

KEYNOTES OF SCRIPTURE (#3)

Introduction

I. MEMORY VERSE: **Psalm 119:97**

II. This lesson brings our study of the “keynotes of Scripture” to a close as well as ends this Bible study.

Thank you for participating in this class the last few weeks.

Discussion

I. ESTHER:

A. Keynote: “Providence”

1. Within this book, we see intrigue, betrayal, attempted murder, conspiracy, as well as love, faith, courage, and justice. This book also has a “happy ending.”
2. Can you name some of the “main characters” in this book? _____
3. While the hand of God is seen on almost every page, _____ is never found in the book!

B. The pivotal chapter in this book is Esther 4. Explain what happened there: _____

C. Thanks to God’s providence, the Jews were spared from certain death, and Haman was executed.

II. JOB-SONG OF SOLOMON:

A. Keynote: “Wisdom”

B. Each book in its own way contrasts the wisdom of God with the wisdom of men.

1. In **Job**, we see that sometimes godly people suffer hardships, though they have done nothing to deserve it. The wisdom of God is seen quite clearly in the last few chapters of Job when God speaks to Job of creation, and of the world He controls.
2. In **Psalms**, probably the most obvious example of this is Psalm 119, where David said he was _____ than _____ because he _____. (v. 98-100)
3. **Proverbs** speaks freely of God’s wisdom, declaring how wisdom “cries out” to foolish men (8:1-4). Solomon speaks as a father to a son, stating the necessity of getting wisdom. The _____ man is the one who gets wisdom (3:13)!
5. While **Ecclesiastes** deals primarily with life “under the sun” (phrase used 29 times), the conclusion of the book (and of life) interests us: _____
6. **Song of Solomon** confuses some, but put simply, it is a book recording the love a husband has for a wife. Some suggest that it is the love Solomon himself has for his bride.
 - a. From this, the spiritual application has been made that this book describes the pure love Christ (groom/husband) has for His church (bride/wife). See also: Ephesians 5:22-33
 - b. Wisdom is seen in God’s plan for marriage (one man and one woman for life). We also see wisdom when we consider Christ and the church (which was in God’s mind from eternity, Ephesians 3:10-11).

III. MAJOR/MINOR PROPHETS:

A. Keynote: “Deliverance”

B. A consistent point we see in the prophetic books is that of deliverance (physical and spiritual)!

1. Prophets from various backgrounds cried out against folks’ sins, calling for them to return to the Lord. Prophets cried out for the peoples’ repentance so that God would bless them, and continued this message until He sent the heathen nations to punish them (Ex: Ezekiel, Jeremiah, etc.). After this, the peoples’ repentance was required so that God would spare the “remnant” and they could return to their homeland! (Ex: Isaiah 10:21-22, 35:3-10; Jeremiah 24, 29:1-10; etc.).
2. At the same time, through these prophets, God promised a Savior that would come in the future

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(Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 11:1, 53; Daniel 7:13-14; Ezekiel 21:24-27; etc.).

3. Many of the “major” and “minor” prophets were quoted by Jesus and the apostles.

IV. THE GOSPEL RECORDS AND ACTS:

A. Keynote: “Christ has come”

1. The four gospel records proclaim, “Christ is here with us!” (Matthew 1:23, 2:1, 16:16; etc.)

They record the life of Christ on earth, His death, burial, and resurrection for the remission of man’s sin.

2. The book of Acts points folks back to those times, saying, “Christ has come to earth and has gone back to Heaven!” (Acts 13:29-31, 17:18, 31; etc.)

B. Here, we begin reading the “eyewitness testimony” from folks who saw Jesus, heard Him speak, and followed His will (Ex: I John 1:1; II Peter 1:16; Acts 1:3).

V. EPISTLES:

A. Keynote: “Faithfulness to Christ”

B. The twenty-one epistles (to churches and individuals) speak to the responsibility each one has as a result of being redeemed from sin because of Christ and His sacrifice!

VI. REVELATION:

A. Keynote: “Victory in Christ” or “Overcoming With Christ” (See: Revelation 17:14)

B. The book of Revelation confuses many because they wish to interpret this book in light of what they see in current events. This is a mistake!

1. A well-grounded and strong foundation in the Old Testament is what is necessary for understanding this book!

2. This book was written “to” the seven churches in Asia (1:4, 11), and points them (and us) to victory in Christ.

3. The “*called ... chosen ... and faithful*” will “*overcome*” with the Lamb (Revelation 17:14). Who are the “*called,*” “*chosen,*” and “*faithful*”? It is those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ (Revelation 1:5)!

ASSIGNMENT: (These assignments are a little different this week. After question #2, each question directly relates to the points made in this lesson.)

1. Do you know ALL the books of the Bible? Do you know the sons of Israel? Do you know the Judges? Do you know the apostles?
2. Do you remember some of the keynotes from previous books we have studied?
3. Can we see God’s providence in the life of our Savior? Name some examples.
4. In light of Job-Song of Solomon, consider Paul’s words in I Corinthians 1:18-31. Paul said God’s wisdom surpasses _____
5. Name some “major” and “minor” prophets quoted by Jesus and the apostles.
6. What is the value of reading “eyewitness testimony” concerning an event? How many writers in the New Testament saw Christ before, during, and after His resurrection? How many did Paul say saw Christ after His resurrection?
7. Can you name some churches Paul wrote to whose beginnings were recorded in the book of Acts?

Final Thought: I hope these lessons will be helpful in building you up in the faith, and increasing your familiarity with the Bible as a whole! May God bless you as you strive to serve Him daily!

- Jarrod Jacobs