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Pepper Road church of
Christ

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[JAMES, 1 & 2 PETER, JUDE]

This material is designed for a textual study of these four books, along with an overview of Revelation as it deals with Christians suffering for their faith. There will also be special emphasis given to individual v. collective benevolent responsibilities, the qualifications and work of elders (1 Peter 5) and Realized Eschatology's approach to the Day of the Lord (2 Peter 3).

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Memory Work

First Month

“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” James 1:21, 22

Second Month

“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.” 1 Peter 4:12, 13

Third Month

“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.” Jude 3, 4

Lessons 1 and 2 / James 1: Introduction; Various Trials

1. Identifying the author of this epistle.
 - a. How did James describe himself in 1:1?
 - b. What happened to James the son of Zebedee and brother of John? Acts 12
 - c. Which James was prominent in the church at Jerusalem? Gal. 1:19; cf. Matt. 13:55.
 - d. Ca. A.D. 62/63 James the brother of Jesus was killed by the Jews of Jerusalem.
2. Time of writing.
 - a. Sometime before the death of James in A.D. 62/63.
 - b. Other than knowing it was before A.D. 63, nothing in the book allows a firm date to be fixed.
3. Style of the book.
 - a. A very straightforward epistle dealing with practical matters of living by faith on a daily basis.
 - b. Though some have misunderstood this book, James does not contradict Paul's writings regarding salvation by grace and faith (see Eph. 2:8, 9), but does emphasize that faith must be more than a mental process. Faith must be reflected in the way one deals with trials and temptations; it must deal impartially with others; demonstrate itself in works; control the tongue; be humble; restore the erring brother, etc.
4. To whom did James address this letter?
5. How can Christians find joy in times of trial (temptation)?
6. Define patience as used in 1:3, 4.
7. Who is the infallible source of wisdom for daily living? Cf. Prov. 3:5-8.
8. In prayer, we must ask in _____, with no _____.
9. Can we pray with confidence that God will grant every request we make?
10. In what should the lowly brother (brother of low degree) glory (rejoice, boast)?
11. The possessions and earthly glory of the rich man are compared to what?
12. Who is the blessed man of 1:12?
13. What must we do if we wish to receive the crown of life?
14. Does God tempt us to do evil?

15. Temptation to sin comes from our own _____.
16. God is not the tempter; instead, He is the giver of every _____ and _____ gift.
17. Our salvation began with the will of _____ and we were brought forth (begat) by the _____ of truth.
18. Be swift to _____, slow to _____, and slow to _____.
19. Does 1:19 refer to listening to the word of God (1:18, 21) or does it have general reference to humbly listening when others speak?
20. What is meant by the righteousness of God in 1:20?
21. Reacting to the word of God. 1:21-25
 - a. We are to lay aside what?
 - b. Receive the implanted word with _____.
 - c. Do not be _____ only, but be _____ of the word.
 - d. To what does James compare the person who hears the word of God, but chooses not to act on it?
 - e. God's word is described as the _____ law of _____.
22. Failure to bridle the _____ is proof that one's religion is useless.
23. What two things are said to constitute pure and undefiled religion?

Lesson 3 / James 1:27—Pure Religion; Individual and Collective Responsibilities

1. James 1:26, 27 challenges us to realize that church membership and even faithful attendance and participation are not the sum of faithful service to God. We must bridle our tongues, assist the needy and keep ourselves free from the sinful defilements of this world.
2. In the judgment scene of Matt. 25:31-46, why were some rewarded with eternal life and others sent away into everlasting punishment?
3. What was the thief told to do in Eph. 4:28?
4. One who sees his brother in need and refuses to help does not have the _____ of God abiding in him. 1 John 3:16-18
5. How did the early Christians in Jerusalem meet the needs of their needy brethren? Acts 4:32—5:11
6. Thought question: are there ever circumstances in which we are justified in refusing to help a needy person? Be sure you have Scripture for your answer.
7. It is indisputable that Christians are expected to be benevolent people and it is also an indisputable fact that a local church, as a collective body, is to be involved in benevolence, but there are differences in the responsibilities of individual Christians and the church functioning as a group.
8. Obtaining money to be used for benevolence.
 - a. How can the individual Christian obtain the necessary funds for benevolence? Eph. 4:28; Acts 4:32ff; et al
 - b. How did NT churches obtain the funds they used in benevolence? Acts 4:34, 35; 1 Cor. 16:1-4; 2 Cor. 8, 9
9. Recipients of benevolence.
 - a. Who were the recipients of church benevolence? Acts 11:29, 30; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2; Rom. 15:25, 26, 30-32; 2 Cor. 8:3, 4; 9:1, 12, 13
 - b. Are there some that we as individual Christians should help that are not to be helped from the church's treasury? 1 Tim. 5:16
10. James 1:27 and church-supported orphans' homes.
 - a. Does James 1:27 outline duties we as individuals are responsible for or does it assign responsibilities to the church as a collective body?
 - b. Does James 1:27 provide any authority (Col. 3:17) for the church to send contributions from its treasury to benevolent organizations such as orphans' homes or homes for the care of widows?

Lesson 4 / James 2: Active, Impartial Faith

1. Jesus is described in v. 1 as the Lord of _____.
2. Define partiality (respect of persons; personal favoritism).
3. The partiality of this chapter involved what distinctions? What are some common reflections of partiality today?
4. Why was it especially foolish for them to show partiality toward the rich? 2:5-7
5. What does the royal law require of us?
6. What was James' answer to those who might say partiality is a small sin?
7. Judgment is without mercy to whom?
8. How did James first illustrate the emptiness of faith without works?
9. Even the _____ believe—and tremble.
10. When was Abraham's faith said to have been made perfect?
11. When were the words, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness" first spoken? (Give the Scripture reference and also describe the point in Abraham's life at which it was said).
12. How long had Abraham been known as a faithful servant of God when he offered Isaac on the altar?
13. What was Rahab's profession before her faith led her to protect the spies?
14. Read Romans 4 and be able to harmonize what Paul says about Abraham not being saved by works with what James says in this chapter.

Lesson 5 / James 3: The Tongue and True Wisdom

1. Why did James urge Christians to be cautious about the decision to become teachers (masters)?
2. How does James illustrate the fact that the tongue is a powerful part of the body even though it is such a small part?
3. What misuse of the tongue is James' chief concern in this chapter?
4. List at least three other ways in which our speech can become sinful.
5. List at least three good and wholesome ways our power of speech can be used.
6. Can you think of some steps we can take to improve our speech?
7. How can a man show himself to possess wisdom and understanding? Cf. what is said about faith in 2:14-26.
8. James warns his readers about having _____ and _____ in their hearts.
9. What three terms are applied to the "wisdom" that is not from above?
10. Envy and self-seeking (strife) result in what?
11. Study the description of the true wisdom in 3:17 and be able to define each characteristic.
12. The fruit or harvest of righteousness is sown in _____.

Lesson 6 / James 4: Friendship with the World Is Enmity with God

1. Chapter three closed with the exhortation to be a people who make _____.
2. What was the source of the wars (quarrels) and fights (conflicts) among James' readers?
3. Why were some unable to obtain the things they desired?
4. What is meant by the world in 4:4?
5. List some ways love of the world may be manifested in one's life. (Some may be found in James 4, 5, but don't limit yourself to this one context).

6. God resists (opposes) the _____, but gives _____ to the humble.
7. Define humble.
8. How can we get the devil to flee from us?
9. What do we have to do if we want the Lord to draw near to us?
10. What is meant by double-minded in 4:8?
11. Who is to lament, mourn, and weep in 4:9?
12. What will the Lord do for those who humble themselves in His sight?
13. How are we guilty of speaking evil of the law when we speak evil of our brother?
14. What is wrong with making the type of plans described in 4:13?
15. Is it wrong to make plans for the future?
16. When should we do the good we know that we need to do?

Lesson 7 / James 5: Various Exhortations

1. Why were the rich to weep and howl?
2. What sins had the rich committed? 5:1-6
3. What is the significance of calling God the Lord of Sabaoth (hosts)? 5:4
4. James urged the brethren to be _____ until the _____ of the Lord.
5. As these brethren suffered, they were urged to consider the example of the _____.
6. Who is counted blessed (happy)?
7. What lesson did James want his readers to take from the suffering of Job?
8. James urged his brethren not to swear by _____ or _____.
9. Find two passages where Jesus discussed swearing/taking oaths.
10. What were the following urged to do?
 - a. The suffering (afflicted)?
 - b. The cheerful (merry)?
 - c. The sick?
11. What were the elders instructed to do for the sick?
12. Why should we confess our trespasses to one another, and pray for one another?
13. When using Elijah as an example of the power of prayer, how does James describe him?
14. Why is important to turn back the one who has wandered from the truth?

Lesson 8 / 1 Peter 1: An Incorruptible Inheritance

1. Introduction to 1 Peter.
 - a. Author?
 - b. To whom was the letter addressed?
 - 1) Students of this epistle have questioned whether 1:1 refers to Jewish Christians or all Christians. While the question cannot be conclusively answered, I believe the weight of evidence points to all Christians.
 - 2) “The figure of the Dispersion of the Jews throughout the world is applied to the Gentile Christians to whom the letter is addressed....The metaphor of the church as the new Israel is likewise predominant (2:4-10), with non-Christians being considered the true Gentiles (2:12; 4:3).” Thomas H. Hamilton, *The Present Truth* (Florida College Annual Lectures, 2000), p. 43
 - c. Conditions at the time of writing? 1:6, 7; 4:12-14
 - d. Key themes: Be strong in the face of persecution.
 - 1) We are temporary sojourners.
 - 2) Glory must be preceded by suffering.
 - e. Date? Likely between A.D. 65-68.
2. In 1:1 the letter is addressed to pilgrims (strangers, exiles). What does this suggest about the attitude the Christian is to take toward this world?
3. Use a map to locate the places mentioned in 1:1.
4. Define sanctification.
5. Why is God to be blessed (praised) in 1:3?
6. How is the Christian’s inheritance described in Peter’s opening words?
7. By what power is the Christian being kept for the revealing of the final salvation?
8. How can we rejoice even as we are being “grieved by various trials?”
9. The prophets of old spoke of the _____ of Christ and the _____ that would follow.

10. Girding up the loins of the mind (preparing your minds for action—ESV).
 - a. Define sober.
 - b. They were to rest their hope fully on what?
 - c. Do not be conformed to the former _____.
11. Define holiness.
12. With what was the Christian redeemed?
13. How had the readers purified their souls?
14. How does Peter describe the love we are to have for our brethren? List some ways we can demonstrate that love.
15. By what means had they been born again?
16. The _____ of the Lord endures forever.

Lesson 9 / 1 Peter 2: God's Holy Priesthood

1. Before we can grow spiritually, we must lay aside what?
2. To what does Peter compare the way a Christian should desire the word of the Lord?
3. Christians are to be built up a spiritual _____ and a holy _____.
4. Christ is described as the chief _____ which the _____ rejected.
5. Why was/is Jesus a stone of stumbling for some?
6. God called men out of darkness that they might proclaim what?
7. The words of 1 Peter 2:10 are taken from what Old Testament prophet?
8. Define the words sojourners (strangers) and pilgrims as used in 2:11.
9. Why are Christians to submit to every ordinance of man? (2:13-17 gives more than one reason). Cf. Romans 13:1-7.
10. When, if ever, are we justified in breaking the law?
11. What should our attitude toward the brotherhood be?
12. What were servants to do if they had to deal with a harsh master?
13. When we suffer unjustly we are to follow the example of _____, who suffered despite having committed no _____.
14. What did Jesus do when He was reviled and suffered?
15. Jesus bore our _____ in His own body on the tree so it might be said that by His _____ we are healed.
16. Jesus is called the _____ and _____ of our souls. 2:25
17. Identify the OT passage quoted or alluded to in 2:6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 22, 24.
18. Being doers of the word.
 - a. How should 1 Peter 2 affect my approach to Bible study, worship, the government, my job, mistreatment, and this world in general?
 - b. Is Jesus the cornerstone around which we are building our lives? Are we seeking daily to follow His example? Are we living daily with gratitude for His atoning death?

Lesson 10 / 1 Peter 3:1-7: Husbands and Wives

1. What instruction did Peter give to servants in 2:18?
2. Whose example were servants (and all Christians) to follow when it came to enduring suffering without doing wrong?
3. Take note of likewise (in the same way—NIV) in 3:1. The instructions to servants must be kept in mind as we begin a new section.
4. Our study will focus on 1 Peter 3:1-7, but we will also be referring to Eph. 5:22-34 and Col. 3:18, 19.
5. Define submissive.
6. What possible outcome of a wife's exemplary behavior does Peter mention in 3:1, 2?
7. Define chaste. Be able to provide examples of behavior that would be chaste and behavior by a wife that would be unchaste.
8. What kind of beauty is said to be precious in the sight of God?
9. Read 3:3, 4 carefully.
 - a. From observation of life, would you say that most husbands care about their wife's personal appearance?
 - b. Is Peter saying that a wife should have no concern for her outward appearance as she seeks to please her husband and if he is not a Christian even win him to the Lord?
10. How did the holy women of old adorn themselves?
11. What term of respect did Sarah use in reference to Abraham?
12. How can women today be daughters of Sarah?
13. Husbands are told to dwell with their wives with (according to, in an) _____ .
14. Husbands are also to give (show) _____ to their wives.
15. While the husband has been assigned the leadership role, both husband and wife are _____ of the grace of life.
16. What negative consequence can result from a husband's failure to dwell properly with his wife? (We could probably list many, but what does Peter mention in 3:7?)

Lesson 11 / 1 Peter 3:8-22: Suffering for Righteousness' Sake

1. Consider carefully the instructions of 3:8 and be prepared to discuss each one.
 - a. Of one mind (likeminded, unity of mind, harmonious).
 - b. Having compassion for one another (sympathetic).
 - c. Love as brothers (brotherly).
 - d. Tenderhearted (pitiful, kindhearted).
 - e. Courteous (humble).
2. How is a Christian supposed to respond to mistreatment?
3. In conjunction with 3:10-12 read Psalm 34. While Peter quotes from the LXX (Greek translation of the Old Testament) which causes it to read a little differently from our OT, note that this psalm is attributed to a time in David's life when he was being persecuted and pursued by Saul. The inspired apostle, seeking to establish the blessedness of a righteous life, uses a great statement of faith from David during a time of severe trial. Knowing the background of the psalm should help us appreciate the fact that one can have a good life despite trials and afflictions.
4. To love life and see good days we must turn away from what things?
5. Those wishing to see good days should seek and pursue what?
6. The righteous are promised that the Lord's _____ are on them and His _____ are open to their _____.
7. What is the implied answer to the question in 3:13? Cf. Rom. 13:3.
8. But the Christian who does suffer for righteousness' sake is still _____.
9. In the face of opposition, the Christian should be able to give an explanation for the _____ that is in him and motivates him.
10. As we defend our faith we must do so with _____, _____, and a good _____.
11. If it is God's will that we suffer let's make certain it is not because we have done what?
12. Christ suffered (died) once for _____ that He might bring us to _____.
13. When were the "spirits in prison" guilty of their disobedience to God?
14. How many people were saved in the ark?

15. To better understand the role God has assigned water baptism read Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3, 4; Gal. 3:26, 27.

16. Having suffered (died) once, where is Jesus now?

Lessons 12, 13 / 1 Peter 4: Glorify God

1. We are to imitate Christ in living not for the _____ of _____, but for the _____ of God.
2. In the past his readers had engaged in the _____ of the Gentiles.
3. Study carefully the list of sins found in 4:3.
 - a. Lewdness (lasciviousness, sensuality).
 - b. Lusts (passions).
 - c. Drunkenness (excess of wine).
 - d. Revelries (revellings, carousals, orgies).
 - e. Drinking parties (banquetings)
 - f. Abominable idolatries (lawless idolatry).
4. Why were some speaking evil of the saints? 4:4
5. Those who spoke evil of God's people, thus passing judgment on them, would themselves give an account to the judge of both _____ and _____.
6. Why was the gospel preached to those who are dead?
7. With the end at hand, Christians were exhorted to do what?
8. Have _____ love for one another.
9. How does love cover a multitude of sins?
10. They were to practice hospitality without _____.
11. People may have different gifts, but all should be used so that God is _____.
12. Why were Peter's readers not to be surprised by their fiery trial?
13. How can a Christian rejoice in a time of suffering?
14. If it is our lot to suffer, we must make certain it is not because we are guilty of what things?
15. Where will judgment begin?
16. If we suffer we should _____ our souls to God in doing _____.

Lessons 14, 15 / Overview of Revelation with Emphasis on the Suffering of God's People (I)

1. From the island of _____, John wrote the Revelation to the seven churches of Asia as they were undergoing great tribulation. 1:9
 - a. Despite the misuse often made of it, Revelation was not intended to depict the unfolding of human history from the 1st century until the end of all time.
 - 1) John was shown things that would take place _____. 1:1; 22:6
 - b. Like 1 Peter, it was written to a specific people suffering persecution at a specific moment in time, but, much like 1 Peter again, it contains timeless principles that should strengthen our faith and steel our resolve to be on the winning side, the side of Christ.
 - c. While the book has more than its share of difficulties, it does not provide any support to the premillennial interpretations it is often given.
 - 1) Christ will not return to be made King, for He was made King following His resurrection. Acts 2:29-36
 - 2) Jesus will not return to establish His kingdom, for it was established in the first century. Mark 9:1; Col. 1:12-14
2. The primary message of the Revelation to the saints of the 1st century and the message we of the 21st century should see is the certainty of victory through Jesus Christ. Cf. Rom. 8:31-39.
 - a. Great conflicts in heaven and on earth are depicted in this book, but in the end the enemies of God and His people are punished, while God's people dwell with their Father forever in a pain-free Paradise.
3. Time of writing.
 - a. Though some date it to around the time of Nero (ca. A.D. 65-68), the time of Domitian (ca. A.D. 95/96) seems to fit best.
 - b. The book depicts a severe government-sponsored persecution.
4. The Revelation is written in a style often called Apocalyptic. (Cf. Ezekiel, Daniel, and Zechariah). Bob Waldron lists four characteristics of apocalyptic literature. (*A Remnant Shall Return*, p. 162).
 - a. The frequent use of symbols. These served to present truths in a more graphic, vivid way than straight-forward prose. At times, they also seem to have been used to conceal certain elements from the persecutors.
 - b. Visions are prominently featured.
 - c. A strong predictive element is found in it.
 - d. It looks beneath the surface or behind the scenes to present ultimate realities and may present the plan of God as a completed whole, even when it is many years from completion.
5. Describe the Christ who appeared to John in 1:10-20. Think: why was this vision significant to the persecuted saints?
6. The letters to the seven churches in Rev. 2, 3.
 - a. Why are these relatively straight-forward letters included?
 - 1) The book is a message of hope, assurance, victory, etc. for God's people, but only if they get their houses in order.
 - 2) They must be determined not to give in. How many times in ch. 2, 3 does Christ promise a blessing to those who overcome?

- b. Ephesus 2:1-7
 - 1) For what things was Ephesus commended?
 - 2) Why were they in danger of having their lampstand removed?
 - c. Smyrna. 2:8-11
 - 1) What did they have to do if they wanted to receive the crown of life?
 - d. Pergamos. 2:12-17
 - 1) What good thing had they done in the days of Antipas?
 - 2) What prompted the call to repent?
 - e. Thyatira. 2:18-29
 - 1) What evil was Jezebel committing?
 - f. Sardis. 3:1-6
 - 1) Why were they rebuked?
 - 2) A few had not _____ their garments, and they would walk with Jesus in _____.
 - g. Philadelphia. 3:7-13
 - 1) What fault did Jesus find with this church?
 - h. Laodicea. 3:14-22
 - 1) What criticism did the Lord have for them?
 - 2) What did the Lord intend to do to them?
7. Who was seated on the throne in ch. 4?
 8. In ch. 5, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders praise the Lamb who was _____.
 9. When the second seal was opened one who sat on a _____ horse took _____ from the earth. 6:3, 4
 10. What did John see when the fourth seal was opened? 6:7, 8
 11. What was the cry/plea of the souls under the altar? 6:9-11
 12. What was the cry of the disobedient following the opening of the sixth seal? 6:12-17
 13. The four angels were prohibited from doing what in 7:1-3?
 14. Who were the ones in white robes in 7:9-17 and where were they when John saw them?
 15. The seven trumpets of ch. 8, 9 may not be intended to depict events that followed in chronological order the events of ch. 6, 7, but may instead elaborate on the warning judgments depicted in ch. 6.
 16. Take note that the two witnesses could not be hurt until they had finished their testimony. 11:5-7
 17. The seventh trumpet sounded victory for God and His people. The Lord had judged the wicked and rewarded those who feared His name.

Lessons 16, 17 / Overview of Revelation with Emphasis on the Suffering of God's People (II)

1. Ch. 12 marks the beginning of the second half of the book, but consider what a couple of writers have said about this second section.
 - a. "Revelation 1-11 shows the conflict between good and evil from the standpoint of the earth:
 - God's wrath is poured out upon the wicked upon the earth.
 - The saints upon the earth were sealed and protected.
 - Christ was victorious. His kingdom was established in spite of the opposition.

"Now in chapters 12-22, we go behind the scene with John and see the conflict that is raging between God and Satan.

- These wicked forces upon the earth are merely tools of Satan."

Waldron, *How Long, O Lord*, p. 138

- b. "For example, the reader could close the Apocalypse after the first eleven chapters and be assured of the outcome. The characters have been introduced—the beast versus God's witnesses. The winners have been announced—Christ and his saints. However, several questions remain unanswered. What are the underlying reasons for this hostility toward the church and the persecution of the saints? From whence comes the power motivating the persecutors? From earth's viewpoint, the conflict is between Rome and the church. But the remaining visions will show that behind the scene the struggle actually originates in heaven. The battle is between God and Satan, righteousness versus evil."

Robert Harkrider, *Truth Commentaries, Revelation*, pp. 131, 132

2. Describe the appearance of the dragon that sought to destroy the male Child, the woman, and the rest of her offspring. Ch. 12
3. Who fought with the dragon in ch. 12?
4. Describe the beast that came out of the sea in ch. 13. With whom did he make war? 13:6, 7
5. What happened to those who refused to receive the mark of the beast? 13:15-17
6. By contrast, what did the angel announce as the fate of those who received the mark of the beast? 14:9-11
7. Those who die in the Lord are _____. 14:13
8. How much blood came from the winepress of God's wrath? 14:19, 20
9. Ch. 16 contains a gruesome depiction of the wrath of God as it falls on those who worshiped the beast and those who persecuted His saints.
10. The great harlot was drunk with the _____ of the _____ and _____ of Jesus. 17:6

11. How could the Lamb defeat the beast and his allies? 17:14
12. What happened to Babylon the Great (the harlot) in ch. 18?
13. What were the birds invited to eat in 19:17-19?
14. The beast and the false prophet were cast alive into the _____ of _____.
15. What happened to the dragon in 20:1-3?
16. Where was the devil cast in 20:10?
17. Anyone not found written in the _____ of _____ was cast into the lake of fire.
18. Read 21:1-7.
 - a. God will dwell with men and they shall be His _____.
 - b. In the new heaven and new earth there will be no _____, _____, _____, or _____.
 - c. He who _____ shall inherit all things, and I will be his _____ and he shall be my _____.
19. Who heads the list of those cast into the lake of fire? 21:8
20. Why does the New Jerusalem need no temple? No sun and moon? 21:22-25
21. What is forbidden to enter the glorious city? 21:27
22. In the heavenly city, the tree of _____ is found, and there is no more _____. 21:1-3
23. Who is left outside the city in 22:15?
24. What would happen to anyone that added to the words of this book? 22:18

Lesson 18 / Elders in the Lord's Church—1 Peter 5:1-5; Acts 14:23; 20:17-38; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-11

1. Peter describes himself as a fellow _____ and a witness of the _____ of Christ, and also a partaker of the _____ that will be revealed.
2. Elders are to shepherd (feed—KJV) the flock. What did a shepherd typically do for a flock?
3. What flock are elders to shepherd?
4. What three warnings does Peter give regarding the oversight of elders in 5:2, 3?
5. Since Jesus is the Chief Shepherd, list some things elders could learn from Jesus about being good shepherds.
6. Why should all of us have a spirit of submission?
7. Define humility.
8. To whom did Paul instruct the Ephesian elders to take heed (pay careful attention)? Acts 20:28
9. The elders of the church at Ephesus were warned against savage _____.
10. Is the bishop of 1 Tim. 3:1-7 the same as the elder of Acts 14:23; Acts 20:17; et al? Use Scriptures to support your answer.
11. From 1 Tim. 3 and Titus 1, list the qualifications of a bishop...
 - a. In regard to family.
 - b. As it relates to ability.
 - c. That deal with experience.
 - d. That describe his overall character.

Lesson 19 / Resist Your Adversary; 1 Peter 5:6-14

1. What does God promise to do for those who humble themselves?
2. We can cast our cares on God knowing that He _____ for us.
3. Why is it important for Christians to be sober and vigilant (watchful)?
4. To what animal does Peter compare the devil?
5. Note 5:9 carefully.
 - a. Resistance is possible.
 - b. As the saints were urged to resist the devil suffering was mentioned. Satan was directly behind the persecutions they faced, and in tempting us today he is capable of making use of the various types of suffering we may have to endure.
6. What would God do for these heavenly citizens after they had suffered a while?
7. By what name is Silvanus better known to us? Cf. Acts 18:5 and 2 Cor. 1:19.
8. In Rev. 17 the name Babylon is used to symbolize Rome. Does 1 Peter 5:13 refer to the Babylon of the Old Testament or is it another way of saying Rome?
9. With what kind of kiss were they to greet one another?
10. Think: was Peter urging the brethren to institute a new practice of kissing one another or was he telling them to make certain the greeting which had been used for 2,000 years was a genuine show of brotherly love?
11. List three of the most memorable lessons you have learned from 1 Peter.

Lesson 20 / Giving All Diligence; 2 Peter 1:1-11

1. Introduction to 2 Peter.
 - a. Author?
 - b. To whom was the letter addressed?
 - 1) Unlike 1 Peter, this epistle does not specify any geographic location, but if 3:1 is a reference to 1 Peter then it must at least include the Christians mentioned in 1 Peter 1:1.
 - 2) Though we cannot be certain, 2 Peter may have been intended to include not only the recipients of 1 Peter, but also a little broader audience than 1 Peter.
 - c. Peter's concern at the time of writing? 2:1-3, 18, 19; 3:1-3
 - d. Key themes: While 1 Peter exhorted the readers to be strong despite persecution, this epistle urges its readers to beware of false teachers.
 - 1) Know the certainty of that which has been revealed. 1:12-21
 - 2) The depravity and dangers presented by false teachers. Ch. 2
 - 3) Don't be fooled—the end is coming and it is imperative that they be prepared through holy conduct and godliness. Ch. 3
 - e. Date? Shortly before Peter's death ca. A.D. 68. 1:12-15; cf. John 21:18, 19.
2. Define the word precious. 1:1
3. All things pertaining to life and godliness have been given through the _____ of Him who called us.
4. Define glory and virtue.
5. How does Peter describe the promises given to the one who has escaped the corruption that is in this world?
6. To partake or share in the divine nature does not mean that we have the powers of deity, but having escaped this world's corruption we begin to take on or share certain qualities of God. List some things that are a part of the divine nature and are to be a part of our "Christian nature."
 - a. *Example:* holiness. 1 Peter 1:13-16

7. Define the following words:

- a. Diligence. 1:5
- b. Virtue. 1:5
- c. Knowledge. 1:5, 6
- d. Self-control (temperance). 1:6
- e. Perseverance (patience; steadfastness) 1:6
- f. Godliness. 1:6, 7
- g. Brotherly kindness (brotherly affection). 1:7
- h. Love (charity). 1:7

8. Those who have the qualities described in 1:5-7 will be neither _____ nor _____ in the knowledge of the Lord.

9. Why do some lack these things?

10. With diligence, we can make our _____ and _____ sure.

11. Does 2 Peter 1:10, 11 teach that a Christian cannot fall from grace (i.e. lose his salvation)? Be able to defend your answer.

Lesson 21 / Not Cunningly Devised Fables; 2 Peter 1:12-21

1. Why did Peter write this letter? 1:12-15
2. What is a fable?
3. The apostle was certain the story of Jesus was not a cunningly devised fable because he was an _____ of Jesus' _____.
4. Read the account of the transfiguration as found in Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36.
5. Who was with Peter on the mount of Transfiguration?
6. In addition to the eyewitness testimony of the apostles, we have the _____ word.
7. "No prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation."
 - a. For interpretation, the margin of the NKJV has "origin."
 - b. The ESV renders thus, "no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation."
8. Prophecy did not come by the will of _____, but men of _____ spoke as they were moved by the _____.

Lesson 22 / 2 Peter 2; Jude 1-25: There Will Be False Teachers Among You

1. Just as God's people of old were beset by _____, Peter warns that there would be _____ among his readers.
2. As we read 2 Peter 2 we should recognize that not all who teach falsely display the character of those described in this chapter, but that does not diminish the seriousness of teaching things that are false.
 - a. What happens when the blind lead the blind (Matt. 15:14)? Does it change anything if the blind leader is sincere?
 - b. Can one acceptably preach another gospel (Gal. 1:8) if he is sincere about it?
3. The false teachers would secretly bring in _____ heresies and bring on themselves swift _____.
4. What motivation is mentioned in 2:3, 14, 15?
5. Follow carefully the "if...then" statements of 2:4-10.
 - a. What happened to angels who sinned?
 - b. What did God do the ancient world in the time of Noah?
 - c. What did the Lord do the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah?
 - d. What did God do for Noah in the time of the flood?
 - e. What did God do for righteous Lot when his city was destroyed?
 - f. Conclusion: God can and will deliver the _____, while reserving the _____ under _____ for the day of judgment.
6. What attitude did these false teachers display toward authority?
7. The false teachers were compared to what kind of animals (2:12)?
8. These wicked men were able to entice _____ souls.
9. Balaam is described as having loved what?
10. The appeal of the false teachers was to the _____ of the flesh. Can you think of some false doctrines being taught today that have the same appeal?
11. What do the false teachers promise their listeners?

12. How did those described in 2:20-22 initially escape the pollutions (defilements) of the world?
13. To what two animals did Peter compare the ones who were entangled again in the pollutions of the world?
14. How can we avoid being led astray by false teaching?

Lessons 23, 24 / The Day of the Lord; 2 Peter 3

1. What did Peter hope to accomplish in both of his epistles?
2. What is a scoffer?
3. The scoffers were described as walking according to their own _____.
4. What argument did the scoffers make against the possibility of the return of Jesus?
5. The scoffers were willfully (deliberately) overlooking what past historical event?
6. 3:8, 9 give two reasons the return of Jesus may seem to have been delayed.
 - a. Give the reason from 3:8.
 - b. What reason for the “delay” is found in 3:9?
7. The day of the Lord will come as a _____ in the _____.
8. What will happen to the earth and everything in it when the day of the Lord comes?
9. The new heavens and new earth (i.e. the new order) will be a place in which _____ dwells.
10. What practical effects should the thought of the Lord’s return have on our lives? 3:11, 14
11. Think: why does Peter call the Lord’s longsuffering (patience) salvation?
12. Who was guilty of twisting the writings of Paul?
13. Note that Peter placed Paul’s writings on par with the other Scriptures, meaning that many of his letters were already being circulated among the churches.
14. The warnings found in this letter should prevent what from happening? 3:17
15. But grow in the _____ and _____ of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
16. Realized Eschatology contends that the day of the Lord and the return of Jesus discussed in this chapter took place in and around A.D. 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem. Study the chapter carefully and be prepared to explain the fallacies of this contention.