

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS
20/20 Vision in 2020
LESSON STUDY: *Simplicity of the Gospel*
October 3, 2020

GOD'S WORD IS OUR ONLY SAFEGUARD

The Gospel Simplified: Jesus In, Satan Out

SCRIPTURE: JUDE 24,25

²⁴ Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,²⁵ To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

How was Jesus introduced in the bible?

1. John 1:1-5,9-10: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life; and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. ⁹That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not."
2. Gen. 1:1-3: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ²And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. ³And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."
3. Ps. 33:6,9: "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. ⁹For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast."

When God finished creating on the sixth day, what did he say about his work?

4. Gen. 1:3:1 "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."

With everything so perfect, how did the devil deceive Eve so easily? First he got her to doubt God's love, then he got her doubt God's word, and finally to doubt God's authority.

5. Gen. 3:1-4: "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? ²And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. ⁴And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:"

"By partaking of this tree, he declared, they would attain to a more exalted sphere of existence and enter a broader field of knowledge. He himself had eaten of the forbidden fruit, and as a result had acquired the power of speech. And he insinuated that the Lord jealously desired to withhold it from them, lest they should be exalted to equality with Himself. It was because of its wonderful properties, imparting wisdom and power, that He had prohibited them from tasting or even touching it. The tempter intimated that the divine warning was not to be actually fulfilled; it was designed merely to intimidate them. How could it be possible for them to die? Had they not eaten of the tree of life? God had been seeking to prevent them from reaching a nobler development and finding greater happiness. Such has been Satan's work from the days of Adam to the present, and he has pursued it with great success. He tempts men to distrust God's love and to doubt His wisdom." PP 54.

The dEvil would like to distract and deceive us, so God's word does not have an effect in our lives.

6. Matt. 13:27-28,19,22: "So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? ²⁸ He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. ¹⁹ When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side. ²² He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful."

"What leisure time we have should be spent in searching the Bible, which is to judge us in the last day. My dear brethren and sisters, let the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ be in your minds continually and let them crowd out worldly thoughts and cares. When you lie down and when you rise up, let them be your meditation.... The sealing time is very short, and will soon be over." EW 58.

7. Ps. 119:9,11: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. ¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

The devil tired to tempt Jesus. What did Jesus use to defeat him?

8. Matt. 4:1,3,4,8-10: "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. ³ And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. ⁸ Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹ And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. ¹⁰ Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

All scripture is inspired by God.

9. 2 Tim. 3:16,17: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Who wrote the Scripture? Can anyone interpret the bible as they see fit?

10. 2 Pet. 1:20,21: "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹ For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Jesus is the Word, and he can be found throughout the bible. Everything in the Old and New Testament talks about him.

11. Luke 24:25-27,44-46: "Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: ²⁶ Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? ²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. ⁴⁴ And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. ⁴⁵ Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:"
12. John 5:38-40: "And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. ³⁹ Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. ⁴⁰ And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."
13. Ps. 138:2: "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: **for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.**"

14. Isa. 40:8: "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."
15. Mal. 3:6: "For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."
16. Heb. 13:8: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."
17. Ps. 119:89: "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

Having God's word in our hearts keep us on the right path.

18. Ps. 119:97-105: "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸ Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. ⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts. ¹⁰¹ I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. ¹⁰² I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me. ¹⁰³ How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴ Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. ¹⁰⁵ Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.