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a *Grace Notes* course

## **Ephesians**

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*Grace Notes*

Lesson 12

Ephesians 4:7-12

Salvation in the Old Testament  
Christian Worker Qualifications  
Servants of God

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## Ephesians

### Lesson 12: Ephesians 4:7-12

#### Instructions

Ephesians 4:7-12 .....	12-4
Salvation in the Old Testament .....	12-9
Christian Worker Qualifications.....	12-11
Servants of God .....	12-13
Lesson 12 Quiz.....	12-15

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## Instructions for Completing the Lessons

Begin each study session with prayer. It is the Holy Spirit who makes spiritual things discernable to Christians, so it is essential to be in fellowship with the Lord during Bible study.

Read the whole book of Ephesians often. It is a short book, and reading it many times will help you understand the story much better.

### **Instructions**

1. Read the introduction to the study of Ephesians
  2. Study the Ephesians passage for this lesson, by reading the verses and studying the notes. Be sure to read any other Bible passages that are called out in the notes.
  3. **Review** all of the notes in the Ephesians lesson.
  4. Go to the Quiz page and follow the instructions to complete all the questions on the quiz. The quiz is "open book". You may refer to all the notes and to the Bible when you take the test. But you should not get help from another person.
  5. When you have completed the Quiz, be sure to *SAVE* your file. If your quiz file is lost, and that can happen at *Grace Notes* as well, you will want to be able to reproduce your work.
  6. To send the Quiz back to *Grace Notes*, follow the instructions on the Quiz page.
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## Ephesians 4:7

**But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.**

While we live out our lives on earth, God's plan for us includes giving us a measure of His grace. We are left on this earth so that we can grow towards maximum spiritual maturity, so that we can enjoy prosperity, and so that we can see the grace of God in our adversities.

When we reach heaven, there will be no more tears, no more sorrows, and best of all, there will be no more sin and no more desire to sin!

But in this life God is able to demonstrate to us His wonderful grace in times of maximum stress, in times of great need, when we are physically worn out and broken down, and even when we have sinned and need to be forgiven, restored to fellowship, and set on the road to maturity again..

Ephesians 4:4-6 have shown us what is provided for all of us at salvation, the great assets which we have as members of God's family and as part of the Body of Christ. In the verses from 4:7-16, we are shown what God provides to us after salvation, His post-salvation provision.

### "but unto every one"

But word "but" is used to show that there is a difference between that which is common to all members of the royal family (one Lord, one faith) and that which differentiates among believers. Each individual Christian is given a unique capacity, by grace, to function and grow as a Christian and to produce as a member of the Body of Christ.

The words "unto every one", or "unto each one" takes into consideration the differences among a wide variety of believers.

**"is given grace"** - aorist passive indicative of DIDOMI, thus "has been given".

There is a unique grace package designed for each Christian. The aorist tense of the verb "given" shows that there was a time in the past when this grace package was given. The passive voice shows that we were given this by God.

The plan of God for every believer includes:

Salvation and the assurance of a glorious eternal future

The opportunity to walk in the Spirit and be occupied with Christ.

The opportunity to live in the Word of God, acquire divine wisdom and prudence, and be able to make decisions and solve problems according to God's divine viewpoint.

Peace that passes understanding.

A great happiness (joy) that does not depend on circumstances, people, or things.

A well laid out "career" of serving God, exercising spiritual gifts, evangelizing and teaching, producing "gold, silver, and precious stones."

There is something that prevents Christians from having the happiness and prosperity in this life that comes from being a member of God's family. What's missing in many lives is Bible doctrine in the soul!

Indifference to the Word of God, rejection, apathy, or antagonism toward Bible truth keeps many believers dirt poor and malnourished spiritually, in spite of their being members of God's royal family. People try to reach happiness by substituting something else for the Word of God, such as some religious experience, emotionalism, ecstasies; but any attempt to live for the Lord apart from God's plan of grace will cause a person to miss the boat.

But ...

### "according to the measure of the gift of Christ."

This is a gift without any strings attached. The Lord Jesus Christ was the greatest gift that could be given, and He was given without measure to any person who believes on Him, who calls on Him.

In the same degree, without measure, grace is provided in the plan of God to supply the needs and provide all the assets required for a successful life on earth for every Christian.

The letter the Ephesians is one of the principal "how to" books of the Bible. In these chapters we learn what the plan of God is, how we can become a part of it, how we can have access to "all blessings in heavenly places in Christ", how we

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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can become powerful Christian operatives in the grace of God.

### Ephesians 4:8

**Wherefore, he says, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.**

"wherefore" - "for this reason".

The word "wherefore" follows a conclusion in order to allow inferences about the conclusion.

"he says" - LEGW, "he says" or "the scripture says".

What follows is a documentation of the conclusion and is a quotation from Psalm 68:18.

"when he ascended up on high" - ANABAINW.

These verses refer to the ascension of Christ as part of His victory over the forces of Satan in the ongoing spiritual conflict.

According to Greek scholars, this verb is in a tense called a "culminative aorist". It views the ascension of Christ in its entirety but regards it from the viewpoint of its results, namely, the glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ at the right hand of the Father as the unique person of the universe.

It is a blessing to remember Eph. 2:5,6, which tells us that "even when we were dead in sins, (God) has made us alive together with Christ (by grace are you saved), and has raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

We are saved by grace! We are given living grace! Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father! We are seated with Him! Therefore, we are already placed in a position of victory with the One who will have ultimate victory!

We are there to observe when His enemies shall be made His footstool!

"he led captivity captive" - aorist active indicative of AICHMALWTEUW.

This verb means either "to take captives in battle" or "to lead a triumphal procession of one's own soldiers along with their captives."

The consensus of the commentators which I studied is that this phrase is a reference to Christ leading the Christians who had previously died, that is, they died prior to his ascension. This would include all Old Testament believers and those saved during Christ's lifetime. They have been residing in Paradise (also called "Abraham's bosom") until the Ascension of Christ. They are called captives because they do not have a resurrection body yet. They will not have a resurrection body until the second coming of Christ, 1 Cor. 15:51-54.

There are references to Paradise in Luke 23:43; Luke 16:23; Gen. 37:5; 1 Cor. 15:55; and Hab. 2:5.

I think this view is the most likely from several that have been presented in many commentaries; but the documentation for this opinion is sketchy. I base my opinion on the fact that, to me, the tenor of scripture seems to be least disturbed by this version of the account.

"and gave gifts unto men" - "distributed gifts unto men".

Here is a reference to the distribution of spiritual gifts among believers of this age. There have been many books and written about spiritual gifts over many generations of Bible teachers. I have read many of these publications over the years along with my Bible studies; but I still don't feel that I can be dogmatic about much that has been claimed.

Without question, the Lord Jesus Christ has made available some sort of divine enabling power to every Christian, i.e., "a gift or gifts." These are spiritual gifts, and a number of scriptures show that the Holy Spirit is intimately involved both in the supplying of spiritual gifts and in the exercise of these gifts. See chapters 12 to 14 of 1 Corinthians.

Where I have trouble is in the area of discerning one's spiritual gift or being sure that one has some particular gift or other.

I have heard many men claim, for example, to have the spiritual gift of pastor or "pastor-teacher," and I have heard a few claim even to be apostles or prophets. But I have never heard a good explanation of how those men discovered that

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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they had this gift, other than to cite certain circumstantial evidence that led them to think they had the gift. (Claims of miracles I discount entirely.)

Several times I have asked men "How do you tell the difference between discerning that you have a communication gift and simply deciding that being a pastor is what you want to do?" I have not heard a good answer.

Nevertheless, we see that in Eph. 4:11-16, some have been given communication gifts, those of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher - divine enablings to be used to "feed the flock of God", to bring us to unity, to be conformed to the image of Christ, to be productive Christians.

Until I have better information, then, I think I'll regard any Christian who is doing the work of "feeding the flock" by thoroughly teaching the Word of God to Christians as having a communication gift and a divine enabling for the work.

I'll leave the titles and other accoutrements of religion for someone else to work out. Those who occupy pulpits, or who rule as elders, and do not teach the Word of God, are not "pastors" ("shepherds" or "feeders"), anyway. They are either impostors, or they have communication gifts and are not using them. In either case they are best avoided.

### Ephesians 4:9,10

**(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)**

Verses 9 and 10 are a parenthetical expression for the purpose of amplifying the statement in verses 7 and 8.

The following comments have been transcribed from taped messages of R. B. Thieme, Jr., Pastoral Messages on Ephesians, 1963.

"Christ's body was in the grave, His spirit was in the presence of the Father, and His soul descended to a region called Hades (Greek) or Sheol (Hebrew).

"All believers from Adam and Eve up to the Resurrection of Christ, who had died, stayed in one compartment of SHEOL, known as Paradise, or Abraham's Bosom. Those who died without Christ prior to the Resurrection were sent to Torments.

"Prior to the Resurrection of Christ, no human beings were in heaven; all believers checked in to Paradise in the heart of the earth. Reference: Luke 16:19 and following.

"There is also a place called Tartarus which is a residence for certain of the fallen angels (demons) who were involved in the events chronicled in Genesis 6. They are locked up there until the Judgment of the Great White Throne.

"Jesus Christ was not in Hell, He was in Hades. Hades has two divisions, Paradise for the believer, and Torments for the unbeliever. Hell, and the lake of fire and brimstone, is reserved for the future."

### Ephesians 4:11

**And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;**

This part of Ephesians chapter 4, verses 11 to 16, is one of the most important passages for understanding what God's plan is for individuals and churches. Here the Lord provides communicators with spiritual gifts which enable them to teach us God's word with insight and accuracy. Here is the outline of a believer's growth from spiritual childhood to maturity, from being a victim of today's crisis to being a victory with Jesus Christ on the battlefield of spiritual warfare. Here the church, a body of learning, growing, functioning saints, enables its own edification by the coordinated functioning of mature individuals.

Chester McCalley, the pastor of Beth Haven Church in North Kansas City, Missouri, says that personal growth in Christ, and the growth of a local church, is very much dependent on two activities, FEEDING and BEING FED. His lessons entitled "The Fed and the Feeder" describe how a pastor prepares substantial and nourishing "meals" of spiritual food, providing his

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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congregation with the quantity and quality of teaching that are needed for growing in Christ. But, he says, to be fed one has to show up for meals and partake; and a Christian who will not receive teaching or who fails by faith to adapt doctrine to his life, will show ever-increasing signs of spiritual malnutrition.

"The Christian who does not understand what God has done in the past, and does not have faith in what God will do in the future, will be overwhelmed by today's crisis." Chester McCalley

**1 Peter 5:12, "The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: FEED THE FLOCK of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind."**

**Deuteronomy 8:3, "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live."**

We live by God's Word, that which proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord. "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus". And it is our pastors - our shepherds - who have the duty to provide us with this nourishment, lest we waste away in spiritual malnutrition!

The spiritual gifts, which were given by the Lord Jesus Christ, include those mentioned here, that of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher. Here is an outline study of spiritual gifts provided by my pastor, Bob Bolender, of Austin Bible Church, in Austin, Texas.

### Spiritual Gifts

#### I. Introduction and Definition.

A. God has a purpose in life for each and every believer.

Life-long purpose (Jer. 1:5; Ps. 139:16; Matt. 6:27).

Short-term purposes (Acts 16:6 Paul is forbidden to go to Asia, cp. Acts 18:19-21; 19:1-41 where Paul bears some of his greatest fruit in Asia).

B. To facilitate the believer's fulfillment of that purpose, God has provided spiritual gifts.

1. During this present dispensation, the distribution of spiritual gifts is universal. Every Church Age believer has (at least) one (Rom. 12:3,6; Eph. 4:7; 1 Pet. 4:10).

2. During previous dispensations, each and every believer had a purpose in life, or a work-assignment, but the giving of spiritual gifts was not universal. The Spirit of God would come upon a person for a specific time or reason, and then depart just as suddenly (Judges. 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 14:6,19; 15:14; Num. 11:17-30). Moses expresses his earnest desire (Num. 11:29) was for the universal indwelling of the Holy Spirit such as we enjoy in this present age!

3. Spiritual gifts (charisma) are given entirely by grace (charis), and the assignment of one gift versus another gift are not reflections of individual human merit or demerit.

4. Passages which speak of spiritual gifts, and "list" examples of such include Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-31; 13:8-12; 1 Cor. 14 is the application of 1 Cor. 12-13 to the particular circumstances in Corinth, but we gain great principles there as well; Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Pet. 4:10-11).

a. Peter (1 Pet. 4:10-11) gives the simplest breakdown of gifts when he divides them between communication gifts and service gifts.

b. Paul gives more detailed distinctions of gifts. Eph. 4:11-13 should be taken in context with what Paul has already written in Romans and 1st Corinthians. In Eph. 4, Paul is describing what are often referred to as the leadership gifts: Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, and Pastor- Teacher. I prefer to think of them as the equipping gifts, because they are designed for the equipping of the saints for the work of service (Eph. 4:12).

5. The purpose for spiritual gifts.

a. For the common good (of the entire body of Christ) (1 Cor. 1:7).

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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b. For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, and for the building up of the body of Christ (Eph. 4:12).

c. For serving one another (1 Pet. 4:10).

6. Who gives these spiritual gifts? The Holy Spirit is referred to as the giver of these gifts (1 Cor. 12:11). The Lord Jesus Christ is referred to as the giver of the "leadership gifts" (Eph. 4:11). These are delegated responsibilities, of course, because ultimately everything is given by the Father (James 1:17). This is the Trinitarian perspective that is important to maintain.

II. Development: The Calling to the Ministry.

A. The example of Paul.

1. Paul was saved on the Damascus road (Acts 9:4-6). This is salvation calling.

2. Paul was called to the ministry on the street called Straight, in the house of Judas (Acts 9:11,15,16). This is lifelong-purpose calling.

3. Paul was called to the specific task of the first missionary journey while ministering in Antioch (Acts 13:3). This is short-term purpose calling.

B. The example of Timothy.

1. Timothy was saved in his youth (2 Tim. 3:15). This is salvation calling.

2. Timothy was called to the ministry under the Apostle Paul's ministry (Acts 16:1-3). This is lifelong-purpose calling. Paul was the Apostle under whose ministry Timothy was trained for his gift of Pastor-Teacher.

3. Timothy was called to the specific ministry of Ephesus upon Paul's departure from that place (1 Tim. 1:3). This is short-term purpose calling.

4. Timothy had a problem with "neglect" of his spiritual gift (1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6). Others needed similar reminders, such as Archippus (Col. 4:17). Paul, the older man, was sensitive to Timothy's (and Archippus') gift and its use.

C. The example of Samuel.

1. Samuel was saved as a small boy (1 Sam. 1:28).

2. Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli the priest (1 Sam. 2:11,18,21,26). This is short-term purpose calling. Samuel trained under Eli. Samuel

served to be an encouragement to Eli, when his own sons were certainly a disappointment to him.

3. Samuel was called as a Prophet to the Lord (1 Sam. 3:1-21). This is lifelong-purpose calling. Eli, the older man, was the one who first recognized the calling of the Lord.

III. Development: Training for spiritual gift operation.

A. The spiritual gift is an entrusted treasure, which God intends to be used for its design and purpose (1 Cor. 9:17; 1 Tim. 6:20; 2 Tim. 1:14).

B. The spiritual gift is not to be neglected, nor allowed to grow cold (1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6). The best training is use! Paul was constantly sending Timothy here and there for the use of his gift. Christ sent His disciples out on training ministries (Matt. 10:5-42).

C. Believers need to be trained and equipped in the use of their spiritual gift.

1. The ministry of the Evangelist and the Pastor-Teacher, in the local church setting, is designed to train and equip all believers for the work of service (Eph. 4:12).

2. The curriculum for training in every spiritual gift is the Word of God in its full counsel (2 Tim. 3:16,17).

3. The training for every spiritual gift is in the realm of God the Father, and is therefore Paterological in scope (Heb. 13:20,21).

4. The Biblical model for a training institution is not the Pharisaical schools of learning (Acts 22:3), or any form of secular educational process (1 Cor. 1:20,21). It is illustrated both by Christ and His walking ministry with the twelve disciples (Acts 10:38-43), and by Paul and His working ministry with his associates/trainees (2 Tim. 3:10,11).

### Ephesians 4:12

**For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ;**

What is your greatest desire or goal for yourself and for your Christian community? I answer the question for myself by referring to two Bible passages: Acts 2:41-47 and Acts 16:4,5.



**Acts 2:41, "So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls.**

**"And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.**

**"And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.**

**"And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common;**

**"and they {began} selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.**

**"And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,**

**"praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved."**

**Acts 16:4,5, "Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees, which had been decided upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe.**

**"So the churches were being strengthened in the faith, and were increasing in number daily."**

These scriptures show that:

Apostles and teachers were teaching the Bible continually and people were soaking it up (positive to Bible teaching).

Christians were growing in grace and being strengthened.

The edification was producing great unity among believers so that they enjoyed wonderful fellowship together.

The Christians enjoyed a wonderful reputation and testimony for Christ in the community.

The local churches were enjoying a time of great productivity, both in the production of divine good and in reproduction of spiritual progeny.

This occurred in many locations, not just in Jerusalem, and not just as a spinoff of the miraculous events on the Day of Pentecost.

Now - how were these wonderful conditions brought about? Answer: by the process described in Ephesians 4:11-16 !!

What keeps a church from growing and prospering, from edifying itself as a local body?

Answer: when individual Christians fail to be edified and equipped, either through their own neglect or the neglect of the "feeders", a group will fail to achieve unity and will not operate through the filling of the Holy Spirit in the sphere of love. This will result in a lack of "body" growth and effective functioning.

When a church is not growing and functioning it may be because there is no effective teaching.

Where there is good teaching, individuals may fail to grow, and many things can cause this, such as:

Failure to stay in fellowship and to be consistently filled with the Holy Spirit

Failure to believe and obey the doctrine being taught

Failure to exercise Faith-Rest and other victory principles

Failure to be occupied with Christ, to be Grace oriented, to live in the Word of God.

Eph. 4:11-16 provide the keys to satisfying the commands of verses 1 to 3 and 17 to 32, **SHOULD YOU SO DESIRE!**

How does a Christian "walk worthy of the vocation to which he is called?" Verses 11 to 16 make this concept very clear and give concrete steps to follow. **YOU ARE CALLED!** There is no point in approaching the Christian Life half-heartedly or on a part-time basis. **YOU** must identify with the "YOU" of this chapter!

Read the following scriptures carefully, giving thought to these ideas.

Matt. 4:21; 1 Cor. 1:14; 2 Cor. 13:11; Gal. 6:1

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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This is the doctrine of Hebrews 6:1, the idea of perfection or "completeness of knowledge", "fulfillment", "realization".

For the "work of the ministry", read:

Topic: CHRISTIAN WORKER QUALIFICATIONS

### Salvation in the Old Testament

Salvation is the adjustment a person makes to the Justice of God when he believes on the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. The justice of God was satisfied when Christ bore our sins in His body on the cross. This makes it possible for God to reconcile the believer to Himself and to impute righteousness to the believer. Gen. 15:6

The Gospel is the information provided in the Bible to give us the facts about God's provision for us.

The death of Christ on the cross was predetermined by the decisions of the Divine Decrees so that, from the standpoint of the OT times, Jesus Christ's substitutionary atonement was certain to take place, even though the actual efficacious sacrifice had not yet occurred. The justice of God was satisfied.

OT believers received Jesus Christ as Savior as He was revealed in OT times. Sometimes He was called Elohim, Jehovah-Elohim, or Jehovah plus a noun (God our Righteousness, etc.). Whenever there was positive volition at the point of God consciousness, God provided Gospel information to the individual.

The first statement of the Gospel is recorded in Genesis 3, at the time of original sin, Man's fall. When Adam and Eve fell, they only had one count against them - negative volition to the command regarding good and evil. Good and Evil is the plan of Satan; so knowledge of good and evil is knowledge of Satan's plan. Adam and Eve, in their innocence in the garden of Eden did not need to be introduced to Satan's plan or to be inculcated with it. Therefore, this one tree was forbidden.

Eve partook of the tree in innocence, Adam partook in cognizance. He had seen the first sinner, Eve, disobey God, but he took part anyway. Remember, there was no immorality involved here, because at the time they were

neither moral or immoral. Their sin was merely rejection of what God had commanded. This brought instant spiritual death.

At this instant, man no longer ruled the world; Satan became the ruler of this kosmos. The coup d'etat was complete; and man was now subject to Satan as far as this world is concerned. Mankind immediately became marked with the "mark of Adam", the Sin Nature.

To the question "Which came first, personal sin or the Sin Nature?" the answer is that personal sin came first and caused the existence of the Sin Nature. The human spirit was cancelled out in the sense of spiritual death.

For the rest of the human race, the Sin Nature is inherited at birth, so the Sin Nature is present before there is any opportunity for personal sin. Also, Adam's sin is imputed to us, so that we are born with two strikes against us. "For as in Adam all die ..." Note : we are not called sinners because we sin; we are sinners because we are born, with a Sin Nature, and having Adam's sin imputed to us.

This is the reason that God, with His character of absolute Justice and Righteousness, is not free to enter into a relationship with us unless it can be done without compromising his integrity. And that is only possible if all the sins of the world are judged.

But the Lord has found a way to save mankind. Gen. 3:15, "I will put enmity (hostility) between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; it shall bruise (crush) thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

The "seed of the woman" is the title for the Lord Jesus Christ in virgin birth. The Sin Nature and Adam's imputed sin is passed down through the male; and Christ was not born of a male-female relationship. He was able to avoid that result of the curse. The Lamb of God had to be without spot or blemish.

At the Second Advent of Christ, the head of Satan will be crushed, and he will no longer rule the world -- Christ will rule the world and Satan will be imprisoned for 1,000 years.

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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The pattern of salvation in the Old Testament is exactly the same as the pattern of New Testament salvation. Gen. 15:6, "Abraham believed God, and God imputed it to him for righteousness." Imputed righteousness means that God's Justice has been satisfied. This verse is found in the context of Rom. 4:1-4 (READ).

### Comments:

1. There never was a time, and there never will be a time when God is not saving mankind. Rom. 10:13; 2 Pet. 3:9
2. The Gospel was clearly declared in Old Testament times. Rom. 1:1-4; I Cor. 15:3-4; Acts 3:18. The passage in Isa. 53:5,6 has exactly the same boundaries as are found in I Cor. 15:3. Dan. 12:2,3 has the boundary of the resurrection.
3. Regardless of age or dispensation, man is always saved in the same manner - positive volition to the Gospel expressed in a non-meritorious way, faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12; Gal. 3:6-8
4. Positive volition existed in Old Testament times, both at the point of God consciousness and the point of Gospel hearing. Ex. 33:7; Gen. 15:6
5. While revelation from God is progressive, reaching its peak with the New Testament scriptures, it has always been, nevertheless, sufficient for salvation of souls at all periods of time.
6. The object of faith in salvation is the Lord Jesus Christ, Gal. 3:26. However, the revelation concerning Christ varies in different ages.
7. Jesus Christ was first revealed as Savior at the time of man's fall, Gen. 3:15. He is represented as the "seed of the woman".
8. Jesus Christ is usually revealed in the Old Testament by "shadows". For example, in the Tabernacle, in the feasts, in the modus operandi of the Levitical priests.  
  
Another means of revealing Christ was through "inanimate revelation", that is, through things in nature like the burning

bush, the Rock, the Shekinah Glory, or through the typology of the furniture in the Tabernacle (Num. 17:7). The Mercy Seat, the **hilasterion**, was the place of propitiation in the Holy of Holies.

The Levitical offerings were "witnessing by ritual". The burnt offerings taught propitiation, with emphasis on the word of Christ, the Lamb of God. The meal and fruit offerings revealed the Person of Christ on the cross. The peace offering taught about the barrier between God and man being removed.

The gospel was presented in the Old Testament directly in theological teaching. Isa. 53 was straight doctrinal teaching which showed that Christ carried our guilt as well as our sins.

9. Once the reality is come, we have the New Testament, which is historical Christology.
10. According to Isa. 55:6, salvation in the person of Jesus Christ, is always available. Acts. 4:12.
11. Many conversions are recorded in the Old Testament, including:

Noah was declared "just" in Gen. 6:8,9, and was said to have righteousness in Heb. 11:7. Heb. 11 shows the spiritual life of OT believers. The OT imputation of righteousness is seen in Psalm 24:5 and Isa. 61:10.

For Abraham, compare Gen. 15:6 with Rom. 4:1-4  
Job gave perfect testimony to salvation in Gospel form -- death, burial, and resurrection. Job. 19:23-27.

Many Gentiles were saved in the Old Testament. The citizens of Nineveh responded to the Gospel when Jonah preached to them. Matt. 12:41; Luke 11:32. See also Rom. 9:24,25; 9:30-33. See Daniel regarding the salvation of Nebuchadnezzar.

### Christian Worker Qualifications

The following qualifications apply to anyone who is going into Christian service in some capacity to minister to others. These criteria particularly apply to those who take up Christian work as a vocation, such as pastors, evangelists, teachers, or missionaries.

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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- The Christian worker must be born again and he must understand the Plan of God in all of its phases.
- He must exercise his spiritual gift, such as that of pastor, evangelist, teacher, helps, governments, or other gift. The spiritual gift is a divine enabling for service given at the time of salvation and developed through intensive preparation.
- He must be spiritually mature in the sense of being familiar with the whole counsel of God's Word both by academic understanding and by application in his own life.
- He must have spiritual endurance.

Maturity and the ability to do God's work comes through years of study of God's Word and practice in using doctrinal principles. Following is a review of the doctrinal ideas found in 2 TIMOTHY 2:15.

*Study* ... from the Greek word σπουζω (**spoudzo**) meaning "to be industrious, eager, to be diligent, to exert oneself". It has a stronger meaning than "study". It actually connotes a way of life which includes the proper mental attitude and motivation to learn Bible doctrine daily. This word could be translated "make every effort". And it is a *command*.

*to show yourself* or, "to make every effort to represent yourself...". It means to make every effort to concentrate, to be objective to doctrine. to give priority to the Word of God. The reason that you are entering the Lord's work is to live the life of Christ.

*approve* ... "to pass an exam". δοκιμος (**dokimos**) The emphasis is on success, not failure. To be a successful Christian worker, you must study (Test #1), and you must use what you study (Test #2).

Can you teach to the glory of God? The test is on the accuracy of what you teach.

Can you work to the Glory of God? The test comes when you apply, whether you use Grace or legalism, whether you depend upon man or God.

Can you fix a car, iron a shirt, type a letter to the glory of God? The test is on whether you know how to do this.

*workman* ... εργατης (**ergateis**), an agricultural worker, a laborer, a routine worker. This word indicates one who is involved in the mundane, routine, ordinary, distasteful, or dull things in life. In the ancient world it meant feeding the cattle, working in the fields, cleaning out the barn, etc. Many people want to do great things for God, to get written up in articles, to get peer recognition for accomplishments.

Some people think that leading someone to Christ is more spiritual than giving a cup of cold water in the Lord's name. But this is wrong! Any task can be done as unto the Lord; the Christian life is fantastic. The emphasis here is on doing small, routine things as unto the Lord. Stay in fellowship and wait for God's promotion.

*needeth not to be ashamed* ... literally, with the previous word, "a not-ashamed workman". You don't have to be ashamed of your station in life if you have an honest vocation. Every believer is in full time service. A Christian worker must keep grace oriented and not despise the ordinary things, or those who live an "ordinary" life. And he must have these qualities before moving out.

*rightly dividing with the word of truth*. - to cut straight, to line out a straight path. Use Bible doctrine to keep from straying into the cults, into the movements, to stay with accurate interpretation and application of the Word of God. This enables a life with no detours, no hangups, no blind alleys. Therefore, the verse says, "Making every effort to represent yourself approved to God, an irreproachable worker cutting a straight path with the Word of Truth."

The Christian worker must also be able to stand the test of negative volition on the part of those he is reaching. READ ACTS 13. Nothing tests the Christian worker more than a lack of response. Paul began his first missionary journey about ten years after he was saved, when he was mature. He ran into negative volition and corrected the situation with the direct approach (ACTS 13:6-13).

Religion always has negative volition attached to it, as we see in this context. The religious people were filled with envy, jealous of Paul getting a hearing. They fabricated lies and began a vicious campaign of gossip and maligning. They "spoke

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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against those things which were spoken by Paul". They spoke against doctrine; they didn't like Christ being called the Messiah; they didn't like Paul's authoritative teaching. They were the religious bosses and controlled everything religious in the town.

Paul and Barnabas "waxed bold" -- that is, they spoke dogmatically with authority and confidence. He said, "It was necessary that the Word of God should first have been spoken to you (Jews)", but they ran into negative volition, "but seeing you put it from you". So Paul and Barnabas left and went to a place of positive volition (13:46-49) and had great results.

In ACTS 15, they ran into the problem of negative volition on the part of believers, toward doctrine taught categorically (Circumcision). The believers were dragging works into God's plan of Grace. The Christian worker must understand the doctrine of volition, both positive and negative aspects.

A Christian worker must also possess spiritual endurance. The idea is expressed in 2 Tim. 4:7,8 as having iron in the soul, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." Or. "Iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend." (PROV. 27:17).

The enemy of spiritual endurance is "brittleness in the soul", as seen in JER. 13:8-14. In the ancient world they understood how a dried out wineskin would shatter. This passage is talking about the disintegration of the soul of an individual, like PROV. 6:32. The soul becomes brittle when the believer fails to respond to doctrine and either goes into idolatry or sexual sins. The believer drinks the jug of the foam of this life and not only does the jug shatter in his face but so does his soul. It is part of the frantic search for happiness of the person who has received some prosperity, like Solomon who prospered materially but found nothing to satisfy himself (Ecclesiastes).

Brittleness in the soul can become a way of life, like the nation which goes into terrible judgment (JER. 13:19). This is the pursuit of success and happiness apart from God's Plan and provision. A brittle soul has not been fulfilled by the Lord and His Word. Instead of Grace orientation, the

believer with a brittle soul has legalism, self-righteousness, pride, super sensitivity, human viewpoint, self-justification, a critical and irritable spirit, and accepts no authority but his own.

Instead of being a master of the details of life, the details master him, so he seeks satisfaction with cheap substitutes. Instead of having a relaxed mental attitude, the brittle soul has mental attitude sins: bitterness, jealousy, hatred, cruelty. Instead of a capacity for personal and impersonal love, the brittle soul has pseudo-love, a sickly sweet love accompanied by boredom and instability. Instead of perfect happiness, the brittle soul has depression, frustration, and accepts instant stimulation followed by instant misery. This condition is the opposite of spiritual endurance and has destroyed many Christian workers in all parts of the world.

The mechanics of obtaining spiritual endurance are simple, salvation plus edification. Stability and endurance come through the daily intake of the Word of God accompanied by the continuous filling of the Holy Spirit and application of doctrine to the life through faith. EPH. 4:1-13.

### Servants of God

GOD COMMANDS CHRISTIANS TO BE FAITHFUL AND OBEDIENT SERVANTS.

Deut. 10:12 "And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord with all thy heart and with all thy soul."

Micah 6:8 "He hath shown thee, O man, what is good; and what hath the Lord required of thee, but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Psalms 100:2 "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing."

JOSH. 24:14,15

SERVICE IS TO BE RENDERED AS UNTO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

JOHN 12:23-26

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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Col. 3:24 "Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

THE BELIEVER'S SERVICE IS TO BE RENDERED TO PEOPLE.

Christian service makes life noble.

Mark 10:43,44 "But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

Christian service exemplifies neighborliness.

LUKE 10:36,37

Christian service is Christ-like.

JOHN 13:1-17

Christian service demonstrates love.

JOHN 21:15-17

Christian service lightens life's burdens.

GAL. 5:13-15

GAL. 6:1-10

ACTS 20:17-20

HEB. 10:23-25

The place of worship and the place of service. We also "assemble" for service. The Body functions as a congregation.

AS GOD'S SERVANTS, BELIEVERS HAVE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES.

Christians are to leave all to follow Christ.

Phil. 3:7,8 "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea, doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but refuse, that I may win Christ."

Believers are to render undivided service.

1 CHRON. 15:10-15

1 Sam. 7:3 "And Samuel spoke unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only;

and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines. Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the Lord only."

Believers are to serve with humility.

ACTS 20:18,19

Believers are to serve with courage.

Deut. 1:17 "Ye shall not respect persons in judgment, but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man, for the judgment is God's; and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me [Moses], and I will hear it."

Prov. 29:25 "The fear of man bringeth a snare; but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe."

EXAMPLES OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

The Lord Jesus Christ served men.

Phil. 2:7 "But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."

Godly men served the Lord by serving other men.

- Peter and Andrew, Mark 1:17,18
- Zaccheus, Luke 19:6 ff
- Paul, Acts 9:20

THE REWARDS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

The faithful servant gains spiritual knowledge.

Hos. 6:3 "Then shall we know, Lord; his gone unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth."

The faithful servant gains divine viewpoint.

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

The faithful servant has spiritual guidance.

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

The faithful servant receives honor from God.

John 12:26 "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honor."

## Ephesians Lesson 12

---

The faithful servant has a life of joy.

Psalm 40:8 "I delight to do thy will, O my God;  
yea, thy law is within my heart."

John 4:36 "And he that reapeth receiveth wages,  
and gathereth fruit unto life eternal, that both he  
that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice  
together."

## Ephesians Lesson 12 Quiz

### Instructions

The following questions relate to your study of this lesson.

To answer a question, type your response in the space provided after the word "Answer:". A question may be True/False, multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer type.

The last question requires you to write one or two paragraphs in "essay" form. Use the space provided; it will expand to accommodate your response.

You have choices about sending the quiz back to Grace Notes.

- If you received an email file containing the quiz, you can use the REPLY feature of your e-mail application to open the quiz. Enter your answers in the reply message. Then SEND the message to Grace Notes.
- You can enter your answers on these pages, then send the whole file back to Grace Notes as a file attachment. This is handy, but these lessons will average 100K to 200K in size. As an alternative,
- After you answer the questions here, copy and paste the whole list of questions into a new MS Word document; then, send the new file to Grace Notes as an attachment. The new file will, of course, be much smaller than this main file.
- Finally, you can print the Quiz pages on your printer and send your response back to Grace Notes in the regular mail. If you do this, send the mail to:

**Grace Notes**

**% Warren Doud**

**1705 Aggie Lane**

**Austin, Texas 78757 USA**

Whichever transmission method you use, when Grace Notes receives your completed Quiz, the next lesson will be sent to you, by the same means you received this one. EXCEPT: when you have sent in the FINAL QUIZ, we will send your certificate to you, by regular mail.



### Questions on Ephesians Lesson 12

1. As God's servants, Christians have certain responsibilities. Name three of them.

Answer:

2. You will not necessarily derive any benefit from serving the Lord. [ True / False ]

Answer:

3. Describe how you would advise a young person who was going to work for the first time: how to dress; how to act; how to speak; how to relate to the employer.

Answer:

4. When was it that Jesus Christ gave gifts to men?

Answer:

5. What is a Christian's position, right now, in Jesus Christ?

Answer:

6. There are some Christians who do not have any spiritual gifts, because they do not yet deserve to receive them? [True/False]

7. What are the communication gifts given by Christ at the time of His ascension?

Answer:

8. What is the principle duty of a pastor?

Answer:

9. Man does not live by bread alone, but by \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer:

10. What is the curriculum for training in the use of spiritual gifts?

Answer:

11. Why did the Lord provide spiritual gifts of communication to the Church?

Answer:

12. Old Testament believers were saved by their keeping the Law and performing good works. [True/False]

Answer:

## Ephesians Lesson 12

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13. Where is the first statement of the Gospel in the Bible?

Answer:

14. How is Jesus Christ usually revealed in the Old Testament?

Answer:

15. What are the most important things for a Christian worker to understand?

Answer:

16. What is spiritual maturity?

Answer:

17. If a Christian is not a master of the details of life, where might he look for personal satisfaction?

Answer:

18. How does one obtain spiritual endurance?

Answer:

19. "He hath shown thee, O man, what is good; and what hath the Lord required of thee, but to \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_ with thy God?"

Answer:

20: Essay question: Write two or three paragraphs explaining how you would help young people (teenagers or older children) what the plan of God is and how they can know how they fit into it?

Answer:

End of Quiz