

Descriptions of Christ's ἐκκλησία—very rich in Christian theology

- ✓ Spiritual heir of +R; seed of Abraham; offspring; child of the promise; child of free woman; temple of the HS; temple of God; royal priest; living stone; holy; work of God; golden lampstand; minister of the New Covenant; aroma of Christ; firstfruit of all creation; living sacrifice; bride of the Lamb; called, chosen, elected; possession of God; righteousness of God; witness; heir of God; virgin; brothers; friend; family; slave of Christ; servant of God; united with Christ; gifted; son of the day; child of light; light in the Lord; light of the world; son of the light; blameless; obedient child; instrument for noble purposes; saint; alien and stranger; fool for Christ; refuse of the world and scum of the earth; salt of the earth; servant of the gospel, ambassador for Christ; athlete, doer of the Word, hardworking farmer, runner in a race, soldier, inheritor of eternal life, branch, disciple, overcomer.

Preparation for Bible Class

1- Salvation – man is justified apart from works,

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; ²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. . . . ²⁶that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

Hebrews 10:14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

1 Corinthians 1:2 to the church/assembly of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Preparation for Bible Class

2- Fellowship – reality and the absolute standard

1 John 1:5 And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Preparation for Bible Class

3- Spiritual Maturity – Scriptural exhortation

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of instruction about washings, and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. ³ And this we shall do, if God permits. ⁴ For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵ and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶ and *then* have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame. ⁷ For ground that drinks the rain which often falls upon it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; ⁸ but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned [SUD].

LIFE OF DAVID (88) – National Reversionism, part 1: Ancient Israel, Modern America, and the Nature of Evil

Continuation of sanctification

43. More on experiential (phase II) sanctification, 1 Thess. 4:1-8.
Sexual impurity is one of the quickest ways to destroy progressive sanctification with God because it leads to a habitual evil way of thinking that dominates the life and because of the negative influence of the person you are intimate with (cf. 2 Tim 2:20-21).
Sexual promiscuity is just one reason young adults stop caring about the WOG or walking w/Christ— & why 67-80% are leaving Christianity and the church after a couple years of college.

➤ **1 Peter 1:14-15** As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, ¹⁵ but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

44. BD is God's only resource for sanctification. Only BD has the power to change the way a person thinks, cf. Jn, 17:17. Only BD enables the believer to live in freedom from evil. Consider how differently you would think about God, self, fellow believers, and life without BD. All that is not a product of sanctification is evil. Growth in the WOG increases depth and breadth of sanctification as the believer gains the mind of Christ, 1 Cor. 2:16

45. Sanctification means that you belong to God and that He has a purpose for your life (cf. Rom.1:1). How many really live in these realities? To be God's property, set apart to Him apart from the Lake of Fire and the enemies of God, is one of the most wonderful things in life. Every believer has been set apart to God in Christ and in the Royal Family of God forever and ever. We are all in a special plan with a special purpose with a code to live by and a plan to fulfill. Because of sanctification our lives can be marked by greater and greater spiritual virtue which means that our lives will get better and better with each passing year!

46. We have all been positionally sanctified "for all time" by Christ.

- ✓ **Hebrews 10:10** By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- ✓ **Hebrews 10:14** For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

47. Biblical holiness/sanctification is nothing less than the flow of divine presence, goodness, character, and power into the believer from a moment by moment sustained fellowship with God, Gal 5:22-23; Philip 2:13.

➤ **Philippians 2:13** for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing; ¹⁵ that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life

48. It really is all about connection with God (fellowship) through the Word of God---learning and applying Bible doctrine. The best way to examine your own life is through the three lens of salvation, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

- ✓ Salvation: understanding of grace, gratitude for grace, and desire to tell others of this grace
- ✓ Spiritual: confession, recovery, intake of BD, application for sustained fellowship, relationship with a local church—other believers, overcoming kosmos diabolicus.
- ✓ Spiritual growth: continued edification in the grand truths of the faith. Move out of narcissistic, self-serving attitude to Bible doctrine.

49. Progressive sanctification is the only solution to the problem of parlaying sin into evil. There is no other way (cf. religion, tenacity, human good, or any type of human works system). The solution is recovery through confession of sin followed by learning and applying the doctrinal resources as unto the Lord. Sanctification alone makes it possible for the believer to consistently abide in Him (sustained fellowship) and thus overcome the temptation/evil the next time. Resources for sanctification: FR, reckoning, growing in grace, becoming an overcomer, learning more BD, living in the mandates of God through power of the HS, Rom 6:1-14; Gal 5:16-22; 2 Pet 3:18; Mat 4:6; Heb 10:25.

50. The Church Age believer has far more opportunities for greater sanctification and thus divine power, virtue, wisdom, and capacity to “walk in the light of lives” than David or any OT believer.
51. After Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, He poured out the HS (τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον) *into* believers to take up residency inside them---formerly, the HS was only “alongside.”
- ✓ **John 14:17** *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you (ὅτι παρ’ ὑμῶν μένει καὶ ἐν ὑμῶν ἔσται).

52. The *Hagios* Spirit takes up residence within the life of the believer, not only thereby to unite him to Christ but to experientially work the sanctification of Christ in his life.
53. Now Christ lives in the CA believer through the indwelling *Hagios* Spirit, Jn 14:16-20.
- ✓ John 14:18, I will not leave you as orphans; I come to you.

54. The inner presence of the Holy Spirit gives the believer the supernatural dynamics for the unique spiritual life of the church age.

✓ **John 14:16-17** "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.

55. It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to point to (and make a home inside of us for) Christ just as it is the ministry of Christ to reveal God/Father.

- ✓ **John 15:26** "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, *that is* the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me,
- ✓ **John 16:14**, "He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you.
- ✓ **John 14:8-9** Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, 'Show us the Father '?"

National Reversionism – part 1

1. Review of David's reversionism and recovery, 1 Sam. 21:10-15; Pss. 56; 30; 144. David lived in a time of national reversionism.

2. Israel's reversionism as manifested in her rejection of the Hebrew Republic, 1 Sam. 8.
 - a. 1 Samuel is the oldest textbook in political freedom. Absent from its pages are the communism of Plato, the fascism of Aristotle, and the democratic totalitarianism of Rousseau. It is the first handbook in republican political theory.
 - b. Israel originally had twelve tribes, much as the United States is divided into fifty states. Each tribe had its own territory. There was a national government but there was no king; hence, no powerful central government.
 - c. No legislature to create new laws, only judges to settle disputes in accord with the laws established.

- d. Education was not a function of the government, but of parents, schools, and synagogue.
- e. Charity was handled privately.
- f. Taxes were low.
- g. Money—gold and silver—was provided by private merchants, not the government.
- h. This Hebrew Republic was unique in the ANE, cf. 1 Sam. 8:5.
- i. Big government is both the result of, and the punishment for, sin.
- j. 1 Samuel 8 makes it clear that human kings, powerful governments, are *ersatz* gods; they are idols of a reversionistic people; they are signs of rejection of God Himself, 1 Sam. 8:7.
- k. Big government will take your children, your money, your property, your lives, and your freedom, 1 Sam. 8:14-17. None of these things were true under the Hebrew Republic. Big Government would redistribute the money—legalized theft—and nationalize means of production.

- l. Big Government is basically a pagan form of government where the government rules the people rather than becoming the servants of the people, cf. Luke 22:24-26.

- m. Note how America has moved from the biblical model and the laws of divine establishment. Our taxes are higher than ten percent; they are closer to forty percent. We have an enormous federal bureaucracy. Scores of millions of people work for the local, state, and federal governments. The federal government owns factories, power plants, banks, and one-third of the land in the United States. More than half of the federal budget consists of transfer programs by which the government takes property from taxpayers and gives it to tax consumers.

- n. Our kind of government, in brief, is the one about which God warned the ancient Israelites. Because the Bible is divinely inspired, it furnishes us with principles we need for a free society.

3. National reversionism is the state of degeneration of a nation that is saturated with evil—as evidenced by the ongoing rejection of God which results in the destruction of the six laws of DE. The nation is ripe for destruction when evil is called good and good is called evil, cf. Rom. 1:18-32.
 - a. Volition, Gen. 2:16-17; Acts 17:26.
 - b. Marriage, Gen. 2:23; Matt. 19:6.
 - c. Family, Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:6.
 - d. Government, Gen. 9:6; Rom. 13:1-5.3
 - e. Nationalism, Gen. 10:8; Acts 17:27.
 - f. Capitalism, Gen. 23; Matt. 20:7-15; 25:27.

4. When a nation reaches a saturation point of evil, God brings in various cycles of divine discipline to warn the nation of impending destruction, Lev. 26.
5. When God disciplines a nation, He does so through other evil nations, cf. Assyria, Babylon, and Rome.
6. Divine discipline on a nation begins with the disciplining/purging of God's own churches for its own evil within that nation, 1 Pet. 4:17. Just as He does with national entities, God allows evil enemies of Christianity to attack/discipline her (cf. the media, college professors, liberals, atheists and cults).
7. The evil in the church is well documented. However, most of the Christian media turns a blind eye to the scams (Baker, Tilton, Hagin, Roberts, Hinn, Osteen). The extent of evil in the church is to the point where hardly anyone one believes it is right to point it evil.

8. When a nation is saturated with evil, God has no choice but to administer cycles of discipline on that nation in order to protect the upcoming generation, Rom. 1:32; Isa. 5:20; Jon. 4:11.

9. As a reversionistic nation rejects the six laws of divine establishment, it actually trusts in evil, Isa 47:10—i.e. Big Government, Social Security, other enemy nations, Muslims, socialists, communists, liberals, United Nations, psychology, self-help, criminals, legislation to control inflation or guns, government control over free enterprise and capitalism, sociology, evolutionary environmentalism, “compassionate” fascism and a million other means whereby man attempts to solve man’s problems apart from God and His laws of divine establishment. Nations which are not influenced by BD will not be able to maintain laws of divine establishment and therefore will be influenced by forms of evil—man becoming like God. Consider the spin of the media today.

10. Evil is the grand policy of Satan as the ruler of this world. Evil includes human good; sweetness and light; a chicken in every pot; social and economic panaceas; the attempt to solve the problems of life apart from God or the laws of DE; social gospel; social action (cf. America's messianic complex); socialism; religion; legalism; "Christian" victorious life panaceas; prosperity gospel; "its good because it is helping some people." Only BD can free you from all evil thinking.

11. Sin comes from man's OSHGEN whereas evil pervades man's heart/thinking and therefore is much more difficult to get rid of. Evil is in the thoughts, the frame of reference, the memory center, in the vocabulary, in the norms and standards, and therefore it is ready on the launching pad, Mtt. 15:19.

12. Sin was solved at salvation, but evil can only be resolved through spiritual growth resulting in maturity—supergrace!
13. The sins of humanity were judged on the Cross, but problem of evil was not solved.
14. Evil continues as the policy of Satan until the millennium. He continues to attempt to improve the world by human good and evil. Evil distorts legitimate things (i.e. charity, prayer).
15. Satan even attempts to improve apostate Christianity with religion and ministers of “righteousness,” 2 Cor. 11:15. He is not opposed to quoting Scripture, Matt. 4. He loves all of the distortions on Christian TV from tithing to bribing God. He loves to focus on buildings, programs, and productions—just as long as Bible doctrine is not taught. He is a master of taking a good thing and parlaying it into evil.

16. The believer's sin is handled by rebound relating it to the Cross, but evil can only be avoided by establishing a command post of the soul—maximum doctrine in the soul.
17. When a believer is in extended carnality or reversionism, he lives a life of trusting in evil. Only the daily intake and use of the WOG under FHS can protect him.
18. The greatest enemy of mankind and the believer is evil which always produces arrogance. It is not simply an isolated sin—it is a way of thinking that dominates the life.
19. Evil is the single hardest thing to overcome in the CWL. It takes years and years of consistent and persistent BD under the FHS. The problem is that in evil/arrogance this message is rejected—out of hand!

20. Evil originates from the arrogance and evil genius of Satan. It is the epitome of arrogance to assume that man by man's efforts can really solve man's spiritual and psychological problems.

21. Evil has no capacity to understand grace or what a relationship with God really is or means. Evil has no capacity for freedom for self or for others. Evil makes self into a god.

22. A look at Lucifer, the Evil One, Isa.14:12-17.
- a. Satan wants to be like God—not unlike God.
 - b. He wants to be possessor of heaven and earth.
 - c. Satan brought in “evil” for the first time = another will!
 - d. Satan will try to establish a kingdom, but will fail, cf. 17.
 - e. Consider how Satan used His position and God-given gifts against God. Ultimate failure of the prosperity test.
 - f. Consider how Satan rejected intimate fellowship with God.
 - g. Consider how Satan used power from God to fight against and oppose God to the very end. The gifts of God are irrevocable.
 - h. Satan will fail to clean up the world or improve nature of man.
 - i. Since Satan deceives the whole world (Rev. 12:9), it is not hard to see why he will permit about anything but the teaching of Bible doctrine. He hates Bible doctrine, Jn. 8:44.
 - j. Satan loves to get people to reject God and the laws of DE so they will move into idolatry and eventually worship him. He is always pushing success without God = evil!