

Faith, Works and the Reward

A Discipleship Study

Part VI

Understanding the Reward on Offer to Christians

II John 1:8 Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.

In the past two sections of this Discipleship study we have spent a good bit of time looking at *the faith required by Christians* as it relates to the full scope of our salvation, as well as the fact that Christians are to *work out their own salvation in fear and trembling*. Of course, this all relates to the Judgment Seat of Christ wherein Christ will mete out the just recompense according to each ones work. In this section we will delve into exactly what the reward is for those who are found faithful.

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Part VI — UNDERSTANDING THE REWARD ON OFFER TO CHRISTIANS

Lesson One: Let's Study the Topic

NOTES:

Revelation 22:12 “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”

Based upon what this passage says, Who is speaking, and how do you know?

What will Jesus bring when He comes?

According to this passage, how will He give out this reward?

For the past months we have been doing a *discipleship* study with a focus on *faith, works and reward*. Initially, you may have wondered why we would focus on these three inter-related topics and call it a “discipleship” study. I hope you have come to see that God’s ultimate will for His people is that ó in the end ó they will receive

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the reward of their inheritance. What better way to make disciples than to teach them what God's ultimate goal is for them!

So what does the reward that Jesus will bring with Him have to do with? We have looked at this passage several times, but one more time might be expedient: **Colossians 3:23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.** And to see specifically what the inheritance has to do with we could couple this passage with **Matthew 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world'**

So from looking at these two passages together, what would you say the reward is?

And then, to more fully understand the truth about the reward of the inheritance from a Scriptural standpoint, we would have to come to the realization that there is a potential of a negative reward for God's people. If a disciple of Christ did not know that, then he would be on a shaky foundation. How would we be able to see it even from the three passages that we have read in this lesson already it that there might be a negative reward?

If you were to do a *word search* in the Bible looking up the phrase *inherit the kingdom* you would come up three passages other than Matthew 25:34 (printed above). Here are the three other passages wherein this phrase is used. This first passage uses the phrase twice: **I Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.**

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I Corinthians 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

What do we learn about inheriting the kingdom in these four verses?

Can you see that there is a negative reward as well as a positive?

For the remainder of this lesson, we will do something that we have not done before. This will be a *partial* exercise in *studying* the Bible on the particular topic of *reward*. I am having you do this exercise as part of the overall scope of discipleship, because discipling someone would also include helping that person to learn some good techniques of basic Bible study. Here, there will be no questions asked (until the very end), but rather the laying out of one type of exercise in studying a particular topic within God's Word.

At this point in our study, we have seen enough to know that God will reward His people according their works. So now it's time to cement this truth in your understanding through your own personal study of the topic. (Depending on how much personal study you have done previously, this may or may not be comfortable for you to do. But give it a try anyway, as it will be a good exercise for all of us.)

(As was pointed out on the WELCOME page, there are a few free Bible study helps offered online that are very good. You might find one of these helps helpful in doing word studies:

- www.blueletterbible.org
- www.olivetree.com
- www.onlinebible.net)

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Below are all the passages from both testaments that specifically have the English word *reward* within them. I did not take out passages that are not dealing with the ultimate reward for actions in a person's life, as I want you to do the work of deciphering the verses. Nor did I add other passages that deal with our ultimate reward ó only using other words, as I figured you might come up with some cross references in your own study.

First, read through the complete list of verses below at one time. Do that now.

After you have read through the entire list, go back through the list looking for the three or four verses that show that God will ultimately reward His people for what we have done in this life. Study each of these verses out. For each one you choose, underline the word reward, then look to see if there is a condition mentioned in order to receive that reward. Also, notice if there is a word that *quantifies* the reward, and make note of it. Next, look up the context of the verse, making notes at the right of what you learn. Also, you might want to look up cross references of these verses and use the space below that particular verse to write what you find. So let's begin!

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

Numbers 18:31 'You may eat it in any place, you and your households, for it is your reward for your work in the tabernacle of meeting.

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Ruth 2:12 “The LORD repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.”

I Samuel 24:19 “For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him get away safely? Therefore may the LORD reward you with good for what you have done to me this day.

II Samuel 4:10 “when someone told me, saying, ‘Look, Saul is dead,’ thinking to have brought good news, I arrested him and had him executed in Ziklag-the one who thought I would give him a reward for his news.

II Samuel 19:36 “Your servant will go a little way across the Jordan with the king. And why should the king repay me with such a reward?

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I Kings 13:7 Then the king said to the man of God, “Come home with me and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward.”

Job 15:31 Let him not trust in futile things, deceiving himself,
For futility will be his reward.

Job 34:11 For He repays man according to his work, And makes
man to find a reward according to his way.

Psalms 19:11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And
in keeping them there is great reward.

Psalms 35:12 They reward me evil for good, To the sorrow of
my soul.

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Psalms 58:11 So that men will say, “Surely there is a reward for the righteous; Surely He is God who judges in the earth.”

Psalms 91:8 Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.

Psalms 109:20 Let this be the LORD’S reward to my accusers, And to those who speak evil against my person.

Psalms 127:3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

Proverbs 11:18 The wicked man does deceptive work, But he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward.

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Proverbs 25:22 For so you will heap coals of fire on his head,
And the LORD will reward you.

Ecclesiastes 2:10 Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor.

Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor.

Ecclesiastes 9:5 For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten.

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Isaiah 3:11 Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, For the reward of his hands shall be given him.

Isaiah 40:10 Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him.

Isaiah 45:13 I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward,” Says the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 49:4 Then I said, ‘I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the LORD, And my work with my God.’”

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Isaiah 62:11 Indeed the LORD has proclaimed To the end of the world: “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him.’”

Hosea 4:9 And it shall be: like people, like priest. So I will punish them for their ways, And reward them for their deeds.

Matthew 5:12 “Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:46 “For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

Matthew 6:1 “Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the

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hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly. 5 And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:16 “Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

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Matthew 10:41 “He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. 42 And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

Matthew 16:27 “For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

Mark 9:41 “For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.

Luke 6:23 Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.

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Luke 6:35 “But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

Luke 23:41 “And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.”

I Corinthians 3:8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

I Corinthians 3:14 If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.

I Corinthians 9:17 For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship. 18 What is my reward then? That when I preach the gospel, I may

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present the gospel of Christ without charge, that I may not abuse my authority in the gospel.

Colossians 2:18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

Colossians 3:24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Hebrews 2:2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,

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Hebrews 10:35 Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

Hebrews 11:26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

II John 1:8 Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.

Revelation 11:18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth.”

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Revelation 22:12 “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

After reading all of these verses and studying some of them, what is your general impression? What did you learn from this exercise?

We'll close with this passage: **Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.** Please tell how faith, works and reward are shown in this passage.

Do you have any comments or questions about this lesson?

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Part VI — UNDERSTANDING THE REWARD ON OFFER TO CHRISTIANS

Lesson Two: Tying Faith and Works to the Reward

NOTES:

Throughout this study, we have seen how faith and works relate to the reward. Hopefully at this point, you have a fairly good grasp on what the reward is! But since this is the final lesson, it might be good for us to lay out some specific passages which state succinctly what the reward is. Let's start with a verse we ended up with last week: **Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**

This verse somewhat encapsulates all three concepts of our study of faith, works and reward. *Believing what God says about a matter* must be the substructure of all that we *do*. And in believing that God *rewards* those who *diligently seek Him*, we please Him. And isn't pleasing Him our aim?

The Greek word for the word *rewarder* in Hebrews 11:6 is a word that means *paymaster*. In a literal sense then, God is the Paymaster of those who diligently search Him out through faith, and it pleases God that we would believe that He will reward us for it. So what is the reward?

Last week we also looked at a passage that specifically revealed that the reward is connected to the inheritance: **Colossians 3:23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.** This passage is very enlightening. It shows that *the reward is the inheritance*, and this reward is attained through our doing work heartily for the Lord, revealing that Christians will be

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paid for what each has done (referring the JSOC) without partiality. So then *receiving the inheritance* is the positive side of things; *missing out on the inheritance* is the negative side. Paul mentions the positive and negative side of things in many of his epistles, but one specific place is in **Romans 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? 5 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who "will render to each one according to his deeds": 7 eternal [Singular adjective used here meaning *age-lasting*] life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness--indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; 10 but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 11 For there is no partiality with God.** How do you see both ó the positive and negative sides of the reward ó in this passage?

So what is the inheritance that can either be gained or lost? Last week we saw that the inheritance is the kingdom! **Matthew 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...** Here we see that the inheritance is the kingdom, and that this kingdom was prepared for us at the same time the world was created. Wow! But what does it mean to receive *the reward of the inheritance of the kingdom*? What would that look like?

In order to answer these questions, we would have to consider a few more things about the inheritance in order to understand more clearly what the reward is.

Let's consider the word *inheritance*. We all know this is a family term ó only family members are in line to receive the family's inheritance. We'll remember that we, as Christians, are part of the

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Family of God through *faith* in Christ's death on the cross. We have seen this passage in our study: **Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.**

The condition to being an heir of God is to be a Child of His. But we'll also remember that in order to be a *joint heir* (a co-heir) *with Christ* there is another condition that must be met ó we must suffer with Him. And in suffering with Him, we would be glorified together with Him. So let's consider these things. What do you think it would mean to *suffer with Him*?

And then what do you think it would mean to *be glorified together* with Him?

Being glorified with Christ would indicate that we would have attained to being a co-heir with Him; and our being co-heir with Christ is attained through our suffering with Him. Now we need to consider the question: What is it that Christ to inherit? In knowing the answer to that question, we will also learn what it is that we will inherit. Here are some passages that lay out a good picture of what this will be. Underline what the inheritance is and make study notes in the margin:

Psalms 2:7 “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.

Psalms 22:27 All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You. 28 For the kingdom is the LORD’S, And He rules over the nations.

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Psalms 72:11 Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; All nations shall serve Him.

Psalms 86:9 All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name.

Psalms 22:27 All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You. **28** For the kingdom is the LORD'S, And He rules over the nations.

Daniel 7:22 “until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom... . **27** Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’

John 17:4 “I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. **5** And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

So from this simple list of passages what will Christ inherit?

And so if we suffer with Christ, then what will we inherit?

Good! Now there are more things to consider about the inheritance. Here are two passages in Hebrews which deal with *things that*

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accompany our salvation. Study through these passages making notes of what you learn in the margin. Be sure to make the connections between the promise, the inheritance, our hope, and the salvation of the soul. Show how these things relate.

Hebrews 6:9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner. 10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. 11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. 13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. 17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. 19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, 20 where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: 37 "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him." 39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Verses 12 and 17 in chapter six show that *the promise* is to be inherited, which means that somehow the promises made to

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Abraham have to do with the reward of the inheritance. What else have you learned about the promises from these two passages?

There is more about the promises made to Abraham that we need to understand. Study through this passage and learn about the promise made to Abraham: **Galatians 3:6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” 7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham...**

...14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith...

...16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. 18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise...

...28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

What have you learned about the promise made to Abraham in this passage?

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Here is one more verse that deals with the promise given to Abraham: **Romans 4:13 For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.** How does this verse explain the inheritance?

Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. What can you learn in this passage about the inheritance?

Relate this passage to what the inheritance is shown to be in the others passages that we have just studied. Exactly what is the "redemption of the purchased possession"?

These are only a few of the passages that we can study in order to find out more about the inheritance and the promises. (Please feel free to study more. Do word studies and see what more you can learn. Helpful resources are listed in the Appendix of this workbook.)

Before we end our lesson, we would want to see just *when* the "redemption of the purchased possession" will take place. There are several ways in Scripture to see this, but a passage in II Peter may be among the most succinctly stated places: **II Peter 3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The**

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Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

According to this passage (and from this Lord's perspective as seen in its context) how long will the Day of the Lord last?

How will the Day of the Lord come?

How will the Day of the Lord end?

From the Lord's perspective, there are two ways that He accounts for the length of a day in Scripture. One way is the most familiar to us – a 24-hour day. You can see this represented in Genesis chapter one, where there were six 24-hour days, which were then followed by a 7th 24-hour day in Genesis 2:1-3. This 7th day was set aside by God as a *Day of Rest*. Then, by God's decree, this pattern of 6 days of work and a 7th day of rest was to be a sign for His people in Scripture. As we will see in our next passage, this Day of Rest is the 1,000-year day that describes the Messianic Era, the Millennial Reign of Christ on and over Earth. It is the Day of the Lord, the 1,000 year Kingdom of Christ. And it is something to be earned; something towards which we must strive to enter; something to be attained.

This next passage summarizes the picture of the Children of Israel missing out on the Rest due to their disobedience and lack of faith, with a warning given to us that we do not follow their example.

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Study this passage and see what you can learn from it: **Hebrews 4:1** Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. **2** For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. **3** For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: “So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest,’” although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. **4** For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”; **5** and again in this place: “They shall not enter My rest.” **6** Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, **7** again He designates a certain day, saying in David, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said: “Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.” **8** For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. **9** There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. **10** For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. **11** Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

What have you learned about the 7th day in this passage?

Now go back to the passage in II Peter and see how these two passages relate. What do you see?

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As we come to the close of this Discipleship Study, we would want to make sure that you have come to understand that your spiritual birth through faith in Jesus' death on the cross was really just a beginning point in your walk of faith. By now, it should be well understood that from the point of your faith in Christ's death on the cross, you need to keep on adding to your faith ó through a correct participation and understanding of God's Word ó more and more faith. Through hearing the Word, you can grow from faith to faith to more faith (Rom. 1:17). But then, *hearing* God's Word is not enough to accomplish the goal of our faith ó the salvation of our souls. We must also become *doers of the Word* (Jas. 1:21, 22). This ongoing faith process should produce in us the very good works that were prepared for us to do from before the foundation of the world (Eph. 2:10), for without the good works being done ó through faith ó there can be no reception of the inheritance as a firstborn son (Col.3:23-25). Remember, sons (Christians who allow themselves to be led by the Spirit [Rom. 8:14]) are the ones in line for the adoption ó the son-placing ó that is to take place at the JSOC Rom. 8:23). It will be these sons who will find themselves as co-heirs with Christ when He comes into His glory as the King of kings and Lord of lords (Ro. 8:17). This is the goal towards which we are to strive (Phil. 3:13-14).

It is my sincere hope that you have found your way to this understanding and that you are desirous to strive for the goal of your faith. Please, PLEASE keep studying! We have added an appendix with some helps to help keep you on the right track.

It is also my sincere hope that you would ask God for a person with whom you can share this same study. You become the discipler and take someone else through discipleship. If you need more books and/or the TEACHERS GUIDE, just let me know.

Thank you so much!

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**Now to Him be glory, honor and praise...now
and forevermore! Amen!**

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Appendix

Suggested Study Helps

In the spirit of encouraging you to continue studying, we have added the following:

Suggested websites:

www.CornerstoneJacksonville.com

Under the MESSAGES menu you will find many, many *topical messages* and *message series* taught by Pastor John Herbert, as well as messages from other speakers. Most of the messages will have accompanying study notes (questions to answer related to the message).

Also on the same website, under the RESOURCES menu you will find other Bible studies listed at the beginning of this workbook. These studies are available to download and print for your own study or study group. Most of these studies have accompanying lectures for each lesson. These can be watched on the website, or we can send you DVD sets or CD sets for you convenience.

www.Lampbroadcast.org

Here you will find very many books and pamphlets written by Arlen L. Chitwood. These are in-depth studies of various topics in Scripture. If I were to recommend one to be your first read, it would be THE STUDY OF SCRIPTURE.

Software Programs:

Here are some very good free Bible Software Programs that may help you in your personal Bible Study:

- www.blueletterbible.org
- www.olivetree.com
- www.onlinebible.net

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NOTE: If you have completed this study and would like to take someone else through it, we do offer a TEACHERS GUIDE. This guide is identical to the DISCIPLESHIP STUDY workbook, only it has the suggested answers filled in along with notations that might be helpful in study discussions. If you would like to download and print the TEACHERS GUIDE for yourself, go to www.CornerstoneJacksonville.com/Resources and search for the DISCIPLESHIP TEACHERS GUIDE. Or you can request a hardcopy by contacting Cindy at kseeker1@aol.com. Thank you.