

- Assurance of God's Leading
- God's Name: JEHOVAH
- Bible Survey: Isaiah to Daniel
- Bible Doctrine: The Fall of Man

DISCIPLESHIP STUDIES for TEENS and ADULTS LESSON 7

CHAPTER 7

Part 1:



ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LEADING:

Life can sometimes be like trying to find your way out of a huge corn maze. There are times that we just don't know where to go or which way to turn. Nothing is more terrifying than being lost . . . I know what I am talking about because I have experienced being lost in the woods (and while driving) . . . several times!

The fact is, we all need direction. And more specifically, we all need someone to lead us who knows the way and where we are supposed to be going. Jesus promised that He is "the way" and He will guide us . . . we just need to follow Him.

Our family used to have a little dog by the name of Princess. She would become so excited when the family would take a hike in the woods. We could hear her happily barking way up ahead of us. Sometimes we would turn onto another trail and she would be out there all by herself – without a clue where we went! Her happy barking would turn to desperate yelps of frustration. And of course, we would have to go back and find her. Isn't that just the way we are? We often run way ahead of God . . . or lag way behind. We need to learn to follow There's no need to get lost in life's maze!

Like the dog mentioned above, what two things are we in danger of doing as the Lord wants us to follow Him?

1) ahead of the L	ord.
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2) _____ way behind the Lord.

KEY BIBLE VERSES:

"<u>Trust</u> in the LORD with all your heart, and <u>lean not unto you own</u> <u>understanding</u>. In all your ways <u>acknowledge Him</u>, and He shall direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." John 10:27

In your own words, list the three things we need to do so that the Lord can "direct our paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

1)	
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2)	
3)	

One of the many names of the Lord is "Jehovah Rohi" which means "The Lord Our Shepherd." What a wonderful Name! The Lord Jesus, our Shepherd, leads us. Take a few minutes to read Psalm 23.

From the Twenty third Psalm, list a few of the things our Shepherd does for us:

1)			
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5)		 	



Part 2: "JEHOVAH" – "I AM THAT I AM"

Moses met the LORD at the burning bush on the back side of the Arabian desert. It may seem strange to us that Moses would ask the LORD what His Name was. But the LORD wasn't offended and replied . . . because He wants us to know Who He is and what He is like.

"I AM the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isac, and the God of Jacob . . . And God said unto Moses, 'I AM THAT I AM' . . . This is My Name forever, and this is My memorial unto all generations." Exodus 3:6, 14a), 15b)

God's name "I AM THAT I AM" implies several important things:

- 1. The LORD (Jehovah) is <u>eternal</u> and <u>self-existent</u>. He is without beginning and without end.
- 2. The LORD is <u>everything that His Name declares</u>. The Names of the Lord are often presented in the Bible as *compound names* such as *"Jehovah Rohi"* which means *"The LORD Our Shepherd."* Our Shepherd is His Name and shepherding is exactly what He does. He leads us like a shepherd leads his flock of helpless and wandering sheep!
- 3. The name Jehovah (often pronounced Yehovah or Yahweh) is printed with the letters YHVH. The letters YHVH when spoken without vowels, are interpreted by some Hebrew scholars as representing the sounds of breathing . . . YH, the sound in breathing in . . . VH, the sound of exhaling. The first breath of a newborn baby is declaring the Name of the Lord . . . and the last breath of life is declaring the same! Every living being (including atheists) are quietly uttering the Name of the LORD of Life with every breath they take! Every breath is a silent acknowledgment of God's presence and His role in sustaining life. If that seems repulsive to the unbeliever, the answer is to simply stop breathing!

Perhaps these thoughts about the "breath" of God can help us to better understand these words of Scripture:

"And the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and <u>breathed</u> <u>into his nostrils the breath of life</u>, and man became a living being." Genesis 2:7

"<u>Let everything that has breath praise the LORD</u>. Praise the LORD." Psalm 150:6

Every living thing praises the God of Creation by merely breathing. Isn't that something?

"And when He had said this, <u>He breathed on them</u>, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:22

4. It is also interesting that Orthodox Jews will never speak the Name YHWH because they consider it too holy to be uttered by sinful beings. The rabbis and followers of Judaism use the name "HaShem" which translates as "The Name." That is very sad . . . it is akin to calling one of our children "kid". Is referring to God as "The Name" a refusal to acknowledge His very being and glory? The LORD Himself declared – "This is My Name forever, and this is My memorial unto all generations." Exodus 3:15b)

The Third Commandment declares – "Thou shalt not take the Name of the LORD thy God in vain." (Exodus 20:7) This commandment is not just forbidding the use of the LORD's Name in cursing and profanity . . . it is so much more. We are commanded to call upon His Name by faith during times of need. When we have a need and fail to call upon His Name by faith, we are taking His Name in vain. We need to learn to pray in dependence upon His Name!

In your own words, summarize the four statements above:

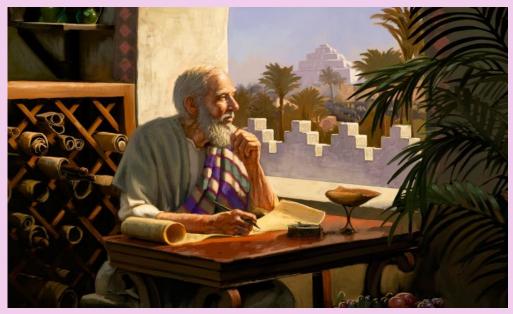
 1)

 2)

 3)

 4)

BIBLE SURVEY: Part 3:



MAJOR PROPHETS

ISAIAH:

Theme of Isaiah: Guilt, grace, and glory.

Isaiah, whose name means "salvation of the LORD", carried on his ministry in Judah during the reigns of four kings, from approximately 740 to 680 B.C., a period of about sixty years during which Samaria was captured and Israel was carried away by the Assyrians in 722 B.C. The Book of Isaiah is often referred to as the Old Testament gospel. The prophet condemned Israel for their gross immorality and idolatry but also offered hope for the future by genuine confession and repentance. (Isaiah 1:3-18)

Key chapters:

- 1 God's condemnation of the sins of Israel and His cure (Isaiah 1:18)
- 6 Isaiah's vision of God plus his calling and commissioning as a prophet of God.
- The Suffering Servant (The Lord Jesus Christ).
- lsrael's glorious future and the consummation of history.

JEREMIAH:

Theme of Jeremiah: Warnings before destruction of Jerusalem.

Jeremiah was a young priest from Anathoth (approximately 3 miles northeast of Jerusalem) when he began to prophesy. Jeremiah is often referred to as "the weeping prophet" because of his broken heart for the unrepentant sins of the people of Judah and the prophesied destruction of Jerusalem. Jeremiah was greatly persecuted by his own people for his bold preaching that denounced the sins of

immorality and idolatry. His proclamation of God's coming judgment and the captivity to Babylon made Jeremiah despised by many of the people that he loved.

Key chapters:

- Judah's future judgments through 70 years of captivity in Babylon
- 31-32 Restoration, New Covenant, Jeremiah persecuted and imprisoned
- 50-51 Destruction of end-time Babylon (see also Revelation chapter 18)
- 52 Destruction of Jerusalem

LAMENTATIONS:

Theme of Lamentation: Jeremiah's sorrow over Jerusalem's destruction.

Lamentations is undoubtedly the work of Jeremiah. The "weeping prophet" had an intense burden for Jerusalem as he prophesied the coming judgment of God.

Note: Lamentations is not one of the major prophecies but is one of the Poetic Books. In our Bibles, Lamentations has been placed after the Prophecy of Jeremiah because Jeremiah is the assumed author.

Key chapters:

- 1 The destruction of Jerusalem
- 2 The wrath of God
- 3 Jeremiah's request for mercy
- 5 Jeremiah's request for the restoration of Jerusalem

EZEKIEL:

Theme of Ezekiel: Condemnation, consolation, comfort.

Ezekiel was a priest whose name means "God will strengthen". Ezekiel was among the Jewish exiles carried away to Babylon between the first and final deportation of Judah (2 Kings 24:11-16). The prophecies of Ezekiel foretold the future regathering and blessings of Israel culminating with the Heavenly Temple, God's glory, and the future land restored to God's earthly people. Ezekiel also prophesied against the end-time nation of Russia (Gog of the land of Magog) as they will lead in an attempt to invade and destroy the people of Israel.

Key chapters:

- 8-11 God's glory departs
- 36-37 The mountains of Israel to be blessed; renewal of Israel; valley of dry bones
- 38-39 The prophecy against Gog of the land of Magog (Russia)
- 40-48 The Temple; God's glory; worship; the land restored

DANIEL:

Theme of Daniel: God's Sovereignty over the kingdoms of this world.

The author of this prophetic book was Daniel, whose name mean "God is my judge". Daniel was taken in his youth to Babylon in the first deportation under Nebuchadnezzar. God caused Daniel to interpret the dreams of the king and he quickly arose to become an official in the Babylonian Empire and later he was first among the three highest

offices of the Medo-Persian Empire (*Daniel 5:29; 6:1-3*). Daniel is a book of kings and kingdoms, of thrones and dominions . . . and portrays the end of the times of the Gentiles. Daniel also foresaw the end-time nations that would exist at the time of the world-wide kingdom of Antichrist (Daniel chapter 7). Daniel presented the only prophecy in the Old Testament that set the time of Christ's first coming (*Daniel 9:24-27*).

Key Chapters:

- 2 Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's vision of gold, silver, bronze, and iron
- 3 Golden image and the fiery furnace
- 5 Belshazzar and the writing on the wall
- 7 Daniel's vision of four beasts (four end-time kingdoms)
- 12 Daniel's vision of the seventy-weeks

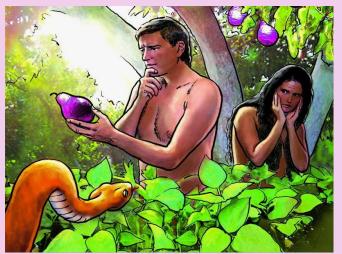
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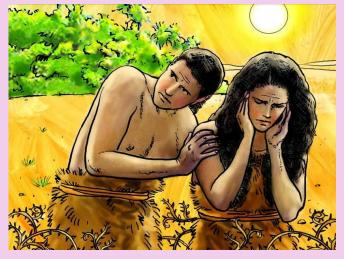
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Write down the THEMES of each of the major prophets:
Isaiah:
Jeremiah:
Lamentations:
Ezekiel:
Daniel:
Who was "the weeping prophet?"
Why did he weep?
Which of the prophetic books has the theme "Guilt, Grace, and Glory?"
What book and chapter reveals the suffering of the Savior?
Jeremiah details the end-time prophecy of "Gog of the land of Magog" invading Israel. Who is this "Gog of the land of Magog?" (Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39)
What is going to happen to "Gog of the land of Magog" according to Ezekiel 39:6?
Another end-time nation is destined for the same destruction as Russia (Ezekiel 39:6). Read Revelation chapter 18 and note carefully the description of end-time Babylon as the consumer of the products of the world whose harbors are filled with merchant ships. Could this end-time nation be the one God says will be destroyed in Ezekiel 39:6? If so, who do you think that nation is?

9.	Read carefully <i>Daniel chapter 7.</i> These four "beasts" are four end-time kingdoms, the fourth being the kingdom of Antichrist. Who do you think the first three "beast kingdoms" could represent?
	Vs. 4 (The lion with eagle's wings plucked off):
	Vs. 5 (The BEAR awakening out of hibernation and very hungry):
	Vs. 6 (The FOUR-HEADED LEOPARD with wings of a fowl): and
	Note: Daniel chapter 7 contains a wonderful description of another Kingdom that will never come to an end! In the spaces below, describe that Kingdom (vs.13-14, and 27):

BIBLE DOCTRINE

Part 4:





THE FALLEN STATE OF MAN:

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT: Man was created in the image and likeness of God, but in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God. As a result of sin, every man is under the curse of death. Man is totally depraved, and, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26-27, Isaiah 59:2, Romans 3:23, 5:12, Ephesians 2:1-3, 12).

Note: The depravity of man does not mean that man is incapable of doing good things or believing and receiving Christ. Depravity means that man is sinful and incapable of his own remedy of salvation. Total depravity refers to the fact that every part of man has been tragically affected by sin, and that apart from the power of the Gospel and the Spirit of God, no man will respond to God and be saved. If total depravity means that man cannot believe or respond to God, the Lord would never have given the following invitations:

"Come now, and LET US REASON TOGETHER, says the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:8

"I call Heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, CHOOSE LIFE, that both you and your seed may live." Deuteronomy 30:19

Suggestion: Look up each of the Biblical texts above and **highlight them in your Bible**. (Highlighting verses about sin in orange makes them easy to find and identify.)

DEFINITIONS:

Sinful nature: The inherent human inclination or tendency towards sin, inherited from Adam and Eve's disobedience.

Alienated: The state of separation or estrangement from God's fellowship, favor, and eventually from God's presence.

Depraved: Morally corrupt and unable to remedy one's fallen position.

KEY BIBLE VERSES:

"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear." Isaiah 59:2

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death by sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned." Romans 5:12

"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lust of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." Ephesians 2:1-3

"Therefore, remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh – who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands – that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world." Ephesians 2:II-12

DISCUSSION: With your group or discussion leader, discuss the Doctrinal Statement and the verses above.

FILL IN THE MISSING WORDS:

"But your iniq	uities have	_ you from your G	od; and your sins	have
	from you	u, so that He will no	t hear." Isaiah 59:2	2
"For have	e sinned and come short	of the glory of God.	" Romans 3:23	
"Therefore, jus	st as through one man s	sin entered the wo	rld, and	by
sin, and thus o	leath spread to all men, b	ecause all sinned."	Romans 5:12	
"And you He r	made alive, who were	in trespasses	and sins, in whice	h you
once walked a	ccording to the course o	f this world, accord	ing to the prince	of the
power of the a	air, the spirit who now w	orks in the sons o	f disobedience, a	mong
whom also we	all once conducted ours	selves in the	_ of our flesh, ful	filling
the	of the flesh and of the	mind, and were by	nature	
of .	iust as the others." Ephe	sians 2:1-3		

	"Therefore, remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh – who are called
	Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands -
	that at that time you were, being aliens from the
	commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having
	and in the world." Ephesians 2:Il-12
1.	People sin because they have inherited a from Adam. (Romans 5:12)
2.	What does it mean to be "alienated" from God?
3.	What does depravity mean?

QUESTIONS?



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