

# Christian Study

Lesson 251

## Be Light

*Focusing on Church beyond Sunday*

A "Closer Look" At the "Word of God" (Continue)

### The Validity of the Old Testament

#### Moment of Reflection

Before beginning your study, pray and ask God's Spirit to impress on you the validity of the Old Testament

#### Key Verse:

**Jeremiah 30:1-2** "The LORD spoke his word to Jeremiah. He said, 2 "This is what the LORD God of Israel says: Write in a book everything that I tell you."

The word came to Jeremiah straight from the Lord and he was to write it in a book so that it would not be forgotten and also be passed down to as many as would hear the good news from God. According to this passage, we can trust that what is written in the Old Testament as the actual word of God.

### Other New Testament References to Old Testament Events

On the chart below, list the key figure(s) and the main event cited in each passage of Scripture.

Scripture	Key Figure(s)	Main Event
Hebrews 11:4	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:5	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:11	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:17	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:20	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:21	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:22	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:23	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:24 & 25	_____	_____
Hebrews 11:27	_____	_____

Hebrews 11:28

Hebrews 11:29

Hebrews 11:30

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(Also see **1 Corinthians 10:1-11** and **Acts 7:36**)

The writer of Hebrews presented all of the above accounts as historical events, which involved actual people, who lived at a point in time and history. If these people and events were not real, you must dismiss the entire book of Hebrews and put it in the category of a fairy tale.

Inasmuch as some of these same people and events are recorded by physician Luke in the book of Acts and the gospel that bears his name, you would also have to dismiss these two books if any errors were found. The same is true of the apostle Paul. Since his letter to the Corinthians contains references to several Old Testament events, it would have to be discounted also if these accounts were not true. And if myth or error was found in one of his writings, it would necessarily invalidate the rest of his writings.

Other historical characters are listed in verse 32 of Hebrews 11. **Heb 11:32**

"What more should I say? I don't have enough time to tell you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets." A few of accomplishments of their faith were, shutting the mouths of lions, putting out raging fires, found strength when they were weak, were powerful in battle and defeated other armies."

**Heb 12:1-2** "Since we are surrounded by so many examples of faith, we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially sin that distracts us. We must run the race that lies ahead of us and never give up. **2** We must focus on Jesus, the source and goal of our faith. He saw the joy ahead of him, so he endured death on the cross and ignored the disgrace it brought him. Then he received the highest position in heaven, the one next to the throne of God."

Upon careful examination of the New Testament, it is observed that Christ, as well as the writers of the New Testament, cited or quoted from the Old Testament as fact. There was never any question in their minds in regard to the validity of the scriptures, nor was the response of their enemies ever against its validity. "Thus saith the Lord" and similar expressions are found in the Old Testament over 3,000 times.

It is obvious that the men who wrote the Old Testament were aware that they were speaking with God's authority. "For prophecy never had its origin in the will of

men, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit". 2  
**Peter 1:21**

## Summary/Conclusion

Christ's claim to be divine is either true or false. It is true, His Person guarantees the truth of all the rest of His teaching, for the divine person cannot lie or err. Therefore, His view of the Old Testament is true. If His claim is false, there is no compelling reason for us to believe anything else that He said. If we accept Christ claim therefore, we commit ourselves to believe all that He taught on His authority. If we refuse to believe some parts of what He taught, we are in effect denying Him to be the divine Messiah on our own authority. "What do you think of the Old Testament?" is resolved by the question. "What do you think of Christ?"

God created men with a need for fellowship, interacting with others of like mind and interests. The Word of God warns us strongly to encourage one another, to bear each other's burdens, and most of all, to love one another. Quality fellowship with other believers is essential to our growth into mature, ministering Christians.

### A Friendly Reminder

**Ephesians 4:29**

"Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

## Focusing on Application

### Summary Verse

**Romans 15:4** "For as many things as were previously written, were written for our own instruction, that through the patience and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we may have hope."

**Colossians 1:3-6** "We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 when we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love which is towards all the saints; 5 because of the hope being laid up for you in *the* heavens, in which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, 6 which has come to you, just as also in all the world, and is bearing fruit and growing, just as also among you, from the day which you heard and fully knew the grace of God in truth;"

What is your response as you see that the Old Testament prophecies regarding Jesus Christ came true in minute detail, even though written hundreds of years in advance?

What changes have you experienced in your life through your study in the reliability of the Scriptures?

### Words to live by

At this time in our lives when it seems like the world is crashing and the economy all around is so much bad shape, a lot of people will want to give up, I would like to remind believers of the promise of God and who is our hope of glory in what ever circumstance we find ourselves that is cause by the world we live in. Let us use these encouragements the apostle Paul gave to the churches in Colossi and in Corinth to help us stay focus on Christ and not on the events of the world.

**Colossians 1:10-17** "That you may walk worthy of God, in all things pleasing; being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God: **11** Strengthened with all might according to the power of his glory, in all patience and longsuffering with joy, **12** Giving thanks to God the Father, who hath made us worthy to be partakers of the lot of the saints in light: **13** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love, **14** In whom we have redemption through his blood, the remission of sins: **15** Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: **16** For in him were all things created in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominations, or principalities, or powers. All things were created by him and in him. **17** And he is before all: and by him all things consist.

**1 Corinthians 1-31** "Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes a brother, **2** To the church of God that is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that invoke the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place of theirs and ours. **3** Grace to you and peace, from God our father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. **4** I give thanks to my God always for you, for the grace of God that is given you in Christ Jesus: **5** That in all things you are made rich in him, in all utterance and in all knowledge; **6** As the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, **7** So that nothing is wanting to you in any grace, waiting for the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ. **8** Who also will confirm you unto the end without crime, in the days of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful: by whom you are called unto the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **10** Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there be no schisms among you: but that you be perfect in the same mind and in the same judgment. **11** For it hath been signified unto me, my brethren, of you, by them that are of the

house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. **12** Now this I say, that every one of you saith: I indeed am of Paul; and I am of Apollo; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. **13** Is Christ divided? Was Paul then crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? **14** I give God thanks, that I baptized none of you but Crispus and Caius: **15** Lest any should say that you were baptized in my name. **16** And I baptized also the household of Stephanus. Besides, I know not whether I baptized any other. **17** For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not in wisdom of speech, lest the cross of Christ should be made void. **18** For the word of the cross, to them indeed that perish, is foolishness: but to them that are saved, that is, to us, it is the power of God. **19** For it is written: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise: and the prudence of the prudent I will reject. **20** Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? **21** For, seeing that in the wisdom of God, the world, by wisdom, knew not God, it pleased God, by the foolishness of our preaching, to save them that believe. **22** For both the Jews require signs: and the Greeks seek after wisdom. **23** But we preach Christ crucified: unto the Jews indeed a stumblingblock, and unto the Gentiles foolishness: **24** But unto them that are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** For the foolishness of God is wiser than men: and the weakness of God is stronger than men. **26** For see your vocation, brethren, that there are not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble. **27** But the foolish things of the world hath God chosen, that he may confound the wise: and the weak things of the world hath God chosen, that he may confound the strong. **28** And the base things of the world and the things that are contemptible, hath God chosen: and things that are not, that he might bring to nought things that are: **29** That no flesh should glory in his sight. **30** But of him are you in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom and justice and sanctification and redemption: **31** That, as it is written: He that glorieth may glory in the Lord.

*It is no secret, what God can do. What He's done for others, He'll do for you.*

Our mission is to help people find strength and security on the foundation that can never be shaken, cracked or shattered. This foundation is the remarkable truth of God's unconditional love and His indisputable grace experienced in a relationship with Jesus Christ. The critics of Christianity have launched a full attack to discredit the person and works of Jesus Christ and the reliability of His word. We cannot be silent anymore. Let us as children of light, stand firm in the faith, because He who has taken us this far will never forsake us. You are called Christians, be careful of that name. Let not our Lord Jesus Christ be blasphemed on your account

**Believe this,** "Jesus did not come to make bad people good, He came to make dead people live."

### Keep It Simple

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

If you have any questions, comments or you know anybody else who will benefit from this study please feel free to give us their email address and they will be added to our mailing list to receive weekly lessons. The email address is

[santigiemandol@yahoo.com](mailto:santigiemandol@yahoo.com),

**Remember:** A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle (Ephesians 5:8)

**Let's go light another candle!**