



## Encountering God Through the Bible Pt. 6

### Overview of the Bible IV

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#### 44. Acts: Luke/History

##### Overview:

- Records the events for 30 years after Jesus ascended into Heaven.
- Acts shows us the Church in action as they followed the Holy Spirit and did signs, wonders, and miracles in the Name of Jesus.
- It is the beginning of the Church history.
- Main characters of Acts are Peter and Paul.
- Tells how God used Peter to touch the Jewish world and Paul to touch the Gentile nations.

##### Jesus in Acts:

- Jesus is the central theme of Acts.
- Peter and John heal a man in the Name of Jesus.

##### Takeaway:

- The Day of Pentecost ushered believers into a new dimension of walking in the supernatural power of God.
- All through the book of Acts, people were baptized in the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues—and that is what Jesus wants for all believers.
- God wants you to walk in His Holy Spirit power.

#### 45. Romans: Paul/Epistle (Paul wrote 13 New Testament books)

##### Overview:

- The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the churches in Rome.
- Main theme is righteousness.
- Contains the clearest presentation of doctrine in all Scripture in the first 11 chapters, followed by 5 chapters of practical instruction on how to live a holy lifestyle.

##### Jesus in Romans:

- Jesus is seen as Paul explains His life, death, and resurrection.

##### Takeaway:

- Our Gospel is a Gospel of power!
- It brings salvation to every man and reveals righteousness that can only be found in knowing Jesus.
- When God looks at us, He sees us through the Blood of Jesus, cleansed, and made new to live a holy and pure life before Him.

#### 46. I Corinthians: Paul/Epistle

##### Overview:

- Paul writes this letter of correction to a fractured church in the city of Corinth.



- Answers questions about how Christians should behave.
- Paul rebuked the people for division, immorality, lawsuits with one another, and abuse of the Lord's Supper.
- Gives practical wisdom for everyday living, spiritual gifts, the definition of love, and orderly worship.
- Includes a profound teaching on the Resurrection.

### Jesus in I Corinthians:

- Jesus is seen as the practical wisdom to solve all of life's difficulties. *I Corinthians 10:13*

### Takeaway:

- God is faithful and He promised to always provide a way of escape for you! *I Corinthians 10:13*

## 47. II Corinthians: Paul/Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul writes this letter of reconciliation and encouragement to the church at Corinth and clears up some concerns they have.
- Speaks in great length about giving to those in need.
- Paul defends his person ministry and responds to attacks on his apostleship.
- Contains more details about Paul's life than in any other book.

### Jesus in II Corinthians:

- Jesus is seen in as encouraging the young church no matter what their trials and that He desires them to triumph over their trials.

### Takeaway:

- When God doesn't answer our prayers immediately, we can know that His grace is more than sufficient to see us through that trial. *II Corinthians 12:9*
- God will sustain us, encourage us, strengthen us, grow us, and even prepare us for the next season in our life.

## 48. Galatians: Paul/Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul writes this letter to the churches in Galatia when he hears that they are being led astray by false teachers to think that salvation comes from the Law of Moses.
- Paul warns believers:
  1. Not to fall from grace and return to legalism.
  2. Justification is by faith alone, not by the law.
  3. Moses' Law is completely abolished.
  4. Backsliders must return to grace and be restored.

### Jesus in Galatians:

- Jesus is represented as our Liberator, delivering the believer from sin, law, and self.

### Takeaway:



- Jesus paid a great price for you to be free in spirit, soul, mind, and body. *Galatians 3:1*
- Don't allow Satan or any person to steal your God-given freedom from you.
- You have to **STAND STRONG** in your freedom! Don't let anything take it from you!

## 49. Ephesians: Paul/Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul writes to the church at Ephesus about how to walk in grace, peace, love, and unity.
- The term *in Christ*, or its equivalent, is used by Paul over 30 times in this book.
- Ephesians teaches us:
  - We are God's workmanship
  - God placed 5 Ministry Gifts in the Body of Christ
  - How to be imitators of God and live as children of Light
  - How husbands and wives should treat each other
  - About the armor of God

### Jesus in Ephesians:

- Jesus is the Center in whom all things unite and the bond who unites all things. *Ephesians 4:15*

### Takeaway:

- Our struggle is against spiritual forces of darkness, and not against people. *Ephesians 6:10-13*
- We must remember who the **REAL ENEMY** is and fight the good fight of faith.
- Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy our lives, but we can take our stand against him and use the mighty weapons that God has given us.

## 50. Philippians: Paul/Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul writes to the church of Philippi and explains how we can have true joy in difficult circumstances.
- Five times this letter mentions the word *joy* and 11 times it mentions the word *rejoice*.
- The keys to the joyous Christian life:
  - Having the mind of Christ.
  - A spirit of humility.
  - An attitude of thanksgiving
  - An active prayer life.

### Jesus in Philippians:

- Jesus is our life. *Philippians 1:12*

### Takeaway:

- God has great plans for you and your future.
- We must **LET GO** of what is behind in order to take ahold of what is ahead.
- God wants you to **MOVE FORWARD** into victory and purpose and destiny.



## 51. Colossians: Paul/ Prison Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul writes the church at Colossae even though he had never visited these believers.
- This church was an outgrowth of Paul's ministry in Ephesus and was made up of mostly Gentile believers.
- Strongly emphasizes Jesus as the Head over the Church and the Sovereign God.
- Paul had to correct the believers concerning:
  - Mixing their beliefs with pagan and Jewish legalism.
  - Following the philosophies of men which denied the supremacy of Christ
  - Immorality among believers
  - Angel worship

### Jesus in Colossians:

- Jesus is as the image of God. *Colossians 1:15*
- Jesus is seen as the head of the Church. *Colossians 1:18*
- Jesus is seen as our hope of glory. *Colossians 1:27*
- Jesus is seen as the Head of all principalities and powers. *Colossians 2:10*
- Jesus is seen seated on the right hand of God. *Colossians 3:1*
- Jesus is seen as all in all. *Colossians 3:11*

### Takeaway:

- One of the most prominent ways God leads us is through the Holy Spirit in us.
- When you are making decisions or needing God's direction in your life, you must check your spirit.
- When you have peace in your heart, you are in the safe zone. You know that God is saying yes this is the direction I want you to go.

## 52. I Thessalonians: Paul/Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul wrote to the Church at Thessaloniki, Greece to praise the believers for standing strong during much persecution, to encourage them to live holy lives, and to instruct them concerning the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- The Second Coming: *I Thessalonians 4:15*
  - The Lord will come down from Heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God.
  - The dead in Christ will rise first.
  - Those believers who are alive will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. (Rapture)
  - We will live with the Lord forever.
  - No one knows the time or date, only the Father. Jesus will come unexpectedly like a thief in the night to unbelievers. *Matthew 24:36-42*
  - We should be alert and self-controlled in the way we live because this day should not surprise believers like a thief. We live with anticipation, ready for His coming.
  - God has not destined us to suffer wrath but to receive His salvation, therefore be encouraged and comfort one another with these words.



- **With the Second Coming in mind, Paul admonished the believers to:**
  - **Walk in Holiness:** pleasing God and abstaining from sexual immorality *I Thessalonians 4:1-5*
  - **Walk in Love:** increasing in love toward one another. *I Thessalonians 4:9-10*
  - **Walk in Diligence:** working diligently and walking properly with unbelievers. *I Thessalonians 4:11-12*
  - **Walk in Hope:** concerning those who had already died. *I Thessalonians 4:13-14*
  - **Walk in Obedience:** to God and with respect toward authority. *I Thessalonians 4:15-18*
  - **Walk in Light:** we are children of Light. *I Thessalonians 5:4-6*

## Jesus in I Thessalonians:

- **Jesus is our returning Lord and our salvation now and in the Second Coming.** *I Thessalonians 4:13-5:11*

## Takeaway:

- **I Thessalonians 5:16-22 gives us 5 things we must focus on.**
  - **Be joyful always.**
  - **Never stop praying.**
  - **Be thankful in all circumstances for this is God's will for you who.**
  - **Hold on to what is good.**
  - **Stay away from every kind of evil.**

## **53. II Thessalonians: Paul/ Epistle**

### Overview:

- **Paul wrote this second letter to the Thessalonians to further clarify the events of the Second Coming of Jesus.**
- **The people were concerned because false teachers had written a letter using Paul's name saying that the day of the Lord had already come.**
- **Paul instructs the Thessalonians to be steadfast in their faith and stand firm in the teachings of Christ.**
- **Paul explained that the time of tribulation had not come because *the man of lawlessness*, who is the Antichrist, had not yet appeared.**
- **Paul describes everlasting destruction as being *shut out from the presence of the Lord and the majesty of His power*.**

### Description of the Antichrist:

- **He will oppose God and exalt himself over God.**
- **He will claim to be God, but he is doomed to destruction.**
- **The secret power of lawlessness is already at work in the earth, but he is being held back until the one holding him (many believe this is talking about the Church) back is taken away.**
- **Jesus will overthrow him with the breath of His mouth and destroy him with the splendor of His presence.**
- **He is the work of Satan and will display counterfeit signs, wonders, miracles, and every sort of evil to deceive those who have refused to love the truth and be saved, and have delighted in wickedness.**



## Jesus in II Thessalonians:

- **Jesus is our coming Savior, who will be revealed from Heaven in blazing fire with His powerful angels.**
- **Jesus will bring salvation to those who know Him and judgment to those who reject them. *II Thessalonians 1:7, 2:13, 1:8-9***

## Takeaway:

- **We don't have to fear Satan or his schemes against us because Jesus already defeated him for us. Jesus said, "I give you power over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you." *Luke 10:19***
- **We don't have to fear the Antichrist because we belong to Jesus.**
- **Knowing that Jesus is returning—we should live with anticipation, live worthy of His calling, and fulfill our good purpose. *II Thessalonians 1:11-12***

## **54. I Timothy: Paul/Pastoral Epistle**

### Overview:

- **The name Timothy means *honoring God*.**
- **Paul encouraged Timothy to never give up, to fight the good fight of faith, and hold on to his faith.**
- **Paul gives Timothy detailed instructions on:**
  - **Conducting worship services**
  - **Pastoral oversight**
  - **Qualifications required for pastors, elders, and deacons**
  - **How to lead by godly example.**

## Jesus in II Thessalonians:

- **Jesus is seen as our Shepherd and Pastor.**
- **He is God. *I Timothy 3:16***

## Qualifications of an Overseer or Pastor:

- **Above reproach**
- **Husband of one wife**
- **Temperate (moderation or self-restraint)**
- **Self-controlled**
- **Respectable**
- **Hospitable**
- **Able to teach**
- **Not given to drunkenness**
- **Not violent, but gentle**
- **Not quarrelsome**
- **Not a lover of money**
- **Manage his own family well**
- **Not a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall into judgment**
- **Good reputation with outsiders so he will not fall into disgrace or into the devil's trap**



## Takeaway:

- Be a godly example to others. *I Timothy 14:13*
- We need to make sure we are examples in our lives and doctrine.

## 55. II Timothy: Paul/ Pastoral Epistle

### Overview:

- Paul wrote to Timothy, *his beloved son*, some final words of encouragement and instructions to fulfill his ministry.

### Ministry Instructions from Paul to Timothy:

- Fan into flame the gift of God in you. *II Timothy 1:6*
- Don't be ashamed of the Gospel. *II Timothy 1:18*
- Keep to sound teaching with faith and love in Christ Jesus. *II Timothy 1:13*
- Guard the truth that has been entrusted to you with the help of the Holy Spirit. *II Timothy 1:14*
- Be strong through the grace God has given you. *II Timothy 2:1*
- Entrust what you have been taught to reliable men qualified to teach. *II Timothy 2:3*
- Endure hardship like a good soldier. *II Timothy 2:3*
- Present yourself as a workman who does not need to be ashamed. We are to become students of the Word of God. *II Timothy 2:5*
- Avoid foolish, godless talk. *II Timothy 2:16*
- Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace. *II Timothy 2:17*
- Don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. *II Timothy 2:23*
- Don't quarrel, but be kind to everyone.
- Able to teach, not resentful, being patient with difficult people. *II Timothy 2:24*
- Gently instruct those who oppose you that they might change. *II Timothy 2:25-26*
- Preach the Word, be prepared in season and out of season. *II Timothy 4:2*
- Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage people with good careful teaching. *II Timothy 4:2*
- Keep a clear mind in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist sharing the Good News, fully carry out all the duties God has given you. *II Timothy 4:5*

### Jesus in II Timothy:

- Jesus is seen as the Good Shepherd showing Pastors how to live and minister.
- Paul gives 7 pictures of the Christian minister:
  - The steward
  - The soldier
  - The athlete
  - The farmer
  - The workman
  - The vessel
  - The servant

### Takeaway:

- Paul modeled perseverance to Timothy. He practiced what he preached. He finished well and he encourages us to do the same! *II Timothy 4:7*