The Logos: John 1:1 ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος, ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος, In beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with God, and the Logos was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him . . . . And the Logos became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2 Corinthians 10:5 We are destroying speculations (λογισμός) and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought (νόημα) captive to the obedience of Christ.

Questions?
These slides will be available at www.fbcweb.org/sermons.html
Pastor Don
Philosophical/Theological/Doctrinal & Spiritual Foundations

Babe
- Undeveloped 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd} order mental capacities in doctrinal conceptualization
- Still has a lot of philosophical HV baggage.
- Feelings oriented

Adolescent
- Overcomer of KD
- Committed to BD
- Committed to Truth

Mature Believer
- Mind of JC, OWC, PLG
- Great depth of BD
- Supergrace life
- Development of 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd} order capacities
- Great Divine Production
- Absolute Confidence

2 Corinthians 10:5 We are destroying speculations (λογισμός) and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.

1 John 2:14, “you are strong, and the word of God abides in you”

Eph 4:14, “tossed here and there by waves, & carried about by every wind of doctrine.”
No development of conceptual schematic. Undeveloped capacity for abstract thinking about God or Truth.

Low spiritual I.Q. – Distaste for logic: anti-intellectual, anti-academic, passive, and sensate.

Healthy Growing Mind

Truth Seeker: Loves learning Bible doctrine
Growing Spiritual IQ

Active Learner – Ever-growing Mind

Wasted mind

Existential Freakout: Why, why, why do I need this?

Practical & functional view of Truth

Lover of Truth For its own sake
1. Prolegomena is required before one can *accurately* engage in theology, biblical studies, Bible doctrine, philosophy, logic, metaphysics, apologetics, the spiritual life, making a rational case for or refuting an argument against Christianity or anything else that requires conceptual thinking.

2. Furthermore, you cannot understand truth, God, life, or self apart from high abstract conceptual thinking. Understanding God and life require it.

3. Everyone is already doing some kind of philosophy and metaphysics in relation to the Word of God and the Christian life—and most of it is horrible and anti-Christian (as per Kant in knowing God and reductive materialism as far as reality as such). Lack of good philosophical foundation is absolutely killing Christianity on almost every front—one end we have empty headed concepts of God and the Trinity, on the other end rank heresy. We must start with the philosophical axioms, the first principles of logic. It is the only presupposition that we share with the writers of the Bible.
4. Example of “sincere” Christian Study Bible where the author (Finis Dake) rejects philosophy and metaphysics. This study “Bible” comes highly recommended by:

✓ Mardel Christian bookstores
✓ Joyce Meyers: “I thank God for the people who produced the Dake Bible. Their hard work has made it easier for me to teach God’s Word.”
✓ Marilyn Hickey: “The Dake Bible is the best reference and study Bible you can get! I have personally worn out four Dake’s Bibles.”
✓ Creflo Dollar: “The Dake Bible helped me build a solid foundation in the Word.”
✓ Rod Parsely: “The Dake Bible is one of the greatest literary works ever made for Pentecostal and Charismatic believers.”
✓ Copeland got his Mormon theology from the Dake Study Bible.
✓ Hinn got his 9 gods from Dake.
✓ Even W.A. Criswell, a solid expositor of the Word of God, recommended it. He must not have read it!
5. Finis Dake teaches that
   a) God is 6-8 feet tall.
   b) Trinity is composed of three separate beings.
   c) Each of these beings live on a planet called heaven.
   d) Heaven is like our planet but is better. It is the capital city of the universe. This is where God lives.
   e) It is from the planet heaven that God left to visit Abraham.
   f) God has legs, arms, a mouth, and eyes because God is a person and a person has these things.
   g) Dake has no concept of the original languages, however, if he had that would not have helped him here.
6. But couldn’t we just take Dake to John 4:24?

✓ His note on this passage: God is a spirit being, not the sun, moon stars, nor in any image of wood, stone or metal. He is not a beast or man. He is not the air, wind, or universal mind or love or some impersonal quality. He is a person with a personal spirit body and a personal soul and a personal spirit like that of the angels and like that of man except that His body is of spirit substance instead of flesh and bones.
7. **What is your view of God? Where did you get that view? Where did orthodox Christians get their correct view? Is it important to have a correct view of God? Should you take anyone else’s word on something like the very nature of God? Then how apart from development of conceptual and critical thinking skills will you never know what God is like?**

8. **My twofold goal as pastor teacher.**

   a. **Spiritual edification to get every believer to the supergrace life.** This requires understanding Bible doctrine and the unique spiritual life which is required for advancement to the *pleroma*.

   b. **Intellectual development in conceptual thinking that is required to understand the essence of Truth, God, and grasp the nature of God and defend the faith (apologetics).** This includes academic studies of the Bible as well as various branches of philosophy that are appropriate.
Logic: the Three Acts of the Mind—OUTLINE FOR ALL OF LOGIC

1st, Simple apprehension:
- Concepts, terms, words.

2nd, Judging:
- Propositions, declarative sentences.

3rd, Reasoning:
- At least two or more declarative sentences connected by a word like “therefore” which indicates an argument.
Logic: the Three Acts of the Mind—OUTLINE FOR ALL OF LOGIC

1st, Simple apprehension:
- The issue: clear or unclear.

2nd, Judging:
- The issue: true or false

3rd, Reasoning:
- The issue: valid or non-valid.
Logic: the Three Acts of the Mind—OUTLINE FOR ALL OF LOGIC

1\textsuperscript{st}, Simple apprehension:
- “What are we talking about?”. Man
  Triangle with unequal sides

2\textsuperscript{nd}, Judging:
- “What are we saying about it?”
  That man \textit{is} mortal.

3\textsuperscript{rd}, Reasoning:
- “Why is he mortal?”
  That man is mortal \textit{because} all men are mortal.
Grasping the Essence of the Concept

1. Review. The three parts to any argument for or against any truth. This not
   a. The concept—clear or unclear.
   b. The proposition—true or false.
   c. The argument—valid or invalid

2. These three parts of logic are critical in debating an atheist or evaluating
   a Bible class (or even when “arguing” with your sweetie).

3. If you can develop your thinking in these three categories in evaluation of
   any argument, you will develop a great personal capacity to conceptualize
   and detect truth and error. What a nice set of skills to acquire to help in
   every area of life.
4. Advancing in the conceptual understanding. Under the first act of the mind (apprehension of the concept) terms are either univocal, equivocal, or analogical.

   a. Univocal. A univocal term has **one and only one** meaning.

   b. An equivocal term has **two or more quite different and unrelated** meanings.

   c. An analogical term has **two or more meanings** that are 1) partly the same and partly different, and 2) related to each other.
5. Examples of univocal, equivocal, and analogical terms.

a. When I say “I ate two apples” and “You ate two hamburgers,” I use “ate” and “two” univocally.

b. When I say “The River has two banks” and “The town has two banks,” I use “banks” equivocally, for there is no connection between a river bank and a money bank.

c. When I say “The good man gave his good dog a good meal,” I use “good” analogically, for there is at the same time a similarity and a difference between a good man, a good dog, and a good meal. All 3 are desirable, but a good man is wise, and a good dog is tame, and a good meal is tasty. But a good man is not tasty, a good dog is not wise, and a good meal is not tame (unless it is alive as you eat it).
QUIZ – Label as univocal, equivocal, or analogical (answers on the next page)

1. I love ice cream and I love you too.
2. A litter of pups was living in the street in the middle of a pile of litter.
3. Two customers paid two hundred dollars each for two chairs two days ago.
4. After I digest this logic course, I’m going to digest my dinner.
5. Macbeth murdered Banquo, but he didn’t murder the English language.
6. Water is heavier than air, and the air is very fresh today.
7. With my hands I changed the hands of the clock.
8. Christian: “We call God the Father and Jesus his Son.
9. Muslim: “For a father to have a son, he must first have a wife. Who is God’s wife?”
10. Christian: “God has no wife.”
11. Muslim: “Then God has no son.”

NB: No accurate personal Bible study or true understanding of Bible doctrine or defense of the faith is possible apart from being able to conceptualize and get to the concept beyond the “term.” As one can see, there is a whole lot more involved than looking up a word (in the English or Greek or Hebrew). To be sure, one must know the original languages, but there is more to it than that.
1. I love ice cream and I love you too.
   ✓ Analogical, there is an analogy between the two loves.
2. A litter of pups was living in the street in the middle of a pile of litter.
   ✓ Equivocal, there is nothing in common between the two litters.
3. Two customers paid two hundred dollars each for two chairs two days ago.
   ✓ Univocal, numbers are the most univocal language there is.
4. After I digest this logic course, I’m going to digest my dinner.
   ✓ Analogical, there is an analogy in the ways “digest” is used.
5. Macbeth murdered Banquo, but he didn’t murder the English language.
   ✓ Analogical.
6. Water is heavier than air, and the air is very fresh today.
   ✓ Univocal.
7. With my hands I changed the hands of the clock.
   ✓ Analogical. There is an analogy in the ways “hands” is used. We point with our hands and the clock points to the time. When the “hands” on the clock were first invented they were shaped like a hand for pointing. Hands on the clock were never called things like feet because we do not point with our feet.
8. Christian: “We call God the Father and Jesus his Son.
   ✓ Analogical use of both terms. The Christian knows they are not literally a Father and a Son.
9. Muslim: “For a father to have a son, he must first have a wife. Who is God’s wife?”
   ✓ Univocal use of the three terms. Muslim is only thinking of earthly fathers, sons, and wives.
10. Christian: “God has no wife.”
    ✓ Univocal. Christian is using “wife” in one sense. This is the only term in which both the Christian and the Muslim use in one way.
11. Muslim: “Then God has no son.”
    ✓ Univocal. Again, the Muslim limits himself to only one use of the term.

Apart from being able to get to the concept that is only represented in the literal marks for the word, there can be no true or accurate understanding. Just understanding these three categories can clear up a lot of cobwebs.
Note how they all sidestep the issue/reality/reason and attempt to change reality and control other minds without Reason and logic. Our culture is saturated with this stuff. It is how the politicians and the world deceive people. They are all anti-truth. The more you know the more you will be able to recognize them.

1. **Fallacies of Language**: equivocation, amphiboly, accent, slanting, slogans, hyperbole, straw man.

2. **Fallacies of Diversion**: ad hominem, ad verecundiam, ad baculum, ad misericordiam, ad ignominiam, ad populum, ad agnorantiam.

3. **Fallacies of Oversimplification**: dicto simpliciter, special case, composition (from small to large), division (whole to part), black and white fallacy, quoting out of context, stereotyping.

4. **Fallacies of Argumentation**: non-sequitor, ignoratio elenchi, begging the Question, Complex question, Arguing in a Circle, Contradictory premises, False Assumption.
5. **Inductive Fallacies**: hasty generalization, post hoc, hypothesis contrary to fact, false analogy, the argument from silence, selective evidence, slanting the question.

**#1. Hasty generalization.** This is the commonest and simplest fallacy of induction, and it occurs when someone goes from some specific examples to a general principle.

“We went to three ball games this year and the home team lost each one. They’re losers.”

“I went to FBC and the pastor taught logic for 45 minutes. That must be the church of logic.”

“I went to Berachah church and the pastor brought a gun to teach mechanics of the spiritual life. That must be a church about guns.”
Inductive Fallacies

Post Hoc

#2. Post Hoc (post hoc ergo propter hoc, “after this, therefore caused by this”). It is a fallacy of causal induction, and it consists in inferring that one thing is the cause of another simply because the first thing is observed to occur before the second thing.

“The rooster thinks his crowing brings up the sun each morning because each morning the sun rises shortly after he crows.”

“I ain’t niver had a asydent cuz I allus cairy mah lucky rabbit’s foot.”

“Why are you put crosses all through your house.” “To keep demons out of my pets.” “But your pets are so peaceful.” “See? It works.”
#3: Hypothesis Contrary to Fact. This could be called the “if only” fallacy, for it consists in arguing that if only $x$ were true, which it isn’t, then $y$ would be true. It is a fallacy of *causal* induction because it claims to know that non-$x$ is the cause of $y$. Since $x$ does not exist, $x$ is called “contrary to fact.” Since $x$ is used as a hypothesis (if $x$ . . .), it is a “hypothesis contrary to fact.”

“If only I had more money, then I would really be happy.” Perhaps so, but perhaps not. We cannot know what isn’t, only what is.

“If I did not have these problems, I would be happier.” Maybe yes, and maybe no. It could go either way.

“If we would not have passed the stimulus, we would be in a bigger economic mess we are in” (Obama supporters).
Inductive Fallacies
False Analogy

#4: False Analogy. Analogies are very useful but they do not prove anything.

Employees are like nails. Just as nails must be hit in the head in order to make them work, so must employees.

"That's why, under my plan, individuals will be required to carry basic health insurance -- just as most states require you to carry auto insurance. Likewise, businesses will be required to either offer their workers health care, or chip in to help cover the cost of their workers“ (Obama)

“Just as you put seed in the ground and always get a harvest, so when you sow your seed of money into this ministry, you are guaranteed a harvest.”
#5: **Argument from Silence.** When a writer is silent about x, we cannot conclude that he does not believe in x, or that there is no x.

“He never refers to his wife, he must be unmarried.”

“He never talks about evolution, he must not believe in it.”

“He never talks about the Bible, he must not be a Bible believer.”
Inductive Fallacies
Selective Evidence

#6: Selective Evidence. Extremely common fallacy consists simply in referring only to the evidence that tends to support your hypothesis and ignoring the evidence that tends to refute it. We see this in courts all of the time by the attorneys. We see this in the pessimist who will point to all of the things that are wrong in life, while the optimists will point to the things that are right.

“Yea, I have heard that drugs are bad for you, but my drug friends are all OK, so I know that drugs are not bad for you.”

“Bailing out GM saved 1 million jobs nationwide” (Obama).

Pastors are also guilty of composing doctrines and only listing passages that support their positions and ignoring those which do not.
#7: **Slanting the Question.** This fallacy occurs especially in polls. Pollsters can obtain almost any result they want if only they slant the question in a certain way.

“Don’t you think people are entitled to basic health care?”

vs.

“Do you think we should be forced to pay for socialized medicine.”

“Does a good society give all children a free basic public education”

vs.

“Should our children be propagandized in government schools?”
Matthew 26:30-36

We now are at the Garden of Gethsemane

1. Pride in Gethsemane.
2. Prayer.
3. The love of God (U.A.)

A Walkthrough of the Resurrection Narratives

Resurrection & the Spiritual Life in the Epistles

A Walkthrough from the Lord’s Supper to the Tomb

6 Ways of Falsifying Naturalism

The Failure of All Alternate Theories

Bedrock Facts: Death of JC & Multiple Appearances

Historiography: Establishing Historical Proof for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

9/18/2011
Bethany

–

Jesus, the 11, and Mark leave the house and cross the Kidron valley.

Jesus warns them that the Shepherd will be struck down and the sheep scattered.

* 3 – They enter Gethsemane, Jesus prays

4 – Judas arrives with an arresting party, consisting of member of the Temple guard and soldiers from the Roman garrison, stationed at the Antonia Fort to the north of the Temple

5 – 11 escape to Bethany

6, 7 Jesus is taken back to the city; Peter and John return. Peter denies Jesus

8 – John takes Peter to his home, where Jesus’ mother & others await them.

See Matthew 26:30-36
Modern Silwan
Silwan
5. Pride is #1 killer of the spiritual life and of all relationships in life. Pride is the underlying cause for relationships not flourishing and why most are not interested in Truth as such. The second a person starts to become proud, the fall has begun—apart from recovery, it is now just a matter of when. No wonder it is Satan’s favorite sin. Given the attractiveness of pride, it is impossible to overcome pride and idolatry apart from the Word of God. The easiest evil to commit is to love yourself or things more than God Himself and Bible doctrine.

Proverbs 16:18 *Pride goes before destruction* (שֶׁבֶר sheber). *And a haughty spirit before stumbling* (כָּשַל, kāshal).
6. What makes pride so dangerous is that it is often includes a measure of righteousness—a righteousness that can even be mixed with the Word of God, grace, and appreciation of God. Consider the disciples (Matt. 26:30-35) who had just been singing the Word of God with Jesus Christ. They had been singing of God marvelous *chesed*. However, they are all in apostasy.
7. In the case of the apostasy at Gethsemane we can see that the solution to the pride and apostasy is accuracy with the Word of God and prayer. “Sincerity” and “good Christian feelings” simply will not cut it. Is attention to and accuracy of God’s Word important? The sure way to really mess up is to have an attitude that it does not matter because God loves me.

8. Attention to God’s Word requires at the very least positive volition and logic (i.e. the three acts of the mind).

9. Prayer is important in dealing with pride because in prayer you get your eyes off of self and on God. The disciples were to go to God in prayer. Jesus Christ went to God in prayer. Biblical prayer is powerful. Human viewpoint prayer just intensifies the problem.
10. By being positive to the Word of God in the three acts of the mind, the believer puts himself under the Word of God and in such state moves into genuine humility. There is no humility apart from the Word of God.

11. Only in genuine humility does the believer receive supergrace. In genuine humility the believer is easily correctable, does not feel he deserves better, and is grateful for the good times as well as the tests of life.

James 4:6 But He gives a greater (μέγας) grace. Therefore it says, "God is opposed (ἀντιτάσσω, antitasso) to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
12. It is important to *distinguish* between common grace, salvation grace, logistical grace, and supergrace.

13. The objective for the believer is supergrace. It is the place of “above all you can ask or imagine,” Eph. 3:20.
14. As long as a person is in pride, he is unteachable. Consider the Lord Jesus Christ trying to teach Peter and the others of what was impending.

15. Furthermore, when a person is negative to BD (persistent pride), God judges that person by concealing Himself and His Word from him, Prov. 1 ; Rom. 1:26-32; 1 Cor. 1:18-29; 2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Thess. 2:8-12. This judgment results in the person believing what is false. To reject the Word of God is to put yourself under deception.
16. Manifestations of Pride in the latter and very difficult days of the Church Age, 2 Tim. 3:2-7.

✓ Inordinate love of self (φίλαυτος): (“center of the universe”).
✓ “lovers of money:” (consider prosperity movement)
✓ “boastful” always talking about self, lusts for approval.
✓ “arrogant” rejects advice or warnings of BD;
✓ “revilers” slanders, gossips and criticizes others;
✓ “disobedient to parents” (rebellious nature)
✓ “ungrateful” = lacks grace orientation,
✓ “unholy” – lives without God; does not seek help from God,
✓ “unloving” = no capacity for spiritual love,
✓ “irreconcilable” = lack of grace orientation,
✓ “malicious gossips” = always running others down,
“without self-control” = temper, acts childish,
“brutal” — rules by tyranny, lack of empathy,
“haters of good” — they actually have an animus against divine good
“treacherous” — untrustworthy.
“reckless” — lack of thinking, brinkmanship
“conceited” — vain with regard to his attainments, blind to the grace of God.
“lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God” — sensate.
“holding a form of godliness, although they deny its power.” They often make a parade of Christianity in preaching and sharing but have no clue about the unique spiritual life or apologetical issues with regard to the Truth of Christianity. They would hold to, at best, a practical view of Truth.
17. Cycles of degeneration and divine discipline related to pride.


   1) Cycle #1, Lev. 26:14-17. Rejection of laws of divine establishment: lack of integrity on the part of the rulers (they are primarily concerned more with gaining power and wealth than protecting the country and the people).

      “You despise my statutes, or your soul abhor mine judgments. . . . I will appoint over you terror. . . . I will set My face against you.”

   2) Cycle #2, Economic recession and depression, 26:28-20. “I will break your pride of our power. . . . Your land shall not yield her increase.”
3) Cycle #3, Social degeneration: prevalence of violence, 26:21-22. “I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children.”

4) Cycle #4, National vassalage to a foreign power: confiscation and famine, 26:25-26: “I will bring a sword against you.”

5) Cycle, #5, National destruction and dispersion: 26:29-39: “I will destroy your high places and cut down your images. . . And scatter you among the heathen, and will draw a sword after you.”
b. Societal degeneration, Rom 1:18-25. 5 decay stages:

1) Rejection of God, 1:18-22, “suppress the truth in unrighteousness.. . . even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or given thanks.”

2) Idolatry, worship of creation, 1:23-25 (worshipped creation instead of Creator)

3) Sexual immorality, 26-31 (exchanged natural function for unnatural).

4) Depraved minds, 28 (given over to a depraved mind).

5) New “morality,” 32 (pc; hearty approval of rejection of laws of DE).
c. Generational degeneration, Prov 30:11-14. 4 stages:

1) Problem of pride (cf. Deut. 32 where Moses uses Hebrew perfect tense in speaking of the children of the Exodus generation, i.e. they will grow fat and be concerned their own things (houses and professions). Problem of wanting to be like the world.

2) **Stage #1**: Loss of respect for parents and authority in general, Prov 30:11-14.
   “There is a generation that curses their father, and does not bless their mother.”

3) **Stage #2**: Self-righteous, 12.
   “There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet are not washed from their filthiness.”

4) **Stage #3**: Human viewpoint of pride, 13.
   “There is a generation, O how lofty they are in their eyes.”

5) **Stage #4**: Cruel, power-hungry, without compassion, 14.
   “There is a generation, whose teeth are like swords . . . To devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.”
18. Cure for pride: The spiritual dynamics that is possible through habitual fellowship with God, Gen. 17:1; 1 John 1:5-9. This includes confession of sin (1 John 1:9; 1 Cor. 11:31), persistent life in Truth (1 John 1:7; John 8:32), and life under the ministry of the HS (Gal. 5:16, 22).

1) Without the spiritual dynamics of fellowship with God, it is impossible for the believer to avoid pride and be free in the will of God.

2) The believer who lives in pride lives a life of persistent carnality and deepening reversionism.
3) In carnality the believer, no matter how hard he tries, cannot live the supernatural way of life.

4) Spiritual cleansing and humility are required to live in the Word of God, James 1:21-25. Humility in testing?

5) Continual prayer is a great way of keeping us from pride. Not only is such prayer commanded (1 Thess. 5:17), Christ prescribed it to the disciples in the moment of their hubris in Gethsemane.
5) Serving God with alacrity—this requires a dynamic relationship with God and grace orientation that transcends the tests of life. **Deuteronomy 28:47** "Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things . . .

6) The problem of pride cannot be cured apart from spiritual growth in grace, 2 Peter 3:18 (FHS+ Bible doctrine).
19. All testing in our lives is related to our pride in one way or another. That is the ultimate issue. The testing is a wakeup call to God and His plan—to reorient ourselves to God, His Word, His power, and His plan. Consider how God provided the Israelites with sandals that never wore out.
20. In pride a person is unteachable. Pride is manifested by a scorn to listen to others. It does not need to; it already has the answers. Pride is *unreasonable*. The Word of God has a lot to say about the need for us to shut up, listen, and learn. To be a good listener requires humility. Don’t assume that you know everything. Consider how Satan refuses to listen to God—he still just doesn’t get it! Only in genuine humility will a person shut up, listen, and learn.

a. Proverbs 10:14, Wise men store up knowledge, But with the mouth of the foolish, ruin is at hand.

b. Proverbs 11:12, He who despises his neighbor lacks sense, But a man of understanding keeps silent.

c. Proverbs 18:13, He who gives an answer before he hears, It is folly and shame to him.
21. Pride is the chief sin against the ministry of the Holy Spirit. This is true of the unbeliever and believer.

- Matthew 12:31
- John 3:36; 16:8-9
- Ephesians 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19 *Do not quench the Spirit;*
- Acts 5:3 *But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit,*
22. To be humble is to refuse to live apart from God and His Word; to be prideful is to live in independence of God. To be humble is to be happy with your lot; to be prideful is to think you deserve better. To be humble is to say to God, “Your Will be done;” to be proud is to say “I will be like the Most High” or “I will not deny you, Lord” or “my will will be done.”

23. Pride is the only disease known to mankind which makes everyone sick except the person who has it. Isn’t it amazing how stupid arrogance can make a very intelligent person? They have absolutely no clue how asinine they think and act. God’s sense of humor?
24. Arrogance *unchecked* is an evil way of thinking that leads to persistent carnality, reversionism, pathological thinking, and divine discipline:

   a. **Proverbs 11:2**, When pride\(^1\) comes, then comes dishonor, But with the humble is wisdom.\(^2\)

   b. **Proverbs 13:10**, Through presumption comes nothing but strife, But with those who receive counsel is wisdom.

   c. **Proverbs 16:18** Pride *goes* before destruction, And a haughty spirit before stumbling.

\(^1\)“Pride,” (ڑו, zadon) is self-importance to the point of defiance and rebelliousness.

\(^2\)Wisdom” (חכמה, chokmah) is perfect blend of revealed will of God with proper use of human reasoning in life).
d. **James 3:14-16.** Arrogance always results in lying against the truth.

e. **1 Peter 5:5,** “You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed (ἀντιτάσσω, antitasso) to the proud, but gives grace to the humble (ταπεινός, tapeinos).”¹ It is in humility that we receive supergrace.

f. **2 Tim 3:2-7.** Arrogance is blinding and is always attended with other vices as arrogance eats away at goodness and virtue in the soul.

¹Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer, “Humility is a divine characteristic to be found in human hearts only as inwrought by the Spirit of God. It is far removed from self-depreciation or an inferiority complex. . . . Since man has no merit in himself before God but receives all that he has, humility is only the right and natural attitude. . . To become conscious of humility is its utter ruin” (Systematic Theology) 7:190.
25. Arrogance precludes *true* promotion in the plan of God, 1 Pet. 5:5. If God does not promote you, you are not promoted. God promotes men and women of humility and doctrine. When God promotes the humble believer, God receives the credit—all the credit and all the glory!

26. Arrogance is not only destructive on a personal level (divine discipline, mental illness), it is also destructive on a national level (Lev. 26:19). America is in huge trouble. The problem is not just with the upcoming generation.
27. Rejection of Bible doctrine is always related to pride, 1 Tim. 6:3-4. Arrogance distracts the believer from faithfully learning and applying Bible doctrine. Arrogance keeps the believer oriented to kosmos diabolicus.

28. Pride is a corrupter of the soul and a sign that the sin nature is dominating the soul.

29. Pride destroys capacity for life, love, happiness, and the blessings that God has provided. With the destruction of capacity and responsibility comes the entitlement attitude.

30. Pride rejects authority. Arrogance is lawless; it puts self above Law.

31. Pride operates on both the OSEN part of the OSHGEN as well as the HGN.
In pride a person lacks true capacity for others, Matt. 26:36-39.

- Note the lack of response to Christ’s communication of His situation to those He loved so very much. Out of the darkness of the garden, He reaches a hand to feel for friends, not for help, but that they would stay with Him. Not that they could bear the weight, but that their presence could provide some solace.

- Although, He knew that His agony must be borne alone, He desired that they could watch with Him.

- No word came from them. Not a thought of Scripture. They were only occupied with their own DOL.

- Do you think they would be sleeping if they really understood the dangers or if something was “going on” that they really cared about or that stimulated them?

- They ignored the Word and that is why they are in this mess.
33. God promises promotion to those who humble themselves before Him, 1 Pet 5:5; James 4:4-6; Prov. 8:11; 13:10.

a. God promotes men and women of divine viewpoint.

b. God promotes the humble or grace oriented believer.

c. God provides supergrace to those who are grace oriented.

d. Promotion is a matter of glorifying God through the fulfillment of the grace plan of God.
e. 1 Peter 5:5, “You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

f. James 4:6, But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

g. Living with and loving God, loving the POG, loving life, and living for the glory of God in all that you do. What a deal!
   Proverbs 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him (דָּעָה, da’-hu),
   And He will make your paths straight.
Christ and Prayer

1. The key to a successful prayer life is to focus on God’s will, Matt. 26:39. Natural instinct or desire must never get in the way of God’s will. Natural instinct is one thing, but the controlling will is another. Christ’s fixed purpose to die for the world’s sins never wavered. “If it be possible” means possible in view of the great purpose for which He came.

2. Christ actually prayed Himself into the perfect peace and strength through complete and perfect surrender to God. Each prayer brought Him closer to accepting God’s will regarding the horrors of the Cross until He accepted it with peace as His own will.

3. Christ is both the High Priest and Sacrifice as He offers Himself as the victim with this prayer of consecration. He submits and accepts the Cross.
Christ and Prayer

4. Christ’s prayer was not for the passing of the cup, but that the will of God might be done in and by Him, and He was heard in His reverence for God not by being exempted from the cross, but by being strengthened through submission for submission:

   Hebrews 5:7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

5. Christ’s prayer is the pattern for all true prayer. There are human wishes (“if it be possible,” e.g., the shrinking from the painful), but in the end all prayers must be followed by “nevertheless not our wills but His.”

6. The meaning of prayer is not to force our will on God’s, but to bend our wills to His; and it is always answered as we bow in submission to the Lord.
7. As illustrated by the perfect humanity of Christ, those who cease from their own works [wills] do enter into His rest. The only place of peace is in the will of God. This is the only place of victory and blessings. This is where you find real peace and power in life. So many of the agitations of life are defeated by simply submitting to God’s will. There is always peace when we resign ourselves to the will of God. This is the only place of perfect calm.

8. For Him, as for us, “crosses” accepted cease to be a pain in our wills, and the cups are no longer bitter when we are content to drink them.

9. It is extremely important to be completely honest with God in prayer.
10. Note how arrogance makes one lethargic regarding the spiritual life. Note the sad yet gentle rebuke to the drowsy three, Matt. 26:40. Peter is addressed personally. Of course he was the one who bragged about how he would never deny the Lord just a few hours hence. What a revelation of lack of personal love for Jesus Christ at such a critical juncture. None were there for sympathy. They had no clue. What happens to zeal without knowledge? What utter loneliness He must have felt beneath the gnarled olive trees.

11. Watchfulness and prayerfulness are inseparable. The one discerns the danger, the other arms against them. Watchfulness keeps us prayerful, and prayerfulness keeps us watchful. To watch without praying is presumption, to pray without watching is hypocrisy. The eye of doctrine can see the dangers and will turn to God in prayer. This is key in overcoming difficulties in life. Failure to watch is to fall into many temptations. This is a lesson that is for a wider circle than the sleepy three.
Christ and Prayer

12. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. By watching and praying we recognize the weaknesses of flesh. Recognizing our weak flesh will spur us to be more prayerful regarding the issues of life. The flesh is weak toward good, but is strong toward evil.

13. Failure to watch and pray. His Word had no effect on them. He did not even wake them up the second time. The relapse is even worst than the original evil. We do not know how long this lasted, though the whole period in the Garden must have been measured by hours.

14. Vs. 45. What love and divine patience and perseverance. He wakes them, not to run from His enemy, but to His enemy. He will go out and meet His traitor. Escape would have been easy. Christ’s prayer was not in vain, He now proceeds.
Biblical Principles on Prayer

1. Magnificent promises of prayer:

   John 14:13a "And whatever you ask in My name, that will I do"

   John 15:16 "that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you.

   John 16:23b “if you shall ask the Father for anything, He will give it to you in My name.”
2. What about the unanswered prayer of 2 Corinthians 12:7?

2 Corinthians 12:7 And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me--to keep me from exalting myself! 8 Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.
3. Inadequate solutions to the problem of “unanswered” prayer *with respect to these promises!*

   a. Deny that prayers ever goes unanswered. This view is that they are always answered in the affirmative (as per health wealth prosperity believers and throwing away glasses and canes).

   b. That this promise includes the answer of no. between yes, no, and wait. Thus a prayer that receives an answer of “no” is not really an unanswered prayer. God answered by saying “no.” However, Christ said that ask whatever you want and He would give it to you.
4. The proper solution to understanding Christ’s promise is that it must be qualified. All other attempts make His promises empty. It is not true simply and without qualification that you will receive whatever you ask in Jesus’ name. The promise must be qualified in certain ways in accordance with the teaching of the rest of Scripture. If these biblical qualifiers are not met, one cannot claim the promise.

5. Qualification #1—no unconfessed sin in the life of the believer (OOF, -vol). This is the most basic reason that prayers of believers are not answered. Jesus’ prayer naturally presupposes that the person praying is a Christian living in the fullness of fellowship with God and the power of the Holy Spirit. A Christian who is living in unconfessed sin or in the power of the flesh can have no confidence that his prayers will be answer, Psalm 66:18; 1 Pet 3:7. Jesus’ promise assumes that the believer is abiding in Christ, growing in and living out His Word, walking in the light, filled with the Spirit, and honoring fellow believers. Only when the believer is living in the mandates of God will God answer his prayers.
6. Qualification #2—right motives. Many times prayers go unanswered because the motives are wrong. Too often, prayers are motivated by selfishness—a sort of “Gimme, gimme, gimme” self-centered attitude. While Jesus had promised, “Ask and it will be given to you (Matt. 7:7), James equally said “When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures” (James 4:3). Prayer that is totally self-centered does not fall under Jesus promise. Consider all of the prayers for “goods” of this earth that have absolutely nothing to do with the glory of God. Our motive in prayer should be to request things of God, not that our selfish desires might be satisfied, but that His name might be glorified.
7. Qualification #3—faith, “amen,” you have to believe what God says! Jesus Himself made it clear that only a prayer of faith can be assured of an answer, Mark 11:24; James 1:6-8. If you are ridden by doubts, then what is the point of the prayer? We must pray in faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, Rom. 10:17.

8. Qualification #4—persistence in prayer (prayer pursuit). All too often in our Laodicean age, people really do not care of they are answered or not. They give up and stop praying. Persistent prayer is important. Jesus would continue all night in prayer and wore out the disciples by having them pray with Him. Jesus was very involved in prayer. We are to pray without ceasing, 1 Thess. 5:17. Prayer is to be part of our daily life.
9. Qualification #5—prayer must be according to God’s will. A person could have no unconfessed sin in his life, have the right motives, be persistent, but if it is not God’s will, the prayer will not be answer. It may very well be that the problem is not due to some fault in us. God knows better. Our perspective is limited; this is not so with God. God’s will would include all of the previous qualifications, cf. 1 John 3:21-22, ‘obeying His commandments.’

a. 1 John 5:14-15, And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

1) Thus, our prayers should always be tempered with the attitude: “if it by Thy will.” This is not some namby-pamby, Milquetoast ritual.
(2) John says that our confidence is not that God will answer our prayers, but that He will answer our prayers if they are in accordance with His will.

(3) The believer’s degree of confidence that God will answer his prayers is proportional to his degree of confidence that they are (and in) His will.

(4) The decisive vindication of this way of praying is that this is the way Jesus prayed in the Gethsemane.

(5) To ask God’s will is in itself an expression of humility and submission to God. It is to acknowledge that He knows better than we do, and that we want His will even more than we want our request.
(6) Paul wanted to be healed, yes, but even more he wanted God’s will for his life, 2 Cor. 12:9-10. Our attitude should be the same.

(7) If we want our prayers to be answered, we should pray in accordance with God’s will.

(8) A good way to orient to God’s will is to read the prayers of Paul in his epistles, cf. Eph. 3:14-20; Philip. 1:9-11; Col. 1:9-10. Are these the chief concerns in your prayer life?
(b) Romans 8:26-27. In the areas of God’s will we also have the wonderful promise in Romans 8:26-27 of the interceding prayer ministry of the Holy Spirit.

- There are situations where we may not know what to pray for, but the Holy Spirit takes our prayers and translates them, as it were, into accordance with God’s will before the throne of grace. With such a divine intercessor, we can pray boldly, even with out limited perspective, confident that the Holy Spirit is interceding according to the will of God.

10. We should follow the Lord and the apostle Paul in making God’s will the priority in prayer. Paul boldly prayed for healing, but when he realized it was God’s will for him to remain ill, he gladly accepted God’s will for the glory of God.
11. It is clear from Jesus’ promise that answered prayers ought to be the norm in the life of the spiritually healthy believer.

12. If answered prayer is not the norm then it is the responsibility of the believer to take inventory of the obstacles to answered prayer in his own life. Is there unconfessed sin that you rationalize away? Are you praying for selfish things? Are you not abiding in Christ? Are you seeking God’s glory? Are you obeying His commandments? Do you really believe in the power of the Word of God and prayer? Do you really care whether He answers or not? Are you persistent in prayers? Do you want God’s will more than your own?

13. IF you have a healthy spiritual life and are troubled by certain unanswered prayers, you need to trust God for His perfect will. God will give to you what His good and acceptable and perfect will decrees. You may not always get what you ask for, but God knows best what will serve to advance His perfect plan.

14. You can always trust God for His answers. Let us strive to lay hold of those grace promises whether that means getting rid of “stuff” in the way or accepting His will no matter what.
God’s Unconditional Love for Judas, Mt 26:50

1. Christ calls Judas, “companion (ἑταῖρος)”! Matthew 26:50. We are accustomed to think of the betrayer of our Lord as kind of a monster, complete with horns who will be shunned even in Hell. However, remember when the Lord declared that one would betray Him, no one had a clue. It was Judas who said, “Lord, is it I?” No suspicion lighted on Judas. His corruption was unseen by all except for Jesus Christ. Judas grew darker and darker with each passing day—unbeknownst to everyone but Jesus.

2. Jesus does not call him “friend.” The term companion is not as strong as “friend” (philos). However, it should have cut Judas to the core as to what he was about to do.
3. Mark the patience of Christ’s love for Judas, “do what you have come for.” What an attempt to reach Judas, to remind him of the nature of his sin. Many would have been convicted and shrunk from the deed. This is the last effort of Christ’s personal longsuffering love and grace to Judas. The last effort of divine patience to win back even the traitor. Note the lack of agitation (or shock of disbelief) from Christ.

4. This love is the very love of God instantiated. Incarnated! He who has seen me has seen the Father, John 14:8-9. We see the loftiest, clearest, and authentic revelation of God Himself. If anyone could have been excluded from the love of God, it would have been Judas. If the heart of Christ was closed to anyone, it would have been to closed Judas. We see the truth here that the love of God is extended to us all, and cannot be made to turn away from us by any sins of ours. The universal love of God cannot be turned away. Further, it cannot coerce volition to accept God either. The love of God abides on every single person in the same way. Is there a worse man on earth at this moment? If there be, he, too, has as share in that love. All are objects of God’s love, John 3:16. This love is not an aggregate love. He loves all because He loves each. He loved us with exceeding love while we were dead in trespasses, Rom. 5:10—and not because of anything in us. No matter how awful, God loves all because He loves each. God repays evil with good, scorn with love. God’s love is mightier than all of our sins put together.
5. Though one cannot stop the love of God, one can reject that love. Here with Judas we have the mysterious and awful power of frustrating the counsel of God. A finite will can rear itself against the Infinite Will of the loving Maker and Benefactor: ‘I will not!’ God pleads with man constantly, but man can say, ‘NO!’ Man cannot cease to be the objects of His love, but he can refused to be the recipient of its most precious gifts.

6. All one has to do to be condemned to Hell is nothing, John 3:36. What did Judas in response to Christ’s words to him? Nothing; it was enough. He merely held his peace—no more. He did not have to reject His Lord with wild cursing. All one has to do is be passive. Man need not clench his fists to reject God.

7. Judas will not be able to say, ‘I did this in ignorance’ like the Apostle Paul, 1 Tim. 1:13.

8. God always calls out to every man: Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.” It is always about the grace of God.