

Lecture #1

Introduction



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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Biblical Theology

in 30 Lectures

by Rev. Robert McCurley

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| 1. Introduction | 16. Solomon |
| 2. Creation | 17. Temple |
| 3. Fall | 18. Kingdom |
| 4. Noah | 19. Prophets |
| 5. Abraham | 20. Exile |
| 6. Patriarchs 1 | 21. Restoration |
| 7. Patriarchs 2 | 22. Incarnation |
| 8. Exodus | 23. Atonement |
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Lecture #1

Introduction

Lecture Theme:

The *whole* Bible reveals the Lord Jesus Christ and the message of salvation in the gospel of his grace. We trace the unfolding of this revelation of God in Christ throughout the stages of the history of redemption found in the Old and New Testaments.

Memory Text: *(It is good to memorize the key text.)*

“And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself...And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me”

—Luke 24, verses 27 and 44

Structure: *(To help understand and follow the lecture more easily.)*

1. Introduction—the story in 1 Kings chapter 10.
2. The definition of “theology.”
 - a. God-exalting and God-centered religion.
 - b. The chief end of man, and biblical examples.
 - c. Knowledge of God as revealed to us in Christ.
3. Definition of “biblical.”
 - a. Divine authority of the Bible.
 - b. Relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament.
 - c. Relationship between the Old Testament and Jesus Christ.
 - d. Biblical history of redemption.
4. Conclusion—the Spiritual realities of 1 Kings 10.

Review Questions:

1. What main questions are answered by studying biblical theology?

2. What is the basic definition of “theology”?

3. What should be the greatest longing of a true believer? Try to find some biblical examples.

4. Why is it true that to be God-centered is also to be Christ-centered?

5. How is it that the Bible has divine authority?

6. Why is understanding the Old Testament so important for understanding the gospel of Jesus Christ?

7. What is the right view of the relationship between the Old Testament and New Testament?

8. What is the grand message of the Old Testament? How do we know that through the Scriptures?

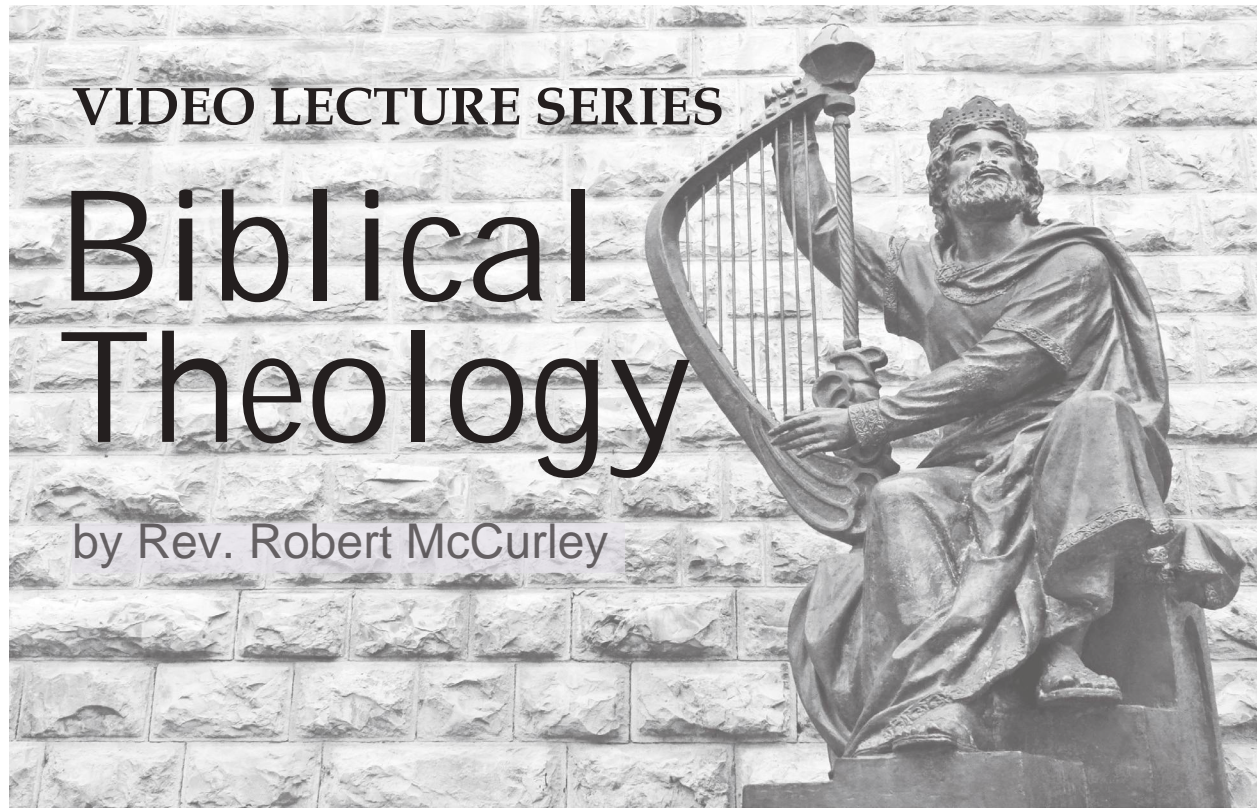
9. What does “gradual unfolding” mean in regard to the gospel, and what does that mean for us?

10. How does the confession of the Queen of Sheba in 1 Kings chapter 10 relate to other texts in the Bible and to the glorious gospel of Christ?

Further Application: For your personal meditation, write an essay, or for further study.

1. Considering this lecture, what are the right ways for us to read the Bible?

2. Meditate on the spiritual reality and spiritual application of 1 Kings chapter 10. How does this story help you learn about the richness of our King, Jesus Christ?



Lecture #2

Creation



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Lecture #2 Creation

Lecture Theme:

In the work of creation, God lays the foundation for the revelation of Himself and prepares us for the greater glory of the new creation in Christ.

Memory Text:

“For by him”—Christ—“were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”
—Colossians 1, verses 16 and 17

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. What God reveals about himself.
 - a. His eternal existence.
 - b. His attributes.
 - c. The Trinity.
 - d. The characteristics of Christ’s work of creation.
3. What God reveals about man.
 - a. God’s image.
 - b. Two parts of human nature.
 - c. Male and female.
 - d. Dominion over the creatures.
 - e. Permanent ordinances:
 - 1) marriage 2) procreation 3) labour 4) Sabbath observance.
4. God reveals man’s relationship to God.
 - a. Fellowship with God.
 - b. Covenant.
5. God reveals preparation for the superiority of the new creation.
 - a. God’s provision for a redeemer and redemption.
 - b. Heaven.
 - c. The new heavens and the new earth.

Review Questions:

1. Which attributes of God can we find in Genesis chapters 1 and 2?

2. How do we recognize the doctrine of the Trinity in Genesis chapter 1? How does it relate to the person of Christ?

3. What is God's purpose in showing his works?

4. What are the characteristics of Christ's work of creation?

5. What does it mean to say that "God created the world with his long-term plan in mind"?

6. What are the broad and the narrow aspects of man being made in the image of God?

7. Recall the permanent creation ordinances in Genesis chapters 1 and 2. Trace how the creation ordinance of the Sabbath continues on through to the end of the Scripture.

8. How and where do we learn from the Bible that man was made for fellowship with God?

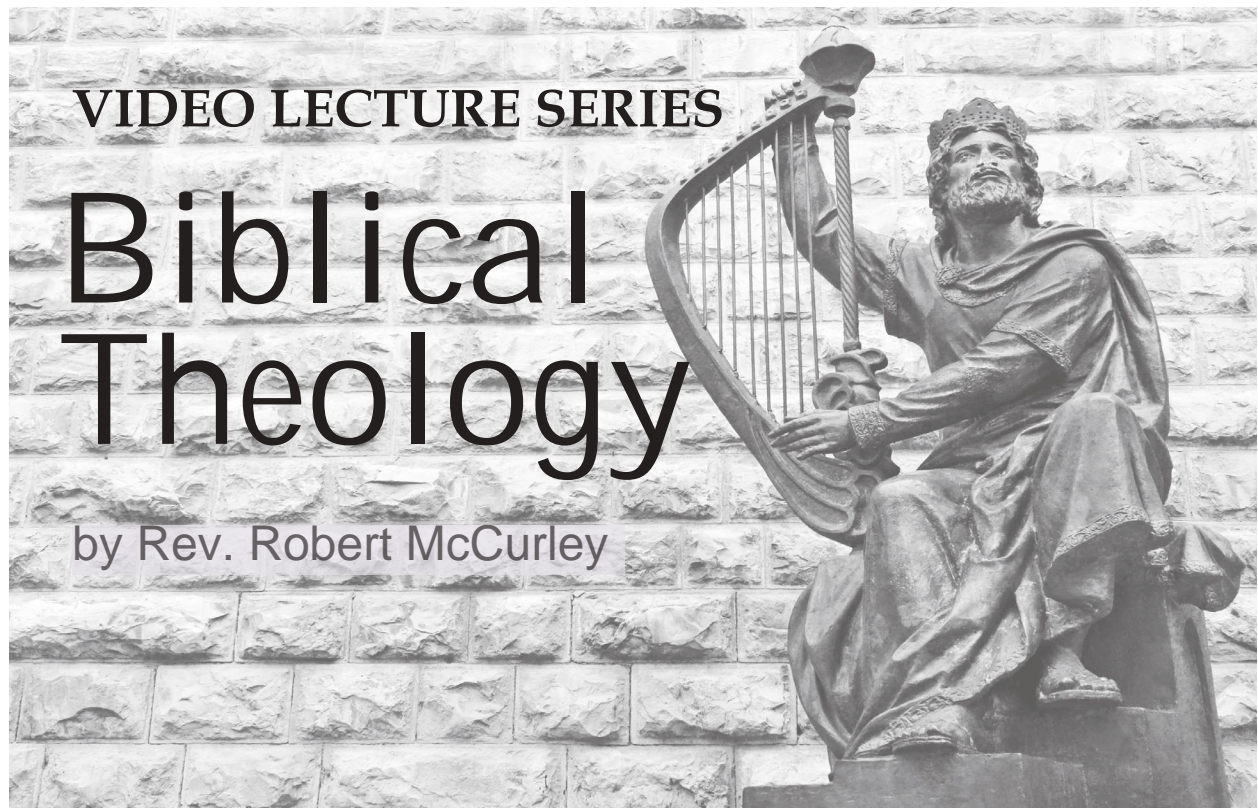
9. Define the meaning of “covenant,” and explain the “covenant of works.”

10. The world that God made was not the ultimate goal of his creating power. What does God reveal about his preparation of a superior creation?

Further Application:

1. After the study, meditate on the theme, “The majesty of God and the honor and dignity of man,” from Genesis 1 and 2, and Psalm 8.

2. How does the work of the last Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ, relate to creation?



Lecture #3

Fall



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Lecture #3

Fall

Lecture Theme:

By their fall, mankind lost communion with God and came under his wrath and curse. But God entered into a covenant of grace to deliver his people from sin and to bring them salvation through Christ.

Memory Text:

*“For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”*
—1 Corinthians 15, verses 21 and 22

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The fall of mankind.
 - a. The entrance of sin into the world.
 - b. The nature of sin.
 - c. The curse of death.
 - d. Mankind lost communion with God.
3. The long-term consequences of sin.
 - a. The covenant of works broken.
 - b. Adam’s significance..
 - c. Three Imputations in the Bible.
 - d. The relationship of Adam to Christ.
4. The first gospel promise.
 - a. The seed of the covenant of grace.
 - b. Christ’s work upon the cross.
 - c. Three contrasts in Genesis 3:15.
 - d. Grand reversal of the curse.

Review Questions:

1. What is the purpose and the tactic of Satan's temptation?

2. What is the essence of sin?

3. The Bible shows there are several kinds and extents of death. What are they?

4. What consequences did sin bring upon mankind?

5. Some say there is no covenant of works, because the word "covenant" does not appear in Genesis chapters 1 through 3. How should we answer this objection?

6. How is the guilt of Adam's first sin passed to his posterity?

7. Are we sinners because we sinned, or do we sin because we are sinners?

8. Which gospel truths were proclaimed by Genesis 3:15? Please make a list.

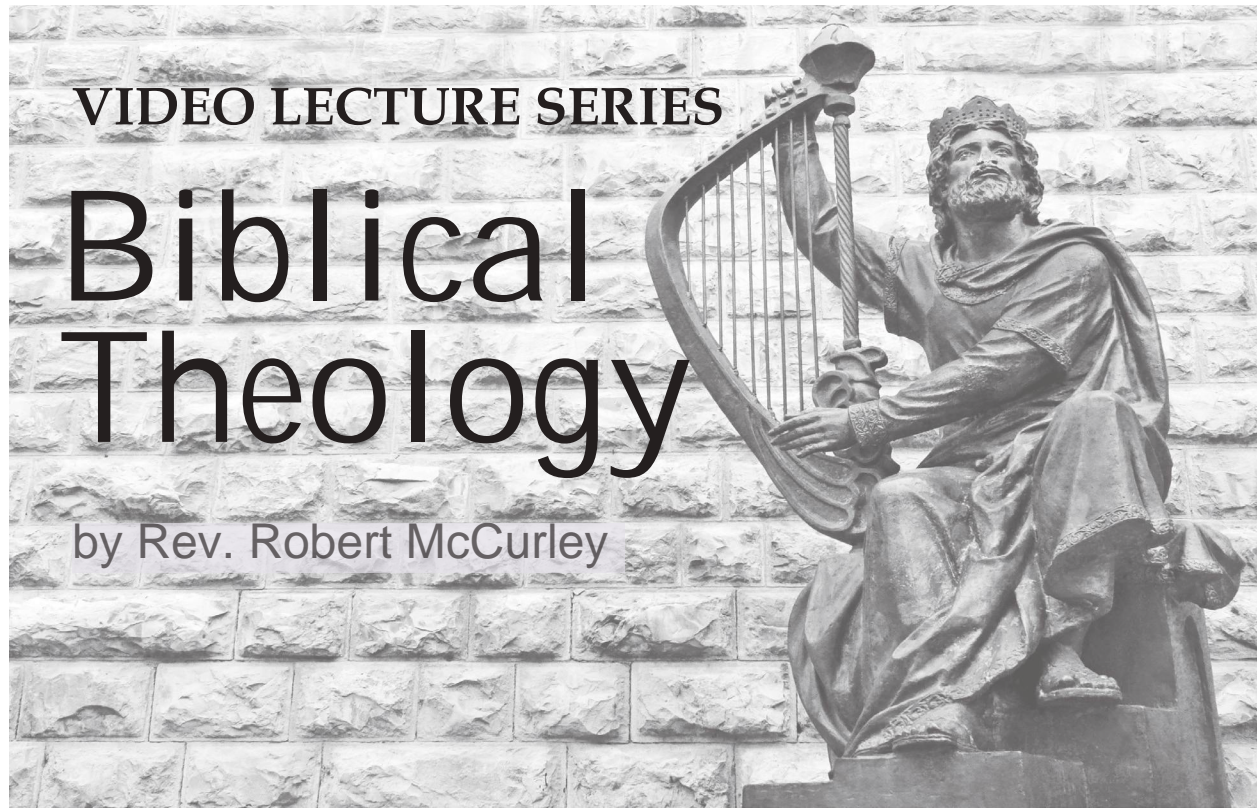
9. Why do we say that Genesis 3:15 provides a charter for the church?

10. How does Genesis chapter 3 point us to consummation in heaven?

Further Application:

1. In light of the study of this lecture, meditate on the saying of John Owen, “Genesis 3:15 provides in embryo the whole doctrine of salvation for sinners.”

2. Thinking about the Covenant of Works and the Covenant of Grace, compare the work of Adam to the work of Christ.



Lecture #4

Noah



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Lecture #4

Noah

Lecture Theme:

God displays his glory in salvation through Judgment.

Memory Text:

“For if God spared not...the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly....The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.”

—2 Peter chapter 2, verses 4, 5, and 9

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The period before the flood.
 - a. The line of the godly seed.
 - b. The line of the ungodly seed.
 - c. Seven things about sin from Genesis 6:5.
 - d. The doctrine of Total Depravity.
 - e. The doctrine of the Freedom of the Will.
 - f. The sinfulness of sin and the heinousness of sin.
3. The period during the flood.
 - a. The wicked are punished.
 - b. The believing are saved.
4. The period after the flood.
 - a. Reassertion of the gospel promise in the Covenant of Grace.
 - b. Sacrifice.
 - c. A perpetual sign.
 - d. The household principle of this covenant.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What are the characteristics of the godly seed in the period before the flood?

2. In the study, John Owen is quoted saying, “In all ages, free association with the wicked leads to the downfall of the church.” How do you understand this, and how do you apply this truth in your daily life?

3. What seven characteristics of sin are revealed in Genesis chapter 6:5?

4. What is the biblical view of Total Depravity? Explain the difference between being totally depraved or utterly depraved.

5. Redemptive history has four sections. How does the Freedom of Man’s Will in redemptive history relate to each section?

6. What is the difference between the sinfulness of sin and the heinousness of sin?

7. In the biblical record of Noah and the flood, how do we recognize that salvation comes by way of judgment? How does that point to the saving work of Christ?

8. How does God's covenant with Noah after the flood both preserve creation and advance God's plan of redemption?

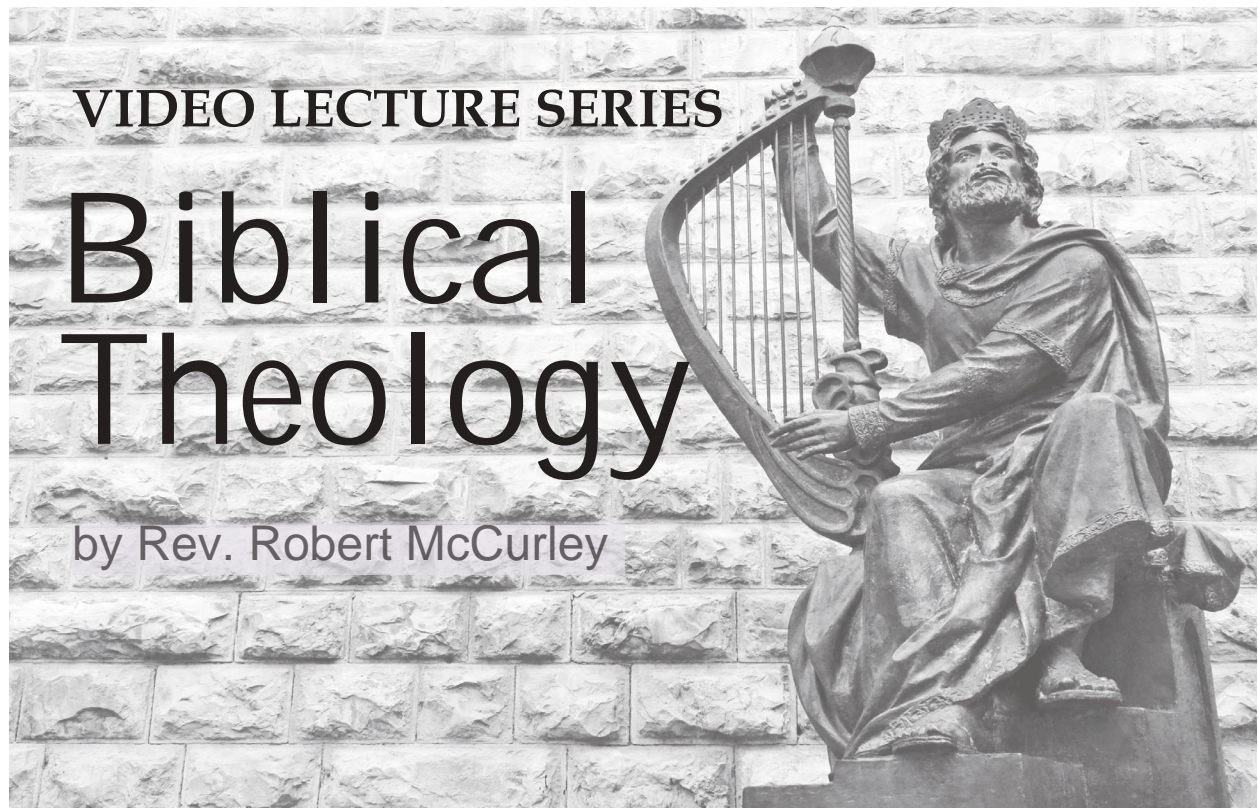
9. In Genesis chapters 8 and 9, where do we see an expectation of Christ and a pointing to Christ?

10. Find examples of the "household principle" of the Covenant of Grace in both the Old and New Testaments.

Further Applications

1. How did the ark picture God himself in Christ as the refuge and Savior of his people?

2. Now that you've learned about the household principle of the Covenant of Grace, what can be a practical application for your own family life?



Lecture #5

Abraham



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Lecture #5

Abraham

Lecture Theme:

God condescends to call Abraham out of idolatry and into the way of faith and obedience in order to dispense gospel blessings to all nations.

Memory Text:

“And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.”

—Galatians 3, verse 8

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The call of Abraham.
 - a. Development of the two seeds.
 - b. Abraham is called out.
 - c. The doctrine of Election.
 - d. The response of faith and obedience.
3. The covenant with Abraham.
 - a. Promise.
 - b. Core of the covenant promise.
 - c. Ratified by blood.
 - d. The household principle.
 - e. Circumcision.
4. The coming Redeemer and redemption promised through Abraham.
 - a. The Seed.
 - b. The children of Abraham.
5. Conclusion: Jehovah-Jireh.

Review Questions:

1. How does the revelation of the two seeds progress and expand under Abraham?

2. By what means did God call Abraham? What can we learn from that?

3. Can we call the people of God in the Old Testament “the church”? Why?

4. What theological themes are demonstrated in Abraham’s call?

5. What are the recurring components of God’s covenant with Abraham?

6. Which four important highlights regarding this covenant should we remember?

7. Does the sign of promise presume regeneration? Why?

8. Some say that the benefits and blessings of God's covenant with Abraham are only for the Jews because they alone are Abraham's children? Please give your answer.

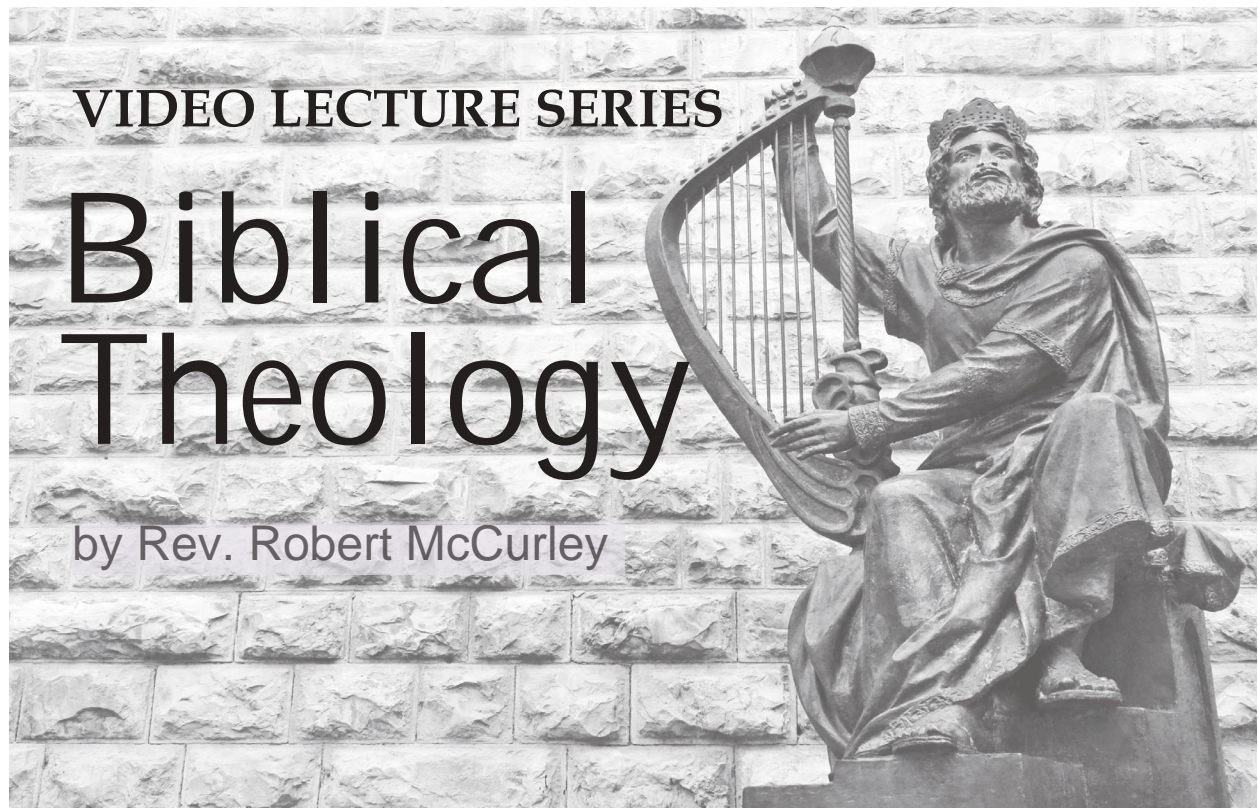
9. What is the big point of Genesis chapter 22? Is this a merely moral, heroic story?

10. How do we draw a connection from Genesis 22 to Christ, and to us?

Further Applications

1. Do you find the same gospel and way of salvation in the Old Testament that is seen in the New Testament? Explain.

2. Genesis chapter 22 is full of Christ, full of the gospel, and full of the plan of redemption that God is unfolding in the history of the Bible. Please meditate on these spiritual realities again, and put your thoughts into words.



Lecture #6

Patriarchs 1



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Lecture #6

Patriarchs 1

Lecture Theme:

God's promise unfolds through many twists and turns, revealing bright revelations of God's glory and his plan of redemption

Memory Text:

"Who are the Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever: Amen."

—Romans 9, verses 4 and 5

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Sodom and Gomorrah
 - a. God's wrath and judgment against wickedness.
 - b. The reasons.
 - c. The warning to Israel and for today.
3. Isaac.
 - a. Repeating the covenant with Isaac.
 - b. Some details.
 - c. The redemptive theme of submission.
4. Jacob.
 - a. The doctrine of Election.
 - b. Esau, covenant-breaker,
 - c. Jacob, covenant-inheritor.
5. Twelve sons of Jacob.
 - a. Twelve tribes relating to New Testament period.
 - b. Joseph.
6. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. Why should Christians today appreciate the history of the patriarchs?

2. What were God's reasons for judging and destroying Sodom and Gomorrah? What spiritual lessons can we draw from this biblical history?

3. Why should we pay attention to details that were recorded in the book of Genesis?

4. How does Isaac's submission to his father point to the Lord Jesus Christ?

5. How does the redemptive theme of submission apply to Christians today?

6. How did the Apostle Paul use the story of Jacob and Esau to teach the doctrine of Election?

7. What warnings for the New Testament church can be taken from the life of Esau?

8. Where can you observe the fruits of faith and obedience in Jacob's life?

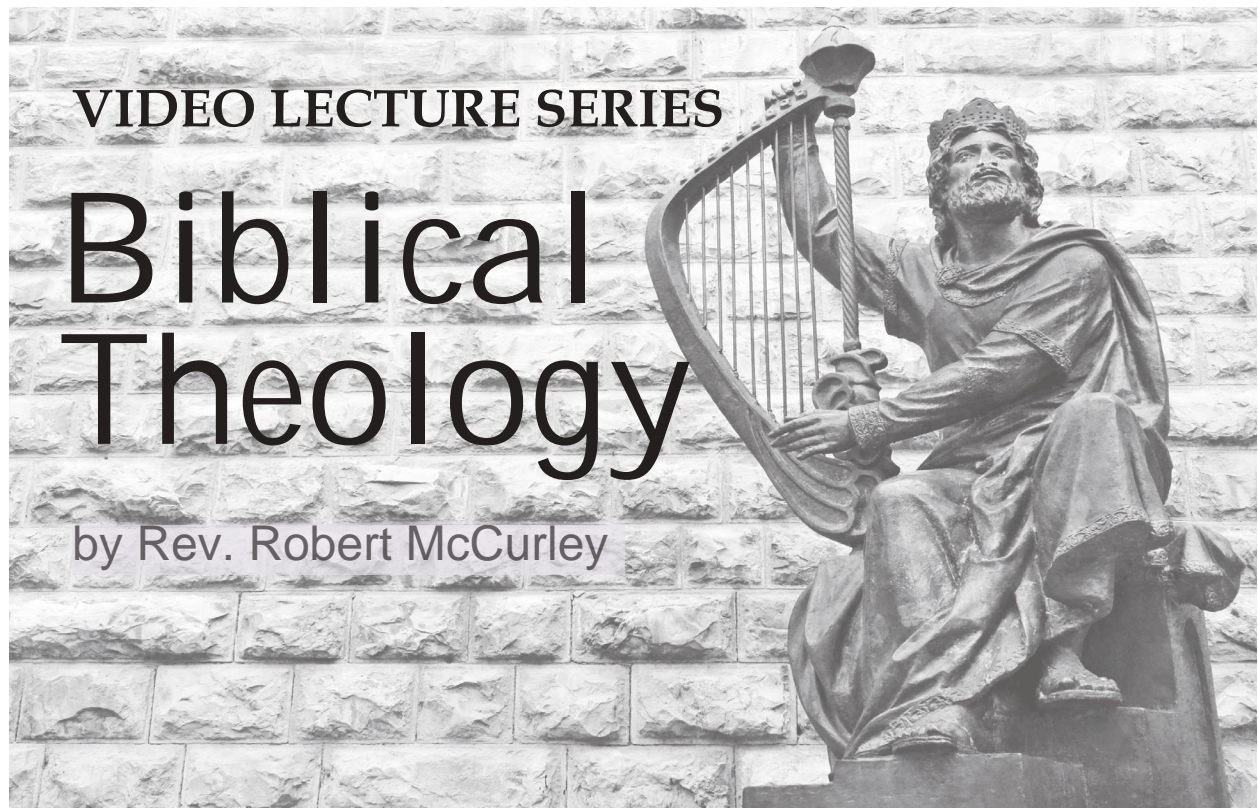
9. Give examples of "twists and turns" of God's providence in Genesis. What can you learn from these things?

10. Why was Joseph so concerned that his bones would be taken back to the promised land and buried there? What does this reveal about Joseph?

Further Applications

1. Joseph serves as a picture of the Deliverer, a type of Christ. Meditate on the life of Joseph and draw connections between Joseph's life and Jesus' life.

2. How can we understand that the patriarchs received great promises of land in Canaan, but they died with little property? What application can be made for Christians today?



Lecture #7

Patriarchs 2



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Lecture #7

Patriarchs 2

Lecture Theme:

God's provides revelations of his glory in Christ in unexpected places, outside the lineage of Abraham.

Memory Text:

*"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life:
and they are they which testify of me."*

—John 5, verse 39

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Melchizedek.
 - a. The importance of Melchizedek.
 - b. A Real historical figure.
 - c. Demonstrating the superior glory of Jesus as the Mediator.
3. The angel of the LORD.
 - a. The broader concept of theophanies.
 - b. The uncreated God himself.
 - c. The uncreated God himself appearing in visible form.
 - d. Five purposes of theophanies.
4. Job.
 - a. The significance of the Book of Job
 - b. God's Providence.
 - c. The believer's life and story fits within God's broader and bigger story.
 - d. Christ-centeredness.
 - e. "Darkness and the shadow of death."

Review Questions:

1. Why should we consider Melchizedek important enough to include in this brief survey of the patriarchs?

2. What things about Melchizedek can we know from the Bible?

3. How does Melchizedek show us that all we need for our salvation is supplied in Jesus Christ only?

4. What is a theophany? Explain the relationship between theophany and Christophany.

5. Which Scripture passages mainly show us the appearance of the angel of the LORD?

6. How do we know that “the angel of the LORD” is actually the uncreated God himself appearing in visible form?

7. What are the five purposes of theophanies.

8. What is the importance of the Book of Job?

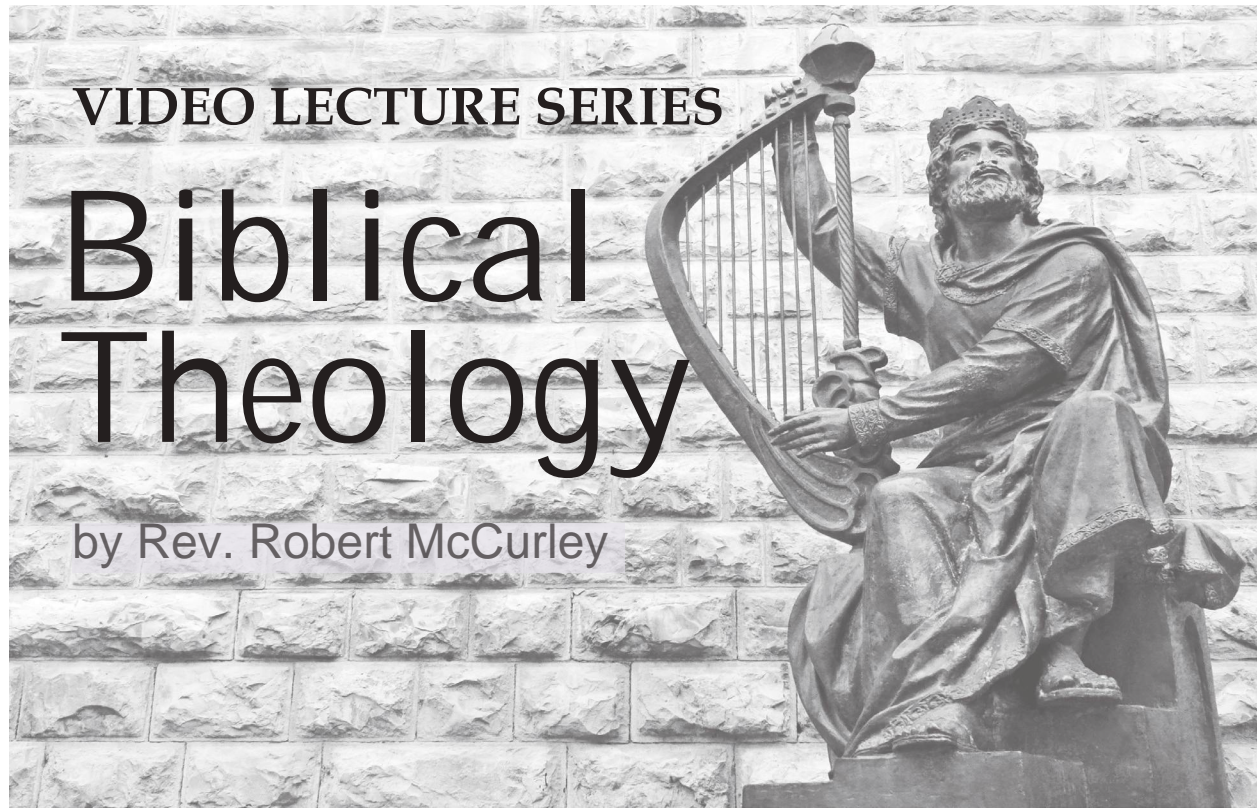
9. Which theological themes do we learn from the Book of Job?

10. How does Job show us the chief end of man?

Further Applications

1. Meditate on the relationship between the sufferings of a believer and the glory of God from the Book of Job.

2. The author also mentioned another theme, “Darkness and the shadow of death,” found in the Book of Job and in the Old and New Testaments. What can you learn from this?



Lecture #8

Exodus



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Biblical Theology

in 30 Lectures

by Rev. Robert McCurley

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Lecture #8

Exodus

Lecture Theme:

God reveals his plan of redemption by delivering his people from bondage and displaying his glory to them and through them.

Memory Text:

“When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: and was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.”
—Matthew 2, verses 14 and 15

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. God reveals himself.
 - a. Connection of Genesis with Exodus.
 - b. Connection between God’s Word and deed.
3. Theological themes of Exodus.
 - a. The name of God.
 - b. Bondage.
 - c. Redemption.
 - d. Mediator.
4. The ultimate Exodus.

Review Questions:

1. What is the background of the redemption and deliverance found in Exodus?

2. What does the Bible show us about the relationship between God's Word and his deed?

3. What is the theological significance of the name of God?

4. What is the biblical view of God's signs and wonders?

5. What are the contrasts between the promise of God and the bondage of Israel? Why did God permit his people to be placed in bondage?

6. What is the spiritual reality of bondage for the human race?

7. What spiritual realities do we see in the redemption and ransom in Exodus.

8. "The goal of redemption is worship." How do you see this in Exodus?

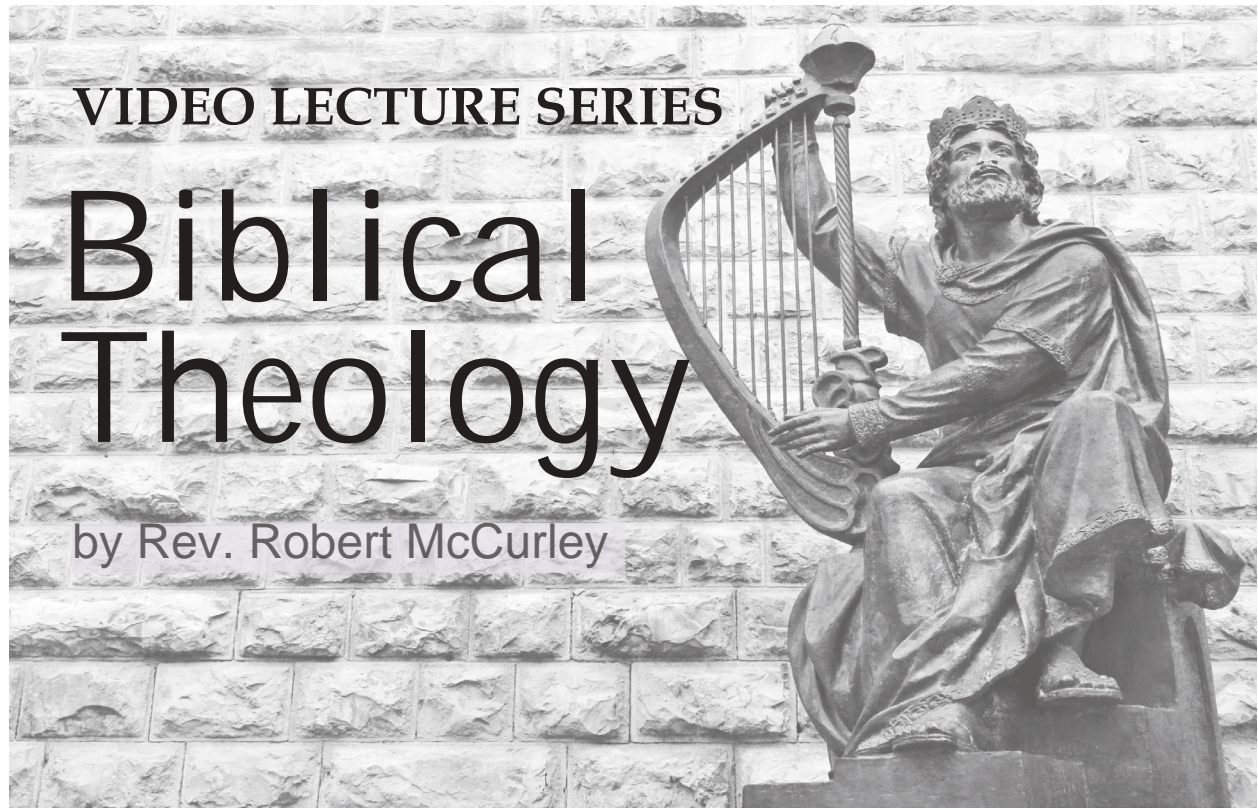
9. What are the contrasts and connections between Moses and Christ?

10. How does the Bible show us that what Christ accomplished on the cross is the ultimate Exodus?

Further Applications

1. Which fruits of grace can we see in the life of Moses? What can you learn from this regarding Christian life today?

2. “Deliverance is subordinate to the primary purpose of the revelation of the knowledge of God.” Do you agree with this viewpoint? Why?



Lecture #9

Sinai



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Lecture #9

Sinai

Lecture Theme:

God gives his law to his chosen and redeemed people to reveal his own character, to bring them under his rule, and to inform them how to live in holiness according to his will.

Memory Text:

“Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good....For we know that the law is spiritual:...For I delight in the law of God after the inward man.”
—Romans 7, verses 12, 14, and 22.

Structure:

1. Introduction—the Law of God.
2. The relationship of Sinai to Redemption and the Covenant of Grace.
 - a. A common mistake.
 - b. Reason why the Mosaic Covenant is a part of the Covenant of Grace.
3. Revelation of God himself at Sinai.
 - a. His name—LORD.
 - b. His holiness.
 - c. His love.
 - d. His jealousy.
4. The continuity of the law.
 - a. Three categories of the law and their differences.
 - b. Moral law—the Ten Commandments.
 - c. The relevance of the law today.
 - d. The uses of the law.
 - e. The law and gospel.

Review Questions:

1. Why do we say that the Mosaic Covenant is part of the Covenant of Grace?

2. Does the New Testament have the elements of covenantal blessing and curse? Provide examples from the Bible.

3. What is holiness? Of how many parts does it consist?

4. How does the law show attribute of God's love?

5. How does the law show the attribute of God's jealousy?

6. What are the three categories of the law? Which is permanent and which is temporary?

7. How can we understand that the Ten Commandments were the Covenant and testimony itself? Try to explain.

8. What things has Christ done to the law?

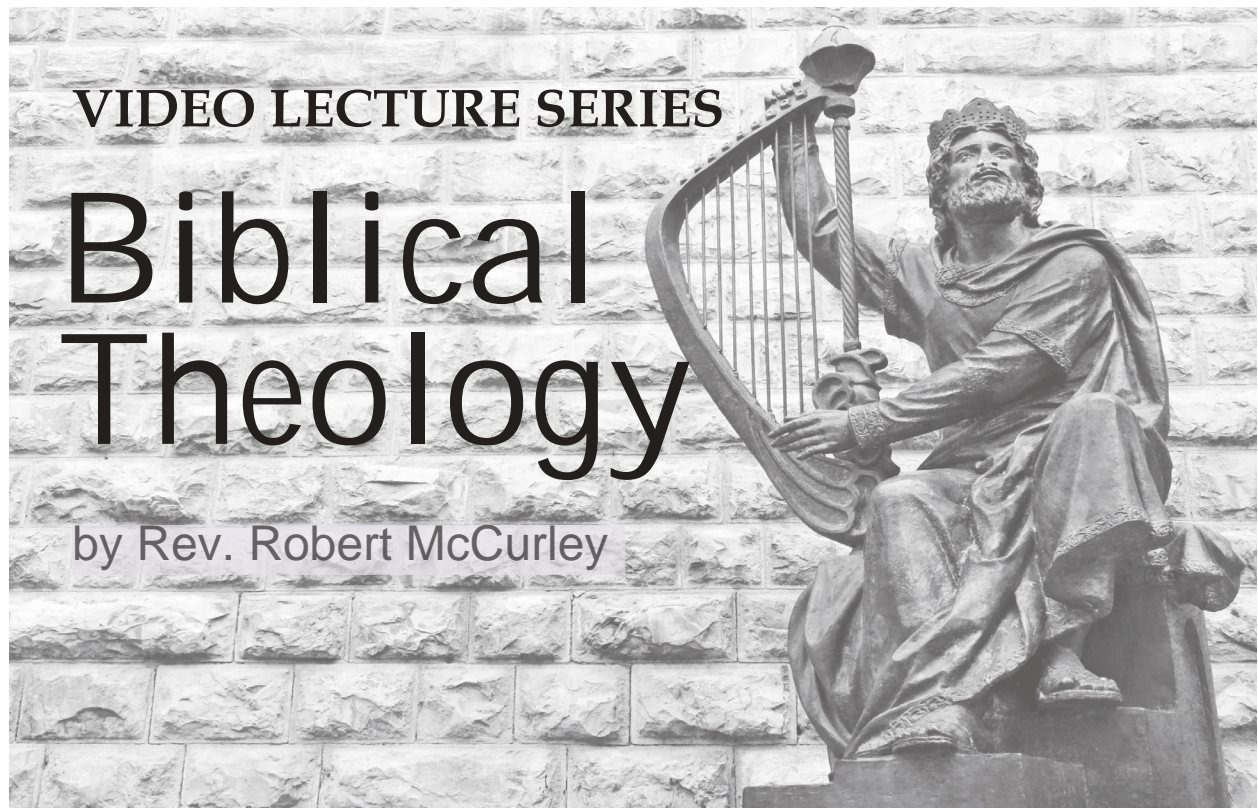
9. State the three primary uses of the law and explain them.

10. Should New Testament Christians still say, “Oh, how love I thy law” (Psalm 119:97)? Support your answer with Scripture.

Further Applications

1. While considering worship and our responsibilities toward God and man, meditate on the relationship between the law and love as seen in the Ten Commandments.

2. Understanding that the law and gospel are vital for Christian faith and life, after this study, what insights did you get from Scripture about this relationship?



Lecture #10

Tabernacle



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Lecture #10

Tabernacle

Lecture Theme:

The Lord reveals himself as the God who saves his people in order that he might dwell in their midst, in this world and in the world to come.

Memory Text:

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt”—tabernacled—“among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”
—John 1, verse 14.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The God dwelling in the midst of his people.
 - a. The word “tabernacle” and three other terms.
 - b. The purpose of tabernacle.
3. A gospel pattern and a gospel content in the tabernacle.
 - a. A divine prescription.
 - b. Seven main items:
 - 1) The bronze altar.
 - 2) The bronze laver or basin.
 - 3) The golden lampstand.
 - 4) The table of shewbread.
 - 5) The altar of incense.
 - 6) The veil.
 - 7) The ark of the covenant.
 - c. The presence of God himself.
4. The heavenly realities of the tabernacle.
 - a. A temporary picture of God’s true abode.
 - b. The tabernacle finds its fulfillment in the New Testament.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is the tabernacle? Name the other three terms used to refer to the tabernacle in the Bible.

2. What is the purpose of the tabernacle? Show this from the Bible.

3. Was Moses given a role in the design of the tabernacle? What practical instruction is in this regarding worship?

4. What gospel truth does the bronze altar show us?

5. What is the spiritual lesson of the bronze laver?

6. What does the golden lampstand symbolize?

7. What does the table of shewbread remind us of?

8. What does the altar of incense tell us about prayer?

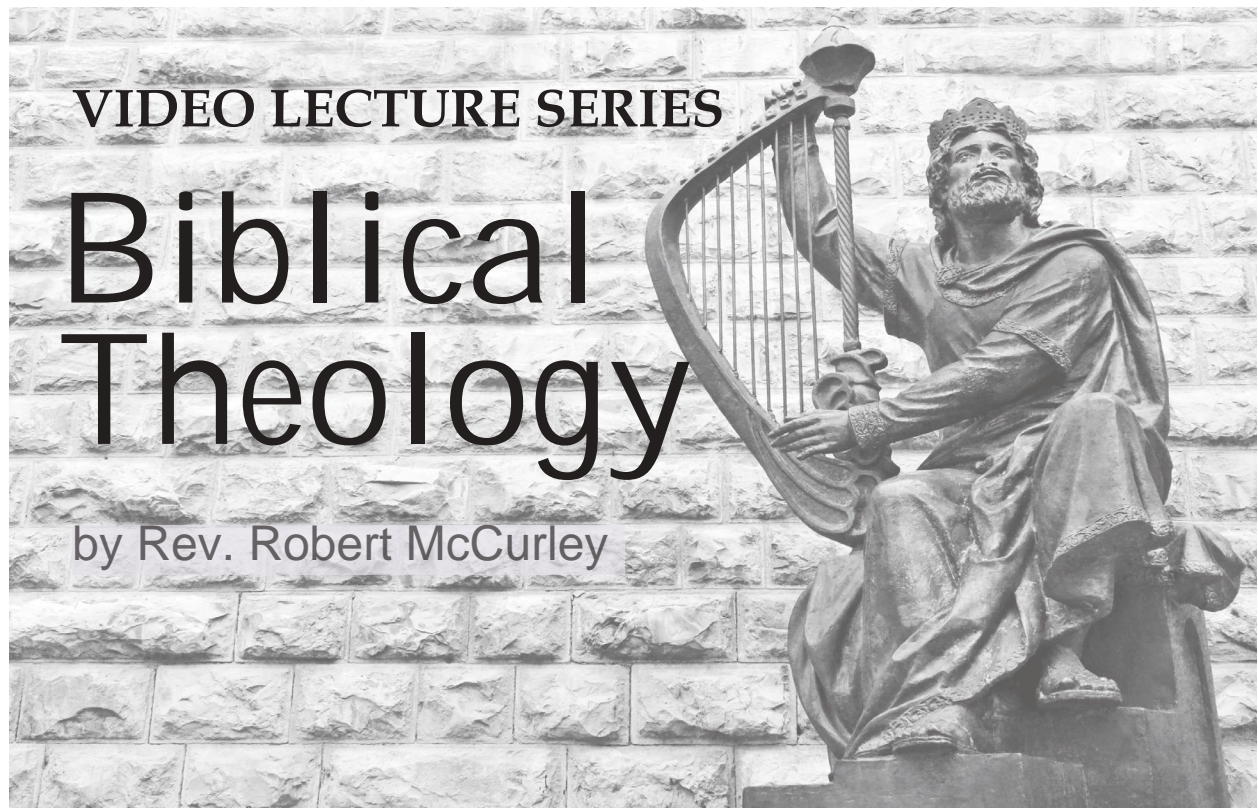
9. Which things in Exodus symbolize the presence of God in the midst of his people?

10. Which symbolic aspects of tabernacle worship have been fulfilled in the New Testament?

Further Applications

1. What gospel truth does the veil show us, especially when we consider what happened to it in the New Testament?

2. Why does worship in the New Testament have far greater glory than in the Old Testament?



Lecture #11

Sacrifices



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Lecture #11

Sacrifices

Lecture Theme:

God's people forfeited by their sin all rights to approach God's holy dwelling place, except through the blood of Christ's sacrifice.

Memory Text:

“For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

—Hebrews 9, verses 13 and 14

The Structure of this Lecture:

1. Communion with God is forfeited by sin.
2. The need for substitutionary sacrifice.
3. The provision of sacrifices.
4. The significance of fire in sacrifice.
5. General procedures of the animal sacrifices.
6. Types of sacrificial offerings:
 - a. The burnt offering.
 - b. The meat offering.
 - c. The peace offering.
 - d. The sin offering.
 - e. The trespass offering.
7. The order of these sacrifices.
8. The one final sacrifice.
9. Total reconciliation and restoration with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Review Questions:

1. Why did God use the graphic image of sacrifice for his people in the Old Testament?

2. Show how the ceremonial sacrifices draw a connection between Exodus and Leviticus.

3. Define each of these words in relation to atonement:

a) vicarious _____

b) expiation _____

c) propitiation _____

4. Why is it important to know the theology taught in each type of sacrifice?

5. Explain the general procedures of animal sacrifice.

6. What is symbolized by the burnt offering?

7. Why did the burnt offering come first, and then the meat offering? What does the meat offering symbolize?

8. What does the peace offering symbolize?

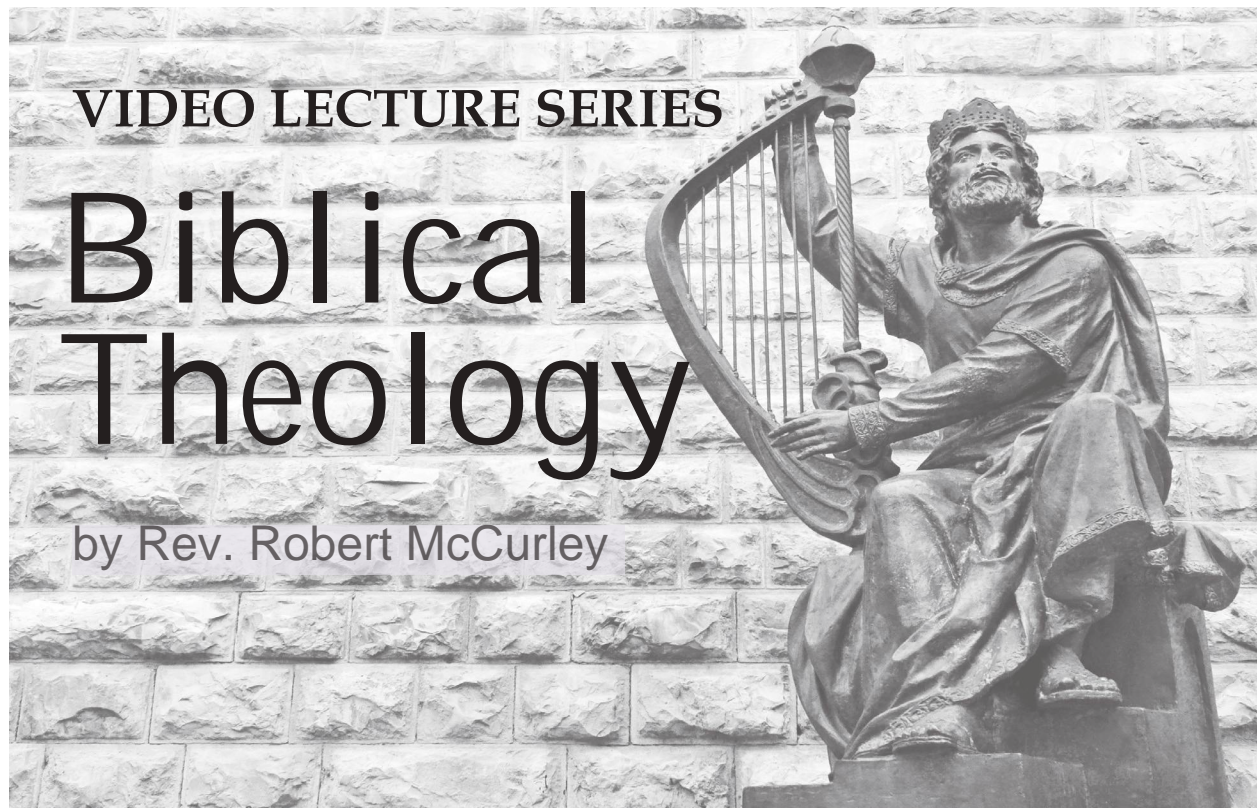
9. What purpose is the sin offering and the trespass offering?

10. What are some differences and some similarities between the Old Testament sacrifices and the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross.

Further Applications

1. How did the order of sacrifices express the pattern of justification, sanctification, and fellowship with God?

2. Meditate on Romans 12:1–2, considering how the truth of sacrifice applies practically in the lives of God’s people who are called to be a living sacrifice.



Lecture #12

Priesthood



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Lecture #12

Priesthood

Lecture Theme:

God dwells among his people, but he can only be approached through an appointed high priest who offers an acceptable sacrifice for sin.

Memory Text:

“And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever; sat down on the right hand of God.”

—Hebrews 10, verses 11 and 12.

The Structure of this Lecture:

1. Someone is needed to offer the sacrifice.
2. The priests.
 - a. Dominant theme of holiness.
 - b. Only the tribe of Levi.
 - c. Holy ceremonial clothing.
3. The service of the priests.
 - a. Mediator for the people before God.
 - b. Worship only appointed by God.
 - 1) The feast of Passover.
 - 2) The feast of Pentecost.
 - 3) The feast of Trumpets.
 - 4) The feast of Tabernacles.
 - 5) The Day of Atonement.
4. The perfect High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - a. Superior to the Levitical priesthood.
 - b. Christ fulfilled all priestly service, ceremonies and ordinances.
 - c. The priesthood of all believers.

Review Questions:

1. Why is the Pentateuch important for the whole theme of Biblical theology?

2. What are the distinctive responsibilities of the males in the tribe of Levi?

3. How does the priest's breastplate signify the work of the priesthood?

4. Why did Nadab and Abihu die before the Lord? How is this a warning for us today?

5. What did the Passover signify and point forward to? How was this fulfilled in the work of Christ?

6. What are the feast of Trumpets and the feast of Pentecost? What are their connections to the New Testament?

7. What are the two sets of offerings on the Day of Atonement? What did they symbolize?

8. How are both the perfect priest and the perfect offering fulfilled in Christ? What does that mean for a sinful people?

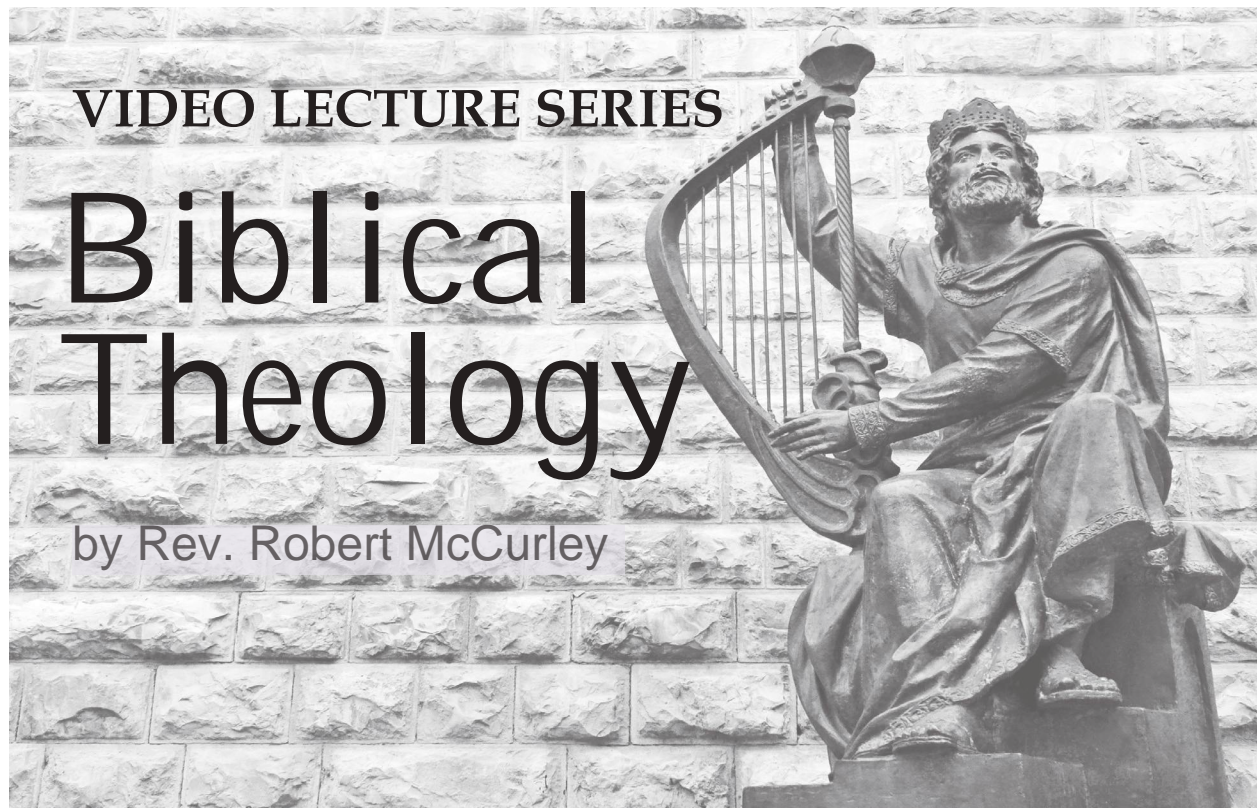
9. Considering the finished work of Christ, what can we learn about worship in the New Testament? What errors should we avoid?

10. Explain the doctrine of the priesthood of all believers, and give biblical evidence for it.

Further Applications

1. What does the feast of Tabernacles signify and point to in the New Testament?

2. Meditate on Romans 12:1–2, considering how the truth of sacrifice applies practically in the lives of God’s people who are called to be a living sacrifice.



Lecture #13

Inheritance



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Lecture #13

Inheritance

Lecture Theme:

God redeems his people in order to bring them to the promised land of his heavenly inheritance, where he will dwell with them for all of eternity.

Memory Text:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.”

—1 Peter 1, verses 3 and 4.

The Structure of this Lecture:

1. The promised land of Canaan.
2. A new call to take dominion.
 - a. God’s command to purge the land.
 - b. Israel refuses to enter the land.
 - c. Back to the wilderness 40 years.
 - d. From wilderness to conquest.
3. The land of fulfillment.
 - a. The land as a picture of heaven.
 - b. The inheritance of all believers.
 - c. Joshua and Jesus.
4. The Book of Judges.
 - a. Israel did not purge the land.
 - b. God sent enemies, and deliverers.
5. The Book of Ruth.
 - a. A revelation of God and his gospel grace.
6. Conclusion: God redeems his people to bring them to heaven.

Review Questions:

1. Why were clear instructions given for the Israelites to take dominion over the land of Canaan?

2. Explain the meaning of the inheritance of the land, and the exception for the sons of Aaron.

3. Explain how it is that the promised inheritance had to be received by faith, with a believing, responsive obedience. Use biblical examples.

4. Where can we see the visible church and the invisible church (the true believers) during this period of history?

5. What similarities in thinking do we see between Old Testament people and New Testament people about the land of fulfillment?

6. What is the ultimate inheritance of a believer? Provide Bible texts to support your answer.

7. What are the connections and similarities between Joshua and Jesus?

8. Give reasons why the Israelites didn't obey the command of God to drive out and destroy the sinful nations.

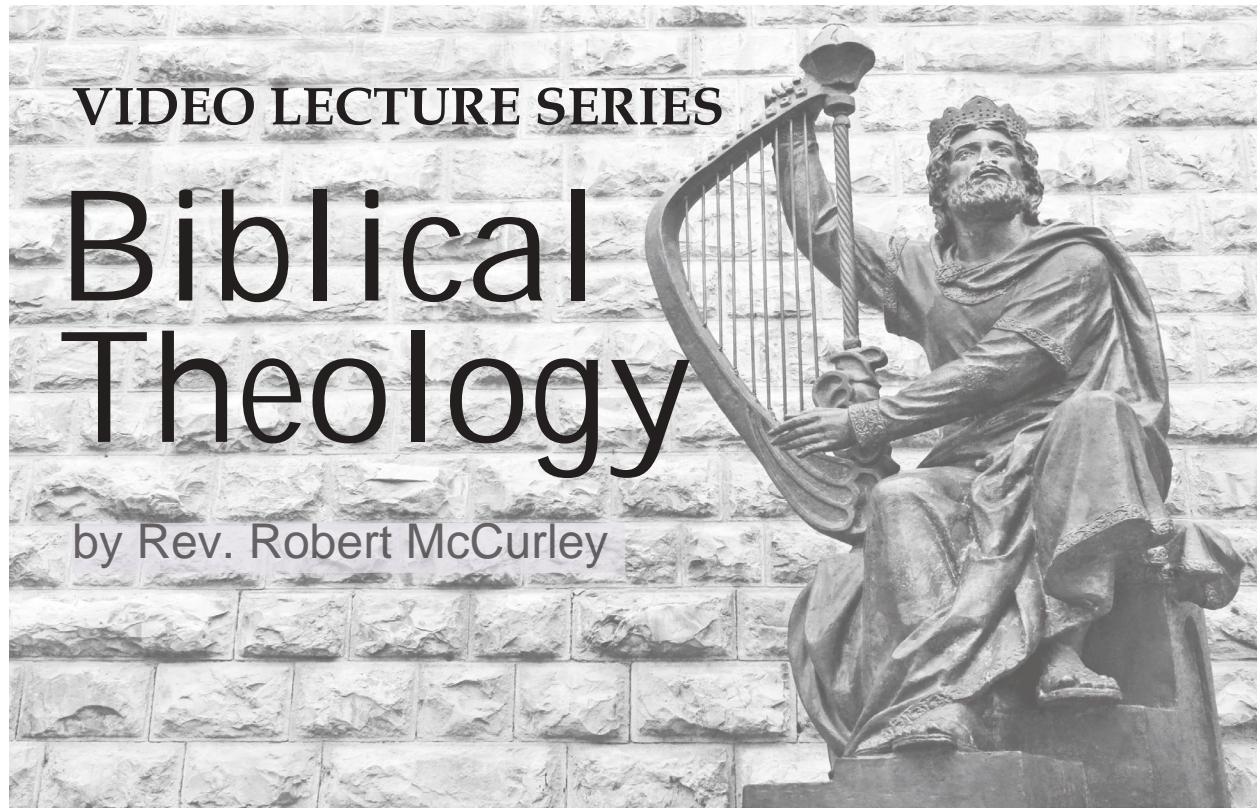
9. Describe the cyclical pattern we see in the Book of Judges. What does that point to?

10. How are the themes of Ruth tied back to the law, and tied forward to the Lord Jesus Christ?

Further Applications

1. Explore the theological significance of the cities of refuge and how they provide background for the revelation of God as our refuge, a gospel theme woven throughout the New Testament.

2. In this study, we learned that the gospel continued to be proclaimed in the wilderness, and the example was given of the brass serpent. Find additional examples and explain them.



Lecture #14

David



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Lecture #14

David

Lecture Theme:

God's covenant with David further intensifies the promise of the coming Seed. David's future Son will be greater than David, as the King of kings, and his kingdom will be an eternal kingdom.

Memory Text:

“Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David... being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne.”

—Acts 2, verses 29 and 30.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The preparation for David.
 - a. The need for a king.
 - b. David—the king after God's heart.
3. The covenant with David.
 - a. David conquered Jerusalem.
 - b. David brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.
 - c. David found rest from all his enemies.
 - d. Type of Christ.
4. David's greater Son.
 - a. Christ's kingship.
 - b. Every Christian is a king.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What was the background of David's kingship?

2. Was Israel's request for a king sinful? What was the real problem?

3. What is an unusual aspect of David's genealogy, and what does this say about the gospel?

4. Compare the sin of David and the sin of Saul. Draw spiritual instructions from that.

5. What are the three events that set the stage for God's covenant with David, in 2 Samuel chapter 7?

6. How did God reward David's zeal to build God's house?

7. How should we understand, "When we read forward in the Bible and in history, it appears that the reign of David's house eventually ceased"?

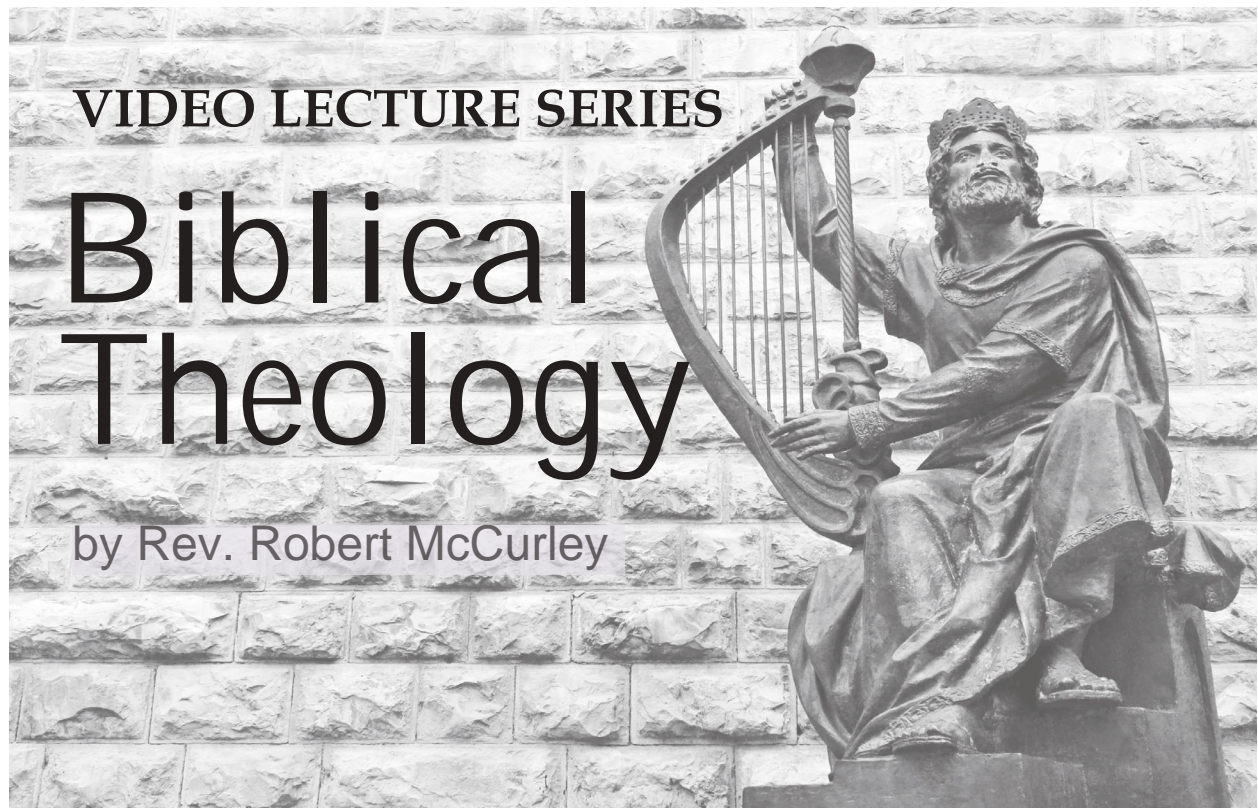
8. Is every Christian a king? How does this relate to the doctrine of the priesthood of all believers?

9. The promise to David's seed is found in Christ. Prove this from the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Further Applications

1. Is there an event in David's life that has had a great influence on your Christian life? How do you see the glory of God's grace from that event?

2. How did David reflect God's own character? Should the children of God reflect God's own character in some way?



Lecture #15

Psalms



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Biblical Theology

in 30 Lectures

by Rev. Robert McCurley

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Introduction | 16. Solomon |
| 2. Creation | 17. Temple |
| 3. Fall | 18. Kingdom |
| 4. Noah | 19. Prophets |
| 5. Abraham | 20. Exile |
| 6. Patriarchs 1 | 21. Restoration |
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Biblical Theology

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Lecture #15

Psalms

Lecture Theme:

God provides his church with a permanent book of inspired songs in which we sing to Christ, of Christ, and with Christ.

Memory Text:

“And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me.”

—Luke 24, verse 44.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The central place of the Book of Psalms..
 - a. The central place within the Bible and within the church throughout redemptive history.
 - b. The central place within the history of the Old Testament revelation.
 - c. Vital to the life of the individual believer.
3. Theological themes within the Book of Psalms.
 - a. The structure of the book.
 - b. The various types of Psalms.
 - c. Christ-centered book.
 - d. Full of the application of redemption in the gospel.
 - e. The imprecations.
4. Psalms as inspired praise.
 - a. The inspired prophets.
 - b. The canonical songs.
 - c. The sufficiency of Psalms.
5. Conclusion—The exhortation to Psalm-singing.

Review Questions:

1. What place does the Book of Psalms have in the Bible as a whole?

2. What place does the Book of Psalms have in the church throughout redemptive history?

3. Why did John Calvin view the Book of Psalms as “an anatomy of all parts of the soul”?

4. What is the structure of the Book of Psalms?

5. What various types of Psalms does this book consist of?

6. Why is the Book of Psalms considered as one of the most Christ-centered books in the Bible?

7. How should we understand the theme of imprecation in the book of Psalms? What is the importance of this theme?

8. What is the basis for believing that the Book of Psalms is God’s inspired hymnbook for the church in all ages? Give three points.

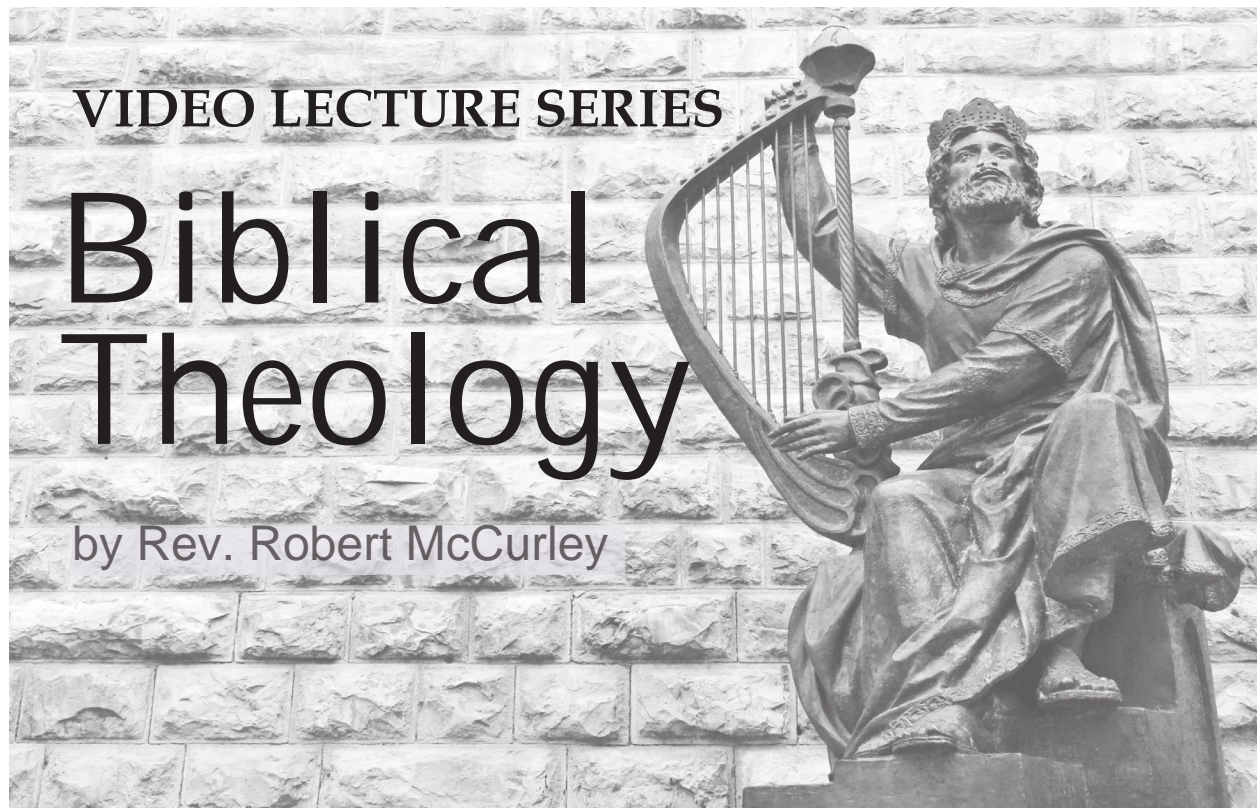
9. How should we understand Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:18–19 in relation to the Book of Psalms?

10. How are the Psalms even more meaningful to the New Testament than the Old Testament church?

Further Applications

1. Why do we find no warrant in Scripture for the use of uninspired human compositions?

2. Meditate on the theme of this lecture, “The Book of Psalms is a permanent book of inspired songs in which we sing to Christ, of Christ, and with Christ.” How ought we to apply this book practically in our lives?



Lecture #16

Solomon



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Lecture #16

Solomon

Lecture Theme:

All treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hid in Christ, who is the Wisdom of God.

Memory Text:

“The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.”

—Matthew 12, verse 42.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The historical context.
 - a. Peace and quietness.
 - b. Began with wisdom and ended with folly.
 - c. God’s judgment.
3. Theological themes.
 - a. Wisdom.
 - b. The fear of the Lord.
 - c. Righteousness.
 - d. Solomon’s wisdom books.
 - 1) Proverbs.
 - 2) Ecclesiastes.
 - 3) The Song of Solomon.
4. The New Testament fulfillment.
 - a. The Lord Jesus Christ.
 - b. New Testament fulfillment pertains to the Christian.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is the historical background of the reign of Solomon?

2. In which ways did Solomon begin well but end dismally?

3. What is true wisdom? What is the character of true wisdom?

4. How does the theological theme of “wisdom” tie to the doctrine of covenant?

5. What things does the fear of God include?

6. What “good fruits” are brought forth by godly fear?

7. What are the main themes of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes?

8. What is the Song of Solomon mainly about? What does this book exhort us to?

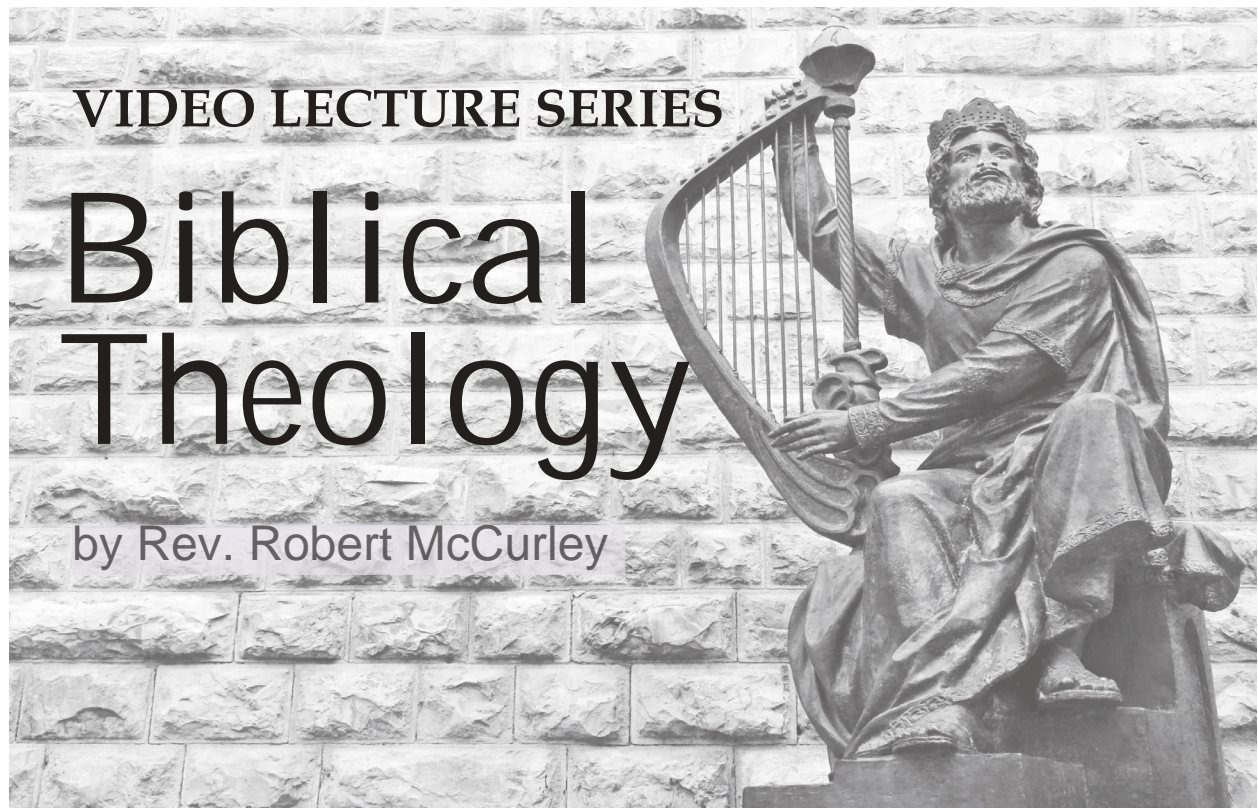
9. How do we see God’s true wisdom displayed preeminently in Christ, rather than in Solomon?

10. Where does the contemporary Christian find the true wisdom, which is foolishness to the world? What are the effects of finding true wisdom in this life?

Further Applications

1. How did the wisest man produce a foolish son? What does that teach you about Christian faith and life?

2. Meditate on the theme of “gospel righteousness” found throughout Proverbs chapters 10 through 15. Put your thoughts into words.



Lecture #17

Temple



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Lecture #17

Temple

Lecture Theme:

God establishes a permanent dwelling place among his people in the promised land, thereby pointing forward to the coming of Christ and his presence with his people in time and eternity.

Memory Text:

*“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.
And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it:
for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.”
—Revelation 21, verses 22 and 23.*

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Solomon’s temple.
 - a. A more permanent abode.
 - b. It did not last forever.
3. The theology of the temple.
 - a. Holiness.
 - b. The revelation of God himself.
 - c. The veil.
 - d. The temple ties with Eden.
4. The fulfillment of the temple in the New Testament.
 - a. Christ.
 - b. The church.
 - c. The individual Christian.
 - d. Heaven.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. Why was the tabernacle replaced by the temple? How are they similar and different?

2. Why was the temple destroyed? How does it show us the reality of God's promise?

3. Why is holiness such a dominant theme in connection with the temple? How does it explain Christ's cleansing of the temple?

4. Which theological themes are included in Solomon's prayer, in 2 Chronicles chapter 6 and 1 Kings chapter 8?

5. What does the veil symbolize? How does it relate to the work of Christ?

6. What is the connection between the temple and the kingdom centered in Jerusalem? How does it show that "the kingdom of God and the unfolding of this redemption is central to the world and to history"?

7. In what ways did the temple prefigure Christ?

8. What connections are made between the temple and the church in the New Testament?

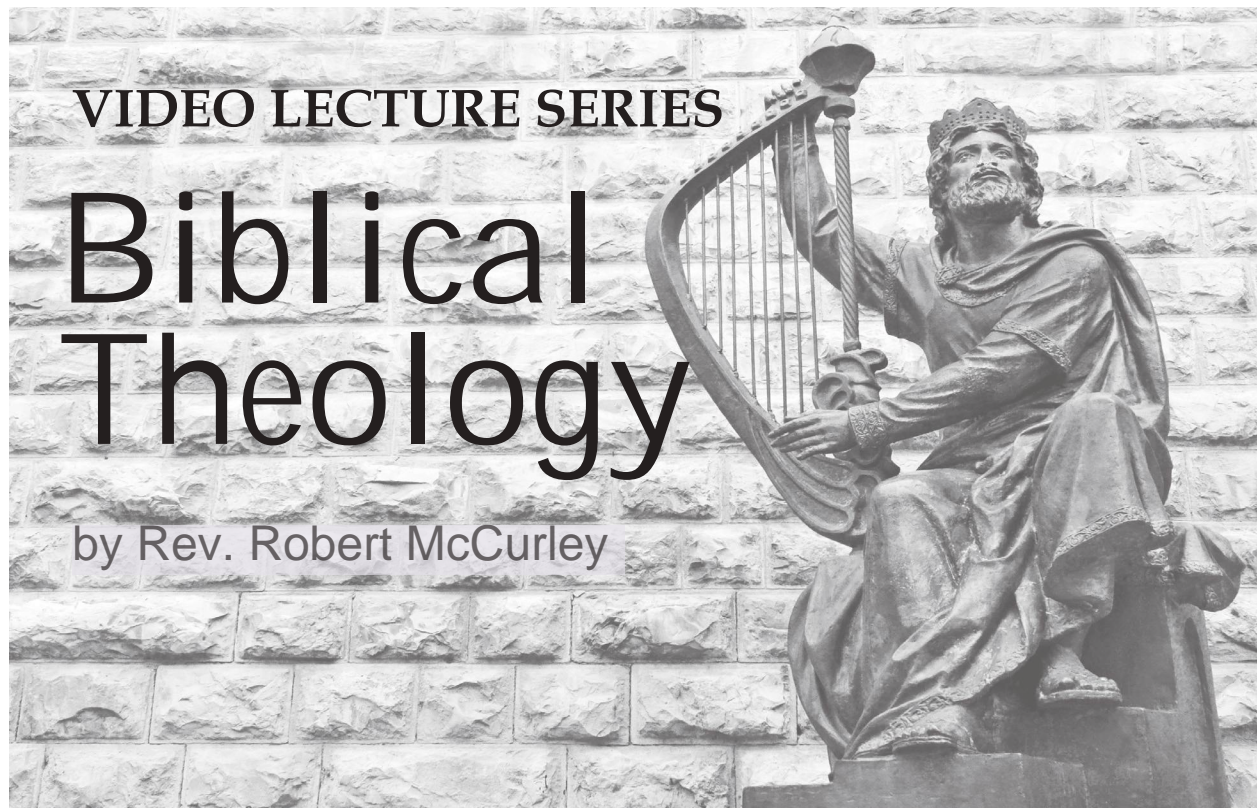
9. What connections are made between the temple and the individual Christian in the New Testament?

10. What is the connection between the temple and heaven to come?

Further Applications

1. How do we know that the Old Testament believer's whole life, schedule, priorities, and affections were tied to the holy temple?

2. In which aspects were the imagery of Eden woven into the details and design of the temple?



Lecture #18

Kingdom



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Lecture #18

Kingdom

Lecture Theme:

After the kingdom divides, both Israel and Judah turn away from God's covenant to idolatry, and God sets before them the path to blessings and curses. It is clear that God's great King has not yet come.

Memory Text:

*"For he is our peace, who hath made both one and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us....and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby."
—Ephesians 2, verses 14 and 16.*

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. A few suggestions for the study of this portion.
 - a. Timeline.
 - b. Study the first five books of Scripture.
 - c. The geographical knowledge of Judah and Israel.
3. The message of this period.
 - a. David and Jeroboam.
 - b. Covenant-breaking and rebellion.
 - c. The inescapable implications of this action.
 - d. The healing.
4. Theological themes.
 - a. Idolatry.
 - b. The consequence of idolatry.
5. Connection to the New Testament.
 - a. Lesson regarding idolatry continues to contemporary Christians.
 - b. Promised King is coming.
 - c. The kingdom in the New Testament.
6. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What are the suggestions given to help us keep track of all the details of this historical portion?

2. What is the standard for distinguishing between godly and ungodly kings? What role do David and Jeroboam play throughout this lengthy history?

3. What was the cause for the division of the kingdom of Israel into two parts? In separating, what did northern Israel actually do?

4. What was the attitude of the southern kingdom of Judah toward the northern kingdom of Israel? Did they learn from God's dealings with the northern kingdom?

5. Will the division of Israel ever be healed? And if so, how?

6. What does "idolatry" mean? What is an idol?

7. How does the Bible speak about the sin of idolatry?

8. What is the important consequence of idolatry?

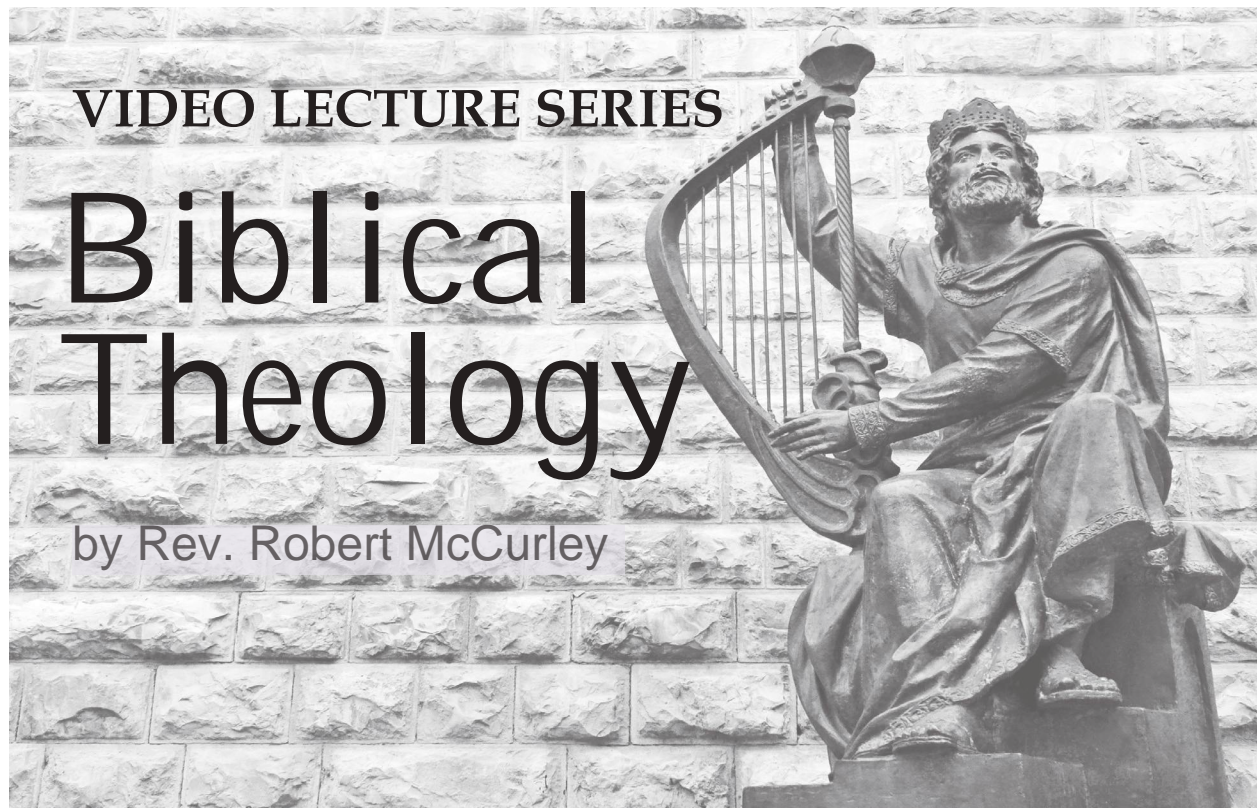
9. How is the theme of idolatry traced through the New Testament? How do we understand the phrase, “We become like what we worship”?

10. How does this period set our expectation of what will come with the arrival of Christ? What are the implications for the remainder of history?

Further Applications

1. Follow the three suggestions for learning this portion. Try to make a parallel timeline of the two kingdoms. Include each of the prophets, and indicate during which kings they prophesied. Finally, try to find maps that will help you understand the geography of Israel and Judah.

2. Meditate of Psalm 67. Ask the Lord to take the glorious gospel of his grace to all nations, and to make them glad in the Lord Jesus Christ.



Lecture #19

Prophets



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Lecture #19

Prophets

Lecture Theme:

God raised up prophets to pronounce judgment and proclaim salvation to his disobedient people, calling them to look to the Savior who would come and serve as God's final Word.

Memory Text:

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these days spoken unto us by his Son."

—Hebrews 1, verses 1 and 2.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The office of prophet.
 - a. The inspired mouthpiece of God to his people.
 - b. Recorded inspired writings.
 - c. The foundation of law and prophets.
 - d. The threat of false prophets.
 - e. Associate each prophetic book with their audience.
3. The message of the prophets.
 - a. A revelation of God himself.
 - b. Call to repentance, faith and obedience; mercy and judgment.
 - c. Idolatry is spiritual adultery.
 - d. The coming Messiah.
4. The New Testament fulfillment.
 - a. The connection to Christ himself.
 - b. The New Testament prophets.
 - c. The threat of false teaching and prophets in the present day.
 - d. Spiritual adultery in the New Testament.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is a prophet in the Bible? What function did their God-ordained office include? What were the dominant points of their messages?

2. Why is the relationship of the law and gospel so obvious and important?

3. What does the Bible say about false prophets? What is the character of their messages?

4. How do we know that “the prophets, first and foremost, provided a revelation of God himself”?

5. What is God’s purpose in the warning of judgment? Include the experience of Jonah in your answer.

6. Why did the prophets use covenantal and bridal language to speak about the sin of idolatry? Which portions of Scripture clearly show us this kind of prophetic interpretation?

7. What is the relationship of the prophets to Christ?

8. How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?

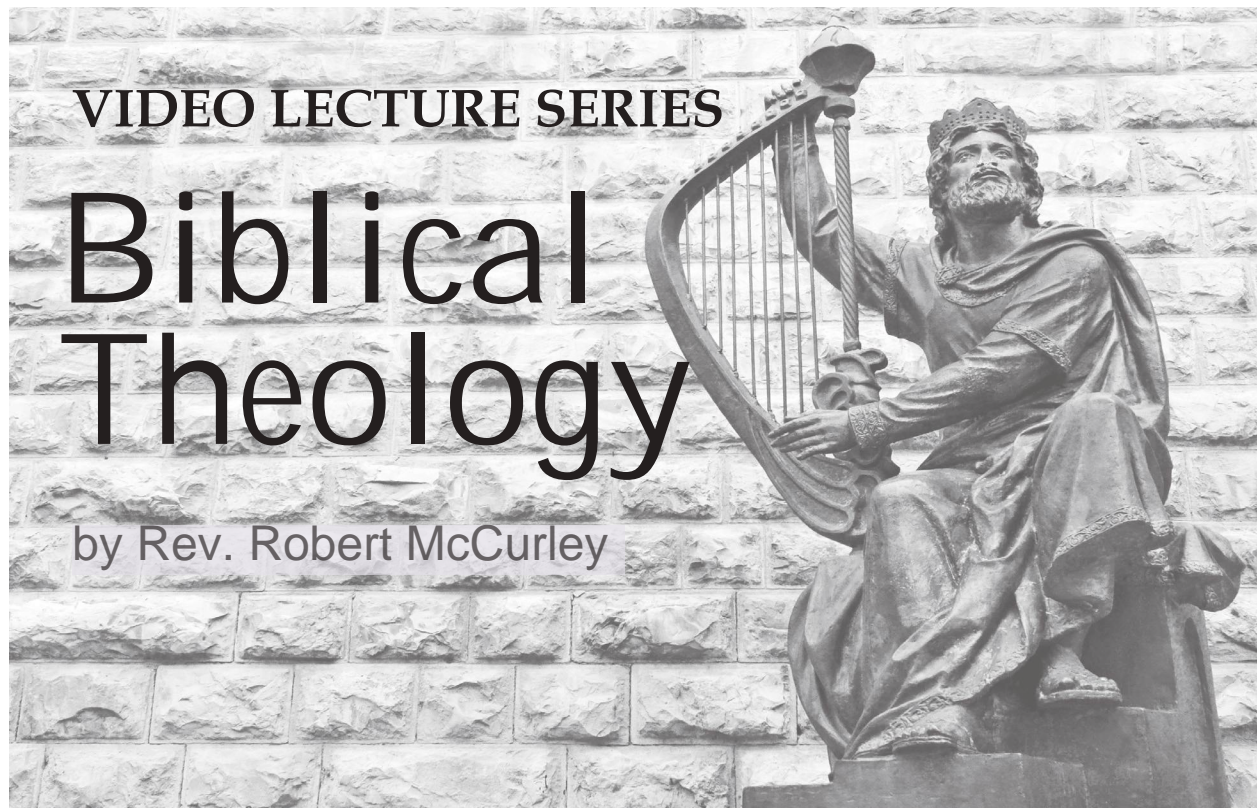
9. What is the role of the New Testament prophets? What is their relationship to Scripture?

10. Does the threat of false teachers and prophets continue? How is spiritual discernment to be exercised?

Further Applications

1. Is there still spiritual adultery in the New Testament? What practical instructions for Christian faith and life can you draw from this reality?

2. Which portions of Scripture clearly show the message of the coming Messiah? Find several of them and meditate on their fulfillment.



Lecture #20

Exile



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Lecture #20

Exile

Lecture Theme:

God's promises bring privileges, but they also bring obligations. God's people learn that rebelling against him and breaking this covenant results in the mercy of chastening to train them in his ways and to turn them back to himself.

Memory Text:

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation."

—1 Peter 2, verses 11 and 12.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The history of the Exile.
 - a. God's warning.
 - b. Exile.
 - c. The cause for the exile.
3. Theological themes from this period of the Old Testament history.
 - a. God keeps his promises.
 - b. God's sovereign disposal of nations.
 - c. God's sovereign disposal of all the details of the world.
 - d. God's intentions in the future.
 - e. The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. The connection between the prophetic period of exile and the New Testament.
 - a. The Old Testament reformation under Hezekiah and Josiah provide enduring patterns for the church in all ages.
 - b. We must not forsake our own mercies.
 - c. God-fearing Jews in exile.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. How should we read history and understand the events of the past and present?

2. When and how did God forewarn his people about the threat of exile?

3. What was the cause of their removal from the promised land?

4. How does this history show that God keeps his promises, both the blessing and the curse of the covenant?

5. How do we know that “God uses even the enemies of God’s people to accomplish his good intentions toward his people”?

6. How does the ordinance of church discipline in the New Testament parallel with their removal from the land?

7. What are the enduring patterns for the church in all ages found in the Old Testament reformation under Hezekiah and Josiah?

8. According to John Calvin, by what two things chiefly is it that “the Christian religion has a standing existence among us and maintain its truth”?

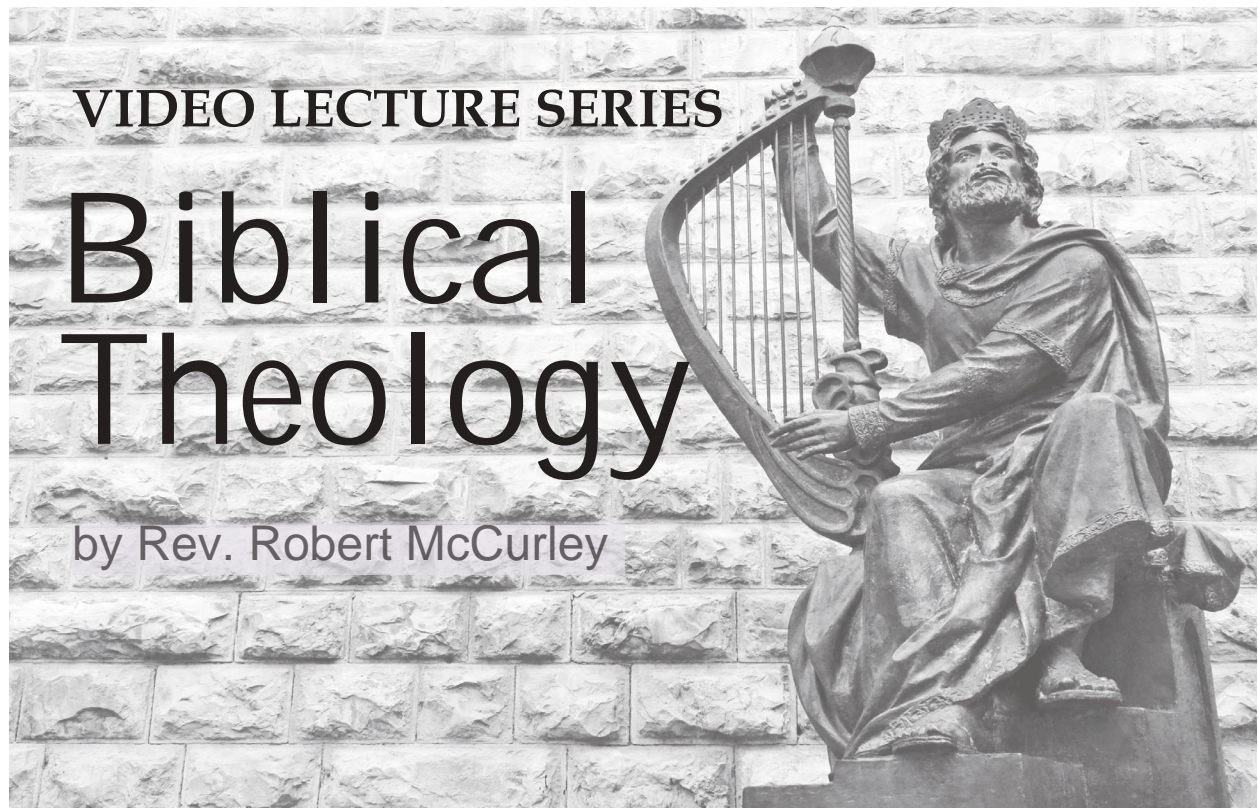
9. What is the purpose of God’s discipline toward his people? What are the practical instructions for us?

10. How does the example of the believing, God-fearing Jews in exile relate to the experience of the contemporary Christian?

Further Applications

1. Try to draw a parallel timeline for this portion of Bible history and world history.

2. According to the theological themes taught in this lecture, meditate upon the Book of Daniel.



Lecture #21

Restoration



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Lecture #21

Restoration

Lecture Theme:

God's promises of deliverance endure to the very end and train his Old Testament people to yet hope in the even greater promise to be fulfilled in the coming of the promised Messiah.

Memory Text:

“After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: that the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.”

—Acts 15, verses 16, 17, and 18.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The history of restoration.
 - a. Prophecy of Jeremiah.
 - b. Return from captivity.
 - c. God's primary purpose for bringing them back.
3. Theological points.
 - a. God's providence in the whole course of history.
 - b. The ongoing sins.
 - c. The result of sin and Nehemiah's call to reformation.
 - d. The role of Sabbath.
4. A sense of expectation.
 - a. The era of the prophets contributed to God's revelation about the coming New Testament.
 - b. Points of continuity and discontinuity between the Old and New Testaments.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. How did Daniel know the timing of the returning from exile? What is the foundation of Daniel's prayer in Daniel chapter 9?

2. What were the three successive waves of the exile return? Who were the main leaders and what prophets continued to bring God's word to his people?

3. What was one of God's primary purposes for bringing his people back from captivity into the land of promise?

4. How do we see from this period of history that "The office of kings exists to serve the Lord first and foremost and to uphold God's law under God's authority"?

5. What ongoing sins persisted after the return?

6. What theological truths do we glean from Nehemiah's call to biblical reformation?

7. What function does the Sabbath have at the end of the Old Testament, and what does that teach us about its permanent relevance?

8. What are the points of continuity, sameness, and connection between the Old and New Testaments?

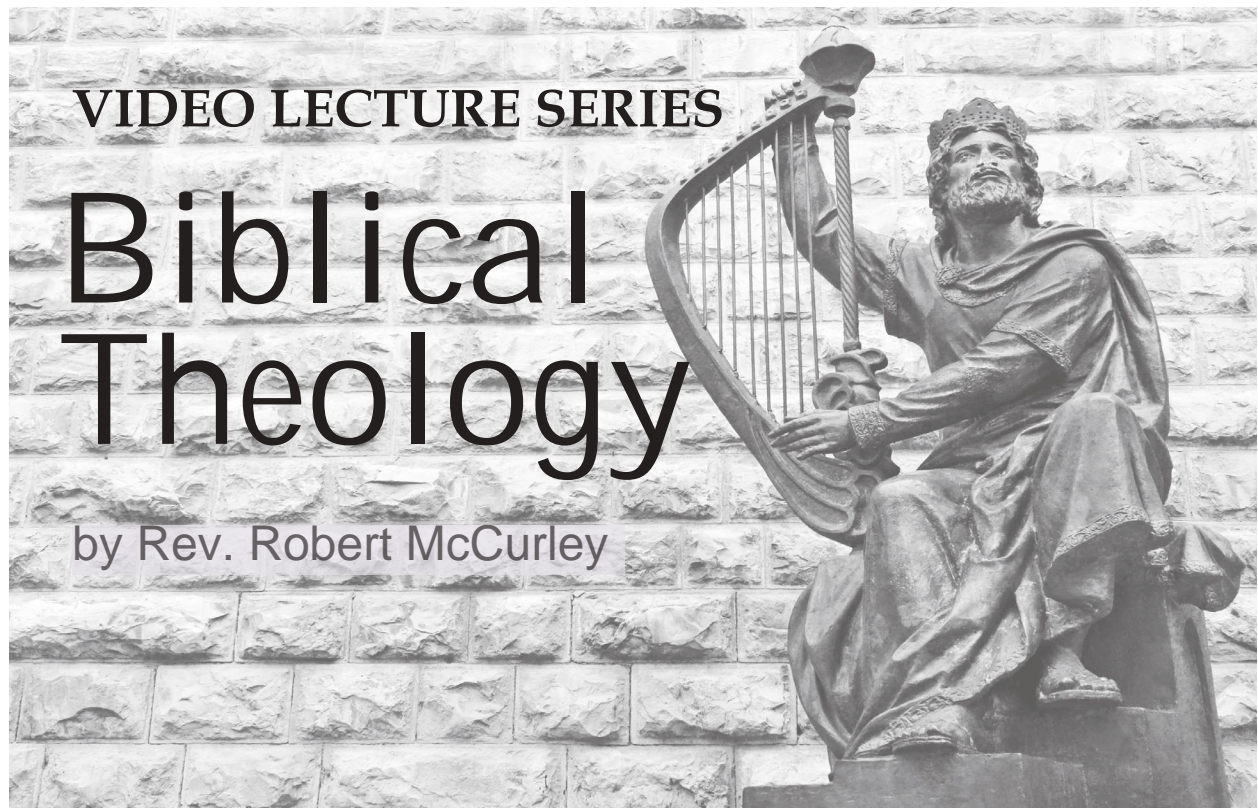
9. What are the points of discontinuity between the Old and New Testaments?

10. What are some of the greater degrees of blessing in the New Testament that surpass the glory of the Old Testament?

Further Applications

1. According to the points of continuity and discontinuity, what are the practical instructions for us for reading and explaining the Bible?

2. How do the models of “Come and see” and “Go and tell” affect our attitude toward missionary work?



VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

Biblical Theology

by Rev. Robert McCurley

Lecture #22

Incarnation



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Biblical Theology

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Lecture #22

Incarnation

Lecture Theme:

God displays the fullest and final revelation of his glory in sending his Son into the world.

Memory Text:

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”

—John 1, verse 14.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The joyous anticipation and fulfillment.
 - a. Christ connects the Old and New Testament.
 - b. Godly believers in the Old Testament expected his coming.
 - c. Joy.
 - 1) Christ’s coming announced by the angels of heaven.
 - 2) Christ’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
3. The person of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - a. Jesus is true God.
 - b. Jesus is the revelation of God.
4. The message Christ delivered in his incarnate ministry.
 - a. The kingdom and calling men to repent.
 - b. The confirmation of the covenant.
 - c. Relevance for New Testament preaching.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. How does Christ connect the Old and New Testament? Are they both Christ-centered?

2. How do we see that “the buildup of anticipation of Christ’s coming and its fulfillment stand out prominently at the beginning of the New Testament”?

3. In what way does Christ’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem highlight this point about anticipation and the joyous fulfillment in the incarnation?

4. What does the word “incarnation” mean? What does this word refer to theologically?

5. Give examples of how Christ continued to disclose his own divine glory throughout his earthly ministry.

6. What does the title “Son of man” refer to?

7. How does Christ reveal the glory of God?

8. What is the kingdom of God? Where is the root of the idea of the kingdom and how did it progress through the Old Testament into the New Testament?

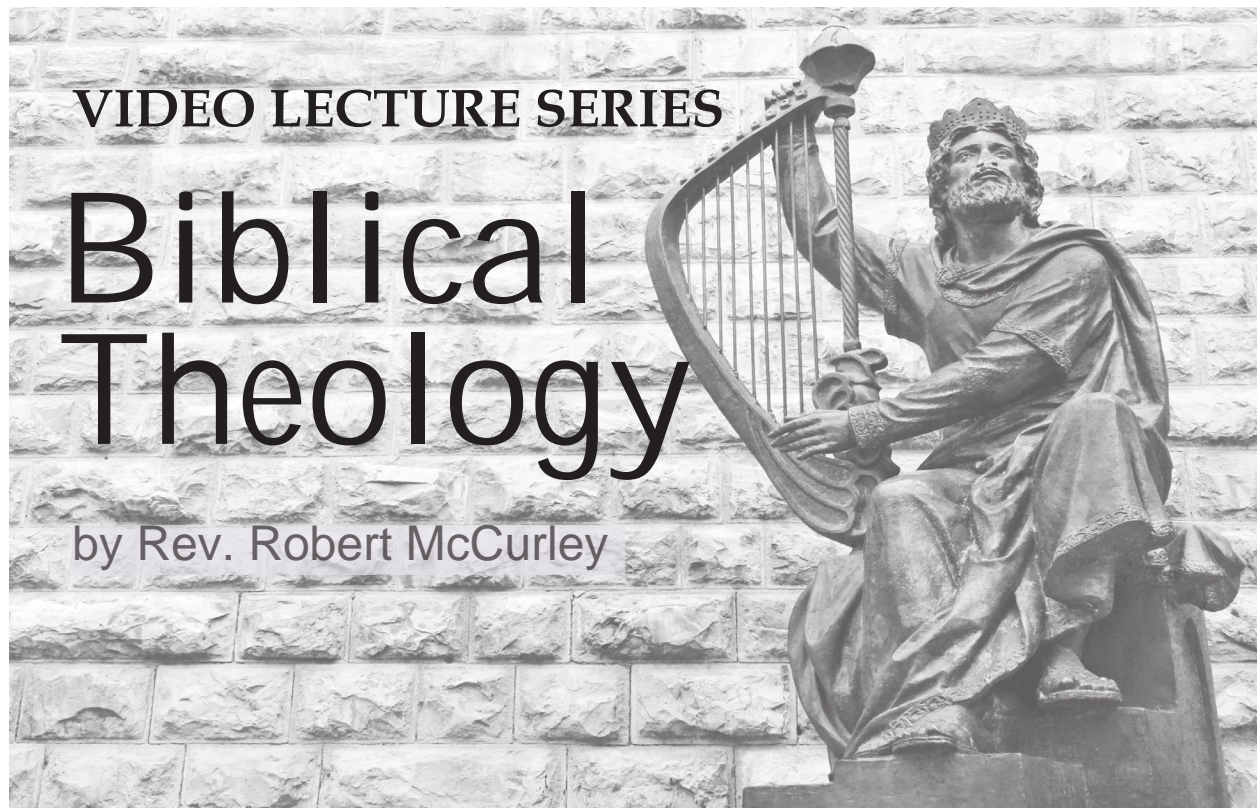
9. The message of the kingdom included the demands of repentance. What is biblical repentance?

10. How does the message of Christ relate to the church's message today?

Further Applications

1. There are many quotations from Scripture in this module. To help you understand the connection of the Old and New Testament regarding the anticipation and fulfillment of the incarnation of Christ, we recommend that you meditate on these Bible texts.

2. What do the parables that Christ used during his ministry teach us about the kingdom? What are the characteristics of God's kingdom?



Lecture #23

Atonement



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Lecture #23

Atonement

Lecture Theme:

God condescends to reveal his glory through Christ's finished work of atonement.

Memory Text:

"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."
—1 Corinthians 2, verse 2.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Historical unfolding of atonement.
3. Theology of the cross.
 - a. Sacrifice.
 - b. Reconciliation.
 - c. Redemption.
 - d. Obedience.
4. The extent of the atonement.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is the difference between the objective accomplishment of salvation and the subjective application of redemption?

2. Why is the cross central to the New Testament and the Bible as a whole?

3. In which three aspects did Christ fulfill the work of his sacrifice? Define “vicarious sacrifice,” “expiation,” and “propitiation.”

4. What does Christ’s atonement have to do with fellowship with God? Why is the theme of reconciliation an important part of preaching?

5. How does the theme of redemption connect the Old and New Testaments?

6. God’s people are redeemed from spiritual bondage. What four things does this include?

7. What are Christ’s active and passive obedience? Why are both of them necessary?

8. For whom did Christ die? How does Arminianism answer this question? What does the Bible teach us?

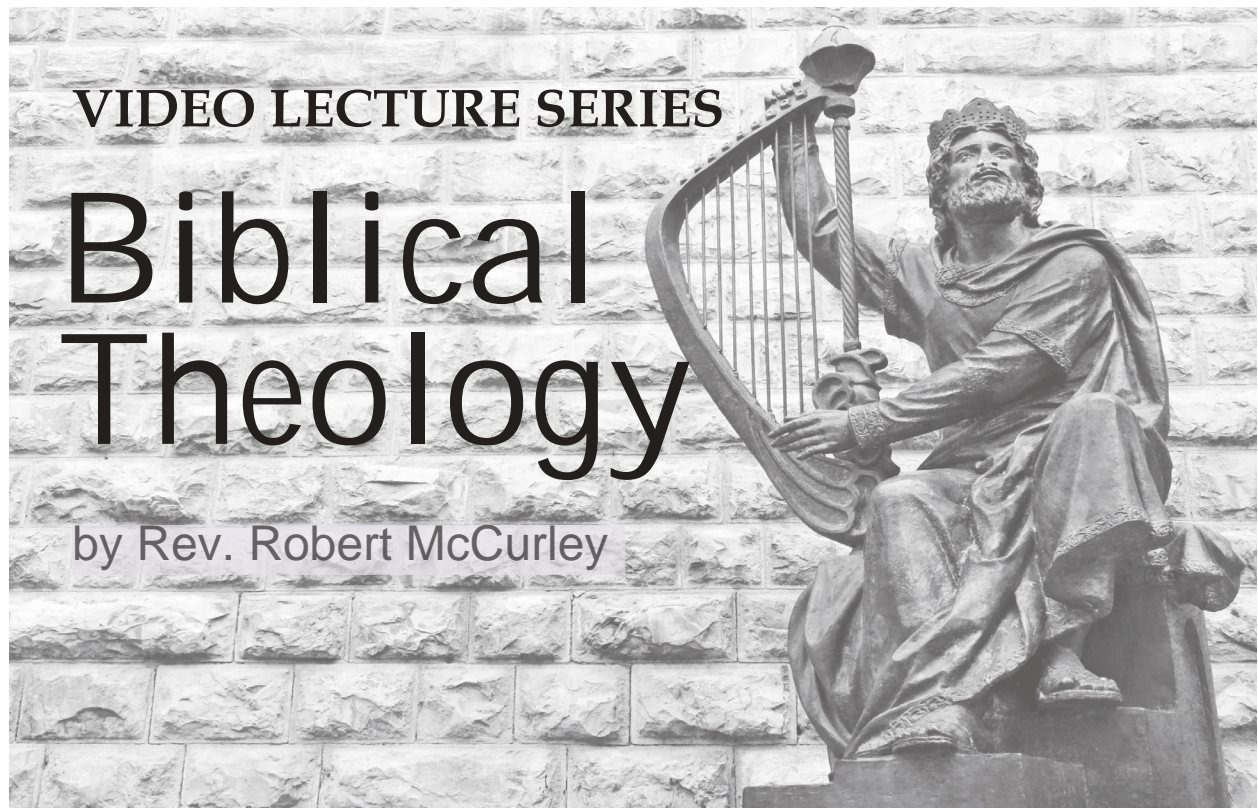
9. Who limits the atonement? How did the whole sacrificial system in the Old Testament teach the truth of a limited atonement?

10. How did John Owen argue from the Bible for the fact that Christ died for his elect people?

Further Applications

1. What does it mean that “there cannot be a double payment”? How do we see this particularism in the Old Testament?

2. How should Christians view Christ’s work on the cross? And how does the cross manifest the wisdom and power of God?



Lecture #24

Resurrection



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Lecture #24

Resurrection

Lecture Theme:

God reveals his glory to men and angels through the triumphant resurrection of Christ, through which he secures the promised redemption of his people.

Memory Text:

*“And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.
Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.”*
—1 Corinthians 15, verses 17 and 18.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Christ’s resurrection within God’s plan of redemption.
 - a. The Old Testament references.
 - b. The declaration of his vindication.
 - c. The fact of his resurrection.
3. The believer’s past spiritual resurrection.
 - a. Salvation.
 - b. Justification.
 - c. Christ-centered mind and affections (sanctification).
4. The believer’s future bodily resurrection.
 - a. Certainty of future bodily resurrection.
 - b. Hope in resurrection changes the Christian’s life.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What references does the Old Testament provide to the resurrection of Christ?

2. Was the nature of Christ's body after the resurrection the same as before? Was it still a true body?

3. "Christ's resurrection was the greatest miracle of all, and the definitive and public declaration of his vindication." As you learned from this lecture, what four truths did the resurrection demonstrate?

4. Which are some strong evidences for the truth of Christ's resurrection?

5. How did the fact of Christ's resurrection transform the life and message of the disciples?

6. Why do we say that the power of Christ's resurrection is at work in the Christian's salvation? Why would this be necessary?

7. How does the resurrection power of Christ affect the mind and affections of a believer?

8. How do we see the connection between Christ's resurrection and the believer's future bodily resurrection in the terms "firstfruit" and "firstborn" from the dead?

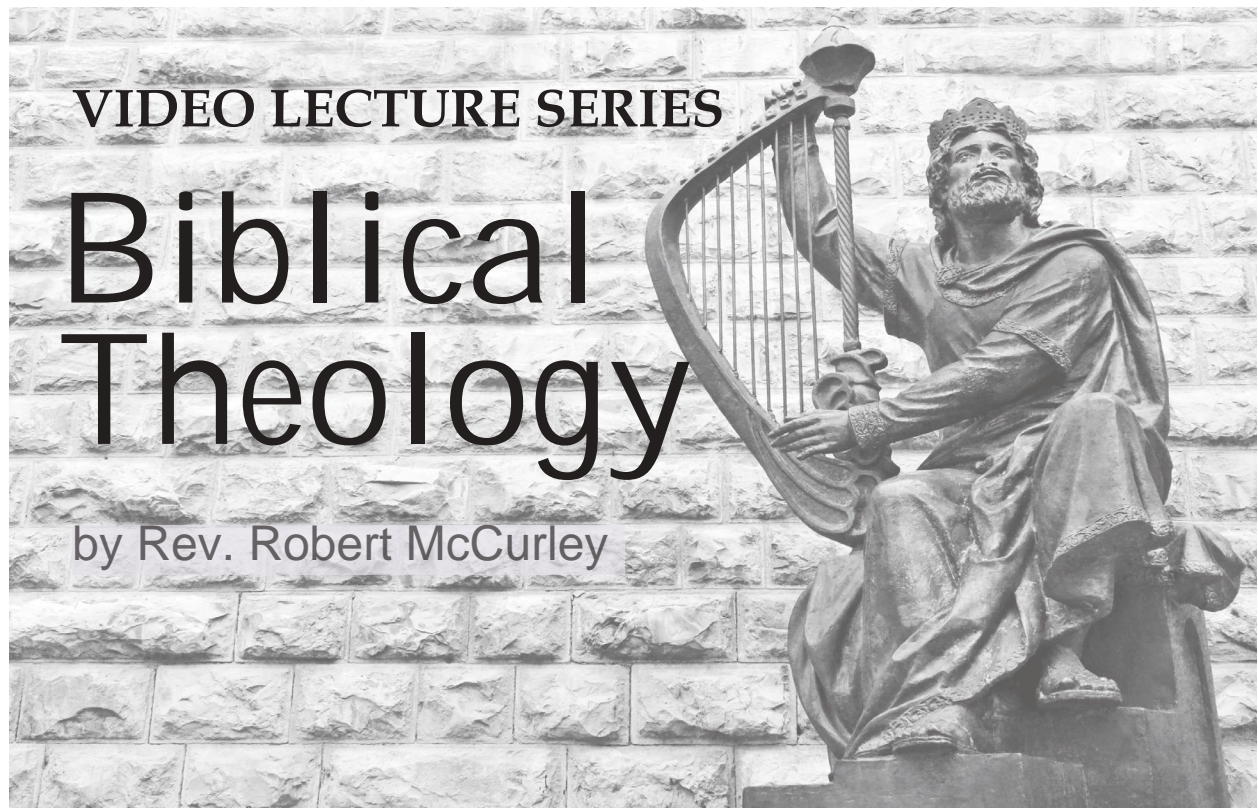
9. All men will be raised from the dead. But what is the difference between the believer's and the unbeliever's resurrection?

10. How should this confident hope of the resurrection make a difference in our life in this world?

Further Applications

1. Meditate on 1 Corinthians chapter 15, which is the fullest chapter in the New Testament devoted to the doctrine of resurrection. Make a list of things about resurrection that are mentioned in this chapter.

2. Why do we say, "Christ's resurrection also secured our justification"? Also, what does the resurrection have to do with mortification of sin?



Lecture #25

Pentecost



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Lecture #25

Pentecost

Lecture Theme:

The ascended Christ pours out his Spirit upon his people, and the Spirit glorifies the Son, taking the things of Christ to show them to his people.

Memory Text:

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”
—John 16, verses 13 through 15.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Christ’s promise of the Spirit.
 - a. The promise of another Comforter.
 - b. Christ’s going and the Spirit’s coming.
3. Christ and the Spirit during his earthly ministry.
 - a. In the beginning of Christ’s incarnation.
 - b. Christ’s ministry.
 - c. At the cross.
 - d. Christ’s resurrection.
 - e. Ongoing ministry after Christ’s ascension.
4. Christ’s giving the Spirit.
 - a. The day of Pentecost.
 - b. Trinitarian character.
 - c. The Spirit as an earnest.
5. The Spirit and the Christian.
 - a. The work of application.
 - b. The Word and the Spirit.
 - c. Some mistakes
 3. The fruit of the Spirit.
6. The Spirit and the church.
 - a. Gifts of church offices.
 - b. The church indwelt by the Spirit.
7. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. Where can we find Christ's promise of the Spirit in the Bible? What is the connection between Christ's departure and the coming of the Spirit?

2. What was the relationship of the Holy Spirit to Christ in his earthly ministry? What is the ongoing ministry of the Spirit?

3. What is the significance of the day of Pentecost?

4. Is every Christian indwelt by the Spirit? How can we counter the false teaching that there are Christians who still need to receive the Holy Spirit?

5. What does it mean that the Spirit serves as an earnest?

6. Explain the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers.

7. Why is the tie between the Word and the Spirit so important?

8. What are the mistakes of the modern charismatic movement?

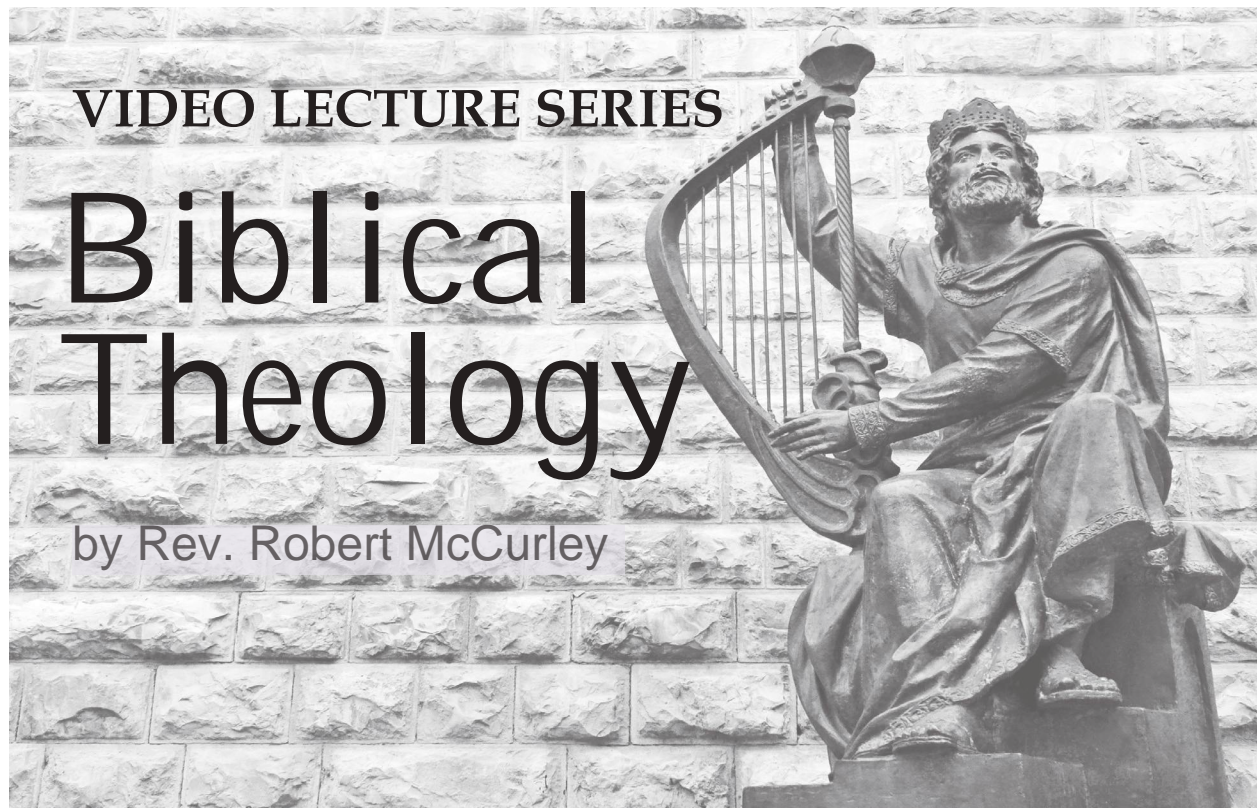
9. How do we know the New Testament places great emphasis on the fruits of the Spirit in the life of a believer?

10. How are church offices gifts of Christ through the Spirit to the church?

Further Applications

1. According to what you've learned from this lecture, how do we understand this text practically, "Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings" (1 Thessalonians 5:19–20)?

2. Meditate on how the Spirit magnifies the Son of God. What is the relationship of the work of the Holy Spirit to the preaching of Christ?



Lecture #26

Church



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Lecture #26

Church

Lecture Theme:

The church is built on Jesus Christ, the chief corner stone as a habitation of God, through which he magnifies his glory to the whole world.

Memory Text:

*“And Jesus answered and said...I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*
—Matthew 16, verses 17 and 18.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. Christ’s promise of the Spirit.
 - a. The promise of another Comforter.
 - b. Christ’s going and the Spirit’s coming.
3. Christ and the Spirit during his earthly ministry.
 - a. In the beginning of Christ’s incarnation.
 - b. Christ’s ministry.
 - c. At the cross.
 - d. Christ’s resurrection.
 - e. Ongoing ministry after Christ’s ascension.
4. Christ’s giving the Spirit.
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 - b. Trinitarian character.
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 - b. The Word and the Spirit.
 - c. Some mistakes
 3. The fruit of the Spirit.
 6. The Spirit and the church.
 - a. Gifts of church offices.
 - b. The church indwelt by the Spirit.
7. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is the nature of the church? What does the Reformed Belgic Confession say about the importance of joining the visible church? May believers detach themselves from the visible church?

2. What are the meanings of these three terms: visible church, invisible church, and catholic church?

3. What are the three distinguishing marks of the true church? Does faithfulness mean perfection?

4. Who has distinct membership in the church? What are the practical instructions for us?

5. Does the membership of the church include the children of professing Christians? What is the biblical foundation for this?

6. How is Christ's headship evident in the church's authority? What are the characteristics of church authority?

7. What are the three kinds of office-bearers that Christ has appointed into his church? What are their specific responsibilities?

8. What is the ordinance of church discipline? Why is it necessary?

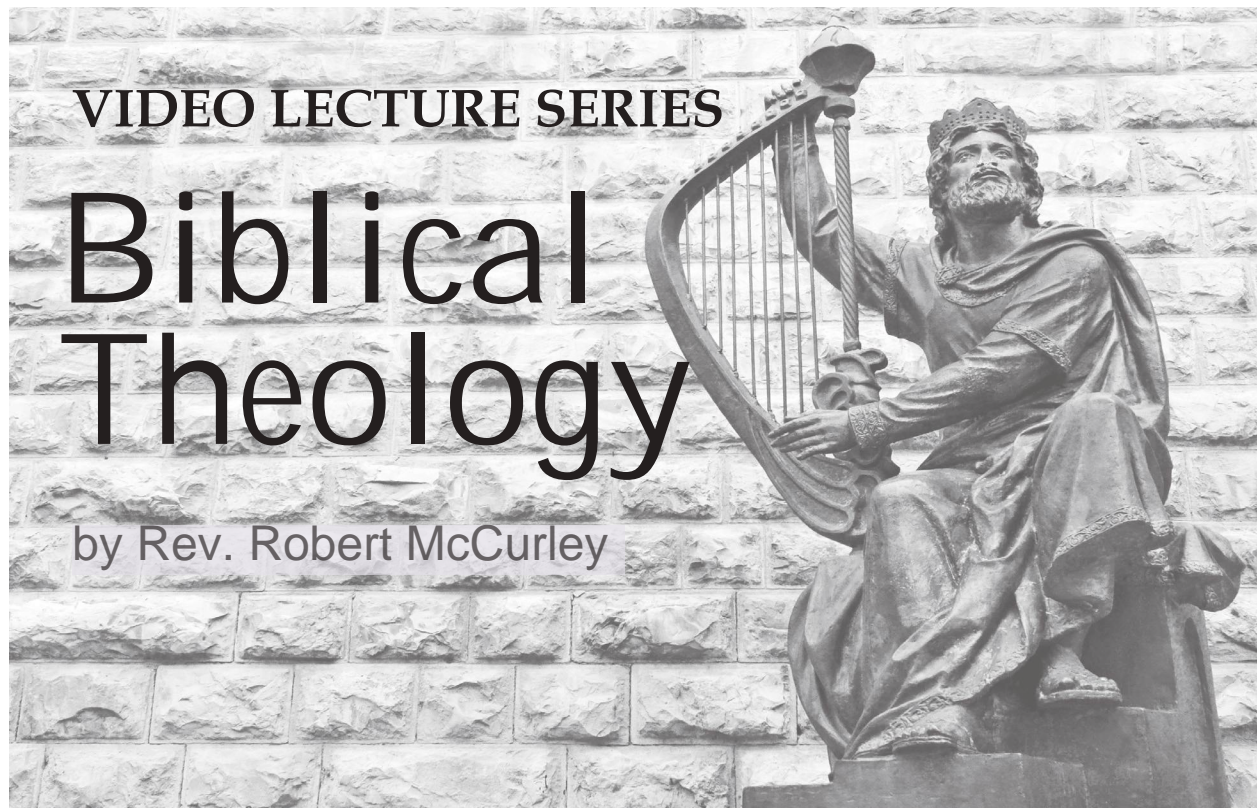
9. What are the purposes of the ordinance of church discipline? What is the motivation behind exercising godly church discipline?

10. What are the substantial benefits of the church?

Further Applications

1. Meditate on the descriptions God has given of the church in the New Testament which the author has mentioned in this lecture. What comforts do these pictures bring to you?

2. For further study of the ordinance of church discipline and the church life of Christians, we recommend you view the lectures on this website, *Conflict Resolution in the Church*, and, *The Law of Love in the Church*, both by Rev. A. T. Vergunst.



Lecture #27

Union



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Lecture #27

Union

Lecture Theme:

God magnifies the Savior by revealing that all the benefits of salvation come through the believer's union with Christ.

Memory Text:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."
—Ephesians 1, verse 3.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The importance of union with Christ.
 - a. The definition.
 - b. Two phrases.
3. The meaning of union with Christ.
 - a. Biblical examples.
 - b. The characteristics of this union.
 - c. How are believers united to Christ?
4. The implications of union with Christ.
 - a. Redemption applied by union with Christ.
 - b. Union with Christ provides the basis for communion with Christ.
 - c. Union with Christ connected to two sacraments.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. How do we define union with Christ, and understand its meaning? What are two phrases in the New Testament used to describe this union?

2. How did John Calvin speak about the importance of union with Christ?

3. What biblical images does God provide for our understanding of union with Christ?

4. What are the characteristics of union with Christ? Support with Scripture passages.

5. How does the Bible teach us that believers are united to Christ at all points of his activity?

6. What are the two bonds that bring a sinner and Christ together?

7. How does the Bible show the connection between union with Christ and the various blessings of the application of redemption? Try to give some examples.

8. Why do we say that we cannot separate Christ from his benefits?

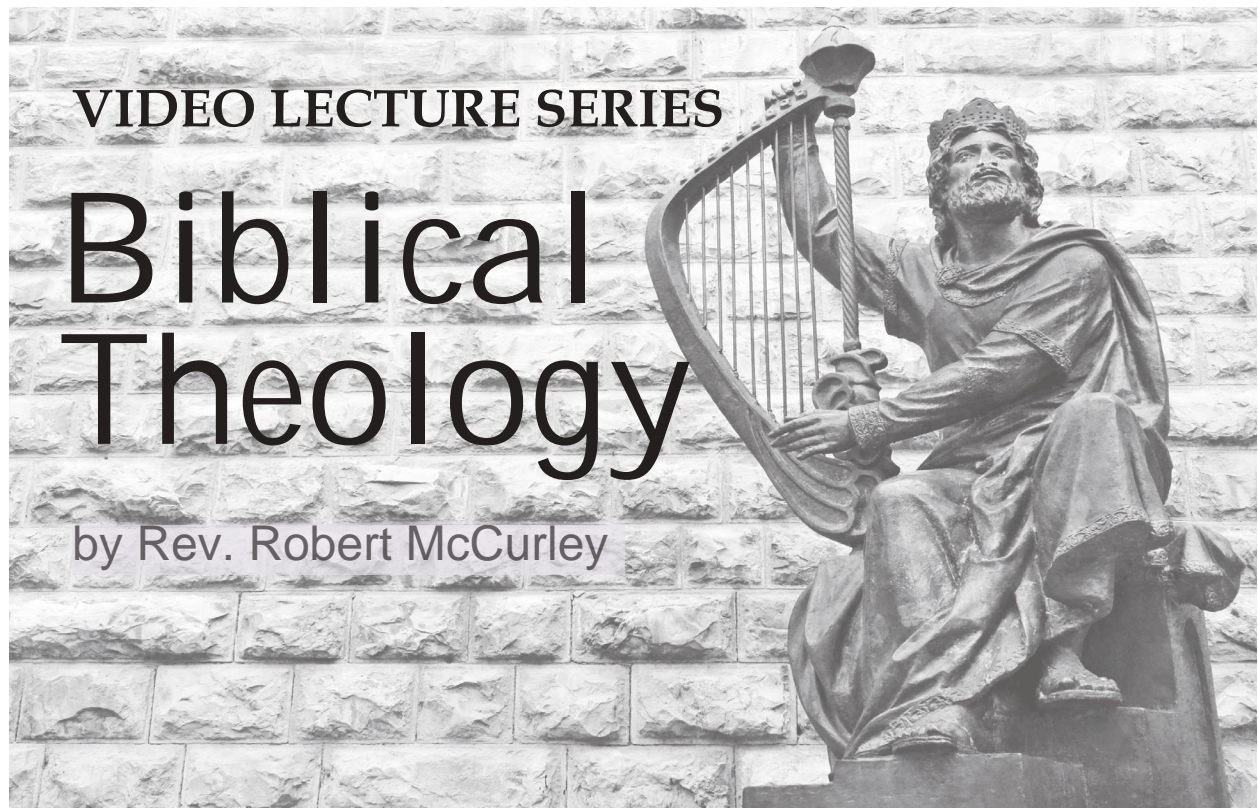
9. Is it possible that a person thinks he was delivered from hell but there is no evidence of life change? How will you answer him?

10. How do we see that “union with Christ is being connected to both sacraments”? What specifically do these two sacraments signify regarding union with Christ?

Further Applications

1. Find texts which include the phrases “in Christ” and “with Christ” in the New Testament. Meditate on the glorious truth of union with Christ through these texts.

2. The image of a hopeless widow and a prince with limitless resources was used to express union with Christ in the lecture. Did you know that this picture comes from Luther? What are other images you can think of to express union with Christ.



Lecture #28

Redemption



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Lecture #28

Redemption

Lecture Theme:

God applies Christ's completed work of redemption in history to every individual believer throughout time.

Memory Text:

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."
—Romans 8, verses 29 and 30.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The ministry of the Spirit.
3. The benefits and the work of the Spirit in the application of redemption.
 - a. The external and internal call.
 - b. Regeneration.
 - c. Faith and repentance.
 - d. Justification.
 - e. Adoption.
 - f. Sanctification.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in relationship to Christ's ongoing work after his ascension?

2. What is the meaning of "external call" and "internal call"? What are the characteristics of effectual calling?

3. What is regeneration? Why do we say, "regeneration precedes faith and repentance"?

4. Why do we say, "the mode of regeneration is rather mysterious"?

5. What is justification? What is the foundation and what is the instrument of justification?

6. What is the right relationship of justification to good works? How are we to distinguish between the declarative aspect and the demonstrative aspect of justification?

7. Explain the full meaning of "the great exchange" in regard to justification.

8. What is adoption? What privileges does adoption bring to believers?

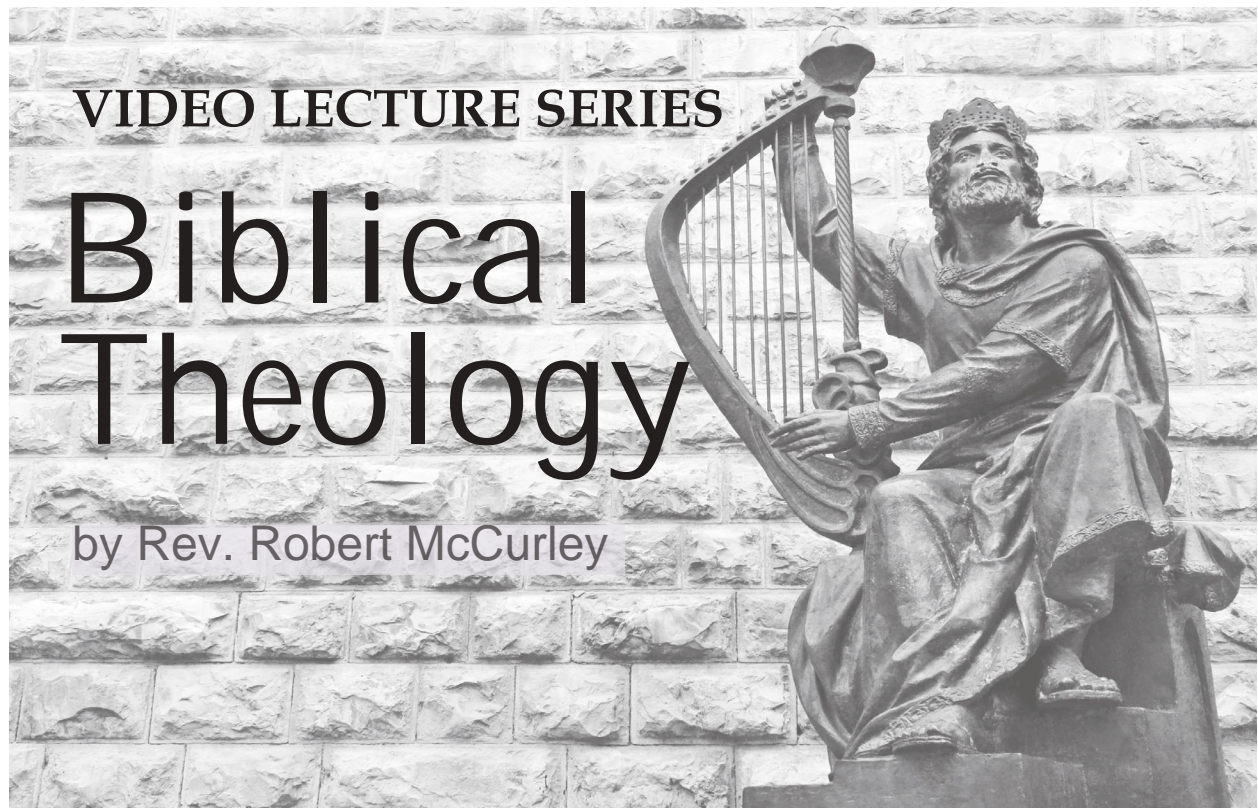
9. What is sanctification? What are the differences between justification and sanctification?

10. What is the nature of good works? How can good works be “not meritorious” and yet “rewarded”?

Further Applications

1. What are the benefits of good works to the believer? How is God glorified through the believer’s good works?

2. How do we see, through Christ’s work in them by the Spirit, the believer renewed after the likeness of Christ?



Lecture #29

Mission



The John Knox Institute
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Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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greenvillepresbyterian.com

Biblical Theology

in 30 Lectures

by Rev. Robert McCurley

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Introduction | 16. Solomon |
| 2. Creation | 17. Temple |
| 3. Fall | 18. Kingdom |
| 4. Noah | 19. Prophets |
| 5. Abraham | 20. Exile |
| 6. Patriarchs 1 | 21. Restoration |
| 7. Patriarchs 2 | 22. Incarnation |
| 8. Exodus | 23. Atonement |
| 9. Sinai | 24. Resurrection |
| 10. Tabernacle | 25. Pentecost |
| 11. Sacrifices | 26. Church |
| 12. Priesthood | 27. Union |
| 13. Inheritance | 28. Redemption |
| 14. David | 29. Mission |
| 15. Psalms | 30. Glory |

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Lecture #29

Mission

Lecture Theme:

God calls his church to proclaim his gospel to every tribe, tongue, and nation, thereby displaying the glory of God through redemption in Christ and its power to bring many throughout the world to worship him.

Memory Text:

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

—Matthew 28, verses 18 and 20.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The ministry of the Spirit.
3. The benefits and the work of the Spirit in the application of redemption.
 - a. The external and internal call.
 - b. Regeneration.
 - c. Faith and repentance.
 - d. Justification.
 - e. Adoption.
 - f. Sanctification.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. Where does the Old Testament foretell of the work of the great commission?

2. What is the Old Testament approach to proclaiming the gospel? Try to give some examples from the Bible.

3. How is the New Testament different from the Old Testament in the approach God gave to proclaiming the gospel?

4. What is the book of Acts mainly about? Who secured the success of this gospel enterprise?

5. How are Christ's ascension and his having all power and authority the basis for the great commission?

6. What level of priority does God place on the church's mission in the New Testament?

7. What is the importance of evangelism to the worship of God?

8. How are we to understand that "biblical worship is central to everything in biblical Christianity"?

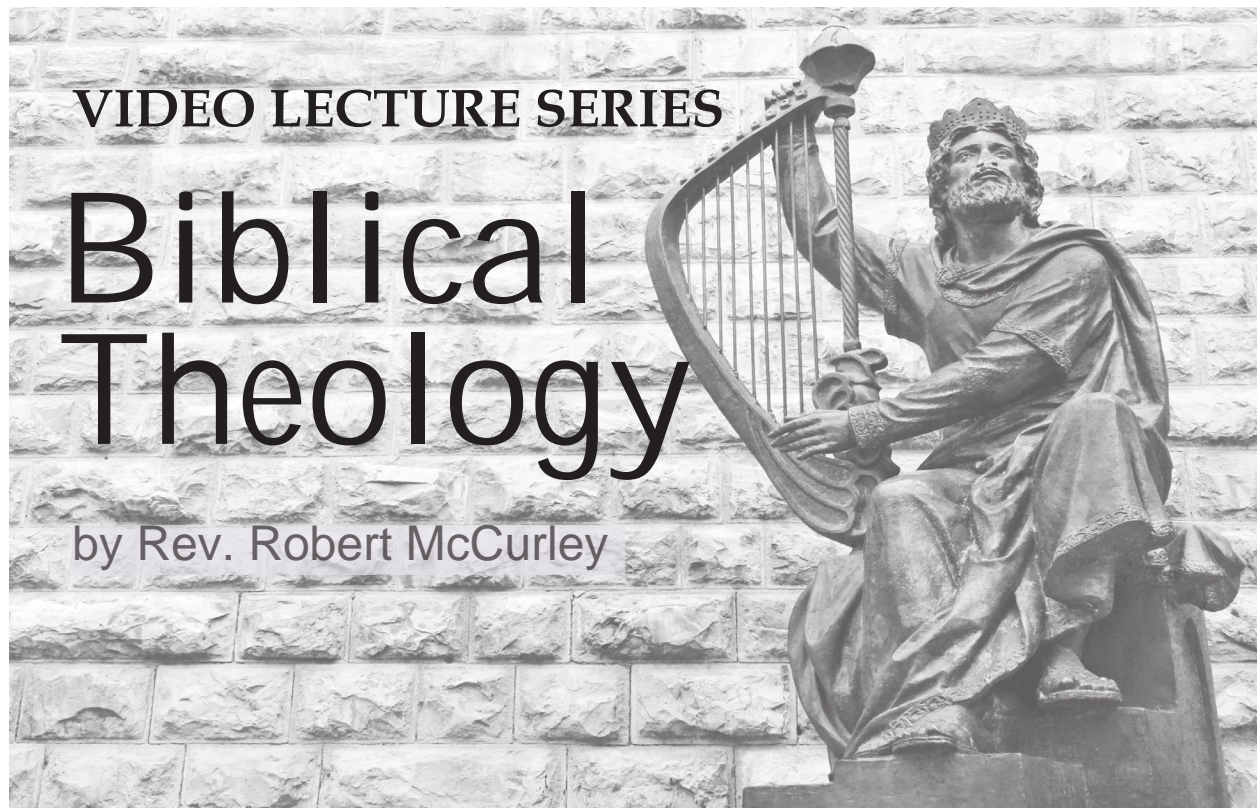
9. How do we see that when Christ gave the great commission, he already emphasized the importance of worship? What is the reservation implied in the great commission?

10. What are some examples from the Bible which show us that we should only worship God according to his Word?

Further Applications

1. “What God has positively prescribed is permitted, and what he has not instituted is forbidden.” Do you agree? Why?

2. How is the glory of Christ connected to evangelizing the nations? What are the practical instructions for you personally after learning this module?



Lecture #30

Glory



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Lecture #30

Glory

Lecture Theme:

The culmination of history, like its inception, sets forth the glory of God in Christ, which is magnified through the consummation on the last day.

Memory Text:

“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to thine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.”
—Revelation 21, verses 22 and 23.

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. The last day.
 - a. Christ’s second coming.
 - b. The resurrection of the dead.
 - c. The last judgment.
3. The believers’ eternal glory.
 - a. The final state of believers.
 - b. The sight of God.
 - c. True happiness.
4. The practical instructions.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. In summary, what things do we know from God's Word about Christ's second coming?

2. Why is the resurrection of the body essential to the salvation of God's people and to the damnation of the unbelieving?

3. What is involved in the final judgment, and what are the consequences for believers and unbelievers?

4. How do you answer someone who says that heaven is a place full of earthly enjoyments?

5. How do we understand that "the glory of heaven is the sight of God"? What is the difference between beholding his glory in this life and in heaven?

6. Jonathan Edwards said, "The beatific vision of God, that is the tip of happiness." What will the sight of him be like?

7. What is true happiness? What is the difference between joy in this life and in heaven?

8. How does the believer's destination define their daily decisions?

9. What does this lecture teach about “beauty”? How can a believer be transformed and beautified?

10. How does the knowledge of heaven transform the believer’s perspective on suffering?

Further Applications

1. What other personal practical applications can you draw from this lecture?

2. As you finish the lectures on Biblical Theology, please write down your learning experience. Did it help you with learning the Scriptures? Please email us at info@hudsonsontaylor.us about your thoughts and advice for us. We will be very happy to receive your feedback.
