

# Teach Our Neighbors



*A Study of Preparing To Teach Our Neighbors*

by Max Tice

With Supplemental Material

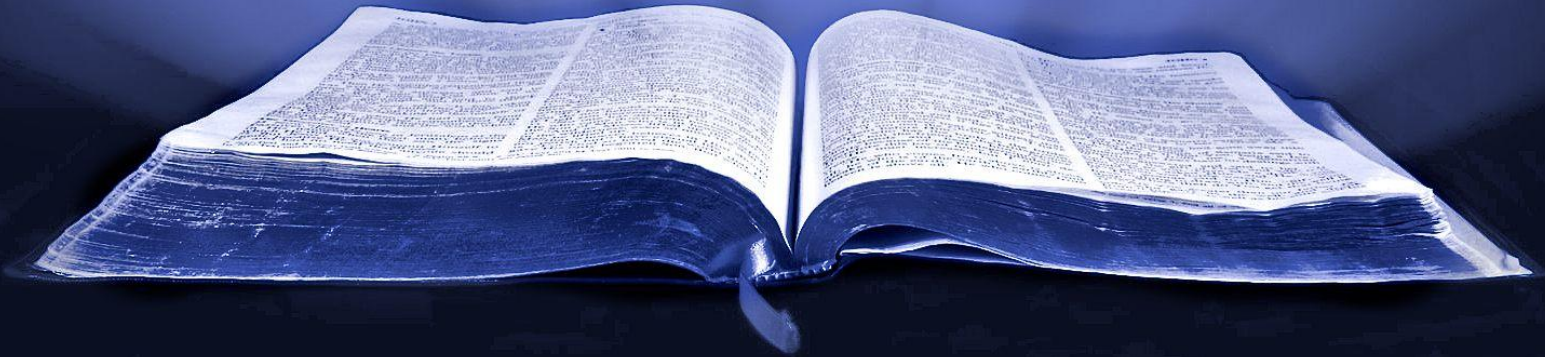
by Chris Reeves

# Teach Our Neighbors



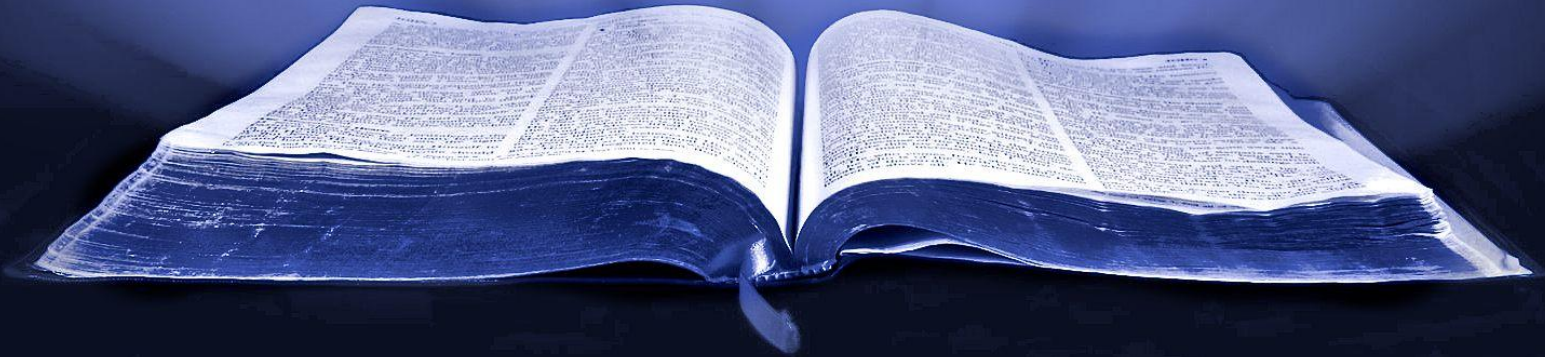
## Lesson 1: Preparing to Teach (Part 1)

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life;  
and he that is wise wins souls  
- Proverbs 11:30 -



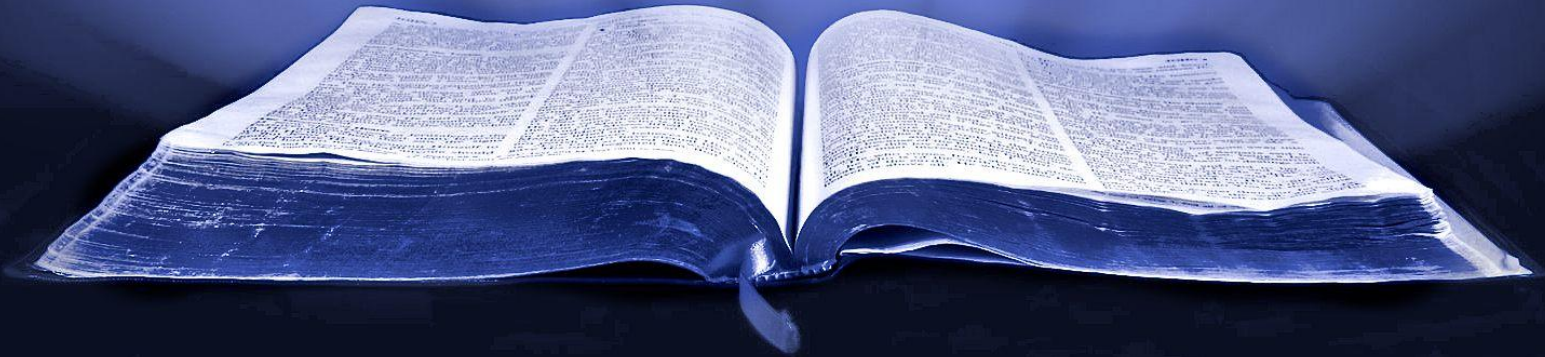
“And I heard the voice of the Lord, saying,  
Whom shall I send, and who will go for  
us? Then I said, Here am I; send me”

– Isaiah 6:8 –



“When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thy hand”

– Ezekiel 3:18 –



# What Is Needed?

- A good understanding one's Bible
- A good understanding of one's religious neighbors: their beliefs, practices, arguments, and answers

# Wrong Attitudes in Teaching

- “He is less open and honest than I am” –  
Luke 8:9-15
- “He will never change anyway” –  
1 Tim. 1:12-16

# Wrong Attitudes in Teaching

- “We probably don’t differ in beliefs that much anyway” – Acts 20:27
- “Somebody else can teach him” – Ezek. 3:17-18



# Wrong Attitudes in Teaching

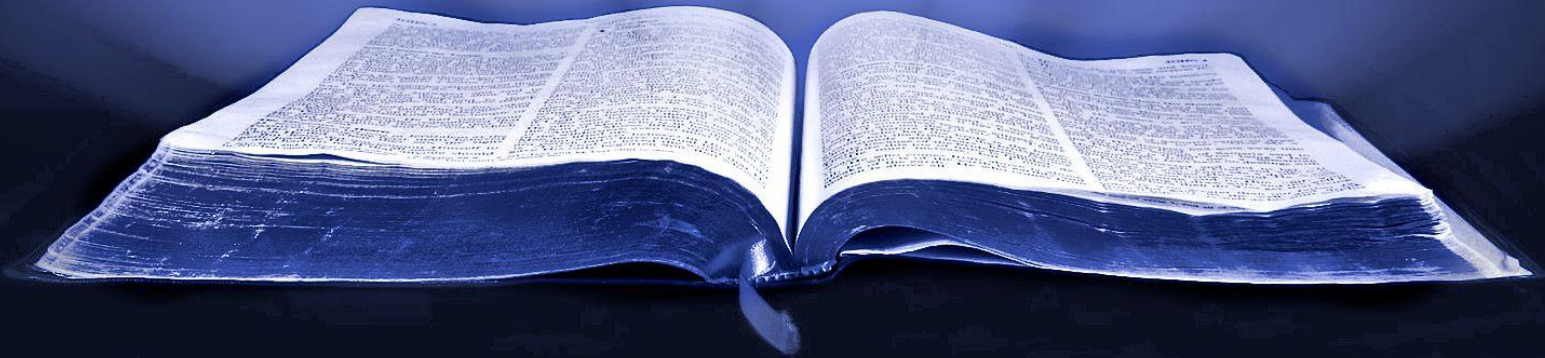
- “It would be unloving to hurt his feelings by bringing up religion” – Gal. 4:16
- “I will just be a good friend to this person without teaching him” – Rom. 1:16

# Teach Our Neighbors

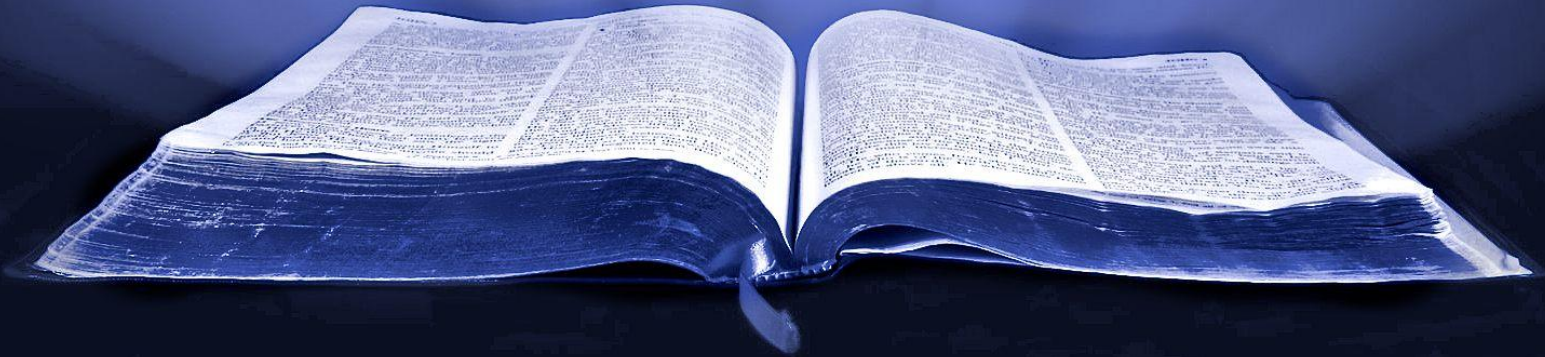


## Lesson 1: Preparing to Teach (Part 2)

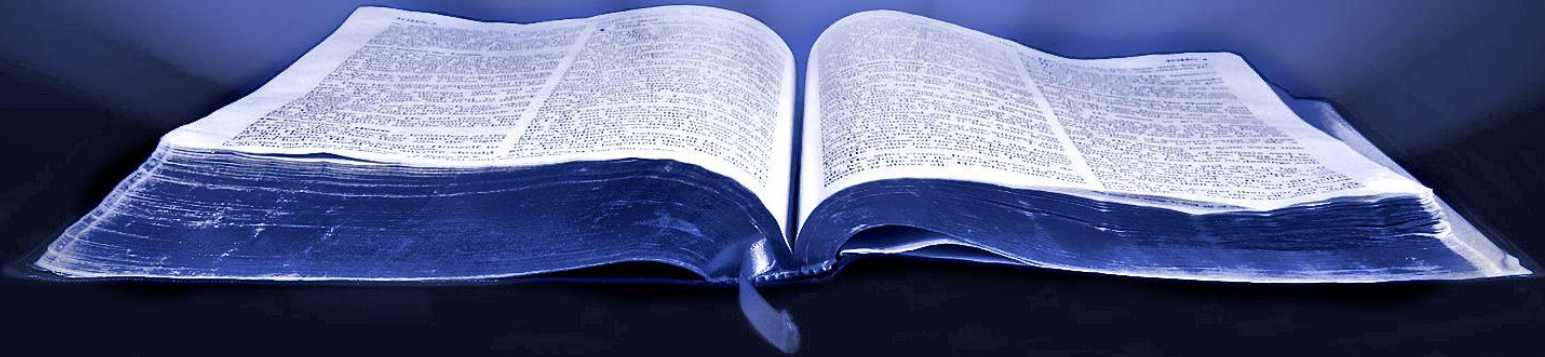
“Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest” – Matthew 9:37-38



“Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things...” – Matthew 28:19-20



“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned” – Mark 16:15-16



# Right Approaches in Teaching

1. Learn to listen (Jn. 4:16-21)
2. Love our neighbors (Eph. 4:15)
3. Be humble (Acts 24:10; 26:1-3)
4. Have patience (2 Tim. 2:24-26)

# Right Approaches in Teaching

5. Think ahead (Mt. 21:23ff; 22:41ff)
6. Avoid unnecessary arguments (Tit. 3:9)
7. Be sacrificial (1 Cor. 9:19-23; Rom. 1:14)
8. Be bold (Eph. 6:19)

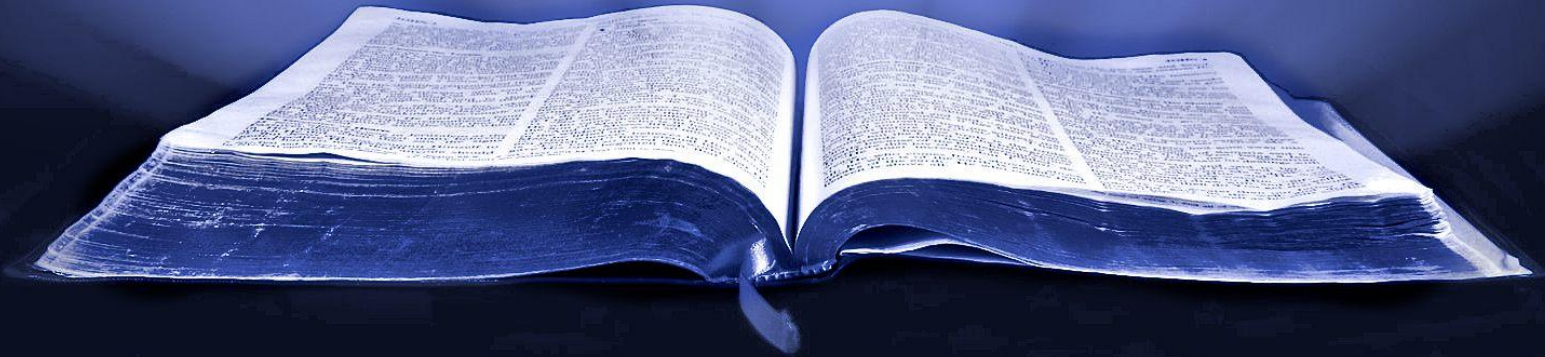
# Teach Our Neighbors



## Lesson 2: Logical Fallacies (Part 1)

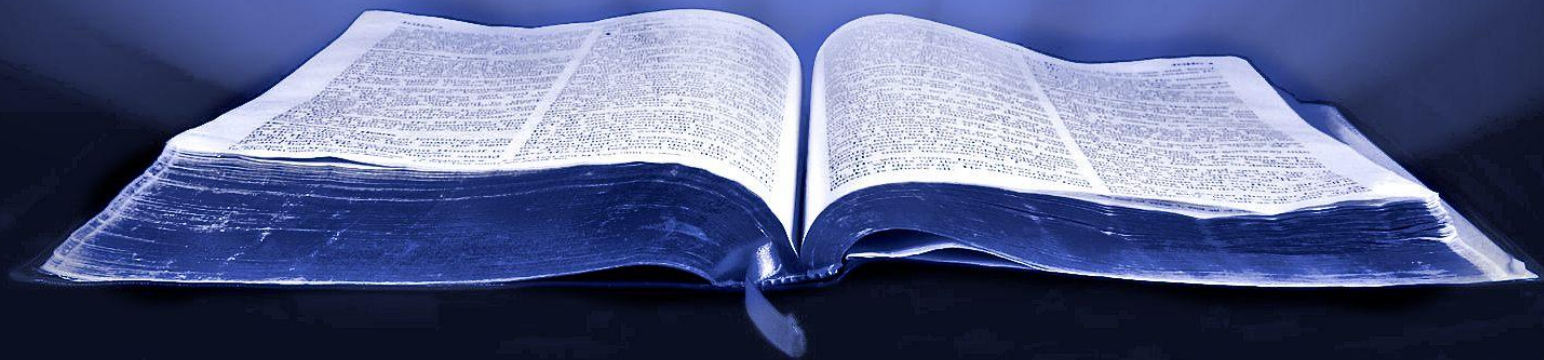


“And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and constrain *them* to come in, that my house may be filled” - Luke 14:23

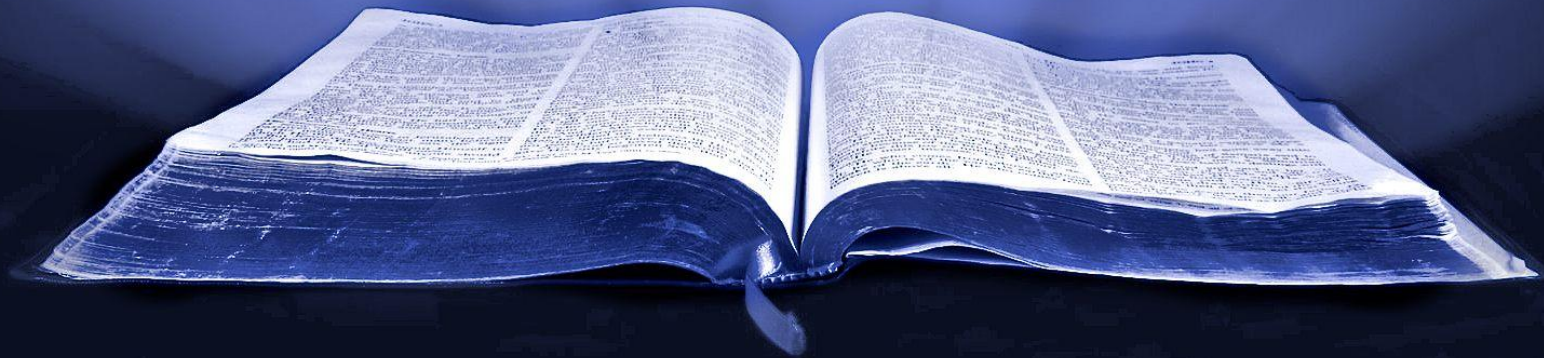


“and that repentance and remission of sins  
should be preached in his name unto all  
the nations, beginning from Jerusalem”

– Luke 24:47 –



“Say not ye, There are yet four months,  
and *then* cometh the harvest? behold, I say  
unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on  
the fields, that they are white already unto  
harvest” – John 4:35



# Logical or Illogical?

- The arguments we use to support a particular point we are making are either logical or illogical
- Our arguments must be tested in order for the validity of our point to be established

# The Use of Reasoning

- Is reasoning with others appropriate in Bible study? Yes!
- God used it (Isa. 1:18; 41:21)
- Job used it (Job 13:3, 6; 23:7; etc.)

# The Use of Reasoning

- The wise used it (Prov. 26:16)
- Jeremiah used it (Jer. 12:1)
- The disciples used it (Mt. 16:7-8)
- The Jews used it (Mk. 2:6, 8; Mt. 21:25)

# The Use of Reasoning

- All men used it (Lk. 3:15)
- The farmer used it (Lk. 12:17)
- Paul used it (Ac. 17:2, 17; 18:4, 19; 19:8-9; 24:25)

# The Use of Reasoning

- Christians use it (1 Pet. 3:15)
- We are “logical” (Gr. λογικός = rational, reasonable) beings (Rom. 12:1; 1 Pet. 2:2)



# The Anatomy of A Discussion

Matthew 22:23-33

1. A religious person
2. A position
3. A scriptural defense
4. An argument
5. A counter argument
6. A scriptural refutation
7. A response

# Types of Logical Fallacies

1. **Hasty generalization** – characterizing all people in a group the same way
2. **Special pleading** – presenting limited, one-sided evidence instead of complete evidence

# Types of Logical Fallacies

3. **False dilemma (false dichotomy)** – assuming that there are only two alternatives when there are more
4. **Argument of the beard** – using gradual shades of difference to challenge the existence of real extremes

# Types of Logical Fallacies

5. **Diversion (red herring)** – straying from the discussion by introducing irrelevant material
6. **Straw man** – attacking a position the other person doesn't really hold

# Types of Logical Fallacies

7. **Argumentum ad ignorantiam** – arguing from what one doesn't know in order to prove what might be known
8. **Slippery slope** – moving from a seemingly benign starting point to an improbable extreme via a series of small steps

# Types of Logical Fallacies

## 9. Circular reasoning (begging the question)

– attempting to make an argument by beginning with an assumption

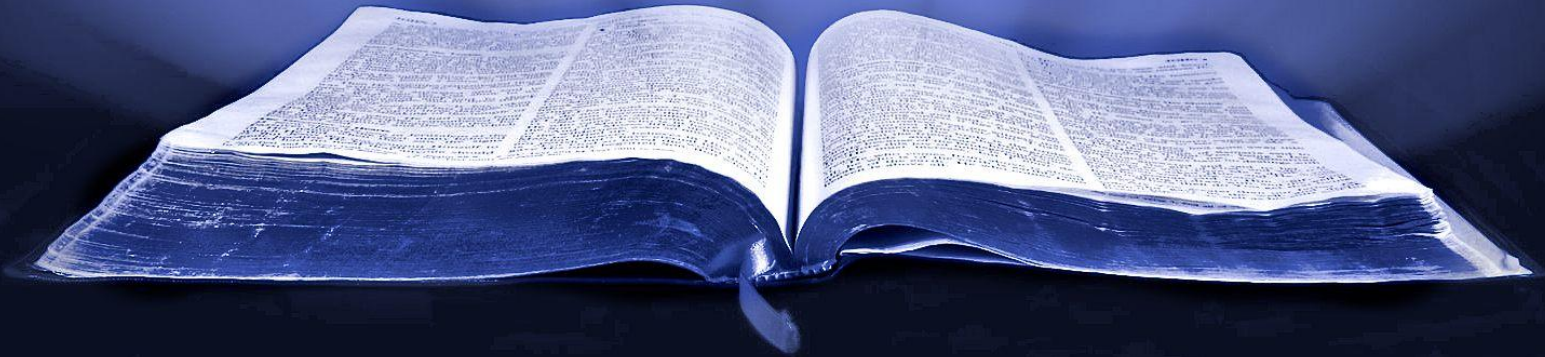
10. **Tu Quoque** – appealing to hypocrisy to neutralize criticism or distract from the issue

# Teach Our Neighbors



## Lesson 2: Logical Fallacies (Part 2)

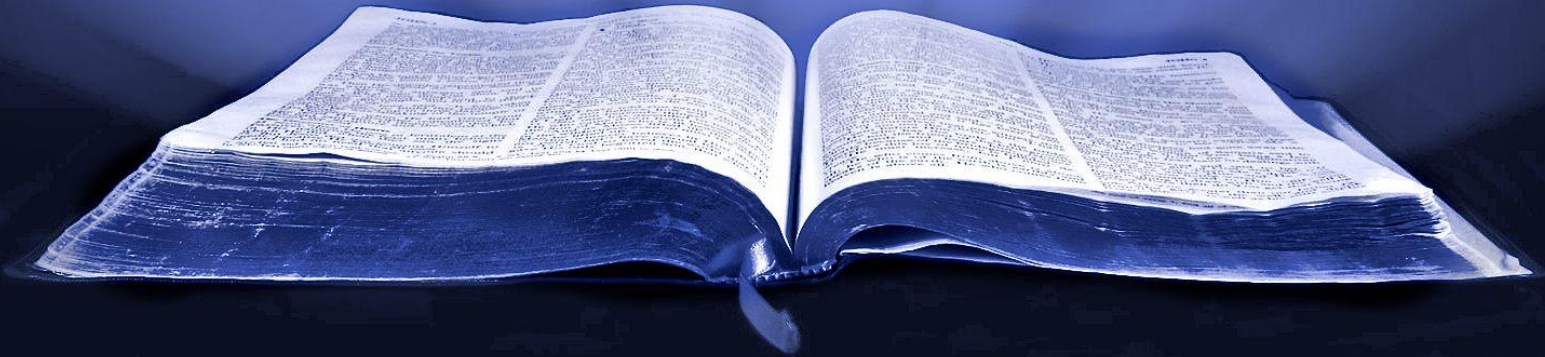
“They therefore that were scattered abroad  
went about preaching the word” – Acts 8:4



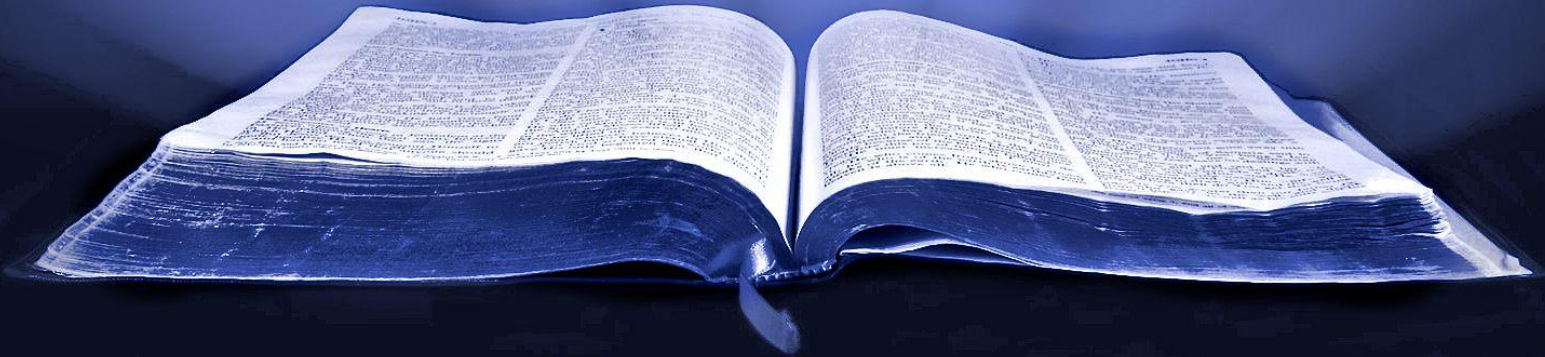


“I am debtor both to Greeks and to Barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you also that are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek”

- Romans 1:14-16 -



“Brethren, my heart’s desire and my supplication to God is for them, that they may be saved” – Romans 10:1



# Types of Logical Fallacies

1. **Argumentum ad hominem** – discrediting a person rather than dealing with his argument or position
2. **Misuse of analogy** – assuming that because two things are alike in one respect they are alike in others

# Types of Logical Fallacies

- 3. Misuse of Bible languages** – offering the wrong meaning of a biblical word, either lexical and/or grammatical
- 4. Improper use of authorities** – appealing to authorities for proof of a position

# Types of Logical Fallacies

5. **Simple dismissal** – failing to answer an argument by ridicule or evasion
6. **Argumentum ad populum (bandwagon)** – appealing to what many or most people believe or do for proof

# Types of Logical Fallacies

7. **Casual fallacy** – assuming a cause without proof or assuming that something is a cause because it came first
8. **Appeal to emotion** – arguing a point based upon emotion and not upon fact, evidence, or authority

# Types of Logical Fallacies

9. **Equivocation (ambiguity)** – using words deliberately to deceive; saying one thing but meaning something else by it
10. **Non sequitur** – offering a conclusion that “does not follow” logically from the premise

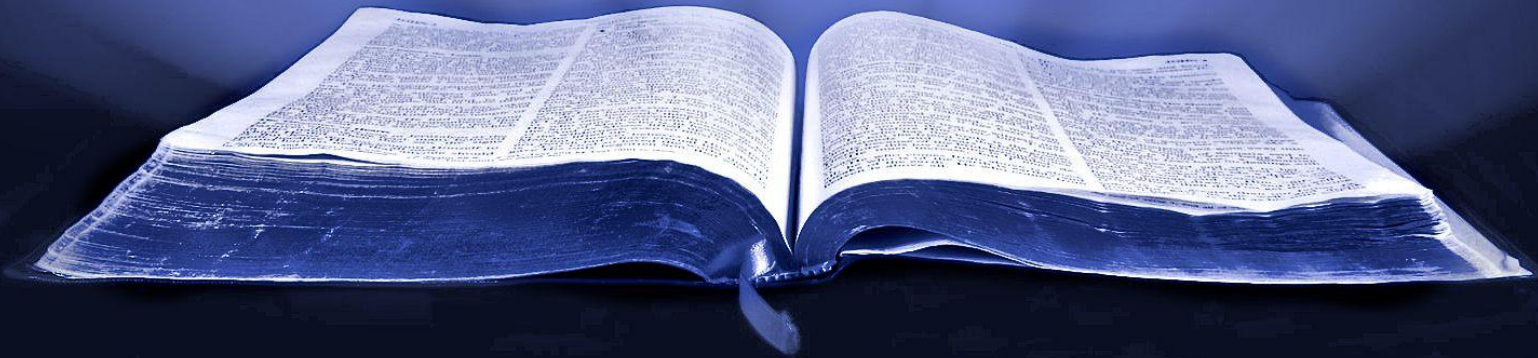
# Teach Our Neighbors



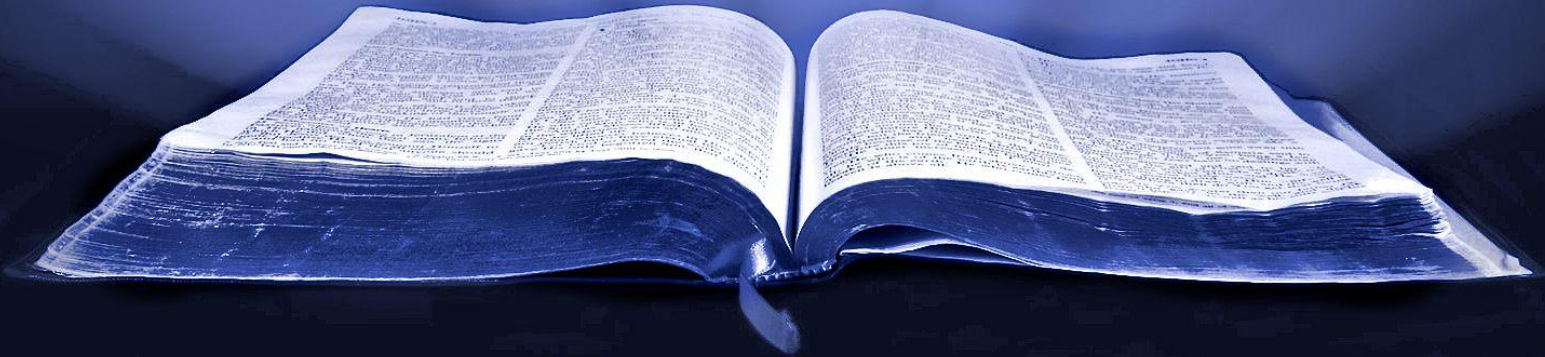
## Lesson 3: Analysis of Denominationalism (Part 1)



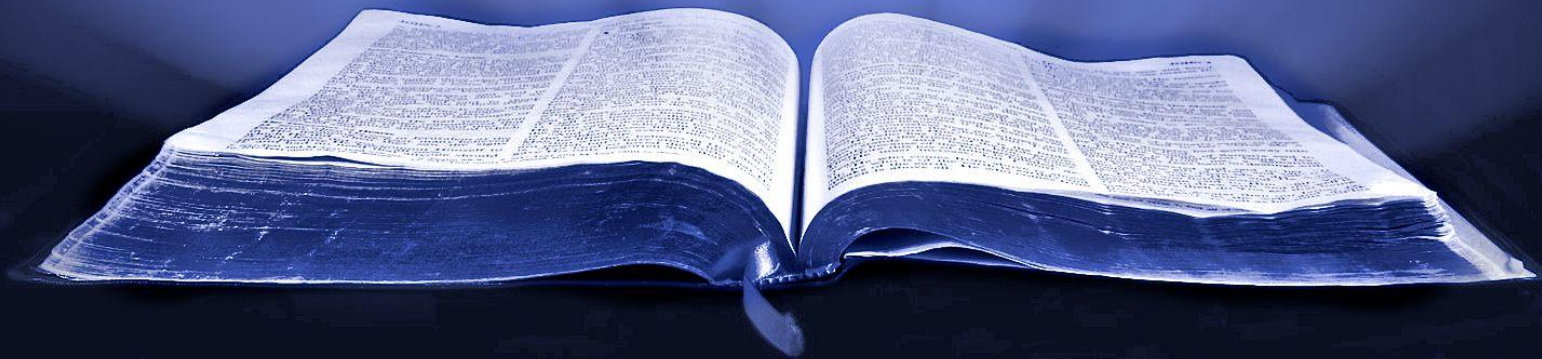
“What then is Apollos? and what is Paul?  
Ministers through whom ye believed; and  
each as the Lord gave to him. I planted,  
Apollos watered; but God gave the  
increase” – 1 Corinthians 3:5-6



“but speaking truth in love, may grow up  
in all things into him, who is the  
head, *even* Christ” – Ephesians 4:15



“and on my behalf, that utterance may be given unto me in opening my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel” – Eph. 6:19



# Denominations vs. NT Church

1. Denominations are started by men, the NT church by Jesus (Mt. 16:18)
2. Denominations promote division, the NT church promotes unity (Jn. 17:20-21; 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:4-6)

# Denominations vs. NT Church

3. Denominations were started after the 1<sup>st</sup> century, the NT church on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2)
4. Denominations preach man's word, the NT church preaches God's word (2 Jn. 9)

# Denominations vs. NT Church

5. Denominations encourage the saved to join their church; in the NT church, the Lord adds the saved to his one body (Acts 2:47)

# Denominations vs. NT Church

6. Denominations believe that all the different denom. churches make up the Lord's church; in the NT church, all Christians make up the Lord's church (Heb. 12:23)

# Teach Our Neighbors

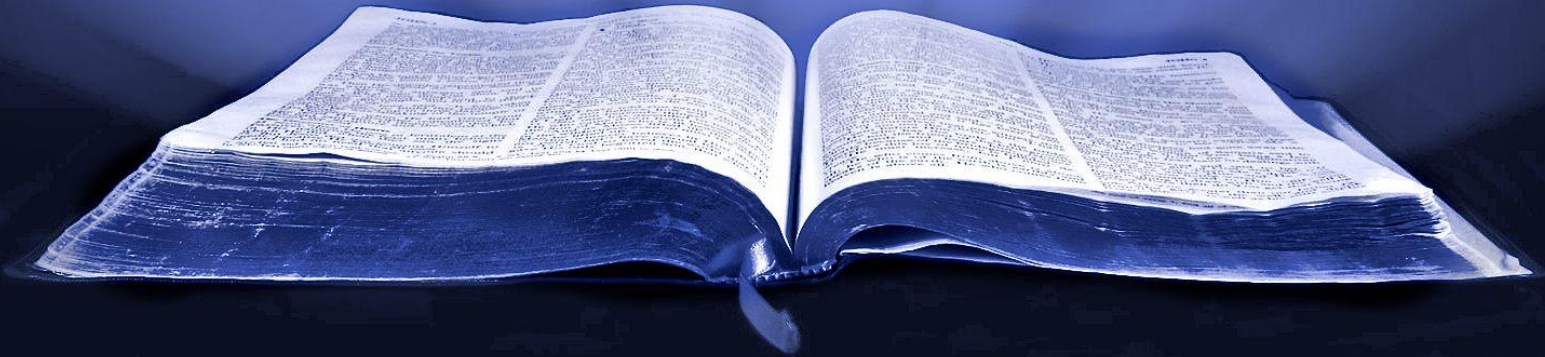


## Lesson 3: Analysis of Denominationalism (Part 2)

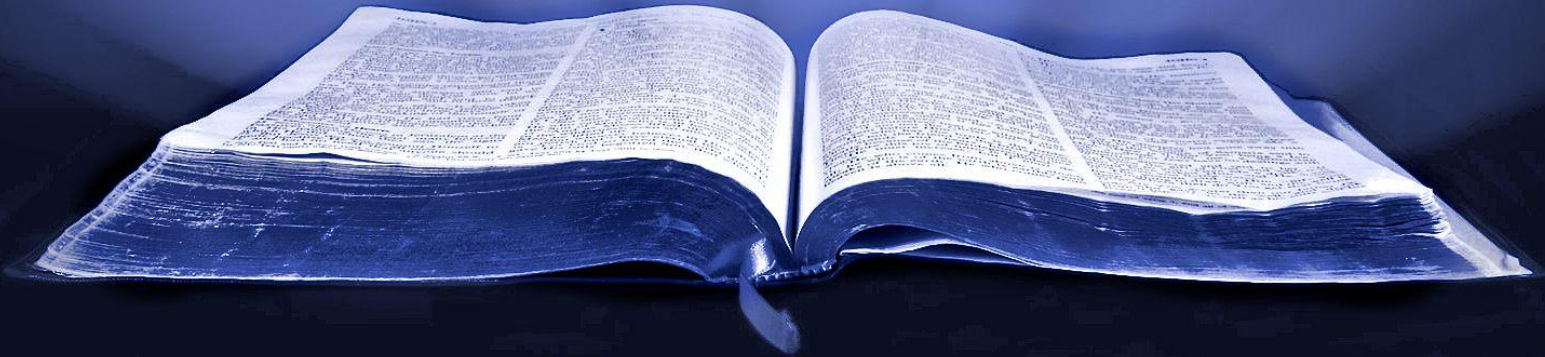


“and that most of the brethren in the Lord, being confident through my bonds, are more abundantly bold to speak the word of God without fear”

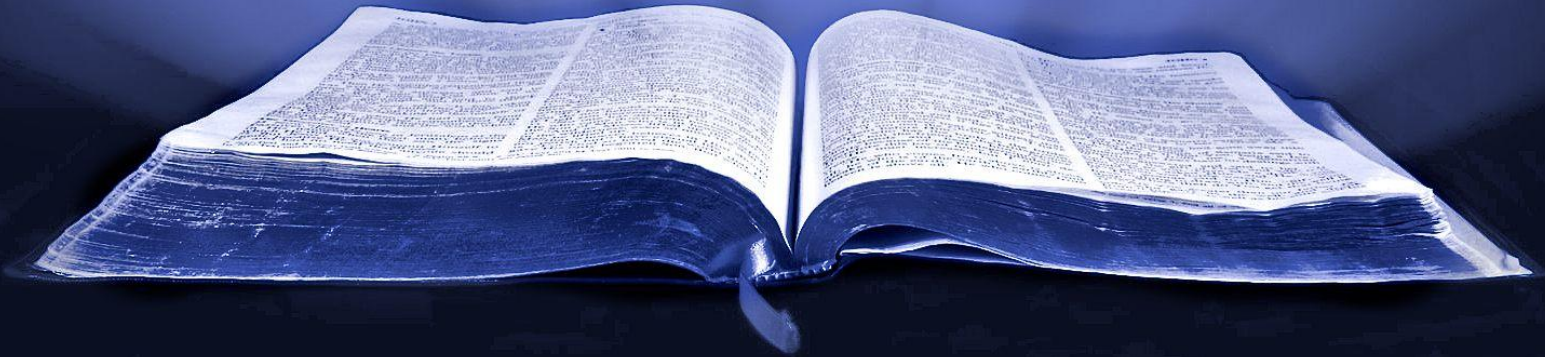
- Philippians 1:14 -



“For they all seek their own, not the things of Jesus Christ. But ye know the proof of him, that, as a child *serveth* a father, *so* he served with me in furtherance of the gospel” – Philippians 2:21-22



“withal praying for us also, that God may open unto us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds; that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak” – Colossians 4:3-4



# Five Elements of A Denomination

1. Proper name – Catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Mormon, etc. (compare with Acts 11:26)
2. Human head – Pope, President, Board, Synod, Council, Assembly, etc. (compare with Ephesians 1:22)

# Five Elements of A Denomination

3. Earthly headquarters – Rome, Salt Lake City, Brooklyn, Cleveland (TN), etc.  
(compare with Philippians 3:20)
4. Human creed – Catechism, Book of Order, Manual, Articles, Book of Mormon, etc.  
(compare with 2 Timothy 1:13; 4:2)

# Five Elements of A Denomination

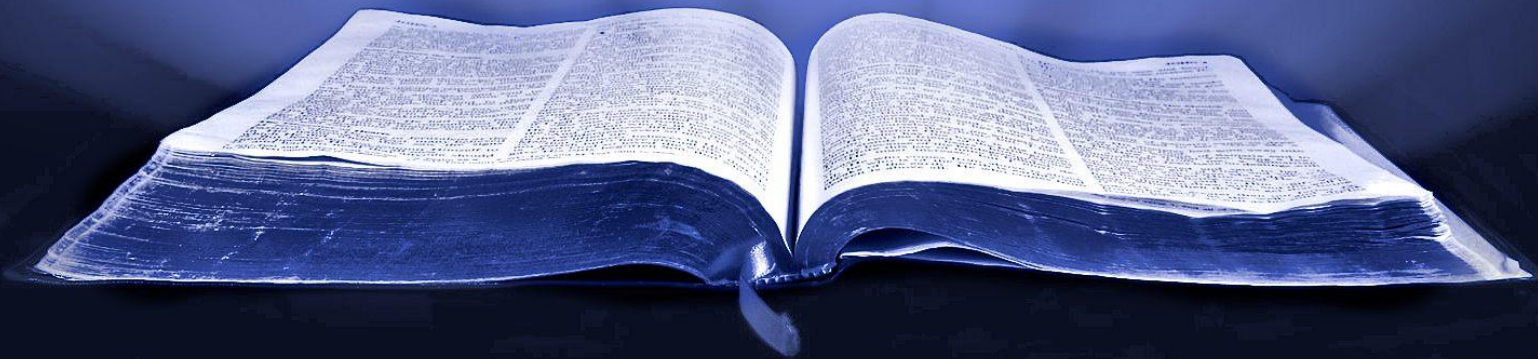
5. Centralized organization and works  
(projects supported by the churches  
within the denomination) – hospitals,  
universities, missions, camps, relief  
programs, retirement communities, etc.  
(compare with 1 Peter 5:2)

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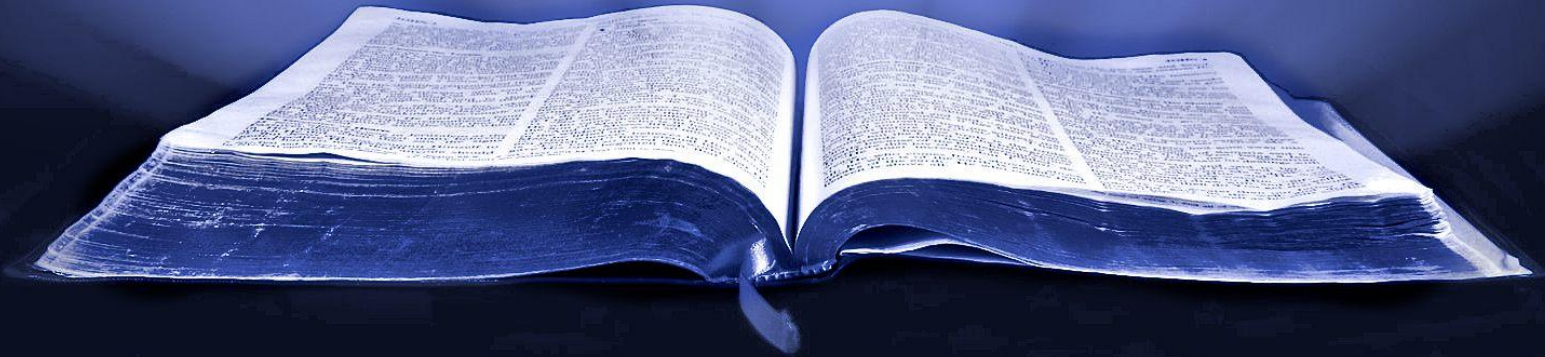
## Lesson 4: Roman Catholicism (Part 1)

“Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer each one” – Colossians 4:5-6

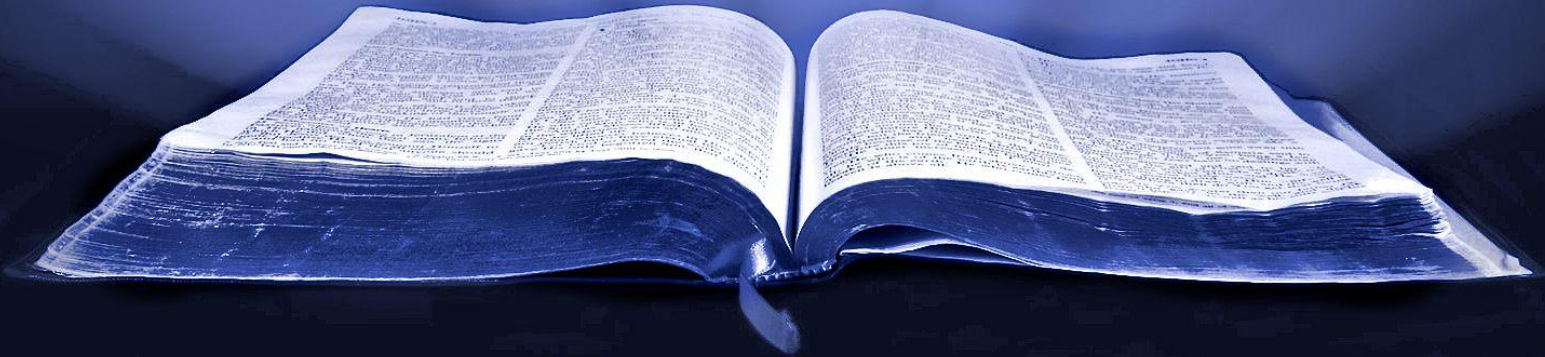




“For from you hath sounded forth the word of the Lord, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith to God-ward is gone forth; so that we need not to speak anything” – 1 Thess. 1:8



“This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth” – 1 Tim. 2:3-4



# The Rise of Catholicism

**Stage 1:** Apostasy – leaving the pattern of NT teaching and practice (1 Tim. 4:1-3)

False teachings about the nature of Jesus, the sin and free-will of man, Jewish heresies, and Gnostic heresies were a part of this apostasy

# The Rise of Catholicism

**Stage 1:** Apostasy – leaving the pattern of NT teaching and practice (1 Tim. 4:1-3)

Unauthorized practices like the use of holy water, infant baptism, praying to saints, religious holy days, and were a part of this apostasy

# The Rise of Catholicism

**Stage 2:** Hierarchy – allowing one bishop to be over other bishops in a particular area

A false distinction was made between “bishops” and “elders” (Acts 20:17, 28; Tit. 1:5,7); a “bishop” was given greater authority than the local church (1 Pet. 5:2)

# The Rise of Catholicism

**Stage 3:** Romanism – uniting the church with the (Roman) state (Mt. 22:21; Jn. 18:36)

After Constantine was “converted” (c. A.D. 325), the “church” began to take on characteristics of the Roman Empire: hierarchy, pageantry, pagan religion, etc.

# The Rise of Catholicism

**Stage 4:** Creedalism – forming written creeds of belief set forth by “bishops” who attended councils (2 Tim. 1:13; 3:16; 4:2-4)

Many “creeds” (I believe) and “canons” (laws) were codified from the Seven Ecumenical Councils (c. A.D. 325 – 787)

# The Rise of Catholicism

**Stage 5:** Papacy – elevating one man over all other men to be Pope (“universal bishop”) over the Catholic Church



The development of an ecclesiastical (church) hierarchy (rule) among the bishops soon led to the development of Papal power. The Presiding Bishops (patriarchs) who lived in Rome, Alexandria, Antioch, Jerusalem, and Constantinople (the capital of the Roman Empire in A.D. 325) rivaled for power.

The Bishop of Rome at this time called himself “Papa” or Pope (from the Latin, father). When the political capital of Rome moved to Ravenna in Northern Italy (c. A.D. 402), the bishops who remained in Rome became the significant officials in the Church.

Innocent I (401 - 417), Celestine I (422 – 432), and Leo the Great (440 – 461) were all given authority over the Church in the West. Later, both Leo the Great (440) and Gregory the Great (590 to 604) also believed themselves to be the leader in Rome who would be over all other bishops.

Gregory the Great is known as the “architect of the medieval papacy” because he promoted the idea of papal supremacy that would later crystallize during the Medieval Period. In 588, John the Faster, Bishop of Constantinople, took on the title of “Universal Bishop of the Church” (ecumenical patriarch).

John the Faster was challenged by Pelagius II (579 – 590) and Gregory I (590 – 604). He was called the antichrist by Gregory I for asserting his authority. The bishops in Rome and Constantinople began again to assert their authority one over the other during these years.

Finally, in 606, the Emperor took away this title from John and conferred it upon Boniface III then Pope of Rome. The date 606 marks the beginning of the fully organized Roman Catholic Church with the Pope of Rome as its head. The Roman Catholic Church, however, argues that the Papacy goes back to Peter, the first Pope.

Peter was not the first pope because: 1) Peter is not the foundation of the church, Christ is (1 Cor. 3:11); 2) Peter alone was not given the “keys”, all the apostles were given the “keys” (Mt. 18:18); 3) Peter was married (Lk. 4:38; 1 Cor. 9:5); 4) Peter refused worship (Acts 10:25-26); and 5) Peter was fallible (Mt. 16:23; 26:69-75; Gal. 2:11-14).

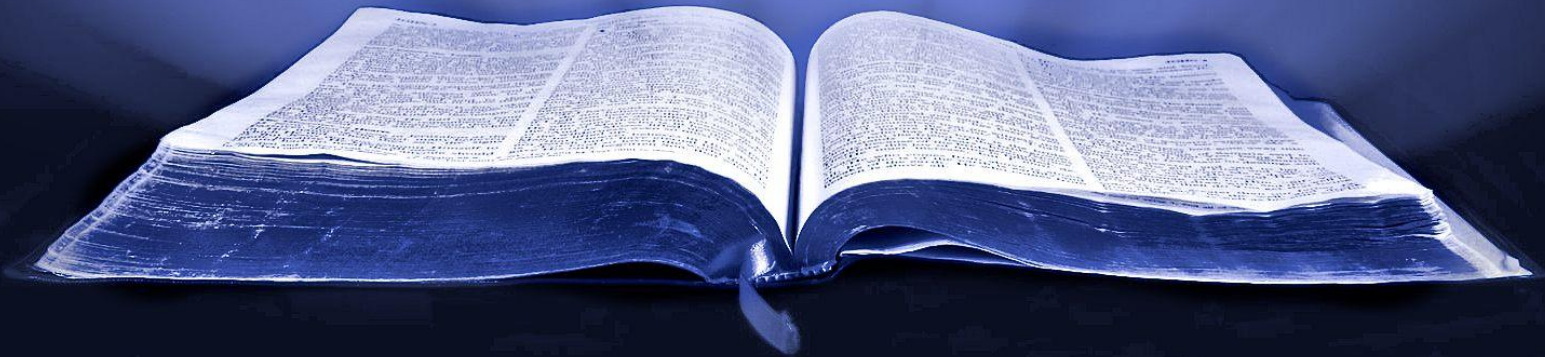
# Teach Our Neighbors



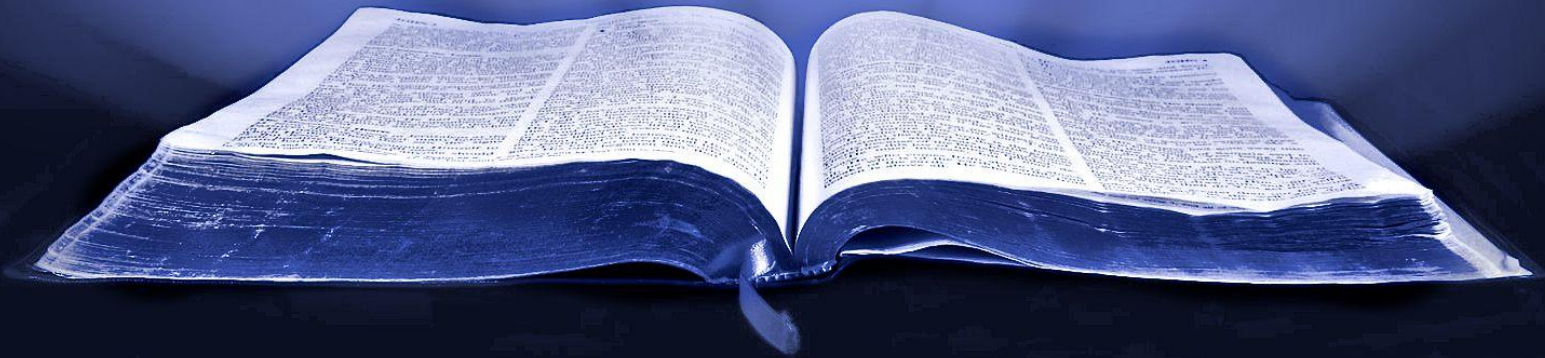
## Lesson 4: Roman Catholicism (Part 2)



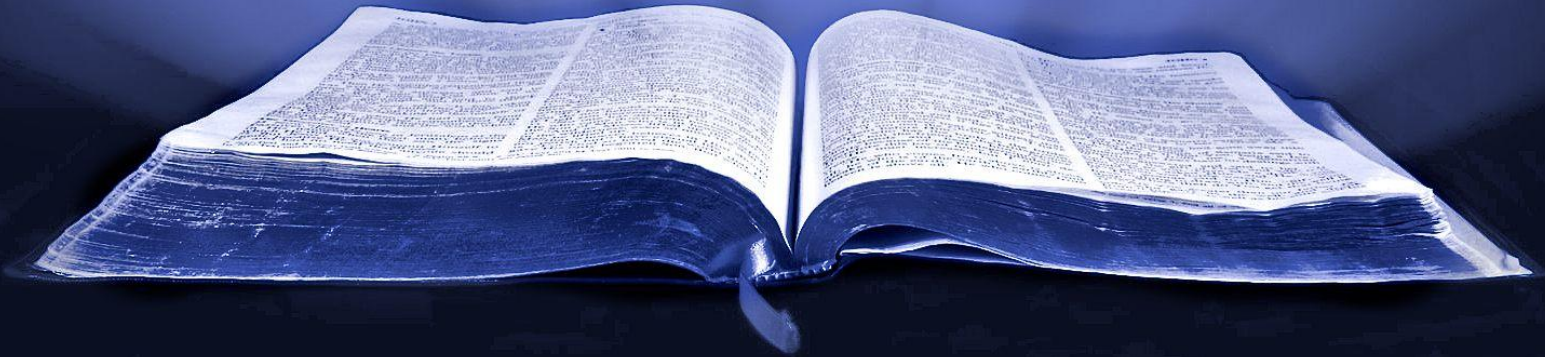
“And the things which thou hast heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” – 2 Tim. 2:2



“but sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: *being* ready always to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear” – 1 Peter 3:15



“He findeth first his own brother Simon,  
and saith unto him, We have found the  
Messiah (which is, being  
interpreted, Christ). He brought him unto  
Jesus” – John 1:41-42



# Basic Catholic Beliefs

**Church Tradition:** Catholics believe that “Church Tradition” carries equal authority with the Bible (including the OT apocrypha); the Bible alone is not our sole authority; “Church Tradition” includes the writings of “Church Fathers”, written creeds from councils, Papal decrees, etc.

# Basic Catholic Beliefs

**Church Tradition Answered:** The NT alone is our sole guide (Mt. 17:5; Jn. 16:13; Heb. 1:1-2; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Jude 3). Apostolic “tradition” is valid (1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Thess. 2:15; 3:6), but not the “tradition” of non-inspired men (Mk. 7:3-13; Gal. 1:14; Col. 2:8).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Priesthood:** Catholics believe that there is a special position and privilege given to the priests. There is a clergy (the priesthood) and a laity (the parishioners). The priests are the only ones who can offer mass, listen to confessions, etc.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Priesthood Answered:** All Christians are priests offering up spiritual sacrifices  
(1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 20:6)

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Mass:** Catholics believe that the sacrifice of Jesus is offered to God by the priest in the mass (Lt. *misse* = sent or dismiss; from the Lt. *Ite, missa, est* = “Go (parishioners), it (Jesus’ sacrifice) has been sent (to God)”



# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Mass Answered:** The death of Jesus today is memorialized (“do this in remembrance of me”), not re-sacrificed (Lk. 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:24-25).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Transubstantiation:** Catholics believe that the bread and wine become the actual body and blood of Jesus – the “real presence” of Jesus; “this is my body ...this is my blood” are statements to be taken literally.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Transubstantiation Answered:** First, Jesus was not speaking of the Lord's supper in John 6. Second, Jesus used metonymy (one thing stands for another) when he spoke of his body and blood in the institution of the Lord's supper (Mt. 26; Mk. 14; Lk. 22). Paul used metonymy as well (1 Cor. 11).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Apocrypha:** Catholics believe that there are 7 extra books in the OT that are God's word. These books are called the "Apocrypha" (concealed, hidden writings). These books were written between 200 B.C. and A.D. 100.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Apocrypha:** Because of “church tradition”, they were accepted as scripture at the Council of Trent (A.D. 1546). The 7 books are called “deuterocanonical” (second canon) by Catholics. They are Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, and 1 & 2 Maccabees.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Apocrypha Answered:** These books were 1) not accepted by Jesus or the apostles, 2) not quoted by NT writers, 3) not accepted by ancient Jews into their canon, 4) not accept by early Jewish or “Christian” writers (2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> centuries), and 5) not in harmony with the rest of scripture.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Apocrypha Answered:** These books have some historical value, but no doctrinal value. They contain teaching that is un-biblical (heretical), extra-biblical (fanciful), sub-biblical (immoral), post-biblical (intertestamental), and non-biblical (not accepted by Jesus, apostles, etc.).

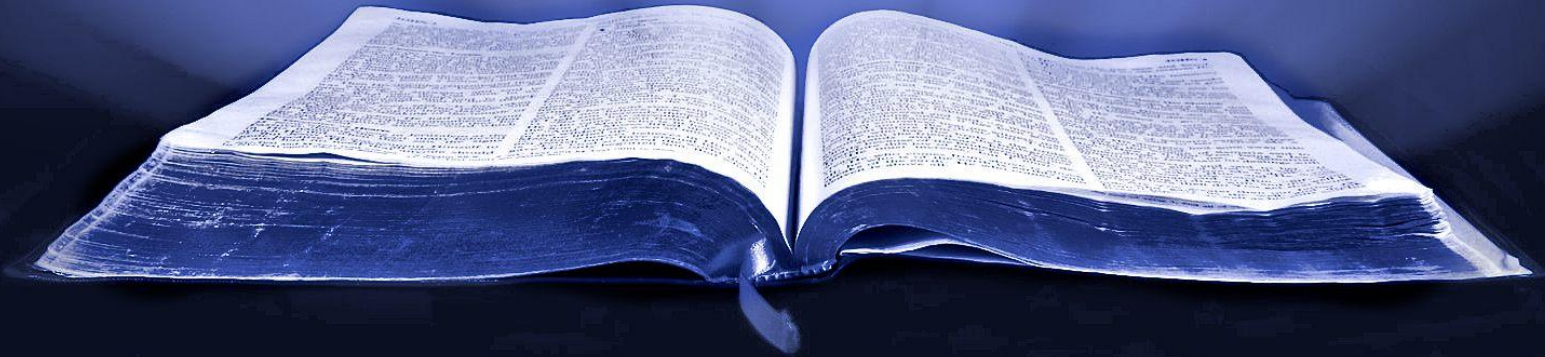
# Teach Our Neighbors



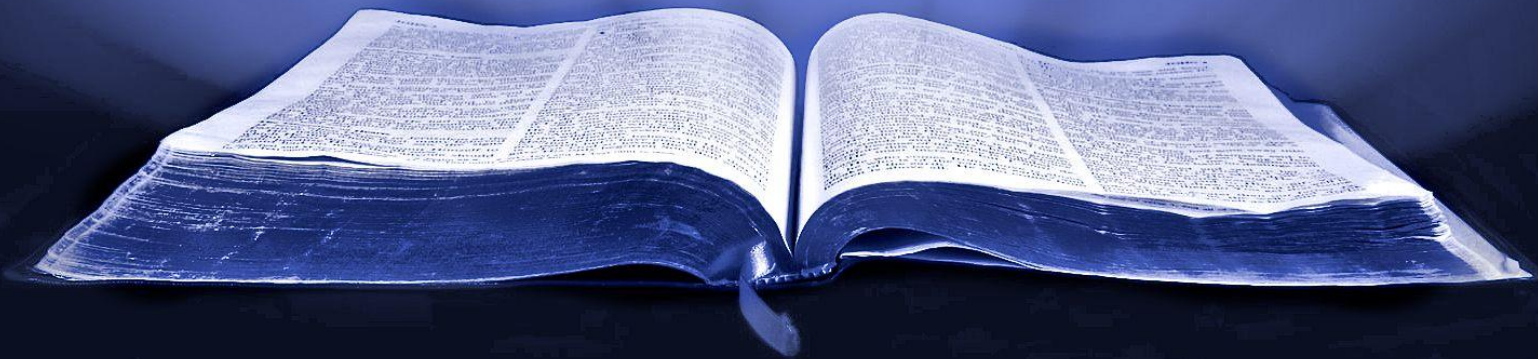
## Lesson 5: Roman Catholicism (Part 1)



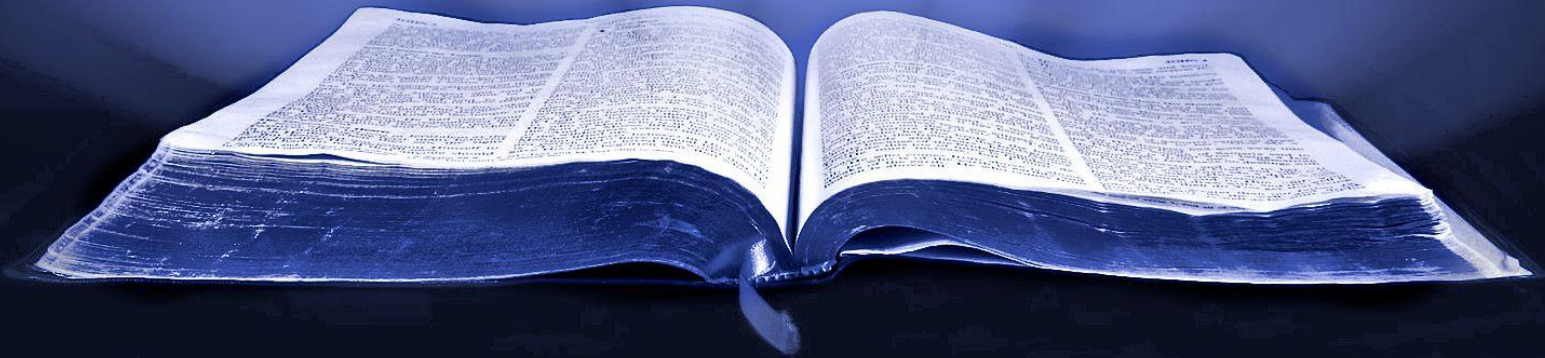
“because that for the sake of the Name  
they went forth, taking nothing of the  
Gentiles. We therefore ought to welcome  
such, that we may be fellow-workers for  
the truth” – 3 John 7-8



“And on some have mercy, who are in doubt; and some save, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh” – Jude 22-23



“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.  
And he that heareth, let him say, Come.  
And he that is athirst, let him come: he  
that will, let him take the water of life  
freely” – Rev. 22:17



# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Veneration of Mary:** Catholics believe that Mary is to be honored and exalted (worshipped) above all other women. They pray to her (“hail Mary...”), give her special titles, and believe that she mediates (“Mediatrix of Divine Grace”) for mankind by the throne of God.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Veneration of Mary:** Catholics also believe in the immaculate conception of Mary (she was born without original sin), the perpetual virginity of Mary (she remained a virgin all her life; compare w/ Mt. 13:55-56), and the bodily assumption of Mary (she was raised to mediate at the right hand of God).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Veneration of Mary Answered:** Like many Catholic doctrines, the veneration of Mary is found in the ever-evolving “church tradition” (pronouncements by Popes) but nowhere in NT scripture. The Bible does not give her special titles, nor does it assign her a mediatory role by the throne of God.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Veneration of Saints:** Catholics believe that certain men and women who did great things in life achieved “sainthood” after they died. Catholics pray to these “saints” who have special powers and can offer special gifts to the living.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Veneration of Saints Answered:** All faithful Christians, alive or dead, are “saints”. Like the priesthood of all believers, there is no special category of sainthood for only certain ones who have died. “Saint” (62 times in the KJV), is used for OT saints (Mt. 27:52) and for NT saints (1 Cor. 1:2; etc.).



# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Image Worship:** Catholics have many images and icons in their cathedrals and parish church buildings. They say they do not worship them, but use them simply as aids in worship. “Iconoclasm” (icon = image) was the dividing point in A.D. 1054 between Catholics in the West (Lt.) and the East (Gr.).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Image Worship Answered:** NT Christians worship without having any “confidence in the flesh” or outward, physical things (Phil. 3:3). NT Christians worship with that which is authorized in the NT; in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:23-34).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Image Worship Answered:** All references to physical images (Gr. icon) in the NT, except one (Mt. 22:20; Mk. 12:16; Lk. 20:24), are associated with the ungodly (Rom. 1:23; Rom. 13:14-15; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 12:2; 19:20; 20:4)

# Teach Our Neighbors



## Lesson 5: Roman Catholicism (Part 2)

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Purgatory:** Catholics believe that purgatory is place of temporal punishment between heaven and hell where a sinner (with venial sins) can go to be purged from his sins and then released by the good works of the faithful to enter heaven. **Purgatory** is temporary while **limbo** is eternal.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Purgatory Answered:** This doctrine, like many Catholic doctrines, is based upon “church tradition”, not scripture, and was not accepted as official until many years after the beginning of the Catholic Church. Catholics appeal to 2 Macc. 12:38-46, but this is not inspired scripture.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Sacraments:** Catholics believe that the Seven Sacraments are rites ordained by God and officiated by the priests alone in which God distributes grace to his children. They are: 1) baptism, 2) confirmation, 3) communion, 4) penance, 5) extreme unction, 6) religious orders, 7) marriage.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**The Sacraments Answered:** The so-called sacraments contain elements of truth and error: four of them (baptism, communion, penance, religious orders) have a biblical basis; two of them come from “church tradition” (confirmation, extreme unction); and, one (marriage) is optional for believers.



# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Infant Baptism:** Catholics believe that infants should be baptized (sprinkled with holy water or just touched with holy water) to remove their “original sin”.

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Infant Baptism Answered:** Infants are born pure and without “original sin” (Eccl. 7:29). They do not inherit sin from their parents (Ezek. 18:20). Baptism is a burial in water (Rom. 6:3-4), not a sprinkling. Believers (old enough to hear), not infants, were baptized in the NT (Mk. 16:16; Acts 18:8).

# Basic Catholicism Beliefs

**Holy Water, Sign of the Cross, the Rosary, etc., etc.:** Catholics engage in many rituals and practices that have no biblical support.

**Answer:** Jesus exposed the “many other things there are” (Mk. 7:4) that came from the Jewish “precepts of men” (Mk. 7:7).

# Teach Our Neighbors



## Lesson 6: Bible Baptism (Part 1)

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
1. Design/Purpose	Forgiveness of sins	Already forgiven
2. Action	Immersion	Sprinkle, pour
3. Subject or Candidate	First hear and believe the gospel	Infant
4. Element/Type	Water	Water <u>and</u> the H.S.

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
<p><b>1.</b> Design/Purpose: “for the remission of sins”</p>	<p>Mark 16:16 Acts 2:38 Acts 22:16 Rom. 6:3-4 Gal. 3:27 1 Pet. 3:21</p>	<p>“Outward sign of an inward grace”; to show that you are already saved; an act of obedience as a Christian</p>

# Bible Baptism

First, the New Testament teaches us about the design or purpose of baptism. Baptism is “for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38).

Baptism is the act that places a believer into a right spiritual relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit (Mt. 28:19).

# Bible Baptism

Baptism is the act in which salvation is granted (Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21). Baptism washes away sins (Acts 22:16). Baptism places the believer into Christ, his death, and resurrection (Rom. 6:3; Col. 2:12). It also places one into his one body, the church (1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:27).



# Bible Baptism

The emphasis in these last baptism passages is on the Christian's new life separated from sin and the Christian's unity with other Christians. Baptism also provides the believer with a clean conscience (Heb. 10:22; 1 Pet. 3:21-22).

# Bible Baptism

Because baptism is for the remission of sins, baptism should be immediate (Acts 8:36-38; 16:33) and it should cause great rejoicing (Acts 8:39; 16:34). The words “for the remission of sins” in Acts 2:38 form a Greek prepositional phrase (εἰς ἄφεσιν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν).

# Bible Baptism

This same phrase, without the definite article, is found in Matthew 26:28; Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3; and, Luke 24:47.

# Bible Baptism

After studying all of these passages, it should be clear to the honest Bible student that “for” (εἰς) in this phrase points forward (so that sins might be forgiven) and not backward (because sins have been forgiven).

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
1. Design/Purpose	Forgiveness of sins	Already forgiven
2. Action	Immersion	Sprinkle, pour
3. Subject or Candidate	First hear and believe the gospel	Infant
4. Element/Type	Water	Water <u>and</u> the H.S.

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
<p>2. Action: immersion</p>	<p>Gr. <u>baptisma</u> = to dip, immerse, plunge</p> <p>Jn. 3:23</p> <p>Acts 8:38-39</p> <p>Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12</p>	<p>Baptism can be performed either by sprinkling, pouring, or by immersion</p>

# Bible Baptism

Second, the New Testament teaches us about the action of baptism. Baptism is immersion. Baptism requires water (Acts 8:37; 10:47) and baptism requires immersion in water. The Greek verb *baptizo* and the Greek noun *baptisma* mean “immersion”.

# Bible Baptism

These Greek words have been transliterated (not translated) into English as baptize and baptism. To talk of the “modes” of baptism, as some do, is like talking about the “colors” of black. There is no “baptism by immersion” because baptism is immersion.



# Bible Baptism

These Greek words are related to the verb *bapto*, meaning “to dip”, “to immerse”, or “to plunge”. The act of baptism is immersion because of the meaning of the Greek words and because the New Testament also implies it.

# Bible Baptism

Baptism involves a going to water (Acts 8:36), much water (Jn. 3:23), a going down into water and coming up out of water (Mk. 1:9-10; Acts 8:38-39). It also involves a burial in water and a rising from water (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12).

# Teach Our Neighbors



## Lesson 6: Bible Baptism (Part 2)

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
1. Design/Purpose	Forgiveness of sins	Already forgiven
2. Action	Immersion	Sprinkle, pour
3. Subject or Candidate	First hear and believe the gospel	Infant
4. Element/Type	Water	Water <u>and</u> the H.S.

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
<p data-bbox="40 401 426 547"><b>3.</b> Subject or Candidate:</p> <p data-bbox="40 598 523 929">all who are old enough to hear, believe, repent, and confess</p>	<p data-bbox="672 401 1136 459">Matthew 28:19</p> <p data-bbox="672 511 1020 568">Mark 16:16</p> <p data-bbox="672 620 1238 765">Acts 2:38; 8:12-13, 37; 10:48; 18:8</p>	<p data-bbox="1296 401 1721 918">Baptism is for infants (Cath., Eastern Orth., Cong., Luth., Meth., Pres., Anglican, etc.</p>

# Bible Baptism

Third, the New Testament teaches us about the subject or candidate for baptism.

Baptism is for the obedient believer. The emphasis is not on a particular age, but on the mental maturity of the individual.

# Bible Baptism

The person who is to be baptized is first the person who hears the gospel – a teachable person (Mt. 28:19; Acts 18:8); the person who believes the gospel – a trusting person (Mt. 16:15-16; Acts 8:12-13; 18:8)...

# Bible Baptism

...the person who repents of his sin – a penitent person (Acts 2:38); the person who confesses Jesus as Lord – a committed person (Acts 8:37-38); and, the person who obeys the command – a compliant person (Acts 10:48).



# Bible Baptism

Both men and women are baptized (Acts 8:12). Grossly immoral persons (Acts 18:8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11), morally good people (Acts 10:1-2, 48), religious people (Acts 2:5, 38; 8:26-38; 9:1-19; 16:14-15; 18:8; 19:1-6), and non-religious people (Acts 8:4-13; 16:30-34) are all baptized.

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
1. Design/Purpose	Forgiveness of sins	Already forgiven
2. Action	Immersion	Sprinkle, pour
3. Subject or Candidate	First hear and believe the gospel	Infant
4. Element/Type	Water	Water <u>and</u> the H.S.

# Bible Baptism

Baptism	Bible Truth	Denom. Error
4. Element or Type: water	Acts 8:36; 10:48	Baptism in water <u>and</u> in the Holy Spirit (Pentecostal Churches, etc.)

Four Elements	Administrator	Purpose
Water	John, Jesus' disc., and the apostles	Remission of sins
Fire	Jesus	Punishment upon the wicked
Suffering	The world	Persecution of Jesus and apostles
Holy Spirit	Jesus	Confirmation of truth by speaking in tongues

# Bible Baptism

Four, the New Testament teaches us about the types of baptism. There was the baptism of John (Mt. 3:1-12; etc.) and the baptism of Jesus' disciples (Jn. 3:22-23, 26; 4:1-2). These baptisms were in water, for the remission of sins, and lasted until Jesus died on the cross.

# Bible Baptism

There is the baptism of fire (Mt. 3:11; etc.) which is yet to come upon the wicked in the judgment day. There was the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Mt. 3:11; Jn. 1:33; Acts 1:5; 2:1-5; 10:44-48; 11:15-17; 15:8). This baptism was a promise (not a command) to the apostles and to the household of Cornelius only.

# Bible Baptism

There was the baptism of the Jews (Mk. 7:4; etc.). This was a baptism (washing) in water for ceremonial purposes and was a part of the Jewish traditions of Jesus' day. There was the baptism of suffering that Jesus and his apostles experienced from the world (Mt. 20:22-23; Mk. 10:38-39; Lk. 12:49-50).

# Bible Baptism

There was the figurative baptism of Israel in water unto Moses (1 Cor. 10:2). And lastly, there is the baptism in water of the great commission which was first administered by the apostles to all sinners (the world) for the remission of sins and is still for all sinners today (Mt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15-16).



# Bible Baptism

This water baptism for the remission of sins is the “one baptism” for all mankind today (Eph. 4:5).