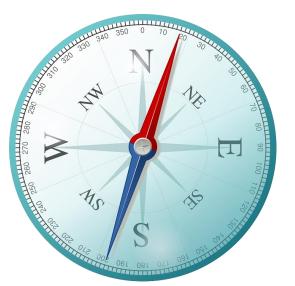
The Compass



Maintaining Your Heading!

A Case for Biblical Doctrine



Pastor Dr. Andrew Calhoun MS, MDiv, ThM, ED

Grace Fellowship Church of Milwaukee
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The Doctrine of God

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

God's Essential Being

In the Old Testament, when referring to Deity, three primary names are used:

- 1. "God" a translation of the Hebrew word "*Elohim*," it means "*The Strong One*." Gen. 1:26, 27, 22:15-18.
- 2. "LORD" means when printed in capital letters, *Jehovah*, and means "*The Self-existence One who reveals Himself*." Gen. 2:7; Exodus 6:1-3
- 3. **"Lord"** means when printed in small letters mean *"Master.*" Psalm 110:1

Unity and Tri-Unity of God

- 1. The Supreme Being is One. Deut. 6:4; Isa. 44:6
- But in reality God is a Unity in Plurality. Gen. 1:26, 3:22, Gen. 11:7; Psa. 2:7; Isa. 6:8; I Tim. 2:5; I Cor. 8:4
- 3. The Trinity, although fore shadowed several times in the Old Testament is manifested for the first time at the Baptism of Christ. Matt. 3:16
- 4. There is one God, who subsists in a *Three-fore Personality*. John 10:30, 14:16-17.

The fact that there are *"Three Persons in One"* is a revelation which belongs to the sphere of Heaven's perfect understanding. I Corinthians 13:1

Compound Names of God (Deity)

- 1. *Jehovah-Jirah*: The Lord will provide. Gen. 22:14
 - Jehoval-rapha: The Lord that Heals. Exod. 15:26
 - Jehovah-nissi: The Lord our Banner. Exod. 17:8-15
 - Jehovah-Shalom: The Lord our Peace. Judges 6:24
- 5. *Jehovah-raah*: The Lord my Shepherd. Psalm 23:1
- 6. Jehovah-tsidkenue: The Lord our Righteousness. Jer. 23:6
- 7. Jehovah-shammeh:
- The Lord is present. Ezek. 48:35

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2.

3.

4.

The Natural Attributes of God

- 1. *Omnipotence:* Unlimited Power. Job 42:2
- 2. Omniscience: Perfect Knowledge. Psalm 147:5
- 3. *Omnipresence*: Present Everywhere. Psalm 139:7-12.
- 4. **Eternity**: God's existence had no beginning and will have not ending. Heb. 1:12; Psalm 90:2
- *Immutability*: God's nature is absolutely unchangeable. Mal. 3:6; I Samuel 15:29; James 1:17

The Moral Attributes of God

- 1. The Holiness of God. Isa. 57:15, 16.
- 2. Righteousness and Justice. Psalm 116:5, 145:17.
- 3. Mercy and Loving-Kindness. Psalm 103:8, 86:15
- 4. Love.

1 John 4:8-16, John 3:16

Training Notes

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<u>What Do You Think</u> <u>About Jesus?</u>

The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21

Jesus' Essential Being (Acts 7:38)

Salem Kirban once noted the words of a prolific writer from England, Herbert Lockyer, saying: "Coeternal with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, the beginning of the revelation of Christ goes back beyond the beginning of creation and of man....Claiming for Himself powers and attributes belonging only to God, Christ asserted His pre-existence. When among men, He could claim, 'Before Abraham was, I am'." John 3:53

The people of Israel, in the Old Testament times, were prepared for the coming of Christ as the One who would come from "the tribe of Judah." The most striking evidence; however were the visible appearances of theophanies.

A *theophany* is an appearance of a god to a person. As when <u>EL</u> wrestled with Jacob (Gen. 32:26-32). Yawweh appeared to Moses (Exodus 3:1-4:17; 6:2-13 and the elders of Israel (Exodus 24:9-11) or the resurrected Jesus revealed himself to Thomas (John 20:24-29) and Paul (Acts 9:3-9). Listed below are others from the

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Old Testament includes:

In Eden (Genesis 3:15)

- To Hagar (Genesis 16:7-14) 2.
- 3. To Jacob (Genesis 18:1)
- To Jacob (Genesis 28; 32: 24-32; 48:15, 16) 4.
- To Moses (Exodus 3:2, 6, 14; 23:20, 21) 5.
- To Joshua (Joshua 5:13-23) 6.
- To Isaiah (Isaiah 6:1-13: John 12:39-41) 7.
- 8. To Zechariah (Zechariah 1:8-13; 2:8-11)

The coming of Jesus would be Prophet, Priest and King, combining all three offices in His life.

Training Notes



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The Witnesses of Christ

Prophetic Witness:

- 1. Seed of the <u>woman</u> (Gen. 3:15)
- 2. Tribe of Judah Gen. 49:10; Heb. 7:14
- 3. The House of <u>David</u> (2 Sam. 7:12, 13)
- 4. The Place of His <u>birth</u> (Micah 5:2; Luke 2:4, 15)
- 5. His Name (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)

The Angelic Witness

- 1. To Zacharias (Luke 1:6-17)
- 2. To Mary (Luke 1:26-28)
- 3. To Joseph (Luke 1:20-23/

The Historic Witness

Matthew relates the virgin birth of Christ from Joseph's standpoint. Dr. Luke received the facts for the virgin birth from Mary. And John reveals, "The Word became <u>flesh</u> and dwelt among us." John 1:14).

Christ is represented as a person having two natures: (1) Divine, and (2) Human. He became Man (John 1:14) assuming, in addition to His Divine nature, a human nature. And at our regeneration (being born again); our existing human nature is made partaker in the Divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).

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The Names of Jesus (Deity)

1. *Christ*: The Messiah; from the Greek *Christos*, a translation of the Hebrew *Mahiah* ("messiah") "the anointed one." The term derives form Israel's practice of anointing (putting <u>oil</u> on the heads of) kings at their coronation.

2. *Immanuel:* The name (meaning "God is with us") that Isaiah gave to a child whose birth be predicted as a sign to King Ahaz during the late eighth century BC. Although not originally presented as a messianic prophecy, it was later interpreted as such (Micah 5:3; Matt: 1:22-23).

3. Master: Rich Young Ruler. (Matt. 19:16-24)

4. Rabbi: A priest and teacher. (John 3:2)

5. Lord and God: Thomas pronouncement. John 20:28

6. Savior: One who saves from danger or destruction, a term applied to <u>Yahweh</u> in the Old Testament, Ps. 106:21 and to Jesus in the New Testament (Luke 2:11)

Other Names (OT): Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Further evidences of His Deity include:

- a. In His <u>Baptism</u> (John 1:34; Mat 3:17)
- b. In His Temptation (Hebrew 4:15)
- c. In His Sinlessness (1 John 3:5)
- d. In His Matchless Works (John 1:4)
- e. In His <u>Death</u> (Mat. 9:15; 16:21; 17:22,23; Luke 9:22)
- f. In His Resurrection (1 Corinthians 5:14)
- g. In His Ascension (John 6:62)

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6

The Real Deal

The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses ...Acts 1:8

The Holy Spirit (Ghost) Joel 2:28-29

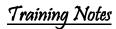
Of the three persons in the Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the Holy Spirit is the least known and understood today. Yet the Holy Spirit is the most vitally and intimately involved in our initial conversion and birth into the *family of God*, as well as in the ongoing development of our Christian *lives*. Knowledge of the intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit *bring us power*, joy, and hope. When we neglect Him, through ignorance or indifference, we insure *spiritual poverty*.

The Teaching of the Spirit (OT)

- 1. The work of the Spirit in *creation*. (Gen. 1:2)
- 2. The work of the Spirit in *equipping* for service. (Jud. 14:6)
- 3. The work of the Spirit in *inspiring* the prophets. (Ezek. 2.2)
- 4. The work of the Spirit in <u>producing</u> moral living. (Ps. 51:11)
- 5. The work of the Spirit in *foretelling* the coming of the Messiah. (Isa. 61:1)

Symbols and Titles

- 1. Comforter or counselor (John 14:26)
- 2. The Spirit of *grace*. (Heb. 10:29)
- 3. The Spirit of *truth*. (1 John 5:6)
- The Spirit of <u>wisdom</u> and <u>understanding</u>, the Spirit of <u>counsel</u> and <u>power</u>, the Spirit of <u>knowledge</u> and of the <u>fear</u> of the Lord (Isa. 11:2)
- 5. He is the "Spirit of Promise (Eph. 1:13, Acts 2:38-39)
- 6. The Spirit of glory (1 Peter 4:14)



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Identified with Believers

- 1. Identified with the *thinking* of believers. (Acts 15:28)
- Holy Spirit is not only a person –He is <u>Deity</u>. (Acts 5:4; 2 Cor. 3:17-18; 1 Cor. 3:16)
- 3. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. (Matt. 12:31-32)
- 4. Attributes of a Deity. (Heb. 9:14; Ps. 139:7)
- 5. The Spirit of *Life*. (Rom. 8:2)
- 6. The Spirit of *Truth*. (John 16:13)
- The Spirit does God's <u>work</u>. (Gen. 1:2; John 3:8; Matt. 12:28; Rom. 8:11)
- 8. New Testament quotes from OT. (Isa. 6;8; Acts 28:25-26)
- 9. The Spirit will provide *peace*. (John 14:27)

Being Filled with the Spirit

Being filled with the Spirit in not a once-for-all experience or a one experience that fits all, it is rather an experience that may be repeated. On the Day of Pentecost the disciples were filled with the Spirit (Acts 2:1-4, 14-18) and a few days later, in a dramatic prayer meeting, they had such an experience again (Acts 4:31).

The filling of the <u>Spirit implies being given power and boldness</u> for God's service. It also provides one with strength, wisdom and the where with all to meet particular crises. It is possible, and it sometimes happens, that the baptism of the Spirit and the infilling of the Spirit occur at the same time during conversion. They need not be separated in experience. But the filing of the Spirit is an experience to be repeated as necessary in the life of each believer. We are, literally, to <u>"keep on being filled"</u> (Eph. 5:18).

The Holy Spirit is not a substance, illusion, method or the figment of one's imagination, but a Person that dwells within the new believer. The spirit helps to provide guidance, comfort and assurance in the believers daily spiritual walk. The Spirit also makes intercession for the believer in times of uncertainty, distress and confusion.

The fullness of the Spirit is not a matter of our receiving more of Him. Rather, it is a matter of a closer and deeper relationship with God. To be filled with the <u>Spirit means we allow the presence of</u> <u>God, and Christ through the spirit to occupy, guide, and control</u> <u>every area of our lives</u>. God's power can then work through us, making us effectively fruitful and productive. This applies not only to our outward acts but also to our inner thoughts, beliefs and motives.

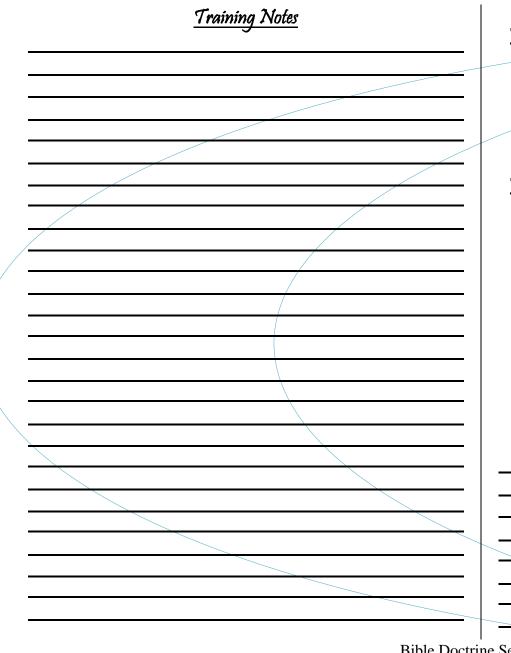
When we are filled with the Spirit, all we are and have is subject to God's control. The test as to whether or not you are filled with the Spirit is not, "Have you received an external sign or been given a particular gift of the Spirit?" Rather, does your life reflect God's presence and does your daily actions glorify God for all to witness. Matthew 5:16

Many believers come to a point of utter frustration in their service for the Lord simply because they <u>fail to realize the need to be filled</u> <u>with the Spirit if they are to act in God's power</u>. We cannot save ourselves apart from trying to accomplish spiritual and eternal results solely through our human ability-or, more properly, inability.

It is the <u>Holy Spirit who delivers us from the power of sin:</u> "Through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death" (Rom. 8:2). The <u>Holy Spirit changes the</u> <u>pattern of our lives so that we can overcome sin</u>. The Spirit does not make us sinless (1 John 1:8), but in Him we are able to start fulfilling the righteousness of the Law (Rom. 8:4) Such holy living is <u>a work of the spirit</u> and a <u>result of salvation</u>; it is not in any way the basis for our being saved.

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The Spirit's Seal

As soon as a person puts his trust in Christ, he is sealed by the <u>Holy Spirit</u>. (Eph. 1:13). A seal is a symbol of a finished <u>transaction</u>, of <u>ownership</u>, and of <u>security</u>. Because we are sealed by the Spirit, we can have certainty and assurance of <u>salvation</u>: "The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children" (Rom. 8:16).

The Spirit's Fruit

- When the Holy Spirit produces His fruit in us, we find that "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Gal. 5:22-23), come naturally to us instead of our having to labor strenuously to cultivate these traits.
- 2. <u>Walk</u> in the Spirit. (Gal. 5:16)
- 3. *Led* by the Spirit of God. (Rom. 8:14)
- 4. The Holy Spirit *prays* for us (Rom. 8:26)
- 5. <u>Grieve</u> not the Spirit (Eph. 4:30) (Gal. 5:18-21)
- 6. <u>Quench</u> not the Spirit (1 Thes. 5:19)

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<u> I Believe</u> <u>The Doctrine of Salvation</u>

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" Acts 16:31"

A Definition – Salvation

- 1. The act of being saving or state of being saved, as from harm or
 - loss.

I.

- 2. A means of being saved.
- 3. Theology, deliverance from the power and penalty of sin.

Focus Scripture: Acts 16: 25-31 KJV

- 25. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
- 26. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors. Were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
- 27. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.
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- 28. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.
- 29. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,
- 30. And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
- 31. And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and Thou shalt be saved, and they house.

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Salvation Discussion

- a. It is simple. It is the whole concept of understanding repentance, faith,, regeneration, election, predestination and foreknowledge, justification, sanctification and glorification.
- b. It is profound. It has the most pervasive and permanent impact possible on the one who experiences it. We do not, of course, have to understand all aspects of salvation before we can receive it. We may understand very little when we first trust Christ. And there are some things we will not understand until we see our Lord face to face. But studying Gods' word and trying to understand more full the truth of our salvation greatly enriches us spiritually.

Salvation - Repentance

A. Matthew 3:2B. Matthew 4:17

Salvation – Faith

A. Hebrew 11:6B. John 3:16

Salvation – Regeneration

- A. Matthew 19:28
- B. Titus 3:5

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Salvation – Election

- A. Mark 13:27
- B. I Peter 1:2
- C. Ephesians 1:4-5
- D. John 15:16

Salvation – Predestination and Foreknowledge

A. Romans 8:29-30

B. John 6:44

Salvation – Justification

A. Romans 3:20

B. Romans 5:8-9

Salvation – Sanctification

A. I Corinthian 6:11

B. 2 Peter 3:18

Salvation - Glorification

A. I John 3:2B. I Thessalonians 5:9

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:6

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12

<u>Can You Handle It!</u>

The Doctrine of Transformation

". be ye "transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and prefect, will of God." Romans 12:2b

I. <u>A Definition – Transformation</u>

1. To change in form or appearance. 2. To change in condition, nature or character. *Webster's Dictionary (1998)*

In the Greek understanding of the word it means,

"metamorphose"- (change, transfigure, transform.)

Metamorphose means to subject to or undergo <u>metamorphosis</u> or <u>metamorphism</u>.

Metamorphosis means:

- 1. A change in form from one stage to the next in the life of an organism, as from pupa to butterfly.
- 2. A change of from, structure, or substance, as by magic.
- 3. A remarkable change, as in appearance.

<u>Metamorphism</u> means a change in the constitution of a rock by natural means, as pressure and heat.

II. Focus Scripture: Romans 12:1-2

 I <u>beseech</u> you therefore, brethren, by the <u>mercies</u> of God, that ye present your bodies a <u>living sacrifice, holy,</u> <u>acceptable</u> unto God, which is your <u>reasonable service</u>.
 And be not <u>conformed</u> to this world: but be ye <u>transformed</u> by the <u>renewing</u> of <u>your mind</u>, and that ye may prove what is that <u>good</u> and <u>acceptable</u>, and <u>perfect will</u> of God.

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III. <u>Transformation: Meanings in Context</u>

- a. <u>Spiritual Change</u>. This is a change that come from our accepting Jesus Christ into our life as savior and Lord. This can be seen as an increase in awareness, spiritual growth and knowledge.
- b. <u>Physical Change</u>. This is a change in our physical being. We can lose weight, gain weight, build muscle, change clothing, hair styles and the tone of our skin.
- c. <u>Emotional Change.</u> This is a change that reflects a change through our emotions. Every thing we are involved with will affects us emotionally. We feel something and that feeling my cause us to react differently to various human situations. We make a lot of decisions base upon how we feel about it.
- d. <u>Mental Change</u>. This is a change that reflects how we view and understand things. It may change our perception and attitude about things.

IV. <u>Transformation Discussion</u>

- a. In Biblical terms, transformation means a change in the spiritual, emotional and mental nature of individuals and nations. When one is changed they have the ability to understand and see life from different views.
- b. Transformation is a process that happens through time, includes larger issues and involves the total person. The Lord is in the business of transforming His people from where they are to what they should be.

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IX. Biblical Examples of Transformations

- 1. God's People. 2 Chronicles 7:14. God appears to Solomon 1 Kings 9:1-9
- 2. Job. 14: 14 "all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change comes." 23:10 " …I shall come forth as pure gold."
- 3. Peter & the Disciples. Mat. 4:18-22; Luke 5:10-11; John 1:35-42. The call of the disciples from their occupations.
- 4. Woman at the Well. John 4:6-39. She meets Jesus and is changed.
- 5. The Apostle Paul. Acts 9:1-16. Paul's conversion on the Damascus road.
- 6. Isaiah. 6:1-13. His change in the temple and becomes God's prophet.
- 7. Jonah. 1-4 His disobedience, punishment, prayer and repentance. His ministry helped a nation to turn from destruction.
- 8. Nicodemus. John 3. For him it was a new birth.
- 9. The Lost Son. Luke 15:11-24. Prodigal Son <u>"Wasteful"</u> "He came to himself..."
- 10. Chosen Generation. 1 Peter 4:9
- 11. Transfiguration. Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:27-43
- 12. New Creature. 2 Corinthians 5:17. "old things are passed away."

X. How can you Transform Yourself,

Family or situation?

- a. Commit yourself____
- b. Commit yourself_____

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15

Its In Your Hands

The Doctrine of Prayer

"men ought always to pray, and not to faint" Lk: 18:1b

I. <u>What is Prayer?</u>

"Prayer is the open and sincere communication of an individual to God." --Pastor A. Calhoun

"Prayer happens when a sincere heart reaches up to a loving God in gratitude and submission." --Pastor A. Calhoun

"I believe in the truthfulness of this instinct, and I believe that man prays because there is something in prayer. When the Creator gives His creature the power of thirst, it is because water exists to meet its thirst. When He creates hunger, there is food to correspond to the appetite. Even so, when He inclines men to pray, it is because prayer has a corresponding blessing connected with it." --Charles Spurgeon (The Power in Prayer)

"In dealing with mankind, nothing is more important to God then prayer. Prayer is likewise of great importance to people. Failure to pray is failure in all of life. It is failure of duty, service, and spiritual progress. It is only by prayer that God can help people. He who does not pray, therefore, robs himself of God's help and places God where He cannot help people." --E.M Bounds (The Weapons of Prayer) "An individual believer's life, his personal salvation, and his personal Christian graces have their being, bloom, and fruit in prayer." --E.M Bounds (The Weapons of Prayer)

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"The object of prayer is not to alter God's will and bend it to ours, but to bring our will into harmony with God's will. --Elder James Whitehead, Jr. (YPWW Editor)

Prayer is powerful in its affect. It moves the heart of God. It changes the world. But most of all it ehanges us. --Rodney J. Buchanan

"Effective prayer must be private before it is public." -- Calhoun

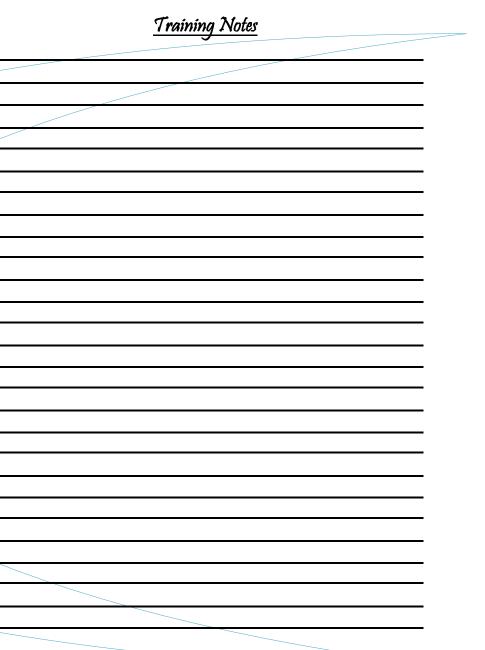
II. Types of Prayer

Prayer of Confession: This is when we confess our sins in order to receive forgiveness. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." John 1:9

Prayer of Thanksgiving: This is when we express gratitude to God for blessings received; happening or that will come. "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6

Prayer of Intercession or (intercessory): This is when a prayer is offered on behalf of a given situation to God or when one seeks God on behalf of another individual. "...but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered." Romans 8:26 and "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men." 1Tm:2:1

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III. Prayer in Worship

The Call to Prayer – Opening to pray, "Let us Pray" The Invocation - We are inviting the present of Lord in worship The Pastoral Prayer – Main prayer of worship; praise and needs The Silent Prayer – Observing a moment in silent The Bidding Prayer – Praying for specific concerns or needs The Litany – Fixed and frequent responses are made The Offertory Prayer – Dedication of gifts, offerings and tithes The Benediction – The commending of ourselves to God's care and announcing His blessings upon the people.

IV. Prayers in the Bible

Jesus teaches a prayer

9: After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10: Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11: Give us this day our daily bread.

12: And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. *Matt.* 6:9-13

1: And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. 2: And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

3: Give us day by day our daily bread.

4: And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. *Luke 11:1-4*

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Bible Facts (KJV)	Training Notes
New Testament(number of times in the bible)Pray159Prayer53Praying12	
Old TestamentPray135Prayer75Praying6	
Totals Pray = 294 Prayer = 128 Praying = 18 **This does not include the number of actual prayers that are in scriptures.	
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<u>Blessings Inc.</u> <u>The Doctrine of Stewardship</u>

"What shall I render unto the Lord for all His Benefits towards me?" Psalm 116:12

I. <u>Definition – Steward(ship)</u>

A person who manages another's property or finances. 2. A person in charge of running a large estate. 3. An employee in charge of the table. 4. An employee on a ship, train, or airplane who serves passengers. *Webster's Dictionary (1998)*

"Our culture, indeed many cultures, measure achievement by acquisition. We pretend that acquisition means power. Hence, rich nations are powerful nations. Rich persons are powerful person. Yes, even rich churches can be powerful churches. And power, like possessions, corrupts when seen as earned, self-made, exclusively owned power. The temptation is no less real for us today than it was when offered to Jesus on that high mountain by the devil.. We are to choose who we worship, were our power is, which treasure we value above all." *John R. Dewey, American Lutheran Church*.

II. Stewardship: Meanings in Context

- 1. <u>Giving of Money</u>. As Christians we are to support the work of the Lord with the money we earn. By this the ministry of the Lord can go forward, reach outward and make an impact through the world.
- 2. <u>Protector of the Environment.</u> As Christians we are to be protectors of the environment in which God has provided. We are protectors of natural resources, water, air, forest and soil.
- 3. <u>Protector of Life.</u> As Christians we are to be the protectors of the sanity of life. This includes wildlife, domestic animals, fish and all animals that have been created for our existence.

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III. Stewardship Discussion

- 1. Biblical stewardship calls us to *God's Word*. Effective stewards of God are motivated by the word of God.
- 2. First of all, we must understand the God has a high regard for humanity to be stewards over His creation. God creation reflects his divine love, and mercy.
- 3. Secondly, we are <u>administers</u> and not <u>owners</u>. All that we have, all that we are and hope to be, belongs to God. It is entrusted to our care during our time on earth. The earth belongs to the lord. God never relinquishes ownership. We are administrators and managers. Off all the treasure that has been placed in our care, the most precious is the gospel itself. We are a "chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people."
- 4. Lastly we are to give an accounting. We will be held responsible for our stewardship of the high trust that God in His grace and goodness has given us. We cannot take our responsibility lightly. When this pilgrimage on earth is ended, an accounting must be made of our stewardship. Christ often reminds us of that time when the workday is finished.
 "Watch," he counsels, "for you know neither the day nor the hour." that it makes us more than conquerors (Mark 9:23, Acts 3:16 & Hebrews 11:30)

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Training Notes

IV. God's Stewards

- Dorcas gave herself generously to those in need. She had a great compassion for widows and orphaned children. Acts 9 "filled her days with acts of kindness and charity."
- 2. Mary, (Mother of Jesus) has inspired majestic art, music and literature. God's only son was entrusted to her care.
- 3. Eliezer was Abraham's steward (Genesis 15:2 ff). Abraham had deep confidence in him and gave him a free hand in ordering his goods and affairs.
- 4. Joseph, Jacobs's son, was the kind of steward who could be trusted in all matters. His master, Potiphar, put all that he had under Joseph's management (Genesis 39).
- Moses was a faithful steward. God entrusted a nation, his own people, to his steward's leadership (Exodus 3).
 Moses led them out of Egypt. Through the wilderness and into the promised land.
- 6. Isaiah 22:15ff, gives us a picture of an unfaithful steward name Shebna. This man never discovered life's stewardship principles, but lived in an attitude of selfishness.

IV. Jesus Teachers Stewardship

The tread of stewardship in woven into all that Jesus said and did. Jesus emphasized wisdom, faithfulness and accountability. In 17 of 42 total parables, Jesus talked about money and stewardship.

- 1. Mark 12:1-12; Mark 13:34-36
- 2. Matthew 25:14; Matthew 24:45-51; 25:14-30
- 3. Luke 12:41-46; Luke 19:11-28
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- 4. Unmerciful Servant. Matthew 18:23-35
- 5. Unprofitable Servant. Luke 17:7-10
- 6. Wicked Servant. Luke 16:1-9

VI. <u>The Apostle Paul: Stewardship</u>:

One of the most thorough analyses of Christian giving is found in Paul's Corinthian correspondence 2:9.



<u> I Can See Clearly</u>

<u>Now!</u>

The Doctrine of Visions

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. Proverbs 29:18

I. <u>A Definition</u>

(1) The act or power of seeing with the eye, sense of sight. (2) (a) something supposedly seen by other than normal sight; something perceived in a dream, trance, etc. or supernaturally revealed; as to a prophet (b) the experience of having such a perception or revelation. (3) a mental image; esp. an imaginative contemplation (to have visions of power) (4) the ability to perceive something not actually visible, as through mental acuteness or keen

II. <u>Vision(s)</u>

There are 13 Hebrew concepts in which vision(s) is used in the Bible. Those include aspect, sight, appearance, seeing, a sight, apparition, vision, and the act of seeing, sight and vision.

III. <u>Vision(s) – Its Usage in the OT</u>

1. Genesis 15:1 ... of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision

- 2. Genesis 46:2 God spake unto Israel in the visions of the...
- 3. Number 12:6 ...will make myself known unto him in a vision.
- 4. Number 24: 4, 16 He...which saw the visions of the Almighty
- 5. 1 Samuel 3:1, 15; 2 Samuel 7:17
- 6. 1 Chronicles 17:15
- 7. 2 Chronicles 9:29; 26:5; 32:32
- 8. Job 4:13; 7:14; 20:8; 33:15
- 9. Psalm 89:19 ... thou speakest in vision to thy Holy One...
- 10. Proverbs 29:18 Where (there is) no vision, the people...
- 11. Isaiah 1:1; 21:2; 22:1, 5; 28:7; 29:7, 11
- 12. Jeremiah 14:14; 23:16
- 13. Lamentations 2;9 ... her prophets also find no vision from the...
- 14. Ezekiel 1:1, 7:13, 26, 8:3, 4; 11:24; 12:22-24, 27; (13:7) 13:16; 40:2, 43:3
- 15. Daniel 1:17; 2:19, 28; 4:5, 9-10, 13; 7:1-2, 7,13,15; 8:1-2, 10, 13, 15, 17, 26-27; 9:21, 23, 24, 10:7-8, 14, 16; 11:14; 19:1
- 16. Hosea 12:10 I have multiplied visions, and used ...
- 17. Obadiah 1 ... the vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord.
- 18. Micah 3:6 ... ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be.
- 19. Nahum 1:1 The book of the vision of Nahum the ...
- 20. Habakkuk 2:2, 3 Write the Vision, and make (it) plain...
- 21. Joel 2:28 afterward...your young men shall see visions..
- 22. Zecharia13:4

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IV. <u>Vision -Its Usage in the NT</u>

- a. Luke 1:22 ...they perceived that he had seen a vision...
- b. Luke 24:23 ...that they had also seen a vision of angels.
- c. Acts 2:17, 9.10, 12; 10:3, 17, 17, 19; 11:5; 12:9, 16:9-10; 18:9; 26:19
- d. 2 Co 12:1 I will come to visions and revelations of ...
- e. Rev. 9:17 thus I saw the horses in a the vision, and....

V. Jesus and Visions

With Jesus the concept of visions came in various forms and implications.

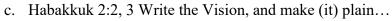
Matt. 17:9 Tell the vision to no man, until the Son...

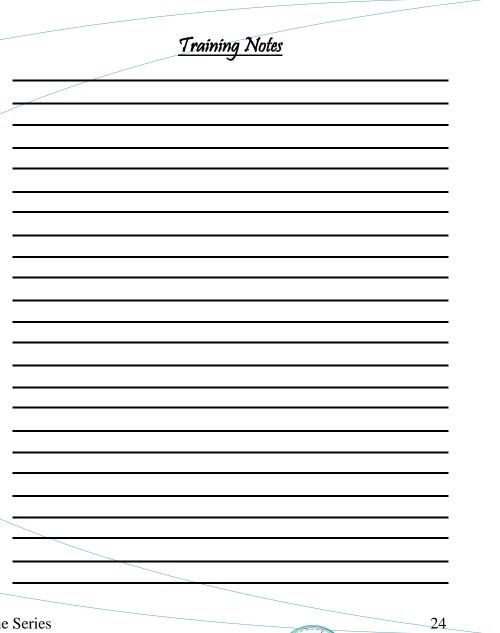
What do you believe about the following?

a. Proverbs 29:18 Where (there is) no vision, the people...

b. Joel 2:28 afterward...your young men shall see visions...

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<u>Know What You Are</u> <u>Working With!</u>

The Doctrine of Spiritual Warfare

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty" through God to the pulling down of strong holds." 2 Corinthians 10:4

A Definition - Spiritual Warfare I.

- 1. Spiritual Of the spirit or the soul. 2. of sacred matters; religious. 3. of a church; ecclesiastical. 4. a religious song origination among blacks in the southern U.S.
- 2. Warfare Armed conflict between enemies. 2. Conflict esp. when unrelenting, between competitors or rivals. Webster's Dictionary (1998).
- 3. A work definition for Christians Spiritual Warfare: It is the daily encountering of God's people against the evils, temptations, and negative forces in the natural and supernatural realities of life.

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Training Notes

II. Focus Scripture: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (KJV)

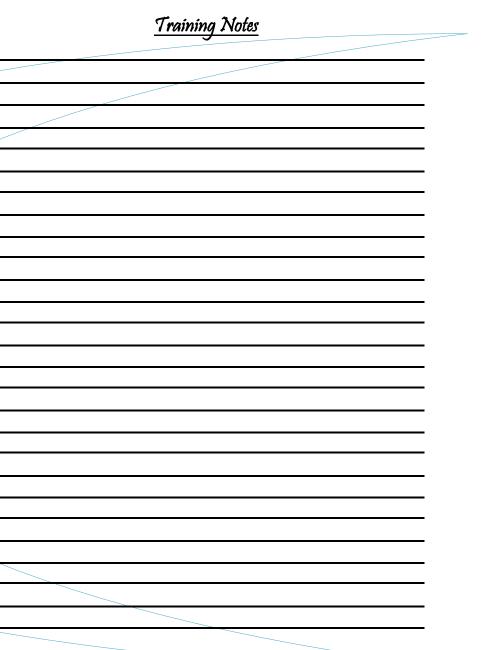
- 3. For though we <u>walk in the flesh</u>, we do not <u>war after flesh</u>:
- 4. (For the <u>weapons</u> of <u>our warfare</u> are <u>not carnal</u>, but mighty <u>through God</u> to the <u>pulling down of strong holds</u>;)

5. Casting down <u>imaginations</u>, and every high thing that exalteth <u>itself against the knowledge of God</u>, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

III. Spiritual Warfare Discussion

- 1. It is the requirement of a life changing experience that enables us to fight a fight through prayer, study, fasting and faith.
- 2. It is having the knowledge that there is no power greater then God's and that victory is obtainable.
- 3. It is knowing that all things work for the good of them that love the Lord and who are the called of God. Romans 8:28
- 4. It is knowing that victory is ours if we trust God in all we do and wish to achieve in His Name and for His Glory.
- It is believing that there is no power, no situation, no lie, no obstacle, no limitation, no challenge, no negative action taking against you will be successful.
- 6. It is being both proactive and defensive when making things happen. We can go on the offense or when attacked we have a defense.

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IV. Spiritual Warfare: Meanings Biblical Context

Old Testament. Kings are given direction by God through the prophets to fight an enemy. Young King David did battle again Golothia in the Name of the Lord.

New Testament. God through Jesus begins to change the meaning warfare and direction of war. Matthew 26:53

V. <u>Biblical Examples</u>

- 1. <u>Fighting the good Faith.</u> I Timothy 6:10. "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."
- 2. Putting on God's Armor. Ephesians 6:10-18
- 3. Putting on a Breastplate of Faith. I Thessalonians 5:8-9.
- 4. War a good Warfare. I Timothy1:18-19

VI. How Can God's People fight a good fight of faith

- a. Prayer _____James 5:16, Philippians 4:6, I Peter 4:7
- b. Studying God's Word _____2 Timothy 2:15
- c. Fasting _____Luke 2:37, 2 Corinth. 6:5
- d. Faith Believing ______Romans 10:17
- e. Stir up Your Gift _____ I Timothy 1 6-7

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