

Ephesians Series

Lesson #196

June 25, 2023

Dean Bible Ministries

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Spiritual Skills
Focused on Jesus – Part 2
Hebrews 12:1–2



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Joy/Inner Happiness/Tranquility of Soul

James 1:3; John 15:11: 17:13

**Personal Love
for God
Deut. 6:5**

**Biblical Love for All;
Christian Love for
Other Believers
Lev. 19:18; Jn. 13:34, 35**

**Occupation with
Christ
Heb. 12:2; Php. 3:20**

Personal Sense of our Eternal Destiny

Col. 3:24; 1 Pet. 1:4

**Faith-Rest Drill
Prov. 3:5, 6**

**Grace Orientation
Eph. 2:8, 9
2 Pet. 3:18**

**Doctrinal
Orientation
2 Pet. 3:18**

Walking by the Spirit/Filled by the Spirit

Gal. 5:16

Confession of Sin, 1 John 1:9

1. Occupation with Christ means to be focused on Christ as our pattern, example, and guide.

Synonyms: living for Jesus; following the example of Jesus; thinking like Jesus.

John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

John 15:10, “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.”

John 15:12, “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

1. Occupation with Christ means to be focused on Christ as our pattern, example, and guide.

Synonyms: living for Jesus; following the example of Jesus; thinking like Jesus.

John 13:15, “For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”

1 Pet. 2:21, “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:”

2. To follow Jesus' example, we must learn first about Who He is, and how He has loved us.

Many errors have been made in following Jesus because there is a failure to understand why He said what He said, to whom He said it, and the dispensational distinctive of what He said.

i.e., when Jesus preached "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" it was to the Jews at that time, related to His coming as the Messiah offering the Kingdom to them. This is not a message for Gentiles in the Church Age.

3. Further, we must understand the whole dynamic of the incarnation and the substitutionary death on the cross as the backdrop for love, humility, and biblical unity.

Php. 2:5, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,”

Psa. 138:2, “... For You have magnified Your Word above all Your name.”

John 1:18, “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”

4. The metric for evaluating our knowledge of Jesus is our obedience to His commandments.

To love Jesus, we must first accurately know what the Scripture teaches about Him, what He taught, His commandments, and then obey them.

We cannot love Jesus and the world at the same time.

James 4:4, “... Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.” [NKJV]

John 14:15, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

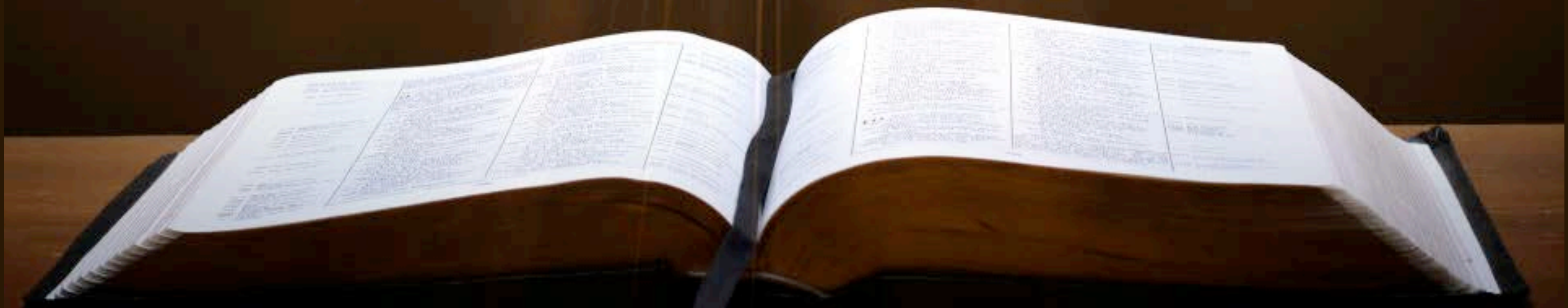
John 14:21, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

John 14:23, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

John 14:24, “ ‘He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.’ ”

What the Bible Teaches About

**Occupation with Christ
(Loving Jesus Christ,
Living for Jesus)**



Key Scriptures:

2 Peter 3:18

Hebrews 12:1–4

1 Peter 1:8

Php. 2:5–11

2 Pet. 3:18, “but grow by means of the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.” [NKJV]

**αὐξάνω *auxanō* 2 plur pres act impera
to grow; cause to grow; used of
physical growth and spiritual growth.
The term was more widely used of
various forms of growth or increase,
even “in power” or “strengthen.”**

**γνῶσις *gnōsis*
fem sing dat
knowledge; a more
general term for
knowledge which
can range from
academic
knowledge, to a
more intimate
knowledge**

Key Scriptures:

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Heb. 12:1, “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,” [NKJV]

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**τοιγαροῦν *toigaroun* coord (infer) therefore, then—
only used here in the New Testament, compound of three words: an article *toi*, another conjunction of explanation, *gar* “for,” and the usual conjunction for expressing a conclusion, *oun*, “therefore.” Such an unusual word emphasizes what follows.**

Heb. 12:1, “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,” [NKJV]

ἀποτίθημι *apotithēmi*

aor mid part masc plur nom to put off, away; to lay aside, to remove like clothing. To “run with endurance” we must first “lay aside”

This begins with confession (1 John 1:9) and continues by growing spiritually.

**James 1:21, “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and excess which wickedness is, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your life.”
[Phase 2 “salvation from the power of sin.” [RD]**

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τρέχω *trechō*

**1 plur pres act subj
to run**

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to run**

**ὑπομονή *hupomonē*
fem sing gen
endurance; staying under the pressure**

Heb. 12:1, “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Heb. 12:2, “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [NKJV]

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ἀφοράω *aphoraō*

pres act part masc plur nom

participle of means

BDAG: ① to direct one's attention

without distraction, fix one's eyes

② to develop more precise

**knowledge about something in the
offing, determine, see**

Heb. 12:2, “focusing our thinking on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [RD]

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**pres act part masc plur nom
participle of means**

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without distraction, fix one’s eyes**

**② to develop more precise
knowledge about something in the
offing, determine, see**

ὑπομένω *hupomenō*

**3 sing aor act indic
to endure, remain,
wait upon**

Heb. 12:2, “focusing our thinking on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [RD]

**ἀρχηγός archēgos
masc sing acc**

- ① one who has a preeminent position, leader, ruler, prince**
- ② one who begins something that is first in a series**

**τελειωτής *teleiōtēs*
masc sing acc
one who brings something to a successful conclusion**

John 19:28, “Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, ‘I am thirsty.’

John 19:29, “A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips.

John 19:30, “When Jesus had tasted it, he said, ‘It is finished!’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”
[NLT]

John 19:28, “Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, ‘I am thirsty.’ ”

John 19:30, “When Jesus had tasted it, he said, ‘It is finished!’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”
[NLT]

τελέω *teleō* 3 sing perf midpass indic
to finish, to complete; to mature

τελειωτής *teleiōtēs*
masc sing acc
one who brings
something to a
successful
conclusion

Heb. 12:2, “focusing our thinking on Jesus, the originator and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [RD]

χαρά chara
fem sing nom
joy

Heb. 12:2, “focusing our thinking on Jesus, the originator and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [RD]

χαρά chara
fem sing nom
joy

John 15:11, “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

Rom. 15:13, “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Rom. 15:13, “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”

Heb. 12:2, “focusing our thinking on Jesus, the originator and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [RD]

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fem sing nom
joy

ὑπομένω hupomenō
3 sing aor act indic
to endure, remain,
wait upon

αἰσχύνη
aischunē
fem sing gen
shame

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION: 3 STAGES

**Stage
ONE**

**Stage
Two**

**Stage
THREE**

Justification

**Spiritual
Life**

Glorification

**Deliverance from Trials
in Your Spiritual Life**

**Positional
Sanctification**

**Progressive
Sanctification**

**Ultimate
Sanctification**

**Saved from the
Penalty of Sin**

**Saved from the
Power of Sin**

**Saved from the
Presence of Sin**

Gal. 2:20, “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” [NKJV]

1 Pet. 1:7, “that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

1 Pet. 1:8, “whom [Jesus Christ] having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

1 Pet. 1:9, “receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.”

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1 Pet. 1:9, “receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.”

John 20:29, “Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’ ”

1 Pet. 1:7, “that the testing of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,”

δοκίμιον

dokimion

nom neut sing

test, act of

testing

δοκιμάζω

dokimazō

pres pass

part neut sing

gen to prove,

approve, test

James 1:2, “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

James 1:3, “knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

James 1:4, “But let endurance have its maturing work, that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.”

δοκίμιον

dokimion

nom neut sing

test, act of

testing

1 Pet. 1:8, “whom [Jesus Christ] **having not seen you love.** Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you **rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,**

1 Pet. 1:9, “receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.”

John 14:15, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

1 Pet. 1:9, “receiving the end of your faith—the deliverance of your souls” [i.e., in the tests of faith, in adversity]