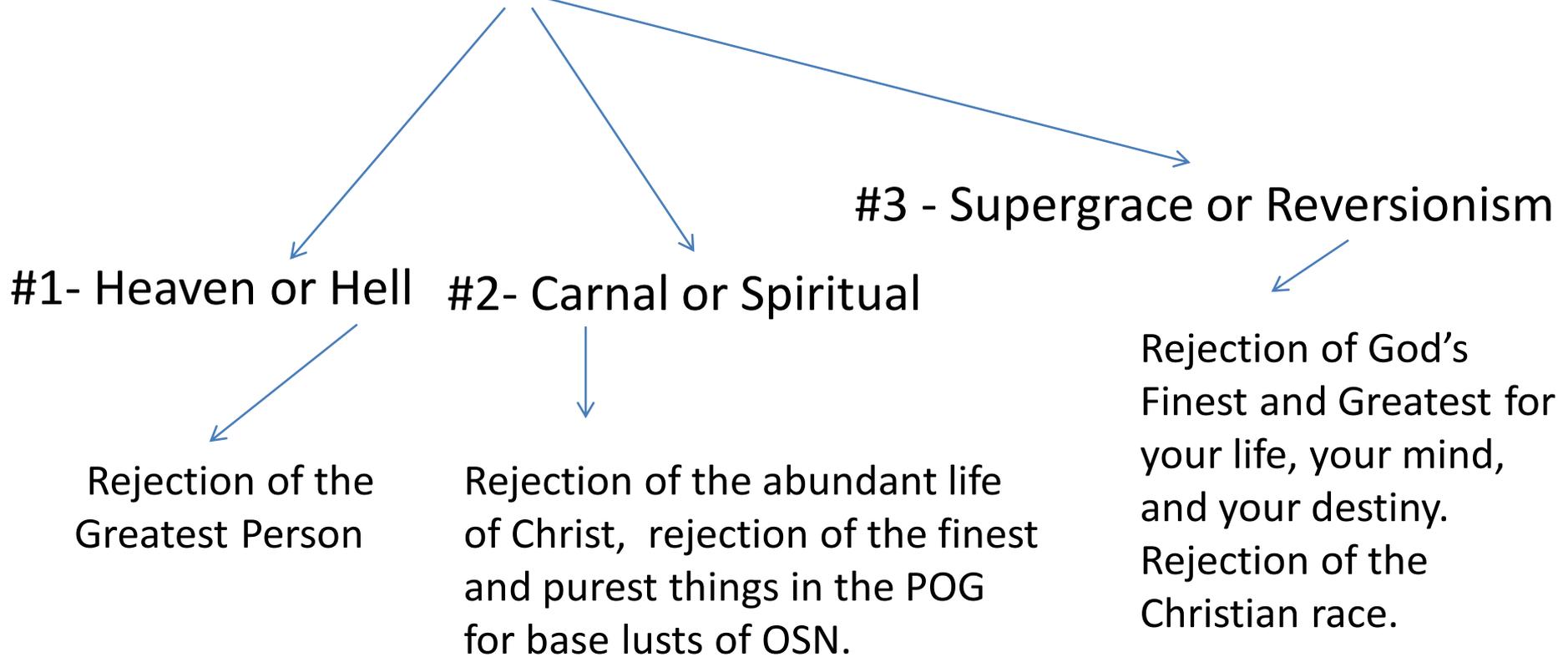


# Preparation for Bible Class

## The 3 Greatest Issues of Life



# Preparation for Bible Class

## Issue #1: Hell or Heaven

### Hell – Rev 20:11-15

And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. <sup>13</sup> And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds. <sup>14</sup> And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. <sup>15</sup> And **if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.**

### Heaven = Rev 21:1-6

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, <sup>4</sup> and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be *any* death; there shall no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." . . . I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life **without cost (δωρεάν).**

# Preparation for Bible Class

## Issue #2: Carnal or Spiritual

**Carnal Christian Under  
OSHGEN**



4, walks κατὰ flesh

**Romans 8**

**VS**

**Spiritual Christian  
Under Holy Spirit**



walks κατὰ Spirit

5, sets mind (φρονοῦσιν) on flesh

**VS**

sets mind on τὰ Spirit

6 functionally spiritually dead

**VS**

spiritual life and peace

7, hostile to God,  
Not subject to God  
Unable to obey God

**VS**

[I came that they might have life,  
and might have *it* abundantly –  
περισσὸν ἔχωσιν ζωὴν, Jn 10:10]

13, live κατὰ flesh

**VS**

puts to death the  
πράξεις of the flesh

17, do not συμπάσχω  
with Him

**VS**

[συμπάσχω] =  
Joint heirs with Christ

# Preparation for Bible Class

## The 3 Greatest Issues of Life:

### #3 Spiritual Growth



#### Reversionism or Supergrace



**2 Peter 2:20-22** For if after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge (ἐν ἐπιγνώσει) of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. <sup>21</sup> For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them. <sup>22</sup> It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A dog returns to its own vomit," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

**2 Pet 3:16-18** . . . You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard lest, being carried away by the error of unprincipled men, you fall from your own steadfastness [=reversionism], <sup>18</sup>but **grow (αὐξάνετε) in the grace** and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ [=supergrace]. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

**James 4:6** But He gives a greater (μείζονα) grace.

# David and Jonathan TRUE/ἀρετή/ΠΟΓ (entirely non-self- regarding)FRIENDSHIP

Jonathan giving David  
his Sword and Bow.

And Jonathan stripped  
himself of the robe that was  
upon him, and gave it to  
David, and his garments,  
even to his sword, and to  
his bow, and to his girdle.

1 Sam. xviii. 4.



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# Reversionistic Saul and SG Jonathan

## 1 Samuel 20:30-34



# Rev. Saul and SG Jonathan

## 1 Samuel 20:30-34

- **1 Samuel 20:30-34** Then Saul's anger burned against Jonathan and he said to him, "You son of a perverse rebellious woman! Do I not know that you are choosing the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother's nakedness?" <sup>31</sup> "For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Therefore now, send and bring him to me, for he must surely die." <sup>32</sup> But Jonathan answered Saul his father and said to him, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" <sup>33</sup> Then Saul hurled his spear at him to strike him down; so Jonathan knew that his father had decided to put David to death. <sup>34</sup> Then Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did not eat food on the second day of the new moon, for he was grieved over David because his father had dishonored him.

# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

- **Proverbs 17:17** A friend (הַרֵעַ, associate, companion, φίλος) loves (אָהַב) at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.
  - True friendship is not based on utility, pleasure, or self-regard. Friendship is not about using others.
  - A true friend does not judge or condemn you---though he may not agree with you. He does what he can to assist and support you in the POG!
  - Who are our real “associates,” our true fellow citizens?
  - Whom we should love at all times?
  - How does this apply to marriage? e.g. marrying your best friend and growing in that best friend relationship throughout marriage.
  - What kind of relationship is a marriage relationship that is entirely, or almost entirely self-regarding, e.g. for utility or pleasure. What kind of marriage relationship is it when a partner does not love and seek the spouse’s best in the POG *at all times—and instead pelt him/her with criticism?*
  - One of the greatest blessings in life is when a husband and wife can get out of the utility/pleasure mode, and truly become best friends. The direction of all marriages should be to work on becoming best friends. Friendships always take time and a great deal of grace! Far easier to destroy a friendship than to build one---cf. OSN.

# Doctrinal Principles on Friendship: Who really is Our Best Friend?

- **Proverbs 17:17** A friend ( הַרֵעַ, associate, companion, φίλος) loves (אָהַב) at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.
- **Proverbs 18:24** . . . But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
- **Hebrews 2:14** Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; <sup>15</sup> and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. <sup>16</sup> For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted/tested.
- **Nota bene:** It is very important in times when friends fail you, that you keep your eyes on the Lord and the POG and keep moving forward. This was a critical failure on the part of Job that caused him to get totally disoriented to the POG.

# Friendships: Factoring in the Angelic Conflict – Supergrace undeserved blessings, Job 1:1-5



JOB IN PROSPERITY.

Friendships: Factoring in the Angelic Conflict – Job in  
undeserved SG suffering faces hostility of wife & 3 friends---  
his three brilliant fellow theologues, Job 2:9



# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

1. It is asinine for anyone, friend or foe, to venture that he really knows what God is doing in the life of another believer (cf. David, Job). Job's friends *want to know what horrible thing Job has done!* God has seen fit to keep this a secret.
2. Neither Job's wife nor his friends knew anything about the spiritual warfare. We do! So we have even less of an excuse to judge another.
3. When we go through hard times and suffering, we must avoid the "why syndrome." Job's insistence to know why, coupled with his self justification, caused him to become disoriented to the POG. We erroneously think that knowing "why" is more important than knowing & trusting the absolutes of the POG and God Himself. Many believers end up miserable because they do not understand something related to DOL--rather than simply trusting in what God has revealed about Himself and the SL. This can be a problem for doctrinal believers because we are all about truth of God. There are things in the AC that remain hidden.
4. Many believers are of the opinion that they continue to suffer hardships because of past sins and failures---that God does not love them because of some past evil. They always look for a reason to blame self or others.

# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

5. Job's 3 fellow theologues, like a lot of believers who MAY know the Bible, had a lot of scriptural truths, but were clueless to grace or the SL. Many people study this book and have no idea of salvation, the SL, or what growth is all about----let alone "get" Bible Doctrine.
6. In times of testing which are compounded by the "wounds" of a friend, it is critical to get your eyes off of people/friends and on the Lord.
7. Failure to keep your eyes on the Lord will lead to loss of hope, and this is about the worst thing that could happen to you. This detachment from everyone, even God, is why people commit suicide. You must keep on trusting in what you know about God, even though you do not understand the circumstances in your life.
8. Failure to keep eyes on the Lord during testing will lead to a loss of hope (תִּקְוָתִי), Job 19:10. Lost of hope = loss of trusting in God = blaming God = rejection of God as your Best Friend. In hopelessness, the believer has rejected God as Best Friend, and turns against Him. We must remember that God calls the shots---not us! Never! Never! Never stop growing in doctrine, learning about the POG, and never stop trusting Him. Job lost all direction when he stopped trusting in the God of the Bible.

# **Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict**

- 9. Friendships are valuable, but none are more valuable than those in the Christian faith. Friends will be tested, but many times never more than those in the family of believers. How do you *really* encourage a “friend,” who is not saved, apart from the Lord and the things of God?**
- 10. Satan’s most effective tools in getting to believers are his friends and loved ones. Satan is incessant about his attempts to destroy any and all relationships that support any biblical relationship with God.**
- 11. After Job 3, Satan is no longer mentioned, as he now has Job’s three friends to do his dirty work of destroying Job’s relationship with and proper attitude to God. The issue, at least for the friends, is not “being right!” They need to stop condemning Job- remember, love covers shortcomings. The person who cannot tolerate shortcomings of others will never be able to be a good friend.**

# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

12. In times of people testing, with friends or enemies, it is critical to remember that our battle *really* is **not** against flesh and blood,
- **Ephesians 6:12** For our struggle (πάλη) is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

## 13. Job's restoration

- **Job 38.**
- **Job 40:3-5,** <sup>3</sup> Then Job answered the LORD and said, <sup>4</sup> "Behold, I am insignificant (קִלְיָי) what can I reply to Thee? I lay my hand on my mouth [no more complaining]. <sup>5</sup> "Once I have spoken, and I will not answer; Even twice, and I will add no more."
- **Job 42:5-6** "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; But now my eye sees Thee; <sup>6</sup> Therefore I retract, And I repent in dust and ashes."
- **Job 42:10** And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and the LORD increased all that Job had twofold.

# JOB'S RESTORATION: Blessed!

42:5-17



# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

## 14. Believers should attempt to develop friendships with those who are positive to Bible Doctrine,

- **2 Corinthians 6:14** Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
- **Psalm 119:63** I am a companion of all those who fear Thee, And of those who keep Thy precepts.
- **Js 4:4**, *"You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."*

# Friendships—Factoring in the Angelic Conflict

**14. Believers should develop friendships with those who are positive to Bible Doctrine,**

- **Proverbs 13:20** He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.
- **1 Corinthians 15:33** Do not be deceived: "Bad company (ὁμιλίαι) corrupts good morals."

# Reversionistic Saul and S.G. Jonathan

## 1 Samuel 20:30-34



# Biblical Principles on Separation

1. The doctrine of separation is extremely important for advancement in the spiritual life!
2. There is separation “unto” the Plan of God.
3. There is separation away from those things/people who negatively effect your spiritual priorities and thus hinder you from advancing in the POG (avoidance of MAS).

# Biblical Principles on Separation

4. This separation may include close family members,

**Matthew 10:34** "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> "For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup> and a man's enemies will be the members of his household. <sup>37</sup> "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. <sup>38</sup> "And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

**5. Separation protects the believer's norms and standards,**

**Proverbs 13:20** He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

**6. There are three aspects to biblical separation:**

- #1, separation to the POG
- #2, Mental separation from KD – protection from MAS
- #3, Physical separation from harm or duress.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

**2 Thessalonians 3:14** And if anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that man and do not associate with him, so that he may be put to shame.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

**2 Corinthians 6:14** Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?  
<sup>15</sup> Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup> Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

**Jeremiah 15:17** I did not sit in the circle of merry-makers, Nor did I exult. Because of Thy hand *upon me* I sat alone,

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

**1 Peter 4:4** And in *all* this, they are surprised that you do not run (μὴ συντρεχόντων) with *them* into the same excess of dissipation, and they malign (βλασφημοῦντες) *you*;

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

**2 Timothy 3:1** But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. <sup>2</sup> For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God (φιλήδονοι μᾶλλον ἢ φιλόθεοι); <sup>5</sup> holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; and avoid (ἀποτρέπου) such men as these.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

**1 Timothy 6:3** If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; <sup>4</sup> He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, <sup>5</sup> Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

- **2 John 1:10** If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into *your* house, and do not give him a greeting;

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

- **Psalm 1:1** How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,
- **Romans 16:17** Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away (ἐκκλίνατε) from them. <sup>18</sup> For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

- **2 Thessalonians 3:6** Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep aloof (στέλλεσθαι) from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

- **Titus 3:9** But shun (περιίτασο) foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law; for they are unprofitable and worthless. <sup>10</sup> Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, <sup>11</sup> knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

- **Ephesians 5:11** And do not participate (συγκοινωνεῖτε) in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; <sup>12</sup> for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,
- **1 Corinthians 5:9** I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; <sup>10</sup> I *did* not at all *mean* with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world. <sup>11</sup> But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler-- not even to eat with such a one.

# Biblical Principles on Separation

7. Believer is commanded to separate from those in the kosmic system,

- **Matthew 7:6** "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.