

The image features a silhouette of Christ the Redeemer, a large statue of Jesus Christ with arms outstretched, set against a dramatic sky of orange and yellow clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is overlaid on this image.

Hour-12

**SALVATION-The Gospel
According to God (49-53)**

WOLBI Isaiah Class Themes

- Hour-1: ISIAH-What Was Jesus & Paul's FAVORITE Book of the OT? (1-66)
- Hour-2: ABANDONED-How Does God DESCRIBE AN Ungodly Culture? (1-5)
- Hour-3: CONSECRATION-How God Prepares Us to Reach Our Godless Culture (6)
- Hour-4: MESSIAH-The Fulfillment of All God's Promises (7-12)
- Hour-5: WRATH-When God Pours His Wrath Upon Earth in Great Tribulation (13,24-27)
- Hour-6: COSMIC WARFARE-How Did Lucifer Became Satan? (14)
- Hour-7: JUSTICE-How Does God Respond to National Sins? (15-23, 28-35)
- Hour-8: PRAYER-Hezekiah's Big Problem Assyria & the Destroyer From the Pit (36-39)

The Book of Proverbs is the 20th book of the 66 books of the Bible.

The Book of Proverbs has 31 chapters; 915 verses; the 513 key proverbs God wanted recorded of the 3,000 that Solomon spoke; and the entire book totals 15,028 words in English.

Proverbs is about God's will like stepping stones across the lake, if know where they are not even get wet; step out right now and land right in the middle of God's will for the next step.

WOLBI Isaiah Class Themes

- Hour-9: INSPIRATION-The Powerful Word of Our Awesome God (40)
- Hour-10: THEOLOGY-The Powerful Character of Our Awesome God (40)
- Hour-11: PROPHECY-God Left the Map of the Future (41-48)
- Hour-12: SALVATION-The Gospel According to God (49-53)
- Hour-13: COMPASSION-God, Hurting People, Resting & Fasting (54-58)
- Hour-14: PARADISE-Christ's Return & Rule-When God Restores the Earth (59-66)
- Hour-15: USEFUL-Learning to Listen to God Daily in His Word (1-66)

The Book of Proverbs is the 20th book of the 66 books of the Bible.

The Book of Proverbs has 31 chapters; 915 verses; the 513 key proverbs God wanted recorded of the 3,000 that Solomon spoke; and the entire book totals 15,028 words in English.

Proverbs is about God's will like stepping stones across the lake, if know where they are not even get wet; step out right now and land right in the middle of God's will for the next step.

ISAIAH OUTLINED: God's Expectations of His People & God's Future Plans for His People

I. Our Mighty God Chastening His People 1-39

- A. God, Sin, Culture & Consecration (1-6)
- B. The Messiah Promised (7-12)
- C. The Nations Judged (13-23)
- D. The Tribulation Foretold (24-27)
- E. The Woes against Judah (28-35)
- F. God's Powerful Hand Shown to Hezekiah (36-39)

II. Our Merciful God Comforting His People 40-66

- A. God Promises Restoration (40-48)
- B. God Offers Salvation through the Messiah (49-57)
- C. God Describes the Millennium (58-66)

KEY CHAPTERS

- 1. The Throne of God 6**
- 2. The Messiah: His Incarnation 7, 9**
- 3. The Doom of Babylon & Lucifer 13-14**
- 4. The Tribulation 24-27**
- 5. Greatest Prophecy: Letter to Cyrus 45**
- 6. The Messiah: His Atonement 53**
- 7. Second Coming (63) & Millennium (65-66)**



but
He
was

PIERCED FOR OUR
transgressions, he was CRUSHED
for our iniquities; the punishment that

brought us
PEACE
was upon

HIM
and by

HIS
wounds

WE
ARE

HEALED
ISAIAH 53:6

Isaiah 53: “Holy of Holies of the Old Testament Prophecy”

“Holy of Holies of the Old Testament Prophecy”

Isaiah 53 is so provocative that Ashkenazi Jews removed the chapter from their Bibles, however Sephardic Jews did not. The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947, which included a copy of Isaiah with Chapter 53 included, created some controversy.

Written 700 B.C. Isaiah 53 is mentioned to in all four gospels (Mt 8:17; Mk 15:28; Lk 22:37; Jn 12:37,38) and in Acts (Philip and the Ethiopian, 8:32- 35), Romans (10:16); and 1 Pet 2:21-25.

Background: Ps 22 - from the cross....the bones, thirst, piercing of the hands and feet, the humiliation, ridicule, casting of lots....first words and last words correspond with Jesus' first and last words on the cross. Zech 12:10 - “whom they have pierced.”

Isa 53 - (to/before) the Cross.... The Lamb slain in our stead.

Starts at 52:13 (chapter divisions were instituted 14-15th century).

The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

13] “Beholdmyservant.”

Extolled = “lifted up” (Jn 3:14; Num 21:5-9) made sin for us! (2 Cor 5:21).

14] Should read: “so marred from the form of man was his aspect that his appearance was not that of a son of man” (Isa 50:6).

15] “Sprinkle”-(LXX-“marvel”)inLev14:7;4:6;8:11samewordisusedfor “ritual sprinkling” that is done by one who is pure and innocent.

Chapter 53

1] Rom 10:16; Jn 12:88.

2] “Tender” = “fresh sprout.” Used as “only” in Gen 22.

“Plant” = sapling (Jn 8:16; 14:7; 15:30; Ps 80:12; Ezek 17:22; Hos 14:6). “Root” - root of a family tree - 11:10; Rev 5:5; Jn 15:1-6.
No form nor majesty (to the eye). (Only physical description we have of Jesus!)

Tabernacle

(Portable sanctuary)

Every aspects speaks of Jesus Christ:

One gate -one door - “I am the door.”

Brazen altar - alter of sacrifice - Cross.

Brazen laver- Eph 4 - Word of God. “I am the living water.”

Menorah - “I am the vine, ye are the branches.” “I am the Light of the world.”

Shewbread - “I am the Bread of life.”

Altar of incense - Jesus’ role today as intercessor for our prayers. Planks of acacia wood wrapped in gold - humanity and deity rests on silver sockets (silver linked to blood).

Four covering layers:

1) Linen (blue - Levitical, purple - royal, scarlet -death) - Ex 26:1

2) Goat’s hair - sin bearer - Lev 16:19-22 - scapegoat.

3) Ram’ s skins dyed red - Gen 3:21; 22:13 (shedding of innocent blood they would be covered).

4) Badger (porpoise) skins - Ex 16:10 - shoes made out of during wilderness wanderings (Deut 8:4; 29:5; Neh 9:21) shoes did not wear out for 40 years!

Outer Court - Body

Place of Fellowship - Soul Holy of Holies - Spirit

3] Mt 8:17; 1 Pet 2:24.

4] 12x pronouns: vicarious sufferings (Mt 20:28; Jn 11:50-52; Rom 3:25; 5:6- 8;8:3;2Cor5:18-21;8:9;Gal3:13;Eph1:7;1Pet2:24).

“Carried our sorrows” - (Mt 8:17?)

5] “Chastisement of our peace” - Eph 2:15-17; Col 1:20.

“Stripes” - 1 Pet 2:24.

6] “All...all.” 2 Cor 5:21.

7] Opened not his mouth (Ps 38:13, 14; 39:2,9).

Brought as the Lamb (Jn 1:29).

8] “Cut-off” - snatch - gazar (seen also in Daniel).

9] They assigned Him his grave. Impersonal passive voice, word “wicked” is in the plural (active voice, “rich” in singular).

Inverse12wefindhewas“numberedwiththetransgressors.” Andwe know that He was hung between two thieves.

Joseph of Arimathea was rich with rank and may have been related (next of kin legally allowed to take body). Rich in His death (1 Kgs 13:31; Ps 6:5).

“No violence,” “no wrong” (Jn 8:46; Heb 7:26-28; 9:14; 1 Pet 2:22; 2 Cor 5:21; 1 Jn 3:5; Mt 27:4). Basis for New Covenant over Old.

10] “ItpleasedtheLord”becauseofwhatitwouldbringus! “Thou” - Jn 14:10.

Soul, not body. Different levels: bodily, soul (something deeper happening...).

Seed - Ps 22:30; Rom 6:9.

“Prosper” - how? - resurrection! Feast of firstfruits is celebrated on the morning after Shabbat after Passover. (See Feasts of Israel for further Page 94

study.) We are pardoned because our debts have been paid in full. All done to satisfy a righteous God.

11] Phil2:7-11.

We are justified by Christ's righteousness, not our own!

No man ever saved by animal sacrifice (Heb 10:4).

No man ever saved by deeds of the law (Rom 3:20).

No other way but Jesus, or Gethsamene prayer was in vain!

All this description predicted eight centuries in advance!

Caiaphas' Ossuary & Christ



SLIDE: John 11.49; 18.14

Turn with me to John 11.49-53. One of the most prominent[2] figures in all the Gospel accounts that describe Jesus final week of conflict in the Holy City is the high priest Caiaphas. Caiaphas, who served as the leader of the Sanhedrin from A.D. 18-36, is known in the Gospel accounts as the one who prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation.

Now turn to John 18.14. Caiaphas is also the man who actually set in motion the plan to kill Him, and then presided over the late-night trial at which Jesus confessed Himself to be the Messiah and was subsequently condemned (Matthew 26:57-68).

Imagine being the chief employee working for God in the Temple at Jerusalem when Jesus came to Earth. I can think of no greater honor. The man most acquainted with the ceremonies, the laws, the sacrifices, and the Word. Oh so much was Caiaphas'. And yet he lost everything.

1. Caiaphas never listened to Jesus, he only heard from he wanted to hear.
2. Caiaphas never denied the supernatural work of Jesus, he only disbelieved that He was God's Son.
3. Caiaphas never sought out Jesus, he only silenced Him.
4. Caiaphas never found life through Christ, he only lost everything.

SLIDE: Ossuary of Caiaphas

Of all the objects unearthed in the Holy Land – this one strikes a very sobering cord for me. This box found in 1990 still holds the earthly frame of Caiaphas – the man who condemned Jesus to death. Can you imagine what he has been thinking for the past 2000 years? He is right now most likely in Hades, in the fire, burning hot, endlessly dying of thirst, dreading the moment he knows that he will have to face Jesus again.

SLIDE: Home of Caiaphas Today

Luke 22:54-65 records the events in the courtyard of Caiaphas' house that Peter waited for word about Jesus, but instead betrayed Him three times before the cock crowed (Matthew 26:69-75).

Whether or not the place identified as Caiaphas' house today in Jerusalem is the actual site, we now have discovered the actual remains of the high priest in his ossuary within his family tomb. The find occurred by accident^[3] in November of 1990 when workers were building a water park in Jerusalem's Peace Forest, which is south of the Temple Mount. The discovery was made when the roof of the burial chamber collapsed and revealed 12 limestone ossuaries. One of the ossuaries was exquisitely ornate and decorated with incised rosettes. Obviously it had belonged to a wealthy or high-ranking patron who could afford such a box. On this box was an inscription. It read in two places^[4] Qafa and Yehosef bar Qayafa ("Caiaphas," "Joseph, son of Caiaphas"). The New Testament refers to him only as Caiaphas, but Josephus gives his full name as "Joseph who was called Caiaphas of the high priesthood." Inside were the bones of six different^[5] people, including a 60-year-old man (most likely Caiaphas).

SLIDE: Matthew 26:63

When Jesus remained silent He was fulfilling Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

In all the events that surround these next few hours up to the Cross, Isaiah 53:8 is also being fulfilled.

He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

Of old^[6] the prophet had asked, "And who shall declare his generation? For he was cut off out of the land of the living?" (Isaiah 53:8). The answer to Isaiah's question as in wonder he said, "Will anyone stand up and declare who this Man truly is?" Seven times Jesus is affirmed to be who he said He was. These seven affirmations are given to us in the Gospels.

1. First, Judas declared, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood" (Matt. 27:4).
2. Second, Pilate declared, "I find no fault in him" (John 18:4).
3. Third, of Herod Pilate said, "No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him" (Luke 23:15).
4. Fourth, Pilate's wife entreated, "Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him." (Matt. 27:19).
5. Fifth, the dying thief affirmed, "We receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss" (Luke 23:41).
6. Sixth, the Roman centurion who glorified God, said, "Certainly this was a righteous man" (Luke 23:47).
7. Seventh, those who stood with the Centurion acknowledged, "Truly this was the Son of God" (Matt. 27:54)!

SLIDE: Luke 22:63-65

Now come the events that so few of us ponder. Isaiah had said Jesus was crushed for us, bruised for us, and lost all recognition that He had a face – for us. This was not entirely Roman. The awful hatred boiled over I believe that night as they waited to convene the Sanhedrin. The guards and servants of the High Priest at last could pour out their hatred upon the One who was so despised and so rejected. That is what most likely happened in these dungeons below Caiaphas' home.

Isaiah 53: The Heart of the Gospel

Do you see Christ there? Proof that God is the author of Scripture and Jesus its fulfillment is found in that one chapter alone, in the minute essential details exactly fulfilled in the death, burial, resurrection, ascension, intercession, coronation and salvation provided through Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself, the apostles of the New Testament, the writers of the New Testament in proclaiming the gospel point back to Isaiah 53 many, many times. Jesus referred to it. The apostles referred to it. The New Testament writers referred to it again and again and again. There are references to Isaiah 53 in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, 1 Timothy, Titus, Hebrews, 1 Peter, and 1 John.

No Old Testament Scripture so often and so convincingly is applied to Jesus Christ by the New Testament as this one. The New Testament writers refer to virtually every verse in the fifty-third chapter. It contains the sum and substance of the gospel, and to reject Christ is to reject the clear testimony of history, fulfilling every detail in this prophecy. But, on a bigger scale than the history and the fulfillment, as vital and important and wonderful as it is, is this question: what does that mean to me? That's the big issue. In the New Testament era there were millions of slaves and there was an awful lot of abuse of slaves. The numbers are sometimes astronomical. Some say 15 million slaves; some say 60 million slaves. People would assume, people who are socially sensitive, that the New Testament probably should have taken on the issue of human trafficking, human slavery, 'cause they had their sex slaves, as you well know if you know anything about ancient history. And they had all the abuses of slavery.

But it fascinates me that the apostle Paul, who writes thirteen books of the twenty-seven in the New Testament, the apostle Paul never wrote about the social injustices of slavery. What he did do was write a massive treatise on how a sinner can be right with God and escape eternal hell and enter eternal heaven, and it's called the book of Romans. Isaiah 53 is the Romans of the Old Testament. Romans is the greatest New Testament revelation answering that question. Everything else in the New Testament also is part of the answer to that question, of course. But Romans pulls it all together and focuses specifically on answering the question. And Isaiah 53 is the greatest Old Testament revelation on the same question.

Isaiah 52:13

My Servant

Now let's go to chapter 53 for a moment, with just that kind of broad picture. And you will find in verse 13 of 52, "Behold My servant, Behold My servant," My ebed, My slave. This is the same designation that has been indicated much earlier in this section of the book of Isaiah. This is the fourth of specific prophecies of the servant. Chapter 42 is one, chapter 49 is another, and chapter 50 verses 4 to 11 is the third. This is the fourth of what we would call Isaiah's servant songs, or servant prophecies.

“No Peace for the Wicked” Outlines Isaiah 40-66

There are 27 chapters. Take my word for it; 40 to 66, that's 27 chapters. They're divided into three sections 9, 9 and 9 in terms of subject, terms of subject. The first section ends with this statement: "There is no peace to the wicked." The second nine ends with this statement: "There is no peace to the wicked." The third section ends, chapter 66 verse 24, with a similar judgment statement. Each of the three sections ends with a warning of judgment on the wicked. But all three sections promise salvation. They're very evangelistic. They promise salvation and they end with a warning if you reject it. All three feature blessing and peace to the righteous and no peace and judgment to the wicked. All three determine that righteousness and wickedness is fixed forever. Destiny is not to be altered.

So the centerpiece section of these three nines, the first has to do with salvation from Babylon; the last eschatological kingdom salvation; the middle one, salvation from sin for the people of God, Jew and Gentile. And it's going to come through the Servant who will be the Savior sent from God. So, the middle section, listen, chapter 49 to 57, the middle chapters are 52 and 53. And the middle verse of 53 is verse 5, "He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities, the chastening for our wellbeing fell on Him and by His scourging we are healed." Middle section, middle chapters, middle of the chapter, middle verse. Everything just focuses down on the substitutionary piercing of the Servant of Jehovah for us.

By what means will God save His people? By what means will He forgive their sins? By the substitutionary vicarious death of His Servant, His Slave, the Messiah, the righteous King. And that one will fulfill this prophecy. This text, dear friends, points to the Lord Jesus Christ, is so clear as to be unmistakable.

Messianic Prophecies (Only exceeded by the Psalms!)

1. Youth in Nazareth: 53:2
2. Sufferings: 50:6; 52:14
3. Gathering to exultation: 52:13-15
4. Rejection by Israel: 53:1-3
5. Shame, struck, bruised: 53:4-6
6. Vicarious death: 53:8
7. Burial: 53:9
8. Resurrection: 53:10
9. Ascension: 52:13
10. Spiritual progeny: 53:10
11. High Priestly ministry: 53:12
12. Future glory: 59:20; 63:1-6; 66:15-19 (Not mentioned as a servant after Chapter 53)

12 Key Points from Isaiah 52:12-53:13

1. **LOWLY:** “a root out of a dry ground”
2. **REJECTED:** “rejected of men”
3. **DIVINE SUBSTITUTE:** “My Servant”
4. **CRUSHED:** “marred more than any”
5. **SUBMISSIVE:** “opened not his mouth.”
6. **ACCUSED:** “from prison and judgment”

12 Key Points from Isaiah 52:12-53:13

7. **CUT OFF:** “out of the land of the living”
8. **GUILTLESS:** “no violence nor deceit in his mouth”
9. **CONTINUED:** “prolong his days”
10. **BLESSED:** “pleasure would prosper in his hand”
11. **TRIUMPHANT:** “Divide spoil...”
12. **ACCEPTED:** “would justify many”

A Personal Biblical Framework For Understanding SALVATION

Isaiah 53

The Context of my Q&A's is that my answers are based on a framework of being an:

1. Evangelical (must be saved by calling personally on the Lord, not by association but by reception of Christ);
2. Inerrantist (trust the Scriptures that Jesus believed and affirmed every word, person, and event);
3. Cessationist (Revelation of Scripture ended God does not tell people inspired, inerrant things anymore);
4. Imputationist (Christ alone not a church or experience or administered sacrament);
5. Creationist (God wrote with His own finger in stone (Ex 20:8-11) that He framed everything from nothing in six literal solar days) God made everything perfectly in the Universe, then allowed some to fall into sin;
6. Catastrophist (BNoah's Flood);
7. Maximalist (every historic, prophetic & scientific statement is true);
8. Dispensationalist (Israel is not the Church, God has unbreakable plans for both)

Open the Gift of Salvation

START A NEW SPIRITUAL EXERCISE

If you have never tried this I'd encourage you to start a new dimension of your spiritual life by opening your gifts. Let me share with you one of the more wonderful spiritual exercises you can ever do.

As you begin each day, each month, and as we come to the end of this month—as you begin a new year, one of our greatest privileges is to open and enjoy the gift of salvation God has given to us. By faith we please God when we believe what He's said about us. We need to not live by what others say or have said about us all your life.

Satan is the Accuser and wants us to only remember all the many times we have fallen; Satan delights in the days, weeks, or months he can keep us condemning ourselves for what we've done. That is his plan, so don't fall for it. Resist Satan as you believe the truth; speak the truth; and preach the Gospel to yourself.

And when ever we fall down, God says to just turn back to Him and repent, confessing our sin immediately—and believe that what God has promised in His salvation. We are forgiven, justified, regenerated, reconciled, adopted, redeemed, and sanctified. That makes us precious in His sight, special in His plan.

One of the most powerful habits you could grow is to take this list of the ramifications of having received the only gift everyone really needs and rejoice by faith in your great salvation!

Keep this list in your Bible, at home, on your computer, put one on your mirror where you start your day, and in your car. Where ever you need to keep reminding yourself of what great things God has promised and done through Christ's death for us!

Slowly as you understand and lay hold on these truths a life-changing transformation take place in our minds, and then in our emotions, and finally throughout our entire life as we live each day based on God's eternal truth.

As you think about Christmas, gifts, presents, giving and receiving—why not check and be sure that you are opening the only gift that you (and everyone else) really needs?

Satan is the Accuser and wants us to only remember all the many times we have fallen; Satan delights in the days, weeks, or months he can keep us condemning ourselves for what we've done. That is his plan, so don't fall for it. Resist Satan as you believe the truth; speak the truth; **and preach the Gospel to yourself.**

And when ever we fall down, God says to just turn back to Him and repent, confessing our sin immediately—and believe that what God has promised in His salvation. We are forgiven, justified, regenerated, reconciled, adopted, redeemed, and sanctified. That makes us precious in His sight, special in His plan. One of the most powerful habits you could grow is to take this list of the ramifications of having received the only gift everyone really needs and rejoice by faith in your great salvation!

Keep this list in your Bible, at home, on your computer, put one on your mirror where you start your day, and in your car. Where ever you need to keep reminding yourself of what great things God has promised and done through Christ's death for us!

Slowly as you understand and lay hold on these truths **a life-changing transformation take place** in our minds, and then in our emotions, and finally throughout our entire life as we live each day based on God's eternal truth.

START A NEW SPIRITUAL EXERCISE

If you have never tried this I'd encourage you to start a new dimension of your spiritual life by opening your gifts. Let me share with you one of the more wonderful spiritual exercises you can ever do.

As you begin each day, each month, and as we come to the end of this month—as you begin a new year, one of our greatest privileges is to open and enjoy the gift of salvation God has given to us. By faith we please God when we believe what He's said about us. We need to not live by what others say or have said about us all your life.

Satan is the Accuser and wants us to only remember all the many times we have fallen; Satan delights in the days, weeks, or months he can keep us condemning ourselves for what we've done. That is his plan, so don't fall for it. Resist Satan as you believe the truth; speak the truth; and preach the Gospel to yourself.

And when ever we fall down, God says to just turn back to Him and repent, confessing our sin immediately—and believe that what God has promised in His salvation. We are forgiven, justified, regenerated, reconciled, adopted, redeemed, and sanctified. That makes us precious in His sight, special in His plan.

One of the most powerful habits you could grow is to take this list of the ramifications of having received the only gift everyone really needs and rejoice by faith in your great salvation!

Keep this list in your Bible, at home, on your computer, put one on your mirror where you start your day, and in your car. Where ever you need to keep reminding yourself of what great things God has promised and done through Christ's death for us!

Slowly as you understand and lay hold on these truths a life-changing transformation take place in our minds, and then in our emotions, and finally throughout our entire life as we live each day based on God's eternal truth.

As you think about Christmas, gifts, presents, giving and receiving—why not check and be sure that you are opening the only gift that you (and everyone else) really needs?

The Confessing Church

Through seven daily words of call, built's sinner are made ready to awaiting in the presence of God forever and their souls, finally delivered to, eternally receive the very dwelling place and throne of God, the abode "Gods of that" to dwell through the seven elements that make up the Church of Christ. Confess with me what God does in each of us who have believed.

1. I am **FORGIVEN**: God has removed my Debris.

This does the subtlest way each to all the people do: I need to God and just, with His own life, the eternal death which made me impossible to pay—that forgiven. I like with my own eyes though I did not see the forgiveness, waiting to be able of His grace (1 Peter 1:7-9)

2. I am **JUSTIFIED**: God has changed my State.

This does to take me out of my state and doing every kind of my sin, by taking me place in the position—state justification. I believe, being truly justified by faith, we have (born with God) through His love and grace. . . . (Romans 5:17-18)

3. I am **REGENERATED**: God has transformed my Heart.

This does to take me out of my sin and make me whole, full of grace and peace—this regeneration. I will give you a new heart and a new spirit within you, I will take the heart of stone out of you and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my Spirit within you and you will walk in my statutes, and you will keep my commandments (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

4. I am **RECONCILED**: God has become my Friend.

This does to take me out of an enemy and make me His friend—this reconciliation. For when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And who can separate us from His love? (Romans 5:10-11)

5. I am **ADOPTED**: God has changed my Family.

This does to take me from being a stranger to being called His son—this adoption. I will give you the Spirit of His Son, whom you have received, by whom we cry, "Abba, Father" (Galatians 4:6-7)

6. I am **REDEEMED**: God has changed my Ownership.

This does to take me from being a slave to being a free man—this redemption. I will give you the Spirit of His Son, whom you have received, by whom we cry, "Abba, Father" (Galatians 4:6-7)

7. I am **SANCTIFIED**: God has changed my Behavior.

This does to take me from being a sinner and make me a saint, holy and pure—this sanctification. For by the offering of His Son, perfect obedience which brings sanctification. (Hebrew 10:10)

Before the Throne of God Above

by Charitie Bancroft

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

VERSE 1

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

VERSE 2

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me

To look on Him and pardon me

VERSE 3

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God START A NEW SPIRITUAL EXERCISE

If you have never tried this I'd encourage you to start a new dimension of your spiritual life by opening your gifts. Let me share with you one of the more wonderful spiritual exercises you can ever do.

As you begin each day, each month, and as we come to the end of this month—as you begin a new year, one of our greatest privileges is to open and enjoy the gift of salvation God has given to us. By faith we please God when we believe what He's said about us. We need to not live by what others say or have said about us all your life.

Satan is the Accuser and wants us to only remember all the many times we have fallen; Satan delights in the days, weeks, or months he can keep us condemning ourselves for what we've done. That is his plan, so don't fall for it. Resist Satan as you believe the truth; speak the truth; and preach the Gospel to yourself.

And when ever we fall down, God says to just turn back to Him and repent, confessing our sin immediately—and believe that what God has promised in His salvation. We are forgiven, justified, regenerated, reconciled, adopted, redeemed, and sanctified. That makes us precious in His sight, special in His plan.

One of the most powerful habits you could grow is to take this list of the ramifications of having received the only gift everyone really needs and rejoice by faith in your great salvation!

Keep this list in your Bible, at home, on your computer, put one on your mirror where you start your day, and in your car. Where ever you need to keep reminding yourself of what great things God has promised and done through Christ's death for us!

Slowly as you understand and lay hold on these truths a life-changing transformation take place in our minds, and then in our emotions, and finally throughout our entire life as we live each day based on God's eternal truth.

As you think about Christmas, gifts, presents, giving and receiving—why not check and be sure that you are opening the only gift that you (and everyone else) really needs?

God States His Worldview in the Scriptures

GOD STATES HIS WORLDVIEW IN THE SCRIPTURES

The choice each believer has to make in life is whether they are going to be a spiritual smorgasbord of little bits and pieces of philosophies, beliefs, opinions, observations, and ideas or a confident follower of God through His Word. For just a moment, listen to the definition of the worldview presented by God.

Worldview Frames Behavior

1. Is there a Supreme God or not?
2. How did the Universe originate?
3. How did humans originate?
4. What happens to humans at death?
5. Are there absolute truths, morals, or ethics?
6. Where is human history headed?

WORLDVIEWS CONTRASTED

The starting point for every worldview is the question of origin. After determining your origin your purpose in life can be established. From our origin also flows our destiny. But everything hinges on the answer to where did we as humans originate.

There are two answers for our origin: the chance/random/naturalistic/evolutionary origin vs. the origin by the Hand of the Divine Creator that is Almighty and the only Uncreated thing in the Universe. From the answer of origin flow all other elements of a worldview. The contrasts between the two worldviews could not be more stark.

Worldviews Contrasted

WORLDVIEWS CONTRASTED

The starting point for every worldview is the question of origin. After determining your origin your purpose in life can be established. From our origin also flows our destiny. But everything hinges on the answer to where did we as humans originate.

There are two answers for our origin: the chance/random/naturalistic/evolutionary origin vs. the origin by the Hand of the Divine Creator that is Almighty and the only Uncreated thing in the Universe. From the answer of origin flow all other elements of a worldview. The contrasts between the two worldviews could not be more stark.

| Worldview-1 | Worldview-2 |
|---|--|
| is naturalistic, evolutionary, and most widely held | is God-centered, Creator-based, Biblically-defined , and held by very few. |
| The end result is despair. Sagan said we are marooned on a pale blue dot in a possibly endless cosmos. We are unnoticed, insignificant, and on our own. | The end result is hope. God says humans are created beings in a created Universe, formed by the only uncreated being there is, our Creator: and that our Creator has revealed Himself in God's Word the Bible. |

A Personal Biblical Framework For Understanding the Bible

Evangelist (people must be saved);
Imputationist (Christ alone saves);
Inerrantist (The Scriptures are inspired);
Creationist (God made everything in 6 solar days);
Catastrophist (Noah's Flood really happened);
Cessationist (Revelation of Scripture has ended);
Maximalist (God's historic/scientific facts true);
Dispensationalist (Israel is not the Church).

The Context of my Q&A's is that my answers are based on a framework of being an:

1. Evangelical (must be saved by calling personally on the Lord, not by association but by reception of Christ);
2. Inerrantist (trust the Scriptures that Jesus believed and affirmed every word, person, and event);
3. Cessationist (Revelation of Scripture ended God does not tell people inspired, inerrant things anymore);
4. Imputationist (Christ alone not a church or experience or administered sacrament);
5. Creationist (God wrote with His own finger in stone (Ex 20:8-11) that He framed everything from nothing in six literal solar days) God made everything perfectly in the Universe, then allowed some to fall into sin;
6. Catastrophist (BNoah's Flood);
7. Maximalist (every historic, prophetic & scientific statement is true);
8. Dispensationalist (Israel is not the Church, God has unbreakable plans for both)

God States His Worldview in the Scriptures

1. God declared Himself as the Eternal, Self-Existant Creator of Everything.
2. God declared that He has revealed His Desires in the direct communication of the Bible.
3. God has revealed Himself in Person through Christ.
4. God's declared that His Word the Bible is absolutely accurate.

A Biblical worldview means we are defining reality using God's revelation of His Word. Those who embrace God as revealed in His Word have a very clear view of those big three elements that shape our worldview. Each person must decide what they believe about their origin in life, their purpose in life, and their destiny in life.

God States His Worldview in the Scriptures

5. God has declared Absolute Morals.
6. God has declared Absolute Truth.
7. God has offered Salvation as an Un-Earnable, and Un-Deserved Gift.
8. God has described the Absolute Span of the History of the Universe from Beginning to End.

A Biblical worldview means we are defining reality using God's revelation of His Word. Those who embrace God as revealed in His Word have a very clear view of those big three elements that shape our worldview. Each person must decide what they believe about their origin in life, their purpose in life, and their destiny in life.

Salvation Means We Embrace a Biblical Worldview in a Fallen World

EMBRACING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW IN A FALLEN WORLD

Today, what you believe dictates your behavior.

What do you believe about your origin? Did you just happen? Were you an accident? Are you just a biological anomaly in an endless evolutionary process? Are you just a nameless, faceless part of the river of humanity living through this endless struggle of life?

Or are you a divinely fashioned creature, made by the Creator Himself in His very image? A Biblical worldview explains to us that we are significant above all the rest of created things (that means everything from sub-atomic forces to the largest galaxies and forces in the Universe. Only we humans out of everything else were made in the image of God and given immortal souls that will exist forever. The Universe will be destroyed by fire and renewed, but we will never cease to exist.

The first step in embracing a Biblical or Christian worldview is to start carefully: