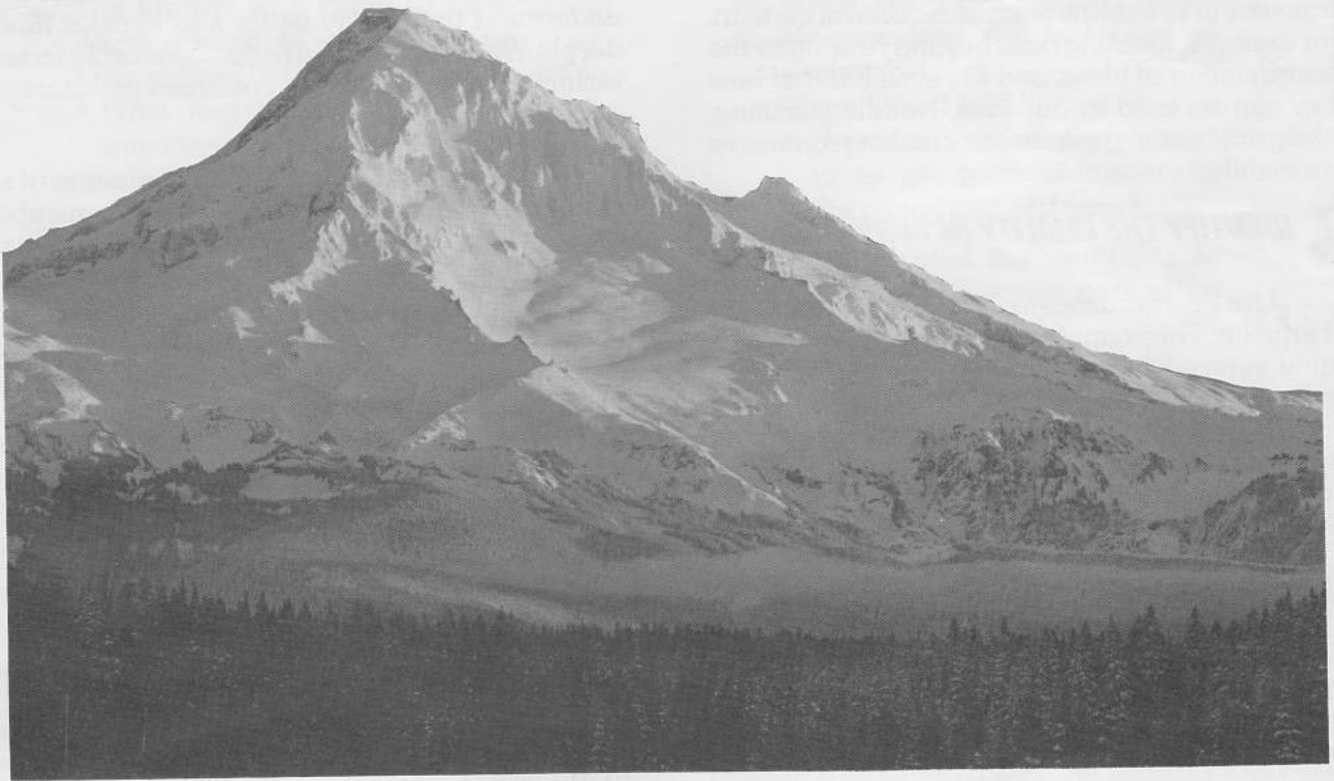




Sermon on the Mount

Matthew Five through Seven





HOW TO DEVELOP CHARACTER QUALITIES

1 **REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING THIS CHARACTER QUALITY.**

There are three major reasons why we must learn character. First, it reveals the true nature of Christ, Who is the perfect fulfillment of each quality. Second, it is the basis for success in life. Lasting achievement is not possible without it. Third, it explains why things happen to us.

God's ultimate purpose in our lives is to conform us to the image of Christ. Only with this concept in mind can we understand how all things work together for good. (See Romans 8:28-29.)

2 **MEMORIZE THE OPERATIONAL DEFINITION.**

Definitions are found in the *Character Clues* game. They are also expanded in the *Character Sketches* books.

An operational definition goes beyond the dictionary to include the practical function of the term. For example, listening goes beyond hearing to the interpretation of ideas, and the evaluation of how they can be used in our lives. Nodding, smiling, taking notes, asking questions, or making comments are manifestations of listening.

3 **IDENTIFY THE QUALITY IN SCRIPTURE.**

Use a concordance to discover various aspects of a quality. For example, to research attentiveness, study verses which deal with listening, hearing, giving ear, and being still.

In addition to verses, think of biographical illustrations that would illustrate both positive and negative aspects of the quality. Samuel listened to God's voice, whereas Eli was inattentive to it.

4 **EXPAND WITH SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS.**

Knowing what a quality is *not* is often as helpful as knowing what it is. Use the *Random House Thesaurus* to expand your understanding of the words which were found in the concordance.

5 **BALANCE WITH RELATED QUALITIES.**

No quality stands alone; it needs others to keep it from being used inappropriately or incompletely: **Attentiveness** must be balanced with **discernment** and combined with **obedience**.

6 **LIST WHEN AND WHERE THE QUALITY IS TO BE USED.**

Attentiveness is a foundational character quality to learn. The ear is the first sensory organ to be developed in the womb. At least eighty percent of the communication in our lives depends upon attentiveness.

The degree of attentiveness you have reached is revealed as you pray, listen to sermons, hear the instructions of parents, converse with others, receive discipline, and read books.

7 **DESIGN GUIDELINES TO LEARN THE QUALITY.**

Once you understand the importance and scope of a quality, think through practical disciplines that would be necessary to make that quality a living part of each area of your life. To be attentive, learn to sit still for a given period of time; do not talk while others are speaking; lean forward when being spoken to; take notes during sermons or instruction; and maintain eye contact during conversations.

8 **TURN PROBLEMS INTO CHARACTER CLASSES.**

During the week that you are working on a particular character quality, expect God to give you specially designed situations which will help you to understand the quality better and apply it more deeply. Welcome trials and temptations as character-building friends rather than resented intruders.

9 **EVALUATE PROGRESS.**

At the end of the week, place the names of all family members in a hat. Have each family member draw a name and answer the following questions:

- ☐ How was the character quality of the week demonstrated by that family member?
To answer this question accurately, you will have to note how attentive each one is during the week.
- ☐ How could that family member have demonstrated the quality?
Give respectful suggestions about opportunities which were overlooked.
- ☐ How did I feel when that family member demonstrated the quality?
Describe the emotion you experienced.
- ☐ How did I feel when that family member failed to demonstrate the quality?
Explain your inward feelings and outward responses.
- ☐ What did God teach me through each situation?

Wisdom Booklet 1



WISDOM QUIZ

Matthew 5:1a

"And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain...."



How well do you understand the implications of "seeing the multitude"?

True/False

- 1** The multitude that came to hear Jesus was the result of a well-organized promotional campaign by His disciples.

☐ ☒

(Read Matthew 4:24.)

- What does this answer tell us about how to gather a crowd for the hearing of the the Gospel?

- 2** The crowds who came to hear Jesus wanted to learn how to have eternal life.

☐ ☒

- What does this tell us about the importance of meeting people's immediate needs?

- 3** In order to reach as many people as possible, Jesus made it easy for them to hear the Gospel.

☐ ☒

(Read Matthew 4:25.)

- Based on Christ's example, should we require commitments of those who desire to hear God's answers?

- 4** When Jesus saw the multitudes He was aware of each individual, but He gave special attention to the men.

☐ ☒

(Read Matthew 14:21.)

- What direction does this give us for whether we should concentrate on men, women, or children in the ministry?

- 5** By going up into the mountain, Jesus established His rights to be in an elevated position over the people.

☐ ☒

(Read Matthew 11:28.)

- How should the inward motivation of Christ motivate us to desire a servant's heart?

- 6** Christ established a precedent by going up into the mountain to transmit God's laws to men.

☐ ☒

(Read Exodus 19:3-13.)

- What does this tell us about the importance of using the examples of the Old Testament as the pattern for our ministry?

- 7** As soon as Jesus understood His Heavenly Father's call upon His life, He began His public ministry.

☐ ☒

(Read Luke 2:49-52.)

- What does this explain about calling, training, and sending?

- 8** When the multitudes heard Jesus speak, they unanimously believed in Him.

☐ ☒

(Read John 1:11.)

- How should this encourage us when we see different responses to our presentation of the Gospel?

- 9** When Jesus saw the multitudes, He perceived the real need of each individual.

☒ ☐

(Read Luke 11:17.)

- How does Christ's example instruct us to get lasting solutions by discerning root problems?

- 10** Jesus wanted the multitude to focus on His message, not on Him as a person.

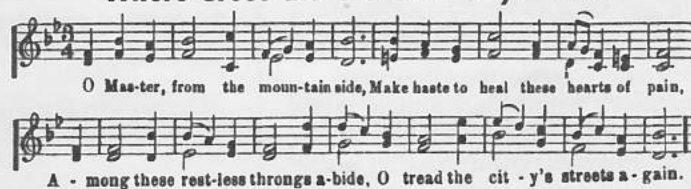
☒ ☐

(Read Matthew 11:29.)

- What should this tell us about trying to separate our message from our character and about what we teach by both?

Total Correct 8

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



WISDOM WORKSHEET ON MATTHEW 5:1a



“AND SEEING THE MULTITUDES...”



- Estimate the number of people in this picture:
Estimate 35 Actual 60

Do Resource A.

- ☐ We tend to train our eyes to see what is important to us.
- ☐ Wisdom is training our eyes to see what is important to God.

Do Resource B.

“... HE WENT UP INTO A MOUNTAIN...”



The mountains of Palestine offered a place of quietness. Jesus frequented this wilderness for private prayer and undisturbed teaching.

Linguistics

Languages,
Grammar, Vocabulary,
Communication



TO SEE

Greek: ὁράω (haw-RAH-oh)

DEFINITION: To observe with understanding; to behold and consider; to perceive.

- When Jesus saw the multitudes, He saw more than just a crowd of people. He saw each individual and each personal need. He was moved with compassion. (See Matthew 9:36.)

Do Resource C.

MULTITUDE

Greek: ὄχλος (OKH-loss)

DEFINITION: A great crowd; a throng; a huge assembly.

MOUNTAIN

Greek: ὄρος (AW-ross)

DEFINITION: Rugged land elevated above the plain.

God chose the mountain of Zion to illustrate:

- His rule (See Psalm 2:6.)
- His protection (See Psalm 11:1.)
- His highness (See Psalm 24:3.)
- His holiness (See Psalm 48:1.)
- His beauty (See Psalm 48:2.)
- His peace (See Psalm 72:3.)
- His nearness (See Psalm 74:2.)
- His ownership (See Psalm 78:54.)
- His endurance (See Psalm 125:1.)
- His presence (See Psalm 125:2.)

Those who are on a mountain have a larger, clearer perspective. Jesus' Sermon on the Mount was to increase the spiritual perspective of His hearers.

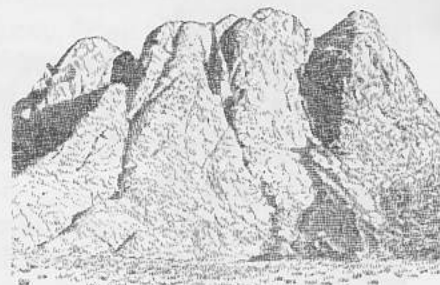
Do Resource D.

History

Archaeology,
Geography, Prophecy,
Music, Art, Literature



What was the historical significance of Jesus' going up into the mountain to preach?



Mount Sinai (Horeb)

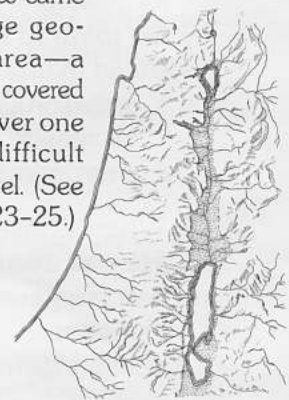
Moses went up into Mount Sinai in 1491 B.C. to receive God's Law.

Jesus went up into a mountain in A.D. 31 to clarify the meaning of the Law and to show His disciples how they could apply its teachings to their everyday lives.

Do Resource E.

What personal sacrifices did the multitude make to hear Jesus teach?

Jesus saw that the multitudes came from a large geographical area—a distance that covered an area of over one hundred difficult miles of travel. (See Matthew 4:23-25.)



The multitudes were composed primarily of men. Many demonstrated their willingness to sacrifice everything to follow Christ.

Science

Chemistry, Biology,
Astronomy, Geology,
Physics, Mathematics



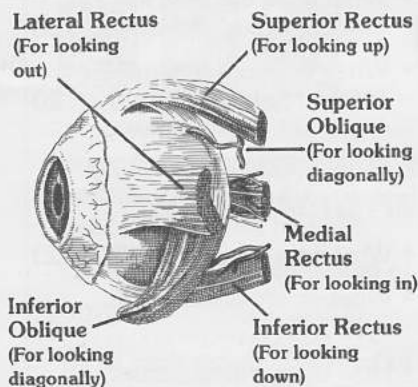
When do we look at something without clearly seeing it?

Newborn babies "see," but have not yet learned to focus their eyes. Their vision is blurred.

**SEEING
REQUIRES
TRAINING AND
MATURITY**



Muscles must learn to move the eye in the right direction, to focus on the object to be observed, and to regulate the amount of light which enters the eye. However, the real "seeing" comes as we train our minds to see things others overlook.



The Six Eye Muscles

Even after the eye muscles have been trained, errors of focusing can develop. **Myopia** (nearsightedness) results in distant objects being blurred. **Hyperopia** (farsightedness) results in near objects being blurred. **Strabismus** ("lazy" eye) is caused by one eye not cooperating with the other eye. **Presbyopia** is the loss of the ability to focus with age.

- Can you apply each of these disorders to errors in spiritual perception?

Do Resource F.

Law

Government,
Economics, Logic



How do mountains illustrate characteristics of God's Law?

- The *permanency* of God's Law.

The mountains will pass away, but God's Word will live forever. (See Luke 16:17.)

- The *protective limitations* of God's Law.

Mountains provide natural barriers in the same way that God's Law provides clear limitations for man's instruction. (See Psalm 125:2-3.)

- The *resources* of God's Law.

The precious metals that are found in mountains and the refreshing water from the mountain's snowcap clearly picture the riches and pure refreshment of God's Word. (See Psalm 19:7-11.)

How do multitudes illustrate the need for God's Law?

Jesus perceived that the multitudes had spiritual needs which were not being met by all the traditions of the scribes.

These religious leaders had taught the "letter of the Law," but had missed the "spirit of the Law."

Do Resource G.

**UNIVERSAL
PRINCIPLES
VERSUS
RELIGIOUS
TRADITIONS**



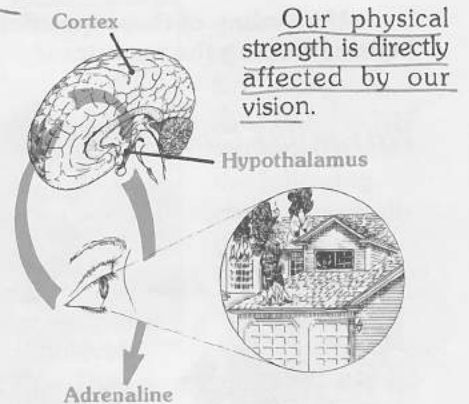
When Jesus began to expound the underlying principles of the Law, the people were astonished at His teaching, "For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes" (Matthew 7:29).

Medicine

Health,
Nutrition, Behavior,
Counseling



How do the things we see affect our physical strength?



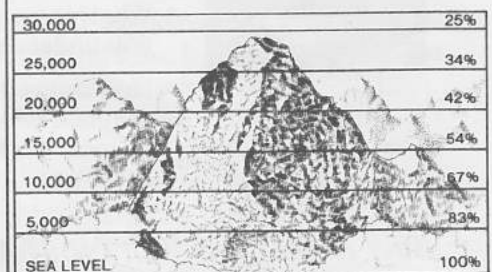
Our physical strength is directly affected by our vision.

If we saw a child in the window of a burning building, the hypothalamus in our brain would trigger the release of adrenaline (epinephrine) into our bloodstream.

Once in the bloodstream, the adrenaline increases the body's rate of metabolism. This increase causes muscles to be stronger and to resist fatigue until the danger is resolved.

Do Resource H.

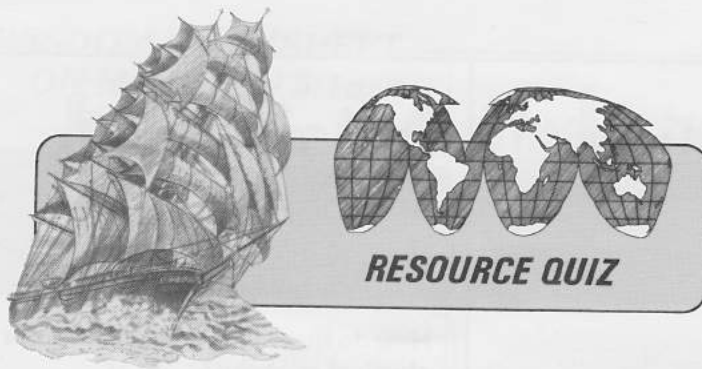
How does living on a mountain increase blood circulation?



Alveolar Pressure

The alveoli are small air sacks in the lungs. Oxygen penetrates these thin membranes and enters the bloodstream.

Because there is less oxygen in the air at higher elevations, those who live in the mountains soon develop better circulation to compensate for the thinner oxygen level.



How many of these questions can you answer before studying the resources?

WHY MUST CHRISTIANS LEARN MATH?



- How does mathematics amplify the nature of God?5
- What six character qualities does mathematics develop?5
- What numbers have special significance to God?6
- Why is it important to learn mathematics from the Bible?6

HOW IS THE PEN MORE POWERFUL THAN THE SWORD?



- What written message inspired George Washington to win a decisive battle?7
- What book influenced Lenin to work for revolutions?7
- What ten words will help you understand people? ...8
- How do we discover life purpose when we see people as Jesus sees them?8

HOW IS DISCERNMENT DISTINGUISHED FROM JUDGMENT?



- What are three differences between discernment and judgment?9
- How can we develop the skill of seeing people as Jesus saw them?10
- How can we put what we have learned into action?10

WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENT LANGUAGES?



- What are the ten major language families in the world?11
- Why did God write the Old Testament in Hebrew and the New Testament in Greek?12
- How did God prepare the world for the Greek New Testament?12
- What four things can a Greek noun name?14

WHAT GEOGRAPHIC AREAS DID THE MULTITUDE REPRESENT?



- How far is "a day's journey"?15
- In what geographical region did Jesus give His sermon?16
- Upon what mountain did Jesus present His sermon?17
- What were the nine key cities in Jesus' ministry? ...18
- What is another name for the "Salt Sea"?20

HOW DOES PHYSICAL VISION RELATE TO SPIRITUAL VISION?

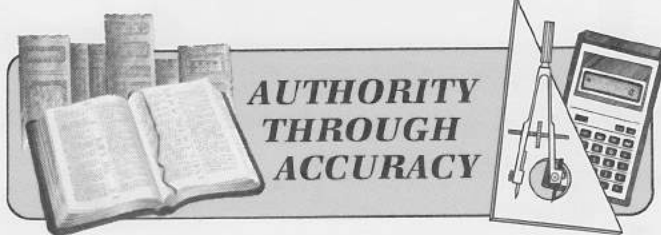


- What does the eye "see"? ..23
- What is an emmetropic eye?23
- How do eye irregularities give insight into spiritual vision?23
- What are spiritual myopia and hyperopia?24
- What are spiritual strabismus and astigmatism? ...25

HOW DOES SIGHT AFFECT STRENGTH?



- What gland allows the body to have extra strength?27
- What physical changes does adrenaline cause? ...27
- How can the flow of adrenaline be turned off? ...29
- Why must we be alarmed every time we see sin?30



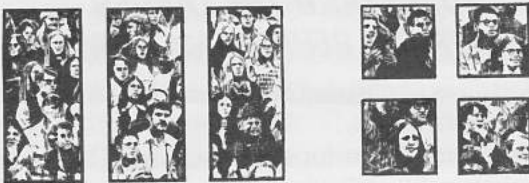
WHY WE MUST LEARN MATHEMATICS

1 TO DISCOVER THE NATURE OF GOD

God is precise. He is accurate. He is absolute. He is predictable according to His laws.

The more we explore the world of mathematics, the more we will understand and appreciate the true character of God. He designed the laws upon which math is based. For example:

HE IS A GOD OF ORDER.



When Jesus fed the five thousand, He first organized the multitude into groups of hundreds and fifties. (See Mark 6:39-40.) How many groups would there have been:

(1) If each group consisted of 100 people? 50

$$100 \overline{) 5,000}$$

(2) If each group consisted of 50 people? 100

$$50 \overline{) 5,000}$$

(3) If half the people were seated in groups of 100 and half the people were seated in groups of 50?

a. $100 \overline{) 2,500}$ b. $50 \overline{) 2,500}$

HE IS A GOD OF BALANCE.



An algebraic equation is based on the law of balance. Both sides of the equation must be equal if the equation is to be accurate. In algebraic expressions, the unknown number is stated with a letter. Parentheses mean to multiply. Therefore, problem #3 could be stated:

a. $100x = 100 (25)$ or b. $50y = 50 (50)$

2 TO DEVELOP GODLY CHARACTER

In the very process of learning math, we will build into our minds at least twenty-five vital character qualities.

We will learn self-discipline as we memorize basic mathematical formulas. We will develop creativity in applying math principles. We will become alert, accurate, and precise as we work out the math problems.



Doré Bible Illustrations

In the course of feeding the five thousand, the disciples had to demonstrate the following character qualities and use their mathematical skills.

RESPONSIBILITY—They accepted Christ's instructions to provide food for the multitude.

RESOURCEFULNESS—They found a lad who had five loaves and two fish.

ACCURACY—They calculated that the boy's food would not be sufficient to feed the five thousand.

ORDERLINESS—They organized the people into groups of hundreds and fifties.

OBEDIENCE—They gave sufficient food to each of the groups according to the command of Christ.

THRIFTINESS—They gathered fragments.

3 TO BECOME PRODUCTIVE IN OUR WORK

God's instruction to Christians is that we bring forth "much fruit" by abiding in Him. (See John 15:8.)

Maximum fruitfulness requires dedicating ourselves and our resources for God's use. It means learning to be good stewards and making the most of our resources.

The five loaves and two fish that were in the boy's hands became many times more—an abundance—in the hands of Jesus. After all were satisfied, the disciples, exercising stewardship, picked up the remaining pieces of bread and fish, filling twelve baskets!

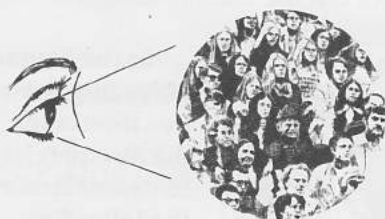
Assume that each basket held twenty-five (25) loaves and ten (10) fish. In addition to the food consumed by the people, how many times would the boy's food offering have been multiplied as a result of the Lord's blessing?

$12 \times 25 = 30$ loaves $\div 5$ loaves = 60

$12 \times 10 = 120$ fish $\div 2$ fish = 60

4 TO AVOID LOSS AND FAILURE

It was the foolish man who did not first work out mathematical calculations before he began to build a tower. His failure would result in the loss not only of his resources but also of his reputation. (See Luke 14:26-30.)



When Jesus saw the multitude, He had compassion on them.

He told the disciples to buy food for the five thousand (5,000) people. They quickly calculated that their funds totaling 200 pennies were insufficient. (See Mark 6:37.) Thus, they brought their need to the Lord.

Assume that a penny would buy two loaves of bread. How many loaves could the disciples have bought?

200 pennies x 2 loaves = 400 loaves

How many more pennies would they have needed to feed each man two loaves?

10,000 loaves ÷ 2 loaves per penny

-200 pennies = 4800 pennies

If the disciples had bought 200 pennies worth of bread and had given only one (1) loaf to a man, how many men would have gone hungry? 4600

What percentage of the multitude could the disciples have fed with their own resources if they had given one (1) loaf to each man? 8.70

5 TO DISCERN THE IMPORTANCE OF NUMBERS TO GOD

Because of the nature of God (accuracy, consistency, creativity, etc.), numbers are important to Him.

Certain numbers have special significance. Seven (7) is the number for completeness and six (6) is the number of man without God. The numbers 3, 5, 12, and 40 are also significant within Scripture.

How many events in Scripture can you recall that include these numbers?

List all the different numbers that are used in the account of the feeding of the five thousand.

How many other times did God use the number twelve in Scripture? _____



WHY WE MUST LEARN MATHEMATICS FROM THE BIBLE

1 TO ESTABLISH THE AUTHORITY OF MATHEMATICS

Two plus two does not equal four just because man says it does. God is the One Who from the beginning established absolutes.

"...Adam lived an hundred and thirty years [130], and begat... Seth: And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years [800]... And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years [930]" (Genesis 5:3-5). The same is true for division, subtraction, multiplication, and every other true mathematical procedure.

Because the Word of God is the only infallible resource that we have, it must not be bypassed in the study of a discipline so basic and vital as mathematics.

2 TO UNDERSTAND THE LARGER PRINCIPLES BEHIND MATHEMATICS

God gives us different dimensions of mathematical principles in the Bible.

In one dimension, for example, Adam (1) plus Eve (1) equals two (2) individuals. In another dimension, Adam (1) plus Eve (1) equals one (1). "... They shall be one [1] flesh" (Genesis 2:24). The larger principle is that a marriage union creates His new and indivisible unity.

In still another dimension, Adam (1) plus Eve (1) equals a multitude, since we were all in Adam's loins. (See 1 Corinthians 15:22.) The bigger principle is that when God adds His creative touch, multiplication takes place; thus five (5) loaves and two (2) fish do not equal seven (7) pieces of food in the hands of Christ.

3 TO MAKE WISE AND ACCURATE APPLICATION OF MATHEMATICAL COMPUTATIONS

Without Scripture as the guiding rule, man tends to misuse mathematics to his own purposes, which leads to destruction.

Business calculations used apart from the warnings of James 4:13-17 will encourage a man to borrow money against the future.

Statistical data in medicine which is studied without reference to God's laws encourages some doctors to perform surgery on patients who do not have cancer. "Exploratory surgery" is often based on probability tables which exclude vital health factors found in the Scriptures.

Date completed 9-3-92 Evaluation _____



POWER THROUGH PRECISION

HOW WAS THE PEN MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD?

The year was 1776. It was Christmas night along the Potomac. British General William Howe had recently captured Fort Washington. He now set up for winter quarters, leaving Hessian Colonel Johannes Rall in charge with 1,400 men at Trenton. Washington's men were greatly discouraged because of their recent defeats. The weather was frigid. The Delaware River was icy and their numbers were few.

Washington had a plan. He would cross the Delaware at a point nine miles above the enemy, then take them by surprise at dawn. But would it work? He could sense the spirits of his men were low. Something was needed to spur them on.

It was at this point that General Washington read a pamphlet to his men. It began, "These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis shrink from the service of their country. . . ." Those words sank into the hearts of these weary soldiers with overwhelming conviction. They *could* do it . . . they *would* do it . . . by the Lord's grace they *did* do it!

Many historians consider the Battles of Trenton and Princeton the first real successes of Washington's campaign. There is little doubt that the words of that pamphlet entitled "The Crisis," written by Thomas Paine, did what no man, no gun, and even no sword could do. Without these words of inspiration, Washington and his men may have failed.



"Washington Crossing the Delaware"—Emanuel Leutze, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Gift of John Stewart Kennedy, 1897. (97.34)

Just as the pen can be used on the side of right, it can also be used by the forces of evil. The pen can bring blessing or blight to the soul of a man. To Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov's soul it brought destruction.



Lenin's Tomb, Red Square, Moscow

Vladimir Ulyanov experienced great sorrow as a young adult. His father died when Vladimir was sixteen years old. His brother Alexander was arrested a year later due to his involvement in a plot to assassinate Czar Alexander III. His sister Anna was arrested because of her contact with Alexander, but was later released under strict police supervision. Vladimir himself was expelled from school for participating in a political demonstration.

At a low ebb in Vladimir's life, a friend gave him a copy of Karl Marx's *Das Kapital*. He had seen the book several years earlier, but he had not been interested in politics at the time.

Now, however, the volume attracted him like a strong magnet. He could not put it down. He read it with great enthusiasm, spending many days and nights analyzing its content. This work fed the flame of revolution in Vladimir's heart and transformed him into the gruesome tyrant that he became. He is known to us as Nikolai Lenin.

Only eternity will reveal the immeasurable pain and destruction Lenin's life has brought to millions of people—influenced by the written word!

LEARN WORDS THAT WILL HELP YOU UNDERSTAND HOW TO SEE PEOPLE AS JESUS SAW THEM.

SYNONYMS:

The following words mean "to see with understanding." Number them in alphabetical order.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Distinguish | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Discern |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Recognize | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Observe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Comprehend | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Perceive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Apprehend | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Detect |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Ascertain | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Notice |

ANTONYMS:

The following words mean the opposite of "to see with understanding." Number these also in alphabetical order.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Overlook | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ignore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Misinterpret | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Misjudge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Misunderstand | |

HOW GOD CALLS US TO SEE PEOPLE AS JESUS DID



Just as Jesus saw the multitudes with understanding and compassion, so He calls us to do the same. During His earthly ministry, He said to His disciples, "... as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

Early in His ministry He instructed His disciples to see the spiritual needs of the people around Him. He compared the multitudes to fields of a ready harvest. (See John 4:35.)

Later in His ministry, Jesus told His disciples to pray that God would send out laborers into His harvest. The laborers need only be few in number if they are perceptive of the needs of people and trained to meet those needs.

At the end of His ministry, Jesus commanded His disciples to go into the harvest and continue the work which He had begun. (See Matthew 28:19-20.)

PROJECT 1



HOW WE DISCOVER LIFE PURPOSE BY SEEING PEOPLE AS JESUS DOES.

Decide which synonym or antonym best fits each blank. Each vocabulary word is used only once. Write answers on a separate sheet.

When we really "see" people, we first ⁽¹⁾ outward differences in dress, appearance, posture, facial expressions, and eye contact. We also ⁽²⁾ differences in age, gender, race, nationality, build, family position, and physical aging.

After ⁽³⁾ these differences, we must ⁽⁴⁾ which ones are changeable and which ones are unchangeable.

It is in the changeable physical features such as dress, appearance, and posture that we are able to ⁽⁵⁾ the personal needs of individuals. For example, we may ⁽⁶⁾ that a short young man who wears platform shoes has rejected his God-given height and has a low self-image.

We may also ⁽⁷⁾ a man walking with a limp, or a woman with fear or worry in her eyes. God wants us to ⁽⁸⁾ whether the needs are simply physical or whether they are spiritual.

The man with a limp may be recovering from an accident or he may be suffering from lower back pain because of deep bitterness toward a member of his family.

The more we "see" the real needs of people, the more we are able to ⁽⁹⁾ the wide scope of resources which God has freely given to us so that we can freely give to others. By seeing others' needs, we can ⁽¹⁰⁾ that good and perfect will of God for our lives.

Just as it is vital that we do not ⁽¹¹⁾ the people around us or ⁽¹²⁾ their physical or spiritual needs, so it is also essential that we do not ⁽¹³⁾ the outward signs or ⁽¹⁴⁾ the inward motivations.

In order to avoid both of these pitfalls, we must be in a constant attitude of prayer and learn how to ask appropriate questions.

As our lives are in tune with the Spirit of God, He will give us discernment and we will not ⁽¹⁵⁾ the real needs of the people around us.



BEFORE WE SEE PEOPLE AS JESUS SAW THEM,
WE MUST LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN . . .

DISCERNMENT vs. JUDGMENTAL SPIRIT

DISCERNMENT

JUDGMENT

1 One who discerns will thoroughly examine himself before evaluating the actions of others.

"But let every man prove [dokimazo] his own work . . ." (Galatians 6:4).

"But let a man examine [dokimazo] himself . . ." (I Corinthians 11:28).

"For if we would judge [diakrino] ourselves, we should not be judged" (I Corinthians 11:31.)

"Examine [peirazo] yourselves . . . prove [dokimazo] your own selves . . ." (II Corinthians 13:5).

One who judges will condemn others for their visible problems but fail to realize that their attitudes stem from root problems which he himself has not yet overcome.

"Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest [krino]: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things" (Romans 2:1).

"But why dost thou judge [krino] thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ" (Romans 14:10).

2 One who discerns will check the accuracy of all the facts and related factors before reaching a conclusion.

"But he that is spiritual judgeth [anakrino] all things, yet he himself is judged of no man" (I Corinthians 2:15).

"Prove [dokimazo] all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thessalonians 5:21).

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try [dokimazo] the spirits whether they are of God . . ." (I John 4:1).

One who judges will form opinions on first impressions or hearsay, and then he will look for evidence to confirm his opinions, even though the evidence may be out of context.

"Judge [krino] not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24).

"Doth our law judge [krino] any man, before it hear him . . ." (John 7:51).

"Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth [krino] his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law . . ." (James 4:11).

3 One who discerns will deal as privately as possible with the problems he sees.

". . . Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge [diakrino] between his brethren? But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers" (I Corinthians 6:5-6).

One who judges will publicly expose those whom he condemns. This censure may cause others to condemn him for having the same root problem such as pride, lack of love, or a critical spirit.

"Judge [krino] not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven" (Luke 6:37).

A discerning Christian is one who detects a fault in another and is able to give him clear direction for victory based on the principles of God's Word and his own application of them. On this basis he is able to restore an offending brother rather than reject him. (See Galatians 6:1.)



HOW TO DEVELOP THE SPIRITUAL SKILL OF "SEEING" PEOPLE AS JESUS SAW THEM

As a family, drive to a busy supermarket. Park near the entrance so that you can observe from your car those who enter and leave the store. Try to be as inconspicuous as possible.

Write down all you can for each of the following points. (Allow ten minutes for each point.) Use the vocabulary words throughout your report.

1 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:

Things that are obvious and without question.

EXAMPLE:

"I observed a woman walking toward the store. I noticed that she was wearing a blue dress. I also noticed that she carried a large brown purse. I observed that the woman held the hand of a little boy. I noticed that the boy was crying."

2 GENERAL DISTINCTIONS:

Relationships and conditions that are obvious from the initial observations.

EXAMPLE:

"I was able to distinguish a father walking to the store with his two little children. I recognized that he was walking faster than others around him. I also recognized that the older child, a girl, was watching out for the safety of her younger brother."

3 SPECIFIC PERCEPTIONS:

Inward attitudes that are reflected from outward evidences.

EXAMPLE:

"I perceived that a teenage boy was unhappy by the expression on his face. I ascertained that he had a low esteem of himself by the way he dressed and by his appearance. His eyes and dress allowed me to perceive that he had a spirit of rebellion toward authority."

4 PRECISE DISCERNMENTS:

Basic needs that are obvious from the observations, distinctions, and perceptions.

EXAMPLE:

"I discern that the young woman walking toward the store has the attire of an immoral woman, and needs to gain moral freedom. I also discern from the hardness of her facial features that she needs to overcome bitterness toward those who have wronged her."

5 MATURE COMPREHENSION:

Understanding the causes and relationships between outward symptoms, inward attitudes, and basic needs, and suggesting steps to remove the root causes of problems.

EXAMPLE:

"The little boy does not honor his father. Perhaps the father has broken the boy's spirit by disciplining him in anger."

"The father could overcome his anger by yielding his rights to God and developing a meek and quiet spirit. He could begin to heal his little boy's broken spirit by recognizing how his anger has wounded him and asking his boy to forgive him and pray for him to be the father he should be."

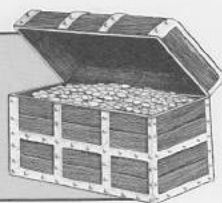
EVALUATION:

Date we worked on this assignment _____	The time we spent "seeing" people _____
The store we observed _____	The number of people we observed _____

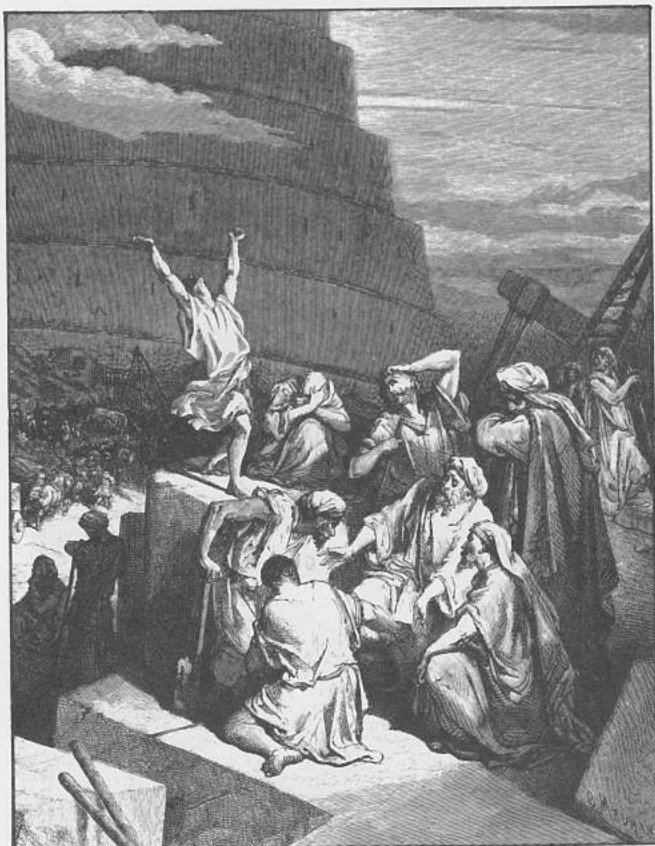
We prayed for the people before and after we saw them. Yes _____ No _____

In fulfilling this assignment we were most surprised with the following insights about ourselves and about others. _____

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENT LANGUAGES?



After Doré Bible Illustrations

Confusion came at the Tower of Babel.

After the flood Noah and his family began to repopulate the earth. All their descendants spoke the same language.

Rather than circulating throughout the world, they laid the foundations for a highly developed city later known as Babylon. Godless humanism with its worship of astrology became the motivating force of this system.

With their great intellectual abilities the people decided to build a huge tower which would "reach unto the heaven." Their actual purpose was to design an observatory from which to explore the heavens for evil purposes.

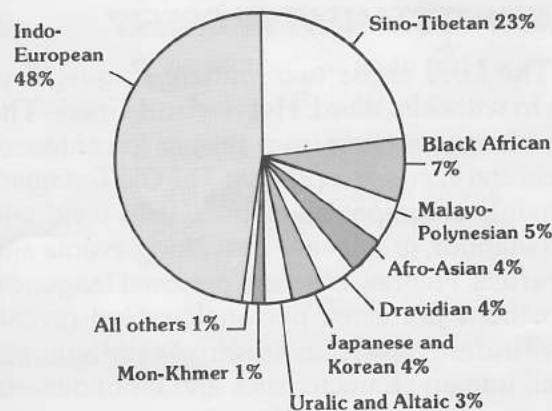
God realized that nothing would restrain them from achieving their imaginations. Therefore, He said, "... let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech" (Genesis 11:7).

It is significant to realize from this account that it is God Who created different languages. In doing so, He has built into each language a witness of Himself and of His workings through history.

WHAT ARE THE TEN MAJOR LANGUAGE FAMILIES?

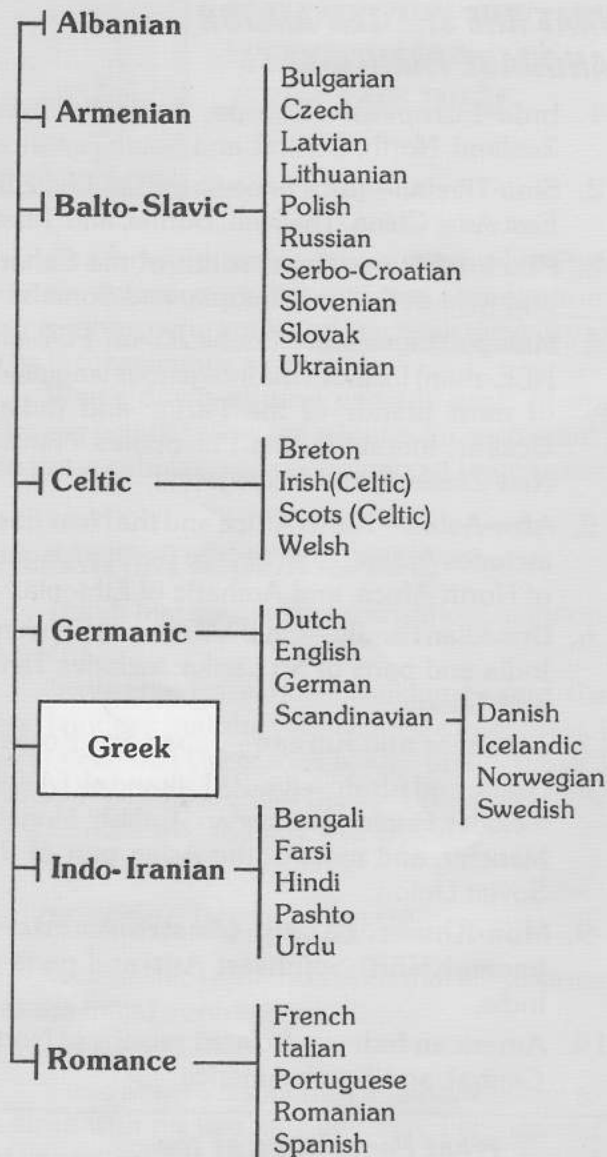
1. **Indo-European**—Europe, Australia, New Zealand, North, Central, and South America.
2. **Sino-Tibetan**—(SIGH-noe-tih-BETn) Primarily East Asia: China, Thailand, Burma, and Tibet.
3. **Black African**—Areas south of the Sahara and west of Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia.
4. **Malayo-Polynesian**—(muh-LAY-oh POL-uh-NEE-zhun) Includes the indigenous languages of most islands of the Pacific and Indian Oceans: Indonesia, the Philippines, Hawaii, New Zealand, and Madagascar.
5. **Afro-Asian**—North Africa and the Near East: includes Arabic, Hebrew, the Berber tongues of North Africa, and Amharic of Ethiopia.
6. **Dravidian Family**—(druh-VID-ee-un) Southern India and parts of Sri Lanka: includes Tamil and Telugu.
7. **Japanese and Korean**—Japan and Korea.
8. **Uralic and Altaic**—(yu-RAL-ik and al-TAY-ik) Includes Finnish, Hungarian, Turkish, Mongol, Manchu, and most of the Asian part of the Soviet Union.
9. **Mon-Khmer Family (Austro-Asiatic)**—(moan-KMER) Southeast Asia and parts of India.
10. **American Indian**—Isolated regions of North, Central, and South America.

What Percentage of the World's Population Belongs to Each Language Family?



TO WHAT FAMILY DOES THE GREEK LANGUAGE BELONG?

The Indo-European Family



WHY DID GOD CHOOSE TO WRITE THE NEW TESTAMENT IN GREEK?

The Lord chose two primary languages in which to write His Word: Hebrew and Greek. The Hebrew language is very picturesque. Its sentences are short and intensely expressive. The Old Testament is primarily biographical. Hebrew uses vivid and bold metaphor, graphically describing events and their results. Hebrew is a very personal language; even nations are given personality. God reveals Himself in descriptive human terms—attributing to Himself human characteristics and emotions—to aid man in understanding His character.

Greek is a precise, highly technical language. It leaves little room for speculation regarding the intent of the author.

In the New Testament the explanation of ideas and concepts is paramount. Many of the verses explain and amplify the rich symbolism of the Old Testament.

Whereas Hebrew was largely confined to the nation of Israel, Greek was a worldwide language and was able to convey clearly and accurately the good news of salvation.

With its ability to explain abstract knowledge, the Greek language appealed equally to the intellectual and to the common man.



The fall of Jerusalem

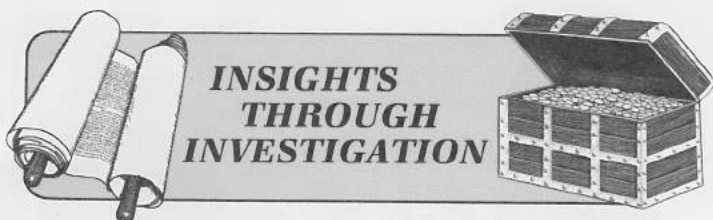
The Beautiful Story

HOW DID GOD PREPARE THE WORLD TO RECEIVE THE GOSPEL IN GREEK?

God raised up the nation of Rome to be the controlling government of the world throughout New Testament times.

The highly trained armies of Rome not only conquered Palestine and other nations but also established a network of roads throughout its vast empire. With increased travel and trade, Greek became the major medium of communication, even though Latin was the official language.

Paul and the early Christians traveled the Roman roads proclaiming the Gospel to the Jew and Gentile alike with the precision of the Greek tongue.



INSIGHTS THROUGH INVESTIGATION

GREEK INVESTIGATION 1

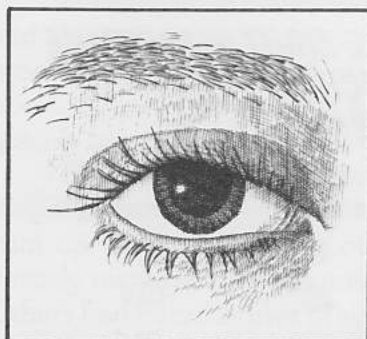
Ἰδὼν δὲ τοὺς ὄχλους
seeing and the multitudes,

ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ ὄρος
he went up into the mountain

ENGLISH

GREEK

Lexicon Form (Root words)



TO SEE

English Equivalents:

o	=	ο (omicron)	o as in pot
r	=	ρ (rho)	r as in roar
a	=	α (alpha)	ä as in father or a as in pat
o	=	ω (omega)	ō as in toe

ὁράω (haw-RAH-oh)

Greek Letters—Names—Sounds



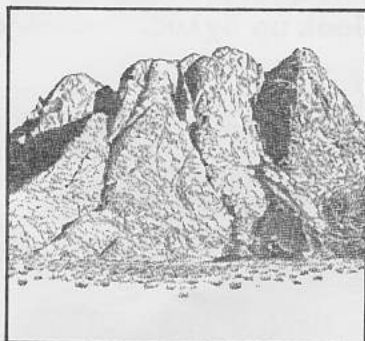
MULTITUDES

English Equivalents:

o	=	ο (omicron)	o as in pot
ch	=	χ (chi)	ch as in chord
l	=	λ (lambda)	l as in lid
o	=	ο (omicron)	o as in pot
s	=	ς (sigma)	s as in sauce

ὄχλος (OKH-loss)

Greek Letters—Names—Sounds



MOUNTAIN

English Equivalents:

o	=	ο (omicron)	o as in pot
r	=	ρ (rho)	r as in roar
o	=	ο (omicron)	o as in pot
s	=	ς (sigma)	s as in sauce

ὄρος (AW-ross)

Greek Letters—Names—Sounds

Practice writing the Greek letters.

GREEK SENTENCE ANALYSIS

MULTITUDES— ὄχλος

Ἰδὼν δὲ τοὺς ὄχλους
seeing And the multitudes,
ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ ὄρος·
he went up into the mountain

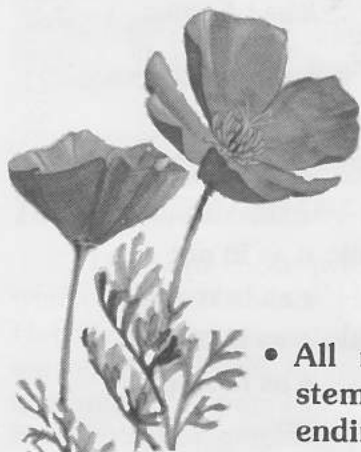
1. WHAT PART OF SPEECH IS THE WORD ὄχλος ?



A NOUN

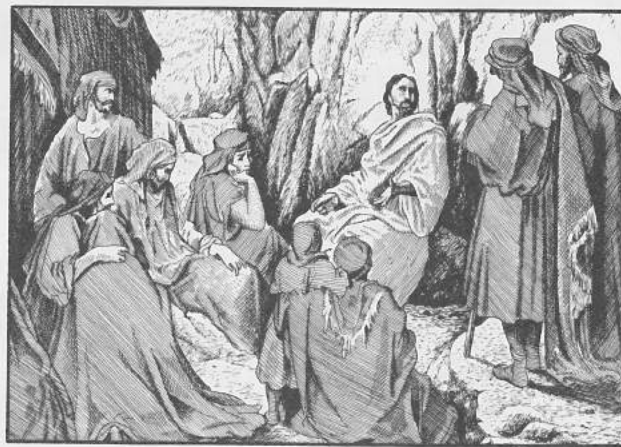
- A noun is the name of:
PERSON—Christ, disciple
PLACE—city, Jerusalem
OBJECT—tree, rock
IDEA—Christianity, happiness
- Key questions to identify nouns:
“who?” or “what?”

2. WHAT IS THE STEM OF ὄχλος ?



οχλ-

- All nouns have a stem to which noun endings are added.
- There are four singular endings and four plural endings; the two seen thus far are -ος and -ους.



3. WHAT ARE THE EIGHT MASCULINE ENDINGS WHICH ARE ADDED TO THE NOUN STEM οχλ- ?

Singular endings

-ος

-ου

-ω

-ον

Plural endings

-οι

-ων

-οις

-ους

4. WHAT IS A LEXICON?



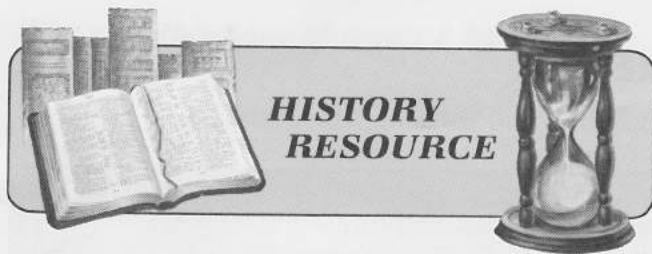
A Lexicon is a Greek-to-English dictionary. You must know the basic Greek form of each word to find it in the Lexicon.

In an English dictionary, for instance, you will not find MULTITUDES; you must look up MULTITUDE. Likewise, you will not find ὄχλους; you must look up ὄχλος.

multitude (MULT-i-tūd) n 1: the state of being many 2: a great number: HOST: 3: a great number of people 4: POPULACE, PUBLIC.

ὄχλος, ου, ὁ — 1. crowd, throng, (multitude) Matthew 9:23, 25; 21:8.— 2. the (common) people, populace Matthew 14:5; 15:10— 3. large number Luke 5:29; 6:17.

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



HISTORY RESOURCE

WHAT GEOGRAPHIC AREAS DID THE MULTITUDES REPRESENT?

He traveled the dusty roads between Nazareth and Capernaum, teaching in the synagogues and proclaiming the Kingdom of God. Reports of His powerful message and His healing touch spread quickly throughout the regions of Palestine.

Carpetmakers from Bethsaida, farmers from Magdala, and artisans from Tiberias eagerly followed Him up the grassy slopes of Galilee. Some had already responded to His message of repentance. Others had heard stories of signs and miracles and were drawn to the mountainside by curiosity.

Many who heard His Sermon on the Mount must have journeyed on foot as far as one hundred miles to hear this new teacher sent from God. Rugged hill country, arid valleys, and treacherous mountains could not discourage their desperate souls and hungry hearts.

They listened attentively as He explained the characteristics of the future citizens of heaven. *"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth..."* (Matthew 5:3-5).

For those who believed His words that day, the hardships of cold nights and unfamiliar villages were well-worth the opportunity to sit at the feet of Jesus.



"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness . . . And his fame went throughout all Syria . . . And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan."
Matthew 4:23-25



Doré Bible Illustrations

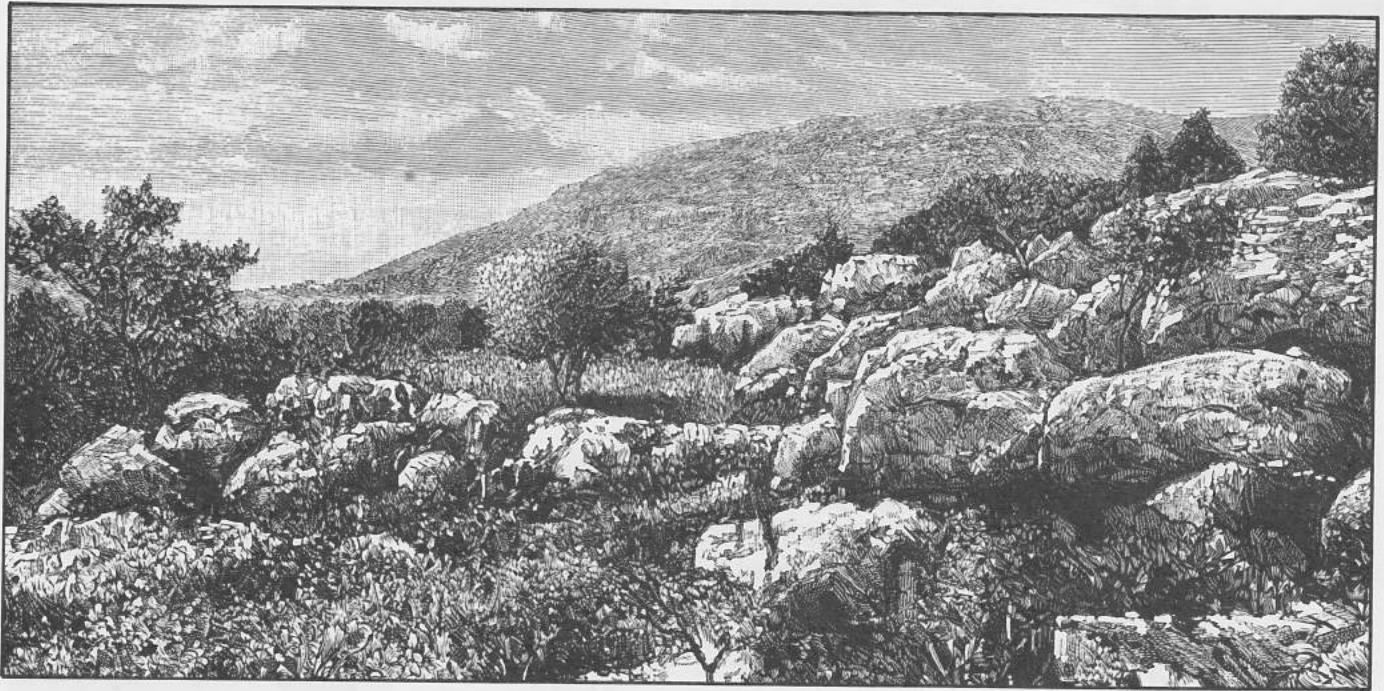


The Beautiful Story

WHAT WAS "A DAY'S JOURNEY"?

A day's journey was the most typical method of calculating distance during the time of Christ. Varying greatly with the terrain of the region and the mode of transportation, the term "day's journey" was never considered an exact measurement. The normal day's journey covered between twenty and thirty miles, but decreased to ten miles when applied to group travel.

WHICH REGIONS PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLES IN THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST?



"Through Samaria" to Galilee and the Jordan

Abraham and Jacob entered the Promised Land over the rocky slopes of Mount Gerizim. This was the mountain that the woman at the well referred to during her conversation with Christ.

Where did Christ perform most of His miracles?

A moderate climate and picturesque mountain ranges characterize the region of Palestine. Volcanic hills and fertile valleys create a landscape marked by contrasts.

Christ spent His formative years in a village located in this area, and a nearby town became the focal point of His northern ministry.

The Sermon on the Mount, the Transfiguration, nineteen of His thirty-two parables, and twenty-five of His thirty-three recorded miracles occurred there in Galilee.

What region served as the backdrop for Christ's birth and death?

A large plateau stretching from Bethel to Beersheba makes up the heartland of this region. This elevated area includes the important cities of Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Hebron. Maritime air from the Great Sea (Mediterranean) supplies adequate rainfall for agriculture and livestock.

Historians and archaeologists estimate that approximately two hundred thousand Jews (half of

them residing in Jerusalem) lived here in Judea during the time of Christ.

Where did Christ meet the "woman at the well"?

Most Jews purposely traveled a day's journey out of their way to avoid the inhabitants of this region, despised because they had intermarried with Gentiles. Christ, however, told His disciples that He must pass through this part of the country.

During His journey, Christ met an adulterous woman and quenched her spiritual thirst with the living water of eternal life near Jacob's well there in the land of Samaria.



The Beautiful Story

Why was this body of water a haven for invalids?

The Old Testament name for this body of water is the Sea of Chinnereth because it resembles a harp when viewed from the surrounding mountains. (The Hebrew word *chinnereth* means "harp.")

Christ chose the north shore of this lake as His headquarters in Galilee. On a nearby hill He presented His Sermon on the Mount. Along the shore He fed the five thousand and healed the lepers and the demoniacs. He also walked on its waters and calmed its stormy waves.

Many of Christ's miracles in this area were related to healing because the medicinal mineral springs of this fresh water sea made it a refuge for invalids. Without question, one of the most significant regions during the ministry of Christ was around the Sea of Galilee.



Dore Bible Illustrations

Jesus walking on the Sea of Galilee

Where did Christ begin His public ministry?

Jesus began His public ministry in this region when John the Baptist baptized Him. It was here that His Heavenly Father acknowledged Jesus as His beloved Son and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove.

During Christ's journeys throughout Palestine, He undoubtedly crossed this important river many times. The Apostle Peter first attested to the deity of Christ near the origin of this valuable source of water, the Jordan River.

What landform became the center of worship in Samaria?

The Samaritan woman told Christ that this landform had become the center of worship for her kinsmen. She explained, "Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship" (John 4:20).

The Lord wisely responded that one day men would worship in spirit and in truth, not in religious centers like Jerusalem or on rocky hilltops like Mount Gerizim.

Where did Christ present the Sermon on the Mount?

Rising up beyond a fertile northern plain is a rugged, saddle-backed hill that many scholars believe to be the site of the Sermon on the Mount. Although this mountain spot is not specifically mentioned in the Bible, Christ and His disciples must have passed by the Horns of Hattin frequently on their journeys to Nazareth and Capernaum.

Where did Christ spend many hours during the last week of His life on earth?

Seated near the lush olive groves of this region, Christ explained to His disciples the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world. Each night during the last week of His life on earth, the Lord retreated to the solitude and seclusion that this area provided.

It was on the western slopes of this quiet mountainside that He agonized with His Father. Here, one of His followers finally betrayed Him.

At the close of Christ's earthly ministry, a group of disciples watched as their risen Lord ascended into heaven from the top of this mount, the Mount of Olives.



"Through Samaria" to Galilee and the Jordan

A Galilean farmer breaks up fallow ground with a yoke of oxen and a simple plow.

WHICH CITIES PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLES IN THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST?

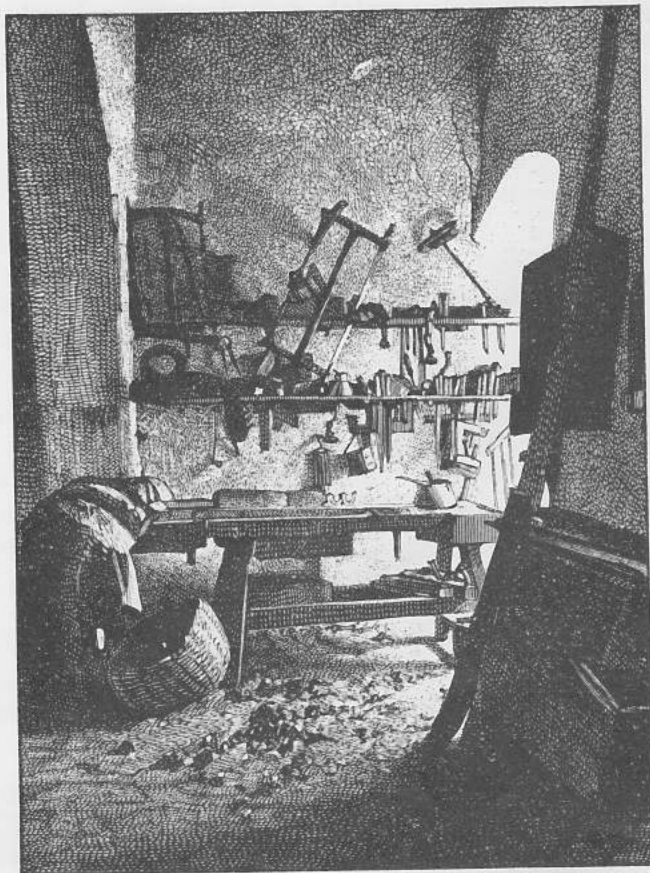
Why did an angel visit this city?

One of Christ's disciples asked if any good thing could come out of this northern village. The violent rejection of the Lord by the people of this town proved that a prophet is not honored among his own kinsmen.

An angel came to a young girl here to announce the coming of the Messiah. Even though Christ was born in Bethlehem and later fled with His family into Egypt, His home and the home of His earthly parents was the city of **Nazareth**.

Where was the "City of David"?

Even in the Old Testament, this city was known for its connections with Christ. The future fame of this small southern village was foretold by the prophet Micah.



"Through Samaria" to Galilee and the Jordan

This humble carpenter's shop in Nazareth provides a glimpse back into the boyhood years of Christ.

The expectation of the coming Messiah and the stories of the shepherds and the Magi all center on the city of David and the birthplace of Christ, **Bethlehem**.

Which city caused Christ to weep?

At the age of twelve, Christ amazed the teachers of this city with His knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures. Years later, Satan took Christ to the pinnacle of the city's temple and dared Him to cast Himself down. Christ also cleansed that same temple during two different Passover feasts.

Christ forewarned the disciples that His death would occur here. As He stood on a hillside overlooking the ancient city, He wept for the people who had stubbornly refused to accept Him.

That same week Christ was betrayed, tried, and executed just outside this city's limits. After His resurrection, Christ ascended bodily into heaven. Angels appeared and promised that He would one day return to this "city of peace," **Jerusalem**.

Which city served as Christ's northern headquarters?

Christ condemned this city for its attitude of pride. As a result of this curse, it is nearly impossible for archaeologists to find any remnants of this important urban center. It was here that Matthew had become an important government official as a tax collector.

Christ made His headquarters here after leaving His home in Nazareth. The Lord began to call the men who would become His closest followers while He was in this city.

Many of His greatest miracles, such as the healing of the centurion's servant and the raising of Jairus' daughter from the dead, took place here in the city of **Capernaum**.

How did a wedding in this city become an extraordinary event?

Friends and relatives had gathered from all across Galilee to celebrate the joyous occasion. During the wedding feast, Mary realized that the family of the bride and groom were facing an embarrassing moment—they had run out of wine.

She quietly instructed the servants to follow her Son's directions. Christ commanded them to fill six stone pots to the brim with water.

When the ruler of the feast drank from the pots, he wondered why the bridegroom had held back his best wine.

Christ's first miracle made a wedding feast an extraordinary event in the little village of Cana.



Doré Bible Illustrations

Jesus at the wedding in Cana

Where did Christ feed the five thousand?

Andrew, Peter, and Philip were born in this humble village. Just outside this town, the Lord spoke to the multitudes concerning the Kingdom of God and healed those who were afflicted.

When the disciples suggested that He dismiss the crowds into the surrounding towns and villages, Christ took five loaves and two fishes and blessed them. After everyone had eaten his fill, twelve baskets of leftovers were collected in this desert place near the city of Beth-saida.

Where did the disciples receive their final instructions from Christ?

Just before His Transfiguration, Christ paused in this northern village to give the disciples words of teaching and instruction. He promised them that the gates of hell would not prevail against His Church. The Lord also explained that He would soon face suffering and death at the hands of the elders and chief priests.

It was near this city that Christ assured His disciples that He would be raised again on the third day. "Take up your cross and follow Me" was the challenge Jesus issued to each of His disciples during their stay in **Caesarea Philippi**.

Where did Christ raise a close friend from the dead?

Here in the home of Simon the Leper, Christ was anointed with precious ointment by a faithful woman. This village was also the home of Christ's closest friends, and He often stayed here during His ministry in Judea.

The Lord performed one of His greatest miracles here when He raised His dear friend Lazarus from the dead, just outside the little town of Bethany.

What made this city an ideal place for a tax collector?

During the winter months, this city maintained a warm and pleasant climate. To escape the dismal nights in Jerusalem, Herod the Great and his successors made this urban center their winter capital.

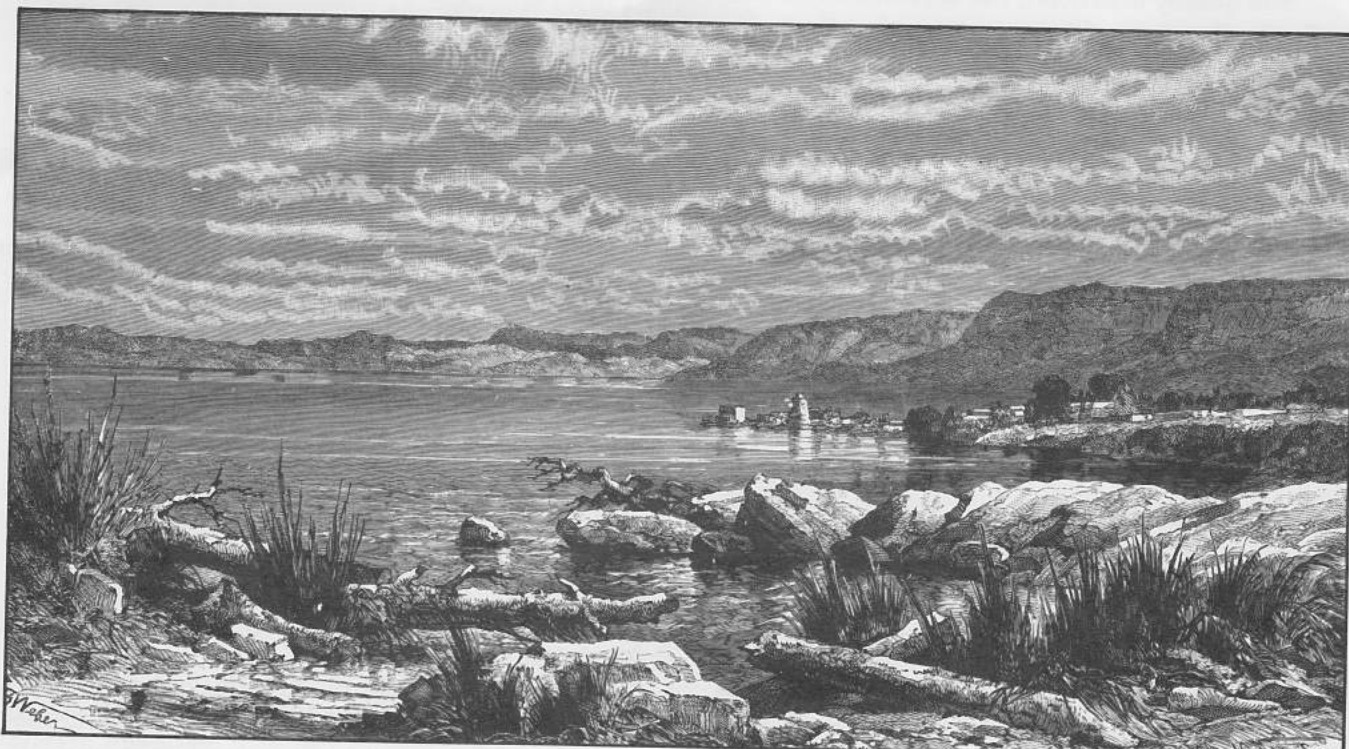
An ample supply of water provided a solid basis for building expansion and population growth. Nearby, balsam groves also produced abundant tax revenues.

While passing through this city, Christ met one of its wealthiest citizens in a very peculiar place. While sitting in a sycamore tree, the little tax collector named Zacchaeus responded to the Lord and welcomed Him into his home in the city of Jericho.



Manual of Biblical Geography

The Via Dolorosa, "the way of sorrows," is the traditional route that Christ followed on His way to the cross.



"Through Samaria" to Galilee and the Jordan

Referred to in Scripture as the "Salt Sea," the Dead Sea occupies the southern end of the Jordan Valley.

Using the scale of miles found on page twenty-two, answer the following questions.

1. When Joseph and Mary journeyed from their home in Nazareth to Bethlehem to be numbered in the Roman census, they traveled 73 1/2 miles.
2. After leaving Herod in Jerusalem, the Magi had only a short journey of 6 1/2 miles to Bethlehem.
3. When Christ heard that John the Baptist had been cast into prison, He left Nazareth and traveled 20 miles to the city of Capernaum where He preached, "... Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17).
4. To participate in the wedding feast at Cana, the Lord traveled 17 miles from Bethabara. (27)
5. After rebuking the Pharisees, Christ traveled 36 miles from Capernaum to the foreign city of Tyre.
6. The Lord journeyed the 81 miles between Jerusalem and Capernaum many times during His public ministry.
7. After traveling the 6 1/2 miles from Jerusalem to Jericho, Christ ate in the home of Zacchaeus. (11 1/2)
8. At Caesarea Philippi, Christ told His disciples about the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world before traveling 110 miles to Jerusalem to die on the cross.

Match the proper region or city to the corresponding description.

k

This small southern village was known as the "City of David" and was closely connected to Christ by the prophet Micah.

c

This village was the home town of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.

a

This landform became the Samaritan center of worship.

j

Christ's public ministry officially began when He was baptized here.

i

Christ performed His first miracle in this little village.

l

Christ wept over the disbelief of this city.

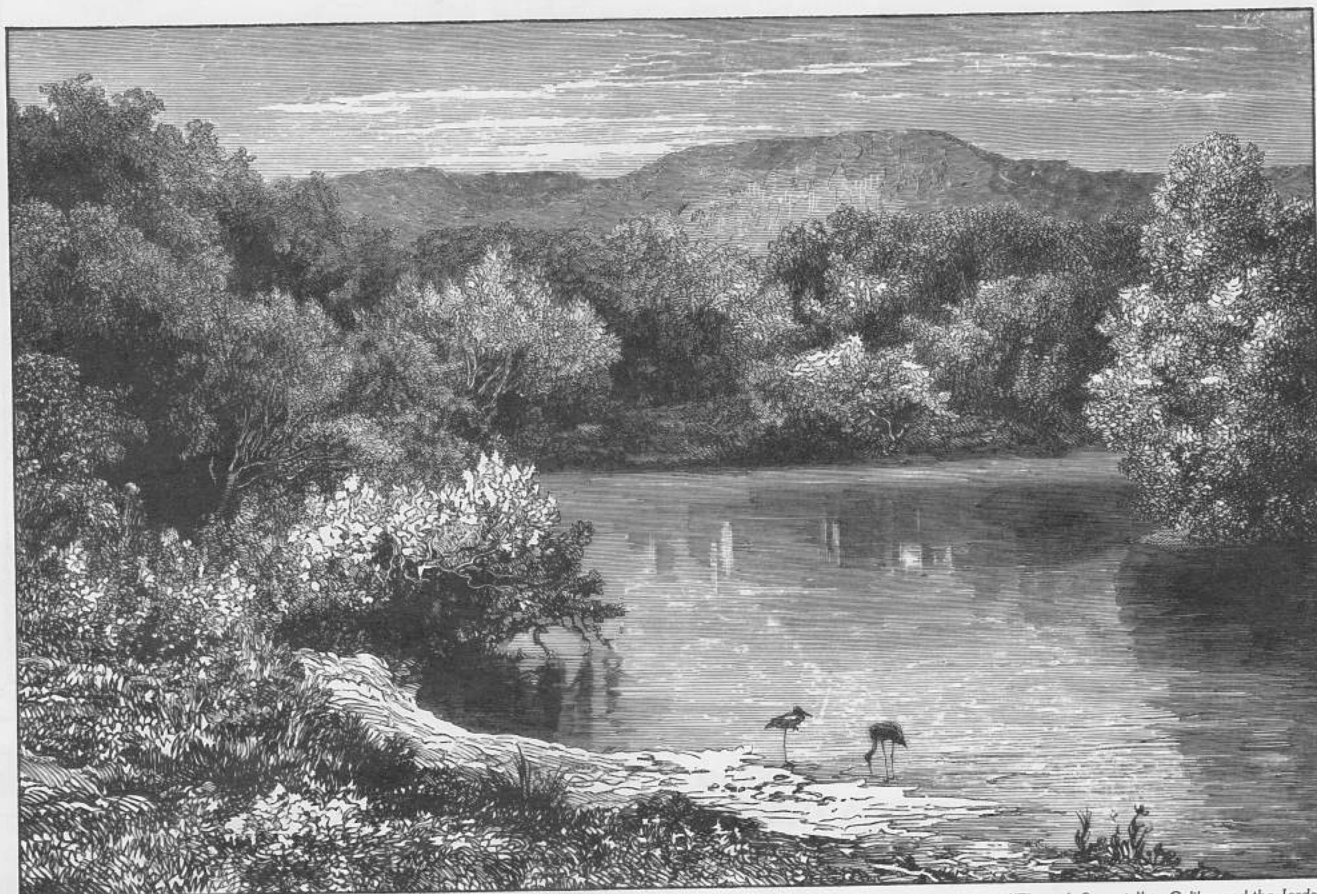
f

The Lord fed the five thousand near the outskirts of this village.

n

Christ performed most of His miracles in this region.

- a. Mount Gerizim
- b. Capernaum
- c. Bethany
- d. Dead Sea
- e. Samaria
- f. Bethsaida
- g. Caesarea Philippi
- h. Horns of Hattin
- i. Cana
- j. Jordan River
- k. Bethlehem
- l. Jerusalem
- m. Nazareth
- n. Galilee



"Through Samaria" to Galilee and the Jordan

Christ's public ministry began when He was baptized in the Jordan River. It was here that His heavenly Father acknowledged Him, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove.

Match the proper region or city to the corresponding description.

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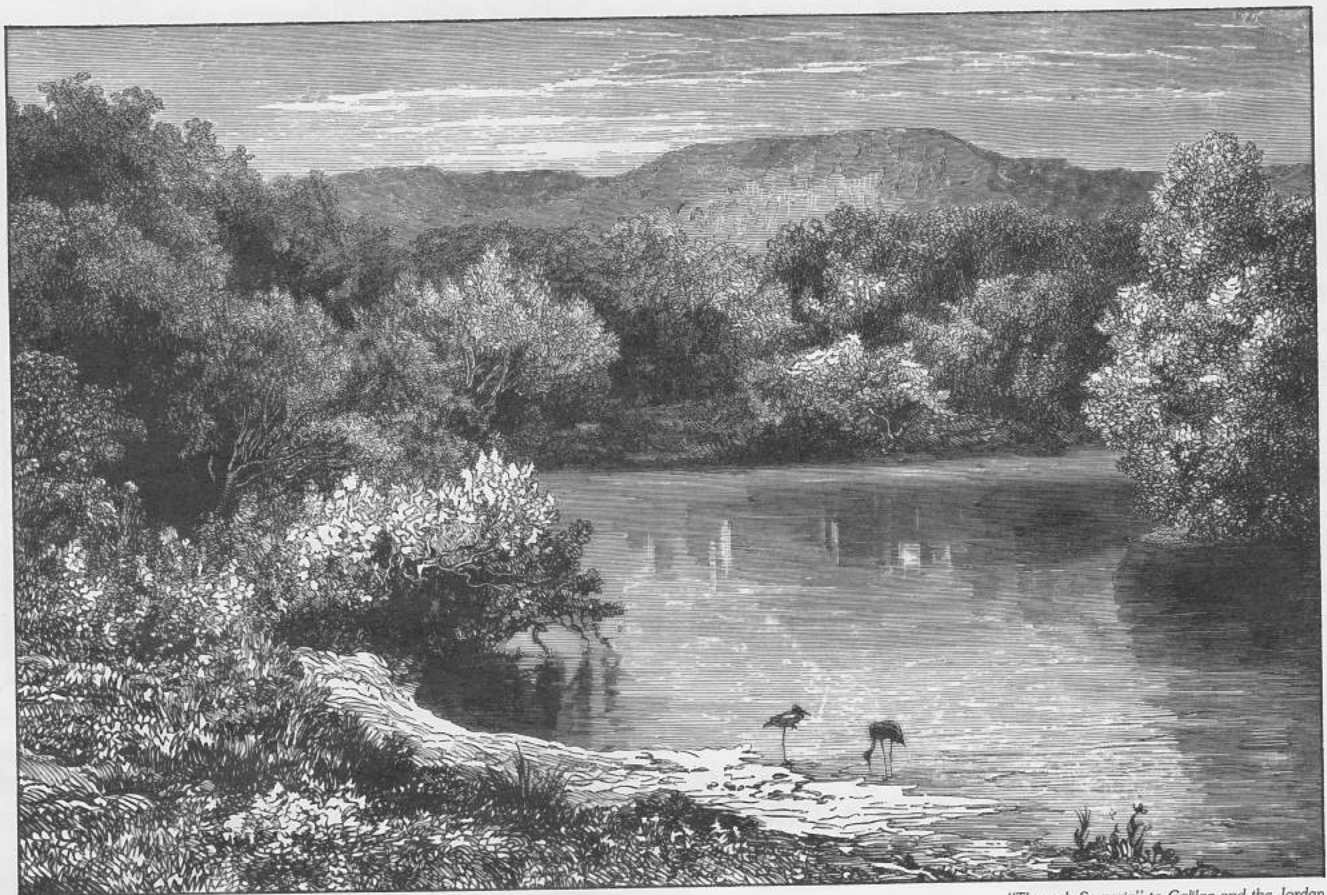
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- h. Horns of Hattin
- i. Cana
- j. Jordan River
- k. Bethlehem
- l. Jerusalem
- m. Nazareth
- n. Galilee



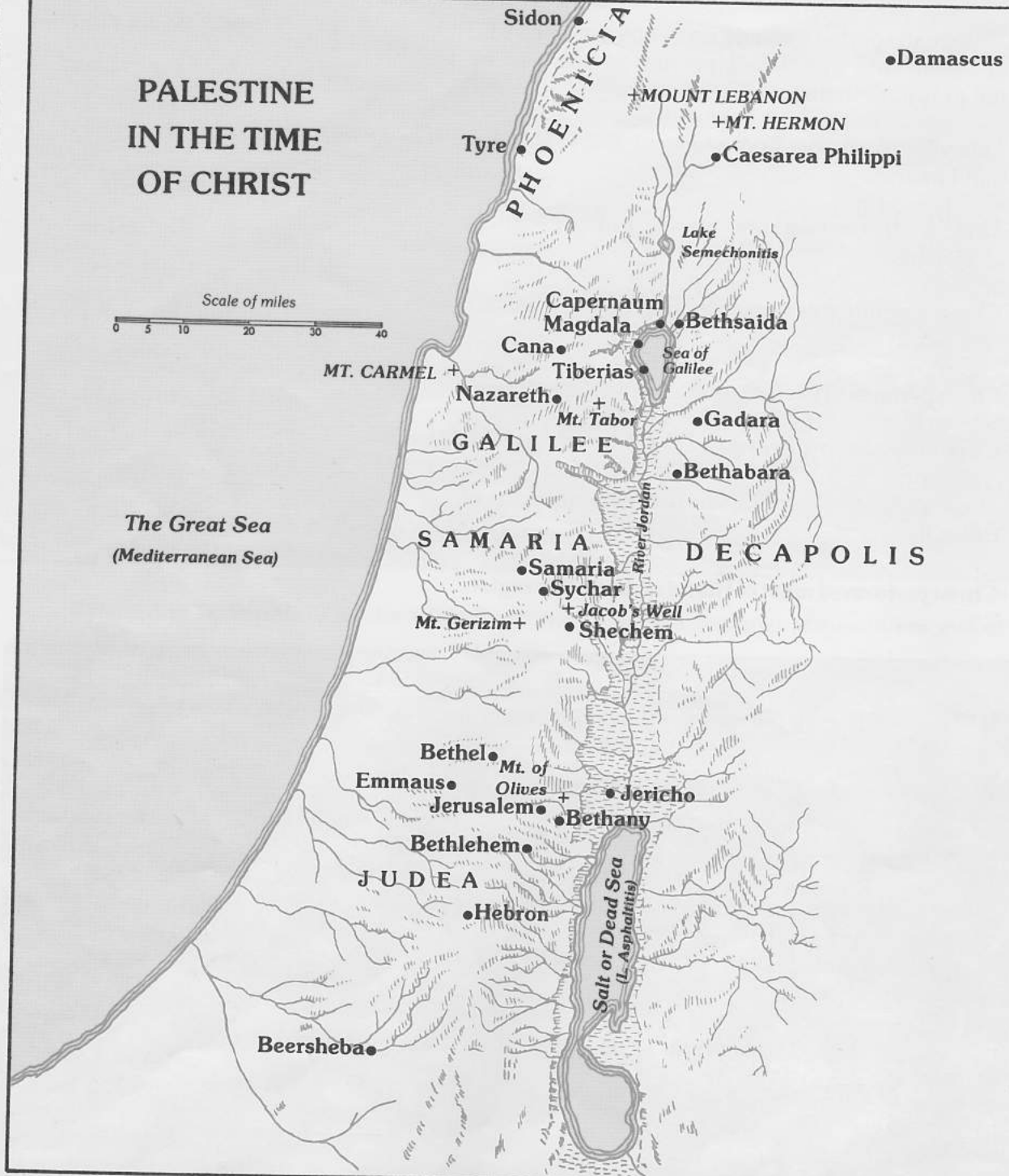
"Through Samaria" to Galilee and the Jordan

Christ's public ministry began when He was baptized in the Jordan River. It was here that His heavenly Father acknowledged Him, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove.

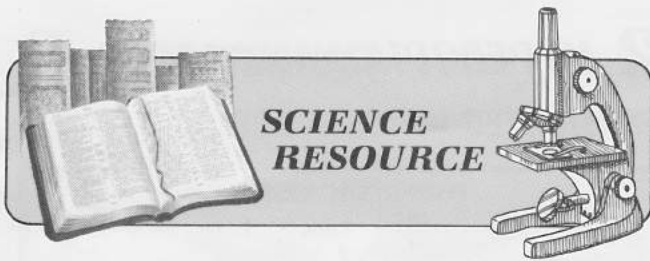
PALESTINE IN THE TIME OF CHRIST

Scale of miles
0 5 10 20 30 40

The Great Sea
(Mediterranean Sea)

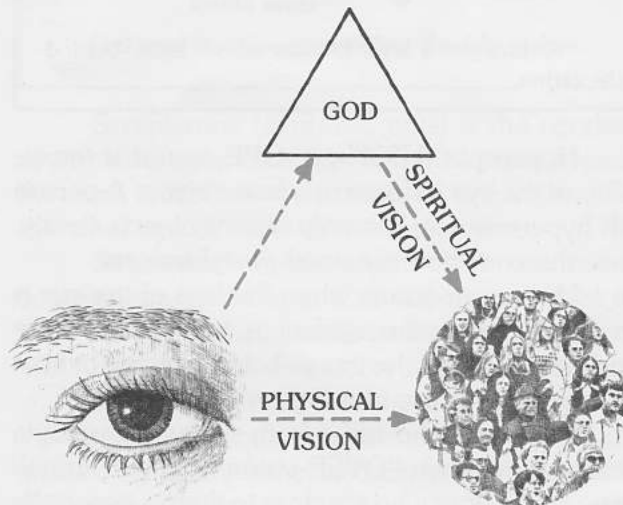


Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



SCIENCE RESOURCE

HOW DOES GOD RELATE OUR SPIRITUAL VISION TO OUR PHYSICAL VISION?



When Jesus saw the multitudes, He viewed them through His physical eyes and also through His spiritual eyes. When He saw that His disciples did not do the same thing, He reproved them by saying, “Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?” (Mark 8:18).

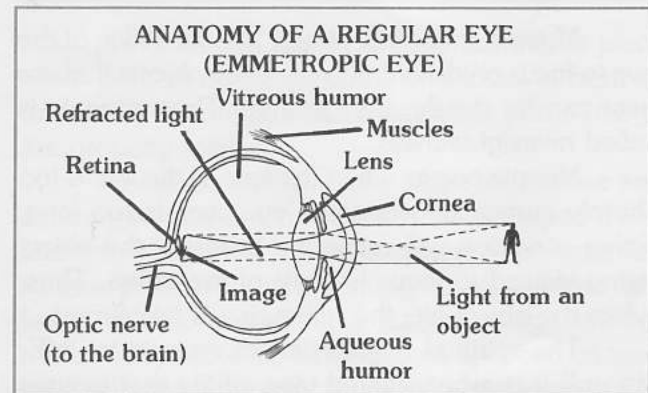
Later in His ministry, Jesus explained why He spoke to the mixed multitude in parables: “. . . Because they seeing [with their physical eyes] see not [with their spiritual eyes]; . . . their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see . . .” (Matthew 13:13–16).

HOW DOES THE EYE ACTUALLY SEE?

The eye does not really see objects. It actually sees light reflected or originated by objects. In order for a person to see, light rays entering his eye must be spread apart. These rays must then be bent together four times to form an accurate image on the retina of the eye. When light is bent, it forms an image; this process is called *focusing*. An image that is “in focus” has sharp, crisp edges. When it is “out of focus,” the image is fuzzy.

The eye bends light using a series of curved surfaces and liquids which have different optical densities. The first curved surface is called the *cornea*. It has no blood vessels so that it may be completely transparent. The cornea receives oxygen directly from the air and nutrients from a clear liquid called the *aqueous* (AY-kwee-us) *humor*.

Both the front and back of the cornea must be perfectly smooth. Any irregularities in the cornea create problems with vision. As light passes through the back side of the cornea into the aqueous humor, it bends a second time.



Light bends a third time as it leaves the aqueous humor and passes into the *lens*. The lens is composed of transparent layers of protein arranged like the layers of an onion. Since the lens is curved, it also bends light. But, unlike the cornea, the lens of the eye is adjustable. It changes shape automatically to bring the light of objects into focus. If only a little bending is required, the lens flattens out. If more bending is required, it becomes rounder.

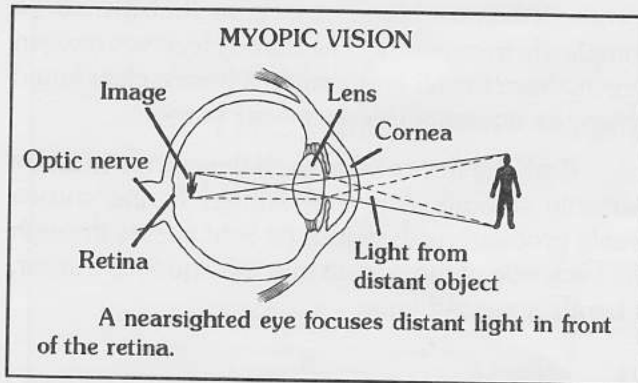
A final bending occurs as light leaves the lens and enters a liquid called the *vitreous* (VIT-ree-us) *humor*. If the curvature of the four surfaces through which the light has passed is perfect, that light will focus precisely on the back surface of the eyeball at the *retina* (RETn-ah). If any of the four surfaces are irregular, the image becomes blurred.

HOW DO EYE IRREGULARITIES GIVE US INSIGHT ABOUT OUR SPIRITUAL VISION?

Since God refers to physical eyes and spiritual eyes interchangeably, we are also able to compare the irregularities of our physical eyesight with irregularities of our spiritual eyesight.

1. MYOPIA

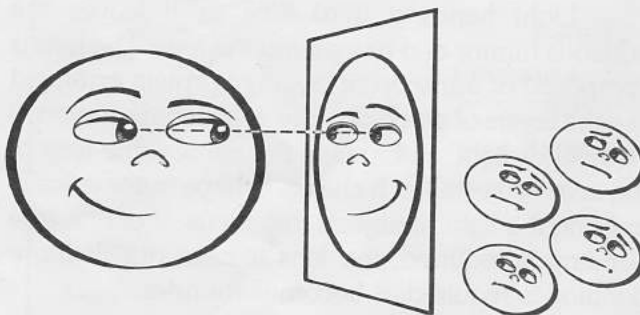
NEARSIGHTED VISION



Myopia (my-OPE-ee-uh) is the inability of the eye to focus on distant objects. Only objects that are near can be clearly distinguished. Thus, myopia is called *nearsightedness*.

Myopia occurs when the lens of the eye is too sharply curved or when the eye itself is too long. Either condition will cause the image of the object being viewed to focus in front of the retina. Thus, when the object hits the retina, it will be blurred.

The spiritual counterpart of myopia is "ME-vision." It is a nearsighted view of life that focuses only on the things that affect me.



MY-OPIA = "ME-VISION"

Paul defines the spiritual irregularity of myopia in Scripture. "For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's" (Philippians 2:21).

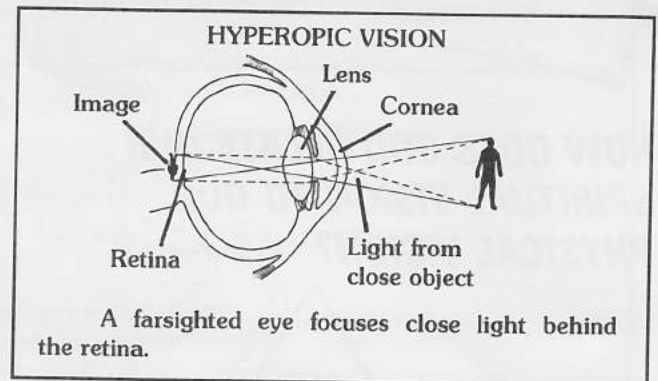
Myopic (my-OPP-ik) Christians are self-centered. They do not see clearly the needs of those who are outside their own little world.

Peter explains the cause of spiritual myopia in II Peter 1:1-10. Myopic believers are those who have failed to add to their faith the character qualities of virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, Godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. "... He that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off. ..."

A myopic Christian is wise in his own eyes, but foolish in God's sight. He is vain in his imaginations and cannot see the perils that face him in the future.

2. HYPEROPIA

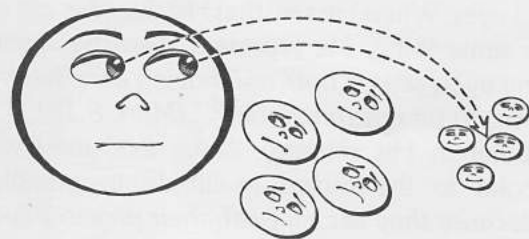
FARSIGHTED VISION



Hyperopia (HIGH-per-OPE-ee-uh) is the inability of the eye to focus on close objects. A person with hyperopia can see only distant objects clearly. Thus, the condition is named *farsightedness*.

Hyperopia occurs when the lens of the eye is too flat or when the eyeball is too short. These conditions result in the image being focused behind the retina and cause blurring on the retina.

Christians who suffer from spiritual hyperopia are those who have "OVER-vision." They overlook the needs of those who are close to them—especially those of their own family members.



HYPER-OPIA = "OVER-VISION"

If a man gives to the needs of other people but fails to provide for his own wife and children, he has a problem of spiritual hyperopia. God warns that this is a serious condition:

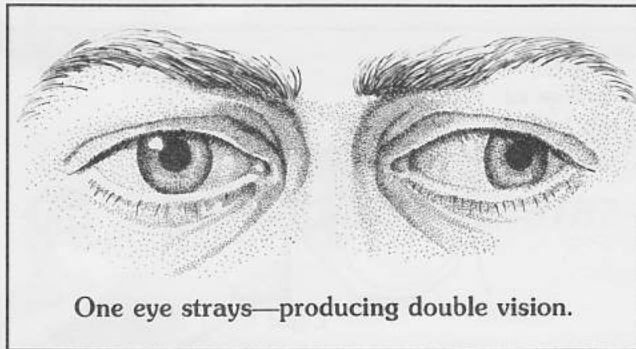
"But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel" (I Timothy 5:8).

A further manifestation of spiritual hyperopia is the inability to see one's own faults, while clearly seeing the faults of others. Jesus identified this eye deficiency and explained how to deal with it:

"And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?" "Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye" (Matthew 7:3, 5).

3. STRABISMUS

"LAZY EYE" VISION



Strabismus (struh-BIZ-mus) is the condition in which the eyes do not focus on the same object at the same time. One eye focuses on one object while the other eye deviates to another object.

Strabismus results from lack of muscle coordination in the eye. The stronger muscles will keep one eye in focus, while the weaker muscles will allow the other eye to wander inward or outward.

When strabismus occurs, the messages that the deviate eye sends to the brain create confusion and will ultimately force the brain to determine which messages to accept.

Spiritual strabismus takes place when we have one eye focused on the Lord and the other eye focused on the world.



STRABISMUS = STRAYING VISION

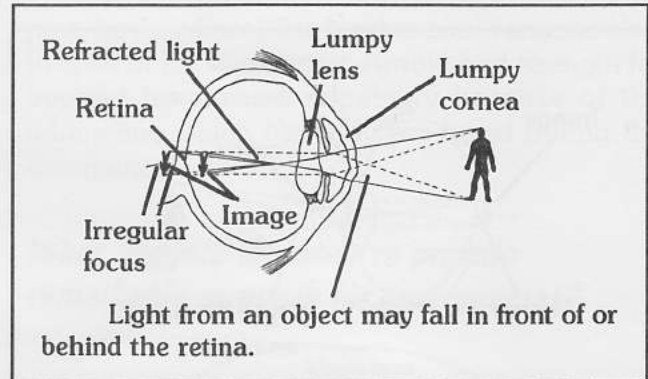
Spiritual strabismus is trying to serve two masters. It is attempting to love God and the world at the same time. God defines it as double-mindedness. A double-minded Christian will be unstable in all his ways. (See James 1:8.)

A strabismic Christian has a love of the world which has weakened his spiritual muscles. His double vision causes confusion in his spirit. If this condition is allowed to continue, the lazy eye soon becomes useless to the vital function of spiritual sight.

If we are to correct spiritual strabismus, we must give special disciplines and training to the weaker eye. To begin these disciplines, we must make a covenant with the eye as Job did. (See Job 31:1.) Based on the covenant, we must follow Proverbs 4:25: "Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee."

4. ASTIGMATISM

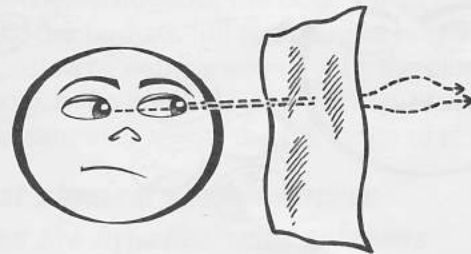
IRREGULAR VISION



Astigmatism (uh-STIG-muh-tizm) takes place when parts of an image come into focus in front of or behind the retina while other parts of the image are properly focused.

This abnormality results when the cornea has a lumpy surface or when the cornea is shaped more like a football than a perfect sphere. The irregular surface bends the light coming through it into different angles, producing a blurred image on the retina. Only perfectly smooth lens and cornea surfaces will allow the light to be refracted properly.

Spiritual astigmatism is a condition from which we all suffer because of our fallen nature. Adam and Eve saw clearly every object as well as the glory of God. When they sinned, something happened to their eyes. They no longer saw as they once did. (See Genesis 3:7.)



ASTIGMA-TISM = "A STUNTED VISION"

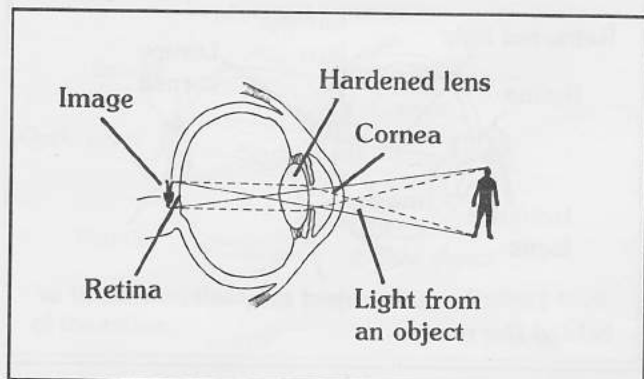
Paul describes the spiritual astigmatism that afflicts all of us (until we receive our new eyes in heaven) by saying, "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face . . ." (I Corinthians 13:12).

When we become Christians, we pass from spiritual blindness to spiritual sight. However, God wants us to increase our spiritual vision. We can do this as we look into the perfect mirror of God's Law and obey it by God's grace. (See James 1:25.)

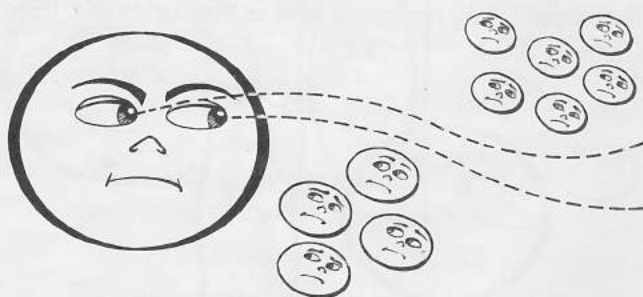
Tears of true repentance aid in the healing of spiritual astigmatism. "... A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 51:17).

5. PRESBYOPIA

NEARSIGHTED AND FARSIGHTED VISION



Presbyopia (PREZ-be-OPE-ee-uh) is the condition of a hardened lens which loses its elasticity. It is a common companion of middle age and its only treatment is corrective lenses. The word *presbyopia* is a derivative of the same Greek word from which we get the word *presbyter*, which means "elder." The problem of presbyopia is associated with middle and old age. About age ten, the lens of the eye may begin to harden. This process continues until approximately age fifty-five. The hardened lens is then unable to become round enough to bend the light from close objects.



PRESBY-OPIA = "HARDENED-VISION"

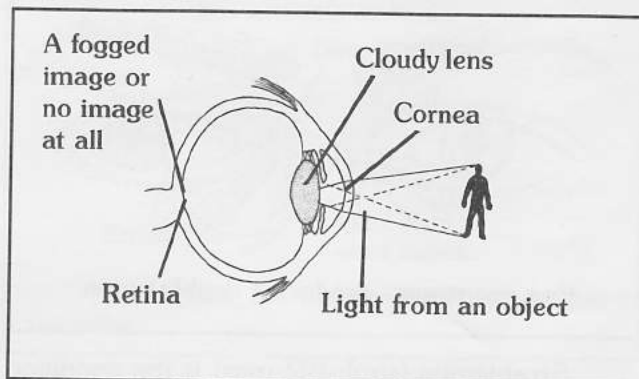
Often a Christian who has made a good beginning in the Christian life will be tempted to become resistant to the Lord. He will then not instantly obey the Scriptural promptings of the Holy Spirit and will develop spiritual presbyopia.

Christians who experience this spiritual problem have begun to lose their first love for the Lord, whether they realize it or not. (See Revelation 2:4.)

When we become hardened toward the Lord, we also become hardened toward those around us, whether they are close or distant. (See I John 3:17.)

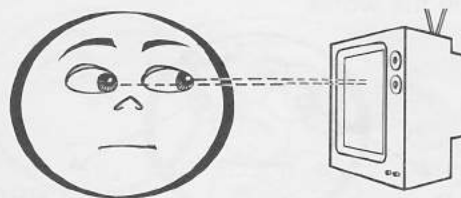
6. CATARACTS

BLOCKED VISION



A **cataract** (KAT-uh-rakt) is also a result of normal aging, but it may also be caused by injury or disease. The lens turns cloudy and blocks the light passing through to the retina.

Once a lens becomes cloudy, it is not able to repair itself. The only way to restore sight is to surgically remove the cloudy lens. Once the cataract is removed, the eye will have vision; however, it will no longer be able to see objects equally well at all distances. Corrective lenses must take the place of the missing lens.



CATA-RACTS = "CLOUDED VISION"

When the Christian sets before his eyes the evil of the world, his spiritual vision will become clouded and eventually he will be in spiritual darkness. For this reason, David declared, "... I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes..." (Psalm 101:2-3).

SUMMARY PROJECTS

- Have someone give you the name of a vision irregularity and you draw the face that illustrates it. Practice until you can draw all six conditions.
- Discuss one personal example in your own life of each spiritual vision deficiency and how you can correct it.

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____

MEDICINE RESOURCE

HOW DOES OUR SIGHT AFFECT OUR STRENGTH?



In the face of an emergency, decisions must be made clearly and quickly, and the body must be brought to full alert without delay. Both conditions are accomplished simultaneously by the body's nervous system. The central nervous system handles the decision making, and the autonomic nervous system prepares the body for action.

While the brain is deciding whether to stand firm or to turn and flee, the autonomic nervous system prepares the body to do either. Without conscious awareness, the body "goes on alert." The liver increases the amount of sugar in the blood. Heart rate increases, the digestive system is shut down, and all available blood is diverted to the skeletal muscles. The pupil of the eye widens to let more light into the eye.

How could a man with a weak heart lift 1,800 pounds?

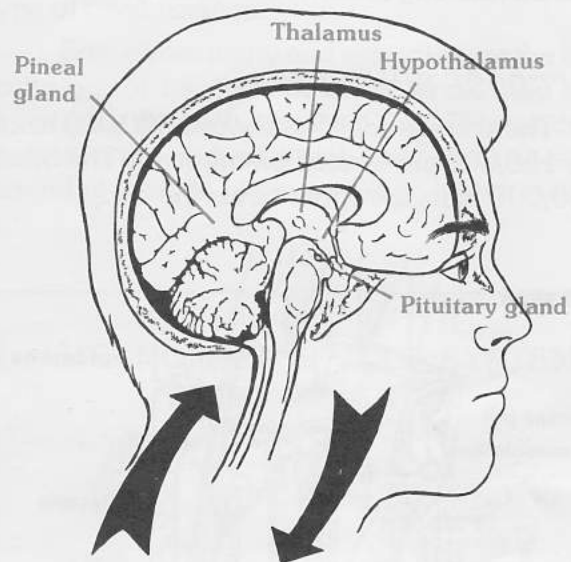
Several years ago, a man named Arnold had a heart attack. After he recovered, the doctor told him not to pick up heavy objects.

But one day Arnold saw a five-year-old boy playing in some cast iron pipes. An eighteen-foot-long pipe rolled, and the boy tumbled under it. The pipe, weighing 1,800 pounds, rested on the trapped boy's head.

Without giving his heart problem a thought, Arnold ran over and lifted the pipe. As he held it up, some girls pulled the little boy free.

When Arnold went back to try to pick up the pipe, he could not lift it. Neither could anyone else. In spite of his weak heart, Arnold had strength far beyond his normal capability because of the adrenaline which his body produced during the emergency.

What triggers the body to provide remarkable strength for emergencies?



In a threatening circumstance the *hypothalamus* (HIGH-poe-THAL-uh-mus) triggers responses throughout the body which bring every inch of the body to full alert. These responses can be initiated by a single sound or by the glimpse of a shadow. Even the mere anticipation of something unpleasant may trigger the full range of responses.

What physical changes occur when the hypothalamus releases adrenaline?

1. "WHITE WITH FRIGHT"

Fright is often associated with a pale face. The pallor is the result of *vasoconstrictors* (VASS-oh-cun-STRIK-ter) which reduce the diameter of blood vessels in the skin. As these surface vessels shrink, the skin turns pale from the reduced flow of blood.

Vasoconstrictors limit the volume of blood flowing near the surface of the body, making more blood available to the skeletal muscles. This also helps prevent bleeding in the event there are superficial wounds.

Less blood near the surface also means less heat loss. This change in circulation conserves precious energy for more important functions and greatly increases endurance.

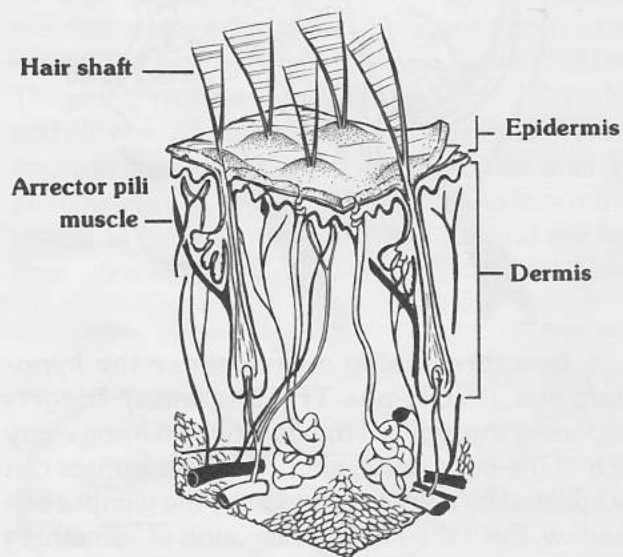
2. "BIG EYES"

When threatened, the body automatically dilates the pupils of the eye, allowing more light to enter the eye and stimulating the cones of the retina to see more detail.

The eyelids also open wider, giving a "wide-eyed look." Both responses improve eyesight and allow the body to avoid obstacles while fleeing and to see threatening attacks more clearly.

3. "GOOSE BUMPS"

The average adult has about 5,000,000 hairs. Only 150,000 are located on the scalp. The other 4,850,000 hairs are spread over the body.



The arrector pili muscles contract to make hairs stand straight up. The bulges made by these tiny muscles are called "goose bumps." Goose bumps raise an armor of hairs which helps control heat loss and protects the skin against minor scrapes and scratches.

Each hair is surrounded by a tiny muscle called the *arrector pili* (uh-REK-tor PIE-lee). Normally a hair lies down at an angle; but when the body prepares for action, these muscles contract and lift each hair into a vertical position, almost like soldiers coming to attention. As each arrector pili muscle contracts, it forms a small bump at the base of the hair. Together these bumps are called "goose bumps."

The purpose of "goose bumps" is to insulate

the body from heat loss during cold weather. In warm weather they serve as tiny cooling towers. Each hair acts like a wick to increase the evaporation of perspiration.

4. "RUNAWAY HEART"

Heart rate is controlled by two chemical substances that either accelerate or slow down the heart. To make the heart beat faster, nerve impulses from the hypothalamus travel through the brain stem and down the spine to the heart. There they cause the release of *norepinephrine* (NOR-ep-uh-NEF-rin) which stimulates the heart to beat faster and stronger. This heart action increases blood pressure.

To slow the heart down, impulses travel from the hypothalamus to the heart through the *vagus* (VAY-gus) nerve and cause the release of a chemical called *acetylcholine* (UH-set-el-KOE-leen). This causes the heart to slow down and decreases blood pressure.

Norepinephrine and acetylcholine work together like the accelerator and brakes of a car to keep the heart beating at just the right rate. For a quick start, the accelerator may be floored, creating a sudden burst of acceleration. If the car goes too fast, the driver removes his foot from the accelerator and applies the brakes.

The blood pumped by a "runaway heart" supplies extra oxygen to the muscles for use in times of emergency.

5. "STOMACH KNOTS"

The same vasoconstrictors that shrink the blood vessels of the skin also shrink the blood vessels that surround the large and small intestines. During stress the whole digestive system is shut down, leaving partially digested food to wait until the crisis is over.

Gas trapped in the intestines when the system shuts down may form painful pockets that feel like the stomach has been tied in knots.

6. "DRY MOUTH"

Stress also stimulates the body to conserve water. This conservation is accomplished through the hypothalamus which prompts the posterior pituitary gland to release ADH or antidiuretic (AN-ti-DIE-yu-RET-ik) hormone. As ADH flows into the blood stream, it causes the kidneys to retain water, reduces the production of urine, and restricts the flow of saliva in the mouth. The lack of saliva results in a dry mouth.

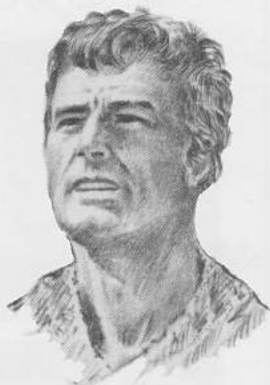
7. "SECOND WIND"

Several factors may combine to give the feeling of a second wind. During times of stress the

hypothalamus stimulates the adrenal glands to produce *epinephrine* (adrenaline). Epinephrine is a *vasodilator* (VASS-oh-dih-LAY-ter). In the lungs it expands the bronchioles so that more oxygen can be inhaled. It also mobilizes the liver to increase the level of sugar in the blood. This process creates instantly available energy, which the muscles need for endurance.

As a vasodilator, epinephrine also opens the blood vessels of the skeletal muscles allowing them to receive more blood. All three factors combine to create a surge of energy that is often called the "second wind."

How did David indicate that he experienced the physical effects of the hypothalamus?



Match each column.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. White with fright | <input type="checkbox"/> In the strength of the Lord (Psalm 71:16) |
| 2. Runaway heart | <input type="checkbox"/> More than the hairs of my head (Psalm 40:12) |
| 3. Goose bumps | <input type="checkbox"/> Preserve my life from fear (Psalm 64:1) |
| 4. Dry mouth | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart pained within me (Psalm 55:4) |
| 5. Second wind | <input type="checkbox"/> My throat is dried (Psalm 69:3) |

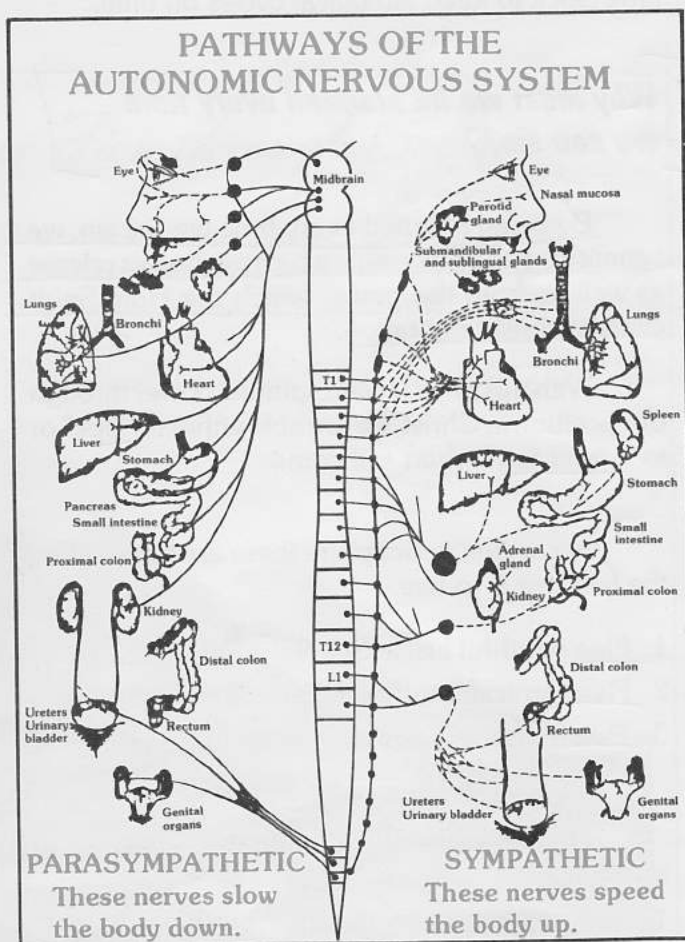


How can the flow of adrenaline be turned off?

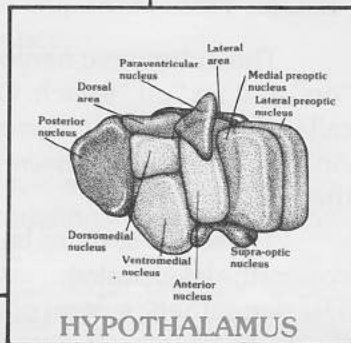
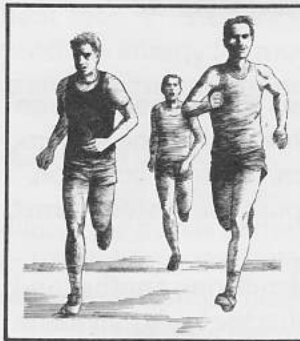
The autonomic nervous system has both an "on" and an "off" switch. One part of the system, called the *sympathetic* system, turns the body "on." Another part, the *parasympathetic* system, turns the body "off."

These two systems balance one another and control the level of alertness that the body maintains. The sympathetic system pumps the body up, while the parasympathetic system gently slows it down. They keep the body in perfect balance for every type of circumstance.

Sometimes worry and anxiety cause the body to be out of balance. Constant stress may keep flipping the sympathetic switch "on." This condition maintains the body at a high level of alertness for extended periods of time, causing hypertension.



Both sympathetic and parasympathetic activities of the autonomic nervous system are controlled by the hypothalamus.



The hypothalamus is located in the lower center of the brain. Even though it is smaller than your little finger, it not only controls much of the autonomic nervous system, it also regulates the secretions of the anterior pituitary gland, triggers the release of adrenaline, acts as a thermostat to adjust body temperature, regulates hunger and thirst, controls waking and sleeping, and serves as a time clock to keep biological cycles on time.

Why must we be alarmed every time we see sin?

By being alarmed every time we see sin, we benefit from the adrenaline which our bodies release as well as from the power which the Holy Spirit gives to resist temptation.

With this physical and spiritual power through our position in Christ, we are able either to "flee" or to "stand fast" when evil comes.

According to Scripture there are times when the believer is to flee.

1. Flee youthful lusts. (See II Timothy 2:22.)
2. Flee fornication. (See I Corinthians 6:18.)
3. Flee from the temptation to rebuke a fool. (See Proverbs 9:6-12.)

There are also times when the believer is to stand firm.

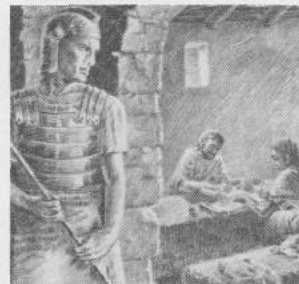
1. Stand firm against the wiles of the devil. (See Ephesians 6:11.)
2. Stand firm in the liberty of the Gospel. (See Galatians 5:1.)
3. Stand firm in the work of the Lord. (See Galatians 6:9; I Corinthians 15:58.)

PAUL: AN EXAMPLE OF SPIRITUAL READINESS TO STAND OR FLEE



How did Paul respond in each of the following situations?

- Death plot by Damascus Jews ☒ Flee ☐ Stand (See Acts 9:23-26.)



- Mob action in Iconium ☒ Flee ☐ Stand (See Acts 14:1-7.)



- Mob action in Lystra ☐ Flee ☒ Stand (See Acts 14:8-20.)

- Attack in Thessalonica ☒ Flee ☐ Stand (See Acts 17:5-10.)

- Uprising of silversmiths ☒ Flee ☐ Stand (See Acts 19:29-20:2.)



- Accusation in the Temple ☐ Flee ☒ Stand (See Acts 21:27-36.)

- Conspiracy of forty men ☒ Flee ☐ Stand (See Acts 23:16-30.)

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____