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Vol 1

GAM NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF GOD'S ARMY MOBILIZING

FOUNDATIONAL CHRISTOLOGY: AN OVERVIEW

LYDIA'S GOOD SEEDS!

**"If the foundations are destroyed,
What can the righteous do?"
Psalm 11:3**

BELIEVER or DISCIPLE?
CIVILIAN or SOLDIER?
Which Are You?

- I keep falling! How do I stand?
- Can anyone be sure they will make it to heaven?
- The Tabernacle of Moses: Roadmap to the Throne?
- Servants of God versus Servants of Men
- What is the relevance of the Old Testament?
- What do bronze, silver, and gold represent in the Bible?
- I feel I'm not growing -- what do I do?
- Can't I just be an average Christian?
- The Five Stages of Christianity: Where Do I Fall?
- When will the sons of God be manifested?

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God's Army Mobilizing is a conscription vehicle for DISCIPLES who are called to march in the Lord's Last Day Army as they make all His enemies a footstool. Our emphasis is on training soldiers who can "endure hardship" as opposed to staying mere citizens of The Kingdom and known only as a BELIEVER. Faithful warriors are the ones who will end up as the mighty men who sit at the King's table when He reigns in glory. Therefore, all our content is aimed at imprinting military values and techniques on those who sign up. Visit www.godsarmymobilizing.org

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A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF CHRIST'S FOUNDATIONAL TEACHINGS

Introduction

If you're reading this, you're likely a person that God is calling to greater things than you can imagine, a Christian trying to become a disciple, or a seeker of truth. Regardless of what category you fall under, you'll be pleasantly surprised sooner or later. This series covers the MOST ESSENTIAL topics that any human should know if they wish to mature PROPERLY. For all men are primarily spiritual beings and therefore require spiritual education above the psychological which we focus on. Many adults **did not** mature properly; (same also for many church elders and leaders! You can tell from how they behave sometimes....) These teachings are neither denominational nor sectarian – they are for all who believe in the name of Jesus and the six topics covered are listed in that sequence in the bible. St. Matthew 28:18-20 *And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in Heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, son and the Holy*

Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Jesus sent His disciples to teach others the way they'd learnt from Him. "The Great Commission" was **to make disciples**! There's a large difference between one who believes and one who's a disciple. The Greek word translated 'disciple' in our Bibles is "*mathetes*" which generally means "one who engages in learning through instruction from another – *a pupil or apprentice*." The Lord wants His children to be instructed in His ways, growing in wisdom and spiritual stature.

Read through these studies till the end. The Spirit of God always reveals something new from His Word – no matter how many times you've heard it - (Psalms 62:11, Psalms 12:6*)*

Module 1: Believers (A)

Who Is A Believer?

A person is saved (in the spirit) once he/she *believes with the heart and confesses with the mouth* that Jesus is Lord. (Romans 10:9; Acts 16:31). First, you are to **believe** (in your heart) that **all** have **sinned** by falling **short of God's** standard of **glory, including yourself. Then** you must **believe** that **God the Father** has appointed **Jesus** as the **only way to** be **restored** to that glory - Acts 2:36. Second, you **confess** (acknowledge in words) **Jesus** as **Lord** (Father, Master, Ruler, Boss, Supreme Authority). From that moment, you come under His care (become one of His Family, Household, Kingdom, Company, Sovereign Domain), so that you may be saved from God's wrath (punishment, judgment, or discipline).

When we do these two things, we receive **justification** (Jesus' imputed righteousness), resulting in our being considered sinless in God's sight, and the record of our past sins are deleted. This is the free gift of God to all men, available through the Lord Jesus Christ, and only requires our asking.

*But the **righteousness which is of faith speaks** thus, Say not in your heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) But **what says it**? The word is near you, **even in your mouth, and in your heart**: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if you shall **confess with your mouth** the **Lord Jesus**, and shall **believe in your heart** that **God** has **raised him from the dead**, you shall be saved. For*

*with the **heart man believes** unto **righteousness**; and with the **mouth confession** is **made** unto **salvation**. For the scripture says, **Whosoever believes on him shall not be ashamed.** For there is n**o difference between the Jew and the Greek**: for the **same Lord** over all is rich unto (richly blesses) all that call upon him. For **whosoever shall call** upon the **name of** the **Lord** shall be **saved**.* Romans 10:6-13

Module 1: Believers (B)
The Law Prophesied of Grace

The law prophesied about all these matters as said in Matthew 11:13.

*For all the Prophets and the Law **prophesied** until John…*
"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets;
*I have not come to abolish them but to **fulfill** them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law **until all is accomplished**.* (Matthew 5:17-18)

Major key to understanding: The law is prophecy! (Revelation 19:10 says that the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy, and the Lord Jesus kept telling us that the law testified of Him!)

Some have argued that the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John the Baptist, and as such, the Law and Prophets are no longer applicable after John. However, we must understand that these prophecies of Scripture are fulfilled *in* Christ. By His sacrifice on the cross, He fulfilled the prophecies concerning atonement for sin by animal sacrifice, and the Feast of Passover under the Law. Thus, John the Baptist rightly recognized the Lord Jesus on earth as 'the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world' (John 1:29). Following Christ's promise in Acts 1:4-5, we also see the fulfilment of the Feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples in Acts 2. We see that in Jesus, all the promises of God are *'Yes'* and *'Amen'* (2 Corinthians 1:20).

As the Lord said, some aspects of the Law and the Prophets have *not yet* been fulfilled. Obviously, heaven and earth haven't passed away! So there are prophecies uttered by the law and prophets that are still to be fulfilled. Isaiah prophesied of a time when 'the lion will eat straw like the ox, and people will not do evil or destroy in God's holy mountain' (Isaiah 11:7, Isaiah 65:25). The Feast of Tabernacles points to the time depicted in the book of

Revelation, where God's tabernacle is with men (Revelation 21:3). Zechariah prophesied of a time when everyone left (from among the enemies of God's people) will go up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles (Zechariah 14). The Lord has not yet wiped away every tear, exalted every valley, brought down every mountain, or revealed His glory to everyone (Isaiah 25:8, Revelation 7:17, Isaiah 40:4-5). There may be certain spiritual/figurative dimensions of fulfilment, but it is clear that not *all* of the Law and Prophets have been fulfilled yet. We simply cannot ignore the Law and the Prophets because we do not understand the writings!

Even the prophets, who ***prophesied about the grace that was to be yours****, carefully researched and investigated this salvation. They tried to find out* ***what era or specific time the Spirit of Christ in them*** *kept referring to when he predicted* ***the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow****. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you in regard to the things that have now been announced to you by those who brought you the good news through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. These are things that even the angels desire to look into.* (1 Peter 1:10-12)

Jesus is the same – yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus said that the Jews did not believe Him because they had not believed the writings of Moses, who wrote concerning Him (John 5:37-47). The 'Scriptures' referred to in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Romans 15:4 and Acts 18:24-28 are just sample quotes from what we refer to as books of the 'Old Testament' today; it is these Scriptures that were referred to as 'profitable for doctrine and instruction in righteousness... that the man of God may be fully equipped unto every good work'. Anyone who teaches believers to disregard the words of the 'Old Testament' causes them to remain in the dark, without a light (2 Peter 1:19-20).

Module 1: Believers (C) The Outer Court

In the tabernacle of Moses, we see the bronze basin and the bronze altar in the **outer court**. (**Bronze** in scripture is usually a picture of *judgement - Rev 1:15, 2:18,* just as **silver** represents *redemption* and **gold** represents *God's divine nature*.) The bronze altar is a picture of God's **judgement on the sin** within our lives. Approaching it with a substitutionary animal is the same as putting our faith in Christ

(Messiah) Jesus, **the goat** from the herd who was killed for the forgiveness of our sins. (Leviticus 16:9; John 1:29) As Hebrews 9:22 says, without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin. The bronze altar is the first encounter with the Lord – when we turn away from the sinful 'crowd' – to commence a new life in Jesus. (We will speak of this in more detail under our class on **Repentance from Dead Works**.)

The bronze basin (where the priests washed up) continues the picture of becoming born again (by water, and the Spirit) and receiving eyes to see the kingdom of God (John 3:3-5). 1 John 5:8 tells us that the water, the Spirit, and the blood bear witness on earth. The bronze basin is a picture of the word of God as the mirror with which we examine our thoughts and actions (Exodus 38:8). When we see our reflections in the mirror of the perfect law of liberty, we make adjustments to our present conduct in obedience to the word of God (James 2:22-25). Earlier on, through faith(trust) that came from hearing the gospel (good news), we gained access through the gate (Jesus the Way) into the tabernacle grounds; and through His blood we are admitted into the household of God where we behold the glory of the Lord revealed in the **Scriptures** and through His **Spirit** (2 Corinthians 3:17-18). Then the Lord through these two, convict us of the reality concerning sin, righteousness and judgment. (John 16:8)

So we must believe in Jesus the Lord as a kinsman redeemer who can save us from the penalty of sin (Leviticus 25:47-49). Thereafter, we must believe (Jesus – the Truth) as revealed in Scripture (John 17:17). John 8:44 illustrates that those who believe in Jesus can be 'children' of the devil if they do the devil's works, and not His. Jesus was speaking to people who believed in Him, but at the end of the discourse, they were offended and took up stones to stone Him. (See John 8:31-59). In whatever area and aspect of our lives we do not believe (or continue to believe), we will not truly be free (or we are not *saved* or enjoying *salvation*). For example, if we don't believe that Jesus heals, then we may not enjoy healing from Him - Luke 8:50. See also James 1:5-8, 1 John 3:1-10.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, ***all things have become new.*** 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Module 1: Believers (D) "Only Stage One!"

We've seen that believers can demonstrate *unbelieving* characteristics, so what do we do with the passage above, (and other Scriptures like it, such as 1 John 3:6)? *"All things new? I don't feel like a brand new person!"* you may say. It is common to feel discouraged upon discovering that we don't immediately seem *too* different in some areas from what we were before – our sinful desires didn't *all* disappear overnight. **It is because of this that many people get 'born again' over and over again and many just give up and stop trying.** The error is in our understanding of what it means to *BE IN* Christ. (See John 15:4-10, 1 John 3:24) We *abide in* Christ (as He abides in us through His Spirit) by keeping His commandments. This 'abiding in obedience' is *discipleship*. That's the next stage, where we sanctify ourselves through obedience to His word. It's also important to note that God often speaks of things which are not (but will be) as though they (presently) are – Romans 4:17. He called Abraham the father of many nations when he had no children, and through only Isaac was his seed called. Yet, God cannot lie (Titus 1:2); He said that Abraham would be the father of many nations, and truly he is. Everyone who believes is a descendant of Abraham (Galatians 3:7), and so Abraham is the father of many nations (not just physical Israel), with children as many as the stars in the sky.

Becoming a believer is a wonderful thing, but it's just the first step – our spiritual birth as God's children. God wants His children to learn His ways and grow up behaving like Him more and more – He wants us to become His disciples.

Module 2: Disciples (A) Who is a Disciple?

A disciple is a believer who has set himself apart to learn the ways of the Lord with the intent of obeying them. A disciple is *one who follows*; they followed Jesus not only when signs and miracles were performed, but also when He was teaching. The Greek word translated "*disciple*" in our English Bible is *"mathetes"* which generally means "one who engages in learning through instruction from another – a pupil or apprentice."

We are meant to all be disciples of Jesus because God has given us His Holy Spirit, who abides in us and teaches us all things; 1 John 2:27. He

has also given the church *ministry gifts* – leaders to teach and equip them to do His will (Ephesians 4:11-13). The Lord disciples us through human beings He puts over us. A true shepherd or 'discipler' teaches you to hear the voice of the Lord - the Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 2:25). Young lambs don't easily recognize and follow the Shepherd; they tend to follow older sheep. The *older* sheep should be better at following the Shepherd because they have learnt to better recognize His voice. Having spiritual oversight, therefore, is crucial to the growth of any follower of the Lord. It is important that you imitate your leader, pastor, or discipler as he or she imitates Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1, Hebrews 13:7, Hebrews 13:17, 1 Corinthians 4:16, 2 Thessalonians 3:7, Hebrews 6:12, 3 John 1:11).

However, there are believers in Jesus who follow men, and not the Lord. This is because many leaders draw disciples after themselves, teaching them to follow them in good and bad, thus usurping the Lord's place as the final authority over their followers' lives. They do not take their teaching only from God as revealed in His word by His Spirit, but from other sources, such as the traditions of men, popular opinion, or even demons' doctrine! This is because they cannot blindly accept the words of God on all things. See 1 John 4:1; Matthew 23:15, Mark 7:8-13, 2 Timothy 4:3-4, 1 Timothy 4:1-2.

We must test all things we are taught through our human instructors and leaders (1 Thessalonians 5:21, Acts 17:11, Proverbs 25:2). The disciple progresses from the Outer Court into the Holy Place. The Holy Place is in the Tabernacle, and houses the Golden Lampstand, the Table of Showbread, and the Altar of Incense. At the Outer Court, the source of light is natural (sunlight), same as it is outside the Tabernacle. Believers who have not become disciples may think, act, and live like people who haven't come to know Jesus, because their source of enlightenment has not become the word of God; they are not using God's word to see how they should live. They typically act carnally; they live to please the flesh. They act in worldly ways, like unbelievers (See 1 Corinthians 3:3). However, a disciple comes into the Holy Place and uses the light of the **Lampstand**, (which represents God's word as illuminated by the anointing of the Holy Spirit), to see the way he should walk. He hears God's word as taught through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, in his personal study as

well as in teachings provided by others.

Psalms 119:105 *Your word is a* ***lamp*** *to my feet and a* ***light*** *to my path.*

See also John 1:1, John 1:4-5, John 1:14, John 8:12

Module 2: Disciples (B) The Holy Place

The priests who ministered in the Tabernacle did not move around in the darkness, because the Lampstand gave them light. Jesus came to give light to those continuing in obedience to Him, being Himself the Word of God made flesh. The flame from the burning oil wick in the Lampstand gave off the light. The anointing (oil) represents the Spirit of God (1 John 2:20, 1 John 2:27).

The priests partook of the 12 anointed loaves of unleavened bread from the **Table of Showbread** in the Holy Place. This is a picture of fellowship with other members of the body of Christ, by receiving from all the bread He provides through the local body (like the 12 tribes of Israel) as He distributes to individuals, and on a wider scale, through different church groups. Within the local church assembly, we are to partake of all the Lord has shared to us through different people. For instance, a church group with grace in prophetic ministry, may receive from another church group with more grace in the teaching ministry, and vice versa. That way, both bodies of believers are edified, each by the other's gift(s). We see that Jesus gave us grace and gifts so we could all be brought up into maturity. We are meant to partake of all the loaves, not just one or three to the exclusion of all others. We also have a responsibility to keep ourselves undefiled from things which can contaminate other members of the body; this is why the bread was unleavened. Leaven represents sin, or defilement. See Ephesians 4:7, Ephesians 4:11-16, 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Corinthians 14:26.

A disciple also lives out the picture portrayed by the **Altar of Incense** in the Holy Place. Incense is a picture of *prayer;* all kinds of prayer, including *thanksgiving, intercession, petitions, requests,* and more. The special mixture of fragrant spices and frankincense was offered as incense on this golden altar. Exodus 30:7-9, 34-36; 1 Tim. 2:1-4,8; Phil.4:6; Eph.6:18.

When the Lord judged the people of Israel for their rebellion against Moses and Aaron by sending a plague, something remarkable happened: *Then Moses said to Aaron, "Take your*

censer and put incense in it, along with fire from the altar, and hurry to the assembly to make atonement for them. Wrath has come out from the house of God; the plague has started." Aaron did as Moses said, and ran into the assembly. The plague has already started among the people, but ***Aaron offered the incense*** *and made atonement for them. He stood between the living and the dead, and the plague stopped."* Numbers 16:46-48

Aaron offered the incense just as one would offer a prayer, and God heard him. See also Psalms 141:2, Revelation 8:4-5, Revelation 5:8. This is how we engage in direct communication with the Father, standing before His presence, making prayers in the name of Jesus. (See also Luke 11:1-13).

The Holy Place represents the place where we get to know Jesus as the Truth. This is the practical outworking or fulfillment of the Feast of Pentecost (Feast of Weeks), where the law of God is written on our hearts by His Spirit. As we are guided by the light of God's truth in our fellowship with God and His people, our souls are sanctified, our minds are renewed, and we are conformed to His nature so we can love Him in deed and in truth. Then we can truly please Him in all that we do. The disciples in the Holy Place are slaves who live to obey the Spirit of Truth (Romans 6:16-18). (For more on this, see the teaching on *Salvation of the Soul* in the *Repentance From Dead Works* class).

Module 2: Disciples (C) How Do We Become Disciples?

If you ***continue in My word****, you are truly My disciples* – John 8:31

Focus on spending time in the Holy Place, like Joshua (Exodus 33:11). Spend time in fellowship with God – privately, and with others who are truly seeking the Lord. Seek Him, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart, as He promises in Jeremiah 29:13. See also Mark 8:34, Luke 9:62, Luke 14:26-27, 1 John 5:3-4, Philippians 1:29, Philippians 3:7-21

Jesus' classes are practical; they require obedience. With time, He gives His disciples assignments. A faithful, persevering disciple will be entrusted with more responsibilities (serving the Lord and His children) as he grows in practical understanding of His ways. Good disciples mature into servants who can be sent to perform specific duties for the Lord.

We'll comment on the next stage of Christian growth, ***Servants***, in the next module. Feel free to send in questions, **after** studying this class.

Module 3: Servants (A) True Servanthood

The Greek words translated "*servant*" or "*slave*" in the New Testament include "*leitourgos*" (a public servant), "*doulos*" (a bond-slave without any rights of his/her own), "*huperetes*" (an assistant or underling), "*diakonos*" (a waiter, an administrator, or one who performs any service), and "*misthotos*" (a hired servant – a hireling). In the Bible, the word "*doulos*" (*ebhedh* in the Hebrew) was used in context to mean one who involuntarily or voluntarily gave himself up completely to another's will. Slavery compelled it while in some cases, it was willing, as Joshua did to Moses, Elisha to Elijah, and the apostles to Jesus Christ.

The term "*bondservant*" better describes the status of this kind of servant. Under the Law, provision was made for a Hebrew slave to go free from his master's house on the seventh year, after six years of service. However, this was a right that the servant could choose to waive, choosing instead to be bound to his master and serve that master and his family forever. (Exodus 21:2-6, Deuteronomy 15:12-17). This slave is different from a hireling, or a hired worker. See Romans 6:16.

The Lord's true servants are devoted to His service and obey His word, and He can entrust them with responsibilities or jobs to do (John 12:26). By following the Lord, we acquire access to grace that enables us to serve Him correctly (and thus be rewarded). It is necessary that we know what He wants us to do, and how it should be done, so that we can be servants who do precisely what our Lord desires. In Matthew 7:21-22, we see that not every person who pays lip-service to Jesus' lordship over their lives will enter the kingdom of heaven. *Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'* (Matthew 7:21-22)

Module 3: Servants (B) The Life of a Servant

It's wiser to seek out, hear, and do *the will of the Father* than to go about

doing '*good works*' in a manner that displeases the Lord. He requires obedience to all His instructions, and by neglecting to observe some, we present a bad offering or service that does not please God (Romans 12:1-2). Some Christians do things for God thinking they are 'serving' Him, but then cannot understand why they are not being blessed. If you've wondered why your service to God hasn't been rewarded, then ask yourself these questions:

-"Am I living in sin?" (Proverbs 15:8)

-"Are my specific acts of service (what I am 'doing for God') actually what the Lord has asked of me?" (Romans 10:2-3)

-"Am I driven by the love of money?" (Luke 16:13)

-"Is my heart set on earthly rewards?" (Matthew 6:19-21)

What is a servant of God like?

Jesus taught His disciples to follow His example of service – He, though Lord of all, became 'the suffering servant' bringing salvation to all (Mark 10:42-45, 1 Peter 4:1-2, 2 Corinthians 6:4-10).

We will experience suffering and persecution as we strive to live in faithful service to Him (2 Timothy 3:12, 1 Peter 2:16, 1 Corinthians 4:2, Hebrews 3:5, Mathew 24:45-47, Matthew 25:14-30).

In the parable of the talents, the servant who did nothing with his commission (what he was given) was called a wicked and slothful servant, and what he was given was taken away from him. God expects you to take the responsibilities He gives you seriously. Strive to be a faithful servant. When you are proven faithful, more can be committed to you (Luke 16:12; Luke 19:12-27).

We'll learn about the remaining stages in our next module. Feel free to send in questions, but only after carefully reading through the class above.

Module 4: Friends (A) Friends of God

You are My friends if you do whatsoever I command you. From now on I call you not servants; for the servant knows not what his Lord does; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known to you. (John 15:14-15)

A servant who is (proven) faithfully obedient to all the Lord's instructions eventually becomes His friend. All the Lord's friends are His servants, but not all His servants are His friends. This was the distinction between Moses and Aaron – Moses was a *friend* of God, while Aaron was a *servant* of God. Moses was still His servant, but he had free access to God. Aaron entered the Holy of Holies once a year to perform his duty as high priest, and Leviticus 16:2-14 records the various requirements – various animal sacrifices, linen clothing, a cloud of incense to cover the mercy seat of the ark, and other things.

Then He said, "Hear now My words. If there is a prophet among you, I the Lord make myself known to Him in a vision, and I speak to him in a dream. ***Not so with My servant Moses. He is faithful*** *in all My house.* ***I speak with him face to face****, even plainly, and not in dark sayings. And he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?* Numbers 12:6-8

And ***the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.*** *And he returned to the camp, but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.* Exodus 33:11 (See *also* Psalm 103:7) Abraham was also named a friend of God: *Are you not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of* ***Abraham Your friend*** *forever?* 2 Chronicles 20:7

And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"--and ***he was called a friend of God****).* James 2:23

Module 4: Friends (B) Benefits of Friendship

Friendship comes through faith that has borne fruit in obedient works. Abraham, like Moses, was found faithful in God's sight. Abraham discussed with God when he was informed that Sodom and Gomorrah were about to be destroyed. He bid with God to spare the city all the way down to if He found ten righteous people in it (Genesis 18:17-32). Moses also interceded on behalf of Israel on multiple occasions, and God heard him. (See Exodus 32:7-14, Numbers 14:10-21, and Numbers 12:13-14 for some instances where Moses discussed with God and obtained mercy for the Israelites.)

Note: Friendship doesn't have to be 'contradictory' (in the sense that you always try to make God relent from doing what He wants to), because friends of God agree to His plans. They do not oppose His will being done – even if they ask for His mercy in judgment, a friend of God cares more about God's will being done, than about the wishes of man. John 16:21-23.

We've seen that God tells His friends secrets – things He may not explain to people at lower levels of intimacy with Him. A servant may receive instructions without knowing why this or that is to be done, but a friend is entrusted with confidential knowledge, and has relative freedom to discuss such matters with the Lord. In our progression towards spiritual maturity (measuring up to Jesus' stature as the Son of God), friends of God who continue to walk humbly with the Lord are closest to becoming mature sons of God.

Module 5: Sons (A) Who is a Son of God?

For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry out, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that ***we are children of God****, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and* ***joint-heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him*** *that we may also* ***be glorified together****. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For* ***the earnest expectation of the creation waits for the revealing of the sons of God****... And not only they, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, earnestly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, then* ***we eagerly wait for it with perseverance****;* Romans 8:15-19, 23-25

We must note the difference between those "***born*** of God" – '*teknon*' (derived from the root word, '*tikto*', meaning 'to produce from seed' – referring to a born offspring), and those who are "***sons*** of God" and '*huios*' (which stresses the relation of parent to offspring) which refers to those who have come *'to the measure of the stature of the* ***fullness*** *of Christ'*

(Ephesians 4:13). In Romans 8:16, [‘*The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are* ***(tekna)*** *of God…*’] we see that the Spirit of God witnesses that we are born of God. This is distinct from Romans 8:19; [‘*… the creation waits for the revealing of the* ***(huioi)*** *of God,*’] emphasizing the similarity of the sons to the Heavenly Father, and their legal right to His inheritance (Rom.8:17) as heirs.

As God’s offspring, we are expected to grow into mature sons who can inherit the fullness of the Father’s will for mankind as revealed in Jesus, the ‘last Adam.’ Though we are saved and have received the Spirit of adoption, we are persevering, earnestly expecting, and hoping for the adoption – the redemption of our bodies. This is the revelation of the sons of God that the creation eagerly awaits. We also see that this adoption (or joint-inheritance with Christ) is conditional – we have to suffer with Him if we are to become like Him and inherit His glory. Jesus Himself learned obedience through suffering and was perfected (Hebrews 5:8-9).

Module 5: Sons (B) The Holy of Holies

Beloved, ***now we are children (tekna)*** *of God, and* ***it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him****, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself just as He is pure;* 1 John 3:2-3 (See also 2 Corinthians 4:16 - 17, Colossians 3:1-4, Philippians 3:21).

The sons of God are the overcomers who rise in the first resurrection and reign with Christ as kings and priests of God for a thousand years.

(This concept will be discussed further in the subsequent classes on *Resurrection of The Dead* and *‘Eternal’ (Aeonian) Judgment*).

The sons of God are found in the Holy of Holies, or Holiest Place, in the Tabernacle of Moses. The Holy of Holies contained the Ark of the Covenant – it was a rectangular box made of acacia wood overlaid with gold. It had a solid golden lid called the Mercy Seat with two golden cherubim on it. It contained the pot of manna, the stone tablets with the Ten

Commandments written by God, and the rod of Aaron that budded. The ark speaks of the mortal flesh of man (like the acacia wood – hard and difficult to work with) completely overcome by God's immortal nature (as represented by the acacia wood overlaid with gold).

Maturity into the stature of Christ is maturity in love – as we learn to love God and man (in deed and truth), we become more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (See 1 Corinthians 15:20-23, 49-53, Ephesians 4:11-16).

In conclusion, **we do not attain all these levels at once!** It's step by step, from one to another. You can progress very quickly if you choose to be faithful and obedient. God wants mature sons (like the Lord Jesus) through whom He will rule the earth and restore creation to wholeness. Jesus came to bring ***many sons to glory!*** (Hebrews 2:10)

Except from a True life Testimony

LYDIA'S GOOD SEEDS!

Earlier that day, I had battled the thought of not going out at all. But I knew I had to. I had overcome the first battle by going out and I was sure I didn't want to be fainthearted just yet.

There was a place I was planning to evangelize at over the weekend but I didn't even know the way there as much. So, I just decided I'd walk wherever the road led. I met a woman in front of a shop. I asked to talk to her and she agreed. I was quite jumpy because she was not so excited about the offer. I found my way to 1 John 5:3 and talked about loving God through obedience. She's a pastor's wife and she told me to keep up the good work.

I honestly didn't have high feelings from our meeting because I still felt jumpy. While scanning for prospects, I sang along to cheer my spirit.

I met a grandma and her grandkids and spoke to them; stopped by a tailor's shop and where I met and spoke to a group of three young people, including a Muslim. I also spoke to a man in his shop around my neighborhood and later met and evangelized to a group of 7 children (even though some of them ran away from me initially). Then three other young boys

came my way and I engaged them. On my way back home, I spoke to a young girl and she too encountered Jesus! [...]

At the end of the day, it was a fruitful evangelism experience and I am very thankful to God for His grace. I spoke to about nineteen people, got a few of them born again, and witnessed them (including very young children) have amazing encounters with the Lord as some had visions for the first time when I prayed for them. I saw the Lord make me bolder than I ever thought I could be. And all these happened even when I didn't have a plan. Praise God!

–Sis L.E

October 2020

GAMKA
SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

God's Army Mobilizing Kingdom Academy (GAMKA) is a School of Ministry training program for officers of God's Army. Like a military officer training academy, it's focus is on equipping those called to be officers and leaders in the Body of Christ who will be the trainers of the rest of the Army.

GAMKA brings clarity as to what the battle is about, your exact place and role in the ranks and what equipment and skills are needed to lead and win. From the many military strategies available from past and recent wars and battles contained in Kingdom Standard Operating Procedure texts and the journals of many previous captains, apostolic wisdom is imparted to all students new or old to ministry. Are you called to the equipping ministry? Register for upcoming classes at www.gam-ka.org

God's Lighthouse is our church family where everyone is welcome and taught how to be part of God's family. Here, they learn to know the love of God as Our Father in heaven. Under the motherly attention of the Body of Christ and older spiritual siblings, we provide the sincere milk of God's word and the personalized mentoring necessary for the healthy development of a heart and a mind that can enter the kingdom of God.

It's a place to learn the love, confidence, peace and the acceptance that has been given to you in the beloved. It's a place where forgiveness of sins, deliverance and healing, is imparted into the adopted. Here, the wounded, broken, hurt, orphaned, lost, and confused, are drawn into the grace of their Maker as they exchange forgiveness and commence restoration.

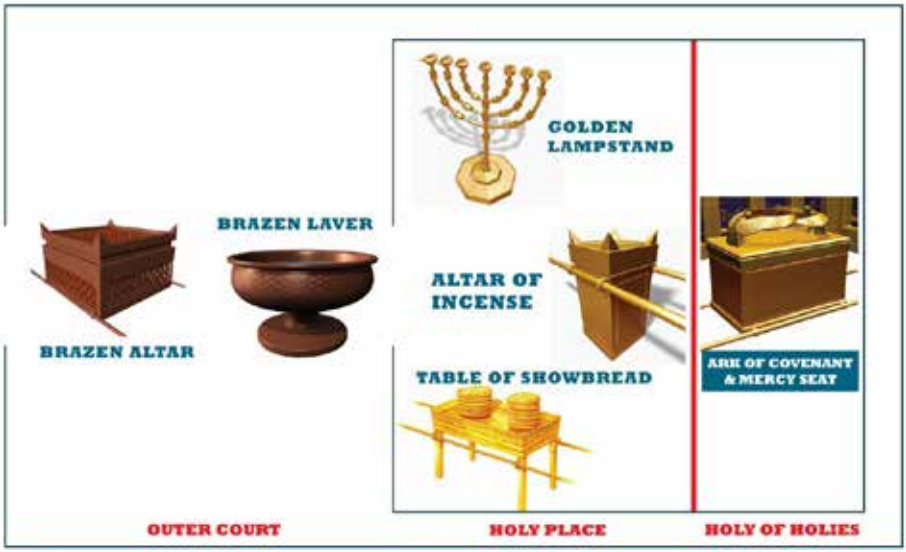
All armies are populated by former civilians who are deemed fit and should be willing to lay down their lives for their brethren.

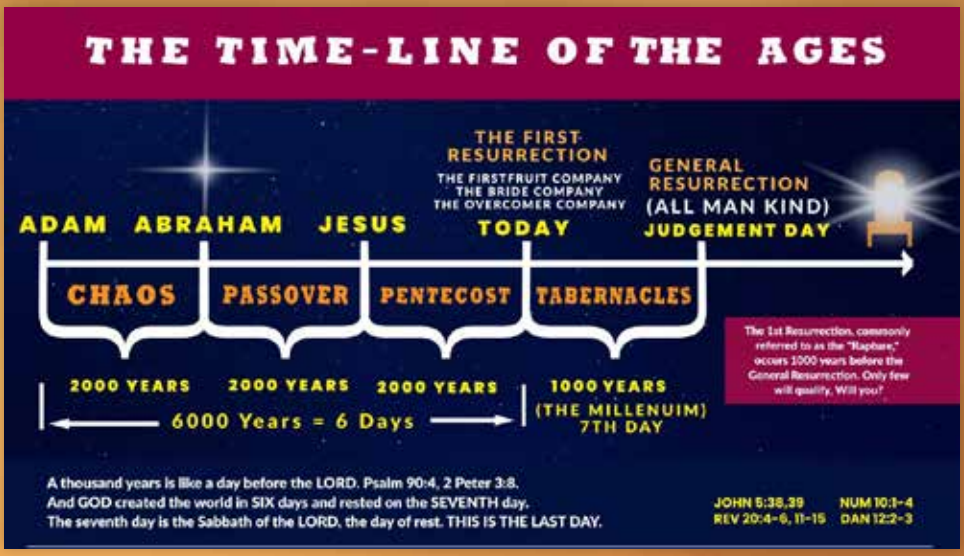
Visit the family at www.g-lh.org, t.me/godslighthouse, or in person: 15 Ikpa Road, Uyo.

GOD'S THREE STEP PROCESS

FAITH	HOPE	LOVE
JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION	GLORIFICATION
SPIRIT	SOUL	BODY
PASSOVER	PENTECOST	TABERNACLES
WAY	TRUTH	LIFE
OUTER COURT	HOLY PLACE	HOLY OF HOLIES
ASK	SEEK	KNOCK
RIGHTEOUSNESS	PEACE	JOY
CALLED	CHOSEN	FAITHFUL

THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES





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