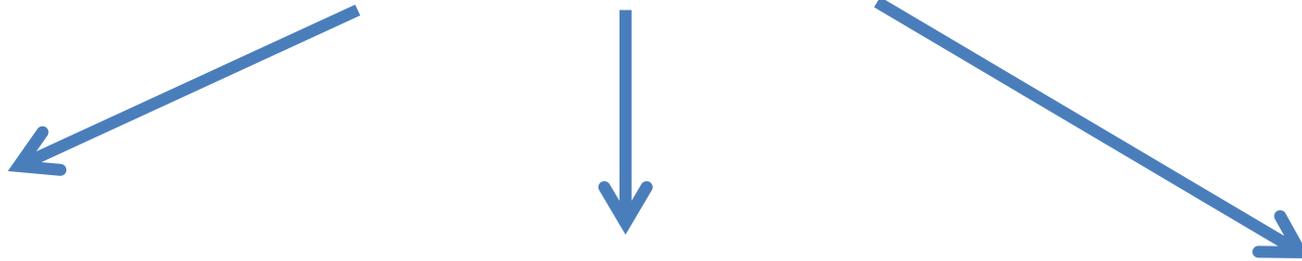


COMMUNION SPECIAL  
CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

# Preparation for Bible Class



Saving Grace

Fellowship Grace

Growth in Grace

Faith alone  
Grace miracle of  
a new birth

Fellowship  
Grace miracle of  
a daily supernatural  
Power  
through the WOG/HS

Fellowship and BD  
Grace miracle  
of transformation  
of character  
throughout life

BORN AGAIN  
REGENERATION

WALKING WITH GOD  
DAILY

DILIGENT GROWTH IN GOD  
THROUGHOUT A LIFETIME

Saved by Christ

Fellowship with Christ

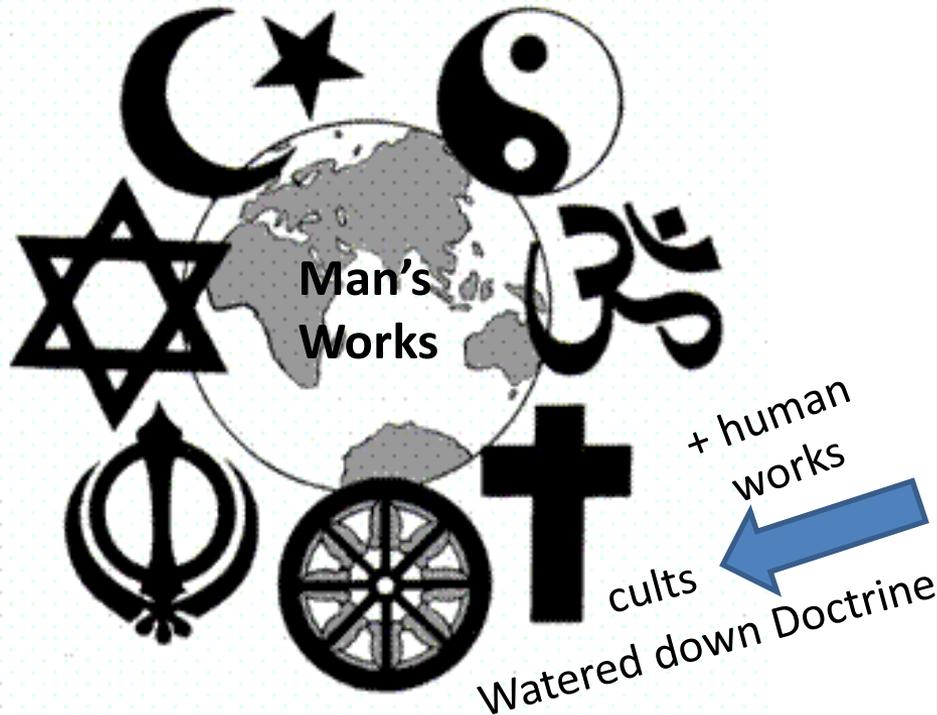
Christ formed in you

# Preparation for Bible Class

## #1: SALVATION GRACE

World's religions and Christian cults

Pure Christianity = unique!



You can take the leader out of any of these religions and you would still have the same system of religion - and focus on self R

+R of JC; all about Christ, CCL Relationship – not a religion  
Fantastic appreciation of grace

## Preparation for Bible Class

### #2: SUPERNATURAL DAILY LIFE EMPOWERED BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Galatians 5:16** But I say, in the Spirit walk (πνεύματι περιπατεῖτε), and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. <sup>19</sup> Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace (supernatural inner dispositions), patience, kindness, goodness (dispositions toward others), faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> humility, self-control (dispositions toward God); against such things there is no law.



## Preparation for Bible Class

### #3: SPIRITUAL MATURITY

**2 Pet 1:2-8.** Grace and peace be multiplied (πληθυνθείη) to you by means of knowledge (ἐν ἐπιγνώσει) of God even Jesus our Lord; <sup>3</sup> seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life (ζωήν) and godliness (εὐσέβειαν), through the true knowledge (ἐπιγνώσεως) of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. <sup>4</sup> For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. <sup>5</sup> Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence (σπουδὴν), in your faith supply virtue, and in *your* virtue, knowledge; <sup>6</sup> and in *your* knowledge, self-control, and in *your* self-control, perseverance, and in *your* perseverance, godliness; <sup>7</sup> and in *your* godliness, brotherly kindness, and in *your* brotherly kindness, love. <sup>8</sup> For if these *qualities* are (ὑπάρχοντα) yours and are increasing (πλεονάζοντα), they render you neither useless (ἀργοὺς) nor unfruitful (ἀκάρπους) in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# COMMUNION SPECIAL

## Celebrating the Supreme Goodness of God

### The Problem with believers at Eucharist at Corinth, 1 Cor 11:17-34

- The meaning and use *eucharist* (εὐχαριστέω) in the Bible, cf. 1 Cor 11:24. The central actions of the *eucharist* look back to the crucifixion and on to the day of Jesus' return.
- Note how the believer's carnal problem with God leads to accentuation of problems with others
- Failure to get out from under the bane of the carnal life leads to dead conscience with respect to the most valuable things in life in the Lord Jesus Christ
- The *eucharist* serves as a bridge between the past, present and future. Christ wished our best in eternity past, the best for us in time, and the best for us in eternity future
- When believers of any assembly fail to live and grow in the doctrines of Word, their gatherings will collapse into mere social posturing.

## COMMUNION SPECIAL

### Celebrating the Supreme Goodness of God David's Appreciation of God's Supreme Goodness

**Psalm 52:9** I will give Thee thanks forever, because Thou hast done *it*,  
And I will wait (וַאֲקַיֵּם) on Thy name, for *it is good* (טוֹב), in the presence  
of Thy godly ones.

- ✓ David's context and the importance of valuing God as the Supreme Goodness of your life.
- ✓ All spiritual torpor and reversionism is related to God not being the supreme goodness of your life.
- ✓ It is impossible for the believer to recognize let alone approve of the supreme goodness of God apart from BD, Rom 12:1-2.
- ✓ All unfaithfulness on the part of the believer is related to God not being the issue in his life, Demas, Js 4
- ✓ Recognition of the goodness of God is always related to recognition of His matchless marvelous grace

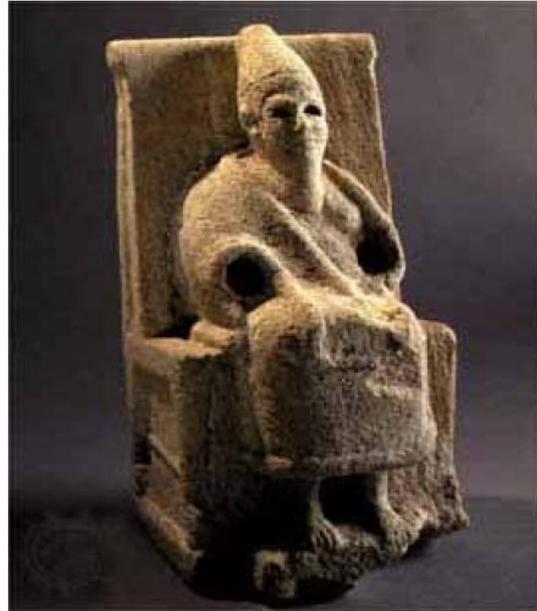
# COMMUNION SPECIAL

Celebrating the Supreme Goodness of God  
God's Throne of righteousness, justice, CHESED, and truth

**Psalm 89:14** Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Thy throne; Lovingkindness/CHESED and truth go before Thee.

- Righteousness (קִדְּוָה). Absolute eternal intrinsic righteousness of God
- Justice (צְדָקָה). Function of His righteousness in dealing with man
- Foundation of God's throne. Foundation (מְנוּחָה-MeKON) refers to an immovable, stable, and certain foundation. All action is related.
- CHESED, loyal faithful love. The supernatural love of God.
- Truth (אֱמֻנָה). Correspondence theory of truth.
- The importance of philosophy as it relates to the attributes of God.
- The picture in the Hebrew is one of the personification of CHESED and truth are standing before God like servants waiting for His nod.

# Isagogics on Thrones in the Ancient World



Depiction of Yahweh on the Throne



Canaanite nobleman or prince sitting in sphinx-chair. This scene is drawn from an ivory carving found at the Canaanite stronghold of Megiddo. It appears in *Readers' Digest Great People of the Bible and How They Lives* (Readers' Digest Association, 1974), p. 100.

God El limestone statue from Ugarit, c. 1300 bc.



Solomon on the Throne

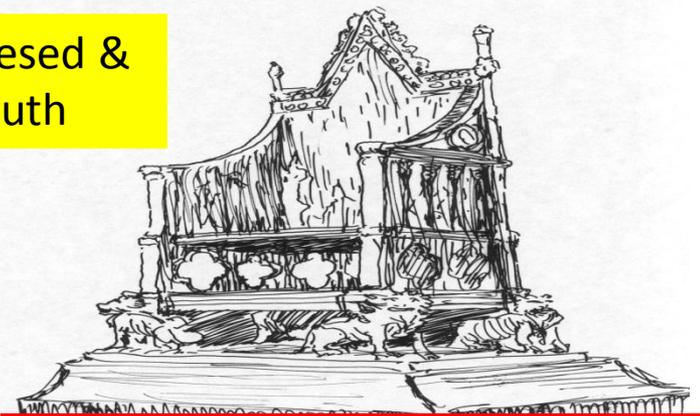


Zeus (undated drawing)

# GOD'S THRONE

Chesed &  
Truth

**Psalm 89:14** Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Thy throne; Lovingkindness/CHESED and truth go before Thee.



Righteousness and Justice

**Isaiah 6:1, 3** In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."



# GOD'S THRONE

**Hebrews 4:16** Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.

**Rev 5:13** And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.



# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## Orientation to the attributes of God and Fellowship

**Psalm 89:15** How blessed (אַשְׁרֵי) are the people who know the joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Thy countenance (בְּאֹרֶךְ-פְּנֵיךָ).

- ✓ The blessedness of supernatural spiritual joy by living in the reality glory of God's character (Righteousness, Justice, Chesed, and truth) rather than living the SCL in the details of life.
- ✓ The wonderful SL made possible by God's grace and CHESED.
- ✓ The fantastic light and freedom that fellowship with God (i.e. living in light of His face of grace) brings to our lives. It enables us to live outside of the box of the circumstances of life. There is nothing like living in the light divine Presence and the experience of divine faithfulness and friendship on the road of our journey to live. Walking refers to all activities we do on a daily basis. This is impossible to do apart from learning of these attributes from the Word of God.

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Righteousness and Grace

**Romans 3:19-26**, Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God; <sup>20</sup> because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin <sup>21</sup> But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

- The more one knows of his true self, the more he can appreciate grace
- The utter impossibility of justification by works
- The miracle remedy for our state is found in the doctrine of justification
- There is no true or deep differences between us----all real differences are ancillary. We should put away all differences and focus on what unites us.
- The nature of the indubitable unconditional love of God for us

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Righteousness and Grace

**Romans 5:1** Therefore having been justified (Δικαιωθέντες) by faith, we have peace with God (πρὸς τὸν θεὸν) through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- Justification. The gift of the declaration of righteousness---judicial righteousness! What follows throughout the chapter is rooted in being justified by faith.
- Given the nature of our rebellious wills, consider our positional peace (εἰρήνην). Peace means complete harmony with God.

**Romans 5:2a** through whom also we have obtained our introduction (τὴν προσαγωγήν) by faith into this grace in which we stand (ἔσχήκαμεν

- “Also” carries +R and peace = there is so much more to follow.
- “Introduction” = treasure house of God's grand grace into which we can enter. Whose fault is it if we find ourselves so poor of God's greater grace?
- “Stand” is very emphatic as it speaks of standing against all assaults and corruptions of God's grace. It is so important to plant and keep your foot on the grace of God. As long as you stay on the Rock of His grace, you will stand no matter what, cf. David. How does one grow in greater grace? See 2 Pet 3:16-18; Js 4:6.

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Righteousness and Grace

**Romans 5:2b-4** and we exult (καυχώμεθα , KJV = rejoice) in hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also exult (καυχώμεθα, KJV =glory) in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

- “Exult”: an inner attitude of spiritual confidence that brings enormous joy that is expressed in glorification of God. Note that this confidence (from these doctrine) that produces this glorified joy is related to the future and the present. The same source provides spiritual joy about the future and about our difficulties in life because doctrine removes the gloomy darkness.
- Exulting in the hope of the glory of God. Glory of God = His supreme presence and goodness as the culmination of all of His divine perfections/attributes (perfect knowledge, perfect holiness . . . as instantiated in the Shekinah light that dwelt between the cherubim above the mercy seat. Absolute confidence of being “bathed” in the glories of God.
- Exulting in our tribulations as they bring us closer to divine realities---and as it does that blessed be everything that produces the results of a brighter hope.
- Confident joy in the future brings confident joy in the now trying times. The trying times are there to produce more hope and biblical joy.
- Note the chain from justification to present victories in the difficulties of life.

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Righteousness and Grace

**Romans 5:5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was (not "is" as per KJV) given to us.

- HS = source of Supernatural love that accompanies the previous chain
- HS regenerated and was given to every believer at the point of salvation, Gal 3:1-3. He gives us spiritual life, HE enlightens us, guides us, and empowers us.
- Love of God is subjective genitive. His love to us, and not ours to Him. Poured out is better than 'shed abroad.' We gain consciousness of God's love poured out through the Holy Spirit. Our appreciation of God enormous love is only possible through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Carnality dams up this wonderful ministry of the HS, who is always there to flood the full love of God in our hearts. Everyone has the HS.
- Rom 8:38, *For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,<sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Righteousness and Grace

**Romans 5:6** For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

- ✓ Paul now moves into just how transcendent and unparalleled a love is that which pours its whole supreme nature on the unworthy.
- ✓ “Demonstrates” (συνίστησιν) means to establish, prove, or make certain.
  - ✓ How does Christ's death demonstrate God's love? Where is the force of the fact of a man's death prove God's love? 2 Cor 5:19; Jn 14:9.
  - ✓ The uniqueness of God's love and its revelation. His unique love is not found in our fallen nature, our own difficulties, tragedies; furthermore, nowhere in all the pantheon is there a god who is love. You will not be able to sustain your conviction of God's love, unless you grasp the fact that God's love for you was proved by Christ dying for your sins.
  - ✓ Present tense: the majestic present tense suggests that it continues. The death took 3 hours, but it demonstrates God's love through the ages.

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Righteousness and Grace

### Romans 5:5-10 continued ---the love of God:

- ✓ His love cannot be turned away---it loved you when you were ungodly, a sinner. He is the cause of His own love! It is powerful, not just good-natured. His love did not shrink from ultimate sacrifice. His love has given us His Best.
- ✓ Note the voluntary nature of Christ's death---motivated by His love
  - ✓ John 1:29, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"
  - ✓ Heb 2:9 . . . that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.
  - ✓ Mat 27:46, And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"
  - ✓ 2 Cor 5:21, He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
  - ✓ 1 Cor 15:3 . . . that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures
  - ✓ Mat 20:28, just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Faithfulness to us

- ✓ **Deuteronomy 7:9** "Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments;
- ✓ **Deuteronomy 32:4** "The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He.
- ✓ **1 Corinthians 1:9** God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ✓ **1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Faithfulness to us

- ✓ **Philippians 4:19** And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
- ✓ **1 Thessalonians 5:24** Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.
- ✓ **Hebrews 10:23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful
- ✓ **Hebrews 13:5** Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,"

# CELEBRATING THE SUPREME GOODNESS OF GOD!

## God's Faithfulness to us

- ✓ **2 Timothy 2:13** *If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself.*
- ✓ **Lamentations 3:21** This I recall to my ~~mind~~ heart (אֶל-לִבִּי), Therefore I have hope. <sup>22</sup> The LORD's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail (לֹא-כָלוּ רַחֲמָיו). <sup>23</sup> *They are new every morning; Great is Thy faithfulness.* <sup>24</sup> "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." <sup>25</sup> The

## OUR FAITHFULNESS TO GOD IS ALWAYS RELATED TO BIBLE DOCTRINE

- The requirement of faithfulness: 1 Corinthians 4:1 *Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.* <sup>2</sup> *In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.*
- The nature of faithfulness, Luke 19:12-27.
- Examples of unfaithfulness: Corinthians, Galatians, believers of Hebrews, Demas, et al.
- Examples of faithfulness: Abraham, Joshua, Caleb, Moses, David, Paul, Peter, et al.