Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings



June 2020

Father, thank you for your perfect Word. Thank you for your son the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for making us joint heirs with Christ. Thank you for giving us and understanding of who your son is and what he accomplished for us. In Christ Jesus. Amen

The May 2020 teaching on 2 Thessalonians chapter 3 had the following key points:

- We are to pray for the body of Christ that the prevailing word of our Lord Jesus Christ may have a free run and be glorified, revered, honored, and praised in each of us and in our areas. We are to pray that Christ in you the hope of glory is manifested and brought to light!
- Paul asked the brethren to surround them with prayer that they may be rescued from perverse, wicked people who willfully inflict pain. Paul reminded us that these people do not have the faith of Jesus Christ!
- The Lord is faithful and will guard and protect us from the active workers of the evil one.
- When the Lord Jesus Christ directs our hearts and we have the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation, we have endurance in our waiting for Christ.
- We are to withdraw ourselves from every born-again believer who refuses to obey the Word of God. We are to confront those not adhering to God's Word, in the hope that they will get back on God's Word!
- We all need to eat in order to live, therefore, we all need to work.

The June 2020 teaching will focus on the concept of Spiritual Growth Part 1 according to God's Word.

Spiritual Growth is based on the prevailing word of God rightly divided and acted upon. 2 Timothy 2:15 tells us:

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

We are instructed to study to show ourselves "*approved unto God.*" We are to be a workman that is not ashamed, and who rightly divides the word of truth. We are to grow spiritually and do the works that Jesus did and greater works. John 14:12 reminds us:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me [Jesus], the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

If you believe that Jesus is God, how would you explain John 14:12 above? The last part of that verse says, "*greater works than these shall he* (that believe on Jesus) *do; because I go unto my Father.*" Many religions teach that Jesus is the same as God. In reflection on John 14:12, if Jesus is God, then this verse is saying you are going to do greater works than God! Impossible! Not going to happen!

You will not have any spiritual growth if you believe that Jesus is God. God's Word documented in the New Testament 68 times Jesus as the son of God. I am aware there are several scriptures on the surface wrongly translated that appear to say Jesus is God. The key is to cross check those scriptures. In this and next month's teaching, I am going to focus on some of the 68 scriptures that say Jesus is the son of God.

We will first see in God's Word there is one God. We will learn in the Bible who God our Father says His son is, who God's son, the Lord Jesus Christ, says he is, who Jesus's disciples said he is, who the devil spirits say Jesus is, and who do the Church Epistle [Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians] declare who Jesus is?

Remember, all of the Word of God is given by inspiration of God! 2 Timothy 3:16-17:

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That [purpose] the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Let's expound on 2 Timothy 3:16-17. All scriptures without exception were given by God the creator. How was scripture given? "*By inspiration of God*" which is the Greek word *theopneustos* (which means God breathed). This is the figure of speech *condescensoi* (Latin) and *anthropopatheia* in the Greek. When God wants to put emphasis on a verse a figure of speech is used. This figure of speech attributes human characteristic to God. God's Word declares that "*God is Spirit*" (John 4:24).

What is the scripture profitable for? 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us for "doctrine" or right believing, for "reproof" or to correct practical error, for "correction" or to correct doctrine errors. The scriptures are instruction in what? "Righteousness."

What is the purpose of the scriptures? 2 Timothy 3:17 tells us "That the man [man or

woman that speaks for God] of God may be perfect [mature] and thoroughly [from the inside out] furnished [equipped] unto all good works."

In reading the Bible, the first thing we are to know is that no scriptures are of any private [one's own] interpretation. 2 Peter 1:20:

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

How did we receive this prophecy of the scriptures? 2 Peter 1:21:

For the prophecy came not in old [any] time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost [holy spirit].

Now that we understand the scriptures are given by inspiration and that their purpose is fourfold, we can search the scriptures that testify about who Jesus Christ is. John 5:39:

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me [Jesus Christ].

The Greek word for "search" is *ereunao* which means to trace, track, scent, smell it out. It compares the way a dog traces, tracks, scents, and smells out game. We must start by tracing, tracking, scenting, and smelling out the scriptures daily to see what we have been taught is God's Word!

Acts 17:11:

These [the context here is those who heard the Word in Berea] were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness [eagerness] of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

The Greek word for "s*earch*" in this verse is *anakrino* which means to divide up, to make a distinction, come to a decision, to judge, to sift. The people who heard the Word of God in Berea went above just tracing and tracking God's Word, they rightly divided it, made a distinction, and came to a decision, that it was the Word of God!

Once we search (*ereunao*) the scriptures, we must go beyond just tracing, tracking, scenting, and smelling out the scriptures. We must search (*anakrino*) to rightly divide them, make a distinction, and come to a decision daily, that what God's Word says is truth!

Let's search the scriptures to see what God's Word says about God and His son the Lord Jesus Christ. First, we must understand there is one God and that one God is spirit! John 4:24:

God is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Deuteronomy 6:4:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord [Jehovah] our God is one Lord [Jehovah].

Malachi 2:10:

Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?

Mark 12:32:

And the scribe said unto him [Jesus], well, master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he.

Romans 3:30:

Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision [Israel] by faith, and uncircumcision [Gentiles] through faith.

1 Corinthians 8:4

As concerning therefore, the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.

The following verses continue to clarify that there is one God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 8:6:

But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him.

Galatians 3:20:

Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

Ephesians 4:6:

One [means emphatic, one, even one, one single] God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

As it is written in 1 Timothy 2:5:

For there is one God.

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James 2:19:

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Jesus Christ in his resurrected body called God his Father and stated that God is our Father! John 20:17:

Jesus saith unto her [Mary], touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

Jesus said he "ascend unto whose Father" and God? He ascended to "my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." For those that believe Jesus Christ is God, John 20:17 would say that Jesus ascended to himself and called himself "my God."

There are three names used in God's Word which referring to God Himself; these are never used to refer to His son. Now I know God's Word refers to Jesus as Lord, which means master. However, the word "Lord" used for the name Jehovah is never applied to Jesus or Christ in the Bible.

Three of the Hebrew names God used in His Word to describe Himself are Elohim, Jehovah, El Shaddai. "Elohim" is the Hebrew word for God, meaning the creator. "Jehovah" is the Hebrew word for Lord, meaning His connection to what He created. "El Shaddai" is the Hebrew word for God Almighty meaning bountifulness, blessing, support, defense and supply of all our needs for the people who love God by keeping His Word!

These names are never used when referring to the Lord Jesus Christ! Remember, once we search (*ereunao*) the scriptures, we must go beyond just tracing, tracking, scenting, and smelling out the scriptures. We must search (*anakrino*) to rightly divide them, make a distinction, and come to a decision daily, that what God's Word says is truth! Our search (anakrino) opens our understanding so that we know God is one, and Jesus, His son, is not God. This provides us with knowledge to rightly divide God's Word.

The foundation of our Spiritual Growth is we must believe there is only one true God, Elohim the creator and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Key points:

- We must daily study to show our self, approved unto God.
- We must search, trace, and track the Word of God daily to rightly divide it, make a distinction, and come to a decision that what God's Word says is truth!

- We must receive the Word of God with all eagerness of mind.
- We must believe there is only one true God, Elohim the creator and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Jesus himself said that God is his Father.

Father, thank you for your Word which is your Will and declares that Jesus Christ is your son. We know that your son has come and has given us an understanding that we may know you, Father, are the true God. And we are in you, Father, that is true, even in your son Jesus Christ. Father, you are the true God and eternal life. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Next month's teaching will continue with our knowledge regarding Spiritual Growth Part 2.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation Son of God through Jesus Christ Ambassador for Christ