



Rebellion and Redemption 1Q 2016 Lesson 8 Comrades in Arms

I received a few of emails I wanted to share with you.

I have been listening to your teaching of 01/23/16 and spent most of the time giggling about your "here's a quote from Ellen White" and wondering why it's such a big deal. Not being raised or currently Adventist it seems both sad and silly. But then I began to wonder how is the clutching reliance on an Ellen White quote different from the Catholics who have a similar clutching reliance on the Virgin Mary? Both groups look to a human female for their spiritual guidance and neither trusts what God and Jesus say in the Bible without the "blessing" of the human female.

I'm sure I'm missing some profound historical SDA church doctrine. But from an outsider's perspective, it sure looks similar. –Washington State

Dear Dr Jennings, I want to give God thanks and praise for what he is accomplishing through the ministry He has given you.

We had 5 sessions at my church last week as a revival program entitled "Rekindling a Lost Passion."

We used the concepts from your ministry and some of your stories to remind people that GOD is LOVE and everything is to be understood from this principle.

People have made many comments about the program including one Pastor. People have commented that they have not looked at things from that perspective before. We are so grateful to God for the positive impact the revival program has made.

Personally, since I started studying God's word from this viewpoint my life has been transformed. I can say my troubled marriage of 15 years has been healed and my husband and I are truly happy for the first time in 15 years.

Now, when I read the word of God I understand it so much better and I can't help but see God's love radiating through the pages to humanity. God's word is living and active and I am blessed beyond measure to be having this amazing experience.

God has given me a beautiful understanding of Jn 3:16 that amazes me more and more each day.

Thank you again for your ministry. I continue to lift you and you team and your ministry up in



prayer.

I have asked the South England Conference Personal Ministries Director to check out your ministry and consider inviting you to come to visit us in the UK to share. We continue to pray for God's guidance in this.

May Our God continue to bless and keep you and your family and your ministry. -- England

Greetings. I had the special privilege of hearing Dr. Jennings speak in Sacramento a few weeks ago. (I introduced myself to him as someone employed by a ministry known for its, er, emphasis on "conservative Adventism"—but I wasn't spying!) Hearing his presentations came at a pivotal moment in my spiritual journey. This pivot began about nine months ago, when the fault lines inherent in my belief-set began to crack under questions that, I suspect, most reasonable people end up asking about God and His nature. These were questions I couldn't find answers to, and they shook my faith; I was unable let it go any longer and be satisfied. My Christian experience became distant, and I was afraid; the fear in me rose like thorns, pushing me away from Jesus. And then someone heard my questions and introduced me to Graham Maxwell. And then they introduced me to Dr. Jennings' teachings, and my life has totally changed.

While I am forever indebted to the ministry that brought me into the fold of Adventism, I can tell you that this new "present truth" message is far grander and life-changing than when I shifted from agnostic and nominal Christian to Adventism. It has radically altered my worldview because it reveals a God that makes sense. It is a revolution. I believe that, whether perfected or not yet perfected, Dr. Jennings' message is the final message that must go to the world. If any message could be called "righteousness by faith," as abused as that term is by the right and the left, this is that message. One reason is that Jennings' biblical message identifies a God who is different not just over a day or a duration in hell—but whose character isn't an impossible contradiction. It's made all the difference in the world, and it gives me hope.

My journey to know God isn't complete and will never be—but I walk this path now without fear. I see people differently, and the Holy Spirit burns in my heart. Many call Dr. Jennings' message false and compromising, but it isn't false because I've seen the fruits within my mind and body. It is not compromising, because in this message is the only road to holiness that makes any sense. No longer do I behold a pagan god who is always angry, always suspicious, and therefore, by its own nature, gives me sufficient excuse to bend others to my will by might or manipulation. Instead, I behold a God who is freeing and loving, always working for our good—giving me every reason to love my enemy even to my own death, just as Jesus pleads with us. God is good.



You have a supporter and friend. Thank you for the courage to stand among Pharisees and be stoned.-- California

SABBATH

Read first paragraph, “From the earliest...” The lesson notes that Jesus chose humans to take part in preaching, teaching, and ministering. The lesson says this like it is almost a surprise, like it is something amazing that He would choose humans to participate in His gospel ministry.

Do you hear it almost implied that way or is it just me?

But when we understand God’s design law, and how reality actually works, it is no surprise at all. In fact, it is not only predictable that Jesus would choose humans, it is necessary—why?

What was Jesus able to do all by Himself, and what was He not able to do without human involvement?

- Jesus, singly and alone, procured the Remedy to sin.
- Jesus singly and alone perfected the human condition.
- Jesus fixed in the humanity He assumed what Adam broke.
- Another way to say it is, Jesus perfectly restored God’s law of love into humanity and purged the infection of fear and selfishness.
- Another way to say it is, Jesus developed a perfect human character!
- Jesus revealed the Father perfectly.
- Jesus defeated the devil by using His human brain and living a perfect human life.
- All this Jesus did without any help from humanity.

But, what can Jesus NOT do without human participation? Save (i.e. heal) any other human being. Why not?

Because the healing God wants is the healing of the inner man, the renewal of character to be like God. This takes the cooperation of the sentient being. Without the cooperation of the free-will being God’s power working in them would destroy them, i.e. destroy their individuality, erase their identity.

The only way for us as individuals to be restored to righteousness is for our active cooperation with God. Thus, Jesus chooses people to be part of His mission team. Because of several of God’s design laws, this is the only way it is possible. Can you name some of them?



- **The law of worship**—by beholding we are changed. We actually become like the God we worship. If we spend no time thinking, contemplating, admiring, loving, desiring, choosing, embracing and internalizing more and more of our God, we are not being changed.
- **The law of exertion.** If you want to get stronger you must exercise. By participating with God, by experience with Him, by trusting Him, by turning to Him, by talking with Him, by acting in harmony with His design and methods, by sharing His truths, by teaching His message, by living His principles all under the guidance and influence of the Holy Spirit we are transformed, renewed, healed.
- **The law of love.** The more you give the more you will receive. It is by giving we open our hearts to receive. Thus God’s prescription to give, to give offerings, to give of our time and energy, to minister.
- **The law of liberty.** Love only exists and flourishes in an atmosphere of freedom. This is why God cannot heal or save any human without their cooperation and active participation.

In other words, our involvement in ministry is part of the plan to heal us.

This is taught in the parable of the talents, those who invest what they have will be given more, those who don't invest but bury their talents lose what they have. This is not an arbitrary law. It is not about money. It is about the abilities and talents we have been given. If we invest what we have been given, practice our art, music, math, reasoning, compassion, hospitality, or whatever ability we have been given, it will grow and our talents and abilities will increase. If, however, we bury our ability and don't exercise it, don't use it, well—if we don't use it we lose it!

So, it is no surprise at all that God has chosen humans to share in the gospel ministry—we need it far more than God does!

Read last paragraph, “Pride, doubt...” Do you know what obedience is in Bible terms? It is, in the New Testament Greek **πακούω** [*hupakouo* /hoop·ak·oo·o] which means hupa, from which we get hypo, as in hypoglycemia—low blood sugar, or hypotension—low blood pressure. It means low, under, or humble. And akouo, from which we get acoustical, to listen.

Thus Bible obedience is a humble willingness to listen and learn, to be corrected, to be educated, to have your understanding “set right” to have your operating system updated and the erroneous code replaced with accurate code. It means, developing a mind that loves truth, recognizes truth and assimilates truth at the earliest possible moment.



This requires we be won to trust, if we don't trust then we won't be open to be corrected, to have error removed. We will not have our data bases updated with accurate code!

I love this quote from *The Desire of Ages*:

The Comforter is called "the Spirit of truth." His work is to define and maintain the truth. He **first** dwells in the heart as **the Spirit of truth**, and thus He becomes the Comforter. **There is comfort and peace in the truth**, but no real peace or comfort can be found in falsehood. **It is through false theories and traditions that Satan gains his power over the mind.** By directing men to **false standards, he misshapes the character.** Through the **Scriptures the Holy Spirit speaks to the mind, and impresses truth upon the heart. Thus He exposes error, and expels it from the soul.** It is by the Spirit of truth, working through the word of God, that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself. {DA 671.1}

Thus the disciples when they were not listening, not open to be taught, redirected, educated, set right, were "disobedient."

What about us, we don't have to have every answer, or have every fact right, or know every question on every Bible quiz, but we have to have hearts that love truth and minds that can be taught, that are humble and willing to listen and learn—when the evidence is reasonable!

The traditional penal view of teaching focuses on behavior and claiming legal payments, and this leads to minds which become rigid and unwilling to learn. It develops attitudes of hardening hearts around a fixed set of doctrines or creeds and rejecting any advancing truth which would modify or change one's current understanding, thus even if one has a correct fact, one is a disobedient person. This is exemplified by the Pharisees in Christ's day who had the right Sabbath day, but rejected the Creator of the Sabbath—why? Because they focused on a legal religion of rules, rather than developing hearts that were willing to listen and be educated and led by advancing truth!

SUNDAY

Read first paragraph, "When one considers..." First, now that we understand design law, and what Jesus accomplished in His person, versus what He accomplishes in us, is it really surprising that Jesus would use human beings to aid Him, or do we realize there was no option if Jesus wanted to save other human beings?

Second—what are the incredible issues at stake?



Setting the entire universe right through revealing the truth about God's character of love!

Does humanity have any part to play in that revelation?

What was God's original design for humankind? To be what? In whose image was humanity created? God's and what would be the operating system designed and uploaded into humankind originally? Would it not be perfect love?

And what is another name for this operating system? God's law, which is a living law, God's law of love is the protocol upon which life is constructed, and cannot be understood written on stone. It was only written on stone, when it was no longer written in God's original repository—the hearts and minds of human beings!

Thus the new covenant—"I will write my laws on their hearts and minds..."

So, does humanity have a role to play in the incredible issues? What was revealed when Adam sinned? What questions could be raised by an enemy?

Perhaps that there was a manufacturer's defect, that God's creation, God's construction, God's design is flawed this is why we see so much pain, suffering and sin on earth.

Jesus overcame as a human—this reveals not only God's true character, but that there was NO manufacturer's defect. Adam was perfectly designed and built!

Further, God's methods, God's law, is so perfect, that even those who were born defective, born with fear and selfishness in their hearts, if they unite with Christ can have that old corrupt system overwritten by a new operating system, i.e. a new heart and right spirit, and we who were dead in trespass and sin can be brought to spiritual life and bring forth peaceable fruits of righteousness!

Here are a couple of interesting historical quotes I found while preparing this week:

The people of God are the repositories of his law, and he tells us that we are to be a separate and distinct people. {RH, January 4, 1887 par. 14}

So, at this time, there is a people whom God has made the repository of his law. [how is this statement heard by level four and below thinkers? We have the Sabbath law and we obey



the right rules, we are the guardians of the Sabbath and must protect it from violations and if you keep violating the Sabbath you will get the mark of the beast. How is it heard by level five and above? We are corrupt with fear and selfishness and we need to have our hearts and minds renewed to love God and others more than self so that “it is no longer I that live but Christ lives in me.” The law of love must be written into our hearts and minds.] To those who obey them, the commandments of God are as a pillar of fire, lighting and leading the way to eternal salvation. But unto those who disregard them, they are as the clouds of night. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Better than all other knowledge is an understanding of the word of God. **In keeping his commandments there is great reward,** [what reward? It would be like saying in exercising, eating right, avoiding tobacco there is great reward—why? Because there is great reward in being healthy, and health comes from being in harmony with the law upon which all life and health and happiness is designed to function] and no earthly inducements should cause the Christian to waver for a moment in his allegiance. Riches, honor, and worldly pomp are but as dross that shall perish before the fire of God's wrath. {ST, April 1, 1880 par. 29}

So notice this quotation from *The Desire of Ages* regarding the role our healing from sin has in revealing the truth about God and His character of love!

Of the Spirit Jesus said, "He shall glorify Me." The Saviour came to glorify the Father by the demonstration of His love; so the Spirit was to glorify Christ by revealing His grace to the world. **The very image of God is to be reproduced in humanity. The honor of God, the honor of Christ, is involved in the perfection of the character of His people.** {DA 671.3}

MONDAY

Read second paragraph, “Some time later...” Does this mean they were “inspired by God?”

- Did they know all things?
- Did they answer every question correctly?
- Did they win every battle and confrontation with evil?
- Were they infallible?

What about these same Apostles after Pentecost, were they inspired by God?

- Were they then infallible?
- Did they ever make any mistakes? (What about Peter having to be corrected by Paul?) Did that make Peter's epistles less inspired?



- What about Paul's writings, were they without any human error? What about 1Cor 1:14-15? "I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so no one can say that you were baptized into my name." Was this an inspired statement? Oh, quickly read verse 16 "(Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.)"

What is the point? Was Paul relying on his own memory or was the Holy Spirit having trouble remembering? Inspiration is not divine dictation. We do not have God as a writer expressed in Scripture. Inspiration inspires fallible human beings with new characters, new motives, new wisdom and insight, not with omniscience, or perfect biology, or infallibility. Thus, the Bible teaches, each person is to be fully persuaded in their own minds. We are not to surrender our thinking to others, even inspired persons—consider the old and the young prophet in the Old Testament!

We must think out the truths for ourselves,

"We must study the truth for ourselves. No man should be relied upon to think for us. No matter who he is, or in what position he may be placed, we are not to look upon any man as a criterion for us. We are to counsel together, and to be subject one to another; but at the same time **we are to exercise the ability God has given us**, in order to learn what is truth. Each one of us must look to God for divine enlightenment. **We must individually develop a character** that will stand the test in the day of God." *Testimonies to Ministers* 109,110; first published in *Gospel Workers*, 1892 ed., pp. 128,129; cf. *2RH* 311:3:1 (*RH*, June 18, 1889); *CW* 45; *ST*, Feb. 6, 1893

What is this passage saying? Why must we study for ourselves? Why are others not to do our thinking for us?

For the same reason others are not to do our physical exercises for us; why is it others are not to do our physical exercises for us? Because we cannot grow stronger if we don't exercise, and our minds cannot grow stronger, our characters cannot grow stronger if we don't think for ourselves.

But think about the analogy of physical exercise, is it okay to get a coach, a trainer, and instructor to guide you in exercise? Absolutely, but at the end of the day you must still do the exercises for yourself.



Likewise having a teacher someone who can present ideas to your is okay, as long as you think them through for yourselves and only believe when you are able to comprehend, just like you did when you learned math or any other subject.

There is real danger in taking the position that we should believe based on the authority of the person who told us:

"There are today **thousands of professors of religion** who can give no other reason for points of faith which they hold **than that they were so instructed by their religious leaders**. They pass by the Saviour's teachings almost unnoticed, and place implicit confidence in the words of the ministers. **But are ministers infallible?** How can we trust our souls to their guidance unless we know from God's word that they are light bearers?" *4SP* 413-415 (1884); *Great Controversy* 595-597 (1888); *RH*, June 7, 1906

"**All whom God has blessed with reasoning powers are to become intellectual Christians. They are not requested to believe without evidence;** therefore Jesus has enjoined upon all to search the Scriptures. Let the ingenious inquirer, and the one who would know for himself what is truth, **exert his mental powers** to search out the truth as it is in Jesus. Any neglect here is at the peril of the soul. **We must know individually the prescribed conditions of entering into eternal life. . . . We cannot allow these questions to be settled for us by another's mind,** or another's judgment. . . . We cannot trust the salvation of our souls to ministers, to idle traditions, to human authorities, or to pretensions. . . . **The Lord positively demands of every Christian an intelligent knowledge of the Scriptures.**" *Review and Herald*, March 8, 1887 (*2RH* 117:1:1 - 2:0); *The Medical Missionary*, May 1, 1892

Why does the Lord positively demand this? For the same reason He positively demands we breathe—He is saying "I want you to know how life is constructed and live in harmony with that Design. Therefore, I want you to know me and my Father because life is built to operate upon the law of love, an expression of our character. This design has been recorded in Scripture along with the evidence of what happens when our designed is broken. So study for yourselves, understand how reality actually works and choose life, choose to live in harmony with our design!"

Read last paragraph, "One would not be..." There is much truth in this paragraph. Truly the world has suffered throughout history from the abuses of people calling themselves Christian.

What do you think the authors mean by those who go on a mission for Jesus that don't know Him? Who would you think they would include in that group?



Do you think if a person goes to a denominational training program i.e. seminary, they are considered having been taught by Jesus?

Does going to seminary and getting a degree in theology mean one has spent time with Jesus learning from Him?

What criteria does our church use for choosing leadership? Is it spending time with Jesus or getting degree in theology, or would they say both?

If Peter and Andrew, James and John—four fishermen, who had no formal seminary training, as well as Luke—a physician, and Matthew—a tax collector, we might call him an accountant today ☺, if these men were in our church today could they be elected to conference president? Is there something wrong with a system that would preclude Christ's own Apostles from leadership?

How can one know if someone has spent time with Jesus and learned of Him? Are there evidences? What would those be?

What did Jesus say? "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Jn 13:35

Here is another interesting quote:

...love is the evidence of their discipleship. "By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples," said Jesus, "if ye have love one to another." **When men are bound together, not by force or self-interest, but by love,** they show the working of an influence that is above every human influence. **Where this oneness exists, it is evidence that the image of God is being restored in humanity, that a new principle of life has been implanted.** It shows that there is power in the divine nature to withstand the supernatural agencies of evil, and that the grace of God subdues the selfishness inherent in the natural heart. {DA 678.1}

Notice the focus of Jesus was on character development—there was not a test of creeds, of holding to right doctrines and as this thought came to me I found this very powerful quote, what do you think?

The apostle showed that **religion does not consist in rites and ceremonies, creeds and theories.** If it did, the natural man could understand it by investigation, as he understands



worldly things. Paul taught that **religion is a practical, saving energy, a principle wholly from God, a personal experience of God's renewing power upon the soul.** {AA 451.3}

He showed how Moses had pointed Israel forward to Christ as that Prophet whom they were to hear; how all the prophets had testified of **Him as God's great remedy for sin**, the guiltless One who was to bear the sins of the guilty. He did not find fault with their observance of forms and ceremonies, but showed that while they maintained the ritual service with great exactness, they were rejecting Him who was the antitype of all that system. {AA 451.4}

Levels 1-4 thinkers get stuck on the symbols, the rituals, the rules, the creeds, the do's and don'ts, the behaviors and fail to see the reality to which all God-given rituals, symbols, metaphors and parables point. And that reality is first and foremost Jesus and then to the design protocols upon which all creation is constructed to operate!

What do you think is the number one ploy Satan has used to co-opt people who profess to be followers of Christ into actually misrepresenting God? I think it is by infecting their minds with a wrong conception of God's law, getting them to believe God's law functions no different than human law, thus all the methods and attributes of Satan, compelling power, coercive power, punishing power etc. come in and are taught as if these actions are of God.

I was at the town hall meeting in Atlanta a few weeks ago in which the ACA was discussed. One of the panelists argued for the government to do a massive redistribution of wealth in order to provide equity in health care to the poor and disadvantaged.

I made comments then about how there are two general ways to redistribute wealth but have thought about it more:

- One way is through charitable giving—those who have, from love in their hearts see the less fortunate and actively choose to give to help those in need. This is God's method, taught by Jesus Himself. In this method those who give are blessed with ever increasing love, grace, compassion and Christlike character development in the act of giving. Those who receive are blessed with thankfulness, their hearts are warmed in appreciation knowing that what is given is not earned, is not a right, is an expression of love for they are valuable and this inspires thanksgiving in their hearts and a desire for application of love in giving to others and improving oneself to become a giver. It is by love that love is awakened in the heart.
- But there is another way to redistribute wealth—it is the way of the beast, the way of earthly governments which the Bible describes as beasts. It is by coercive force, taking from people not yet willing to give, forcing them to give their resources to people that someone else has



deemed worthy of receiving those resources. In this system those who have their wealth taken are cheated of the privilege of giving, rather than love and compassion growing in their hearts, often there is resentment, a feeling of being exploited and taken advantage of. Such actions plant seeds of discord into the heart and cause division rather than unity in society. Those who receive the redistributed wealth, often rather than feeling appreciative and thankful, feel they are entitled, that it is their right and demand more and more from others, and in fact get angry and protest when more is not given—cause further division rather than unity in society.

We cannot win God's causes by using Satan's methods! There is a reason that the church and state are to be separated. The state always uses Satan's methods, and even when their goal is a good goal, like helping those in need, they will do it with methods that ultimately contaminate the hearts of humans rather than heal their hearts.

We have a message to free people from fear and selfishness, and it is the truth about God's character of love, which is also the law of love, which is the protocols upon which reality is built, which is design law. No earthly government operates upon this law—this is the church's responsibility. We are to be the light that shines in the darkness of this world showing a better way!

TUESDAY

Read first paragraph, "Though we don't fully..." Remember what Paul said in Romans 8, that all nature groans under the weight of sin. What do you think this means?

What about the parable of Jesus that an enemy has planted tares into the field, what is implied?

Do you agree with this historical perspective?

Christ never planted the seeds of death in the system. Satan planted these seeds when he tempted Adam to eat of the tree of knowledge which meant disobedience to God. **Not one noxious plant was placed in the Lord's great garden, but after Adam and Eve sinned, poisonous herbs sprang up.** In the parable of the sower the question was asked the master, "Didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?" The master answered, "An enemy hath done this" (Matthew 13:27, 28). **All tares are sown by the evil one. Every noxious herb is of his sowing, and by his ingenious methods of amalgamation he has corrupted the earth with tares.** {2SM 288.2}



Did Satan only alter plant life on earth, or animals and humans as well? Is all creation corrupted? Genetic defects are in all living things, God did not put them there; these are a result of sin.

Should we feel bad or guilty because of this?

Recently, I received some feedback from a group of individuals who were advocating for LGBT Adventists. They reported that my presentation on homosexuality in the Christian world, on the *God and Your Church* DVD, was generally experienced as very positive and helpful, but some felt I was calling them defective and made them feel bad all over again. One person expressed the idea that sexual identity variation is not a deviation that resulted from sin, but something that was built into the genome by God.

I personally reject this view, and view all biological degradation from God's design as being a result of sin, being born:

- blind
- deaf
- Down's syndrome
- Autistic
- Gay or lesbian or chimeras or AIS

Now, some groups have begun advocating that these are not defects but simple variations. Some deaf individuals resist interventions that might cure deafness because the deaf have their own language and culture. Some with high functioning autism are arguing this isn't a defect just a difference in brain wiring that confers certain advantages.

I am convinced that when all things are made new, there will be no person in heaven who is blind, deaf, paralyzed, autistic, mentally retarded, gay, lesbian, transgendered, old, weak, wrinkled, bald, suffering with arthritis, or any other deviation that is not perfect.

So, I say to someone who is blind or deaf, do you feel you are less of a human being, cursed by God, not loved by Him, not useful in His cause? I hope not, because being blind or deaf has no bearing on your worth as His child—likewise having some issue which confuses one's sexual identity has no bearing on one's value and worth as God's child. If you are Gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered, you need to stop feeling bad because of that condition and start realizing you are a child of God, and the issue is one of character, not biology! All of us have defective biology!



Read last paragraph, “Though the lessons...” What do you think of the idea of the “extent of Jesus’ power?”

When Jesus was on earth what was the extent of Jesus’ power?

Was Jesus using His own innate divine power? Jesus said of His own self He can do nothing—He was a human and was dependent upon His Father.

What about Samson—did Samson have supernatural strength of his own accord? So, what Samson did was dependent upon God. But, while Samson was endowed with that strength was Samson left free to use it as Samson chose?

What about Adam in Eden, did Adam in Eden have powers over nature? Remember what we read in the references last week? Where did Adam’s ability to have power over nature originate? So Adam’s abilities were from God, but did God control Adam’s use of those abilities?

What about the abilities you and I possess, music, art, intelligence or other abilities, do these originate in us or do they come from God? But, are we left free to develop them and use them how we see fit?

What about Jesus when on earth? I do not think Jesus had the same strength and innate abilities that Adam had. Jesus however was able to be the conduit of God’s life giving energy as manifested in many settings, but so were the Apostles. The question is how much of that power was endowed, like Samson’s strength, or our talents, and how much was special event driven conduction—like miracle healings? We don’t really know.

In the bottom green section it states, “Though we can see the reality of the Lord’s power, even over nature, the one place where He will not force that power is on our won will.”

Well said! Why not?

So, how many doctrines in Christianity are eliminated if we apply this truth?

- Any doctrine of God inflicting punishment (not discipline) upon sinners is eliminated
- Any doctrine in which pain and suffering originate in God
- Any doctrine in which God executes the wicked for sin (eternal death not temporary sleep—which is not punishment but therapeutic intervention)
- Any doctrine in which God must be appeased, propitiated or assuaged
- Any doctrine in which legal payments must be made



All such doctrines violate this idea of God apply His power to our will.

WEDNESDAY

The lesson focuses on the final journey to Jerusalem, right before the last supper, and the disciples were arguing over who was going to be the greatest.

Read last paragraph, “Perhaps the most...” What lessons do we learn from this?

Did the disciples know what they were doing was wrong? Were they trying to hide it from Jesus? Had they already, at some time in the past, been shown by Jesus their attitudes were wrong? Were they stumbling back into a known sin and repeating it? Were they rejected or cast off by Jesus?

How many have struggled with sin in their lives? Sin that they know is sin, sin that they have been convicted of in the past, and sin which they are repeating?

What lesson do you learn from this?

- Jesus doesn't cast you off
- The issues isn't one of legal standing
- The issue is one of changing oneself, hardening one's heart, searing one's conscience, damaging one's character.
- It is just like a doctor patient relationship, if you are non-compliant the doctor doesn't worsen your blood sugar if you are a diabetic and eat candy, or refuse to take your medicine, but you get worse and yet the doctor still works to heal all the damage. But this requires one to understand reality through design law and move past the false imposed law construct.

THURSDAY

The lesson focuses on the two men on the road to Emmaus and their encounter with Jesus who took them through the evidences of Scripture before revealing Himself to them.

Read fifth paragraph, “Notice that Jesus...” The lesson seems to be using this encounter of Jesus as proof for using only Scripture. However, there is a reason that only Scripture was used here, what is it?

Because this encounter was about demonstrating to these men that the Bible is true and accurate in regards to Jesus being the promised Messiah; it was only in Scripture one found the prophecies of the



Messiah and God's plan of salvation laid out. Thus, Jesus used the Scripture in this particular encounter exclusively because of the truth that needed to be taught.

However, Jesus also used the two other threads repeatedly in His teaching of others. He constantly used nature and science, and taught people by experience, particularly their actual experience with Him. What did the spies say when they reported back to the Pharisees? No man speaks like Him—in other words they had an experience with Jesus and based on that experience they were changed. Doubting Thomas Jesus said place your hand in my side, stop doubting, believe—based on what in that setting?

We must integrate all the threads, not exclude two.

In the green section it states, “How, then, can we guard ourselves against any type of thinking that would cause us to question the authority of Scripture?”

What is the authority of Scripture? Is the Scripture an authoritative source of:

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Astronomy
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Nursing

What is the authority of Scripture? It is the accurate and authoritative record of God's dealing with the rebellion against His design.

The Scripture is NOT—a codebook of rules listing how one should live and act. It is a revelation of God's character, which reveals the principles upon which one should live and act!

The Scripture is NOT—a legal document with a legal constitution or rights we may access and exercise. It is a revelation of God's law of love, the protocols upon which creation is constructed.

The Scripture is NOT—a mystical book with secret phrases, incantations, or magic mantras that we can learn to gain power or salvation. It is God's revelation of His secret plan to heal and restore all who trust Him back into His original design.



The Scripture is NOT—a powerful talisman, lucky charm, or amulet that one can carry with them to ward off evil powers or protect from painful events. It is the revelation of God’s power of love and truth to free the mind from such superstitious thinking and enlighten with reality based understanding, harmonized with science and experience that leads us back to the true knowledge of God.

FRIDAY

read and discuss questions



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Jennings has been named a *Champion of Health* by True Health Broadcasting Network in association with Health Institute for Preventive Care, Access, Research and Education (HIPCARE) and True Health TV and will be presented with the “*Legacy Champion of Health*” award at a Gala on Saturday, April 9, 2016, at the Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC), Atlanta, Georgia.

This award is being presented to Dr. Jennings, as it states in the award letter, “because of your unselfish commitment to community health exemplified by your leadership in the community and as author of “*The God-shaped Brain*” and “*Could it be this Simple? A Biblical Model for Healing the Mind*”.

The God-Shaped Brain is now available in Korean and is available at this website: http://book.naver.com/bookdb/book_detail.nhn?bid=9519886

The Remedy – Dr. Jennings’ New Testament Paraphrase—FREE for ios and android systems.

The Journal of the Watcher is now available as a **HARD COVER book at Amazon** as well as a movie in itunes for everyone without ios or android, you can now get it in itunes. It is also available as an APP for Apple and Android devices.

February 20, 2016: Class will meet at Hamilton Community Church due to the Courthouse being unavailable.

March 11-12, 2016: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Village Church, College Place, WA.

April 1-2, 2016: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Spring Branch Hispanic SDA church, Houston, TX. I want to give special thanks to Rudie Bivens, his daughter Christina, and Dann Wyatt, who graciously took the time to drive me (and my rental car) back to San Francisco from St. Helena after an all day seminar in which I was exhausted. THANK YOU!