

NEW CHRISTIAN CLASSES

Introduction

Greetings and welcome to my precious new Brothers and Sisters - for now we are all BORN of the same Spirit - The Spirit of Jesus Christ; -- all have been Baptized into the Spiritual Family of God.

We will spend this first hour talking about the Wonder of Your Salvation.

It is true that there can be no real understanding of this glorious event until you have had the actual experience of being Born Again.

But now that that is so -- you need to begin to look into the true depth of the meaning of this marvelous new Birth.

This new experience of having been **Born of the Holy Spirit!**

- Next to your own natural Birth it is the next most important event that can ever happen in this life.
- The first birth begins you on the road to your natural life - which ends at the death of your body.
- The second Birth starts you on the road to your Spiritual life which takes your soul on into eternal life.

Format for Class Subjects:

1st hour - **The Wonder of Your Salvation**

2nd hour - **Walking on the Spiritual Road to Eternal Life (Part I)**

3rd hour - **Walking on the Spiritual Road to Eternal Life (Part II)**

4th hour - **Your place on the Earth and in the Heavens as a member of God's Family**

It is my hope that many of your questions will be answered during these sessions. And that they will leave you well on your way to knowing your Saviour and His plan for your life. But most important of all -- that you will leave Loving Jesus, Our Christ more than you ever thought possible.

Loving Him for what he did on Calvary → Loving Him for including you in His great and mighty plan → Loving Him more daily with an ever growing desire to please Him → that when you meet Him face to face it will be a joyous reunion!

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CLASS I

The Wonder of Salvation

(1) You have entered into *John 3:16* the most important verse in the *whole Bible*

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Comment: That wondrous verse will become more and more precious unto you every day as you grow in your Spiritual understanding.

Scriptural Proof of the Need to be Born Again

John 3:3 Jesus said, "Except a man be Born Again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God!"

John 3:7 "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be Born Again."

John 3:6 "That which is born of flesh is flesh; and that which is born of Spirit is spirit."

Comment: In those verses Jesus clearly speaks of two Births - your first birth being your natural flesh birth -- and your Spiritual second birth.

You have now experienced both Births -- You are indeed Born Again!

Condition: Providing you have entered into Romans 10:9-10.

Rom 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt believe in thine heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

Rom 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.

Comment:

Believe what in your heart?

That Jesus is the son of God • that He was born of the Virgin Mary • that He did die on the Cross • that His Blood was shed for the forgiveness of your sins • and that He rose again that you may have eternal life.

Confess What With Your Mouth?

Confess that because of your belief you have received Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour.

Comment: Both the heart and the mouth had a part to play at Salvation.

Why did you need to confess publicly?

Matt 10:32 Jesus said, “Whosoever shalt confess me before man, him will I confess before my Father which is in heaven!”

Matt 10:40 “He that receiveth you, receiveth me, and he that receiveth me, receiveth Him that sent me.”

Comment: This scripture tells us that when you receive Jesus you also receive the Father God!

The glorious Wonder of it all! -- that you, through a prayer of Faith, did receive God the Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ the Son.

I ask you to believe that you have received the greatest miracle that could ever happen unto you! You are Born Again of the Spirit of Jesus -- The Holy Spirit.

(2) How did this Miracle come to you -- you personally?

John 6:44 Jesus speaking, “No man can come to me, except the Father which has sent me draw him.”

Comment: So God, Himself, drew you and all you did was to have the sense to say “Yes, Lord.”

But why you?

There could have been a number of ways or reasons:

- (a) Somebody witnessed to you and touched a certain something in your heart, so you decided to seek it out.
- (b) Consistent and heart felt prayer by a believer on your behalf.
- (c) Perhaps a calling out to God at some earlier time in your life, even as a child.
- (d) Your life could have been broken and shattered, you were tired of the emotional pain, so you began to search for spiritual help.
- (e) Perhaps you experienced or saw a healing or miracle of some type that caused you to seek God for yourself.
- (f) There are many other ways that may have caused the process of the Heavenly Father to draw you unto Himself. Remember, the Lord God will not be limited in **His Ways**.

Ex 3:14 God declares Himself as the “**I AM**”.

(3) **What Happened to You Bodily at Your Salvation?**

- (a) At the precise moment of the sinners prayer, *your soul was washed with the Blood of Jesus.* The Blood of Jesus makes atonement for man's sin - for your sin. **I John 1:7-9** -- Read it and give THANKS.

Comment: There is so much for you to learn about the Power in the Blood of Jesus - I cannot even begin to go into it, except to say, if we do not accept the Blood of Jesus, God's Son, we are still in our sin and cannot have Eternal Life - for only the Blood of Jesus can make atonement for our soul.

His Blood is so effective that in :

Heb 8:12 It stated: **"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."**

Comment: Not only is your sin forgiven it is not even remembered. Your soul is as clean as snow before the Lord at that time. As a new Born Baby before Christ are you - Beautiful, Clean and Perfect Babes in Christ!

That is the way Jesus our Saviour sees us at that moment. Oh, that we could stay that way! But life goes on and fortunately so does the Blood of Jesus!

You see, should you sin again, and we all do -- and we come again to a place of repentance and ask forgiveness -- Jesus is just and faithful to forgive again.

I John 1:9 Again -- *Thank You Jesus!!*

With the washing of the Blood of Jesus your mind begins a process of being re-newed, (re-programmed) (or made over).

Rom 12:2 **"And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God."**

Comment: Your daily actions and your re-actions to circumstances can now change because you have no guilt of former life style. It is finished. You can start all over again in your behaviour patterns!

This time with full knowledge of the Right guide Book -- The Holy Bible -- and the help of the indwelling Holy Spirit to lead and guide you.

You now have the tools to lead a good, even a Holy Life. Lets see what you do with them!

- (b) The next thing that happened at your salvation -- *The Holy Spirit Entered Your Body.*

Just listen to these wonderfully reassuring scriptures:

II Cor 6:16 “Ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, “I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

I Cor 3:16 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

Comment: You have become the Living Temple (house) of the Spirit of Christ. You and the Holy Spirit now share the same body (house, temple).

You both use and share the body much the same as you would share a house.

- **You** still use your body for the natural things -- (earning a living, taking care of family, etc.)
- **God** uses your body for the spiritual things that He wants to accomplish through you.

Both need time every day.

Sometimes it is hard to learn to share in that way.

But the rewards for sharing are many. *We will discuss some of those later.*

The truth is that your body is not really your own now any way listen to these verses:

I Cor 6:19 “Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own.”

I Cor 6:20 “For ye are bought with a price; (the death of Jesus), therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your Spirit, which are God's.”

Comment: It is up to you to get to know the Spirit within you and to get to know His needs. (*I will go into this more in another class.*)

But, know even now that He is a beautiful, gentle Spirit.

He does not force you into anything - but urges you into His Ways.

What are the Ways of the Holy Spirit?

These qualities or characteristics are listed in **Gal 5:22-23** called the Fruits of the Spirit.

Comment: Yes, the Holy Spirit came to you with definite personality traits -- just as your own spirit of man came to you with various qualities.

Most of you have some knowledge of your own attributes -- now it is time to understand the ways of the Holy Spirit.

You see, it is His desire to show His Presence in you to the world by your actions. He cannot fulfill this unless you begin to live your life with the Fruits of the Spirit in evidence.

This becomes one of the greatest challenges a Christian ever has.

To overcome your old ways and begin to live daily in the ways of God -- or in other words -- to overcome the flesh and to take on the attitude of the Holy Spirit.

Turn to **Gal 5:22**:

- (1) Love - all the other eight Fruits of the Spirit operate by LOVE.

John 13:35 **“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if you have LOVE one for another.”**

- (2) Joy - Delight of the mind through the revelation of the Spirit of the things of God. Possess with Pleasure, the Hope of the resurrection, JOY then becomes our strength.
- (3) Peace - is to live in Harmony with your Heavenly Father - **“My peace I will give unto you.”**
- (4) Long-suffering - Bearing provocation for a long time. Patient-not easily provoked.
- (5) Gentleness - not harsh or severe in temper or voice. Kindness.
- (6) Goodness - Act of compassion or mercy.
- (7) Faith - Substance of things hoped for - evidence of things not seen. Belief, trust, confidence, conviction by the Holy Spirit.
- (8) Meekness - mild of temper, humble, unpretentious.
- (9) Temperance - moderation in all things - self control, cool and calm - not violent.

Comment: Yes, it is possible to become these things now as you are Born of the Holy Spirit. And He will be your Friend and Counselor as long as you will learn to listen. You will find the Precious Spirit within you, speaking to you, encouraging you, urging you to be more like Him in your ways. This change of attitude and behaviour patterns in every Christian is a necessity and the Very Proof of your Born Again Experience.

Rom 8:14 “For as many as are Led By the Spirit of God -- they are the Sons of God.”

Comment: Those very words Sons of God -- shows us that by being Born Again and Led by that Spirit we have been Baptized or Born into the Spiritual Family of God.

Now you can understand why we call one another Brother and Sister!

For so we are - all children of the Living God - Off spring of the Lord God Almighty - even Babes in Christ. All because Our Lord Jesus died on the Cross - Rose Again and Became Jesus Our Saviour!

(4) **What Happened in Heaven at the time of Your Salvation?**

Remember: your prayer was directed to Jesus - as all your prayers should be - for He is the great Intercessor before the Holy Father -- Heb 7:25. And as Jesus heard your sincere words and saw the truth in your heart, your name was written in the Lambs Book of Life.

Jesus is called the Lamb of God in many places in the Bible.

John 1:29 “Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.”

We, the children of the Lord are often called -- the Lambs of Jesus. Because in **John 21:15** Jesus said to Peter, “**Feed my lambs.**”

This Book will be opened when you enter heaven to see if your name is written therein -- this is Jesus' Lambs Book of Life.

And for you -- He can say, “Come on in and take your rightful place.” Yes, there is now a special place being prepared for you in heaven.

John 14:3 “And if I go and prepare a place for you -- I will come again; and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also.”

Comment: Just listen to that wonderful promise! You might like to spend a little time just speculating what your special place might be like.

Why, even the Angels in Heaven, Rejoice at a new name written! In fact, all heaven rejoiced when they heard your confession of Faith in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And there are many who believe (with good reason) that a Guardian Angel was also sent unto you at that time.

Your Own Guardian Angel -- WHY?

The Holy Spirit has taken His place within you. You now have protection ***within your body*** from Satan. (Satan: the enemy of the Lord and the enemy of your own soul). *(We will speak more of this later.)*

And The Guardian Angel is to protect you on the ***outside of your body***, however, we must not be foolish with this - for we are warned not to tempt the Lord. *(Give examples of divine intervention)*

Warning: to be assured that you have this divine protection within and without it is important to learn to keep yourself in the Lord - or Walk in the Lord.

(5) Three Baptisms

(a) Baptism into Christ

John 3:3 “Except a man be Born Again (of the Spirit) he cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

Comment: You have made your first decision and have entered into the 1st Baptism - when you received Jesus as Your Saviour.

You were then washed in His Blood, Born of His Spirit by your confession of Faith in Him, you became a member of God's family.

(b) Baptism in Water

John 3:5 “Except a man be born of Water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.”

Comment: Surely it is not enough to be Born Again of the Spirit but also to be Water Baptized so that you might enter into the Kingdom.

The Second decision is to make Jesus The Lord of your life, to Obey His Words and to Serve Him. This second decision should be accomplished as you bury your own will in the waters of Baptism and rise up in the Newness of Life to serve Him.

Some of the Most Important words of Jesus are these:

John 10:27 “My Sheep hear my voice, I know them -- They Follow Me.”

Comment: Your decision to be fully immersed in water signifies to the Lord Jesus and to the Body of Christ (the Church) your willingness to change from your old ways into the ways of Christ and to Follow on with Him. *(More on this will be ministered to you at the time of your Water Baptism)*

(c) Baptism into the Holy Ghost

Matt 3:11 “He (meaning Jesus) shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire.”

Acts 1:5 “For John truly baptized with water but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.”

Comment: That verse shows us that this is an experience in God after salvation and apart from it, in which we are filled with the Holy Ghost.

(Enough said here and now, but we will discuss later more about the Holy Ghost since we are often called a Holy Ghost Church it becomes necessary for you to have some understanding).

REVIEW

The Three Baptisms:

- (1) Baptized into the Family of God or Body of Christ (Born Again) with the evidence being your new found ability to LOVE the Lord Jesus and your brothers and sisters. (**John 13:5**)
- (2) Baptized into the Death of Jesus on Calvary -- (Water Baptism) with the evidence of your ability to make Jesus the Lord of your life and your desire to serve Him and not yourself.
- (3) Baptized into the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in Heavenly tongues and the power to witness, walk and serve the Saviour.

ENDING

Tonight we Celebrate the greatest of all Spiritual Miracles. The New Birth Experience. The Beginning and the most important of all Three Baptisms!

Salvation is indeed, God's plan to restore you to a holy, happy relationship with Him!

And now Jesus, through the Holy Spirit in you, Jesus being a part of you, that relationship has begun for you.

Praise the Lord Jesus -- The Saviour -- The Christ! AMEN!!

NEW CHRISTIAN CLASSES
CLASS II
WALKING ON THE SPIRITUAL PATH TO
ETERNAL LIFE
PART I

Last week, by scripture, you confirmed that through your New Birth Experience you are now on your way to Eternal Life with Jesus Christ.

You now have some understanding of the first step -- Your Salvation!

But what now? How Do You Walk?

Deut 10:12 What does the Lord thy God require of thee? (1) to fear the Lord (2) to walk in all His ways, (3) to love Him (4) to serve the Lord with all thy heart and with all thy soul!

Comment: In order to fulfill that scripture we must learn to be obedient to His Words -- or the Holy Bible -- It is your responsibility to get to know and understand the Bible. It is your responsibility to put The Words into daily practice in your life.

The Bible is the only Book you can trust as your guide all through your journey of Life.

(1) **The Holy Bible**

- (a) It is not only Gods rule Book for life it is also His Love Letter to us. It is the greatest and the most heart touching love letter you will ever receive in your life, direct from the Throne of your Heavenly Father.

God gave us the Bible to show us the way of Salvation and to instruct us in Holy Living and to prepare us for His Return.

The Bible does not even try to prove its claim to be God's Word -- it simply states that it is. **Genesis** opens with the words, "**And God said**" nine times in the first chapter alone.

II Tim 3:16 “All scripture is given by the inspiration of God” (meaning: breathed on by God)

II Pe 1:20-21 “No prophecy (or word) of the scripture is of any private interpretation, for the word came not in old times by the will of man (not just human ideas) but Holy Men of God spoke as they were moved by (carried along by) the Holy Spirit.”

Comment: Then the Holy Spirit caused the old prophets to speak or write as they did -- it was not their own ideas but the thoughts of the Holy Spirit, even God Himself.

The Bible has survived century after century because -- Jesus said in:

Matt 24:35 “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My Words shall Not Pass Away!”

Heb 4:12 God’s word is quick or living.

Comment: It is as alive today as it was for our ancestors -- It is the LIVING WORD.

(b) There are two main sections of the Bible:

- (1) OLD TESTAMENT -- which is a collection of 39 Books containing the Laws of God. It is the story of Israel. It shows the need for Jesus The Saviour to come to earth and the preparation of the coming back of Jesus The Christ.
- (2) NEW TESTAMENT -- is a collection of 27 Books containing the Gospel of Jesus. It is the story of the Coming of Jesus Christ to meet man’s needs and the results of His Coming.

Comment: The Holy Bible is whole and complete.

Rev 22:18-19 “And if any man shall take away from the words of the Book of this prophecy God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the Holy city, and from the things which are written in this Book.”

(c) These two Testaments are actually three dispensations (or time periods):

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1st dispensation: | God the Father speaks through His prophets (The Old Testament) |
| 2nd dispensation: | Jesus the Son speaks through His disciples (The Four Gospels) |
| 3rd dispensation: | The Holy Ghost (the rest of the New Testament beginning from Acts -- the day of Pentecost) |

The New Testament also contains Revelations (which is about the future time period after the return of Christ -- which is yet to come).

Comment: Yes, even today we still have a very important part in fulfilling God's plan for mankind.

We are in the last days of the Holy Ghost dispensation -- a period when some of the prophets and disciples wish they could have lived in -- a period when some of us will see the Coming of Jesus for His Bride.

So then understand this:

From Genesis to Malachi -- The Father Worked
 From Matthew to Acts -- The Son Worked
 From Acts forward -- The Holy Ghost Worked and He still works through us.

- Every Christian Religion is based on some or all Books of the Bible.
- Most believe the Old Testament and the Gospels.
- Many even have a problem with the Born Again Experience.
- Others confuse the Holy Spirit with the in-filling of the Holy Ghost and therefore, have a real problem believing in the reality of the Holy Ghost.
- Pentecostal Churches (which we are) are those who believe in the Baptism of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of Speaking in tongues and the gifts in operation.

God has seen fit to bring you to a body that believes in the whole Bible.

Ps 84:11 Tells us that no good thing is being withheld from you and certainly the fullness of God is here for you! Give Thanks to Our Glorious God so filled with mercy and grace is He -- He saw our low estate and brought us unto Himself -- Give Thanks!!

Why Should You Read The Word?

- (a) Read it to get to know the mind of the Heavenly Father.
- (b) To further understand His great Love for you.
- (c) To understand His Hate for Sin.
- (d) To understand His Anger for disobedience to His Word.
- (e) And that you might come to understand God's plan and purpose for the human race.
- (f) That your heart may be encouraged as to your own place in His great plan.
- (g) This list could go on and on as you will come to know, as your desire for a closer relationship to Jesus grows.
- (h) Begin now to fill your mind, your heart, your very soul. Refresh your Spirit daily with His Words. That your journey towards Eternal Life has a sure and sound foundation.
- (i) You are just beginning the Highest Calling and the greatest challenge ever given to man. The Bible is your guide Book and now that the Holy Spirit lives in you -- He will open its meaning unto you and give you understanding of its precious contents.

Read it, Study it, hold it, Hug it, cherish it, until it becomes a very part of you!

Jesus, Himself, is called the LIVING WORD.

(2) **Prayer - Your Communication With The Throne Of Grace**

- (a)
- Prayer**
- to the Holy Father through Jesus brought you into His Family - now learn to keep your communication line open daily.

Prayer will develop a love and understanding relationship between you and your Heavenly Father. This relationship cannot be broken except by you. You now have a direct line to the Throne of Grace. Keep it clear - with no hindrances between you and your Lord.

Prayer will reveal your heart to Him and He will reveal His heart to you.

Prayer will help you to leave off sinning - and, on the other hand, sin will cause you to cease praying. (Every time you must ask forgiveness it reminds you of your fleshy state.)

Prayer will increase your Faith.

- (b)
- What is Faith?**

Heb 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen!”

Comment: In prayer, we pray for the things we hope for, and we believe that they shall come to pass. Therefore every prayer builds our Faith in God and He sees our Hope and Trust in Him.

Faith is increased, built little by little as we see Him answer our prayers. But faith is built in other ways as well:

Rom 10:17 tells us that Faith comes by hearing the Word.

Just listen to a few of God’s Promises to do with Prayer. They are so beautiful and encouraging!

John 15:7 Jesus said, “If ye (you) abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye (you) shall ask what ye (you) will and it shall be done unto you!”

I Jn 3:21-22 “And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.”

James 1:6-7 “But let him ask in Faith, nothing wavering.”

Matt 21:22 “And all things whatsoever you ask in prayer, believing you shall receive.”

Luke 18:1 “Men ought always to pray, and not faint” (give up)

Comment: Those are wonderful promises but they all came with conditions. In other words - there are certain attitudes that must be in place if we are to have our prayer answered on a continuing and not a per-chance basis.

Now remember - God's love came to you as an unconditional love (meaning - He accepted you just as you were). But for prayers (or your requests) to be answered, *It is wise to find favour in His Sight.*

(c) **Attitude For Prayer**

(1) **Humble**

II Chr 7:14 “If my people that are called by My Name (that's us) will (1) **Humble themselves** and (2) **pray** and (3) **seek My face** and (4) **turn from their wicked ways** (ways of the flesh) **then** will I Hear from Heaven and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

Comment: There are a number of conditions given there. But lets focus on the word Humble (meaning: not proud or haughty nor pretentious) The thing that makes us Humble before the Lord is to recognize His greatness; His Sovereignty.

Take a moment and Reflect on the One you are addressing before you begin to speak to Him.

(2) **Thankfulness** - should be dominate in your every thought and action as you approach the Throne of Grace.

- thankful for the sacrifice on Calvary
- for your Salvation
- for drawing you unto Himself
- for your very life
- thankful that you are part of His Promises to come
- the list goes on and on
- your Thankfulness should have no end whatsoever.

(3) **Pray in Faith (Believing)**

(4) **Pray in Boldness** (He is your Heavenly Father and wants to hear from you)

(5) **Pray in Truth** (withholding nothing)

(6) **Pray in Simplicity**

Comment: Should those attitudes be in place, you can expect your prayers to be answered from On High. It is God's Pleasure to give unto us those things that we ask.

What Are The Attitudes That Prevent A Prayer From Being Answered?

(1) The Wicked Prayer: Prayer for something God has forbidden will not be answered.

James 4:3 “You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your lusts.”

- (2) Unforgiving Prayer: If you try to pray with bitterness in your heart, God cannot answer until you are ready to repent.

Mk 11:25-26 “And when you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone.”

- (3) Self-righteous Prayer: Comparing yourself with others and thinking more highly of yourself than you ought.

Luke 18:9-11 - speaks of this.

- (4) The Doubting Prayer: Faithless and wordy prayers won't get answered. Don't pray unless you really believe that God will hear and move to Answer.

- (5) And there are many other reasons for unanswered prayers but begin now to check yourself on these attitudes until you understand what is required of you personally in order to get positive results from your prayers.

How To Pray

- (a) **Mt 6:9-13 called the Lord's Prayer. This is the example we can follow:**

- First address to whom you are speaking - example: Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus.
- Then others - souls - or Kingdom of God.
- Then give Thanks or gratefulness.
- Then your requests or what have you.
- Your prayer does not have to be in any order as such - but all those things should be there.

- (b) Jesus - Our Intercessor

- Jesus always addressed His prayers to the Heavenly Father.
- We always direct our prayers to Jesus.
- Why?-- He is the great intercessor on our behalf.

Heb 7:25 “Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

Intercession -- means to pray for others -- to put yourself in their place and when you pray for them, to feel their problems and difficulties.

- (c) It is important to learn to talk from your heart -- hiding nothing. Speak to Him exactly as you see things and as you desire them to be. Especially in your private prayers (or as the Lord calls it -- in your closet.)

- (d) Don't be afraid to speak in public. You may think that your prayer is going to sound strange, childish, or unacceptable in some way - not to the Lord it won't! He is waiting and anxious for you to talk to Him - to express your faith in Him by speaking openly unto Him. Remember: as you grow in the ways of the Lord, so your prayers grow in depth and become more all-encompassing.
- (e) And as you come to depend on prayer as a means to reach the Holy Father on every level of your life, your prayer life increases until you find yourself always ready to talk to Him - any place - any time. Most of us have a favorite place in which to pray.
- (f) Because your Faith grows as you grow in the Lord, you will pray with whatever level your Faith is at.
- (g) It is important that we really believe God for what we are asking. If we are sure that our prayer is in His Will, by His Word, and by His Spirit, then we should be Bold in Faith.

Mk 11:22-24 Jesus said "Have faith in God - for truly I say to you, whosoever shall say to this mountain, Be taken up, and cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart (condition) but shall believe that those things he says shall come to pass, he shall Have whatever he says. Therefore, I say to you, what things you desire, when you pray, believe that you shall receive them and you shall have them!"

Matt 17:20 Jesus said, "If you have faith nothing shall be impossible to you!"

- (h) We need to ask the help of the Holy Spirit for direction in prayer. Often we do not know how we should pray or even what we should ask of in a given situation, but the Holy Spirit shall lead us into what we should ask of our Heavenly Father.
- (i) And remember: Always pray in the name of Jesus! It is our authority! It gives us the right to speak to the Holy Father. The Name of Jesus has power with God. And the Name of Jesus has power over the enemy forces (or Satanic Forces) that could try to hinder your prayers. But with unwavering faith in the truthfulness and faithfulness of God, with a true effort to keep yourself from sin, with obedience to His Word, a genuine Love in your heart towards God and towards others, you can fully expect your prayers to be not only heard in heaven but answered according to God's Will.

(3) **Praise and Worship**

Praise and Worship are the Highest Forms of Thankfulness unto the Lord. Praise for all that He is • Praise for all that He has done • Praise for all that He Will do • Praise for who and what he is in your life.

(a) **Praise**

Ps 22:3 Tells us that God actually comes down to dwell in the praises of His People.

Comment: It was so from the very beginning and it has not changed.

True Praise brings the presence of the Lord God Almighty.

King David is the best example of how to please God in Praise. He had the ability to abandon himself, body, soul, and spirit in worship and adoration to God.

Comment: Praise then starts in your very soul and extends to your very exterior. It is not just "I praise Him in my mind and my heart," it is, "I praise Him with my Whole Being!"

Praise, and how close to King David we come in entering into God's Praise, is one of the many differences between religious denominations. Opposition - Yes - it has always been there **II Sam 6:14-16**. Here at the NSCC we praise the Lord in all that we know to do:

- in our raising of our hands;
- in our music and songs;
- in our clapping;
- in our dancing;
- but most of all in our Spirits and in our very souls.

We have no fear in our Praise because we believe as it says in:

Ps 40:3 "And He has put a new song in my mouth even praise unto our God; many shall see it and fear and they shall trust in the Lord."

So then -- our joyous praise and open adoration of our Lord actually brings others to the Saviour!

Our Choir is a very good example of the Joy of Praise and the wonderful results of being free to express their Love in this way.

However -- we must learn to worship in Spirit and in Truth.

John 4:24 "God is Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth."

Is there a difference between Worship and Praise?

Not really except perhaps in form of expression.

Worship: Slower tempo songs or deeper form of adoration from the soul and Spirit.

Praise: Up tempo songs or more joyful exuberance.

What if you don't feel like Praising the Lord?

Rev 4:11 It is not intended to please us - but rather it is for God's pleasure.

Comment: But let me tell you, as you begin to Praise the Lord in just a few moments the Holy Spirit in you begins to take over - and He desires more than anything else to Praise and Worship the Holy Father.

Results: Joy, Peace and a oneness with Christ comes to you as you please Him with your praise even your sacrifice of Praise.

How are we to worship the Lord in Spirit and in Truth?**Psalms chapters 48, 49, and 50**

These tell us how to Praise the Lord. Please read them for yourself - and let yourself, through the Spirit, enter fully into Praise and Worship.

It is a privilege and an honour to not only receive Blessing from God but to actually Bless Him -- as in **Psalm 103:1** and know that **Rev 5:9-14** Praise will be one of the activities in heaven.

So you want to Please God?

Then praise with a true heart -- Praise Him with all that is within you -- Body, Soul, and Spirit.

NEW CHRISTIAN CLASSES

CLASS III

WALKING ON THE SPIRITUAL PATH TO ETERNAL LIFE PART II

(1) **Walking or Serving**

Now that you have made the decision to receive Jesus as your Saviour and your Lord -- the next decision is to learn to Walk in His Ways and become His Obedient Son and His Willing Servant.

- A servant is a High Calling in Christ.
- Low in man's sight perhaps but the Highest in God's Sight.

Phil 2:7 Tells us that Jesus, Himself, took on the form of a servant.

And which of us would not want to hear these words when we face Jesus?

Matt 25:21 "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!"

What Are The Signs Of A Willing Servant?

- (a) Attend the services and be faithful to your church -- Why?
 - To learn about the word, to have it properly taught or divided that you may grow in knowledge & learn how to study the Bible. As it says in **II Tim 2:15**.
- (b) Another sign of a servant is Obedience.
 - obedience to the Lord - His Word
 - obedience to the Ministry that you have chosen to sit under
 - uplift the Ministry
 - pray for them
 - appreciate them for their Labour of Love
- (c) Attach yourself to a Specific Body of Christ and Support it.
 - Yes, you should tithe!! 1/10 of all your income is to come into the Church you are attending.
 - In **Genesis, Malachi, Amos, Matthew, Luke** and many other places God speaks of Tithing. Strong Scriptures.

Luke 16:11 says that if you are unfaithful with money, how can you be trusted with true riches - or the good things of God?

II Cor 9:6-7 “Give bountifully and ye shall reap bountifully, for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

Mal 3:8-10 This is perhaps the stronger of all the many scriptures on Tithing. God tells us -- “**If we rob Him of tithes and offerings we will be cursed -- But if we Bless Him with tithes and offerings we will be Blessed abundantly.**”

Comment: I believe it is the duty of each one of us to do whatever we can in order to keep Our place of Worship operating.

- the staff needs to be paid;
- the general upkeep of the building ;
- the financial needs of the various outreaches etc.;
- And of course you receive many benefits as member of this Body.
 1. Sunday School
 2. Girls & Boys Clubs
 3. Bible Courses
 4. Counseling
 5. Marriage Courses
 6. Marriages and receptions
 7. And many other various activities -- all free of any charge
 8. Plus anything that you give to church is tax deductible since we are a non-profit organization.

(d) A Willing Servant will have a desire for the Scripture. True people of God have a hunger and a thirst for the Word of God, The Bible. **I Pe 2:2 & Rom 10:17** speak of this.

(e) They will also have a sincere desire to change from their old ways.

1 John 3:3 “**Every man that has this hope in Him purifies himself, even as He (Jesus) is pure.**”

Comment: It is very important that we discipline ourselves and allow the Fruits of the Spirit to have preeminence. In other words -- there should be a difference in our standards , our attitudes, our habits, our actions and your very purpose in life.

II Cor 5:17 “**If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation, old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new.**”

(f) Trials - Yes, but this very willingness to change anything that the Holy Spirit shows you (or convicts you of) is yet another sign of a willing servant.

The trials that come with the changing of self are one of the hardest things we have to face as a Spirit-filled Christian. Yet it is one of the things (that overcoming self) that gives us the greatest joy.

That very conviction by the Holy Spirit is one of the many ways that you come to know that you are indeed Born Again.

Experiencing daily, that as you give up the fleshy ways - new Spiritual ways take over those places within your personality fulfilling:

Rom 8:14 “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God -- they are the Sons of God!”

Comment: You are Born of the Spirit, it will be your Friend and Counselor as long as you will listen. You will find the Precious Spirit within you, speaking to you and making you uncomfortable when you disobey the Word - or try following your old fleshy ways that are contrary to God.

(g) But what if you should Sin Again?

I John 1:9 Gives us the answer - “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and Just to Forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Comment: When we received Christ as Saviour, it did not make us perfect from then on, it was the Beginning of Our Christian Walk!

We all make mistakes and have sinned against God. But we shall be Perfected, as we show our hate for Sin by asking Him to cleanse our soul once again and again and again, as often as is necessary. You see it is a Progressive Walk!

All of us will be confronted each day with temptation, weakness, and possible failure, but by God’s Grace we can make Overcoming a habit.

We Thank You and Praise You, Lord Jesus, for your ever cleansing Blood!!

(h) Separation and Sanctification

With this new desire to Serve the Lord comes a separation from the world - even some of your old friends - sometimes even family members.

It hurts us, yes - but as you walk in your new ways you will find that you will have less and less in common with them - still Love them, of course, but let them see you as you are now. Maintain your testimony of Faith and just pray and watch the Lord use you - your life changes to draw them unto Himself.

II Co 6:17-18 “Come ye out from among them and be ye Separate saith the Lord, and I will receive you, and be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my son’s and daughters saith the Lord God Almighty!”

Comment: The Blood of Jesus cleansed us from our sin that separated us from God. And as you are now a child of God, separate yourself from the Darkness of the World and from its Sin.

- Trust that He will Replace your friends with new relationships - your Sisters and Brothers in Christ.
- It is wise to begin to seek out others who desire this new life in Christ and to spend time with them.
- It is true -- we become like unto those that we fellowship with the most! It is better still if you will try to be with those who are rooted and grounded in the ways of the Lord.
- But always remember: they are just an example, your aim is to be like Jesus! He is your Standard!
- The Lord will use events, attitudes, characteristics, etc. in your life to PROVE you.

I PE 1:7 “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ!”

Comment: So now you know why He tries you, to make you ready for His Coming, the trials of this life are not to be compared to the things He has prepared for us in Heaven.

But always remember, Any change is up to you - God cannot direct or change a life that does not want to be directed.

You must ask Him to direct your Will totally. He knows what the future holds, you don't. He is all Power and Wisdom. He is loving, kind and compassionate. He longs for your happiness and Holiness.

Without your willingness and your gradual Holiness, He cannot use you for His Purposes.

(i) What is God's Purpose for your Life?

To know and to follow God's Purpose for our lives brings the joy, the fulfillment and the radiance in a Christian's life.

- What is the specific *purpose* for you, individually?
- How do you get to know & understand this new part of you, *The Holy Spirit*.
- And is this *purpose* tied in with the Holy Spirit?
- Yes - the Lord God Almighty wants to use all of you - Body Soul and Spirit!

We all know that we are a three Part Man.

Gen 2:7 “The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground (body) and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life (Spirit of man) and man became a living Soul!”

Comment: So we are three parts housed in One Flesh - each part has a part to play in our natural lives - and each has a purpose in our Spiritual life.

(1) **Body (Flesh)**

This is the physical organism through which you relate to the world. You express yourself through it, & you receive impressions from the outside world through it.

The Body's appearance is inherited through the natural seed of your parents. Their combined genes make up your physical characteristics, its beauty, its strength and of course its weaknesses.

Your Body itself is innocent unless it is defective in some way, inherited through parental genes, or through your own failure to care for it properly. (nutrition, drugs, etc.)

The Body problems are straight forward, aches pains, injuries, diseases. There are many ways to heal the body. Our Lord has seen to that from the very beginning, from healing agents in plants, herbs, etc., on to knowledge of present day doctors. And of course, that Jesus Himself is the greatest physician of all.

The Mighty Healer Jesus Christ

Because natural man can see this part, all mankind spend most of their lives meeting the insatiable needs or wants of the body, spending little attention to either of the other areas; Soul and Spirit. Unfortunately, it is only the body that dies in the end of natural life, both the soul and the spirit move on to eternal life, either to spend it in the earth or in the heavens.

Thank you Lord, that through His mercy we have been brought to this knowledge and have made a decision for Eternal Life with Jesus in the Heavens!

The Body responds through the five senses: 1. touch

2. see
3. smell
4. hear
5. taste

These senses relay messages to the brain, and the body responds according to the store house of information in the Brain. The flesh is ruled by these senses and up until we came to Christ they were operated by the Spirit of Man, or the driver of the body.

The Works of the Flesh being ruled by the Spirit of Man are listed in **Gal 5: 19-21**. Read them! We do not all enter into all of these things (do to teaching, up bringing, etc.) but under certain circumstances we are all capable of them, unfortunately.

Points of Interest:

- 18 works of the flesh
- 9 fruits of the Spirit
- 9 gifts of the Holy Ghost

(2) **Holy Spirit -- Spirit of Man**

In you - the Holy Spirit has come to join Himself to your old Spirit of Man. Now your inherited characteristics & those of the Holy Spirit are combined - this makes you into a New Man. Now the senses no longer have to be controlled by the Human Spirit alone for you have a new driver; The Holy Spirit (The Spirit of Christ)

The thing is to allow the Holy Spirit to guide your life. It is as though Jesus, Himself, has taken up residence in you -- you have a room-mate! And if you will, He will teach you how to live your life with His Characteristics in evidence everyday.

His Characteristics or attitudes are the nine Fruits of the Spirit - **Gal 5**.

We all know by proof of many scriptures and certainly we have evidence of it today -- Jesus can heal the Body. And He Healed your Spirit when He came to live in your body. There is no other way of having your Spirit healed except through the Born Again Experience.

No Doctor or physiologist can heal your Spirit - only the great physician Jesus Christ. Because He is Spirit -- and only Spirit can heal Spirit!

The Holy Spirit is as gentle as a dove, therefore, it will never force it's ways upon you, no, only by your own permission does He take over your ways. It becomes important that you learn how to give over your mind to the Spirit. It does not happen automatically. It takes discipline and dedication!

But you have the right equipment now to become Christ-like. Begin to fulfill His two commandments:

- 1st: **Mark 12:30**: "Love the Lord"
- 2nd: **Mark 12:31**: "Love thy neighbour as thyself"

The Holy Spirit wants to control or drive your ways. He wants to Praise the Lord, He wants to Please the Lord. As you feed your natural body with food, so you must feed the Spirit with the Word of God. Without the food of the Word the Spirit will become weak and yes, under some circumstances, you can loose your salvation. There are many scriptures that prove this -- the strongest is:

Ps 51

King David says to the Lord, "**Take not thy Holy Spirit from me**".

Love and Cherish the Holy Spirit that has come unto you and Bless the Lord Jesus Christ!

(3) **Soul (explain as a car: Body, the frame, Spirit, the driver, Soul, the engine)**

The soul is like the engine of the body driven by the Spirit. It is the store house, everything you ever saw, felt, heard is stored there. Everything you ever experienced is stored there. Some in the conscious mind, some in the subconscious mind.

No, your soul is not the physical Brain, that is merely a body part as is the heart.

The Greek word for soul is psyche, your soul is your psychological nature, your emotions, intellect and will, your feelings, thoughts, desires and drives.

This is indeed the control area of your life, and it can be ruled by the Spirit of Man or by the Holy Spirit. This is a choice you make daily! The soul is the part that educates (or programs) so that you can look after your natural needs properly. This is also then the part that trains in the Godly things so that you can have a full and happy life as God intended that man should do.

Can this Part of you (your soul) get sick or have Problems?

Yes!

- Anger and fear, etc. in the emotions
- confusion in the intellect
- frustration in the will
- childhood abuses, poor parenting, any number of unresolved issues can cause the soul to be sick.
- Living out traits or learned attitudes, that result in negative responses can cause us to have one failure after another.

Yes, indeed all of us had a sin-sick soul when we came to Christ -- But Glory be to God -- He can Heal the Soul!!

Day by day, if we allow, He works on our old ways, renewing our minds -- as he calls it. **Eph 4:22-24**

How? First He touches us in our Spirit when we open up to Him and receive Him as Saviour. He comes to live in us. And then begins to deal with our Souls, including the subconscious part.

Right at the moment of Salvation His precious Blood was applied to our soul. The healing started then. He began to repair your mind, re-program your engine.

Was the Work completed at that time?

Well certainly a mighty job was done! For some it was enough, and from that time on with the help and the strength of the indwelling Spirit are able to overcome negative traits, destructive habits, unforgiving and un-loving ways.

Others need the help of a trained Christian Counselor to work with them in what has become known as Inner Healing or Soul Healing.

This is a process in which Jesus through a form of prayer and special insight opens up the past and gives understanding of and healing of certain events, thus enabling His Children to be free of bondage bringing to pass:

II Cor 5:17 “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold, all things become new.”

Comment: We no longer respond out of our old ways, but can now respond out of a chosen Christ-like attitude!

Yes, Jesus in his mercy releases us and puts new thoughts in our minds as He applies His Blood to our Souls!

You have opened the Door to healing for your whole Body, Soul, and Spirit. Jesus is that Door!

John 10:9 Jesus said, “I am the door by me if any man enters in, he shall be saved.”

Now that you have a better Biblical understanding of your whole person you see that Jesus has a need for you to give your whole self unto Him -- that He may fulfill a calling or a Spiritual purpose in your life.

But hold on now -- didn't Jesus say He would give us Power to do His work here on earth. Yes, that power and boldness that fire in the Spirit comes from the Holy Ghost -- the third Baptism.

Holy Ghost

- (a) The difference between the Holy Spirit (which brought you into the family of God) and the in-filling of the Holy Ghost will be ministered to you at a later date.

I John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost and these three are one.

Comment: God of the Bible is a single unified friendship of three awesomely Holy Persons in one. These wonderful great beings are not each other but they are one in nature, essence and agreements. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost -- this is called the Godhead.

Acts 17:29 These three are all Spirit with one great purpose: to bring man back to God.

- (b) The Holy Ghost has several names each of these helps us to understand His work better here on earth:
- Comforter
 - Revelator (gives insight)
 - Spirit of Truth
 - Spirit of Promise
 - Some call Him -- Holy Spirit without knowing the difference
- (c) This Work is to reprove the world of sin, righteousness and judgement.
- You will have greater power and boldness in the Spirit after receiving the Holy Ghost. Evidence: the increased power of the disciples after the Day of Pentecost.
- (d) Gifts of the Holy Ghost
- The gifts of the Spirit are given to enable you to have the Spiritual ability to fulfill a calling of God. To better understand the Gifts and their operations, read **I Cor chapters 12, 13, and 14.**
- (e) My aim, however, is not to have you overly concerned about the Holy Ghost just now, (*Trust that the Lord will give All unto you in His time*) but to encourage you to work at living in the Fruits of the Spirit now and everyday.

But what can you do For Him even To-day?

Witness:

To bare Witness to all is the True meaning of our calling, no matter how the calling is to be administered. It will be for the purpose of reconciling souls unto Christ.

II Cor 5:19 “That God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, and has committed unto us, the Word of Reconciliation!”

Comment: It has become our responsibility to reconcile this generation unto God.

- Our relationship with our Heavenly Father depends on it.
- To have our prayers answered depends on it
- It is one of the ways we show our Thankfulness to the Holy Father for the supreme sacrifice -- *His Only Begotten Son on Calvary.*
- And what better way to show our love to our neighbours, friends, family than to witness unto them -- *Eternal life.*

Acts 1:8 “And ye shall be Witnesses unto me.”

These are the Last Words Jesus spoke before He was taken up into Heaven.

These Words are extremely important!

All Servants of God, in fact All who truly Love this Lord will Witness.

What are the Ways to Best Witness?

The best way to witness to family, friends, just about anyone, any place.

- is to speak of your new found hope;
- to let them see your new ability & desire to resist sin, bad and destructive habits, etc.;
- your ability to Love and Forgive;
- to let them see the positive change in your life style; and
- invite all to church to share what you have found.

Individual Ministry

As time goes on you will come to know a special or particular way in which God will use you. He has a purpose for each one of us - it could be in music, in teaching Sunday School or Bible classes, in general works, in preaching. He knows what each of us is best suited to do.

We are all individuals to Him - no two exactly alike - Like a big family where each member is unique and a parent must seek the way to bring the best out of each child. But still keep in mind what is needful for the benefit of the whole family.

You will be given more and more to do in the work of Christ as you Prove yourself to Him.

At least that's the way it was for me.

Some years ago as I began to search for a deeper purpose and a fuller commitment in the work of Jesus. Several times He gave me the same answer to my prayer - He said you shall have the Word of knowledge, you shall have the gift of wisdom, you shall teach some of the time but you shall Love my little ones all of the time.

This was my condition! At that time I didn't know really what it all meant. Later, by a wonderful prophet of God, confirmation to that prayer was given to me.

He spoke about a "Covering and a Headship" that God had given me. As this church came into being I began to understand what the Lord had given me - and that it was to be used mainly for counseling purposes.

- Word of Knowledge -- that I might see into the background and future.
- Gift of Wisdom -- that I might know how to give advice by the Spirit.
- But without first loving those that I work with, no gift would work - and my counseling would be in vain.

Believe Me -- He has a purpose for each one of us!

Begin today to meet His conditions that you might quickly begin to fulfill your life in Him.

But meanwhile, and always you can Please Him - with your gratefulness - your Praise for all that He is - Look out your window and see all that He has made - And Praise Him.

Think about the Love that surrounds you and Praise Him.

Think about the Love that now lives in you -- and Praise Him.

Think about your Hope of Eternal Life and Praise Him.

You already have a great purpose! You can Please your Lord -- make His Heart Glad -- you can open your heart, your mouth -- and Praise the Lord.

Next Week

The Earth and how it all began and the glories in Heaven and how we fit into this great and mighty Plan of God.

NEW CHRISTIAN CLASSES

CLASS IV

THE HEAVENS

AND THE

EARTH

(1) To walk in God's ways and become His Obedient Son and His Willing Servant, we must gain more & more knowledge of God, *His Plan* in the beginning, *His plan* for the end of this creation, and *our place* in his marvelous *plan for mankind*.

(a) **Gen 1:1** "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

Comment: No man made God! He has always been! There is no given explanation of this. The Word just states it. Our universe did not start with nothing, no big bang, it started with God.

Colossians 1:17: **And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.** (meaning, hold together).

Comment: Before time began, God already was. No one, nothing else in, or beyond our universe is like God. He is unmade, un-created, He has always been! He has no end, He has no beginning. He is forever! God lives in endless time called eternity.

And He invites us to spend it (eternity) with Him! The heart of our Heavenly Father, is to *give* to us. He made us so that we could share in His happiness!

That is one of the most wonderful revelations about God in the whole Bible.

He really is Loving! He really does care about you and me!

John 3:16 and many other scriptures assure us of His Love.

(b) This Heaven and this Earth that we see are our part of the great universe.

How many heavens are there?

Three

First Heaven

- The heaven you see with your natural eyes.

Second Heaven

- No place directly does the word *second heaven* appear, however, there is mention of a first heaven and a third heaven.
- Most theologians believe that this second heaven then, is a waiting place for the departed in Christ.
- There is direct reference made of the saved Saints waiting under the alter (Throne of God) for the coming of Christ.

Personally, I am very willing to accept that concept, in fact, it comforts me.

Third Heaven - II Cor. 12:2-4

- Eternal Throne of God

(c) No one knows when that beginning was, but for sure it was many, many thousands of years ago.

God did create other life during certain periods on this planet, thus accounting for some of the pre-historic evidence found the world over. He has allowed us a small glimpse into former creations. Time periods before ours, but all those periods have nothing whatsoever to do with this Bible time.

Nevertheless, just for your understanding:

(d) **What did the Heaven & the Earth of Gen 1:1 look like?**

Ecc1 3:11 It was beautiful.

Isa. 45:18 It was inhabited (pre-historic creation) not anything made in the image or likeness of God. Adam was the first man made in the image of God. Other animals may well have walked upright and have had similar basic bone structure, but they were not human beings as we know them in this Bible time.

Isa. 45:18 Also says it was at that time with form and not a waste.

(e) Then After Gen 1:1 The world became without form and a waste, and in complete darkness - **Gen 1:2**

(f) Why? Lucifer was cast out of heaven. **Luke 10:18, Rev 12:7-9, Ezekiel 28:16-17, Isa 14:12-13** - All speak of this event.

Comment: Lucifer (or Satan as he has become known since he was expelled from heaven) was one of the three archangels in heaven created by God for certain purposes. Each was anointed and had access to the very throne of God. And, each had under his command 1/3 of the heavenly angels.

- Lucifer was said to be the most beautiful of the 3 archangels.
- He was in charge of what I call the entertainment in heaven, music, pleasure, etc.

I believe he still works in much the same way in his new domain, earth. Much of what the world calls entertainment is indeed, influenced by Satan.

Michael and his angels still do their same job. They are the warriors.

Gabriel and his angels still do their same job. They are God's messengers.

- (g) Now Satan sinned against God by believing that he was as good and as powerful as God Himself. Pride in its worst form overtakes Satan: **Ezekiel 28:15-18, Isa 14:13-15**

Comment: Now Satan and his angels lost that battle, Michael and his warriors won!. God's judgement was to send Satan and his angels (1/3 of the heavenly angels) to earth to live here until the final judgement; when Satan and the fallen angels will be cast into Hell, or the Lake of fire.

Rev 20:10, II Peter 2:4 & Jude 6 speak of that time yet to come.

Can our souls be sent there with Satan?

Yes - Unfortunately, Hell was created for Satan, but he has purposed in his heart to take away as many from each generation as possible with him into the Lake of fire.

Yes, a form of battle still goes on between God and Satan, only now it is over the souls of God's creation, man kind. You are indeed in a Spiritual warfare. But now you have the right weapons, and if you walk in the ways of God, your outcome is sure Victory is assured. Your soul will go into the heavens and not into the deepest hell.

Anyway, now back to Creation.

- (h) At the point of time the earth entered into the ice-age, the earth lay waste for thousands & thousands of years before God (God Head) began to create the earth as we know it.

Gen 1:26 - And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Note: Let us - The US refers to the Father, Son & Holy Ghost.

Comment: Can you just imagine the God Head sitting around discussing what this world should be like? What a joyous thought that is to me! And so, they made everything perfect until man began to destroy the world.

This creation took 7,000 years including God's day of rest. **II Peter 3:8** **Be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.**

Ps 90:4 And others state the same thing.

The events of each day of creation are given in **Gen chapters 1 and 2**. Read them carefully for yourself.

(h) Man is the highest form of creation of God on earth.

- The only creation ever made in the image and likeness of God and with a soul.
- All beasts, birds etc. have a spirit through which God speaks to them. (Give example - migration, etc.)

(i) **Gen 2:21-23** Woman was created by God out of one of Adam's ribs. Her work and position was to be exactly as Adam's. In fact, God called them both Adam, but Adam called her Eve. **Gen 3:20** - meaning she was the mother of all living.

Eve lost her equal position in God's sight when she disobeyed and ate of the Tree of Knowledge. From then on, God viewed them differently and each were given separate jobs to do on **earth Gen chapter 3**.

This state will remain until we are saved and in heaven when again we are equal.

Gal 3:28 - Neither male nor female in our resurrected life.

(k) Adam and Eve had many children (only 3 sons are mentioned by name). Some of the offspring walked with God, called the Sons of God. Some did not, called the Sons of Man. This account starts in **Gen chapter 4**.

This began the journey of man kind on the face of the earth.

Right from the beginning humans had choices as to the direction we would take - to serve the Lord God Almighty that leads to eternal life or, to serve the ways of Satan and the flesh which leads to eternal death.

God gave every man his own will, thus leaving each one open to make his own choice.

Thank God you have made the right decision!

Eternal Life

(a) First step towards Eternal Life is to be born again of the Spirit of Christ.

Then to walk in all His ways until the body dies or until the Lord returns.

(b) Death of the Body

The body of course will be buried but for those in Christ, the Holy Spirit will deliver the saved soul into what we call heaven, (2nd heaven, perhaps called Paradise) to wait in peace until the fullness of Christ is finished. The Bible sometimes refers to this death as *Sleep* for those who are in Christ.

Comment: I once heard an older blind Pastor speak about his near death experience. He spoke of being out of his body, going through a tunnel effect, and then into a place of grasses, flowers, trees, streams, etc. And he felt that all he saw was praising the Lord, everything, individual leaves, petals, and so on. I found that comment very interesting, it showed me that on every level of life, the closer you are to the Lord, the more evident your Praise becomes. Every portion of you enters into Praise!

There is Praise by some on this earth, Praise by all in Paradise, and most certainly all, including angels Praise and Worship the Glorious Living God in the 3rd Heaven, the very throne room.

Anyway, for all mankind there is death of the body. The body returns to the ground from whence it came. Remember Adam and how man began.

(c) But there is a triumphant return of Jesus for His Bride - HIS CHURCH

- This is called the Rapture or the 1st resurrection.
- It takes place at the second coming of Jesus. Not as a babe this time (as was His first coming) but *as Jesus The Christ*, gathering His Bride from all over the earth.
- When Jesus appears in the air and then all those who sleep in Christ (in Paradise) as well as the believers who have remained alive, and are ready to meet Him, are caught up together and taken into the 3rd Heaven to be with Jesus forever and forever.

Scriptures on this are many:

John 12:26

I Cor 15:51-58

John 14:3

I Thess 4:13-18

Matt 24:27-28

II Thess 2:1

Matt 24:30-31

Rev 20:4-6

(d) Who is in the Bride?

The Rapture - The 1st resurrection:

I Thess 4:14-16 - The dead in Christ

Rev 20:6 - Those who are Blessed & Holy

Rev 2:7 - Those who are overcomers

Matt 24:40-44 - Those who are ready for Him

John 11:25-26 - Those who live for & believe in Jesus as Saviour, & as their Lord, & as Christ

Comment: In other words all those who live for Jesus and who love Him first and those who have daily given up as many of the natural things, to walk for Jesus and be in His service.

e) The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

Bridegroom - Jesus

Bride - Those who loved and lived for Jesus in this life

The Guests - Many who perhaps only know Jesus but do not meet the other requirements

Comment: But we must not judge who will be where in the heavens at the Glorious Wedding Supper.

But one thing I do know: We at the North Shore Christian Centre work towards preparing ourselves to be Holy and Righteous, without spot or wrinkle, so strong is our desire to be in the Bride of Christ.

(f) What Are the Characteristics of the Resurrected Body?

I Cor 15:35-38 - It is NOT the same body as you have now, but it will bear some relation to the old body.

I Cor 15:38 - The new body will please God.

I Cor 15:38 - Each individual will have their own body.

I Cor 15:50 - It is NOT flesh and blood.

Luke 24:39 - It is NOT spirit alone.

Luke 24:36-43 - The resurrected body of Jesus was flesh and bones, NOT flesh & blood.

Comment: Remember, in His glorified body He both spoke to and ate with His disciples.

I Cor 15:42 - The glorified body is incorruptible, (not subject to decay)

II Tim 1:10/Rom 2:7 It is immortal (deathless)

I Cor 13:12 - A believer is known in heaven as he is presently known, by this we will know one another.

Comment: Remember, the Soul is what is delivered into heaven.

Mat 22:23-32 - There is neither male;

Luke 20:35-36 - nor female, neither do we marry etc.

John 20:19-26 - We are not confined;

Acts 1:9 - nor hindered by time;

Mark 16:19 - space, material substance;

Luke 24:51 - or any other natural limitations.

(g) Advantages of Being in the 1st Resurrection

- Partakers of all the glories of a heavenly Wedding
- To Live in Heavenly peace and joy forever
- To miss part or all of the horror on earth spoken of in Revelations
- To rule and reign with Christ for the thousand years before the 2nd resurrection (when all on earth both dead and alive shall come before the Great and Terrible Throne of Everlasting Judgement).

These things are spoken of in:

Rev 20:4-6

Matt 25:19-23

Rev 1:5-7

Dan 7:18-22

(h) Second or Last Resurrection

Who is in the last Resurrection?

Rev 20:4-6

- takes place 1,000 earth years (1 day in heavenly time) after the 1st resurrection.
- all the rest of the dead from all past generations.
- all the unbelievers yet on the earth.
- all believers that did not make it to the Wedding Supper.
- in fact, all will be judged at that time.
- except for the Bride of Christ who judged themselves while yet in the human bodies.

I Cor 11:31 confirms this, as do many other scriptures.

Comment: Therefore it is very important that you continually allow the Holy Spirit to convict you so that you may know what is acceptable behaviour in the sight of The Lord.

What is This Judgement all About?

Rev 20:11-15 What we did with Jesus Christ in this life. • Your name must be written in the Book of Life (Born Again). • Your works in the name and on behalf of Jesus are written in yet another book.

Comment: From those books kept and held in heaven, the Lord will decide your ultimate Eternal Destiny:

- will you have a permanent dwelling place in heaven?
- what & where will you serve in the heavenly plan?
- OR if you will be cast into Hell with Satan & his angels, the false prophets and all unbelievers.

Rev 20:11-15 *Read these scriptures.* They are strong indeed, but they are **very** clear. We cannot work around them. ***They are written.***

Rewards in Heaven:

1. Given a glorious rest - **Isa 11:10, Rev 14:13**. Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord, yea, rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.
2. Given a glorified body, and the privilege of beholding His Glory. **We shall be like Him and see him. Ps 17:15** & others.
3. Given an abundant entrance. **II Peter 1:10-11**
4. Given the Kingdom. **Matt 25:34, Luke 12:32**
5. Given unnamed rewards, varying according to works and service here on earth. **Matt ch. 6** speaks of some of these rewards, but they are also spoken of in several other places in the New Testament.
6. Given power to judge. **Ps 149:7-9, I Cor 6:2-3**
7. Given joy. **Matt 25:21-23, I Peter 4:13**
8. Given treasure in heaven. **Matt 6:20, Luke 12:33**
9. Given an inheritance. **Col 3:24, Eph 1:14**
10. Given a crown. **Rev 3:11**
 - Given a crown of glory. **I Peter 5:4**
 - Given a crown of life. **James 1:12**
 - Given a crown of righteousness. **II Tim 4:8**
11. Given to eat of the tree of life. **Rev 2:7**
12. Given power over the nations, to reign with Christ. **Rev 2:26-28, Rev 5:10**
13. Given rulership over cities. **Luke 19:19**
14. Given to sit with Christ on His Throne. **Rev 3:21**
15. Given to be Kings & Priests. **Rev 1:6, Rev 5:10**
16. Given washed robes; to serve in the temple; to hunger no more; thirst no more; no heat of the sun to hurt any more, all tears will be wiped from our eyes. **Rev 7:13-17, Rev 21:4**

Comment: So we learn of the wonderful advantages for ALL who go into the Heavenly Kingdom. But remember, we all do not receive the same rewards.

What are some of the differences in positions in the Future Kingdom?

- Difference relative to subordination. **Luke 13:30** Jews & Gentiles.
- Difference relative to fruit produced. **Matt 13:1-23** Parable of the Sower and the Seed.
- Difference in 'rulership' versus 'Service'. **Rev 20:4-6, Rev 7:15**
- Difference in the amount of jurisdiction. **Matt 25:21-23** "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, now I will make you ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!"

Rev Chapter 21:1-27

- the Lord is now preparing the Heavenly Jerusalem.
- Heavenly Jerusalem is 12 miles square in all directions.
- The streets are pure gold.
- The walls and the gates around the city are of precious and semi-precious stones.
- And in this city He is preparing mansions for us to dwell in.
- There are such wondrous things in this Heavenly Jerusalem that they are far beyond our earthly imaginations.

Comment: So if we want to be there, then we must determine to prepare ourselves Now in this present life, at this time. We have come now to the realization that this could be and probably is the generation that will see the return of Jesus for His Bride.

Why do we think this?

First, I want you to understand that this thinking (The belief that Jesus will return soon) is common to most of the Holy Ghost Churches all over the world.

The Holy Ghost Churches follow the Bible prophecies very closely. Since they have the understanding of the depth of scripture through the Holy Ghost, they are most likely to be able to determine this.

However, Mat 25:13 and Mat 24:36 tells us that no man knoweth the day nor the hour, only God the Father. So be ready! We know it is near the end of this dispensation (time period).

Earlier I said that this is the dispensation of the Holy Ghost, which Biblically began in the Book of Acts, after Jesus returned to Heaven and sent the Holy Ghost to dwell in vessels (bodies), who believe in and obey Him.

Since then there has been periods of great out-pouring and times when it seemed the earth was devoid of spiritual blessing.

- example - the Dark Ages;
- in 1800 came a great outpouring called the Welsh revival;
- remember, that every great outpouring of the Holy Ghost brings revival in the Body of Christ (His Church);
- then again in 1905 in California;
- again in 1948 in North Battleford, Sask.;
- these dates are directly tied to events of the Jewish Nation;
- 1948, was when Israel was again declared a Nation.

However, these dates and their tie to Israel is a study for another time.

The North Battleford outpouring is of intimate interest to us (N.S.C.C.)

- at that time, 1948, believers from all denominations gathered in North Battleford, Sask., Prayed and fasted for many, many days, until the Lord answered. Then came a great outpouring of the Holy Ghost with prophecies and direction, even the revelation of the further doctrines (truths) of God were revealed, a great revival was born.
We are part of the lasting after-math of that revival!
- Pastor Lazel of Glad Tidings, was one of the leaders of that revival & he carried it on until his death 15 or so years ago.
- Pastor Ross was raised under that ministry. And he has carried on with the fire and the power and the truth poured out at that revival.
- Now new ministries are being raised up at the North Shore Christian under Pastor Ross' ministry--and so the revival goes on; we trust until the Lord Jesus comes for His Bride.

Pastor Ross has been an ordained Minister for almost 40 years now. Under the Glad Tidings Missionary Society, he started 2 Churches which are to this day going on strong and powerful in the Holy Ghost:

1. Glad Tidings, Chilliwack
2. Glad Tidings, Gibsons

Pastor Ross and I started this work in the late 70's. It began from a house meeting in our home. It was not our intention to start another church work, but as we traveled around looking for direction, prophecies began to be given over us. Those prophecies came from Pastors & Prophets in various churches around North America. They all said much the same thing:

"I am going to make you a Father and a Mother over a group of young people. I will bring them in as you raise them up to be like unto me. Prepare them in all my ways, teach them to follow my lead and they will become the front line warriors in my Last Day Church."

Well, look around you, Here you are! Young people continuing to come to the N.S.C.C., bringing to pass exactly what was prophesied. **Praise God!**

We now have our own Society, registered in Victoria and Ottawa, able to start other churches, schools, old age homes, etc. And of course, able to and have ordained our own young people into the ministry that have the Call of God on their lives. We have come a long way since the House Meeting first began, but we still have much, much left to do before we finish our course.

We have a spiritual vision in this Church far beyond anything that the natural world could possibly offer. We have a church on Vancouver Island and supporting mission works in Germany, India and Africa.

And glory be to God, you are part of that glorious vision, as we all work together to become part of God's mighty last day Army.

What a challenge and a purpose! What a Hope - Hope not just for this life, but hope for the soon coming **Eternal Life**.

Amen.

- *Pass out Doctrines of the North Shore Christian Centre.
(Statement of Faith sheet)*

Statement of Faith

- We believe in the complete verbal inspiration of the accepted canon of the Scriptures as originally given (II Tim. 3:16).
- We believe in the eternal Godhead who has revealed Himself as ONE God existing in THREE persons, Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Matt 28:19; II Cor 13:14).
- We believe in the creation, test and fall of man as recorded in Genesis, his total spiritual depravity in inability to attain to Divine righteousness (Rom 5:12, 18).
- We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of men, conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, very God and very man (Luke 1:26-35; John 1:18; Isaiah 7:14, 9:6).
- We believe Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again the third day, and personally appeared to his disciples (I Cor 15:1-4; Rom 4:25).
- We believe in the bodily ascension of Jesus to heaven, His exaltation, and personal, literal and bodily coming again the second time for the Church (John 14:2-3; I Thes 4:13-18).
- We believe in the salvation of sinners by grace, through repentance and faith in the perfect and sufficient work of the cross of Calvary by which we obtain remission of sins, through the Blood (Eph 2:8-9; Heb 9:12, 22; Rom 5:11).
- We believe in the necessity of water baptism by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ in order to fulfill the command of Christ (Matt 28:19; Acts 2:34-36, 19:1-6).
- We believe in the baptism of the Holy Ghost as an experience subsequent to salvation, with the scriptural evidence: namely, speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Acts 2:1-4, 8:14-17, 10:44-46; Gal 3:14-15)
- We believe in the five ministry gifts of Christ the Church as mentioned in Ephesians 4:11-13 and the operations of the gifts of the spirit as listed I Corinthians 12-14, as manifested in the Early Church.
- We believe in the Spirit-filled life, a life of separation from the world and perfecting of holiness in the fear of God as an expression of Christian faith (Eph 5:18; II Cor 6:14, 7:1).
- We believe in the healing of the body by Divine power, or Divine healing in it's varied aspects as practiced in the Early Church (Acts 4:30; I Cor 12:9).
- We believe in the Table of the Lord, commonly called Communion or the Lord's Supper for believers (I Cor 11:23-32).
- We believe in the laying on of hands as recorded in I Tim 4:14 and II Tim 1:6 and restoration of all truth outlined in Heb 6:1-2 and Acts 3:21.