

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

February 26, 2010

**SEARCH**  
**The Scriptures**  
**Mini-Book**  
**Part 1**

Printed for:  
**HANDS FOR JESUS**  
P.O. BOX 18655  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53218-0655

For more information, visit our Web sites at:  
[www.handsforjesus.cc](http://www.handsforjesus.cc)  
[www.handsforjesus.org](http://www.handsforjesus.org)

2010 by Merle E. Koepke  
All Rights Reserved

## Introduction

In John 5:39, Jesus said, "**Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**" The Bible also tells us to "**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth**" (2 Tim. 2:15). Why are Christians told to search the Scriptures and study the Scriptures?

There are many things revealed in the Scriptures that will help us to overcome the enemy in our lives. We must overcome the enemy if we are to continue our fellowship and relationship with God.

In John 6:45, Jesus said, "**It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God...**" In Amos 3:3 it asks the question, "**Can two walk together, except they be agreed?**" Can anyone walk with God unless they agree with God? How can God teach us if we do not study the Scriptures?

How can we know if we are in agreement with God if we do not study the Scriptures? If we are to be "**taught by God**" as Jesus said, then we must find out how God teaches us? In 1 John 2:27 it says, "**But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.**"

The anointing that is spoken of in 1 John 2:27 is the Holy Spirit Himself. Jesus is the Second Person of the Godhead. The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Godhead.

God has given us three witnesses here on earth to know what is of God and what is not of God. In 1 John 5:7,8 it says, "**For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one...And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water (Word), and the blood: and these three agree in one.**"

God the Father first sent Jesus into this world that we might become Children of God. When Jesus went to be with the Father, He sent the Holy Spirit to be our Helper, Guide, Comforter, Leader, and Teacher. We need the Holy Spirit to teach us all things.

Therefore, in John 5:39, Jesus said, "**Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**" There are many who call themselves Christians and they think they have eternal life. The Scriptures will testify of those who truly have eternal life.

The Scriptures testify of Jesus. It is important to also understand, that Jesus became "Christ" (the Head of the Body of Christ). All who are "in Christ" are a part of His body. Being a part of the Body of Christ, we should search the Scriptures to find our place in the Body of Christ.

Before we search the Scriptures, we need to understand what the word "Scripture" means. The word Scripture and the word manuscript come from the word "script." If we look up the meaning of the word Scripture we will find it means to write down, or record. We can better understand the word "Scripture" if we also consider the word "manuscript." A manuscript is a "complete detail" of all that is necessary to know concerning a particular subject.

The Scriptures were written by men, as the Holy Spirit inspired them to write (2 Tim. 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20,21). Therefore, we should not add anything to the Scriptures or take anything away from the Scriptures (Deu. 4:2, 12:32, Prov. 30:6, Rev. 22:19).

God knew the end from the beginning before He inspired men to write the Scriptures. Being

that the Scriptures were inspired by God, Jesus said, “...**the scripture cannot be broken...**” (John 10:35).

The Scriptures contain the “complete details of everything from the beginning to the end.” As in the production of a movie, a “manuscript” is used to give all the details of everything that should take place during the making of a movie. Every detail, concerning every character, is listed in the manuscript. Once the manuscript is written and delivered to the director and production manager, all things are in the hands of the director and production manager.

All things that are written in the Scriptures were known by God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit long before Adam was created. God has all knowledge, and has revealed His knowledge to us in the Scriptures.

“The Word of God” is Jesus Christ, Himself (John 1:1). He is over everything that happens here on earth. In John 3:35 it says, “**The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.**” The Father has put all things in Jesus’ hands.

Jesus, being “as the Director” said in Revelation 1:8, “**I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.**”

Jesus knew (from the beginning) His part concerning the creation of all things. Jesus did His part in creating man in the beginning (John 1:3, Col. 1:15-17). Jesus did His part as the Redeemer of man, when He went to the Cross and paid the price for all mankind (1 John 2:2).

Jesus is continuing to do His part by interceding for those who are heirs of salvation (Heb. 7:25). Jesus is also continuing to do His part today as the just judge of all the living (Matt. 19:22, Rev. 3:21, 20:11-15).

Jesus did His part here on earth and is now doing His part in heaven. Everything that Jesus did, and is now doing, is written in the Scriptures.

Our place in eternity is dependent upon us doing our part. Our part is also written in the Scriptures. We need to find our place in the Scriptures and do our part also.

The Holy Spirit is like the production manager of the Scriptures. The Holy Spirit must follow the Scriptures in every detail. He must be on the scene at all times making sure everything is in its place. He must also make sure that everyone is in their place.

Therefore, after Jesus did His part as the Son of Man here on earth, He went to be with the Father. The Father and the Son sent the Holy Spirit to do everything that must be done in this world before the second coming of the LORD. When Jesus comes the second time, He will not come as the Lamb of God, but as the Lion of Judah. Jesus will judge those who are in the kingdom of God and will separate “**the sheep from the goats**” (Matt. 25:31-46).

Until Jesus returns in His second coming, the Holy Spirit is in control of everything here on earth. We need to understand the Holy Spirit (in what He is doing and how He does what He does). He is here on earth as our Helper, Guide, Comforter, Leader, and Teacher.

The characters in the Scriptures are those who are born into this world in the flesh of Adam. People all over the world are like the characters in a movie. They are the ones who must play out their parts according to the Scriptures.

There are two types of characters in a movie (the good people and the bad people). There are the winners and the losers. There are the ones who win and obtain the prize, and there are also the ones who fail and lose. Christians must find their place in the Scriptures, and do their part.

## Searching the Scriptures

When we search the Scriptures, we need to find our place in the Scriptures. The most important thing we need to find out is, “are we in Adam or in Christ?” For it tells us in 1 Corinthians 15:19, **“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.”** There are many in Churches today, who have “hope” that they will go to heaven when they leave this earth.

Being that “all they have is hope,” they are miserable (their life is filled with doubt and unbelief). They keep on hoping they will have all their needs met. But, they are still struggling to get by with what little they have. In this hope, they are miserable.

These read their Bibles, and when they see things in the bible that could help them, they just read over them and continue following the teachings of men. They should search the Scriptures and know beyond all doubt that they do have eternal life.

The Bible tells us, those who truly have eternal life have “a knowing within themselves,” and there is no doubt concerning their position in this world or in eternity. In 1 John 5:10, it says, **“He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself...”** In Romans 8:16, it says, **“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”**

It is important that all Christians know, beyond all doubt that they have eternal life. The enemy has blinded the minds of many who call themselves Christians and they are not truly “born again” of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:23, John 3:6).

It tells us in 1 Corinthians 15:22, **“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”** Only those who are “in Christ” will enter into heaven when they leave this earth. Everyone must be certain, beyond all doubt, that they are truly born again into the body of Christ.

The Scriptures cannot be broken. Jesus said in John 3:6,7, **“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit...Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.”** Adam was earthly, of this earth (1 Cor. 15:45-48). Jesus was heavenly (1 Cor. 15:46-49). Those who are not truly born again are still in Adam. Only those who are “in Christ” will live forever in heaven. Those who die in Adam, will end up in hell. Not because of what they did, but because they did not receive Jesus Christ as their LORD and Savior.

To be certain that a person is born again, they must do what the Scriptures tell them to do. There is no other way to become born again than to receive Jesus Christ into our life as our LORD and Savior. Only those who receive Him will become truly born again. It tells us in John 1:10-13, **“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him...He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him...But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name...who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God”** (NKJV). There is not any other way to become born again. God is love. God will not force anyone to receive Jesus Christ as their LORD and Savior. Each individual must believe the Scriptures and do what it tells us in the Scriptures.

Man cannot (of his own ability become born again). Keeping the commandments of the Old Testament and living a perfect life according to the commandments cannot cause us to become born again. It must be God working in our life to bring about the new birth in Christ. Therefore it is important that we do what it tells us in the Scriptures. We must receive Jesus Christ into our life as

our LORD and Savior.

If you are reading this mini-book and have not personally made Jesus Christ your LORD and Savior, do as the Bible says, **“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God...”** (John 1:12) “Believe in your heart” and ask Jesus to come into your life and be your LORD and Savior. If you ask Him with a sincere heart, He will receive you, and you will become born again into the body of Christ.

Jesus said in John 3:3, **“...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”** Until you are truly born again, you will not understand the things of the Kingdom of God.

This will be the beginning of a whole new life for you, and a whole new way of living. The Holy Spirit will start working in your life, and you will see things in the Scriptures that you have not seen before. The Holy Spirit will start leading, guiding, helping, and teaching you things you never knew.

It is sad to know that there are some people in Churches today, calling themselves Pastors, but they are not truly born again. They have become “religious” following the teachings of men. They are living according to the knowledge of good and evil, keeping the law to the best of their ability. This will not get a person into heaven when they leave this earth. In Acts 13:38,39 it says, **“Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man (Jesus) is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins...And by him (Jesus) all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.”**

The first and most important thing we can do in searching the Scriptures is make certain, beyond all doubt that we are born again into the Body of Christ. Unless we are truly born again, we cannot enter into heaven when we leave this earth.

God has a plan for every individual person born into this world. God’s plan is for everyone to inherit eternal life in Christ Jesus. Without the new birth, no one can enter into heaven. This may sound confusing to many, for we know that many who died before Jesus came into this world did enter into heaven. We know that Enoch, the seventh from Adam did enter into heaven (Gen. 5:24). Enoch went to heaven even before the flood, before Abraham, before Moses, and before Jesus came into this world.

To understand how that Enoch, Abraham, Moses, and all those before Jesus came into this world entered into heaven, we must have the Holy Spirit operating in our lives, giving us wisdom, knowledge and understanding of spiritual things. It says in 1 Corinthians 2:9-14, **“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him...But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God...For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God...Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God...Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual...But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”**

There are many in the Body of Christ who are still babes in Christ. They do not have

understanding of spiritual things. To mature in Christ and understand spiritual things, a Christian must receive the anointing of the Holy Spirit. This anointing comes when we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said to His disciples in Acts 1:5,8, **“John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence...ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”** To follow Jesus we must also be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

When we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, it will be the same as when the early disciples received the baptism in Acts 2:4, which says. **“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”**

If you have not been baptized with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues, pray, while believing in your heart on what God has promised you. Believe in your heart and pray, similar to the following;

*"LORD Jesus, You said in Mark 16:17, that in Your name I can cast out devils.*

*Satan, in the name of Jesus' I cast you out of my mind. You have no authority over my mind. My mind is clear of all demonic oppression in Jesus' name.*

*Father, according to Your Word in Luke 11:13, You promised me the Holy Spirit if I ask. Father, I am now asking You to give me the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in Your heavenly language. I receive Him from You now, in Jesus' name."*

Continue to pray in the Spirit every day. Place God first in your life and live for God every day.

Once you have been born again, and baptized in the Holy Spirit, you will be able to “Search the Scriptures,” and find your place in the Scriptures. You will be able to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, by the anointing within you. You will be in a position to be taught by God as Jesus said in John 6:45. Everyone needs to know how the Holy Spirit teaches those who are born again into the body of Christ.

Everything that will happen in this world before Jesus returns in His second coming is already written in the Scriptures. Before Jesus returns we must be doing the will of God in our lives (Matt.24:37-51).

We must find our part in the Scriptures and be doing what we are to do. This is very important for our eternal life in heaven is dependent upon what we do according to what is written in the Scriptures.

## **Our Inheritance**

Once a person is born again, they should search the Scriptures to find their place in the Scriptures according to who they are “in Christ.” This is very important, for we have “an inheritance” in the Body of Christ.

Our inheritance is spoken of in many places in the Scriptures. It really starts talking about our inheritance in Genesis. Our inheritance began with Abraham.

In Genesis 12:1-3 it says, **“Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy**

**country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee...And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing...And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."**

Watch when you read the Scriptures in the Old Testament, they were mostly written in Hebrew. The Hebrew language is different from most of the other languages. It is different from the Greek in which the New Testament is written in. It is different from the English in which most of the Bibles we use are written in. We need some understanding of the Hebrew language to understand what is said in the Old Testament.

In short, the Hebrew language has very few words. Trying to translate from the Hebrew to the English is difficult. First, the words in the Hebrew change their meaning according to the subject of the sentence they are used in. Many, not understanding this, have translated from the Hebrew to English using only "word for word" translations. This does not always tell us what the Holy Spirit inspired to be written.

One of many instances of miss translations from Hebrew to English is in Genesis 1:26, where it says, **"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."** Even though this translation is very close to correct, most people reading this have been misled by the teachings of men.

The words, **"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..."** are not speaking of one person by the name of Adam (who was the first man that was created). If you will use "Strong's Hebrew Dictionary," you will find the number used for Adam, "as an individual man" is Strong's number 121. Whereas, Strong's number 120 is used to identify "mankind in general, male and female" as opposed to other creatures that were created in the first six days of creation.

Many teach that Genesis 1:26-28 is speaking of one person by the name of Adam. Yet, this is not true, for Genesis 1:26-28 is speaking of mankind in general, "male and female."

Believing what men teach, without first making sure that it is exactly what was inspired by the Holy Spirit, blinds the minds of many. Once their mind has been blinded, they will not believe the truth, even if it is revealed to them. If Christians get misled by the teachings of men, they will easily be deceived and not benefit from their inheritance. Not understanding the Hebrew language, causes many to become hindered in their lives here on earth.

Secondly, the LORD God said to mankind in Genesis 2:17, **"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely (muwth) die (muwth)."** In the Hebrew language the words "surely and die," used in Genesis 2:17 are the same Hebrew word, but do not have the same meaning.

Many have believed that the use of the same Hebrew word twice is putting a greater emphases upon the same word. This is not true, for the difference between the use of the same word in this statement is in the mood in which it is used.

The words translated **"surely die,"** in the English signify two deaths, corresponding with Revelation 20:6,14. The Hebrew word "muwth" translated both "surely" and "die" is a primitive root word.

The first word "surely" is in the infinitive mood. Infinitive means "existence or action

without reference to person, number, or tense. It is usually the form of the first person singular present.”

In the case of the first Adam, what is commonly called eternal death came upon all mankind. But, not upon Jesus (the Second Adam). For, in Jesus there was eternal life. This difference between Adam and Jesus Christ is mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15:22, where it says, **"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive"**

In Genesis 2:17, the second word “die” is also the same Hebrew word “muwth” but is in the imperfect mood, expressing an action, process, or condition which is incomplete. This pertains to the death of the natural body, which is called “mortal” in Romans 8:11 and 1 Corinthians 15:53,54.

Mortal means “death is resident; in the process of dying; and must eventually die.” Therefore in Romans 5:12 it says, **“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”**

It does not say that all died. It says **“...death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”** Death became resident in all mankind, for all have sin residing in them. In 1 John 1:8,10, it says, **“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us...If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”** As long as we are here on earth (in our mortal bodies), physical death will remain resident within us. Corruption will also remain within us. This mortality and corruption will not be completely removed until we pass from this earth into eternity. That is when this mortality will put on immortality, and this corruption will put on incorruption (1 Cor. 15:51-55).

A third thing about the Hebrew language is the use of words such as **“I will put,”** or **“I have brought.”** In Exodus 15:26, it says, **“If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put (suwm) none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought (suwm) upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.”**

The Hebrew word “suwm,” translated “put” and “brought” is a “primitive word” and it is in the “imperfect mood.” The correct translation of this word many times is not **“put,”** or **“brought”** but rather **“permit,”** or **“permitted.”**

The LORD never **“puts”** any sickness or disease upon anyone. The LORD never destroys anyone or anything. He **“permits”** the destroy to destroy. He never does the destroying Himself. Satan is the destroyer, God is love, and love never destroys. Therefore, to know and understand by the Scriptures that we need to **“be taught by the Holy Spirit,”** not by men.

In the Scriptures, we must look for, and understand “our inheritance.” We must understand what our inheritance is and how to benefit from our inheritance.

Our inheritance began with Abraham. In Genesis 12:2,3 the LORD said to Abraham, **“I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing...And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”**

In these verses the LORD was not speaking only of the Children of Israel. The LORD was speaking specifically of Abraham’s heirs. The covenant that was spoken of included all those who are the seed of Abraham. Christ is the seed of Abraham. In Galatians 3:29 it says, **“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”**

In searching the Scriptures, we need to see what the Scriptures are telling us concerning. **“the**

seed of Abraham” In Genesis 17:7, the LORD said to Abraham, **“And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.”** In Galatians 3:16 it says, **“Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.”**

Then in Galatians 3:17,18 it says, **“And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect...For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.”**

Our inheritance does not come by the Law of Moses. It comes **“by promise”** through Abraham, in whom the LORD God made a covenant. This covenant is based upon **“faith,”** not upon works.

To understand our inheritance we must understand **“faith.”** To benefit from our inheritance, we must **“live by faith,”** and **“be led by the Holy Spirit.”** Hebrews 10:38 says, **“Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.”** If God is not pleased in what we do, we will not benefit from our inheritance.

Our inheritance is in three parts. Each part of our inheritance requires that we do something to receive our inheritance. If we do not know what to do, we may never receive our inheritance. In **Part 2** of **“Search the Scriptures,”** the three parts of our inheritance will be revealed. From there, we can claim and receive our inheritance and benefit from it. Remember, our inheritance comes **“by promise, not by works.”** Therefore, it is already ours, but we must receive it by faith.

This is **Part 1** of **“Search the Scriptures”** Watch for other Parts to come in the near future. For more information on this subject, go to our Web sites on the Internet. You can download as many free books as you desire. Go to:

[www.handsforjesus.cc](http://www.handsforjesus.cc)  
[www.handsforjesus.org](http://www.handsforjesus.org)