



## Encountering God Through the Bible Overview of the Bible Lisa Osteen Comes

### FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE:

- The Bible is the best selling book in the entire world.
- The Bible is the most owned and read book worldwide
- The Bible is the most copied, printed, and owned book in all of human history.
- The Bible is composed of 66 books
  - 39 in the Old Testament
  - 27 in the New Testament

### THE BIBLE WAS WRITTEN:

- Over a span of 1500 years (from 1400 B.C. to A.D. 100)
- Over 40 generations
- By 40 authors who mostly had never met before
- In different places
- On three continents (Asia, Africa, and Europe)
- In three languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek)

### God and His message never change throughout the Bible:

- “I am Love. I choose you. I am always with you. I will never leave you.”
- The Cross and the Blood of Jesus run from Genesis to Revelation
- This identifies Jesus as our Redeemer throughout the Bible.
- The Bible is consistent in telling the same story about the same God and His plan of salvation for the world.

## **OLD TESTAMENT:**

Purpose: prepare the way for Jesus.

### **1. Genesis: Moses/ Historical/Pentateuch**

#### Overview:

- Genesis means “beginning”.
- It tells the story of Creation.
- It deals with the Human race and the family of Abraham.
- Abraham was the first Hebrew and began the Jewish race.

#### Genesis answers two big questions:

1. How did God’s relationship with the world begin?
2. Where did the nation of Israel come from?

#### **Four Divine Institutions in Genesis:**

1. Freewill given to all men
2. The Marriage relationship
3. The Family



## 4. The Nations of the World

### Jesus in Genesis:

- **“Abraham answered, God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.”**  
Genesis 22:8
- **“You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son. Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.”** Genesis 22:12-13
- **Jesus is the Lamb of God that was provided for the sacrifice of our sins.**

### Takeaway:

- **Even though Joseph was mistreated and falsely accused, God was faithful to bring him out, promote him, and restore his life.**
- **If you are going through hardships right now – God will be faithful to vindicate you and restore you.**

## 2. Exodus: Moses/Historical/Pentateuch

### Overview:

- **Tells the story of the family of Abraham becoming a nation and being delivered from Egypt.**
- **Records the great miracles of God**
- **Records the giving of the law and the ceremonies for worship.**

### Jesus in Exodus:

- **“Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb.”** Exodus 12:21
- **“When the Lord goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.”** Exodus 12:23
- **Jesus is seen as our Passover Lamb and we are spared because His Blood is over our lives.** I Corinthians 10:11

### Takeaway:

- **God delivered the Israelites from bondage.**
- **He delivers us from the bondage of sin.**
- **WE are delivered from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of Jesus.** Colossians 1:13-14, John 8:36

## 3. Leviticus: Moses/Historical/Pentateuch

### Overview:

- **Leviticus means, “that which pertains to the priests”.**
- **Israel receives instruction of how to worship God through feasts and offerings.**

### Jesus in Leviticus:

- **Israel had to present a Sin Offering.**
- **Jesus was our ultimate sin offering.**
- **The Feast of Trumpets – ““Say to the Israelites: ‘On the first day of the seventh month you are to have a day of Sabbath rest, a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts.”**



- Symbolic of the trumpet that will be blown at the return of Jesus Christ.

### Takeaway:

- Because of Jesus, we do not have to perform ceremonies or make sacrifices for our sins. I John 1:9

## 4. Numbers: Moses/Historical/Pentateuch

### Overview:

- Name comes from the two numberings or censuses taken of the Israelites in chapters 1 and 26.
- The Hebrew name for Numbers is “in the wilderness.”
- Known as the book of murmuring because the Israelites complained so much.

### Jesus in Numbers:

- “Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.” Numbers 21:6-7
- “So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.” Numbers 21:9
- This is a picture of the Crucifixion.

### Takeaway:

- We must trust God’s timing in our own personal lives and keep a grateful attitude and an attitude of faith.

## 5. Deuteronomy: Moses/Historical/Pentateuch

### Overview:

- Israel receives instructions for how to love and obey God in the Promised Land.
- Record of Moses’ last 3 sermons.
- Israel is reminded of their history and the law.
- Record of blessings and curses.
- Israel is reminded that obedience to God is bless and that disobedience will bring destruction.
- Death of Moses.

### Jesus in Deuteronomy:

- “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.” Deuteronomy 18:15
- Reference to the Coming Messiah.
- That prophet was Jesus.

### Takeaway:

- In the Old Testament, God only spoke to His people through the Prophet, Priest, or King.
- Jesus has changed that on the Cross.
- The veil of the temple was torn – signifying that every believer has access to God!
- We can freely talk to God and boldly approach Him for help and mercy in our time of need.



## 6. Joshua: Joshua/Historical

### Overview:

- Joshua became Israel's new leader and leads them into the Promised Land.
- Account of the three campaigns Joshua led in battle to conquer the land.
- Division of territories for each of the twelve tribes of Israel.
- Shows God was faithful to give His people their Promised Land.

### Jesus in Joshua:

- The name of Joshua is the Old Testament equivalent for *Yeshua*, which means Jesus.
- Joshua led the children of Israel into rest within the Promised Land.
- Jesus leads us into our Promised Land of salvation and true rest.

### Takeaway:

- The story of the Battle of Jericho reminds us that when we trust and praise God in the midst of the battles of life, God will cause the walls to fall in our lives—the sickness or opposition—whatever we are facing!
- The story of God causing the sun to stand still while the Israelites fought their battle shows us that God is not limited by anything we are going through—and He will do the impossible on our behalf! He will do whatever it takes to deliver us!

## 7. Judges: Samuel/Historical

### Overview:

- Records the history of Israel from the death of Joshua to the time of the Prophet Samuel.
- The people were faithful to God under Joshua, but after his death, their loyalty diminished.
- Records the up and down in the Israelites relationship towards God.
- God send judges and great deliverers to lead them out of captivity.
- Gideon and Deborah.

### Jesus in Judges:

- A judge is defined as a savior and ruler, a spiritual and political deliverer.
- This is a type of Jesus.

### Takeaway:

- It pays to obey God!
- Disobedience towards God leads to trouble.
- “If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land;” Isaiah 1:19

## 8. Ruth: Samuel/Historical

### Overview:

- The story of Ruth and Naomi – two widows who lost everything, but found hope in Israel.
- Story of God redeeming their loss.
- Boaz is the son of Rahab – the Harlot of Jericho – they were in the lineage of Jesus.
- Ruth found favor with Boaz – he was one of her kinsman.
- Ruth means “friend or companion.”
- Boaz means, “in Him is strength.”
- Despite her urgings, Ruth refused to leave Naomi's side. Ruth 1:16



## Jesus in Ruth:

- Boaz is a beautiful picture of Jesus Christ, our Kinsman-Redeemer.
- A “kinsman-redeemer” must:
  - a. Be related by blood to those he redeems.
  - b. Be able to pay the redemption
  - c. Be willing to redeem
  - d. Be free himself.
- Jesus redeems us and paid for our debt of sin on the Cross.

## Takeaway:

- Ruth speaks to the Almighty, translated in Hebrew as El Shaddai, which means “The God Who is More Than Enough”.
- No matter the pain we go through in life – God is more than enough!

## 9. I Samuel: Samuel/Historical

### Overview:

- The story of the birth of the Prophet Samuel
- Samuel writes a prophetically oriented history of Israel’s early monarchy.
- Record of the reign of King Saul and his disobedience to God.
- Anointing of David as a young shepherd boy to become Saul’s heir.

### Jesus in I Samuel:

- David is a shepherd anointed to be king.
- Jesus is our Shepherd and King.

### Takeaway:

- “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him.” I Samuel 16:7
- The Lord does not look at the things people look at: God looks at our heart.
- David became different after he was anointed and this shows that it’s not what we can do on our own – but what the anointing will cause us to do!

## 10. II Samuel: Samuel (part authorship) and Unknown Author/Historical

### Overview:

- David becomes king of Israel.
- Portrays the strengths and weaknesses of David’s 40-year reign.
- God honors David as “a man after God’s own heart.”

### Jesus in II Samuel:

- Many of the promises made to David were fulfilled in Jesus.
- The New Testament Jesus refers to Jesus as “the son of David”. Matthew 21:9

### Takeaway:

- David went through a season of wrong and disobeying God, but he repented and God continued to bless him and keep His promises to him.
- We can have seasons like David’s, but God looks at the whole picture of our lives.



- God doesn't disqualify us!

## 11. I Kings: Jeremiah/Historical

### Overview:

- Begins with the death of David and the anointing of his son, Solomon.
- Israel enjoys a time of peace and prosperity during King Solomon's reign.
- Records of Solomon's wisdom, glory, and wealth.
- Records of Solomon turning to idols and displeasing God.
- The Kingdom becomes divided: Samaria is the capital of Israel and Jerusalem is the capital of Judah.

### Jesus in I Kings:

- Solomon typified Jesus in many ways with his wisdom, fame, and glory.
- He foreshadows Christ's wisdom and kingdom.

### Takeaway:

- God told Solomon he could ask for anything and it would be granted. He could have asked for wealth and fame, but he asked for wisdom. And with the wisdom of God came wealth, honor and fame. More than anything we need the wisdom of God in our lives. I Kings 3:1

## 12. II Kings: Jeremiah/Historical

### Overview:

- Records the pivotal events in the careers of the Kings of Israel and Judah.
- Shows how rebellion against God led to the failure and overthrow of the monarchy.
- Elijah and Elisha stand out as strong men of God.

### Jesus in II Kings:

- God remained faithful to His covenant with David by protecting his lineage – which Jesus Christ eventually came.
- Elisha typifies Jesus in his emphasizing grace, life, and hope.

### Takeaway:

- Elisha had been faithful to serve Elijah and when he asked God for a double portion of the anointing that was on his Master's life, God granted his request.
- We need to be faithful where we are and God will bless us with a double anointing.
- We need to learn to ask big like Elisha did!

## 13. I Chronicles: Ezra/Historical

### Overview:

- Some scholars call this the book of "the things omitted".
- Viewed as a supplement to I and II Samuel, and I and II Kings.
- Brief history of Israel from Adam to David.
- Written to reveal God's faithfulness and continuing purpose for His people.

### Jesus in I Chronicles:

- God promised David that He would "...settle him [David's ultimate offspring, Jesus Christ] in



mine house and in my kingdom forever; and his throne shall be established forevermore.” I Chronicles 17:14

### Takeaway:

- Even when we are not faithful, God is always full of mercy and is faithful to us.
- God never changes His mind about us or the plan He has for our lives.

## 14. II Chronicles: Ezra/Historical

### Overview:

- Begins with Solomon’s reign and the building of the Temple.
- It was David’s desire to build a Temple for the Ark of the Covenant of God. 2 Samuel 7:2
- God tells David that He will establish his bloodline on the throne and his son will build His Temple.
- Israel turns from God and the Babylonians take the Israelites captive and destroy the Temple.

### Jesus in II Chronicles:

- Elisha was a Prophet during this time and did many miracles.
- Jesus is our Miracle Worker.

### Takeaway:

- “Now the Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former ways of his father David. Therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance. And his heart took delight in the ways of the Lord.” II Chronicles 17:3-6
- God greatly rewards obedience and faithfulness!

## 15. Ezra: Ezra/Historical

### Overview:

- The Israelites rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.
- Israelites are split into two groups when released from captivity.
- Zerubbabel and his group restored the temple; Ezra and his group restored the people to godly behavior.

### Jesus in Ezra:

- Ezra typifies Christ’s work of restoration.

### Takeaway:

- God is a God of restoration.
- We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit and He will restore us spirit, soul, and body.
- God will reward and use you to bring restoration in the lives of others.

## 16. Nehemiah: Nehemiah/Historical

### Overview:

- Nehemiah is seen as a great man of vision, courage, and prayer.
- Nehemiah was the cupbearer to the King, but requested a leave of absence in order to restore



the wall around Jerusalem.

### Jesus in Nehemiah:

- Nehemiah is a picture of God's restoration through the work of Jesus Christ.

### Takeaway:

- Prayer is one of our powerful weapons that we must use in the face of opposition.
- Keep prayer, keep working, and don't forget to use the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

## 17. Esther: Mordecai or Ezra/Historical

### Overview:

- A high-ranking official named Haman devised a plan to exterminate all the Jews in Babylon.
- God used Esther, a young Jewish girl, to bring deliverance for her people.
- Shows the miraculous story of how that plot was foiled because of the courage of Queen Esther.

### Jesus In Esther:

- Esther, like Jesus was the savior and advocate of her people.
- Esther was willing to lay down her life for her people; Jesus was not only willing, but laid His life down for us. *Esther 4:16*

### Takeaway:

- Don't think that your position is insignificant, because God will bring purpose out of it!
- We must accept the challenge and be willing to take a courageous step of faith when faced with the opportunity.
- God is with you every step of the way.

## 18. Job: Unknown; Possibly Moses/Poetry

### Overview:

- One of the 5 Books of Poetry.
- Dialogue and argument between Job and his friend on why terrible things happened to him.
- Healing and restoration of Job.
- Oldest book of the Bible.

### Jesus in Job:

- Job makes reference to Jesus in Job 19:25. "For I know that my redeemer lives, and that He shall stand upon the earth at last."

### Takeaway:

- Trust Jesus instead of blaming Him even in the worst of trials.
- God is faithful to restore what the enemy steals from us.
- The latter part of Job's life was greater than the former; that is prophetic to us!

19. Psalms: David (73), Asaph (12), the sons of Korah (12), Heman (1), Ethan (1), Moses (2), Solomon (2), and other anonymous authors/Poetry.



## Overview:

- Collection of 150 songs that Israel sang to God and to each other.
- The word psalm means “a poem to be sung to a stringed instrument.”
- Emphasizes the importance of worship, the greatness of our God, His faithfulness in the time of trouble, and the importance of God’s Word in our lives.

## Jesus in Psalms:

- Jesus is seen throughout the Psalms, but most notably in Psalms 22:1.
- These are prophetic words the Jesus spoke on the Cross 1000 years later.

## Takeaway:

- It is beneficial to us to worship and praise God, to honestly pour out our hearts to Him, and receive encouragement through it.
- Reading a Psalm everyday will equip you with encouragement that you can carry with you in tough seasons of life.

## **20. Proverbs: Solomon and other wise men/Poetry**

### Overview:

- Considered the Book of wisdom.
- Collection of practical instructions written to help people make wise decisions in all areas of life.
- Covers integrity, humility, marriage, parenting, finances, the importance of your words, and many other topics.
- Emphasizes the need for wisdom and the need to listen to others and gain wisdom.

### Jesus in Proverbs:

- Proverbs 30:4-5 speaks of Jesus.
- Proverbs 8:30-31 shows Jesus in Creation.

### Takeaway:

- Wisdom begins with Jesus.
- The wisest decision we can make is to revere and worship Him and give Him first place in our lives.

## **21. Ecclesiastes: Solomon/Poetry**

### Overview:

- Records Solomon’s reasoning and how he contrasts the emptiness of life without God.
- Shows the fallacy of thinking that earthly sins and pleasure are the source of happiness.
- Concludes that the meaning of life is to fear God and to keep his commandments.
- Ecclesiastes means “a preacher”.

### Jesus in Ecclesiastes:

- Portrays the emptiness of life without a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Only Jesus can provide ultimate satisfaction, joy, and wisdom.

### Takeaway:



- True joy and peace only comes in knowing God.
- God created us in His image and for a specific purpose.
- When we are in Jesus and in our purpose, we are fulfilled!

## 22. Song of Solomon: Solomon/Poetry

### Overview:

- Collection of love songs celebrating romantic love and the marriage relationship.
- A passionate play depicting two lovers in courtship, a shepherd and a Shulamite woman, who eventually marry.

### Jesus in Song of Solomon:

- Jesus is the great Shepherd, lover of our souls.
- As the shepherd loves his bride, so Jesus Christ loves His Bride, the Church.

### Takeaway:

- The marriage relationship is a beautiful relationship of enduring love that we should always value and cherish.

## 23. Isaiah: Isaiah/Major Prophet

### Overview:

- God sent the prophet Isaiah to warn Israel of future judgment, but also tell them about the coming King.
- Is like a miniature Bible with 39 chapters that emphasize judgment and 27 chapters that emphasize the grace of God.
- Isaiah means “the salvation of Jehovah” and his name is a summary of this book.

### Jesus in Isaiah:

- Provides the most comprehensive prophetic picture of Jesus than in any other Old Testament book.
- The announcement of the coming King, the virgin birth, His proclamation of good news, His crucifixion, His return to claim His own. *Isaiah 7:14, 32:1, 40:3-11, 42:1, 53:3-7, 60:2-3, 61:1*

### Takeaway:

- A reminder of what Jesus purchased for us on the Cross. *Isaiah 53:5*
- Because of Jesus we are forgiven, we have peace in our minds, and healing belongs to us.

## 24. Jeremiah: Jeremiah/Major Prophet

### Overview:

- Jeremiah means “Yahweh establishes, appoints, and sends.”
- Jeremiah was appointed by God to deliver His message through parables, sermons, and object lessons.
- Jeremiah warned Israel of God’s coming judgment, their coming Babylonian captivity, and their future restoration after 70 years of captivity. *Jeremiah 29:10*

### Jesus in Jeremiah:

- Jeremiah’s heart of compassion is similar to the heart of Jesus.



- Jesus is clearly seen as the coming Shepherd and the Righteous Branch who will bring in the covenant. *Jeremiah 23:1-8, 31:31-34*

### Takeaway:

- Before you were born, God knew you and called you!
- God is saying to us: Don't say negative things about yourself because I will equip you and anoint you. Don't be afraid of what people say or do because I will be with you and rescue you.

## 25. Lamentations: Jeremiah/Major Prophet

### Overview:

- In spite of many warnings, the Jewish people lost their city of Jerusalem.
- The Prophet Jeremiah laments, or mourns, the fall of Jerusalem after the Babylonian attacks.
- Expresses God's great sorrow, the depth of His love, and His willingness to forgive.

### Jesus in Lamentations:

- Centuries later, Jesus weeps over the city of Jerusalem in the same manner Jeremiah did. *Matthew 23:27*

### Takeaway:

- God's mercy towards us is unbelievably great and He gives us fresh mercy everyday.

## 26. Ezekiel: Ezekiel/Major Prophet

### Overview:

- Ezekiel's name means "God strengthens."
- God called Ezekiel to minister to His people while in Babylonian bondage.
- Ezekiel used prophecies, parables, signs, and symbols to convey God's message to His exiled people.
- The first to receive the revelation of Jehovah-Shammah: "the presence Who is always with us."

### Jesus in Ezekiel:

- Jesus is seen as the true Shepherd. *Ezekiel 34:11-31*

### Takeaway:

- We can have confidence that wherever we are, God is there. *Ezekiel 48:35, Matthew 28:20*

## 27. Daniel: Daniel (with other contributors)/Major Prophet

### Overview:

- Daniel became a high-ranking wise man in the Babylonian and Persian empires and had prophetic visions concerning Israel's future.
- The first half of the book is historical and the second half is prophetic, with a foundation of some prophecies in the first six chapters.
- Gives three strong messages: God blesses, God rewards, and God disciplines.

### Jesus in Daniel:

- Daniel portrays Jesus as the *great stone* who will crush earthly kingdoms *2:34-35, 44*; as the Son of Man who is given dominion *7:13-14*; and as the coming Messiah *9:25-26*



- Vision of Jesus. *10:5-9*

### Takeaway:

- Daniel 6 tells the story of how God rescued Daniel from the mouths of lions and the King issued a decree that every person must fear and reverence Daniel's God because He is the Living God.

## 28. Hosea: Hosea/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- The tragic personal life story of Hosea.
- Parallels the prophet's wife to the nation of Israel.
- God had promised to redeem His disobedient people from bondage.
- Hosea's wife, Gomer, and Israel responded to unconditional love.

### Jesus in Hosea:

- We clearly see the unconditional love of Jesus in Hosea's actions towards Gomer.
- Jesus' flight to Egypt is prophesied. *Hosea 11:1*
- The Messianic promise foreshadowing the Resurrection is given. *Hosea 13:14*

### Takeaway:

- After Hosea redeemed Gomer from slavery, he told her that though he owned her as a master, he would love her like a husband. That's a picture of what God does for us.
- God is faithful and will deliver and forgive those who are disobedient as they turn to Him.

## 29. Joel: Joel/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- The purpose of this book is to call Israel to repentance and to give an overall prophetic view of the history of Israel.
- Joel emphasizes the *day of the Lord* throughout the book.
- References to the judgment coming when the Lord appears a second time. *II Thessalonians. 2:2*

### Jesus in Joel:

- Joel speaks of the coming outpouring of the Holy Spirit that was fulfilled in the Book of Acts. *Joel 2:28, Acts 1:8,2*

### Takeaway:

- We are living in that day when the Holy Spirit is being poured out on all men.
- We are experiencing prophecies fulfilled and the power of the Holy Spirit in our personal lives.
- You have power to live a victorious life on this earth!

## 30. Amos: Amos/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Amos means "*a burden-bearer.*"
- He was a shepherd who preached judgment coming to the people because of their sinfulness.
- His message was also directed to those who had no love for their neighbor and who took advantage of others.



## Jesus in Amos:

- Jesus can be seen in Amos as the Restorer of His people. *Amos 9:11*

## Takeaway:

- When Jesus was on this earth He went around doing good to people—lifting them, healing, encouraging, and showing mercy. He is our Example.
- God will bless you when you are merciful and help meet the needs of people.

## 31. Obadiah: Obadiah/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Obadiah means “*a worshiper of Jehovah.*”
- Shortest book of the Old Testament.
- Sends a message that God does not take well those who oppose His people.

## Jesus in Obadiah:

- Jesus can be seen as the Judge of the nations. *Obadiah 15,16*
- The Savior of Israel. *Obadiah 17-20*
- The Possessor of the Kingdom. *Obadiah 21*

## Takeaway:

- The Bible says that pride goes before a fall and we see that here because the nation of Edom disappeared into history. This is a reminder to stay humble before the Lord.

## 32. Jonah: Jonah/ Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Jonah means “*a dove.*”
- God told the Prophet Jonah to preach to the people of Nineveh, but he ran from God’s call because he didn’t think the Gentile people deserved God’s mercy.
- Three great doctrines are taught in this book: resurrection, genuine repentance, and God’s loving-kindness.

## Jesus in Jonah:

- This story is a foreshadowing of Jesus’ death, resurrection, and commission to His disciples to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature—Jew and Gentile.
- Jonah learned that *Salvation is of the Lord* and is for every one who will believe.

## Takeaway:

- Don’t run from God!
- Disobedience hurts us more than anyone, but it also affects those around you.
- To obey is better than to sacrifice.

## 33. Micah: Micah/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Micah means “*like Jehovah.*”
- Deals primarily with Samaria and the Gentile nations, reproving them for their sins.
- This book is a compilation of Micah’s sermons.



## Jesus in Micah:

- Micah spoke of the hope of Jesus their Deliverer who would restore His people.
- Clearly predicted the birth of Christ 700 years before the fact. *Micah 5:2*

## Takeaway:

- “The Lord has told you what is good and what He requires of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly before the Lord.” *Micah 6:8*
- These are words to live by and something we should pray for in our lives.

## 34. Nahum: Nahum/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Nahum means “*compassionate.*”
- Prophet Nahum foretells of God’s judgment on the people of Nineveh.

## Jesus in Nahum:

- Jesus is seen as the compassion of the Lamb. *Nahum 1:15*

## Takeaway:

- Whatever you are facing today—you will not have to face again because God will bring an utter end to it!

## 35. Habakkuk: Habakkuk/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Habakkuk means, “*to be embraced.*”
- Shows Habakkuk struggling in his faith when he saw men openly violating God’s law.

## Jesus in Habakkuk:

- The word *salvation* appears 3 times and is the root word from which the name *Jesus* is derived.
- Jesus is also mentioned as *Your Anointed.* *Habakkuk 3:13, 3:18*

## Takeaway:

- Don’t compare your life to those you think are getting with things.
- Your future is bright no matter what those around you are doing.

## 36. Zephaniah: Zephaniah/ Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Zephaniah means “*Jehovah hides.*”
- Through the Prophet Zephaniah, God warned that He will judge Israel and the surrounding nations, but He will also restore them back to peace and justice.

## Jesus in Zephaniah:

- Zephaniah concludes his book by writing about Jesus the Messiah reigning in Zion. *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

## Takeaway:



- Don't be discouraged because your Mighty Warrior is with you and will save you!

## 37. Haggai: Haggai/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Haggai means “*festal* (celebration).”
- Haggai preached a fiery series of sermons designed to stir up the nation to resume work on the Temple.

### Jesus in Haggai:

- Haggai pointed to Jesus as the future Glory for the Temple, calling Him *the desire of all nations*.  
*Haggai 2:1-9*

### Takeaway:

- Put God first and foremost in your life. *Matthew 6:33*

## 38. Zechariah: Zechariah/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Zechariah means “Jehovah remembers.”
- The Prophet Zechariah encouraged the people to continue rebuilding the Temple because they were preparing the way for their Messiah to come.

### Jesus in Zechariah:

- Zechariah speaks of both the first and second coming of Jesus. *Zechariah 9:9-10, 10:12*

### Takeaway:

- In Him we live and move and have our being.
- We don't go in our own strength, but in the power of the Holy Spirit!

## 39. Malachi: Malachi/Minor Prophet

### Overview:

- Malachi means “my messenger.”
- Warns of God's judgment.
- Promises relief in the coming of the Savior.
- Last prophet before John the Baptist.
- Last book in the Old Testament.

### Jesus in Malachi:

- Jesus' First and Second Advents are clearly described. *Malachi 3:1-5*
- Foretells of the messenger, John the Baptist, who will prepare the way before the Lord. *Malachi 3:1*
- Prophecies of the ministry of Elijah and Moses before Jesus' Second Coming. *Malachi 3:17-4:6*

### Takeaway:

It is better to live in communion with God and under His blessings, avoiding the traps of Satan!



## NEW TESTAMENT:

The New Testament has 27 books and are separated into 3 divisions:

1. 5 books of History: 4 Gospels and Acts
2. 21 Epistles (Letters): Romans – Jude
3. 1 book of Prophecy: Revelation

### 40. The Gospel of Matthew: Matthew/History

#### Overview:

- Matthew means “*the gift of Jehovah.*”
- Purpose is to show that Jesus was the Promised Messiah from the Old Testament prophecies.

#### Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew:

- Jesus is presented as the promised King of the Jews. *Matthew 2*

#### Takeaway:

- You are the Church and you are built on Jesus—a firm foundation—and the gates of hell will NEVER prevail against you!
- You have power to bind and loose on this earth in the Name of Jesus!

### 41. The Gospel of Mark: Mark, known as John Mark/History

#### Overview:

- Mark means “*a hammer.*”
- Reflects that name because it is brief and very pointed.
- Written primarily for Gentile readers, in particular the Romans.
- Presents Jesus as a servant, sacrifice, and Savior of all men.

#### Jesus in the Gospel of Mark:

- Jesus is presented as the Son of Man ministering and giving His life as a ransom for many. *Mark 10:45*

#### Takeaway:

- Jesus gives every believer the Great Commission to go into the world and preach the gospel to all creation. *Mark 16:15-18*

### 42. The Gospel of Luke: Luke/History

#### Overview:

- Luke means “*light-giving.*”
- Written primarily for the Greeks.
- Emphasizes the humanity of Jesus, who came to minister and show compassion ministry to all people.
- Most thorough account of the life of Jesus.
- The Gospel of Praise because it begins and ends with joy.
- Records the last of the Hebrew songs and the first of the Christian hymns.
  - The Magnificat: *Luke 1:46-55*
  - The Benedictus: *Luke 1:68-79*



- **The Gloria in Excelsis Deo:** *Luke 2:14*
- **The Nunc Dimittis:** *Luke 2:29-32*
- **Called the Gospel of womanhood.**
  1. **Elizabeth:** *Luke 1:41*
  2. **Mary:** *Luke 1:27, 2:19*
  3. **The widow of Nain:** *Luke 7:12-15*
  4. **The women who ministered to Christ:** *Luke 8:2-3*
  5. **Mary and Martha:** *Luke 10:38-42*
  6. **Women who wept and followed Jesus to the Cross:** *Luke 23:27-31*

### Jesus in the Gospel of Luke:

- Jesus is presented as the Perfect Son of Man, the noble Teacher, Friend, and Helper of mankind.
- Jesus referred to Himself most often as the Son of Man. *Luke 12:8*

### Takeaway:

- God will hear your prayers, answer your prayers, and grant you justice.
- We should always pray and never give up on the things we are praying about.

## 43. The Gospel of John: John/History

### Overview:

- John means “*Jehovah is gracious.*”
- Lists stories of signs and miracles with the hope that readers will believe in Jesus.
- Shows that the Man of Galilee was God.
- Written for the Christian Church as a whole

### Jesus in the Gospel of John:

- John presents seven signs (7 I Am’s) to show the divinity of Jesus.
  1. **I am the Bread of Life:** *John 6:35*
  2. **I am the Light of the world:** *John 8:12*
  3. **I am the Door:** *John 10:9*
  4. **I am the Good Shepherd:** *John 10:14*
  5. **I am the Resurrection and the Life:** *John 11:25*
  6. **I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life:** *John 14:6*
  7. **I am the True Vine:** *John 15:1*

### Takeaway:

- Luke 4 shows how Jesus depended on the Holy Spirit in his everyday life, that He was full of the Spirit, and He was led by the Spirit.
- There are things that we cannot overcome unless we are baptized in the Spirit and full of the Spirit!
- When you are full of the Spirit and led by the Spirit you will overcome the enemy—and you will begin to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit—a new dimension of the Spirit.

## 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 hold 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 I Timothy:

- 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*

## 56. Titus: Paul/Pastoral Epistle

### Overview:

- **Titus means "honorable".**
- **This letter is similar to I and II Timothy.**
- **Paul gives pastoral direction and wisdom to Titus.**
- **There are three reasons that Titus is on the island of Crete:**
  - **To complete the work he and Paul started.**
  - **To appoint elders in the churches.**
  - **To warn them of false teaching that had risen.**
- **Emphasis on devoting oneself to doing what is good.**



- Paul gives the requirements for Elders and Overseers.
  - **Qualifications of an Elder:**
    - Blameless
    - Husband of one wife
    - Children are believers and not wild and disobedient
  - **Overseer:**
    - Blameless and an example in the way you live
    - Not overbearing or violent
    - Not quick-tempered, but self-controlled
    - Not given to drunkenness
    - Not dishonest with money
    - One who loves what is good and is hospitable
    - Live wisely, just, holy and disciplined
    - Hold to and teach sound doctrine, able to refute those who oppose it
    - Show integrity, seriousness, and soundness of speech in your teaching

### Jesus in Titus:

- Jesus is seen as our **Blessed Hope**. *Titus 2:13*
- Jesus is seen as our **Savior**. *Titus 3:6, Titus 2:13-14*

### Takeaway:

- God desires us to do good and to be good to people.
- We are a representative of Jesus on earth and people will see what God is like through our lives.

## 57. Philemon: Paul/Prison Epistle

### Overview:

- Philemon means “affectionate”.
- In this letter, Paul appeals to Philemon to accept his runaway slave, Onesimus, back as a brother and not a slave.

### Jesus in Philemon:

- This epistle illustrates what Jesus did for us – He paid a debt that we could not pay.
  - He died for our sins.
  - Reconciled us to God, our Heavenly Father.

### Takeaway:

- God is going to change the people you are praying for—your loved ones, your children, and your mate.
- The name Onesimus means *beneficial and profitable*. That’s going to be your loved ones.

## 58. Hebrews: Unknown (some attribute to Paul)/Epistle

### Overview:

- Most scholars agree that Hebrews was written to the believers in Rome because of the writer’s mention of Italy. *Hebrews 13:24*
- The Jewish people were suffering persecution and tempted to return to their Jewish religion.



- The writer encourages believers to cling to Jesus because He is superior over everything, including the Old Covenant, the priesthood of Aaron, and the Mosaic Law.

### Jesus in Hebrews:

- Jesus is seen as our great High Priest, who made God approachable to every believer.
- Jesus is presented as *better than and superior* to the Old Covenant. *Hebrews 7:22*

### Takeaway:

- We have angels watching over us all the time. *Hebrews 1:14, Psalm 91:11, Psalm 103:20*
- At our lowest point in life, angels are ministering spirits sent to serve us and help us. *Matthew 1:4, Luke 22:43*

## 59. James: James/Epistle

### Overview:

- James, like the name Jacob, means *one who grasps the heel* or *supplanter* (takes the place of; overthrow).
- He wrote this letter to the Jews scattered outside of Jerusalem.
- The Book of James is considered the Proverbs of the New Testament because of its practical wisdom and emphasis on faith.
- Topics James addresses:
  - Exercising patience and perseverance in trials
  - Being a doer of the Word of God
  - Having faith that produces action
  - Controlling your tongue
  - The wisdom of God VS the wisdom of the world
  - Walking humbly before God
  - Developing an effective prayer life

### Jesus in James:

- Jesus is seen as our wisdom for Christian maturity and James also mentions the coming of the Lord. *James 1:5, 5:7,8*

### Takeaway:

- Be a man or woman of prayer.
- Make prayer your default mode. Instead of worrying and stressing over situations, pray earnestly about them.
- Earnest means *sincere and intense conviction*. You are serious about praying!

## 60. I Peter: Peter/Epistle:

### Overview:

- Peter means *stone or rock* and was given this name by Jesus.
- He wrote to Christians who were experiencing persecution, encouraging them to be steadfast and live good and godly lives before those who were mistreating them.
- He reminded believers that those who suffer for doing God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.



- **Instructions to Believers:**
  - **Be clear-minded and self-controlled.**
  - **Be holy as God is holy.**
  - **Love one another deeply, be compassionate, and humble.**
  - **Abstain from sinful desires.**
  - **Continue to do good and you will silence the foolish talk of ignorant men.**
  - **Do not repay evil for evil.**
  - **Be prepared to give an answer for the hope that you have.**
  - **Use whatever gifts you have received to serve others.**
  - **Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

### Jesus in I Peter:

- **We see Jesus as the Resurrected Savior who has given us new birth and an inheritance that will never perish, spoil or fade. *I Peter 1:3***

### Takeaway:

- **We all face persecution and suffering and Peter reminds us that it is in times like these our faith is tested, refined, and proven genuine.**
- **God Himself is watching over you and He promises to do two things: He will restore you and He will pay back what you have lost and what the enemy has stolen.**

## 61. II Peter: Peter/Epistle

### Overview:

- **Peter wrote this letter to the same believers addressed in his first letter and his emphasis is on maturing in the knowledge of God.**
- **Peter also warned the believers against false teachers, encouraging them to continue in their faith and to cling to the truths of God with all diligence.**
- **Characteristics of False Prophets and Teachers in Chapter 2:**
  - **Introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Sovereign Lord.**
  - **Brings destruction on themselves.**
  - **Make up clever lies to get your money.**
  - **Proud and arrogant, bragging with empty, foolish boasting.**
  - **Love to indulge in evil pleasures.**
  - **Delight in deception.**
  - **Lure unstable people into sin.**
  - **Well-trained in greed.**
  - **Promise freedom, but are slaves to sin and corruption.**

### Jesus in II Peter:

- **We see Jesus as our Coming Lord who will keep His promise of creating a new Heaven and a new Earth, the home of righteousness. *II Peter 3:10-13***

### Takeaway:

- **If we are going to be victorious as Christians we must know what God's Word says.**
- **We must become students of the Word of God because it is life, health, and peace to us.**



## 62. I John: John/ Epistle

### Overview:

- John means *Yahweh (God) is gracious* and teaches that we must know the truth.
- John proclaims that God is love and God is light. Our life begins with sonship and continues in fellowship with the Father and the Son.
- Encourages Christians to walk as Jesus did by walking in the light, walking in obedience, and walking in love toward one another.

### Jesus in I John:

- Jesus is seen as the Word of Life and our Advocate. *I John 1:1, 2:1*

### Takeaway:

- You are anointed by the Holy Spirit.
- If you will listen to the Spirit of God in you, He will warn you and keep you in the truth of God's Word.
- You are also anointed to do the works that Jesus did—to set the captives free and bring freedom to those who are hurting.

## 63. II John: John/Epistle

### Overview:

- Second John is a brief letter consisting of one chapter and teaches that we must *walk* in the truth.
- Encourages believers to love one another and walk in obedience to God's commands.
- John wrote this letter to the *elect lady and her children*, which some believe is a specific family and others believe he was using this term as a metaphor for the Church.

### Jesus in II John:

- Jesus is seen as God who came in human flesh as the Christ. *II John 7-8*

### Takeaway:

- If we love God, then we will obey Him.
- We can ask Jesus to be our Savior, but we must also allow Him to be our Lord—following Him, walking in His ways and commands.
- When we continue in the teachings of Christ, we will protect ourselves from being deceived or led astray.

## 64. III John: John/Epistle

### Overview:

- Third John is brief letter consisting of one chapter teaching that we must *abide* in the truth.
- John wrote to commend the believers for living in the truth and encouraged them to welcome and care for traveling missionaries.
- Was written to Gaius, a leader in Asia Minor, instructing him how to handle a difficult situation.



## Jesus in III John:

- Jesus is mentioned once when speaking of the missionaries who went out *for His (Jesus) Namesake. John 7*

## Takeaway:

- God is concerned about every area of our lives—that we are in good health, that we are blessed financially, and that our spirit and soul prosper.
- Just as we desire for all to be well with our children, so our Father God desires for all to be well with us.

## 65. Jude: Jude/Epistle

### Overview:

- Jude means *praise* and he is believed to be the half-brother of Jesus who became a believer after the death of Jesus.
- In his letter, Jude encouraged Christians to contend for the faith that was entrusted to them.
- He warned them against people who perverted the grace of God as a license for immorality and who deny Jesus as the only Sovereign Lord and Savior.
- Jude used three examples from the past to illustrate ungodly behavior:
  - Cain killed his brother Abel: *Genesis 4:1-16*
  - Balaam put money above obeying God: *Numbers 22*
  - Korah's rebellion and lust for power: *Numbers 16:1-35*

### Jesus in Jude:

- In Jude we see that Jesus is our Spiritual Anchor and we should be anchored in Him. *Jude 1:21*

### Takeaway:

- We should always be making progress by doing the things that help us grow in our faith.
- Love God, be secure in His love for you, and love one another.

## 66. Revelation: John/Prophetic

### Overview:

- The word Revelation is from the Greek word *apokalupsis*, which means *an unveiling* or *an uncovering*.
- This book was written to uncover end time events.
- Revelation was addressed to the seven churches of Asia, which is Modern Turkey today and is a message for us, the Church.
- Revelation contains much figurative language, such as:
  - Lampstands – 7 churches
  - Stars – pastors over the churches
  - Seven – number of completion
  - Dragon – Satan
  - First Beast – Antichrist
  - Another Beast – False Prophet
  - Seven heads – 7 empires from history that persecuted Israel



- Ten Horns – 10-nation confederation that serves the Antichrist
- Harlot Babylon – demonically inspired religious and economic system
- The Woman – faithful remnant of Israel through history
- The Male-child – Jesus

**Jesus in Revelation:**

- We see Jesus revealed in His glory all through Revelation.
- He is the Rider on the white horse who is Faithful and True. *Revelation 19:11, 22:12-20*

**Takeaway:**

- The Bible is a great love story between God and man and Revelation is the last chapter.
- The story begins in Paradise with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and it ends in Paradise for all believers.
- Revelation completes the story that Genesis began:

<b>Genesis: the earth was subject to the curse because of sin.</b>	<b>Revelation: the new earth has no more curse.</b>
<b>Genesis: light comes from the sun.</b>	<b>Revelation: the Lord God is the light of the holy city.</b>
<b>Genesis: dominion is given to man, but passed into the hands of Satan.</b>	<b>Revelation: dominion is restored to the saints who inherit the earth.</b>
<b>Genesis: God plants the tree of life for man to eat and live.</b>	<b>Revelation: the tree of life is seen growing again and the leaves are for the healing of the nations.</b>
<b>Genesis: Satan appears and is victorious.</b>	<b>Revelation: Satan appears again, but this time the Blood of the Lamb defeats him.</b>