## **Principles of Prayer and Promises**

**Advanced Seminar** 

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1.

## PPP: Lesson 04:

Rejoicing in the Light

1. 'Gospel' means `good tidings'. The Good News is that God has provided a plan whereby the worse sinner can be forgiven, and if they remain faithful, can receive eternal life.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." 1Peter 1:23.

"Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:" Colossians 1:12-16.

2. A newborn Christian is not to look to self and worry about whether he can hold out in Christian living because God's Word and His promises provide all the help we need, if we just choose to use it!

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." Jude 24, 25.

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:" Philippians 1:6.

3. What are the ABCs of claiming Bible Promises?

The "A" is Matthew 7:7, 8. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

The "B" is Mark 11:24. "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

The "C" is Matthew 21:22. "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

4. What lessons can we learn from the first day of creation?

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." Genesis 1:2-5.

It was Jesus who commanded the light to appear.

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12.

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men." John 1:4.

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:6.

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Hebrews 11:3.

5. Light and darkness in the Bible refers to good and evil as well as to physical light and darkness.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105.

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." Colossians 1:13.

Physical Light and Darkness cannot exist together: when Light comes in, Darkness is driven away. It is the same with spiritual light; where God is not, there is darkness, but the Word promises us deliverance from Satan's dark power.

"And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them." Isaiah 42:16.

"Rejoice not against me, 0 mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me." Micah 7:8.

If Christ was only a mere human being, we would have no hope when days are dark. But since He is our Creator, we may know He has a solution for every spiritual, financial, and physical problem of life.

"Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee." Psalm 139:12.

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Isaiah 60:1-3.

6. After so many thousands of years of sin and human degeneracy, even our conscience, is not a safe guide unless it agrees with the Word of God.

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 16:25.

"The heart [our natural mind] is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9.

7. What about Tradition, the things which our parents have done down through the ages and have taught to us?

"To the law and to the testimony [the Bible]: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20.

"But he [Jesus] answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" Matthew 15:3.

". .Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition." Matthew 15:6.

"For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. Mark 7:8, 9.

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Colossians 2:8.

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation [life-style] received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:" 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

While we should honor our parents, if they command us to do that which contradicts God's commandment, we should not follow their command, but God's.

8. What else does the Bible say to us about walking in the light?

"O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD." Isaiah 2:5.

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12.

"Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him." John 11:9, 10.

"Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth." John 12:35.

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:" Ephesians 5:8.

## Prayer Lessons

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:5-7.

9. The light of God is truth, is there such a thing as false light?

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15.

"Satan, clothed in robes of brightness, appearing like an exalted angel, tempted the world's Redeemer without success. But as he comes to man robed as an angel of light he has better success. He covers his hideous purposes, and succeeds too well in deluding the unwary who are not firmly anchored upon eternal truth." Confrontation 86.

"When man dies to sin and is quickened to new life in Christ, divine love fills his heart; his understanding is sanctified; he drinks from an inexhaustible fountain of joy and knowledge, and the light of an eternal day shines upon his path, for with him continually is the Light of life." Acts of the Apostles 273.

"Redeemed! how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child, and forever, I am."