

**GROWING IN GRACE LETTERS!** – Calling saints in Christ, (in our homes and with one another in Church), to walk in the Steps of Jesus! (1 Peter 2:15-25) Edited by James Bell, a servant of Jesus Christ!

**9 9 25 V1n18 WORSHIPERS! BELIEVER PRIESTS! WORKMEN!**

CHRISTIAN! YOU ARE CALLED TO BE A WORSHIPER, A BELIEVER PRIEST, A WORKMEN! YOU are indwelt, empowered, enlightened, and equipped by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God! YES, you have within you the MASTER TEACHER, the Holy Spirit. Therefore, wholly embrace the need and call to **“Study, give diligence, aim at winning God’s approval, a WORKMAN** with no reason to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. [**Accurate in delivering the Message** of the Truth; correctly analyzing, delivering the Message of the Truth.] (2 Timothy 2:15)

[BUT FIRST, THIS NOTE: MANY/most of the CHRISTIANS of the first century were NOT highly educated; many were Roman slaves — nevertheless, the Holy Spirit sent forth the New Testament to be READ, understood, and heeded! This was wholly possible because EVERY BELIEVER was INDWELT BY the Master Teacher, the HOLY SPIRIT!

**THE MASTER KEY** to understanding the New Testament is NOT Study Bible Notes, nor commentaries, nor highly educated preachers/teachers, etc.! (These can be helpful.) HOWEVER, tragically, for many saints these are a substitute for depending

upon the INDWELLING MASTER TEACHER, THE HOLY SPIRIT!  
**BELIEVER PRIEST!**

**I. LET EACH OF US, PRAYERFULLY — Read, Study, Meditate, and HEED the Word of God! ESPECIALLY,**

**1. LET US READ through the FOUR GOSPELS,** where we are privileged by the Holy Spirit to behold the LAMB OF GOD, to sit at His feet, to hear His voice, to marvel at Him, and to experience the Holy Spirit calling us to faith and into paths of obedience.

**2. LET US READ the ACTS of the Apostles and** all the various letters by the Apostles which unveil how the Holy Spirit will guide us to 'be the church' and to 'do church ministry' before a watching world.

**3. LET US READ the EPISTLES for they reveal** **1)** the deep depths of lostness; **2)** the way and glories of salvation BY GRACE through faith; **3)** glorious revelation as to our position of being IN CHRIST; **4)** give us training as to spiritual warfare; **5)** provide abundant revelation as to how to live so as to not bring shame to the name of Jesus; **6)** as well as setting forth practical ways to adorn the gospel by Christ-like living; and **7)** provide powerful warnings against FALSE PROPHETS; and **8)** calls to gladly suffer for righteousness sake.

**4. LET US READ the REVELATION** which is the glorious unveiling of Jesus Christ, the Sovereign Lamb of God! Especially

read The Revelation because— The Revelation 'unveils' Jesus Christ AS HE IS NOW; unveils WHAT HE is doing at this present time; and what He will be doing in days ahead; PLUS, set forth in The Revelation is the reality of His ultimate intentions/PURPOSES; and the GRAND and ETERNAL status of ALL THE BLOOD BOUGHT REDEEMED! ***NOTE: Those who first received THE REVELATION, were especially blessed — BECAUSE they were not CONTAMINATED by the theories of Pre-trib; Mid-trib; Post-trib; No-trib; Dispensational; Reformed; Pre/Post/A millennial, etc. ALL THEY HAD WAS WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT actually and plainly breathed out! THUS:***

**THE REVELATION, JUST LOOK FOR JESUS! BEHOLD THE UNVEILED JESUS:**

**1. REVELATION, chapters 1-19** — The Sovereign Lamb is in Heaven; and grand and various SCENES are unveiled of JESUS working through His blood bought redeemed servants/saints on earth AND/OR of those already in heaven.

**2. REVELATION, chapters 4-19** — The Sovereign Lamb from heaven is ruling and over ruling present and coming events on earth, including Kings and Kingdoms, Presidents, Dictators, and secret rulers even of this present hour. JESUS is moving them ALL toward that great and glorious day when He, the Lord Jesus Christ, will come back to this earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

**YOU WILL NOTICE that in the midst of all these events, THAT** those redeemed by the blood of the Lamb often suffer the wrath of men and satan — but never the wrath of God! ***SPECIAL NOTE: MANY of THE REDEEMED SAINTS OF GOD IN CHRIST who live, serve, and worship JESUS CHRIST during a period revealed as THE GREAT TRIBULATION will be martyred! TO GOD BE THE GLORY! BECAUSE, their martyrdom reveals that JESUS IS WORTH LIVING FOR and HE IS WORTH DYING FOR! (And, moreover, the ETERNITY of martyred saints is beyond GLORIOUS! — Rev. 7:14-17] IN 2025, THAT IS A STRONG MESSAGE WE NEED!***

**3. REVELATION, chapters 20-22—** The Sovereign Lamb is eternally enthroned and His holy Bride **(THE LAMB'S BRIDE will be composed of ALL the redeemed of all ages — Revelation 21:9- 27)** — and the LAMB'S BRIDE will be with Him in the New Earth and the New Heavens, for all eternity.

**THIS IS BOTTOM LINE REALITY:** The supreme and ultimate goal of all history is a REDEEMED BRIDE for Jesus, comprised of all those saved by God's amazing grace during all time periods of history from Genesis through the days of the Revelation! (Revelation 21:9-27 clearly reveals the eternal oneness of ALL the redeemed as being the Bride of the Lamb!)

**READ THE REVELATION LOOKING FOR THOSE REDEEMED BY CHRIST! \*\*\* REVELATION, chapters 1-20—** ALL through the Revelation, those redeemed by the blood of the LAMB are set

forth under a variety of NAMES: The Church; God's elect; God's called out ones; His servants; Those who follow the Lamb; Those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ — regardless of their time on earth, they are seen following Jesus Christ and often experiencing tribulations and martyrdom; AND/OR, they are seen IN HEAVEN. AND FINALLY, for all eternity, they comprise the ONE BRIDE OF THE LAMB! Revelation 21:9-27)

**AGAIN: While on earth, the redeemed are often the subject of man and satan's HATRED and WRATH.** They are often PRESENT when God pours out some expression of His wrath, even as was Noah during the flood and even as was Israel on the night of Passover. But although affected, they are never the subjects or objects of the wrath of God— not then, not now, not ever!

THUS, the Revelation has ESPECIALLY been given to encourage the true SAINTS OF GOD IN CHRIST who have always BEEN and WHO ALWAYS will be persecuted. [Jesus said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)]

The Revelation is a GRAND reminder that joy is not the absence of suffering but the presence of God and confidence in God in the midst of the most trying of circumstances. The Revelation is a LOUD SHOUT FROM MULTITUDES — **JESUS IS WORTH LIVING FOR! JESUS IS WORTH DYING FOR!** (REMEMBER: the

Christians who first read the Revelation were in a time of severe persecution with thousands being MARTYRED. And so it has been for 2000+ years of church history! JESUS SAYS: "Be thou faithful unto death; and I will give thee the crown of life!")

**\*\*\* REVELATION, chapters 21-22— ULTIMATELY, OUR LORD'S REDEEMED ON EARTH become the complete BRIDE of the LAMB triumphant in Heaven,** the Bride adorned for Her Heavenly Husband, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Revelation gives needed re-assurance that Jesus is SUPREME, SOVEREIGN, AND SUFFICIENT; AND that JESUS is worth LIVING FOR and WORTH DYING FOR!

## **II. BY THE WAY, SINCE THE 'STAKES' are so high — DO YOU HAVE A BIBLE READING/ STUDY PLAN?**

**A SUGGESTION:** For whatever else one may be reading from God's Word, I would encourage you to set aside some months and additionally read the following: **Read 5 PSALMS and one Chapter of the PROVERBS each day.** Some of you will likely receive this Newsletter on September 10, 11 or 12. Example, if you receive it on 9/12/25 ... **On September 12, —** read Psalm 12, 42, 72, 102, 132. ...AND read Proverbs, chapter 12. In other words, whatever the day is, start with that Psalm AND that chapter of Proverbs and then add 30 each time. (You can make slight adaptations on months with different amounts of days.)

**THE POTENTIAL BENEFIT? \*\*\*** The Proverbs are filled with practical wisdom on many of life's daily issues, temptations, etc.

**\*\*\* The Psalms empower prayer and praise to God!**

***NOTE: The persecuted New Testament church, as they prayed, set portions of Psalm 2 before the LORD: Acts 4:23-33!***

### **WHY HAVE A BIBLE READING/STUDY/MEDITATION PLAN?**

We are all called to be Disciples and Disciple-makers. Helping each other to GROW as Disciples is a Work Achievable ONLY by the Word of God, quickened to us by the Holy Spirit. **Growth in Christ-likeness happens as, (1)** God's Word more and more saturates the lives of Christians who are; **(2)** Joining themselves together in intercessory prayer for each other and who are; **(3)** Yielding to and encouraging accountability so as to help each other to win spiritual battles and grow in the grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. **(4)** The FRUIT will be that more and more— we, our families and church will ADORN the gospel and not BLASPHEME the gospel before a watching world! **(5)** Moreover, such growing in grace saints will also boldly proclaim the gospel!

***EMBRACE this reality: If you are a Christian, then, you are a BELIEVER PRIEST. You have within you the MASTER TEACHER, the Holy Spirit. Therefore, wholly embrace the need and call to be a WORKMAN:*** "Study, give diligence, aim at winning God's approval, a WORKMAN with no reason to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. [Accurate in delivering the Message

of the Truth; correctly analyzing, delivering the Message of the Truth.]

**MOREOVER, let us EMBRACE SOUND Preparation for good Bible Study!** WE MUST COME WITH PROPER HEART ATTITUDES!

Let us Pray and proceed with Reverence, Expectancy, Dependency, Alertness, and a willingness to OBEY what God reveals! **SUGGESTION:** Before reading the Bible Chapter OR Chapters of the day — **Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 over and again.** WHY? So that we will be reminded to submit to the very purpose for which God has given us each chapter of the Word of God! **The Word of God is for:** **a. DOCTRINE/TEACHING—** teaching us the Faith, teaching us the truth of both doctrines to believe and the true paths on which we are to walk. **b. REPROOF/refuting error—** showing us where we got off the Straight and Narrow Way. **c. CORRECTION/resetting—** showing us how to get back on the right path. **d. INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS—** showing us how to stay on the right path. **e. ALL FOR THE GOAL that** we be completely prepared and equipped for all good work, to the glory of God! (2 Timothy 3:15- 17)

**f. ABOVE ALL: The Word of God has been given to us that we might KNOW and KNOW more intimately the GOD of the WORD!** (Luke 24:44-48; Col. 3:16; Luke 16:29-31; John 14:21-25)

**BOTTOM LINES:** When we open our Bibles to read God's Word, the above points reveal, foundationally, what God will be up to



in our lives! **Therefore:** (1) We must not merely read... (2) We must also prayerfully STUDY and search for accurate UNDERSTANDING of what the Bible is actually saying and/or teaching... (3) We must be LISTENING for the Holy Spirit to QUICKEN personal applications of the Word of God to our lives. **As I read the Word of God—** it is very likely that I will find teaching about Godly attitudes or commands or errors, etc. Moreover, as I read the WORD, day after day— the Holy Spirit will see to it that PRAYERS of confession, repentance, petitions, praise, and worship ARE BIRTHED!

**LET US AWAKEN!** The hour in which we are living is so late! The spiritual warzone is deadly! Surely, our approach to personal Bible Study; and Bible Study with fellow saints MUST BE ENGAGED IN, IN a much more serious way than has EVER been our custom!

Great Grace to you all! James

[www.southsidegallatin.org](http://www.southsidegallatin.org)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SUNDAY SERVICES, 2025: September 14, 21, 28: EACH SUNDAY:**

**[1] Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes. **[2] WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

**[MONTHLY SPECIAL MEETINGS]**

**September 21, LORD'S SUPPER / HOME GROUPS**

**September 28, 5:00pm, EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**EVERY SATURDAY \*\*\* 8:00am,** — Men's Bible Study! *(Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits!)*

**[NEW STUDY, STARTING, 9/13/25 – THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE, TO THE ROMANS ... and to us!]**

**NEXT Ladies Bible Study, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 @ 11:00am**  
**(LADIES Bible Study, from JOB!) (NO CHILD CARE.)**

**\*\*\*EVERY TUESDAY: LADIES PRAYER MEETING FROM 10:00 to 10:30am, come in back door, under drive-thru awning, go IN THE IMMEDIATE FIRST ROOM ON THE RIGHT!**

**\*\*\* Tuesday Evenings, Southside Young Adult Group; Bible Study, (EXODUS), @ 7:15pm, at Jaden & Rhi's home**

**WEDNESDAYS: 6:30pm — (Come in Back double door, under Drive Thru Awning) \*\* Adult MEN'S Prayer Service**

**\*\* Young FAMILIES STUDY/Prayer Service**

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**\*\*\* LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD (by MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING) For Church Ministry and/or MISSIONS:**

**SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066 / OR... *TO GIVE* via ONLINE GIVING:**

**<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>**

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