



I have created a list of topics, themes or precepts that I have discovered hidden in the pages of the Bible. These understandings were unknown to me for decades, until I was brought into new life through faith in Christ Jesus. [See my previous pdf file](#): I had little interest in what that dusty, unread volume had to say. Now I believe that any one of these themes has the potential of having a book written about it. I originally offered these themes without personal commentary to be used to spark discussion. In a small group setting these subjects can be the focus of individual sharing. These themes are listed randomly with no order of priority. My brief comments which follow are only hints to start thinking about and discovering a topic.

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★ **The Word, Settled in Heaven Ready to be Revealed**

The Word preexisted in the beginning, from before the foundation of time. “All things were created by Him and for Him,” so writes John in his gospel. The Jehovah of the Bible appears throughout the Old Testament as “*theophanies*.” **The Word** becomes Incarnate as a human being. He is reared in Israel in the traditions of Moses. He reveals himself as the “Son of Man” **the great I Am**. He is the image and expression of *every name for God* found in the Old Testament. He perfectly fulfilled the very letter of The Laws of Moses, typologies of the temple and others.

★ **The Bible, A Dusty Old Book Full of Power**

To the unredeemed, The Holy Bible is dusty, outdated and irrelevant. But to those who have tasted the power of God, and have experienced the New Creation, (2 Cor.5:17), It is alive and we begin to discover its majesty and depth. Only the supernatural power of God can penetrate our unbelief and transform us into a believer.

★ **Faith (Hebrews 6) Opens the Spiritual World**

The letter to the Hebrews is our instruction in Faith. It is the very key of believing God and coming to Him. (Heb. 11:6) “*And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.*” I have found that faith is the key that unlocks the power of God, which is “*the arm of the Lord revealed*” (Isaiah 53) and God’s grace toward us. We can live now in faith, which I have come to understand as believing that He is a participant in our life in this moment.

★ **The God Who Hides Himself**

Take a look at all those who are still lost in unbelief. These are the “sinners” who are the focus of preaching and evangelism. God is only a word to them. The Almighty God of Glory is hidden and remains hidden until that special time when we sense the power of his love drawing us to him. Unbelieving millions don’t know they are lost. Neither do they know that the *god of this world* holds them in bondage and blinds them to the Truth.

★ **The World and the Spirit of the World**

The book of John in Chapters 15 to 17 reiterates again and again that he has called us out of the world. The world is a system under the control of its default ruler who usurped the “title deed” from Adam. *The world loves (exalts) their own*. The parable of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod (Mark 8:15) defines the key features manifest in the world. These include materialism, sensuality and pride of life that hold us in allure.

(1 John 2:16) *For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—*

is not from the Father but is from the world.” The world hates you because it hates me, Jesus said. “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”

★ **The Fall and the Fallen Nature**

We are all **sinner**s regardless of degree. This word “sinner” is a word the unbeliever hates! This is why it is hard to persuade good people they need salvation. Every human being in their native state inherits *the sin nature* from Adam. Yes, it goes back to Chapter 3 in Genesis. Jesus said, “No one is good save God.” People argue their relative goodness and miss the fact that good, even meritorious behavior is insufficient to deserve heaven.

★ **The Flesh, the Natural Man or Woman**

Those who experience salvation still await the redemption of the body. These mortal bodies will put on the immortal and be glorified at the resurrection. (1 Corinthians 15:52-53) The sin nature resides in the flesh and is gradually being subdued. After salvation we are positionally declared “righteous” The teaching of “gradual sanctification” is a matter that touches upon self effort. Opinions vary on the matter. We can not earn our salvation, so do we labor to earn sanctification? I would point out that the sanctification process is merely a byproduct of “abiding in the vine.” It is the abiding which brings forth fruit without self effort.

★ **Redemption: Restoration of Humankind and the Planet**

All creation groans to be delivered from its fallen state (Romans 8:22) *“For we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now.”* We await that the time that sees the renewal of the earth. It will be a return to Eden. A biblical time table has been in force since creation. Bible authorities are in disagreement concerning the details. I believe that scripture teaches a culmination of the Age of Grace (the church age). A time of final judgment against the ungodly will follow in a prophetic tribulation. The Kingdom Age will follow. I believe that this purging of evil and redemption can only occur through the power of God’s supernatural intervention.

★ **Churchianity and Its Vain Traditions**

I can personally bear witness that one can be a regular church attender and not be saved. We are told in the Gospel accounts about the parable of the wheat and tares. This parable reveals that we can not judge fully whether a person is born again or not. Individuals remain as God’s project and have their own time of reckoning. In 2 Timothy chapter 3, Paul describes a kind of church in the latter days as *“having a form of godliness”* but having no power. His exhortation is to turn from these and have no fellowship in them. A sign of the prophetic “end times” is a departure from the faith. How many church denominations and ministries are even safe anymore? John in Revelation addresses the latter church of the Laodiceans who view themselves as being enlightened but who are in reality wretched and blind.

★ **The Holy Spirit (God Within Us)**

Who are the sons of God? “*Those who are led by the Spirit.*” (Romans 8:14) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (Romans 8:19) For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. (Galatians 3:26) “..for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith in Christ.” This wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit is *the helper* promised by Jesus. He is “*the power from on high*” promised by the Father. The Holy Spirit is the Counselor and the Comforter, the Faithful Witness of Truth. He is the *inner witness* that provides Spiritual discernment. He inspires and leads supernaturally! He brings us abilities that are of a supernatural order as named in the 9 gifts of the Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12) He is continually at work to conform us to Christ’s image. He is the very power that Jesus announced as the “promise of the Father.” (Acts Chapter 1)

★ **The Called, Those Called Out to Know God**

Many are called but few are chosen. (Matthew 22:14) “**The call**” goes out whenever the full gospel message is shared. Any hearer may respond then, later or never. The Spirit of God chooses who, how and when. Jesus said, “*You have not chosen me, I have chosen you.*” Only those who the Spirit draws come to the Father. These are the chosen or *called out ones* (Gk. *Ekklesia*) who become “the body of Christ.” The only true church are those who are chosen. These become members of the Body of Christ.

★ **The New Creation, Evidence of the Power of God**

If any person is in Christ he/she is a new creation; The old passes away and behold new things come. (1 Cor. 5:17) Our *carnal natures* (old lifestyle) begins to gradually conform to Gods image. One’s thought patterns and behavior transforms into someone entirely unlike who you were before this miracle. John chapter 3 is the chapter that powerfully speaks of the *born again mandate*. Chapter 3 of John also powerfully warns of the consequence of not being born of the Spirit. We are warned that we remain under condemnation!

★ **The Seeker, The Pilgrim**

People have spoken of a sense that there is more to life than the life they know. Some have described it as a God-shaped void within us. Someone who has not heard of “the way of Christ” can be led astray by many teachers or gurus who present themselves as wise and enlightened. There are many false roads that lead to dead ends or demonic traps. Even in the Christian “walk” the pilgrim faces challenges and pitfalls. It is also a reality that new believers can easily fall into bad doctrine and wind up outside of biblical guardrails.

★ **Awesome, Supernatural, God Things**

The Bible is a supernatural book full of miracles and wonders. Yet too many doubt the validity of the accounts. We read of the great wonders wrought in the time of Moses in Egypt. Israelites experienced the miraculous Red Sea crossing and miraculous provision during forty years in the wilderness. Joshua followed Moses when God’s miracles were displayed in the conquest of Canaan. In the book of Daniel we read of the supernatural rescue of Daniel from lions and the Hebrew children’s deliverance from the fiery furnace. The many prophetic miracles of Elijah and Elisha can not be excluded. These were from the Old Testament. In the gospels we read of many wonders and miracles wrought by Jesus, even raising the dead. In the apostolic age following Christ’s

resurrection we see the continuation of amazing wonders by the apostles. These miracles continue today. Transformed lives are the greatest and occur each day. The gospel is described as the “*power of God*” because of its supernatural power to transform lives. Becoming a disciple/believer itself is *miraculous*. Modern day believers have the same *precious promises* with that same Biblical assurance.

★ **The Body in Manifestation (In Christ)**

Paul introduces us to the Gospel of Grace. It is also known as *the church age*. Paul is the first to turn our attention to the “Body of Christ” and what it means to be “in Christ.” If we are in Him we can also “to walk intimately with Him.” This is only possible through the Holy Spirit’s empowerment. Those born of God are given discernment to know what is of God and what is not. In the Lord’s prayer we are told to pray acknowledging our Father as the source of our care and provision. Jesus demonstrated his dependency upon his Heavenly Father. He did what he saw the Father do and said what the Father said.

★ **The Messengers: Those Who Are Called Out and Sent**

Since we New Testament believers are designated as belonging to “the Body of Christ” we have a unique function and place of honor. Our belonging to the body is not without significance! Church traditions have made our place in the body limited, almost insignificant. In truth we are chosen to have a necessary place in God’s plan. We are ministers of reconciliation and even more as described in Romans Chapter 12 and 1 Corinthians chapter 12. We are to be light bringers in every day of our lives. Some are brought into a public kind of ministry and leadership.

★ **The Natural world: the World We know**

The natural world at its best can be seen as lovely and beautifully inspirational. When it comes to the people who populate it not everything is peaceful and blessed. Human weakness may lead people to follow evil leaders to govern them. Not all rulers are noble. Some are depraved, bloody men. Civilization can become dark and dangerous. In rare cases, enlightened governance may progress beyond savagery and bring forth times of harmony and fruitfulness.

★ **The Nature of Worship, Pagan and Divine**

The world in its present state is populated by myriads of unseen spiritual forces jostling in the heavens. Daniel and Paul both speak of “*spiritual wickedness in heavenly places*.” These wicked entities are tasked with of impeding the work of redemption. Spiritual powers influence the rulers of nations and cities of the world. The evil reports that fill the headlines are evidence of the world’s spiritual ruler. One of his titles is the *Prince of the power of the air*, Satan. His kingdom is ordered and strategic. (*C.S. Lewis, Screwtape Letters*)

Satan has always been invested in religion. He has always had his hand in all of its forms. Satanic powers guided the bloody abominations from ancient Canaan as well as remote tribal regions today. Behind the curtain many still engage secretly in the worship demonic forces. Satan’s ministers are no strangers to Christian churches. *The world* has invaded churches. The living presence of God can be replaced with another spirit. This is why discernment of spirits is so important.

★ Things Yet to Come, Future and Prophetic Things

The prophetic timeline is found throughout the Bible. The prophets of old were inspired by the Holy Spirit to foretell with perfect accuracy things destined to come to pass. Prophets spoke for their own times relating to their nation's affairs, matters concerning Israel and Judah. They also prophesied concerning the later times and of the coming Kingdom and of the Messiah. The Messiah of Israel and his work of redemption was foretold by seers and prophets. In the fullness of time a righteous King will reign over an earthly kingdom of peace and blessedness, but not before the earth is cleansed by fires of judgment.

The theme of "judgment" were warnings given to ancient Judah and Israel and also as part of the long term prophetic calendar. Judgment is that time when evil will be vanquished and righteousness and Truth will prevail. Judgment is a basic part of the Bible's doctrine. (*Hebrews 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, (Heb 6:2) and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.*)

There is a prophesied future resolution of the war of good against evil. The end will come with tumult and terror. It will be *a time of tribulation*, so dangerous and treacherous that humankind is nearly obliterated from the earth. (Matthew 24) It will culminate with the manifested power and glory of the returning Messiah King. The resolution of the evils of this world will not be in accordance to man's plans or efforts. Revelation concludes the writing of the Bible. It is future prophecy not metaphor and symbolism. Israel is God's time piece for prophecy. I believe that we are in that prophetic time where judgment will come into play.

★ Enlightened Saints of the Past and Their Testimonies

The Bible is actually a book of testimonies spanning six thousand years. Its authors wrote as the Spirit of God inspired their words. Their writings became a testament of *many witnesses*. Although the accounts were recorded over thousands of years their testimonies are in agreement.

We ourselves follow in the footsteps of the forerunners. God's hand was upon them and on ourselves as well. The fathers of our faith walked in the light and they have now received a crown of rejoicing. Changed lives account for Godly testimonies. Books continue to be written that extol God's blessing and faithfulness. Blessed lives have provided hymns that have inspired the hearers for centuries. Those with ears to hear and hearts to listen can enter into the path of salvation and the door of eternal life. The end of those changed lives promise an eternity whose beauty and scope can not be imagined.

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