Christ were already rejecting those books just as they had rejected Christ. Today people

are just the same. Once people reject Christ or any part of the Bible and refuse to believe what the Bible says, they are on their way toward rejecting the entire Bible. They just keep rejecting more and more until finally they say that they do not believe the Bible at all. This is the reason that many churches no longer teach that the Bible is the Word of God.
37. Read II Peter 3:10-18 and write what Peter said there was in all of the books that Paul wrote.
38. Explain what will happen to those who make the choice to reject the Word of God.
39. Explain what you learn about the relationship that Peter and Paul had from these verses.

Since we know about these things that are going to happen, we are to serve Christ and turn away from our sin. As we put Christ first in our lives, we will continue to grow in grace. We will also continue to grow in our knowledge and understanding of Christ. However, if we do not continue to grow, our lives will become weak. We grow by studying the Word of God. As a result, our knowledge of Jesus Christ increases. We realize even more than before how much Christ has done for us.
40. Read II Peter 3:10-18 and write how long we should give all praise and glory to Christ.
41. Explain why those who are untaught and unstable twist the Word of God, which in turn leads to their destruction.
42. Explain why it is important to you in your life to continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now reread II Peter 2:1-3:18 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of I, II, III John & Jude
Lesson 1
I John 1:1-2:29

The book of I John is the book about how to have fellowship with the Lord and with other Christians. As we study the first part of our lesson today, we will see that it is possible to have fellowship with both the Father and with Jesus Christ. Then we will have the opportunity to learn how to have fellowship with other Christians as well as fellowship with the Lord. We will see that we must make the choice to walk in the light in order to enjoy this fellowship. As we walk in fellowship with God, we will want to be obedient to Him and follow His commandments so that we can continue to enjoy that fellowship. We will want to learn how to serve Him and please Him in our daily lives so that we enjoy that fellowship.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell why fellowship with the Lord is important.
Explain what it means to walk in the light.
Explain how we should walk as obedient Christians.
Tell what warning we receive about false teachers.

John begins by telling us four ways that he learned about Christ. John had the opportunity to hear Christ teach throughout His public ministry. John saw Christ. John was able to feel that Christ had a real body after the resurrection. John also looked upon Christ and really studied Him. Perhaps you are thinking that seeing Christ and looking upon Christ are the same thing. However, looking upon Christ has a much greater meaning. It speaks of looking at Christ with wonder and amazement. John looked at Christ with great wonder and amazement because he recognized that Christ is the Son of God.

1. Read I John 1:1-4 and write with whom we have fellowship.
2. Explain why it is important to know that John had the opportunity to see, hear and feel Christ both before and after the resurrection.
3. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that Christ chose the apostles to be witnesses of the resurrection.

The book of I John is the book about fellowship. John wrote so that he could have fellowship with other Christians. Today we also need to have fellowship with other Christians. True Christian fellowship is sharing our lives together in Christian love. We may have Christian fellowship with many people in the church. At other times we have fellowship with one family or even one individual. However, we can only have true Christian fellowship with other Christians when our hearts are right with God. That is why it is so important to make certain that we do not allow any unconfessed sin to remain in our lives.

4. Read I John 1:1-4 and write why John wrote this letter.

5. Explain why it is important for Christians to both fellowship with God and fellowship with other Christians.
6. Explain what the word fellowship means to you in your own words.

Christ and His life were revealed to the apostles so that they could give us testimony about His death and resurrection. This was done so that we could know how to have eternal life. Christ wants every Christian to be filled with joy. We are filled with joy when we are having fellowship with the Father and with Christ. This is due to the fact that we know that all of our sins are forgiven. It is a wonderful thing to know that our hearts are clean and right before God. This makes it possible to have hearts that are filled with joy instead of fear. This makes it possible to have peace instead of worry. Christ wants to give us these things.
7. Read I John 1:1-4 and write what kind of joy John wanted the other Christians to experience in their lives.
8. Explain what is necessary for a person to have true fellowship with Christ and with other Christians.
9. Explain why you find that you life is filled with joy when you are experiencing fellowship with the Lord.

We also read about three groups of religious sinners. The first group says that they have fellowship with God but they continue to walk in darkness. They have never known what it means to walk in the light and have their sins forgiven. Today there are many people who attend a church and call themselves Christians but they have never asked Christ to forgive their sin. There are also many churches that no longer teach about the death and resurrection of Christ. These verses teach that those who are walking in darkness must walk in the light if they want to have eternal life. This means that people must choose to follow Christ and place their trust in Him.
10. Read I John 1:5-10 and write why it is so important to walk in the light.
11. Explain why many people think that they are Christians even though they continue to walk in darkness.
12. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to be walking in the light at all times.

The second group of religious sinners are those who say that they have no sin in their lives. These verses tell us that those who say that they have no sin have only deceived themselves. In addition to deceiving themselves, these verses say that such people do not have the truth in them. Today there are some groups of Christians that say that they have grown to the place where they no longer commit sin. As verse eight says, such people are only deceiving themselves. In fact the closer we walk to the Lord, the more we realize that we do commit sins. To confess our sins means to agree with God about the terribleness of our sins and turn from those sins.
13. Read I John 1:5-10 and write what God does when we ask Him to forgive our sins.
14. Explain why God says that people are deceiving themselves when they say that they have no sin in their lives.
15. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that God does forgive you and cleanse you from all unrighteousness when you confess your sins.

The third group of religious sinners are those who say that they have never sinned. A good example of this group is in Luke 18 where the Pharisee who prayed to himself tried to tell God how good he was because of the things that he did in his life. He was totally depending on his own efforts to make himself right with God. He did not admit once that he was a sinner. When a person will not admit that he has sinned, that person cannot be a Christian. As a result, the Word of God is not in that person.
16. Read I John 1:5-10 and write what a person who says that he or she has not sinned is actually calling God.
17. Explain why a person that says that he or she has not sinned cannot be a Christian.
18. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about religious sinners from these verses.

As we go on to chapter two, we will learn some important lessons about how Christ speaks for us as well as some important lessons about obedience. The chapter begins by talking about the importance of avoiding sin. John writes to encourage us to avoid sin but knowing that we will sin. That is why John tells us that when we sin that Jesus Christ is our advocate. An advocate is one that speaks for another person. When we sin as Christians, Christ goes to the Father and speaks for us. Christ points to the value of His own blood as payment for the penalty for our sin. He says that we have accepted His payment by placing our trust in Him. The Father says that He is satisfied with Christ's payment for our sins and forgives us.
19. Read I John 2:1-11 and write whose sins Christ died for.
20. Explain why it is important for Christ to say that His blood paid for our sin when Satan accuses us before God.
21. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that Christ personally speaks for you when you commit sin.

We go on to read that love is shown by obedience. Christ showed His love by obeying the Father and dying for our sins. In these verses we see that we are to know Christ, to be in Christ and to abide in Christ. Knowing Christ means knowing Him so well that we know what He desires for our lives. To be in Christ speaks about our relationship to Him and that relationship makes it possible for us to grow to spiritual maturity. Abiding in Christ emphasizes the fact that we are to walk as Christ walks because He is walking with us. If we are abiding in Christ, our lives will be filled with joy regardless of what happens to us. As we abide in Christ, we know that we are in the center of the will of God.
22. Read I John 2:1-11 and write how we will walk if we are abiding in Christ.
23. Explain why it is important for Christians to demonstrate that they know Christ by their obedience to Christ.
24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that God wants to bring His love to maturity in your life.

We are also given a commandment that is both old and new. This commandment is to love one another. It is an old commandment that goes back to the early part of the Old Testament where we are commanded to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. At the same time it is a new commandment. Christ gave us the new commandment to love one another as He has loved us. Christ came as the light to remove darkness. Christ showed true love when He died on the cross for us. As we let the Holy

Spirit control our lives, it is possible for us to have this same love. As we love the Lord and our Christian brothers and sisters, we are fulfilling this commandment.
25. Read I John 2:1-11 and write where those who love their brother are abiding.
26. Explain why it is important for Christians to be walking in the light as they follow Christ.
27. Explain what this new commandment means to you in your own life.

John described three different levels of spiritual maturity as he wrote this letter. We see that those who are spiritual children know that their sins are forgiven. They have also known the Father. There are three characteristics of spiritual young men. Spiritual young men have become strong in spirit. Spiritual young men also have the Word of God abiding in them. Spiritual young men have learned how to live a life of victory over the evil one. Spiritual fathers are those who have really gotten to know the Father as a result of a long period of fellowship with Him.
28. Read I John 2:12-29 and write what Christians are told not to love.
29. Explain why it is important for every Christian to continue to grow and become a spiritual parent to others.
30. Explain what you learn about your own level of spiritual maturity from these verses.

We also see that obedience involves separation from following the ways of the world. To love the world means to have a way of life that is against the way of God. Some people speak of being worldly. By this they mean that certain actions and activities are wrong. However, a worldly way of thinking is the meaning of these verses. That includes more than just a few activities. It includes everything that we think and do. If the loss of some possessions causes us unhappiness, we are loving the things of the world rather than loving God. If we are continually thinking about the things of the world and failing to grow in our relationship with God, we are loving the world.
31. Read I John 2:12-29 and write what is not in us if we love the world.
32. Explain what it means to love the world.
33. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that as you do the will of God you will know that you will live forever.

Those who love the world want to satisfy the desires of their bodies. They want the things that they see. They are proud because of the things that they do. However, none of those things will last. They will quickly pass away. Our lives will only last for a short time. We are promised that as we do the will of God that we will have eternal life. We go on to see that obedience also includes separation from false teachers (antichrists). These false teachers have rejected parts of the Bible. As a result, they have gone away from the true Gospel. Today we have many antichrists that are trying to cause other people to turn way from the Word of God. They do not want others to follow Christ.
34. Read I John 2:12-29 and write who is called a liar.
35. Explain why false teachers want to turn people away from the Word of God and choose to deny that Jesus is the Christ.
36. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to make sure that you are faithful in teaching the Word of God as you teach others.

This passage tells us that all those that deny that Christ is God are false teachers. A person who says that Christ did not become a man is also a false teacher. The Bible tells us that Christ is both God and man. He is totally God. At the same time He is totally man. We read that a person cannot be a Christian if that person denies either the fact that Christ is God or that fact that Christ is man. As Christians, we are to continue our belief in both Christ and the Father.

37. Read I John 2:12-29 and write what we have received as Christians.
38. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that the Holy Spirit teaches Christians how to recognize what is truth.
39. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that one reason the Holy Spirit has been given to you is to teach you.

Since we have many false teachers today, we must abide in Christ and depend on Him alone. We have received the truth. Now we are called to abide in Christ. If we abide in Christ, we will not need to be ashamed when Christ returns to this earth to take the Christians to heaven. Instead we can be eagerly waiting for His coming. We know that Christ is with God and is God. We also know that Christ makes us right with God. As a result, we do not need to be ashamed as we think of the coming of Christ to take us to heaven. Instead we can look forward to His coming with confidence knowing that we have had our sins forgiven.

40. Read I John 2:12-29 and write what we are told about all of those who practice righteousness.
41. Explain why Christians can have great confidence as they wait for the coming of the Lord.
42. Explain why it is important to you to know that all those who practice righteousness are born of God.

Now reread I John 1:1-2:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of I, II, III John & Jude
Lesson 2
I John 3:1-4:21

Today we will receive some more warnings about false teachers. In fact we will be given warnings in each of the next several lessons about false teachers. The reason that we are given so many warnings about false teachers is due to the fact that there are many different kinds of false teachers. In order to avoid being tricked by these false teachers, we are given these different warnings about false teachers. We will also learn that we are either driven by the fear of man or we are led by the love of Christ. If we are led by the love of Christ, we will be able to love others with that same love.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell how Christians are different from those who follow the devil.
Tell how we should show the love of God as Christians.
Explain what some false teachers teach about Christ.
Explain why perfect love removes fear.

As we begin our study of these chapters, we have a wonderful promise. We read that we are the children of God. As the children of God, we know that God will share all of His riches with us. The world cannot really understand us as Christians because they do not know how God has changed our lives. We also see that when Christ comes, we will be like Him. This is a wonderful promise. It means that we will be changed. As we are growing in Christ, our lives are changing. However, at the moment we meet Christ, that change will be complete. No longer will we have any desire to sin or do evil. Instead we will be like Christ. That is what helps us to live pure and holy lives right now because we have this wonderful hope.

1. Read I John 3:1-12 and write what sin is.
2. Explain why people that are not Christians cannot really understand why a Christian does what he or she does.
3. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that Christ changed the way that you think and look at life when you placed your trust in Him.

Any time we break the law of God, we are committing sin. God sent Christ to take away our sin because He had no sin. This means that we should not continue to live in sin as Christians. We saw in I John chapter one that we do not become perfect here on this earth. However, that does not mean that our desires have not changed. We see here that we will not want to continue to live in sin if we are Christians. Instead it will be our desire to learn to abide in the strength that Christ gives and ask Him to give us His strength so that we will not continue to live in sin. Here we see that Christ gives us new desires and new goals. Our lives are changed and we no longer want to continue to live in sin.

4. Read I John 3:1-12 and write who we are serving if we continue to live in sin.
5. Explain why Christians are given new desires and new goals at the moment that Christ comes into their lives.

6. Explain how Christ has changed your own desires and your own goals when you became a Christian.

When we have been born of God, we do not want to continue to live in sin as we did before we became Christians. Instead we will live with love toward God and love toward one another. If we love God, we will not want to break His commandments. We will not want to follow the devil. Instead we are now different than those that are not Christians. Here we see some of the wonderful changes that Christ makes in our lives. He changes us and gives us a desire to have new actions. Then He gives us His power to carry out those actions as we yield to Him. We are different because we are now controlled by the love of Christ instead of the fear that used to control us. We will be showing the love of Christ in our lives.

7. Read I John 3:1-12 and write the message that we have heard from the beginning.
8. Explain why Christians think differently and act differently from those who are following the devil.
9. Explain how Christ has changed both your thinking and your actions since you became a Christian.

Since we are different from the people of the world that are following the devil, we should not be surprised if the people of the world hate us. They hate us because they do not have the love of Christ in their lives. Christ is the One that has given us that love. As a result, people without Christ cannot have a real love for others. In fact they cannot even understand that love. Because we now have spiritual life instead of spiritual death, Christ has given us a great love for one another that we could not understand before we became Christians. In contrast, those who are not Christians have hate and fear in their lives instead.

10. Read I John 3:13-24 and write what God calls a man who hates his brother.
11. Explain why people that are not Christians cannot understand the love that we have for one another as Christians.
12. Explain how the love of Christ in your own life has changed the way that you view others in your life.

Christ does not control one that is filled with murder and hate. That person does not have eternal life because that person is following the devil instead of Christ. As Christians, we will be controlled by the love of Christ as we yield our lives to Him. Christ gave us a true example of His love when He died to pay the penalty for our sins. That is why we should be willing to give our lives for each other as Christians. We demonstrate the love of Christ by using the things that the Lord has given us to help meet the needs of other Christians.

13. Read I John 3:13-24 and write how we are told to love instead of only loving by words or by talk.
14. Explain why Christians have the power to demonstrate the love of Christ to others as they yield to Christ.
15. Explain why you have found in your own life that the more often you yield the control of your life to Christ, the more often you are able to show His love to others.

Here we see that true Christian love will cause us to love other Christians so much that we will help them and not just talk about helping them. Many people like to talk about their concern for those who

have problems. Here we see that as we yield the control of our lives to Christ that we will do more than just talk. We will show that the love of Christ is controlling our lives by the things that we do to help those in need. Then we will not feel condemned or guilty in our hearts. Instead we will know that we are doing what God wants us to do.
16. Read I John 3:13-24 and write why we receive answers to our prayers when we ask God for the things that we need.
17. Explain why the love of Christ is shown by changed actions and not just by concerned words.
18. Explain some of the things that you have chosen to do to show the love of Christ to others because you have been yielding your life to Christ.

These verses tell us that God answers our prayers when we are obedient Christians. If God is not answering our prayers, then we need to examine our lives and find out if we are allowing sinful attitudes to remain in our lives. Then we need to confess that sin. When we believe in Christ and confess our sin, He gives us the power to love one another. As we obey the commandments of God, we know that we have peace with God. God also showed us that we are Christians by sending the Holy Spirit to live in our lives at the moment we became Christians.
19. Read I John 3:13-24 and write what commandment we will obey if we truly believe in Jesus Christ.
20. Explain what these verses teach about the way that Christians show the love of God as Christians.
21. Explain why it is important to you in your life to show the love of Christ to even to those that are not Christians.

We are also given another warning about false teachers. We are not to believe every person that claims to be speaking for God. Instead we are to test each teacher to see that the words that each teacher is teaching agree with the Word of God. There are many false teachers in the world and we are to watch out for them. Christ sent the Holy Spirit so that the Holy Spirit could help us to know whether a person is a true teacher or a false teacher. These verses tell us how to test the spirits to see whether a teacher is depending on the Holy Spirit or on evil spirits.
22. Read I John 4:1-6 and write one thing that some false teachers will not admit because they are depending on evil spirits.
23. Explain why Christians are told to test the spirits to make certain that a person is speaking through the power of the Holy Spirit.
24. Explain how the Holy Spirit has helped you to recognize some that were false teachers as you heard their teachings.

Here we see that there are some false teachers that refuse to admit that Christ is God and that He became a man. Christ is the name that shows that He is God. Jesus is the name that shows that He is man. Many people today refuse to admit that Christ became a man so that He could die for our sins. Instead these people teach that Christ was only a good man and not God come in the flesh. These teachers are false teachers and they are against Christ. As Christians, we have been given these verses so that we will not listen to such teachers and be deceived.
25. Read John 4:1-6 and write of what these false teachers are a part.

26. Explain why Christians are given instructions in the Bible so that they know how to test the things that people are teaching.
27. Explain how you would answer a person that either denies that Christ is truly God or that He is truly man.

We also see something else about false teachers. They are a part of the world and have not followed Christ. Because they are a part of the world, they say the things that the people of the world want to hear. As a result, many people in the world hear them and follow them. Today there are many people in the world that are being tricked by these false teachers. This is due to the fact that these false teachers are telling people what they want to hear instead of telling them the truth. This is one of the best tricks of the devil. If he can get people to listen to false teachers, then they will not learn the truth. Instead they will be tricked and deceived by the false teachers.
28. Read I John 4:1-6 and write why we have overcome these false teachers.
29. Explain why those who are true Christians will want to hear the Word of God and will not be satisfied with false teachings.
30. Explain what it means to you personally to know that you have overcome these false teachers because of the fact that the Holy Spirit is in your life.

These verses go on to teach us more about the love of Christ. First we see that love must come from God if it is true love. A person cannot have the kind of love that Christ has unless that person is a Christian. God gives us an example of true love. God loved us so much that He sent Christ to pay for our sins so that we could be right with God. God is holy and cannot look at sin. In order for God to save us, it was necessary for someone that was holy to die for our sins and satisfy the requirements of a holy God. That is what Christ came to do.
31. Read I John 4:7-21 and write what we should do since God loved us so much.
32. Explain why it is possible for us to love others with the love of Christ once we become Christians.
33. Explain some of the ways that you began to show love to Christians that you had not shown before you became a Christian.

When we love each other as God loves us, we are showing that Christ is in our lives. God sent the Holy Spirit to live in our lives at the moment that we became Christians. We also see that God sent Christ to be the Savior of the world. Those that have become Christians are glad to tell that Christ is living in their lives. They are glad to admit that Christ is the Son of God. They follow Him because they know that Christ is living in their lives.
34. Now read I John 4:7-21 and write what we will have in the day of Christ if we have the love of Christ in our lives.
35. Explain why all Christians should want to tell others about how they can have the love of Christ in their lives also.
36. Explain why you are thankful that Christ has given you the privilege of telling others about how His love has changed your life.

We will not need to be afraid when Christ comes if we have the love of Christ in control of our lives.

We see that His love removes fear. People are filled with fear because they know that they will be punished for their sins. Once we know that our sins are forgiven we do not need to have fear any longer. If we are still afraid, we are being driven by the fear of man instead of being led by the love of Christ. We have not yet let the love of Christ take control of our lives.
37. Read I John 4:7-21 and write why we love God.
38. Explain why the love of Christ removes fear as Christians learn to yield the control of their lives to Christ and His love.
39. Explain how your life is changing as you are learning to be led by the love of Christ instead of being driven by the fear of people.

We see that the reason that we should love God is due to the fact He first chose to show His love to us. We are just responding to His love for us. When we love God, we read that we will also love others. If we say that we love God and yet hate another person, these verses say that we are liars. If we cannot love the people that we see, how can we say that we love someone that we cannot see? That is why it is so important for us to understand what happens when we are driven by the fear of people. It means that we are not yielding the control of our lives to Christ.
40. Read I John 4:7-21 and write the commandment that we are given about loving our brother.
41. Explain why a Christian will be able to love others as he or she learns to be controlled by the love of Christ.
42. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that Christ is giving you His power so that you can love those around you.

Now reread I John 3:1-4:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of I, II, III John & Jude
Lesson 3
I John 5:1-II John 1:14

Today we will be studying one of the passages that tells us how we can know that we are Christians. There are many people in the world that hope that they are Christians. There are others that think that they may be Christians. However, they worry much of the time because they are not sure if they are Christians. Today we will learn how we can know for sure that we are Christians. When we know for sure that we are Christians, we can be filled with joy instead of worry. This is the reason that every person needs to know for sure whether he or she is a Christian. During the second half of our study we will also see that we are given additional instructions about how to recognize those people that are false teachers.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain how we can know for sure that we are Christians.
Tell what we learn about prayer.
Tell what we learn about walking in love.
Explain what we learn about false teachers and the antichrist.

As we have studied I John, we have read several times that we should love one another as Christians. Now we are told how to love one another. In order to love one another, we must love God first. When we love God, we will have a strong desire to obey His commandments. The Christian has been given a new life and a new love. We have a love for God. This leads to a love for other Christians. Christ summarized the Old Testament by saying that the Great Commandment is to love God with your whole heart, mind and soul and to love your neighbor as yourself. Then Christ gave the New Commandment that summarizes the whole New Testament; we are to love one another as Christ has loved us. Here we see one of the great changes that Christ makes in our lives when we become Christians. He gives us His love.

1. Read I John 5:1-13 and write the promise to all those that are born of God.
2. Explain why these verses teach that love for God is demonstrated by obedience to God.
3. Explain why it is not a burden for you to obey the commandments of God when you yield you life to Him so that you are controlled by the love of God.

When we become Christians, God gives us victory over the world. When our faith is in Jesus Christ, we know that we will continue to have victory over the world. He is the One that gives us victory. God is the One that has given us our faith. Here we read that it is through this faith that we now have victory. We also read that there are three witnesses to the work of Christ. The baptism of Christ showed that Christ became a man to die for the sins of the people of the world. The blood of Christ paid the penalty for the sins of the people of the world. Now the Holy Spirit speaks to people to convict them of sin and point them to Christ.

4. Read I John 5:1-13 and write whose witness is greater than the witness of men.
5. Explain what these verses mean when they say that all those who are born of God (all Christians) have overcome the world.
6. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that God says that you are an overcomer.

God has given us the Holy Spirit, the water (baptism) and the blood of Christ as a witness to us so that we can know that we have eternal life. When we believe in Christ, we can know that we have eternal life. Those who refuse to believe in Christ are saying that they think God is a liar. They do not believe the word that God gave about His Son. Today many people claim that they follow God but they refuse to believe what God says about Christ. As a result, they are actually calling God a liar.
7. Read I John 5:1-13 and write what God has given us.
8. Explain why many people claim to believe in God and at the same time they refuse to believe what God says about Christ.
9. Explain why you are thankful that you chose to believe what God says about Christ with the result that you placed your trust in Christ.

Jesus Christ is alive. When we become Christians, Christ gives us His life. He comes into our lives at the moment we become Christians. Since we now have the life of Christ in us, no one can take that life away from us. Because we made the decision to place our trust in Christ, these verses tell us that we can know that we have eternal life. We have believed in Christ and have followed Him. Now the Word of God promises us that we can know for sure that we have eternal life. Even if we sin, we know that Christ is in our lives and that He will keep His promise to give us eternal life.
10. Read I John 5:1-13 and write what all those who have placed their trust in the Son have.
11. Explain why Christians can know for sure that they are Christians and do not need to have doubts any longer.
12. Explain why it is important to you in your daily life to know for sure that you have eternal life.

Because we know for sure that we are Christians, we also have a wonderful promise about prayer. These verses promise us as Christians that whatever we ask according to the will of God that He hears us. A key phrase here is according to the will of God. If we ask for things to satisfy ourselves and our sinful desires, there is no promise that God will answer. However, if we ask according to the will of God we know that God will both hear and answer our prayers. In fact God gives us a specific promise here that He will answer if we ask according to His will. That is why it is important for us to study the Word of God so that we know the will of God. Then we can pray and expect God to answer.
13. Read I John 5:14-21 and write what God calls all unrighteousness.
14. Explain why it is important for Christians to study the Word of God so that they can pray according to the will of God.
15. Explain how it has helped you in your own life to know that God both hears and answers your prayers as you pray according to His will.

We go on to read that we are to pray for Christians that we see living in sin. We see that the Lord will

work in the life of a brother or sister as we pray for them. However, when a Christian continues to live in sin and rebellion against God, God may choose not to spare the physical life of that person. God will judge the Christian that continues to live in sin and rebellion against God. In fact I Corinthians 11:28-30 tells us that some Christians may die early because of continuing to live in sin and rebellion. God is a holy God and must judge sin. The sins of those who are not Christians will be judged in eternity. The sins of Christians can lead to physical sickness or even physical death.
16. Read I John 5:14-21 and write what we are told about those who are born of God.
17. Explain why Christians that continue to live in sin may experience the discipline of God by experiencing physical sickness and even physical death.
18. Explain why you know that it is important for you to live your life to please the Lord so that you do not need to experience His discipline.

Here we see that a Christian does not want to continue to live in sin and rebellion against God. As Christians we can pray that God will give us victory over the evil thoughts and evil desires of the world. The people of the world often allow their minds to be filled with sinful thoughts and desires. However, God promises us that He will give us understanding so that we know what is true and right. Christ is truth and He teaches us what is true. As we pray, we see that the Lord promises to give us understanding so that we can know Him better.
19. Read I John 5:14-21 and write from what we are told to keep ourselves.
20. Explain why it is important for Christians to pray that the Lord will give us understanding in all things.
21. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord helps you in your personal life to understand Him and know Him better as you pray for that understanding.

As we go on to II John, we learn some more lessons about the way that we should walk as Christians. We see that this book is written to all those that have known the truth. Since Christ is the truth, we see that this letter is written to all those who have placed their trust in Christ. This would include all Christians. As Christians we have the truth in our lives. No one can take the truth from us because no one can take Christ from us. Christ has given us the Holy Spirit so that He can help us to understand and apply the truth in our lives.
22. Read II John 1:1-6 and write how long we will have the truth in our lives.
23. Explain why it is important for all Christians to know that the truth has been given to them and that the Holy Spirit will help them to understand the truth.
24. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that you have been given the truth and that you can pray that the Lord will give you a growing understanding of the truth.

We see that we also receive grace, mercy and peace from both the Father and also from Jesus Christ. Grace is the loving kindness of God that caused Him to send Christ to pay the penalty for our sin. Mercy is the love and compassion of God that causes Him to forgive our sin and set us free the penalty of our sin. Peace is that inner peace that we have in our lives as we walk in fellowship with Christ. Inner peace is the result of knowing that Christ forgave our sins and removed them because He paid for them with His blood.
25. Read II John 1:1-6 and write what caused John to rejoice.

26. Explain why God wants all Christians to enjoy His grace, mercy and peace and not live in fear, guilt and shame.
27. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to experience the inner peace that comes from enjoying fellowship with Christ.

John was filled with joy because the Christians were walking in the truth. Now he goes on to remind us of the commandment that Christ gave just before Christ was crucified. Christ told the disciples to love one another as He had loved them. Christ also wants us to have that same love. Here we see that we will show true love by being obedient to the commands of God and walking as obedient children. In these verses we see that Christians are able to walk both in truth and in love. Those two things have the power to completely change and transform our lives.
28. Read II John 1:1-6 and write in what Christians are to walk.
29. Explain why it is so important for Christians to love one another that it is mentioned more than a dozen times in the New Testament.
30. Explain why you experience the joy of the Lord when you are walking in His love and showing that love to others.

There are many people that pretend to be Christians that are not walking in love. This is due to the fact that they are not true Christians. Instead they are just trying to deceive and trick others. We go on to read that such people are false teachers. One of the things that such false teachers deny is that Christ became a man. Today there are still false teachers that teach the same things. These false teachers try to teach that Christ did not come as a man to die for the sins of all people. Such false teachers are actually trying to get people to follow them instead of following Christ.
31. Read II John 1:7-13 and write what these false teachers are called.
32. Explain why it is impossible for false teachers to really walk in love.
33. Explain why it is important for you in your life to understand that false teachers are actually trying to get people to follow themselves instead of Christ.

As Christians, we are also warned to examine our own lives to make certain that these false teachers have not tricked us. Today there are many Christians that are being tricked by false teachers. These false teachers have gained control of many churches. They begin to teach that it is not necessary to believe everything that the Bible says. Slowly they begin to teach more and more things that do not agree with the Bible. Many Christians do not even realize how much these false teachers have tricked them as they have shared their own ideas.
34. Read II John 1:7-13 and write what things we are told not to lose.
35. Explain why false teachers will substitute their own ideas for the Word of God to lead people away from the truth.
36. Explain why it is important for you and me to examine our own lives regularly so that we make certain that false teachers are not deceiving us.

We have received the Word of God from others. Now we should not waste the efforts of those who brought the Word of God to us by listening to false teachers. If we are in a church or a group of

churches that no longer teach that the entire Word of God is true, these verses tell us that we are not to let them teach us. In many cases in order to avoid these false teachers we will have to separate from those churches and their false teachers. These verses tell us that we are not to invite false teachers into our homes and we are not to encourage them to continue their false teachings.
37. Read II John 1:7-13 and write what we are not to do when a false teacher comes that does not hold the true teaching about Christ.
38. Explain why Christians are told not to invite false teachers into their homes to share their false teachings.
39. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to understand that one of the most common types of false teaching is false teaching about the doctrine of Christ.

Here we see that as true teachers we are to teach the doctrine of Christ. The doctrine of Christ is all of the things that Christ taught. These things are recorded for us in the Word of God. That is why it is important to study the Word of God so that we will know what to teach others. When we teach everything that is in the Word of God, we help others to become strong Christians. Then they are able to recognize when a person is trying to teach them false teaching. They also learn how to teach other the true teachings of Christ.
40. Now read II John 1:7-13 and write why John wanted to visit the Christians and speak to them face to face.
41. Explain why it is important for us to help each Christian become familiar with the things that Christ taught.
42. Explain how it has helped you in your own life to have other Christians teach you the things that Christ taught.

Now reread I John 5:1 – II John 1:13 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of I, II, III John & Jude
Lesson 4
III John 1:1- Jude 1:25

Today we have a real warning about people that want to be dictators in a church. Sometimes a pastor or a missionary will try to be a dictator. At other times one of the men or the women of the church will try to be a dictator. Such individuals want the church to follow them and do things the way that they want them done. As a result, the Christians in the church do not learn to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. Scripture teaches that a church is to be led by a group of elders and not by just one elder. The Bible also teaches that Christian leaders are to be servants and not masters as they lead the church.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell how we should help those who are taking the Word of God to others.
Explain what we are told about Diotrephes, the dictator.
Tell what warning we have about people turning away from God.
Tell what we learn about false teachers.

We read about the man to whom John originally wrote this letter. Gaius was a Christian for whom John had a great love. We read that Gaius was really growing as a Christian. Now John was praying that Gaius would become physically strong just as he had grown spiritually strong. Here John gives us an example of praying for the physical needs of other Christians. John was especially happy to hear that Gaius was walking in the truth. To walk in the truth means to be obedient to the Word of God and do what is true and right in the sight of God. This is what each of us as Christians should have as our goal as we grow in our spiritual lives.

1. Read III John 1:1-8 and write what caused John to have great joy.
2. Explain why it is important for all Christians to learn to walk in the truth in order to grow to spiritual maturity.
3. Explain why you are thankful for the opportunity to learn the Word of God so that you can continue to grow in learning to walk in the truth.

Gaius was a Christian that also showed real Christian love to other Christians. He showed this love to Christian brothers and sisters that lived in the area where he lived. Gaius also showed this love to Christians that were traveling to other places to take the Gospel to others. Sometimes this even included people that were strangers to him but he showed his love to them. Here we see a real example of Christian love. The love of Christ in our lives should cause us to be concerned about the needs of other Christians so that it causes us to minister to them.

4. Read III John 1:1-8 and write what we are called when we help meet the needs of those that are taking the Gospel to others who live in other places.
5. Explain why it is important for all Christians to want to help other Christians that are taking the Gospel to other places.

6. Explain some of the ways that you have been able to help other Christians that are taking the Gospel to other places.

When the early Christians took the Gospel to others, they did not ask for help from those who were not Christians. Instead those who were Christians helped meet the needs of those that were taking the Gospel to others in other areas. This is the way that the Lord wants us to give to the work of the Lord today. As Christians, it is our privilege and responsibility to share in the work of the Lord by giving back to the Lord part of what He has given to us. The work of the Lord should be supported by the gifts of the Christians rather than by those that are not Christians.
7. Read III John 1:1-8 and write what these people received from the Gentiles.
8. Explain some of the ways that Christians can help other Christians that are taking the Gospel to other parts of the world.
9. Explain why it is important to you in your life to see that the Gospel spreads to people around the world.

We also learn about two other men in this short book. One was named Diotrephes and the other was named Demetrius. We read that Diotrephes wanted to be the most important person in the church. He was willing to do anything in order to be in control. He refused to allow other Christian leaders to visit his area. If a Christian leader from another area stayed in the home of another Christian, Diotrephes would kick that Christian out of the church for allowing the Christian leader to visit in his home. He wanted to be the dictator and so he tried to keep everyone away that might show what he was doing.
10. Read III John 1:9-14 and write what kind of words Diotrephes spoke against John and the other Christians.
11. Explain why it is important for all Christians to recognize that there are some people like Diotrephes that are trying to control everyone in the church by fear.
12. Explain how you have personally felt when someone like Diotrephes tried to control your life.

Today we have some Christian leaders that are just like Diotrephes. They want to run the church their own way. When others try to show such leaders what the Bible teaches, these leaders refuse to listen. They do not want to change because they enjoy having power and telling others what to do. Such leaders will even speak lies against other Christians. They speak those lies to prevent other Christians from learning the truth. Such leaders will be judged for trying to make themselves important instead of serving Christ and focusing on Him.
13. Read III John 1:9-14 and write what kind of a report Demetrius had among the other Christians.
14. Explain what causes some Christians to become like Diotrephes and try to control churches today.
15. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to make certain that you lead as a servant and not as a dictator.

Demetrius was very different than Diotrephes. Everyone said good things about Demetrius because he showed real Christian love. When he spoke, he spoke the truth and helped people to grow in their spiritual understanding. As a result, all of the people had a great respect for him. If we will speak the

truth in love today, people will respect us even if they do not like to hear the truth. They will know that the things that we are saying are right. They will know that they can depend on us to tell the truth. In that way our lives will have a very positive impact on others.
16. Read III John 1:9-14 and write when John hoped to see Gaius again.
17. Explain why Demetrius provides an example for all about the way to be a godly and effective spiritual leader in the church.
18. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the life of Demetrius that will help you to be an effective leader for Christ.

As we begin the book of Jude, we see that Jude calls himself the bondservant of Jesus Christ. He also calls himself the brother of James. Matthew 13:55 tells us that these two men were younger brothers that had been born to Mary and Joseph after the birth of Christ. Since God was the Father of Christ, they would actually be half-brothers of Christ because they both had the same mother and grew up in the same family. Jude shows us the attitude that each of us should have as Christians. Christ has saved us. Now our desire should be to serve Him. As we are faithful in serving Christ, the work of the Lord will be completed. As we study the book of Jude, we see that much of the book is a warning about false teachers.
19. Read Jude 1:1-7 and write what we are told to do for the faith.
20. Explain why Jude gives us an example to follow by referring to himself as a bondservant of Jesus Christ.
21. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to be a servant of Christ and carry out His work in the world.

We have received the Word of God. Now we are to speak boldly for the faith that we have received. The word "contend" was used to speak of a runner in a race that was making an all out effort to win the race. In the same way we are to make an all out effort to share the faith with others. In the process of making an all out effort to share the faith, we will meet false teachers. We are to teach the Word of God so that these false teachers will not be able to lead people astray. We see that these false teachers are very tricky. They try to sneak into churches and lead Christians the wrong way. Here we see that these false teachers are ungodly people. They do not worship God and they are trying to keep others from worshipping God.
22. Read Jude 1:1-7 and write what these ungodly men deny.
23. Explain why Christians are to make every effort to share the faith that we have with others that do not know Christ.
24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints.

False teachers will always deny certain things about Christ. Usually they will deny that Christ is God and that His blood paid for our sins so that we can have eternal life. We read that these false teachers will be judged just as evil men before them were judged. We have several examples of those who were judged in the past. The children of Israel were judged in the wilderness. The angels that rebelled against God were judged and are waiting for the eternal judgment that they will experience. The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were judged and destroyed.

25. Read Jude 1:1-7 and write what kind of a judgment the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah experienced.
26. Explain why it is important for us to understand these former judgments so that we understand how God will judge false teachers today.
27. Explain why you realize that it is important for you to share the Gospel with relatives and friends so that they will not experience a similar judgment.

We go on to read what these false teachers are like. We read that they are like Cain. Cain was a religious man. He even believed about God and brought a sacrifice to God. However, the sacrifice that Cain brought to God was the work of his own hands. Cain thought that his own works could save him. He refused to bring a blood sacrifice. Today many false teachers are like Cain. They are depending on their own works to save them. They deny that the blood of Christ is necessary to save people from sin. Instead they think that they can work to earn their salvation.
28. Read Jude 1:8-25 and write whose error many false teachers follow.
29. Explain why many false teachers reject the blood of Christ and encourage people to depend on their own works to earn their salvation.
30. Explain why it is important for you to personally recognize some of the different ways that false teachers try to deceive people.

The error of Balaam was that he chose to do what he thought was right to get what he wanted instead of asking God what to do. He knew that the people of Israel were sinful so he thought he could curse them and get a reward. The only thing that he wanted was to get that reward for himself. When he was unable to curse them for fear of losing his own life, he recommended that the people of Moab commit immorality with the people of Israel and let God judge them. Today many false teachers are like Balaam. They are giving their teachings so that they can get what they want for themselves. They may want power, fame, money or some other thing. However, they are only working to satisfy themselves.
31. Read Jude 1:8-25 and write what kind of clouds these teachers are like.
32. Explain why Balaam illustrates what many false teachers are like who are teaching what they teach to gain something for themselves.
33. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to understand what Balaam did so that you can recognize false teachers that are like him.

The book of Jude goes on to give us several examples to show us what false teachers are like. We see that they have nothing to help us so we should not listen to them. We see that they are compared to trees without fruit or clouds without water. A fruit tree with no fruit has nothing for those that are looking for fruit. A cloud without water offers nothing to the farmer that needs rain for his crops. In the same way false teachers have nothing to offer those who need spiritual help. We see that the Lord will come and bring judgment on such people. They will not escape judgment. They will be judged for the evil things that they have done. They will be judged for the evil words that they have spoken against Christ.
34. Read Jude 1:8-25 and write how these evil teachers walk.

35. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that false teachers cannot help people in their spiritual growth and development.
36. Explain why you think that false teachers are often able to deceive weak and struggling Christians.

We see that false teachers only want to satisfy their own lusts. This is due to the fact that they do not have the Holy Spirit in their lives. They also speak against others. They complain. They are filled with pride. They make fun of those who teach the truth about Christ. They do all of these things because they do not follow Christ. In fact the apostles had warned the early Christians that in the last time there would be mockers who would seek to satisfy their own evil desires. What was true in the time of the early church is certainly still true today.
37. Read Jude 1:8-25 and write in what we are to keep ourselves.
38. Explain why teachers without the Holy Spirit will always be false teachers that will seek to lead people astray.
39. Explain why you think that Jude encourages you and me as well as all other Christians to keep building ourselves up in the most holy faith.

As Christians, we see that we are to be different than false teachers. We can be controlled by the love of Christ. When that is true, it will be our desire to spend our time serving Christ and sharing with others how they can have eternal life. We are able to witness with boldness as we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us. Sometimes the Holy Spirit will help us be a witness by helping people in need. Sometimes the Holy Spirit will help us to answer the questions of those that are not yet Christians. With some we will witness by warning them about the coming eternal judgment. The important thing is to share with others about Christ in the way that the Holy Spirit leads us.
40. Now read Jude 1:8-25 and write what Christ is able to do for every Christian.
41. Explain why all Christians need to learn to depend on the Holy Spirit to guide them as they share the Gospel with others.
42. Explain why you are thankful that Christ has given you the Holy Spirit so that you do not need to depend on your own strength to share the Gospel.

Now reread III John 1:1 – Jude 1:25 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 1
Revelation 1:1-2:29

Today we are beginning a study of the book of Revelation. In the first part of this book we will learn about several different kinds of churches. Then we will study some of the things that will be happening in the future especially during the time of the tribulation. As we look at each of the seven churches mentioned in the book of Revelation, we will see that most churches today are very similar to one of these seven churches. In this lesson and the next lesson we will be learning about each of the seven churches. This will help us to understand what church we want to be like. Most of the churches were involved in various kinds of sin. We are warned not to follow their examples.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain what God has made all Christians.
Explain what you learn about Christ.
Tell what John was shown by God.
Explain what lessons we learn from the first four churches.

As we begin this book, we see that Christ was showing John the things that would soon come to pass. We see that we are promised blessing if we will read and pay attention to the words that are written in this prophecy. John wrote these things to let us know what will happen in the future. As we read these things, we will realize again the importance of telling others about Christ in the short time that we have left before the coming of Christ. We are told to do three things with the book of Revelation. We are to read the book. We are to hear and understand the book. We are to keep (obey) the things that are written in this book.

1. Read Revelation 1:1-8 and write who originally received the book of Revelation after John wrote it.
2. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that Christ wants Christians to understand the things that are written in this book.
3. Explain in what ways you hope that your study of the book of Revelation will improve your understanding of what is coming in the future.

We will learn more about these seven churches in chapters two and three. These churches give us a picture of what the church as a whole has been like at different times in the history of the church. The seven churches also give us a picture of the kinds of churches that we have in the world today. In addition, they were also actual churches in the time that the book of Revelation was written. As we read the introduction, we see that this book came from Christ. Christ is the One who loved us. He is the One that paid for our sins with His own blood.

4. Now read Revelation 1:1-8 and write what Christ has made us.
5. Explain why it is important for Christians to understand that these churches give us a picture both of church history and also of churches today in addition to being actual existing churches in the time of John.

6. Explain what you learn for your own life about Christ from the first few verses of this book.

We have a wonderful promise that Christ has given to all Christians. In the Old Testament, only a few people were allowed to serve as the priests of God. During the time that Israel was a nation, only one man could serve as the high priest. Now God has made every Christian a priest of God. Every Christian can go directly to God in prayer. We no longer need to go to another priest because we all became priests of God when we became Christians. Now as the priests of God, we all have the privilege of serving as His priests. Every Christian can now have the privilege of leading others to Christ. Today there are many Christians that are just sitting in churches. They have never understood that they have the privilege of serving as priests of God in the world. That is why it is very important to train and equip every Christian to serve Christ.

7. Read Revelation 1:1-8 and write what Christ calls Himself in these verses.
8. Explain why it is a great privilege for Christians to be called priests of God and be allowed to pray to God for people and to speak to people for God.
9. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that you are a priest of God.

We also read that when Christ comes back to rule on the earth that every person on the earth will see Him. Christ also says that He is the Alpha and the Omega. Those are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. This means that He has always existed and will always exist. He will never change. It was Christ that gave John the vision of the things that he wrote in the book of Revelation. John received this vision while he was on the island of Patmos. He had been sent to that island as a prisoner by the Roman government because they did not like what he was preaching. The Romans used that island for prisoners because there was no way for them to escape.

10. Read Revelation 1:9-20 and write what message John received on the Lord's Day.
11. Explain why it is important that Christ is the One that has always existed and will always exist.
12. Explain why you are thankful that Christ is the One that will never change.

When John received this message, he turned to see who was speaking to him. When John turned, he saw Christ. John was now a very old man and it had been about sixty years since he had seen Christ taken back to heaven after Christ arose from the dead. At that time John had seen Christ as He looked at Christ after the resurrection. However, Christ looked very different when John saw Him this time. Christ was shining with all of the glory that He now has in heaven. He was shining as bright as the sun. Christ has a sword that cut both ways in His mouth.

13. Read Revelation 1:9-20 and write what John did when he saw this vision of Christ.
14. Explain why Christ looked very different when He had all of the glory of heaven shining from Him.
15. Explain what you learn for your own life from the appearance of Christ described in these verses.

After John fell at the feet of Christ, Christ told him several other things. Christ said that He is the one that lived and died and is now alive forever. Then Christ told John to write three things. John was to write what he had seen (Christ in all of His glory). John was to write the things which are (the description of the seven churches given in the next two chapters). John was to write the things that will be hereafter (the future). Christ also explained the meaning of the seven stars and the seven lampstands that John had seen around Christ.

16. Read Revelation 1:9-20 and write what the seven lampstands are.
17. Explain why Christ gave John a vision about both the present and the future and told him to write what he had seen.
18. Explain why you are thankful that Christ told John to write this book so that you can learn about what is going to happen in the future.

We go on to read the message that Christ gave to each of the seven churches. First we read about the church at Ephesus. In this message, we first read several good things about the church at Ephesus. They worked hard for the Lord. They would not listen to those who did evil. They tested false teachers by the Word of God and then refused to listen to them because they were liars. They hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans. The Nicolaitans were people that claimed to be Christians but lived in sin. Although the church at Ephesus had done all of these good things, Christ had one thing against them.
19. Read Revelation 2:1-11 and write what Christ had against the church at Ephesus.
20. Explain why the Lord wrote about the good things in the church at Ephesus before telling the one thing that was wrong.
21. Explain why you need to also tell people the things that they are doing right and not just the things that they are doing wrong.

Today there are many churches and Christians that are like the church at Ephesus. They hate evil and refuse to listen to false teachers. They are not living in sin and preach against those that live in sin. However, they have left the love that they first had for Christ. Instead of being eager to witness for Christ and tell others about Him, they seldom share the Gospel any more. They have become more concerned about their own activities than they are about those who are lost and dying and on their way to hell. They may witness to those that happen to visit their church but they seldom go to the homes of the lost to take the good news that Christ offers eternal life.
22. Read Revelation 2:1-11 and write what Christ tells us to do if we are like the church at Ephesus.
23. Explain the difference between losing our first love and choosing to leave our first love.
24. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to know that you have not walked away from that first love that you had for Christ.

Christ gives 3 Rs for a church that has left its first love. Remember from where you are fallen. Repent. Repeat the first works. The second church is the church in Smyrna. This church was suffering from great persecution. They had many enemies that were trying to destroy them. They were very poor as far as the world was concerned. However, they were rich in the sight of God. There were people that were speaking against them and saying evil things about them. These evil people that were working against the Christians were completely controlled by Satan. Although people spoke evil of them, everything that Christ said about them was good.
25. Read Revelation 2:1-11 and write what God says to do when we suffer.
26. Explain why God said that the church at Smyrna was rich even though it was going through a time of great suffering.
27. Tell how you would explain the 3 Rs to someone that has left their first love for Christ.

We do not need to be afraid when we suffer for Christ. God will be with us if we go to jail for speaking about Christ. God will be with us when people speak against us. God will also be with us if we

die for speaking about Christ. The important thing is that we are faithful to Christ wherever we are and in whatever we do. Then we will receive a great reward from the Lord. God promised the people in the church at Smyrna that those who were faithful did not need to worry about being touched in their lives by the second death.
28. Read Revelation 2:1-17 and write who had been a martyr in the church at Pergamum.
29. Explain what the church at Smyrna teaches about the importance of being faithful to God even during times of persecution.
30. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the churches at Ephesus and Smyrna.

We go on to read about the church at Pergamum. The church at Pergamum was a church that still had a true faith. It even had a man that had died for witnessing about his faith in Christ. This church was ministering in a place that was a very difficult place because we read that Satan's throne was there. Here we see that this was the place that was the center of the work of Satan. That means that it was a dangerous place to live because Satan is very tricky. Satan was having a negative impact on this church and leading them the wrong way with two false doctrines.
31. Read Revelation 3:12-29 and write the two false doctrines that were causing the people of Pergamum to sin.
32. Explain why the place where Satan has his headquarters could be a difficult place to serve the Lord.
33. Explain what lessons you learn from the life of Antipas.

Here we see two very dangerous doctrines that are still causing problems in many churches today. The teaching of Balaam was to teach sinful people to get the people of God to compromise. Today there are many churches that are trying to compromise and not emphasize what the Bible teaches. They think that makes their churches acceptable to those who are not Christians. The question is not whether their churches are acceptable to those who are not Christians but whether their churches are acceptable to God. The Nicolaitans taught that it was fine for Christians to live in sin. God hates this teaching because He wants Christians to live holy lives.
34. Read Revelation 2:12-29 and write the first thing that God had against the church at Thyatira.
35. Explain why the doctrine of Balaam will destroy churches today just as it did the church at Pergamum.
36. Explain why you realize that it is important today to warn people about the doctrine of Balaam and the doctrine of the Nicolaitans.

The church is the bride of Christ. Here we see that the church at Thyatira had committed spiritual adultery and was now worshiping idols instead of Christ. Today we still have churches that worship idols and images instead of following Christ. Here we see that God is comparing idol worship to spiritual adultery. God said that He would bring great judgment upon these people unless they turned from their worship of idols. Their children would also be destroyed. Here we see that the sins of the parents will also have a negative impact on the following generations.
37. Read Revelation 2:12-29 and write what a few of the people in Thyatira had not known.
38. Explain why God compares idol worship to spiritual adultery.

39. Explain why it is important to you to realize that the sins of the parents will affect the following generations.

Christ also speaks to the tiny group in the church at Thyatira that had not started worshiping idols. These people had not followed the rest of the people. Instead they had remained true to Christ regardless of what had happened to them. This is the kind of Christians that we need today. Many churches are turning away from Christ and worshiping other things. As Christians, we are told to hold fast to what is true. We also see that God warned the people of Thyatira of the judgment that would come to them if there was no repentance.

40. Read Revelation 2:12-29 and write how long we are told to hold fast.

41. Explain why Christians are encouraged to stand firm for the Lord even when others are turning to false worship.

42. Explain what lesson you learn for your own life from the churches at Pergamum and Thyatira.

Now reread Revelation 1:1-2:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 2
Revelation 3:1-4:11

In our last study, we learned about four kinds of churches. Today we will learn about three more kinds of churches. We will see again today that many of the churches that presently exist are like one of the churches mentioned in chapter three. These were actual churches in the time that Revelation was written but they also give us a picture of what churches are like today. As we go into chapter four, we see that the elders are in heaven. This is where we begin to study about the things that will happen in the future. Christ will take the Christians to heaven and then there will be seven years of terrible suffering on the earth called the tribulation. Most of the book of Revelation talks about those seven years and what will happen during that time.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain how churches can become dead like the church at Sardis.
Explain why we should be like the church in Philadelphia.
Tell why many churches today have become like the church in Laodicea.
Explain why Christians do not need to worry about the tribulation.

As we begin reading about the church at Sardis, we see that they thought that they were alive. However, God said that they were dead. There was a small group, however, in the church that was alive. God promises that small group that they will walk with Him. God says that they are worthy because they have remained true to God in spite of the fact that the rest of the church has turned away from God. Throughout history God has always kept a small group of people that are faithful in worshipping Him regardless of what the rest of the people have done. Even when Elijah thought that he was the only one left, God reminded him that there were still seven thousand people that had not bowed the knee to Baal.

1. Read Revelation 3:1-6 and write what kind of clothes God says He will give to those that are faithful.
2. Explain why God has always keep at least a small group that are faithful to Him regardless of how evil the world has become.
3. Explain why it is important to you to know that God promises that those who are faithful will walk with Him.

Those who follow Christ in any church are promised eternal life. They will wear the white robes of heaven. Christ will speak their names before the Father and the angels. This reminds us of the fact that God will never reject any true believer regardless of how sinful the world is around that believer. However, we do have a real warning to the rest of the church at Sardis. These verses tell us that the rest of the people in the church at Sardis were spiritually dead. This will happen to any church that stops teaching the Word of God.

4. Read Revelation 3:1-6 and write what Christ says about the works of the church in Sardis.
5. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that there can be individuals in a church that are true Christians even when most of the church is dead.
6. Explain why it is important to you to know that God will never reject a true believer even if that person is having to stand alone for Christ in the place where that person is located.

As we think of a dead church, we need to realize how a church becomes dead. A church begins to die when it leaves that first love that it had for Christ. The church makes the choice to leave because that first love is no longer important to that church. Then a church starts compromising with the world to make the church more acceptable to those that are not Christians. It also begins to reject the Word of God. This leads to sinful living. Finally those in the church begin to worship other things. Even though they still claim to be a church, God says that particular church is now dead.
7. Read Revelation 3:1-6 and write what God says about the few people that had not defiled their garments.
8. Explain what can cause a church to go from being a strong church to a church that has become a dead church.
9. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the church at Sardis.

As we come to the church at Philadelphia, we see that it is completely different from the church at Sardis. Their works honored God. As a result, God had given them an open door to serve Him. Here we see that those that are obedient to the Lord are given open doors for ministry and service for the Lord. As we are obedient to the Lord, He will also open doors of service for us. If we are faithful to the Lord, He will give us great opportunities to serve Him. There is nothing that any person could do to stop them. Even the devil himself could not stop their work for the Lord.
10. Read Revelation 3:7-13 and write why God said that He had given them strength.
11. Explain why God opens doors of ministry to Christians that are obedient in their service to Him.
12. Explain why it is important to you to know that when the Lord opens a door of ministry for you that no one can shut it.

Here we see the key to a strong church or a strong Christian life. Those who choose to obey the Word of God and not deny His name will be given His strength. That is why it is important that we share the Word of God at all times. In our preaching and teaching we should be teaching what the Word of God says and not our own ideas. The Word of God is living and powerful and will help Christians grow and become strong. Then they will not deny the name of Christ. Instead they will be equipped to speak boldly for Christ wherever they go because they are obedient to the Word.
13. Read Revelation 3:7-13 and write what God promised this church that He would do because they had kept His Word.
14. Explain why Christians are promised blessing by the Lord if they will be obedient to His Word.
15. Explain why you realize in your own life that it is important to depend on the Lord for strength so that you will not deny His name.

The church in Philadelphia was given a wonderful promise as they were obedient to the Word of God.

God promised them that He would keep them from the hour of temptation or testing that would come upon the whole world. This is a promise that God would keep them from the time of the tribulation that is described in much of the rest of the book of Revelation. That is why we do not need to be fearful about the future if we are walking with the Lord because He is going to keep all Christians from that time of testing that will come on the entire earth. Christians are assured that they do not need to live in fear of what will happen in the future.
16. Read Revelation 3:7-13 and write when Christ said that He would come.
17. Explain why Christians can have peace because they know that Christ will take them to heaven before the tribulation begins.
18. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the message to the church in the city of Philadelphia.

The final church is the church in the city of Laodicea. This church thought that it was the perfect church. However, as Christ examines this church, He points out that the church is in terrible condition. First, we see that the church is neither hot nor cold. Christ said that He would prefer a church that is cold to one that is lukewarm. At lest a cold church is no longer pretending to worship Christ. A lukewarm church is pretending to worship Christ but it is actually followings its own desires instead of following Christ. The church in Laodicea was depending on itself instead of following the Lord and serving Him in His strength.
19. Read Revelation 3:14-22 and write what Christ says He will do with a church that is lukewarm.
20. Explain why a church that is lukewarm is actually depending on itself rather than serving Christ.
21. Explain why you want your church and your own life for the Lord to be a life that is hot because you are being obedient to the Lord.

The people in the church of Laodicea thought that they were rich and had many things. They did not feel that they needed anything. However, in the sight of God they had nothing. The things of this world will be worth nothing when people stand before Christ. In fact II Peter 3 tells us that the world and its works will be burned up with flaming fire. Today many churches can boast about all of the things that they have. We see though that they are building their hopes on the wrong things. Instead God says that they must choose His riches if they want to have eternal life. Christ says that He is telling them these things because He loves them.
22. Read Revelation 3:14-22 and write what Christ told the church at Laodicea to do.
23. Explain why this church was so self satisfied that it had pushed Christ clear outside of the church.
24. Explain why it is important to you in your life to focus on your relationship with Christ rather than the things that you have.

Today there are many churches like the church at Laodicea. They have become so concerned about themselves that they have completely forgotten about Christ. They have left Christ outside of the church and out of their own lives as individuals. Now Christ stands outside of those churches and knocks. Christ wants to be invited to come back into such churches so that He can have fellowship with them again. Such churches are not listening to the voice of Christ. In fact most of them do not even hear the voice of Christ because they are so busy with their own desires.

25. Read Revelation 3:14-22 and write what Christ promises to do with any individual in such a church that will invite Christ into his or her life.
26. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that Christ is still concerned about the individuals in every church including those churches that have completely closed their doors to Christ.
27. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to make it a part of your life to enjoy fellowship with Christ.

The seven churches give us a picture of the churches that have existed since the time that the church started. They show how many churches have turned away from God. As we come to chapter four, we now begin to study the things that will happen in the future after the true church is taken to heaven. Several things in this book show us that the church has moved from the earth to heaven between chapters three and four. John was told to write the things that he had seen, the things that are and the things that will be hereafter. In this chapter we see that the elders are now in heaven. In the New Testament the elders are mentioned in connection with the church and the church was a mystery in the Old Testament. The elders have also been given crowns and crowns are the rewards of Christians in the New Testament.
28. Read Revelation 4:1-11 and write where John was told to come.
29. Explain why the fact that the focus moves from the churches to a focus on heaven is also an indication that the church moves to heaven between chapters three and four.
30. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that the church will be taken to heaven before the terrible events of the following chapters.

The fact that John is also called to come up to heaven is another indication that the church has moved from the earth to heaven. In the rest of the book John will be telling all of the things that he saw that will happen after the church is taken to heaven. As John came to heaven, he saw twenty-four elders gathered around the throne of God. Throughout the New Testament, the elders are the leaders of the church. We have seen that it was their responsibility to train and equip the Christians to serve Christ. Now the twenty-four elders are sitting on thrones. We are told in I Corinthians 6:3 that the Christians will judge the angels. Here we see that the elders are ruling with God.
31. Read Revelation 4:1-11 and write what the elders had on their heads.
32. Explain why it is important to know that the church will judge angels since the elders are sitting on thrones with God.
33. Explain why it is helpful for you to know that the elders are sitting on thrones with God in heaven.

The word for crown here is the same word that is used for the rewards of Christians several times in the New Testament. Here we see that the Christians have received their rewards before the events of the tribulation are even mentioned. We also see that the elders are wearing white clothes. These clothes are a picture of the fact that as Christians we will be holy and without sin when we enter into heaven. That is because of the fact that Christ has placed His righteousness on us.
34. Read Revelation 4:1-11 and write what was in front of the throne.
35. Explain why it is important that Christians have been clothed with the righteousness of Christ instead of their own righteousness.
36. Explain what you are thankful to know that you will be with Christ and without sin for all eternity.

Around the throne are four living creatures. These four creatures all speak of Christ. They never stop speaking of Christ day or night. Here we have a wonderful example for our own lives in this world. We need to be speaking for Christ at all times. These four creatures will speak of the fact that God has all power and is the same in the past as He is now and as He will be in the future. We also read that these four living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to God.
37. Read Revelation 4:1-11 and write how the Lord is described in these verses.
38. Explain why it is important that these four living creatures will be speaking continually about Christ.
39. Explain why you feel that it is important for you to speak for Christ on this earth while you have the opportunity.

As the four living creatures speak, the twenty-four elders will fall on their faces and worship God. They realize that He is God and that He deserves all praise. The elders will cast their crowns at His feet. Here we see that God is so great and so holy that we will want to give back to Him the rewards that He has given to us. God is worthy and should receive all glory, honor and power. He is the Creator that has created all things both in the heavens and on earth.
40. Read Revelation 4:1-11 and write why God created all things.
41. Explain why we will want to throw our crowns at the feet of God after He has given them to us as rewards.
42. Explain why you are thankful that you will be given the opportunity in heaven to give glory, honor and praise to God.

Now reread Revelation 3:1-4:11 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 3
Revelation 5:1-7:17

Today we will be starting our study of some of the things that will happen during the tribulation. However, before we begin to look at the tribulation, we will be given a wonderful picture of the worship that will happen in heaven. The tribulation is a seven-year period of very great suffering. The tribulation will start right after Christ takes the church to heaven. We will see that the first half of the tribulation will be very bad. However, the second half of the tribulation will be much worse that the first half. During the last half of the tribulation, the antichrist (false christ) will try to kill all of the Jews. However, God will not allow him to destroy all of the Jews but God will protect them from the antichrist.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell about the great honor that will be given to Christ in heaven.
Explain the judgments of the first six seals.
Tell about the people that will be saved during the tribulation.

As we come to chapter five, we see that the saints are gathered around the throne of God in heaven. God is holding a scroll (book) with seven seals. An angel is looking for someone to open the seals of the book. As the angel looks, he does not find a single person in heaven, on the earth or under the earth that is able to open the seals of the book. Here we see that there are no people that are good enough to open the seals. John was filled with great sorrow because there was not a single man that was worthy to open the seals. Then one of the elders told John not to cry. There was one person that could open the scroll.

1. Read Revelation 5:1-14 and write who the elder said would open the scroll.
2. Explain why there was no man in heaven, or the earth or even under the earth that was worthy to open the scroll.
3. Explain why you are thankful that this beautiful scene in heaven is described for us so that we can know a little of what is going to happen in the future.

These verses give us one of the names that Christ was given many years ago. We see that Christ is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David. It is Christ that is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll. Here we also see that Christ is standing in the middle of the elders. Christ is the Lamb of God. This means that the church will have the opportunity to see the One that was killed to pay the penalty for our sin. However, the fact that Christ is standing points to the fact that Christ had victory over death. The horns and the eyes give us a picture of the strength and wisdom Christ. The seven spirits speak of the fullness and completeness of the Holy Spirit.

4. Read Revelation 5:1-14 and write what the twenty-four elders did when Christ took the scroll.
5. Explain why Christ is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David.
6. Explain why you are thankful that Christ is the Lamb of God that was able to pay the penalty for your sin.

Here we see that we are to worship Christ because He is the one that is worthy to open the scroll. Because of the fact that Christ is worthy to open the scroll, all of those that are gathered around the throne will sing a new song. The song will be a song of praise to Christ. He was the One that died and shed His blood so that we can be made right with God and enter into heaven. There will be people in heaven from every nation and language and tribe. We also read again that as Christians we are a kingdom of priests because we are all priests of God.

7. Read Revelation 5:1-14 and write how many were gathered around the throne of Christ.
8. Explain why Christ is the only One that is worthy to open the scroll.
9. Explain what it means to you in your life to know that we worship is the One that the Father says is worthy.

Here we see the greatest choir that will ever be gathered together. It will include the angels, the living creatures and all of the Christians. It will also include all of the things that God has created. All of these will sing together because of the fact that Christ is worthy. He is the One that makes it possible for us to be there because He paid the penalty for our sins with His blood. This song will express the glory and honor and power that will belong to Christ forever and ever.

10. Read Revelation 5:1-14 and write what the elders will do as they worship.
11. Explain why it is important that people of every kindred and tongue and people and nation will be a part of this great choir.
12. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that you will have the opportunity to sing your praise to Christ for what He has done for you.

As we come to chapter six, Christ begins to open the seals of the scroll. These seals contain the first group of terrible judgments that will happen on the earth during the seven years of tribulation. The first seal has one that goes out to conquer the world. This is the antichrist (false christ) that will rule over the world during the seven years of the tribulation. He will be riding on a white horse. He will conquer the earth and during that time he will be in control of the earth. It is this antichrist that will cause the Jews and all those who begin to follow Christ during the tribulation to suffer.

13. Read Revelation 6:1-6 and write what kind of a horse comes after the white horse.
14. Explain how it will be like in the world when the person that is ruling the entire world is against Christ.
15. Explain why you are thankful that as a Christian you do not need to worry about being under the control of the antichrist.

The red horse has the power to take peace from the earth. Here we see that the second seal is war. People will begin to kill each other. The antichrist will also kill many people. This reminds us again of the hatred that people have in their hearts. Without Christ controlling their lives, people are quick to fight and kill. There is a tremendous desire in the hearts of sinful people to get even. This is true both between individuals and between nations. Only Christ can bring genuine peace. However, those in the world have chosen to follow the antichrist and he serves Satan. John 10:10 tells us that the goal of Satan is always to steal, to kill and to destroy.

16. Read Revelation 6:1-6 and write what kind of a horse comes after the red horse.
17. Explain what the fact that peace will be taken from the earth shows about the desire of sinful people to get even.
18. Explain why you realize how thankful you can be that Christ changed the evil desires of your heart when you placed your trust in Him.

The black horse has a scale in his hand. This scale is weighing the food of people. It will take an entire days' wages to buy one quart of wheat which is normally enough to feed about one person for a day. Here we see that there will be famine and starvation. People will not be able to buy enough food to satisfy their hunger. Instead they will be hungry all of the time. Here we see that there will be starvation and many people will die because they do not have money to buy the food needed to survive. This tells us that conditions will become very severe during the tribulation and that many will die of starvation.
19. Read Revelation 6:1-6 and write what the third horse was told not to hurt.
20. Explain why these verses teach us that many people will probably die of starvation during the tribulation.
21. Explain why you can be thankful that you and all other Christians will be taken to heaven before the tribulation starts.

The fourth horse will be a pale horse. He will be given the power to kill one fourth of the people in the world. He will use four things to kill these people. Two of these things have already been mentioned. The first is war. The second is hunger. When there is war and famine, disease is one of the things that usually follows. The third cause of death is not mentioned but it is likely that the third cause of death will be various kinds of diseases and plagues. The final kind of death during this time will come from the wild animals. The famine will be so severe that the wild animals will become so hungry that they will begin to kill people.
22. Read Revelation 6:7-17 and write who John saw under the altar.
23. Explain why various diseases and plagues will destroy many people during the time of the tribulation.
24. Explain why you think that God will allow these various things to kill one-fourth of the population of the earth.

During the tribulation, there will be people on the earth that will be speaking for God. These will be people that place their trust in Christ after the Christians are taken to heaven. Many of these people will be killed because they speak for God. Satan will try to destroy as many as possible to keep more people from placing their trust in Christ. When these people ask God when He is going to judge the people that killed them, God says that His judgment will wait a little longer until these evil people have been allowed to kill a few more of those that have followed God by placing their faith in Christ.
25. Read Revelation 6:7-17 and write the first thing that happens when the sixth seal is opened.
26. Explain why those that are killed for their faith will want to know when God is going to judge the sin of those who do the killing.
27. Explain what these verses show you about the desire of Satan to get rid of any people that speak for God.

Up to this point most of the judgments are those that people bring on themselves because of their sin. Now we have come to the point where God is going to really begin to show His power to the world. First he sends a great earthquake. This is one thing that causes people to be more fearful than almost anything else. However, we read that God will also be causing things to happen to the sun, moon and stars. The islands and the mountains will also be moving from their places. Everyone will be filled with fear. They will hide in the rocks and in the caves.
28. Read Revelations 6:7-17 and write what the people will say to the mountains and the rocks.
29. Explain why people will be so filled with fear as they see God begin to bring judgment on them.
30. Explain what you think will happen in the minds of people when they begin to see God use the forces of nature to bring judgment on them.

While these seal judgments are happening on the earth, God is also completing His plan for the salvation of mankind. God has put His mark on those that He has chosen before the angels begin to bring judgment on the earth. This mark is placed on them to keep them alive until God has completed His work of salvation in their lives. God also chooses a group of men to bring this message of salvation to the world. God chooses this group of witnesses from the twelve tribes of Israel.
31. Read Revelation 7:1-17 and write how many witnesses will be in this group.
32. Explain why God puts His mark on those that He has chosen to prevent their death until they have placed their trust in Christ.
33. Explain how this mark helps you to understand that God will be showing mercy to people even during the tribulation.

Here we see that there will be twelve thousand men chosen from each of the twelve tribes of Israel. However, one thing is unusual. The twelve tribes included two tribes from Joseph because his father gave him the blessing and the double portion of the inheritance. Usually the tribe of Levi is not included in a list of the twelve tribes because they were the priests. However, their work as priests ended with the death of Christ. As a result, they are included in this list. The tribe of Dan is left out instead. Many think that the tribe of Dan was left out because that was the first tribe to turn to idol worship.
34. Read Revelation 7:1-17 and write who John saw come and stand before Christ.
35. Explain why God chooses the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel to be His witnesses during the tribulation.
36. Explain how this event helps you to understand that the blessing given to Joseph by Jacob has had an impact from that time until a time that is still future.

Those who have heard the Gospel before Christ comes to take the Christians to heaven will believe the lie of the devil according to II Thessalonians 2:9-12. As a result, those who have heard and rejected Christ before the tribulation will not believe during the tribulation. However, there are many in the world that have never heard of Christ. In fact that number is increasing every day. The 144,000 Jews will share the Gospel with these that have never heard of Christ. As a result, a great group of people from all tribes and nations of the earth will place their trust in Christ.

37. Read Revelation 7:1-17 and write what this great group of people will say when they stand before the throne of God.
38. Explain how God shows His mercy by giving those that have never heard of Christ the opportunity to hear and believe during the tribulation.
39. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that God shows His mercy to people in every period of history.

One of the elders will ask God about this large group of people that have placed their faith in Christ. God answers that these are the ones that have been saved during the great tribulation. They have had their sins removed by the blood of Christ. Now they will be given the privilege of serving Christ also. They will never be hungry or thirsty again. Christ will give them spiritual food and meet their spiritual thirst by leading them to the fountain of living water
40. Read Revelation 7:1-17 and write one other things that God will do for them.
41. Explain why the death of Christ and the shedding of His blood saves people in every period of history.
42. Explain why you are thankful that you personally placed your faith in Christ and trusted in the fact that it was His blood that paid for your sins.

Now reread Revelation 5:1-7:17 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 4
Revelation 8:1-10:11

In our last lesson we studied the first six seal judgments. The seventh seal brings us to another group of judgments that are called the trumpet judgments. Today in our study we will learn about the judgments that go with the first six trumpets. In our last lesson we saw that one fourth of the people of the world will be killed. In this lesson we will see that another third of the people of the world will be killed. This means that in a very short time more than half of the people of the world will be killed. We will also see that the judgments continue to become more severe.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain the meaning of each of the trumpet judgments.
Explain what John was told to do.

As everyone in heaven saw the terrible judgments of the seventh seal, they stopped singing and became completely silent for half an hour. Under this seventh seal were seven more judgments called the trumpet judgments and after them would come the bowl judgments. The first four judgments will bring judgment to the creation. The last three judgments will bring judgment to the people. Their judgments will begin as soon as each angel sounds the trumpet that is in his hand. Before the angels started sounding their trumpets, we read that all of the saints prayed.

1. Read Revelation 8:1-13 and write what happened when the first angel blew his trumpet.
2. Explain why the fact that everyone in heaven stopped singing for half an hour shows that this was going to be a very terrible series of judgments.
3. Explain why you understand that God will be doing what is right when He brings these judgments on sin.

Here we see that God begins to judge the earth. One-third of the trees and all of the grass are destroyed. This judgment of the earth actually judges the people of the earth because it means that part of the food supply of the world is destroyed. This judgment happens as God allows the angel to destroy the trees and grass with a combination of hail, fire and blood. The judgment is followed by the second angel blowing his trumpet. The second trumpet is a judgment of the seas and the oceans. As a result of this judgment, one-third of the sea animals, the fish and the ships are destroyed. This affects both the food supply and also begins to destroy some people that are on the ships.

4. Read Revelation 8:1-13 and write what happened when the third angel sounded his trumpet.
5. Explain why the judgment of the earth will begin to affect the people of the earth in greater and greater ways.
6. Explain what you learn from the fact that God brings judgment on the earth before bringing judgment on the people of the earth.

The third trumpet judgment touches the fresh water of the earth. We see that it will affect the rivers, the streams, the lakes and the springs. One-third of all of the fresh water will become bitter. This bitter water will become so bitter that it will kill all those that drink it. As a result, many people will die because they drink this bitter water. However, the judgments get worse. The fourth judgment will affect the whole universe. One-third of the sun, moon and stars will be darkened so that they do not give their light. Here we see a real picture of the great power of God. He is able to destroy everything that He chooses. There is nothing that can resist His judgment when God decides to judge the universe.

7. Read Revelation 8:1-13 and write what an angel flying through heaven says about the people of the earth.
8. Explain how the judgment of the whole universe shows the greatness of the power of God to the people of the world.
9. Explain why these judgments that affect the people of the earth gives you a greater desire to pray for the salvation of those that are not Christians.

By his statement of woe, woe, woe to the people of the earth, the angel is warning that the judgments that have already happened are nothing compared to the judgments that are yet to come. As we have read about these judgments, we realize that those described already are terrible. However, those judgments that are still to come are even worse. Here we see why it is so important to share the Gospel with others now so that they can have the opportunity to become Christians now. Those who place their trust in Christ will not be here on the earth when this terrible suffering comes.

10. Read Revelation 8:1-13 and write how the darkening of the sun, moon and stars will affect each day.
11. Explain why Christians should have a great concern for those who have not placed their faith in Christ especially as we think of these coming judgments.
12. Explain why these judgments that will come on the people of the earth give you a greater concern to share the Gospel with those who have not placed their faith in Christ.

As we come to the fifth trumpet, we see another kind of judgment that God will allow on the earth. We see that locusts that come from the bottomless pit carry out this judgment. These locusts are not ordinary locusts. Since they come from the bottomless pit, they are actually demons that take the form of locusts. These demons will only have a short time to carry out their evil. An ordinary locust eats grass. However, these locusts will bite or sting people instead. Their bite or sting will be like the sting of a scorpion. That is a very painful sting.

13. Read Revelation 9:1-12 and write what the locusts will do rather than kill men.
14. Explain why this judgment will affect people in an even greater way that the earlier judgments affected them.
15. Explain why you think that people will still reject Christ even though they are experiencing such painful judgments.

The suffering from these locusts will be very great. A scorpion gives a very painful sting. In fact the sting of a scorpion is the most painful kind of a sting that a person can receive. It will be so painful that

people will wish that they could die. Instead they will continue to suffer from the pain. Here we see that people will think that death would be better than suffering such pain but they will continue to suffer instead. We do see though that these locusts will not be able to sting all people. Instead there are some people that will protected from the sting of these locusts.
16. Read Revelation 9:1-12 and write what group the locusts will not be able to sting.
17. Explain what these verses show about the fact that people are willing to choose to suffer rather than repent.
18. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know some of these things that are going to happen in the future.

We see that God will protect those that He has chosen. Just as the terrible plagues of Egypt did not hurt the people of Israel, the suffering from these locusts will not touch those who have placed their trust in Christ during the tribulation. God will protect the 144,000 Jews that He has chosen to be His witnesses during the tribulation. He will also protect all of the people that place their trust in Christ as a result of the witness of the 144,000 Jews. We can call those who will believe during this time tribulation saints. Here we see that God protects and cares for those who place their trust in Christ and follow Him.
19. Read Revelation 9:1-12 and write the Hebrew and Greek names of the one who leads these locusts that come from the bottomless pit.
20. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that God will make a distinction between those who believe and those who reject in this judgment.
21. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from this judgment.

As we come to the sixth trumpet, we see that God begins to gather people for judgment. We read that a great army from the east is going to come. Although this army is coming to destroy, God is actually bringing them so that He can judge and destroy a very large number of people. We read that one-third of the people will be destroyed by this demonic army. God is even going to cause the Euphrates River to become dry so that this great army can cross the river easily. God will loose four demonic angels to lead this demonic army. This army will be a huge army much larger than the world has ever seen gathered together before.
22. Read Revelation 9:13-21 and write how many will be in this army.
23. Explain why God says that there is a set hour, day, month and year for which this judgment has been prepared.
24. Explain why you think that God is going to make it easier for this army to come against the people if Israel by drying up the Euphrates River.

We go on to read that God will loose these four demonic angels to lead this great army of demonic angels. Here we see that God has control even over the demons. From the mouths of these angels will come fire and smoke and brimstone. Brimstone is rock that is so hot that it is melted. This means that the temperature of brimstone is actually several thousand degrees hot. With these three things, the demonic angels will kill one-third of the population. This means that this judgment is a very severe judgment against mankind.

25. Read Revelation 9:13-21 and write what those who remain alive will not do even though so many people have been killed.
26. Explain why these demonic angels show that just like Satan their goal is to steal and to kill and to destroy.
27. Explain how this judgment shows you that the goal of Satan and his demons is always to kill and destroy.

Here we see a real picture of the sinfulness of mankind. Even though these people have seen the judgment of God, they will not turn from their sins. Instead they will continue to worship demons. They will continue to make and worship idols that cannot see, hear or walk. They will not turn from any of their sins. Here we see a real picture of the sinfulness of mankind. The hearts of those who are in rebellion against God are filled with evil.
28. Read Revelation 9:13-21 and write why people will continue to worship these idols that they have made.
29. Explain why these verses show that mankind is so sinful that no one will repent unless God draws them to Christ.
30. Explain why it is important for you to understand the terrible sinfulness that is in the hearts of people.

Before we come to the seventh trumpet, we see that God sends an angel to speak. This angel comes with an open book or scroll. The angel places one foot on the land and the other foot in the sea. Here we see again the fact that the judgment of God covers the entire earth including both the land and the sea. There is no place where mankind can go to escape the judgment of God. After the angel speaks, there are seven thunders. These thunders are probably seven more judgments. However, we do not know exactly what is included in these thunders.
31. Read Revelation 10:1-11 and write what John was told to do with the seven thunders.
32. Explain why God does not tell us about all of the judgments that will come on the earth during the tribulation.
33. Explain why you think that God chose to keep the things included in the seven thunders a secret.

God has revealed to us some very terrible judgments that will come on the earth during the tribulation. However, He did not want us to read about all of these judgments. God is keeping some of them a secret. The angel starts to speak. He says that God will delay His judgment no longer. The rest of the judgments will come one after another until God has completed His judgment of the earth. God has waited a long time to judge the earth. However, when He finally judges the earth, that judgment will come quickly. Then John was told to take the scroll and eat it.
34. Read Revelation 10:1-11 and write how the angel said that the scroll would taste.
35. Explain why God says that He will finish the judgments quickly once He starts to bring the judgments.
36. Explain why you think that God has been so patient and waited so long to judge the sinfulness of mankind.

We will see that this scroll contains the judgments of God. At first it sounds good to hear that God will

bring judgment of the evil people on the earth. We realize that once sin has been judged that we will be with Him for all eternity. This is the sweetness when we first hear the message of judgment. However, when we think about this message, it also causes us great sorrow. Some of those who will be judged may be our own relatives. It might even include our brothers, sisters, parents or children. Here against we have a real warning that we need to be busy telling others about Christ so that they can place their trust in Him and not need to live during the time of this great judgment.
37. Read Revelation 10:1-11 and write what John was told the scroll would be as soon as he had eaten it.
38. Explain why Christians are filled with joy when we think about the fact that we will be with Christ for all eternity.
39. Explain what you learn about the importance of sharing the Gospel with others from these verses.

John goes on to tell us why the message that the angel gave him caused him to have great sorrow. He knew that it meant judgment for many people. John was told that he must prophesy again about many peoples and nations, and tongues and kings. Here we see that the message of judgment is not just a message about the judgment of one small group or people. Instead it is a message of judgment for all of the people that will remain on the earth. Every single person in the world that does not follow Christ will one day be judged.
40. Read Revelation 10:1-11 and write what John did when the angel told him to eat the scroll.
41. Explain why the message that judgment is coming should cause all Christians to have great sorrow and concern for those that have not placed their trust in Christ.
42. Explain why it is important to you to warn those who have not trusted Christ of their need to prepare for coming judgment.

Now reread Revelation 8:1-10:11 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 5
Revelation 11:1-12:17

Today we will be studying about the two witnesses that Christ sent to the earth to warn people to turn from their sin. These two witnesses will be sent to give this message for a period of three and a half years. Most people will reject their message. These men will finally be killed and their bodies will be allowed to lie in the streets of Jerusalem for three and a half days. The only time we read about the people in the tribulation rejoicing is during the three and a half days that their dead bodies are laying on the street. Then Christ will raise them from the dead and take them to heaven as their enemies watch. We will also learn about the efforts of Satan to destroy Christ and the Jews.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain the purpose of the two witnesses.
Tell why the twenty-four elders are rejoicing.
Tell how Satan tried to destroy Christ.
Explain the reason why Satan still continues to persecute the Jews.

As we begin this chapter, John is told to measure the temple. However, he is told not to measure the outside court because the Gentiles will tread on it for forty-two months. From several places in the Bible, we see that the tribulation will last for seven years. We see that the tribulation is divided into two periods of forty-two months (1260) days. During the first half of the tribulation, the Jews will not be persecuted. However, during the last half of the tribulation, there will be great persecution of the Jews and the antichrist will control the city of Jerusalem. This is when he and the other Gentiles will trample the city under their feet.

1. Read Revelation 11:1-14 and write to whom God will give power.
2. Explain why the antichrist will pretend to be a friend of the Jews during the first half of the tribulation.
3. Explain what you learn for your own life about the fact that Satan and the antichrist will work to deceive the Jews.

During the first half of the tribulation, Christ will have two special witnesses in addition to the 144,000. These two men will be wearing clothes made out of sackcloth. These will be like two lampstands for God that give light to the world as they speak about Christ. These men will have great power. If any person tries to hurt or kill them, fire will come out of their mouths and destroy those that are trying to hurt them. They will have power to stop the rain. They will be able to turn the water into blood. They will be able to cause plagues on the earth. No one will be able to hurt them until they have completed their work.

4. Read Revelation 11:1-14 and write who will kill them when they have completed the work that God has given them to do.

5. Explain why God will give these two witnesses great power against any that would try to hurt them.
6. Explain why you think that it is important that God will send these two men to share the message about Christ with the world.

At the middle of the seven years of the tribulation, the antichrist will show what he is really like. He will put his image in the temple and begin a great persecution of the Jews. One of the things that he will do is kill these two witnesses. Instead of burying them, the people will just leave them lying in the street of Jerusalem, the city where Christ was crucified. All of the people will see their dead bodies lying in the street. Those who hate God will be filled with joy. In fact this is the only time that we see that the people of the world have joy throughout the book of Revelation. They will even give presents to each other because the two witnesses have been killed.
7. Read Revelation 11:1-14 and write what will happen to the two witnesses after three days and a half.
8. Explain why the one thing that makes people rejoice during the tribulation is the killing of the two witnesses.
9. Explain why you think that the people of the world will not bury the dead bodies of the two witnesses.

God will raise the two witnesses from the dead. They will stand on their feet and cause the people to be filled with fear. Then God will speak from heaven and tell the two men to come up to heaven. As their enemies watch, they will be taken to heaven. This will cause great fear to come on all of the people that see them rise. God will also send an earthquake that will destroy one tenth of Jerusalem and kill seven thousand people. Those who remain will recognize that the power of God caused these things. However, they will be like people today. They will recognize the power of God but will refuse to follow Christ.
10. Read Revelations 11:1-14 and write what God says will come quickly.
11. Explain why the people will be forced to recognize that God exists when they see what happens to the two witnesses.
12. Explain why you think that people will still refuse to follow Christ even though they recognize the power of God.

Now we will read about the seventh trumpet. We will learn the results of this trumpet in both this lesson and the next lesson. As the angel sounds the trumpet, there are voices in heaven that say, "The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever." With the sounding of this trumpet, the end of the judgment of this earth can now be seen. Soon Christ will be ruling over the earth. This causes great rejoicing in heaven. Here we see that the scene in heaven will be very different from the scene on the earth. Heaven will be filled with joy and rejoicing as everyone there looks forward to the time when Christ will rule.
13. Read Revelation 11:15-19 and write what the twenty-four elders will do when they receive this message.
14. Explain why those in heaven will be looking forward to the fact that Christ will soon rule while those on earth are living in great fear.

15. Explain why you think that the people living in the world right now are already living in fear even though the tribulation has not yet started.

There will be great joy and thanksgiving as those in heaven see what Christ will do. They see again that Christ has all power and will rule the earth. Those in heaven will be expressing their thanks as they recognize the greatness of God. They will also speak of the fact that God is the unchangeable One in the past, the present and the future. The time has come when Christ will judge the nations because they have rebelled against Him. Then Christ will give rewards to His servants. These rewards will be given to the prophets and the saints.
16. Read Revelation 11:15-19 and write how these prophets and saints are described.
17. Explain why all those in heaven can have such joy while those on earth have such anger.
18. Explain why you think that God gives us a little picture of what is going on in heaven while the tribulation is happening on the earth.

There will be great anger on the earth and the nations will be very angry as they continue their rebellion against God. Here we see that all those that follow Christ will be rewarded. It does not matter whether we were important or not. God will reward all of us because we have followed Him. God will also destroy those who have rebelled against Him. However, before we see this final judgment, we see the temple of God in heaven. In that temple is the ark of God's covenant. The ark was the place where God met His people in the Old Testament. Now just before the final judgment, God is showing that He is still faithful to His people.
19. Read Revelation 11:15-19 and write what happens to the temple in heaven.
20. Explain why God tells us many times in the New Testament that He is going to reward those who follow Him.
21. Explain what it means to you to know that God will reward you and all other believers that follow Him.

We go on to read about several different people in chapter twelve. First we read about a woman that is preparing to have a child. Then we read about a dragon that is ready to destroy that child as soon as it is born. We read that the child will rule all nations. This child was also caught up to be with God in heaven. Here we see that Christ is the child that is mentioned in these verses. This means that the woman is the nation of Israel because Christ came from that nation. The dragon is Satan who tried to destroy Christ many times while Christ was on the earth. We see that Satan is still trying to fight against Christ during the tribulation.
22. Read Revelation 12:1-6 and write how many heads and horns Satan has in these verses.
23. Explain why Satan tried so hard to destroy Christ at the first coming of Christ and still continues to fight against Him.
24. Explain why you think that Satan is very angry because of the fact that he cannot destroy Christ.

In chapter seventeen we will see that these heads are the places where the power of Satan rules. The ten heads are ten kings. We will learn more about these when we come to chapter seventeen. However, we see here that Satan will take complete control of various governments and use them for his

own purposes. These governments will think that they are in control but Satan will use them exactly the way that he wants to use them. Here we see a picture of sinful people today. Many people in the world think that they are free. Instead we see that they are actually under the control of Satan.
25. Read Revelation 12:1-6 and write how many stars Satan will cast to the earth.
26. Explain why Satan will find it easy to deceive these governments and use them to carry out his purposes.
27. Explain why you think that those who desire to do evil are easily deceived by the tricks of the devil.

In the book of Job we read that the angels are called stars. When Satan rebelled against God, we see that one third of the angels followed him. Satan and the other fallen angels have done everything possible to destroy Christ and the nation of Israel. Here we see again that Satan and the fallen angels will try again to destroy Israel. However, God will protect and feed the Jews for three and a half years in the wilderness. Satan will be stopped again before this his last opportunity to destroy the Jews before he is bound for a thousand years.
28. Read Revelation 12:1-6 and write who will prepare the place where the Jews will flee from Satan and those who follow him.
29. Explain what these verses teach us about the character and nature of Satan.
30. Explain how these verses help you to understand that the goal of Satan is always to steal, to kill and to destroy.

We go on to read about Satan and his angels being cast out of heaven. Michael is the one that leads the angels that fight for God. We see that God gives Michael and the good angels victory over the devil and his angels. As a result, Satan is cast out of heaven. We also read that Satan is the one that deceives the whole world. This has always been the goal of Satan. We also read that Satan is the accuser of the brethren. Here we see that one of the things that Satan does is try to accuse Christians of sin. His accusations are correct because we do sin. However, I John 2:1-2 tells us that Christ is our advocate that speaks for us and tells the Father that He died for us and we have accepted His payment. God then says that He is satisfied with the payment.
31. Read Revelation 12:7-17 and write what overcomes (has victory over) Satan.
32. Explain why Christians do not need to worry even though Satan is the accuser of the brethren.
33. Explain why you are thankful that Christ speaks for you when Satan accuses you of sin.

These verses tell us the thing that gives us victory over Satan. Through the blood of Christ we have victory because Christ had victory over Satan when He died and rose again. Just as we have victory today, those who follow Christ during the tribulation will also have victory. They will be able to speak boldly for Christ because it will not matter to them if they are killed for Christ. The reason that Satan will be trying so hard to kill the believers during the tribulation is due to the fact that he realizes that he only has a short time left.
34. Read Revelation 12:7-17 and write who else Satan will persecute.
35. Explain why Satan will try to steal, kill and destroy right to the very end.
36. Explain why Christ is able to give victory to all that follow Him as they yield themselves to Christ.

Here we see that Satan is so filled with hate that he wants to destroy the nation from which Christ came. Satan tried many times to destroy Israel before Christ was born. He has tried many times since the birth of Christ to destroy the Jews. Even today Satan is continuing to try and get various nations to try and destroy the Jews. However, during the tribulation, Satan will make his last great effort to destroy the Jews. He will try harder then than he has ever tried before. We see though that God will protect and feed the Jews in the wilderness for three and a half years.

37. Read Revelation 12:7-17 and write what God will give to the people of Israel to help them escape to the wilderness.

38. Explain why Satan has tried so hard to destroy the Jews even though most of the Jews have not followed Christ.

39. Explain why you are thankful that God is going to protect the Jews from this attempt by Satan to destroy them.

We see that Satan will try everything possible to destroy the Jews. He will even try to destroy them with a flood. However, God will stop the water by opening a hole in the earth. Then Satan will make war against the Jews. During this time Satan will be filled with even greater hate because the Jews will be obeying the commandments of God. Here we also see the reason why Satan persecutes the Christians today. Satan hates every person that is obedient to God. He will do whatever he can to destroy those that are obedient to God.

40. Read Revelation 12:7-17 and write what else Satan hates about those who keep the commandments of God.

41. Explain why Satan has such a hatred against anyone that chooses to obey God instead of choosing to continue to follow him.

42. Explain why you are thankful that God protects and cares for all of those that choose to be obedient to Him.

Reread Revelation 11:1-12:17 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 6
Revelation 13:1-14:20

Today we are going to learn about the way that the antichrist will gain the power to rule the world. We see that the center of this power will be in the old Roman Empire. This is shown by comparing Daniel 7:24 and Revelation 17:12 where those verses speak of the fact that the ten heads are ten kings. We will see how the antichrist will use the power gained through these nations to gain power over the whole world. In our study today we will also get a picture of the great battle that is called the Battle of Armageddon. This is actually a series of battles. In these battles there will be so many killed that the blood will be as high as the bridle of a horse.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell how the antichrist will gain power in the world.
Explain the purpose of the mark of the beast.
Tell what we learn about the 144,000.
Explain what we learn about Armageddon.

As we begin this chapter, we read about a beast rising out of the sea. We see that this beast has seven heads and ten horns. On his horns are ten crowns. Revelation 17:12 tells us that the ten horns are ten kings. Daniel 7:23-24 tells us that these ten kings will come out of the fourth great world empire which is the Roman empire. Rome was a great world empire that controlled most of the continent of Europe and most of the other nations that surround the Mediterranean Sea. It was people from many of these countries that later controlled the governments in many other parts of the world. Here we see that this beast will have great power.

1. Read Revelation 13:1-10 and write who will give this beast power.
2. Explain why the fact that the countries that formerly were a part of the Roman Empire and those that they controlled will give the antichrist a very great influence.
3. Explain why comparing the verses in Revelation 17:12 and Daniel 7:23-24 help you to understand a little more about this beast.

We also read that this beast will be both a political and a religious ruler. He will have political power and he will be worshipped. This beast is the one that will have power over the ten kings. This means that he must be a man that rules with great power. This helps us to understand that the antichrist will be a man but will be exercising his power with the power of Satan. In recent years there have been various attempts to try and organize a religious council that would include all of the religions of the world. The leader of this organization or a similar organization would have great religious power as well as great political power.

4. Read Revelation 13:1-10 and write what happens to one of the heads of the beast.
5. Explain why a person with both religious power and political power would have great power around the world.

6. Explain what lessons you learn from these verses about the power that the antichrist will exercise during the tribulation.

This false leader will be killed. Whether this is an actual death or an imitation by Satan will not matter. It will cause the world to be filled with wonder. Then Satan will perform a miracle and raise this person back to life again. As a result, the whole world will be amazed and will worship this false leader, the antichrist. II Thessalonians 2 tells us that those who have heard about Christ and failed to place their trust in Christ before the Christians were taken to heaven will believe the lie of the wicked one (antichrist). Here we see that this man will cause the entire world to believe in him when he comes back to life. He will speak many evil things against God.

7. Read Revelation 13:1-10 and write how long the antichrist will have this power.
8. Explain how the antichrist will use this deadly wound to deceive the world and gain world power.
9. Explain why it is important for you to understand that Satan is the deceiver and that this will be his greatest deception.

This antichrist will make war with the saints. From Romans 11 we learn that all of the Jews will turn to Christ so these saints will include all of the Jews. Revelation 7 also tells us that there will be a large group from every tribe and nation that will become saints during the tribulation. These saints will be the only people in the entire world that will not worship the beast (antichrist). Everyone else will worship him. We read though that God will judge the antichrist and kill him because he has killed many of the saints of God.

10. Read Revelation 13:1-10 and write what will happen to the one that kills with the sword.
11. Explain what these verses teach about the antichrist and how he will be able to deceive the people of the world.
12. Explain why it is important to you to be able to explain to others how the antichrist will gain his power.

We go on to read about a second beast (the false prophet). This beast comes from the land. He is not as powerful as the first beast. He only has two horns. However, he has a voice like a dragon. This beast does not try to get people to worship him. Instead he gets them to worship the first beast (the antichrist). Here we see the unholy trinity composed of Satan, the antichrist and the false prophet. Here we see that Satan is seeking to imitate God. This beast also has great power and he is able to cause fire to come down out of heaven. He will also be able to do other miracles. As a result, he will deceive and trick the people.

13. Read Revelation 13:11-18 and write what this second beast will tell the people to make.
14. Explain why Satan tries to imitate both the resurrection and the Trinity by giving life to the antichrist after the deadly wound and by this unholy trinity.
15. Explain what you learn about the way that Satan will use his power to deceive all those that do not place their trust in Christ.

Here we see that the second beast will use all of his efforts to get the people to worship the first beast. This second beast will cause this image (statue) of the first beast to appear to come to life. The image

will begin to speak. Since Satan does not have the power to give actual life, this will probably be an evil spirit speaking through the mouth of this image. He will also command that those that do not worship him should be put to death. He will cause all people to worship him whether they are rich or poor. Here we see that this unholy trinity is working together to try and gain total control of the earth and of the people.
16. Read Revelation 13:11-18 and write what the beast will cause all of the people on the earth to receive.
17. Explain how these verses help us to understand some of the things that Satan will use to deceive the people.
18. Explain why you think that God is showing us here that the goal of Satan is to control the entire earth and all of the people on the earth.

The beast will try to require every person to take this mark either in their right hand or in their foreheads. This mark is to show that these individuals all worship the beast (antichrist). In order to try and make everyone worship him, the beast will not allow people to buy or sell anything if they do not have this mark. They will be required to take this mark in order to be able to buy any food. They will not be able to sell anything to anyone unless they have taken this mark. Here we see again how hard Satan works to try and get people to turn away from God.
19. Read Revelation 13:11-18 and write what number every person will be required to take.
20. Explain why the antichrist will require every person to take the mark of the beast in order to buy or sell.
21. Explain why you think that modern technology will make it very easy for the antichrist to make people take this mark.

We also read some additional things about the 144,000 that will be witnesses for Christ. These are the men that will speak for Christ during the tribulation. They will also sing a new song before the throne of Christ. It will be a song that no one else knows. We also read that these men will be ones that set themselves apart for God. They will use all of their time to speak for Christ as they serve Him. They will fully follow Christ in all that they say and do.
22. Read Revelation 14:1-8 and write what is found in their mouths.
23. Explain why these 144,000 will set themselves apart to serve Christ and speak of Him to the people of the world.
24. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from these men.

Here we see that these witnesses will speak the truth. They will not speak false words. They will not try to twist their message in any way. As they stand in front of the throne of God, they stand without sin. Here we have a reminder of the fact that when we stand before God that we will also all be without sin as we stand before Him. This is true because of the fact that Christ paid the penalty for sin and our sins were blotted out at the moment we placed our trust in Christ.
25. Read Revelation 14:1-8 and write what John saw fly through heaven.
26. Explain why everyone that places their trust in Christ will stand before God without any sin in their lives.

27. Explain why you are thankful that God has blotted out your sins and buried them in the depths of the sea.

We also read about some angels that speak. The first angel announces that the people of the earth are now having their last opportunity to accept the salvation that Christ offers. If they wait now, it will be too late because a second angel comes with a message of judgment. The second angel announces that Babylon has fallen. We will read more about the judgment of Babylon in our study of chapters 17 and 18. Here we see two reasons why Babylon is judged. First, Babylon is judged because of her own sin and immorality. The second reason for judgment is the fact that she has caused the other nations to sin with her. Here we see that God has a worse judgment for those that lead others the wrong way.
28. Read Revelation 14:1-8 and write what the first angel tells people to worship.
29. Explain why God sends the first angel with the message of everlasting salvation and the second angel with a message of judgment.
30. Explain why you are thankful that God always offers mercy to people before bringing judgment to those who reject.

The third angel also brings a message of judgment. This is the judgment of all that have received the mark of the beast. They will receive the wrath (judgment) of God. We will learn more about this judgment in chapter 20. Here we see that they will be tormented in the lake of fire and brimstone. Brimstone is rock that is so hot that the rock has melted and now runs like water. This judgment will last forever. Here we see the terrible consequences that are facing all of those that reject Christ both now and in the tribulation. This judgment is an eternal judgment.
31. Read Revelation 14:9-20 and write what group is promised blessings in these verses.
32. Explain what these verses teach about the terrible consequences for all of those that take the mark of the beast.
33. Explain why this helps you to realize the tremendous importance of praying daily for the salvation of relatives, friends and other acquaintances that do not know Christ.

In contrast to the judgment of those who take the mark of the beast, we see that those that die for following Christ are promised great blessings. They will have rest from all of their work. They will also receive rewards for the works that they have done. Here we also see the great contrast between those who reject Christ and those who receive Him. While the saints will receive a great reward, those who refuse to follow Christ will be judged. We see that Christ will come with a sharp sickle to bring judgment on all of those that reject Him.
34. Read Revelation 14:9-20 and write what an angel tells Christ to do with the sickle.
35. Explain why Christ chooses to reward the works of all those that follow Him.
36. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that you can look forward to receiving a reward from Christ.

This passage gives us a picture of the coming judgment of those on the earth that are in rebellion against Christ. They will be judged in the battle that will bring an end to the seven years of judgment. This battle is called the battle of Armageddon because it will happen in the Valley of Armageddon.

Christ will use His sickle to kill those that are coming against the nation of Israel to try and destroy that nation. We see that the judgment that Christ brings will be just like a person using a sickle to harvest a crop that is ripe. These people will be ripe for judgment because of their continued rebellion against Christ.

37. Read Revelation 14:9-20 and write what will be on the head of the Son of Man when He comes.
38. Explain why Christ is going to bring this judgment on the people of the earth when He comes.
39. Explain why you believe that Christ is doing what is right when He brings this judgment against those who continue in rebellion.

We see that the people on the earth will be like a bunch of grapes that are completely ripe. Here we see that their sins have increased to the point where God will wait no longer to judge them. God has waited long enough and the day of judgment has come for the people on the earth. People are going to feel that judgment when God shows His wrath and anger against sin. Their blood will flow out of them just like wine flowing out of a winepress when the grapes are squeezed. There will be blood all over the Valley of Armageddon.

40. Read Revelation 14:9-20 and write how deep the blood will be.
41. Explain how these verses show us that the people that will be killed in this judgment will be a very large number.
42. Explain why you think that God has set the time when judgment will come and at that day will say that He will wait no longer.

Now reread Revelation 13:1-14:20 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 7
Revelation 15:1-16:21

Today we will learn about the bowl judgments that God will bring on the earth. The seven seal judgments were very bad. The seven trumpet judgments were even worse. We did not even find out about the seven thunders. However, we see that the bowl judgments are worse than any of the other judgments that will happen during the tribulation. Although these judgments are very terrible, they will not cause people to turn to Christ. Instead people will be filled with hate for God and will speak evil things about Him. Here again we see a real picture of the rebellion of mankind against God and against everything that He teaches.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell what will be happening to those who stand for God.

Explain what will be happening in each of the bowl judgments.

Explain why this last series of judgments will be the worst of all of the judgments that will come on the earth during the tribulation.

While the people that are on the earth are in total rebellion against God, we see that a very different thing is happening to those who have been killed because they were faithful and stood for God. Before we find out about those who have been killed for God, we see that God sends seven angels having the seven last plagues that will come on the earth. These are called the bowl or vial judgments. As John sees these angels coming, John also sees another group of people. This group of people is singing. Their song is a song of joy.

1. Read Revelation 15:1-8 and write what there people are called.
2. Explain why we read that the seven last plagues are filled with the wrath of God that He is bringing on the earth.
3. Explain why you think that God shows that He will complete His work on judgment on the people of the earth.

We see a beautiful picture in this chapter. The beast (antichrist) will think that he has gained the victory over the people of God when he kills them. Here we see that the people of God are the one that gain the real victory. They do not fall into sin by worshiping the beast or his image. They refuse to take his mark or have his number written on their hand or their forehead. Instead they are true to God. As a result, many of them will be killed by the antichrist. However, we see here that they have victory by their death. Here we see an important lesson for our own lives. We will have victory as we stand for Christ. In fact we will have victory even if we are killed for Christ.

4. Read Revelation 15:1-8 and write what songs these people will sing as they give praise to the Lord.
5. Explain why it is possible for those that follow the Lord to have victory even when they are put to death for their faith.
6. Explain why you think that God will give this great group of tribulation saints the opportunity to sing their praises to God.

Here we see that these people will be singing two songs. The first song is the son of Moses that is given in Exodus 15:1-21. This is a song of victory by the people of God. It is being sung because God has given victory over the enemies of those that worship God. Although God has not completed His judgment of those that are still on the earth, those who have died for God see that the victory will soon be complete. They know that God will complete His plan of judging sinful man. They can see that the plan of God will be completed very soon. As a result, they are filled with joy.
7. Read Revelation 15:1-8 and write how these people will describe the works of God.
8. Explain why these people will be filled with joy even though God has not yet completed His judgments.
9. Explain why you and I should be filled with joy just as these people will be filled with joy.

In the song of the Lamb, these people mention that all nations will come and worship Christ. Here we see that these people sing first of the judgment of those who are in rebellion against God. Then they sing of the fact that Christ is going to rule the nations. They are now eagerly looking forward to the time when Christ will return to rule the earth for one thousand years. These saints realize that Christ will begin to rule as soon as He completes His judgment of the rebellious people that are on the earth. They rejoice because Christ is holy.
10. Read Revelation 15:1-8 and write from where the seven angels with the final seven judgments will come.
11. Explain why those who will be killed in the tribulation will be filled with joy as they sing of the coming of Christ to rule.
12. Explain why you are also filled with joy when you think about the fact that soon Christ will rule the earth.

In the Old Testament, the tabernacle was the holy place. It was the place where the sins of mankind were covered with blood. Here we are reminded that God must judge sin because He is holy and cannot look at sin. This is the reason that God sends out these angels that have the seven final judgments. The wrath or judgment of God against sin must be completed. Today this is a real warning to people that think that God does not care if they continue to live in sin. Because God is a holy God, He cannot look with favor at sin and must judge sin.
13. Read Revelation 15:1-8 and write what these verses tell us will fill the temple of God in that day.
14. Explain what these verses teach about the reason why God must judge sin and not just ignore it.
15. Explain why it is important to you to know that God is a holy God but also a loving God that accepts Christ's payment for our sin when we place our trust in Him.

Now we come to the final seven judgments called the bowl (vial) judgments. We see that the first judgment is a very painful sore. The pain from this judgment continues while the other judgments are happening. The sores of this judgment are so painful that people are still cursing God for the sores when we come to the fifth bowl judgment. Notice, however, that this judgment only happens to those who have the mark of the beast (the antichrist) and worship his image. Just as God protected the children of Israel from the terrible plagues of Egypt, God now protects His saints from the terrible pain of these sores.

16. Read Revelation 16:1-9 and write where the second angel poured out his judgment.
17. Explain why God will make a distinction between those who have the mark of the beast and those who do not in this judgment.
18. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the fact that God only brings this judgment on those who reject Christ.

Earlier we read about God judging the sea and destroying one-third of all that was in the sea. Here we see that this judgment is much greater. In this judgment we see that all of the seas and the oceans of the world become like the blood of a dead man. As a result, every single thing that lives in the seas or the oceans will be killed. Not even a single fish is left in the oceans. The smell of these dead fish and other sea creatures will be very terrible. However, that will not change the sinful people of the world either. We also see that God will immediately send another judgment.
19. Read Revelation 16:1-9 and write what happens in the third bowl judgment.
20. Explain why God chooses to judge the people of the earth by turning the oceans and the seas to blood.
21. Explain why you think that the smell of the oceans and the dead sea creatures will still not turn people to God.

In the third judgment we see that God also turns all of the fresh water to blood. People will not be able to find any good water. God says that He will cause the water to turn to blood to judge the people that shed the blood of the saints that spoke for God. We have seen that the people will kill many of the saints and prophets of God during the tribulation. Now we see that God turns the water to blood and gives the people of the earth the judgment that they deserve. Here we see that the judgments of God are true and righteous.
22. Read Revelation 16:1-9 and write what will happen in the fourth bowl judgment.
23. Explain why God chooses to judge the shedding of the blood of the saints by turning the water to blood.
24. Explain why you think that God will make this judgment fit the sin that has been committed by the shedding of the blood of the saints.

In this fourth bowl judgment, we see that God will use the sun to judge the people of the earth. The sun will become so hot that people will receive great and painful burns from it. Instead of turning to God, these people will speak against God. They will blame Him for all of the things that are happening to them. They will refuse to admit that they are being judged for their own sin. Here we see that people will blame God when they are being judged for their own sins. They will not admit that they are wrong.
25. Read Revelation 16:10-21 and write where the fifth angel will pour out his bowl of judgment.
26. Explain why people are quick to blame God when they are actually being judged for their own sin.
27. Explain what lessons you learn from these first four bowl judgments.

In the fifth judgment, we see that this judgment is against the throne of the beast (the antichrist). He is judged with a great darkness. This darkness will keep him from completing his plan to destroy all of

those that do not worship him. At the same time these people will be biting their tongues because of the great pain that they have from the previous judgments. They will also curse God and speak against Him because of the pain and the sores that they have on their bodies. However, they will not repent and turn from their sin.
28. Read Revelation 16:10-21 and write what happens in the sixth judgment.
29. Explain how people will continue to reject God and blaspheme Him instead of turning to Him.
30. Explain why you think that that those who reject Christ will still blame and curse God even in their suffering.

We see that God is making all things ready for the great battle where He will destroy the great armies that are trying to destroy those who worship God. We see that the kings of the east will prepare to come and fight against Israel. Now we see that God dries up the Euphrates River so that there is nothing in the way to stop their armies. Here we see that God is the One that is actually in control even when people think that that they can defeat God and those who follow Him.
31. Read Revelation 16:10-21 and write what comes out of the mouths of the dragon, the beast and the prophet.
32. Explain what this judgment teaches about the fact that God is allowing people to come against Israel so that they can receive the judgment that He has prepared for them.
33. Explain why you know that God is working through the events that will be happening on the earth to bring judgment to those that are in rebellion against Him.

The unclean spirits are actually demons. They will be able to do great miracles. They will go out to get the kings of the entire world to come to fight against the nation of Israel and against God. These kings and their armies will gather in the valley called Armageddon. Here we see a beautiful picture of the way that God works all things according to His plan. The devil thinks that he can defeat God. He sends His demons out to persuade the people. The evil people think that they can continue their rebellion against God and destroy His people. All of the armies of the world will come against the people of God. This then makes it easy for God to complete His plan to judge sinful mankind and complete His plan.
34. Read Revelation 16:10-21 and write what the voice from the throne of God says when the seventh angel pours out his bowl of wrath.
35. Explain why the devil thinks that he can defeat God and uses his demons to gather the people together against God.
36. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from these verses that show the judgment of God against sin.

We see that God brings the final bowl judgment. In this judgment we see that God brings great destruction throughout the earth. God uses a great earthquake to bring this judgment. This earthquake will destroy one-third of the city of Jerusalem. It will destroy many other cities throughout the world. It will cause all of the islands and mountains to disappear. Today one of the things that people fear more than anything else is an earthquake. Yet the earthquakes that we have only move the land a few feet. The great earthquake that we see here will completely remove the mountains and the islands. Here we see a tremendous picture of the power of God.

37. Read Revelation 16:10-21 and write what place will be judged.
38. Explain how this great earthquake will judge the cities of the world and their rebellion against God.
39. Explain why you think that God will focus this judgment on the cities of the nations of the world.

Babylon was the city and country that originally destroyed the city of Jerusalem nearly six hundred years before Christ. Luke 21:24 says that the times of the Gentiles began when Babylon destroyed Jerusalem. Today we see that the Gentiles are still in control. However, God has promised to bring an end to the times of the Gentiles. That is what we will see happen in this and the following chapters. In chapters 17 and 18 we will see that Babylon is used for more than just the original city. It is also used to speak of the powers that are in rebellion against God. We also read that God will send great hail stones as a part of this judgment.
40. Read Revelation 16:10-21 and write what people will do because of the hail.
41. Explain what these verses teach about the way that God will judge the people for their sin and rebellion against Him.
42. Explain why you think that people will continue to blaspheme God instead of repent even when they see the greatness of the power of God.

Now reread Revelation 15:1-16:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 8
Revelation 17:1-18:24

Today we will be studying about the destruction of Babylon. Many people who do not understand the Word of God wonder who the Bible is speaking about when it speaks about Babylon and the destruction of Babylon. That is one of the things that we will learn today. As we study the entire Bible, we see that God sometimes used Babylon to give a picture of a greater power than just the city or the nation of Babylon. In Isaiah 14 God uses Babylon to give us a picture of the pride and judgment of Satan. In I Peter 5:13 Babylon is used to speak of the city of Rome that was showing its rebellion against God by killing many Christians.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the times you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Explain who Babylon is.
Tell how Christ will have victory.
Explain what will happen when Babylon falls.

As we begin our study today, we learn about a harlot (whore) riding the beast. We have already seen that the beast is the antichrist that will work to destroy all those that worship God. A harlot is one that has been unfaithful. We also see that this harlot speaks blasphemy against God. Here we see that the harlot is used to describe the religious people that have rebelled against God. They are religious but they are filled with hate for Christ. Today we have many people that are very religious but they totally reject the fact that Christ paid the penalty for their sin. Here we see that the number of people that are religious but that reject Christ will continue to increase.

1. Read Revelation 17:1-6 and write who has committed fornication with the harlot.
2. Explain why the fact that many religious people are depending on their own works instead of placing their faith in Christ causes them to hate Christ.
3. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to be able to clearly explain the difference between being religious and placing our faith in Christ.

Here we see that the religious people will join with the rulers of the earth to do evil. There are many people that have made guesses about who these religious people are. Some have suggested that this group of religious people may be a particular religious group. Others think that it might be a combination of all of the churches that have turned away from following Christ and have depended on their own works. Still others think that this may refer to all of those of any religion in the world. Any group of religious leaders that would be worldwide would be very powerful and could be the harlot that is described in these verses.

4. Read Revelation 17:1-6 and write what will cause the harlot (the religious people) to become drunk.
5. Explain why religions with their emphasis on their own works will always be with the group that are against Christ.

6. Explain why you think that people that have a religion that is based on works have a hard time accepting the fact that that they will only be saved from their sin by grace through faith.

Here we see that the religious groups will try to destroy those who follow Christ during the tribulation. Ever since Cain, it has always been the religious people of the world that have tried to destroy those that worship God. Religious people are depending on their own works to get them to heaven. That is actually the reason why they hate Christ. God says that our own works are like filthy rags. Just like Cain, religious people think that their own works are good enough and they do not want to accept the fact that they can do nothing through their own efforts to be right with God. God says that works are worth nothing and that all people must accept the fact that the blood of Christ is the only payment for their sin.

7. Read Revelation 17:1-6 and write what was written on the forehead of this woman that pictures the religions of the world.
8. Explain why the religious people of the world will try to destroy those that have followed Christ during the tribulation.
9. Explain why you think that organized religion will show its rebellion against Christ by trying to kill all those that follow Christ.

The harlot has written on her head the fact that she is Babylon. This is religious Babylon. We have seen that religious Babylon speaks of the organized religions of the world that will fight against Christ during the tribulation. We now see that the woman (religious Babylon) sits on the seven heads of the beast. We are also told that these heads are mountains. Through the years Rome has been known as the city that sits on seven mountains. This would indicate that the organized religions will have their headquarters in the city of Rome. An interesting fact that might be of interest is that the favorite daughter of Mohammed was Fatima which might be why there is growing cooperation between various world religions.

10. Read Revelation 17:7-18 and write what the ten horns picture.
11. Explain why the various religions of the world will join together to fight against Christ.
12. Explain why you think that this organization of world religions will make its headquarters in the city of seven mountains.

The beast (antichrist) will have ten kings that will join with him. He will give them power to rule for a little while. This group of ten kings is actually a political alliance of powerful rulers. They will actually be under the control of the antichrist even though they will be given power to rule. These ten kings will all think the way that the antichrist wants them to think. They will use their strength and power to help the antichrist. These ten kings will join with the antichrist to make war against Christ. We see that both the political and religious leaders will join to fight against Christ. However, Christ will win the victory over them. Christ will do this because He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

13. Read Revelation 17:7-18 and write what the waters are upon which the harlot will be sitting.
14. Explain why the antichrist will deceive both religious and political leaders in order to expand his power.
15. Explain why you realize that the one that is really in control of all those against Christ is actually Satan.

This great group of people that will be included in this group of religious people will be peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues. Here we see that the people who follow organized religion will include people from many different groups. However, the organized religions will only have power as long as the antichrist allows them to have power. Then the ten kings that follow the antichrist will destroy the organized religions. This will happen because the antichrist wants everyone to worship him. He wants the religious leaders destroyed so that all people will worship his image instead.
16. Read Revelation 17:7-18 and write why God causes the ten kings to destroy the leaders of organized religion.
17. Explain why the antichrist and the political leaders that follow the antichrist will actually hate the leaders of organized religion.
18. Explain why you think that the Lord will use the political powers to destroy the religious powers that have been organized against Christ.

We are reminded again that God controls all things. The ten kings will only be concerned about getting the people to worship the antichrist. However, as a result, they will destroy the organized religions of the world. God will cause this to happen to judge the false religious systems and leaders because they have killed many people that were true worshipers of God. We know that God will always judge those who are in rebellion against Him and persecute those that are Christians.
19. Read Revelation 17:7-18 and write why God will put it in the heart of these ten kings to give their kingdoms to the beast (antichrist).
20. Explain how these verses show that God is working to complete His plan even through those that totally reject Him.
21. Explain what you learn about the harlot (organized religion) from these verses.

We have seen the judgment of religious Babylon (organized religion) in chapter seventeen. Now we go on to read about other parts of Babylon that will be judged. We see that Babylon has become a place where many demons live. These chapters show us that the nations of the earth will be joined with Babylon in speaking against God. The people have also grown rich because of Babylon. Here we see that Babylon is not just a religious system. It is also a business and commercial system. This means that it also involves an actual city or cities.
22. Read Revelation 18:1-8 and write what God tells His people.
23. Explain what these verses mean when they say that Babylon has become a place where many demons live.
24. Explain why you think that the Lord is talking about an actual city or cities in addition to the religious system when He talks about Babylon.

These verses give a warning to those who worship God. They are to separate themselves and stand firmly for God and not compromise with those that are fighting against God. This is a warning to those who will turn to Christ during the tribulation. They will need to separate themselves from Babylon and all that it stands for so they will not be judged when Babylon is destroyed. Of course this is also an important warning for us today. Today we have many Christians that live the way that the world lives

instead of living for Christ. As a result, the people of the world do not listen when such Christians do speak for Christ because they can see no difference.
25. Read Revelation 18:1-8 and write how quickly Babylon will be destroyed.
26. Explain why believers in the tribulation are warned to come out of Babylon before it is destroyed.
27. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about the danger that Christians today face when they try to compromise with the world.

Throughout this chapter we see that the emphasis is on the destruction of the city of Babylon. Here we see that this great religious, political and commercial power called Babylon will be destroyed in one day. There will be death and great mourning. First there will come a great famine and people will not have enough to eat. Then God will completely destroy Babylon with fire on the day that He chooses to bring judgment. Here we see that the judgment for the sins of Babylon will cause much death and great sorrow.
28. Read Revelation 18:1-8 and write why God will be able to bring such a complete judgment on Babylon in one day.
29. Explain why God will bring such great judgment against both the city of Babylon and also the religious, political and commercial powers associated with Babylon.
30. Explain why you think that God will show His power against the city of Babylon and its system by completely destroying it in one day.

When the earth sees that Babylon has been judged by God, there will be great sorrow because of that judgment. There will be several reasons for the sorrow of the people on the earth. There will be sorrow because of fear. When people see the judgment of others, they are immediately afraid for their own lives. However, we also see that the people that buy and sell will be filled with sorrow because they can no longer sell their goods to the people that have been killed. Here we see that a love of money and the things that it can buy are a part of the false worship of those that have not trusted Christ.
31. Read Revelation 18:9-24 and write what the merchants will be doing as they see the judgment of Babylon.
32. Explain why people are filled with sorrow when their money or possessions are destroyed when their focus is on the things of this world.
33. Explain how this helps you to understand the meaning of I Timothy 6:10 when it says that the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil.

The merchants will not be crying because of their sadness to see that the people of the city of Babylon killed. They will be sad to see so much money and other riches wasted. Here we see a real picture of the values of people without Christ. They are more concerned about money than they are about people. Such people will do anything to get what they want. As the people of the world look at the judgment of Babylon, they will be talking about the possessions that these people had instead of having a concern about the people that were destroyed.
34. Read Revelation 18:9-24 and write what other group of people will be sad because Babylon is destroyed.

35. Explain what these verses show about the fact that many people are more concerned about possessions than they are about people.
36. Explain why you think that there are many people today who have the kind of attitudes that are shown in these verses.

We also see that the people that work with boats and ships will be sad when they see that Babylon has been destroyed. As they look at the destruction, they will think about the fact that they became rich by carrying the possessions of those that were destroyed. Here we see that these people will only be thinking about themselves and their riches. They will not really be concerned about the people that have been judged. Again we see these same attitudes in the world today.
37. Read Revelation 18:9-24 and write what will happen in heaven when Babylon is destroyed.
38. Explain why the people of the world are not really concerned when they see the judgment of others.
39. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about the importance of you being concerned for the spiritual needs of those that are facing judgment.

Although the earth will be in sorrow at the judgment of Babylon, heaven will be filled with rejoicing when God judges Babylon. This rejoicing will come from the angels in heaven. The angels will be rejoicing because God has judged those who killed the prophets and the saints. Here we see again that God is a holy God and must judge sin. Because the people of Babylon rejected Christ and His payment for their sins, it is necessary for God to judge them.
40. Read Revelation 18:9-24 and write how the nations have been deceived.
41. Explain why it is right for a holy God to bring judgment on Babylon and the sins that will be a part of Babylon.
42. Explain why you think that God is a just God when He judges those that have killed His prophets and saints.

Now reread Revelation 17:1-18:24 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 9
Revelation 19:1-20:15

Today we will be studying about the things that will happen at the end of the tribulation. The church is called the bride of Christ several places in the New Testament. Today we will learn about the marriage supper of Christ. This will help us understand what is happening with the church in heaven while the tribulation is happening on the earth. We will also learn more about the battle of Armageddon. We will have the opportunity to learn a little about the time when Christ will rule on the earth for one thousand years. Then we will learn about the final judgment of all those that have failed to place their trust in Christ.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell what we learn about the marriage supper of Christ.
Explain the judgment that will happen in the battle of Armageddon.
Explain what will happen when Christ rules the earth for one thousand years.
Tell what you learn about the final judgment.

As we come to the last part of the time of the tribulation on the earth, we see that there is great rejoicing in heaven. There is great joy in heaven for several reasons. The first reason for rejoicing is for the fact that the judgments of God are true and righteous. His judgments are true because He knows the thoughts of people as well as their actions. His judgments are right because He judges those who rejected the payment of Christ for their sins. The angels are also rejoicing because Christ has judged those religious people that were persecuting the followers of Christ.

1. Read Revelation 19:1-10 and write who falls down and worships God.
2. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that those in heaven will be rejoicing because the judgments of God are true and righteous.
3. Explain why you are thankful in your own life to know that the judgments of God are true and righteous.

We see a beautiful picture of the saints worshiping God in this passage. They are all speaking praises to God as they worship Him. This great group in heaven will say that the Lord God omnipotent rules. Omnipotent means that God is the One that has all power. Because God has all power, He rules over all things. Here we see that a great group of people is speaking these praises to God. They will be speaking so loudly that it will sound like thunder. It will be a time of great rejoicing in heaven as the saints worship God.

4. Read Revelation 19:1-10 and write whose marriage is mentioned.
5. Explain what these verses teach about the meaning of true worship of God.
6. Explain why it is important to you to know that God is the One who has all power and rules over all things.

In these verses we see the marriage of Christ to His bride. In Ephesians 5 we read that the church is the bride of Christ. Here we see that the church is dressed in white robes. These robes are their good works. Our works cannot remove our sins. The blood of Christ was necessary to remove our sins. However, as Christians, Christ looks at our works and sees them as beautiful white robes. We also read that there are guests invited to the marriage of Christ and the church. These guests are those who worship God but are not a part of the church. The church includes all of the saints from the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came to the day of the rapture when Christ takes the saints to heaven.
7. Read Revelation 19:1-10 and write who John was told to worship.
8. Explain what these verses teach about the marriage of Christ and the church.
9. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that as a Christian you are a part of the bride of Christ.

Following the great marriage supper, Christ will return to the earth. However, this time He is not coming as Savior. Instead He will be coming as the judge. Christ will make war against those who are coming to fight against Israel. As Christ comes, His clothes have already been dipped in blood. When Christ comes, the saints will be following Him. As Christ comes, He comes with a sword. We read that He will use this sword to judge the nations. Here we see the fact emphasized again that Christ will come as a judge to judge the people on the earth.
10. Read Revelation 19:11-21 and write what the angel tells the birds (fowls) to do.
11. Explain the difference between the first coming of Christ as Savior and His Second Coming as Judge.
12. Explain why you are thankful that you will not have to face Christ as Judge because you accepted him as your Savior.

These verses go on to tell us a little more about the battle that will be fought in the Valley of Armageddon. We learned earlier that so many people will be killed that the blood will be as high as the bridle of a horse. Here we see that the birds are going to eat the bodies of those that are killed by Christ. These birds will eat the flesh of all the people whether those people are free or controlled by someone else. They will eat the flesh of those who are important and the flesh of those that are not important.
13. Read Revelation 19:11-21 and write who will be gathered together to fight against Christ.
14. Explain what these verses teach about the completeness of this physical judgment of the armies that are against Christ.
15. Explain why you think that God will use the birds of the air to eat of the flesh of those that will be killed by Christ.

These verses show us that there will be a great army gathered together against Christ. The beast (antichrist) will be the leader of this great army. All of the kings of the earth will be following the antichrist. The antichrist will also control all of their armies. All of these armies will be gathered together to fight against Israel when Christ returns. Instead of fighting Israel, Christ will be the One that fights against them. In addition to this great army being destroyed, the antichrist and the false prophet that got men to worship the antichrist will both be captured by Christ.

16. Read Revelation 19:11-21 and write what Christ will do with the beast (antichrist) and the false prophet when He captures them.
17. Explain what these verses teach about the immediate judgment of the antichrist and the false prophet when Christ defeats them.
18. Explain why you realize that it is right and just for Christ to destroy this great army that is against Him.

We see that the antichrist and his false prophet will be sent to the lake of fire before any others are sent there. We will see in the next chapter that Satan and all those that have failed to follow Christ will be sent to the lake of fire and brimstone (rocks that are so hot that they melt and run like water) one thousand years later. Christ will destroy all of the kings, their armies and the people that follow them. None of those who reject Christ will escape. Here we see the difference between Christ coming as a Savior in His first coming and His come as Judge in His Second Coming.
19. Read Revelation 19:11-21 and write where the sword of Christ is.
20. Explain what these verses teach about the battle that will happen in the Valley of Armageddon when Christ returns to the earth.
21. Explain what lessons you have learned for your own understanding about the Second Coming of Christ.

After Christ destroys all those who are in rebellion against Him, He will send an angel to chain Satan. This angel will chain Satan and put him in the bottomless pit for one thousand years. Here we see that Christ is going to be the ruler on the earth during that thousand years. While Christ is ruling on the earth, Satan will not be able to tempt people to sin. However, at the end of the thousand years, Satan will be allowed to go out and tempt people again for a little while.
22. Read Revelation 20:1-9 and write what will happen to those who are killed for Christ during the tribulation.
23. Explain why Satan will be put in chains in the bottomless pit for the thousand years that Christ is ruling on the earth.
24. Explain how you think the people on the earth will act when Satan is not able to tempt them to sin.

Here we see that when Christ returns to the earth and judges those that have rebelled against Him, He will also raise from the dead those who will be killed for serving Christ during the tribulation. However, the dead that rebelled against Christ will not be raised in this resurrection. Only those who worshiped Christ will be raised in this resurrection. Those who are raised in this resurrection will not need to worry about the second death. The second death is eternal separation from God in the lake of fire and brimstone. Instead of having a fear of the second death, those that are raised in this resurrection will be priests of God and will rule with Christ.
25. Read Revelation 20:1-9 and write what will happen to Satan at the end of the thousand years.
26. Explain why those who are killed for following Christ during the tribulation can look forward to ruling with Christ during the thousand years.
27. Explain why you are thankful that you and all Christians do not need to worry about the second death.

Satan will make his final effort to have victory over Christ when he is loosed from the bottomless pit for a short time. During the thousand years when Christ is ruling on the earth, there will be many people born. Each of these people must also decide for themselves whether they want to follow Christ. When Satan is set loose, he will go out and deceive all of those who do not follow Christ. He will lead them in a final rebellion against Christ. There will be a great group of people that will follow Satan. They will come and surround the city of Jerusalem in an effort to destroy Christ. God will send fire from heaven to destroy them.
28. Read Revelation 20:1-9 and write the number of people that will follow Satan in this final rebellion.
29. Explain what these verses teach about the final effort of Satan to deceive people and lead them in rebellion against Christ.
30. Explain how these verses show you that the goal of Satan is always to steal, to kill and destroy as John 10:10 says.

As we come to the final part of this chapter, we come to the final judgment of all those that have failed to follow Christ. First we read about the final judgment of Satan. He will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone with the beast and the false prophet. There he will burn forever and ever. Here we see that those that are sent to the lake of fire and brimstone will never be able to escape. They will suffer there forever and will be eternally separated from God. They will have great torment and suffering for all eternity in the lake of fire.
31. Read Revelation 20:10-15 and write what kind of a throne Christ will sit on when he judges those who failed to follow Him.
32. Explain what these verses teach about the eternal judgment of Satan when God judges him.
33. Explain why you are thankful that you do not need to be afraid of this eternal judgment in your own life.

We read that all of the dead will be raised to be judged. This will include those who are important as well as those who were almost unknown. Every person that failed to follow Christ will be raised to stand before God at this judgment that is often called the Great White Throne judgment. When God judges sinful people, He will have two kinds of books in front of Him. The first book is the book of life. In it are written all of the names of those who have placed their faith in the payment that Christ made for their sin. At this judgment God will show each person that his or her name is not written in the book of life.
34. Read Revelation 20:10-15 and write what is written in the other books.
35. Explain why every person whose name is written in the book of life does not have to fear the Great White Throne judgment.
36. Explain why you are thankful that Christ wrote you name in the book of life at the moment you placed your trust in Christ.

God has kept books that have a complete record of every sin that people who have rejected Christ have committed. In case any person would try to say that he or she has lived a good life, these books of their lives will be read so that all can hear. Those who think that they have good lives will be shown how evil and sinful they are. There will be no way for those who failed to follow Christ to escape this

judgment. God will raise their bodies from the ocean, the land, or wherever else their bodies are.
37. Read Revelation 20:10-15 and write how people will be judged at this final judgment as they stand before God.
38. Explain what these verses teach you about the final judgment that will be experienced by every person that failed to place his or her trust in Christ.
39. Explain how you think people will respond when they see all of the sins that are written in the books about them.

We read that the lake of fire is called the second death. We see that this lake of fire and brimstone will be the place where all of those who failed to follow Christ will exist forever. There will be no escape. Brimstone is melted rock. This means that it is several thousand degrees hot. It takes a very hot temperature to melt rock. However, this great heat will not kill the people in the lake of fire. Instead they will continue to exist forever in great pain. In addition to the great pain of the lake of fire, the second death also means that those that are there are eternally separated from God and from all of those who placed their trust in Christ.
40. Read Revelation 20:10-15 and write who will be cast into the lake of fire.
41. Explain why eternal separation from God is a part of the suffering that these people will experience for all eternity.
42. Explain why understanding this eternal judgment that faces your relatives and friends that never place their trust in Christ gives you an even greater desire to tell them how they can have forgiveness of sins and receive eternal life.

Now reread Revelation 19:1-20:15 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Revelation
Lesson 10
Revelation 21:1-22:21

As we come to the final lesson in our study of the book of Revelation, we see that the final two chapters talk about what will happen after the judgment. Now we are going to find out what will happen to those that have followed God and placed their trust in the payment for sin that Christ provided. Here we have a beautiful picture of heaven. It is so wonderful to see a little picture of the greatness of heaven that we will enjoy with Christ forever. As we come to the end of the book of Revelation, we have a promise to those that are Christians and a warning to those that are not Christians. Christ says, "Surely, I come quickly."

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

Tell what will pass away when we get to heaven.
Tell a little about what heaven will be like.
Explain what we read about the tree of life.
Tell what you learn from the final message of the Bible.

During our study of the book of Revelation, we have been studying the judgment of the nations. In our last lesson we learned about the final judgment of Satan and all of those that failed to follow Christ. Today we turn from the judgments to the wonderful blessings that are promised to all of those that follow Christ. As we begin our study today, we see that there will be a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth will be gone and there will be no more sea. II Peter 3:13 tells us that we can look forward to new heavens and a new earth.

1. Read Revelation 21:1-8 and write what John saw coming down out of heaven.
2. Explain why there is a need for new heavens and a new earth that have not been corrupted by sin.
3. Explain why you are looking forward to the privilege of enjoying the new heavens and the new earth for all eternity.

Here we see that God has prepared a beautiful city for all those that have followed Christ. This New Jerusalem is the place where God will live with people for all eternity. This city will be different from any other city that has ever existed. God will also remove the tears from the eyes of every person. There will be no more death, sorrow, crying or pain. Christ will make everything new. He is the One that is the Alpha (the first) and the Omega (the last). He gives all that are in the New Jerusalem the privilege of drinking of the water of life without any cost. Here we see that Christ will share all of His blessings and riches with those that have followed Him.

4. Read Revelation 21:1-8 and write who will inherit all things.
5. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that we will never have anything that brings sorrow throughout eternity.
6. Explain why you are thankful that you can have the privilege of living with God forever in the New Jerusalem.

We see a promise to the faithful that have followed Christ and then we read again about the judgment of those that have failed to follow Christ. Those who live in sin and never follow Christ will be sent to the lake of fire and brimstone. There they will burn forever. However, those that follow Christ are given a wonderful promise. We will inherit all things because we are the children of God. We are a part of His family. Here we see what a wonderful privilege it is to be a part of the family of God. Romans 8:14-17 tells us that we become heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.
7. Read Revelation 21:1-8 and write what the lake of fire and brimstone is called.
8. Explain why all of the followers of Christ can look forward to sharing the inheritance of Christ for all eternity.
9. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that you are a part of the family of God.

We go on to read many other wonderful things that we can look forward to in the future. First we are reminded that as Christians we are the bride of Christ and have now become His wife for all eternity. We also learn more about the New Jerusalem. We see that the city has twelve gates. These gates are the twelve tribes of Israel. The city also has twelve foundations. The twelve foundations are the twelve apostles. Here we see that it is emphasized that both the Jews and the church will be together with Christ for all eternity. This is a wonderful reminder of the promise in Ephesians 2 that Christ broke down the barrier that existed between the Jews and the Gentiles. That barrier is gone forever.
10. Read Revelation 21:9-27 and write how wide the city is.
11. Explain why these verses remind us of the fact that Christ has removed all barriers between those that have followed Him.
12. Explain why you are thankful that there will be no barriers between people throughout eternity.

We see that the New Jerusalem is 1500 miles long, 1500 miles wide and 1500 miles high. It is equal on all sides. The walls of the city are 216 feet thick. We also read that the walls, the foundation and the entire city are made with very expensive stones. The gates of the city are great pearls. The streets of the city are made with gold. We will be able to enjoy the beauty of this city for all eternity. One thing that will not be in the New Jerusalem will be a temple. In the Old Testament the temple was where the people offered sacrifices as a covering for sin. Christ was our sacrifice once for all time. In the New Jerusalem there will be no sin. God, the Father, and Christ are the ones that we will worship and there is no need for a temple in order to worship them.
13. Read Revelation 21:9-27 and write what the city will not need.
14. Explain why this city is very different than any other city that has existed on the earth throughout history.
15. Explain what you think is the most important thing about this city.

The sun and the moon will not be needed because Christ is the light. We will walk in the light that Christ gives. The gates of this city will be open all of the time. There will be no need to shut the gates because there will be no night in the New Jerusalem. There will never be an evil person come into the city because all sin will have been judged and all those with sin will have been cast into the lake of fire and brimstone. Those whose names are not written in the book of life will never come into this city so it will be a place where everything is perfect.

16. Read Revelation 21:9-27 and write what people will bring into this city.
17. Explain what you learn about the New Jerusalem from these verses.
18. Explain why it is important to you to know that we will walk in the light that Christ will provide for all eternity.

There are also many other wonderful things in the New Jerusalem. First we read that there is a river of life. This river comes from the throne of God. It is a pure river and the water that comes from it is clear like crystal. We also read that the tree of life will be there. When God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, He also placed a tree of life in the garden. Those who ate from it were told that they would live forever. When Adam and Eve sinned, it was necessary for God to take them out of the garden so that they would not eat from the tree of life. Otherwise they would have lived in their sin forever.
19. Read Revelation 22:1-5 and write how many kinds of fruit the tree of life has.
20. Explain why God actually showed mercy to Adam and Eve by taking them out of the Garden of Eden so that they would not eat of the tree of life.
21. Explain why you are thankful that you will be able to enjoy the fruit of the tree of life for all eternity.

The tree of life is a wonderful tree. It has a new kind of fruit every month. No one will ever become tired of eating its fruit. The leaves of the tree of life also have great power. We read that they are for the healing of the nations. Here again we see the blessing of God. God has shown His great love to all of the nations as well as to the Jews. Through Christ we will also have the privilege of enjoying this great eternal life in heaven. We see that the curse of sin has been removed and we will be able to enjoy the blessings of heaven forever.
22. Read Revelation 22:1-5 and write who will serve Christ in heaven.
23. Explain why it is a blessing that God has chosen to provide for the healing of the nations for eternity.
24. Explain why this little look at the New Jerusalem gives you a growing desire to be there with Christ forever.

We are the servants of Christ. It will be our privilege to serve Him in heaven. It will also be our privilege to see Christ face to face. There will be no night in heaven. Instead Christ will be the light. We will rule with Christ forever and ever. Truly heaven will be a wonderful place. We certainly want all of our family and friends to be with us in heaven. We do not want them to suffer in the lake of fire forever. We have a great privilege and responsibility to tell people how to become Christians now so that they can enjoy that eternal life forever.
25. Read Revelation 22:1-5 and write who will reign with God forever and ever.
26. Explain why the greatness of heaven and the terribleness of the lake of fire should cause all Christians to want to speak more about Christ to others.
27. Explain why you want to do everything possible to give all of your relatives and friends the opportunity to know how to have eternal life.

As we come to the final section of the book of Revelation, we have several promises and several

warnings. Christ says that the things that are written in this book will happen very soon. Today many things that are happening in the world show us that the Lord may come in our lifetime. In fact, Christ could come today. Since Christ is coming soon, we should spend out time sharing the Word of God and not our own ideas. These verses tell us that we are to keep the Word of God. To keep the Word of God means to obey what is written in it. As James 1:22 tells us we are to obey the Word of God and not just hear and forget it.
28. Read Revelation 22:6-21 and write why John was told not to seal up these words.
29. Explain why Christians are to obey the Word of God as we wait for the coming of Christ to take us to heaven.
30. Explain why you eagerly waiting for Christ to come and take you to heaven so that you can enjoy fellowship with Him forever.

There is not much time for people to follow Christ. If they do not follow Him now, it will be too late. They will suffer in the lake of fire forever because of their sin. Those that are right with God will receive eternal life. They will also receive rewards if they have been faithful in working for Christ. For the people living today that have not yet become Christians, Christ says, "Come." He offers the water of life to all that will come. He will give this water of life as a free gift to all that will accept it.
31. Read Revelation 22:6-21 and write what God says He will add to any that try to add their words to the Word of God.
32. Explain why it is important that Christ is still inviting people to come to Him in the last chapter of the Bible.
33. Explain why it is important to you in your life to know that Christ is still inviting people to come to Him for life.

We have a real warning to those that would try to add their words to the Word of God. God says that they will suffer all of the terrible judgments that are written in this book. Today we have many people and groups that are adding their words to the Word of God. Such groups teach that the words that their leaders speak are equal with the Word of God. Others teach that the books that their leaders write are equal with the Bible. All of those that teach such things are facing great judgment. Because they have never placed their trust in Christ, such false teachers would be left behind if Christ were to come today to take the Christians to heaven.
34. Read Revelation 22:6-21 and write what God says about those that take away or deny any part of the Word of God.
35. Explain why people that make other teachings equal to the Word of God are showing that they have not placed their faith and trust in Christ.
36. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to avoid the teachings of those who say that their words are equal with the Word of God.

Today we have many religious people that are denying part of the Bible. They do not believe everything that the Bible teaches. Some no longer teach that people can only be saved by the blood of Christ. Others refuse to believe that Christ rose from the dead. Some say that certain parts of the Bible are not true. Many of these will deny what the Bible teaches about the creation and the flood. Others deny the miracles of Christ. All of these people will be judged. None of them will receive

eternal life because they have rejected the Word of God and have refused to follow Christ.
37. Read Revelation 22:6-21 and write when John was told that Christ would come.
38. Explain why God gives a warning to all people not to deny that any part of the Bible is true.
39. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to avoid listening to teachers that deny the truth of certain parts of the Bible.

As we come to the end of the book of Revelation, Christ tells us again that He will come quickly. Today many Christians are living as though they have many years to live. They do not seem to be concerned about those that are not Christians. They are not using every opportunity to speak for Christ. They are not using the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given them to serve Christ. Christ is coming soon. We do not have many years to serve ourselves instead of serving Christ. We only have a short time on this earth and we should use that time to serve Christ.
40. Read Revelation 22:6-21 and write what John answered when Christ said that He was coming quickly.
41. Explain why it is important for all Christians to make the best possible use of their time as they wait for the coming of the Lord.
42. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ is coming quickly.

Now reread Revelation 21:1-22:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.