

**Northbridge Baptist Church**  
**“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”**

**Doctrine #4: The Bible: As a Divine Revelation**

Note: Most information based on pages 31-35 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

**Opening Comments. The Reasons God Chose to “Reveal” Himself to Mankind:**

1. The Bible is intended to be a “revelation” (i.e. “making something known”) of the being, works, and program of God.
2. It is reasonable that an infinite God would seek to reveal Himself to His finite creatures.
3. Revealing Himself is essential to God’s fulfilling His purpose in creation.
4. At the same time, it is only natural that rational (i.e. “thinking”) beings should attempt to learn something about the Creator who made them.
5. Since man is the highest order of created rational beings, designed to have the most capacity to recognize and have fellowship with the Creator, it is reasonable to expect that God would reveal Himself to man to communicate His overall purpose and will for His creation.

**Three Forms of “Divine” Revelation:**

NOTE: “Divine” means in this case the “eternal power” and “character” of God.

1. **Revelation through Creation:** The eternal power and character of God are revealed by the things which are “CREATED”:

*Romans 1:20 “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—HAVE BEEN CLEARLY SEEN, BEING UNDERSTOOD FROM WHAT HAS BEEN MADE, so that men are without excuse.”*

- a. Even a “casual” observance of the created world “reveals” that God is a God of infinite power and wisdom and has designed the physical world for intelligent purposes.
- b. The revelation of God through “nature”, however, has its limitations, as there is no clear disclosure of things such as the “love” of God or the “holiness” of God.
- c. While the revelation of God in nature is sufficient so that God can judge the heathen world for not worshiping Him as their Creator, it does not reveal a way of salvation by which sinners can be reconciled to a holy God.

Romans 1:21-25 *“For although they knew God, **THEY NEITHER GLORIFIED HIM AS GOD NOR GAVE THANKS TO HIM**, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles...They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and **WORSHIPED AND SERVED CREATED THINGS RATHER THAN THE CREATOR**—who is forever praised. Amen.”*

2. **Revelation through Christ:** A supreme revelation of God was provided in the person and work of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

John 1:1 *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and THE WORD WAS GOD.”*

John 1:14 *“THE WORD BECAME FLESH and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

John 1:18 *“No one has ever seen God, but GOD THE ONE AND ONLY, who is at the Father’s side, HAS MADE HIM KNOWN.”*

- a. The Son of God came from the spiritual world (i.e. heaven) into this physical world to “reveal” God to man in terms which man could “rationally” understand.

1John 1:1-3 *“That which was from the beginning, which WE HAVE HEARD, which WE HAVE SEEN with our eyes, which we have LOOKED AT and OUR HANDS HAVE TOUCHED—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you THE ETERNAL LIFE, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, JESUS CHRIST.”*

- b. By His becoming man in the act of “incarnation” (i.e. becoming flesh), facts about God which otherwise would have been difficult for man to understand are translated into the limited range of human comprehension.

Hebrews 1:1-3 *“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days HE HAS SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and THE EXACT REPRESENTATION OF HIS BEING, sustaining all things by his powerful word...”*

- c. Accordingly, in Christ, not only is the power and wisdom of God revealed, but also the love of God, the goodness of God, His holiness, and His grace is revealed.

John 1:17 *“For the law was given through Moses; GRACE and TRUTH came through Jesus Christ.”*

John 14:7 *“If you really knew Me, YOU WOULD KNOW MY FATHER AS WELL. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him.”*

John 14:9-11 "...ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN ME HAS SEEN THE FATHER. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, LIVING IN ME, who is doing His work. Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on THE EVIDENCE OF THE MIRACLES themselves."

John 3:16 "For God SO LOVED THE WORLD that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Romans 5:8 "But God DEMONSTRATED HIS OWN LOVE FOR US in this: While we were still sinners, CHRIST DIED FOR US."

d. Therefore, anyone who "knows" Jesus Christ also knows God the Father.

3. **Revelation in Written Word**: The written Word of God ("the Bible") is able, however, to reveal God in even more explicit terms than can just be observed in the person and work of Christ.

a. As previously discussed in Bible Doctrine#3, it is true that the Bible introduces Jesus Christ to us both as the object of prophecy and as the fulfillment of prophecy. However, the Bible goes far beyond giving details only about Christ:

1) It also reveals God's program for Israel, for the nations, and for the church.

2) It also deals with many related subjects as the history of mankind and of the universe unfolds.

3) It not only presents God as its supreme subject, but also unfolds His purposes and glory.

b. The written revelation is "all inclusive":

1) It restates all the facts concerning God which are revealed through nature.

2) It gives the only record concerning God's manifestation in Christ.

3) It enlarges the divine revelation into great detail regarding God the Father, the Son, the Spirit, angels, demons, man, sin, salvation, grace, and glory.

c. The Bible, accordingly, may be regarded as completing the intended divine revelation of God "partially" revealed in nature, "more fully" revealed in Christ, and "completely" revealed in the written Word.

2Timothy 3:15-17 "... from infancy YOU HAVE KNOWN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK."

## Forms of “Special” Revelation of God:

1. Throughout the history of man, God has provided “special” revelations of Himself.
  - a. Many instances are recorded in the Word of God of His speaking directly to man as He did in the Garden of Eden or to the prophets of the Old Testament or the apostles in the New Testament.
  - b. Some of this special revelation was recorded in the Bible and forms the only “authoritative” and “inspired” record that we have of God’s special revelation of His Ways, His Purpose, or Himself.
2. Upon completion of the sixty-six (66) books in the Bible, special revelation of God in the ordinary sense seems to have ceased.
  - a. No one has ever been able successfully to add one verse to the written Scriptures as an additional valuable statement of truth.
  - b. Apocryphal additions are clearly “inferior” (for anyone who actually reads them!) and without the inspiration which has attended all writing of Scripture itself.

Proverbs 30:5-6 *“Every word of God is pure...Do not add to His Words, lest He reprove you, and you be found a liar.”*

Revelation 22:18-19 *“I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: IF ANYONE ADDS ANYTHING TO THEM, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And IF ANYONE TAKES WORDS AWAY from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.”*

3. In place of special revelation, however, a work of the Spirit has especially characterized the present age of man in his relationship with God.
  - a. As the Spirit of God “illuminates” (i.e. “casts light upon”) the Scriptures, this is a legitimate form of present time revelation from God in which the teachings of the Bible are made clear and applied to “individual” life and circumstances.

1Corinthians 2:9-14 *“However, as it is written: ‘No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him’ — but GOD HAS REVEALED IT US BY HIS SPIRIT. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, THAT WE MAY UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD HAS FREELY GIVEN US. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him,*

*and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.”*

- 1) Apart from this work of the Spirit of God to “illuminate” (help people understand what Scripture means) man, there is no real understanding of the truth (1Corinthians 2:10).
  - 2) The truth of the Word of God needs to be revealed to us by the Spirit of God, and we need to be taught by the Spirit (1Corinthians 2:13).
  - 3) Therefore, without the “illumination” of the Scriptures to a man through the Spirit, the Bible will remain a “closed” book to that man, as far as its real meaning is concerned.
  - 4) Understanding what God is saying to us through the Bible “requires” the reader of Scripture to be in a close fellowship with God in which the Spirit of God is able to reveal His truth.
- b. Coupled with the work of illumination is the work of the Spirit in “guidance” as general scriptural truths are applied to the particular needs of an individual.

John 16:13-14 *“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to Me by taking from what is Mine and MAKING IT KNOWN TO YOU.”*

Acts 16:6-7 *“Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, HAVING BEEN KEPT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, BUT THE SPIRIT OF JESUS WOULD NOT ALLOW THEM TO.”*

Ephesians 5:18 *“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with (i.e. “controlled by/guided by”) the Spirit.”*

- c. While both “illumination” (the Spirit helping you understand the Scriptures) and “guidance” (the Spirit helping you apply the Scriptures) are genuine works of God, they DO NOT GUARANTEE that an individual will perfectly understand the Bible or in all case will understand accurately God’s attempts to guide them.

1John 3:1-3 *“Dear friends, DO NOT BELIEVE EVERY SPIRIT, but TEST THE SPIRITS to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.”*

- d. Thus, while illumination and guidance are a work of the Spirit, they do not possess the infallibility of Scripture as they are being received by fallible human beings.

## **“Interpretation” of God’s Divine and Special Revelations:**

1. In receiving revelation which comes through the Holy Spirit as He teaches the Word of God to a believer in Christ, the PROBLEMS of interpretation of the Bible are evident.
2. The statement “*Anyone can interpret the Bible anyway they want to*” is only partially correct. God did not reveal Himself to man through carefully selected words in order to be “confusing”!

1Corinthians 14:33 “*For God is NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION...”*

3. A more accurate statement is: “*There is only ONE CORRECT WAY to interpret a verse and/or passage of Scripture in order to get an accurate representation of the truth God chose to reveal in that verse and/or passage of Scripture!*”

NOTE: While it is “true” that there are MANY different individual ways that God expected His revelation to be “applied” to each person, there is still only ONE CORRECT way to interpret His revelation!

4. To accurately interpret the Word of God, there are a certain basic set of rules (called “hermeneutics”) that are absolutely necessary for the Bible student to be following as he or she reads. While there is to be a reliance upon the Holy Spirit for instruction in the Word of God, certain PRINCIPLES are not to be violated, or the meanings of Scripture that God originally intended will get “misinterpreted”. Some of the most important basic principles to remember when interpreting Scripture are:

- a. **Don’t forget the purpose of the Bible as a whole.** In interpreting the Bible, every text must be taken in light of the total content of the entire Bible. There are NO CONTRADICTIONS when all of the verses in the Bible are properly interpreted!!!

Example:

Paul wrote: “*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—it is the gift of God—NOT BY WORKS, so that no one can boast.*” (Ephesians 2:8-9)

James wrote: “*What good is it, my brothers, if a man CLAIMS TO HAVE FAITH but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, IF IT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY ACTIONS, is dead.”*

Explanation of “apparent” Contradiction:

*James is not contracting Paul’s premise that a person is saved by “faith” ALONE (apart from any works!); rather, what James is saying is that if a person CLAIMS to be a Christian, but does not care about the poor and needy (as Jesus Christ always did!), then it will be hard for that person to PROVE to anyone that he or she is really “saved”. True salvation is NOT by works...but when a person is truly saved... it will be DEMONSTRATED in their lives through good works! (See 1John 4:7-9, 20-21).*

- b. **Don't forget the particular message of each book of the Bible.** The interpretation of Scripture must always take into consideration the purpose of the book of which it is a part. A study of Ecclesiastes is, accordingly, quite different than a study of the book of Revelation or the Psalms. Before you interpret even a verse of Scripture, make sure you fully understand the purpose for why that book was written and then interpret accordingly!

Example:

Acts 8:14-17 *"When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT HAD NOT YET COME UPON THEM ANY OF THEM; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John **PLACED THEIR HANDS UPON THEM**, and they received the Holy Spirit."*

Note: The purpose of the Book of Acts is to explain how the first Christians got saved and the first Christian churches got started! "Acts" reveals how the Jews (first), then the Samaritans and Gentiles (in that order), were saved through believing in Jesus Christ and then how/when they "received" the Holy Spirit after they were saved. Before the New Testament of the Word of God had been written down by the apostles, there appears to be many different ways that the "early" Christians received the "baptism" of the Holy Spirit. No matter who originally shared the gospel with a group that produced some "believers" in Jesus Christ, none of the early believers received the Holy Spirit until at least one of the "apostles" arrived to verify the gospel message that was preached. **AFTER THE NEW TESTAMENT** was written, the presence of the apostles (and/or laying on of hands) was no longer necessary for a believer to receive the Holy Spirit! Therefore, according to the book of Ephesians, the way a believer receives the Holy Spirit is **NOT THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS ON A BELIEVER "nor" THROUGH THE APPROVAL OF AN APOSTLE**, rather the "written Word of God says":

Ephesians 1:13-14 *"And you also were included in Christ **WHEN YOU HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH**, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, Who is a deposit GUARANTEEING OUR INHEIRITANCE until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory."*

Conclusion: Since the purpose of the book of Acts is a "history" of how God **BEGAN** to reveal Himself through the "indwelling" of the Holy Spirit, while the book of Ephesians is a "doctrinal" thesis to inform us of what God does **NOW** that He has written down His Holy Word, then it is only appropriate to use the book of Ephesians to properly "interpret" how a believer today receives the Holy Spirit after salvation! So, don't forget the purposes of each book as you interpret Scripture or try to put the Word of God into practice.

- c. **Don't forget to Whom the Author Was Writing To:** While all Scripture is given by equal inspiration of God, not all Scripture is equally applicable. Much false doctrine has come through applying Scripture wrongly. An important technique to use to avoid bad interpretation of a passage is to always keep in view who the author of the book was intending to read what was written. Although "*all Scripture is God-breathed and useful...*", not "all Scripture" was primarily intended for "every" and/or "any" person that would be reading a particular verse. For example:

Matthew 19:16 "*Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, 'Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?'"*

NOTE: When interpreting Jesus' response to this man's question, don't forget that this man asked "What can I DO?"; as if there was a way for a person to "earn" their way to heaven.

Matthew 19:17-19 "*'Why do you ask me about what is good?' Jesus replied. 'There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, OBEY THE COMMANDMENTS.' 'Which ones?' the man inquired. Jesus replied, 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'*"

NOTE: Jesus' reply to this man's question was ONLY intended to get this man to recognize that he was a sinner that needed to be saved by grace. Jesus did not intend you and I to read Matthew 19:16-19 and think we have to "obey" all the commandments of God to be saved. This would nullify (i.e. "contradict") some other clear teachings on how a person gets saved (John 3:16-18; Titus 2:13; etc.).

- d. **Don't forget the "Context" of the passage of Scripture you are reading.** One of the most important considerations in trying to understand what God is saying to you in a particular passage is to consider the immediate "context" of what you are reading. Often this gives the clue to what was intended in the particular statement.
- 1) Study carefully the words and verses that immediately precede and that immediately follow any given verse that you are trying to interpret.
  - 2) Next, make sure your interpretation fits the "context" of what would make sense WITHIN the chapter you are reading, the chapter PRIOR to what you are reading, and the chapter FOLLOWING what you are reading.
  - 3) Next, make sure your interpretation fits the "context" of what would make sense WITHIN the entire book that you are reading. Does your interpretation make sense based on who the author of the book is? Who he is writing to? The purpose of why he is writing?
- e. **Don't forget to check your interpretation of a verse against other similar teachings elsewhere in the Word of God.** Because the Bible cannot contradict itself, when a theological statement is made in one verse it should be "harmonized" with any other similar theological statement elsewhere.



- 1) Since the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of “truth” (John 14:17) and the author of the Scriptures (2Peter 1:21), then whatever is said in one place in the Bible will never contradict what is said in another place in the Bible. Instead, verses just “add” to God’s revelation of the truth of every subject He covers throughout His Word.
- 2) Systematic Theology Books are written to provide us with every verse of Scripture throughout the Bible that speaks about things such as “God”, “God’s Attributes”, “Angels”, “How the world was Created”, “Purpose of the Law”, etc., etc. When subject matters in the Bible are studied this way, it is easier for readers of the Bible to recognize that the Scriptures are “perfect” in how they reveal the truth God wants us to know.

f. **Don’t forget to accurately define the particular “words” of a verse before you try to interpret what that verse means.** The Bible was originally written in Hebrew and Greek, and often there is difficulty in precise translations. Thus a knowledge of the original language is helpful in determining “exactly” what the text says.

- 1) Unless you are forced to look for “symbolism” behind a word or words you are interpreting, just assume the normal literal meanings behind the word or words you are reading.

For example: Any references to the “promised land” in the Old Testament should be literally interpreted as the actual land of Israel (on this earth) that God promised the Hebrew nation as an inheritance. We are not to “assume” that God was only using the “promised land” as a “spiritual reference” to heaven!

- 2) Words should be given their normal meaning unless the context clearly indicates that a figure of speech is intended:

The Bible says in John 4:24 “*God is Spirit, and must be worshiped in spirit and in truth.*”  
(i.e. God is not a human being!)

So, when the Bible says in Psalm 109:26-27 “*Help me, O LORD my God; save me in accordance with your love. Let them know THAT IT IS IN YOUR HAND, that you, O LORD, have done it.*”

NOTE: When the Psalmist talks about God’s “hand”, he is not saying that God “physically” has real “hands” like human beings. Rather, in this case, the Psalmist is using the words “God’s hand” to symbolize God’s POWER and DIRECT INTERVENTION in the affairs of His children when they are in trouble!

g. **Don’t forget to guard against “prejudice” as you read God’s Word.** When you are reading God’s Word, it is very important for you not to purposely “twist” the Scriptures to harmonize what you WANT a verse of the Bible to say, according to your preconceived notions. Each text should be allowed to speak for itself even if it leaves temporarily some unresolved problems of harmonization with other Scriptures. “Cults” are established because they choose to IGNORE “clear” verses that are easy to interpret and FORCE more “difficult” verses to say what they want them to say to manipulate the “beliefs” of those who follow them!

For example:

When it comes to verses on whether or not a person can “lose” their salvation, here are some “clear” verses of Scripture that say you CAN NOT lose the gift of Eternal Life:

John 10:27-29 *“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I GIVE THEM ETERNAL LIFE, AND THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH; no one can snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of My Father’s hand.”*

Ephesians 1:13-14 *“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, WHO IS A DEPOSIT GUARANTEEING OUR INHEIRITANCE until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.”*

1Thessalonians 5:23-24 *“MAY GOD HIMSELF, the God of peace, SANCTIFY YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH. May your whole spirit, soul and body BE KEPT BLAMLESS at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful and HE WILL DO IT.”*

When it comes to verses on whether or not a person can “lose” their salvation, here are some “VAGUE” verses of Scripture that can be “twisted” to force the Scriptures to “contradict” the above verses to try to “prove” that you can lose the gift of Eternal Life:

Hebrews 6:4-6 *“It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.”*

Hebrews 10:26-27 *“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.”*

2Peter 2:20-22 *“If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them. Of them the proverbs are true: ‘A dog returns to its vomit,’ and, ‘A sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud.’”*

NOTE: Each of these “vague” passages of Scriptures can be “correctly” interpreted in a way that makes perfect sense while also NOT “contradicting” the clear passages of Scriptures which say that a “true believer” cannot lose salvation. That is the value of interpreting God’s Word through proper “hermeneutics” (i.e. “rules of proper biblical interpretation”). Since God is a “God of TRUTH”, His divine revelation of Himself, through His Word (the Bible), would require that it REVEALS “ONLY” THE TRUTH...which means there can be absolutely NO contradictions!

**Northbridge Baptist Church**  
***“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”***

Study Guide for “Doctrine #4: The Bible: As a Divine Revelation”

1. Read Pages 1-10 from the Doctrine#4 Study Guide by next Wednesday.
2. Answer the following Questions about “The Bible: As a Divine Revelation” as you read:

**a. The Reasons God Chose to “Reveal” Himself to Mankind:**

- 1) What is the Bible intended to be? (page 1; top)
  
- 2) What is “essential” to God fulfilling His purpose in creation? (page 1; top)
  
- 3) What is “natural” for rational beings to attempt to do? (page 1; top)

**b. Three Forms of “Divine” Revelation:**

- 1) What is “revealed” about God by the things which He “created”? (pg. 1; middle; also Rom 1:20)
  
- 2) True or False. You can learn just about everything about God through what He has created.  
(page 1; bottom)
  
- 3) True or False. The revelation of God in nature is sufficient so that God can judge the heathen world for not worshipping Him as their Creator. (page 1; bottom)
  
- 4) A supreme “revelation” of God was provided in the person and work of whom? (pg 2; top)

- 5) According to John 1:18, although “no one has ever seen God”, “God the One and Only”, has done what? (page 2; middle-top)
  
- 6) One of the reasons that the Son of God came from the “spiritual” world into this “physical” world was to do what? (page 2; middle and 1John 1:1-3)
  
- 7) What is a major way that facts about God (which otherwise would have been difficult for man to understand) are translated into the limited range of human comprehension? (page 2; middle)
  
- 8) According to Hebrews 1:1-3, The Son of God is “whom”? (page 2; bottom)
  
- 9) What are some major things that are “revealed” about God in Christ, that is not readily understood by just observing creation? (page 2, bottom)
  
- 10) According to John 14:9-11, Jesus said that anyone who had seen Him had also seen whom?
  
- 11) Scriptures like John 1:17 and John 14:7, reveal to us that if we really “know” Jesus Christ, we also really “know” whom? (page 3, top)
  
- 12) What is a way that God has been revealed that gives us even more “explicit terms” about Him than can just be observed in the person and work of Christ? (page 3; middle)
  
- 13) What are some things the Bible “reveals” about the work of God that is not only about Christ?  
(page 3, middle)

- 14) True or False. There are many things we need to learn about God that is not revealed in God's Written Word (i.e. The Bible).
  
- 15) The Bible may be regarded as "what" as it come to "revealing" God? (page 3; bottom)
  
- 16) According to 2Timothy 3:15-17, the "Holy Scriptures" are "able" to do what and "useful" to do what? (page 3; bottom)

**c. Forms of "Special" Revelation of God:**

- 1) What is the only "authoritative" and "inspired" record of God's special revelation of His Ways, His Purpose, or Himself? (page 4; top)
  
- 2) Upon the completion of the sixty-six books in the Bible, what seems to have "ceased"? (page 4, top)
  
- 3) What "additions" have been made by some religious denominations to the Bible that are clearly "inferior" and without "inspiration"? (page 4, top-middle)
  
- 4) What does Proverbs 30:5-6 say about the "Word of God" which invalidates "liberal" claims that you can find "God's Word" mixed in with "man's mistaken additions" in the Bible?
  
- 5) According to 1Corinthians 2:9-14, how does God TODAY reveal Himself, His thoughts, His ways, etc., to us? (page 4; bottom)

- 6) What must the Spirit of God do with the “Scriptures” in order to help people understand what the Scriptures means as they are reading the truth? (page 5, top; 1Cor 2:10)
  
- 7) Without the “illumination” of the Scriptures to a man through the Spirit, the Bible will remain what to that man? (page 5, top)
  
- 8) Understanding what God is saying to us through the Bible “requires” the reader of Scripture to “be” what? (page 5, top)
  
- 9) According to John 16:13-14, what will the Holy Spirit do for believers when it comes to God’s truth? (page 5, middle-top)
  
- 10) True or False. Because of the “illumination” and “guidance” of the Holy Spirit, it is impossible for a believer to misinterpret the meanings of Scripture in God’s Word.
  
- 11) In spite of the work of the Holy Spirit, what can cause even a “born again believer” to misunderstand the “infallible” Scriptures? (page 5, bottom)

**d. “Interpretation” of God’s Divine and Special Revelations:**

- 1) According to 1Corinthians 14:33, God is NOT the author of “what”?
  
- 2) True or False. There are many different correct interpretations of a verse or a passage of Scripture. (page 6, top)
  
- 3) True or False. There is really only ONE correct way to apply a verse or a passage of Scripture. (page 6, top-middle)

- 4) What is the name of the certain basic set of rules that are necessary for the Bible Student to follow to accurately interpret the Word of God? (page 6, middle)
  
- 5) According to the proper rules of Bible interpretation, every text must be taken in light of “what” before you try to ascertain its meaning? (page 6, middle)
  
- 6) True or False. There is not even ONE apparent “contradiction” in the Bible. (page 6, bottom)
  
- 7) When trying to interpret a verse or passage of Scripture in a particular book in the Bible, what should you make sure you fully understand first? (page 7; top)
  
- 8) True or False. A consistent reading and interpretation of the Book of Acts proves that the Holy Spirit only comes upon a believer through the approval of an Apostle or the laying on of hands. (page 7, middle)
  
- 9) According to Ephesians 1:13-14, how does a “believer” receive the Holy Spirit?
  
- 10) True or False. Although “all” Scripture is given by equal “inspiration” of God, NOT all Scripture is equally applicable. (page 8, top)
  
- 11) An important technique to use to avoid bad interpretation of a passage of Scripture is to always keep in view what? (page 8, top)
  
- 12) One of the most important considerations in trying to understand what God is saying to you in a particular passage is to consider what? (page 8, middle)

- 13) When studying the “context” of a verse you are wanting to interpret, what are at least “3” things you should initially consider? (page 8, bottom)
  
- 14) Because the Bible cannot contradict itself, when a theological statement is made in one verse it should be “what” with any other similar theological statement elsewhere while you are trying to “interpret” Scripture? (page 8, bottom)
  
- 15) What type of “books” have been provided by Biblical Scholars to provide us with every verse of Scripture throughout the Bible that speaks about various theological topics? (pg. 9, top)
  
- 16) True or False. The “words” used in the Bible were originally written in the King James English. (page 9, top-middle)
  
- 17) What do “cults” do to Scripture to “manipulate” the beliefs of those who follow them? (page 9, bottom)
  
- 18) True or False. According to accurate interpretations of verses like Hebrews 6:4-6 and Hebrews 10:26-27, it is possible for a person to lose his or her salvation.
  
- 19) List some “clear” verses of Scripture in the Bible which say you CAN NOT lose the gift of Eternal Life that comes with salvation. (page 10; top)
  
- 20) In order for the Bible to actually be consider “the truth”, what can there be absolutely none of? (page 10; bottom)