

The Mystery ^{of} Understanding in the Kingdom.

Part. 1

Luke 24:44-45 (NKJV)

- 44** Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”
- 45** And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

And Jesus grew...

- Luke 2:52 (NIV)

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man

prokoptó: to cut forward (a way), advance

Discern & Partake of the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ

The Body

Luke 2:52

- [American Standard Version](#)

And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

- [Douay-Rheims Bible](#)

And Jesus advanced in wisdom, and age, and grace with God and men.

Discern & Partake of the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ

The Blood

Colossians 1:19-20 (NLT)

19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,

20 and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

Question of the day

Job 28:12 (KJV)

12 But where shall wisdom be found? and where *is* the place of understanding?



A large, illuminated green sign with a white border is the central focus. The sign is tilted and features the words "ANSWER" and "JUST AHEAD" in bold, white, sans-serif capital letters. The sign is mounted on a dark metal structure with a walkway and railings. The background is a gradient from dark blue to bright orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. Several spotlights are visible, illuminating the sign from above.

ANSWER
JUST AHEAD

Psalm 111:10 (TPT)

¹⁰ Where can wisdom be found? It is born in the fear of God. everyone who follows his ways will never lack his living-understanding. And the adoration of God will abide throughout eternity!

1 Kings 3:6-8 (NKJV)

6 And Solomon said: “You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day.

7 Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I *am* a little child; I do not know *how* to go out or come in.

8 And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.

1 Kings 3:9-12 (NKJV)

9 Therefore give to Your servant **an understanding heart** to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”

10 The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11 Then God said to him: “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself **understanding** to discern justice,

12 behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and **understanding heart**, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.

- **Proverbs 18:2 (NLT)**

2 Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions.

A predicament.

- **Proverbs 17:27 (KJB)**

27 He that hath knowledge spareth his words: *and* a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

It is impossible to operate with an excellent spirit, void of understanding.

- **Proverbs 3:13 (NIV)**

13 Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding,

- **Proverbs 20:5 (KJV)**

5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.

Understanding is like a tool used to pull out wisdom from within such that it is implemented/communicated.

(A) (1) Why Understanding?

(a) Getting understanding is an instruction

Proverbs 4:5-7 (NIV)

5 Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them.

6 Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you.

7 The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

(B) (2) Understanding can be concealed

(a) Proverbs 25:2

- New International Version

2 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.

- The Passion Translation

2 God conceals the revelation of his word in the hiding place of his glory. But the honor of kings is revealed by how they thoroughly search out the deeper meaning of all that God says.

(2) Understanding can be concealed

(b) Acts 8:29-31 (NIV)

29 The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

31 “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

(2) Understanding can be concealed

(c) Luke 24:15-16 (NKJV)

15 So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them.

16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.

NIV

16 But they were kept from recognizing him.

(2) Understanding can be concealed

(d) Matthew 13:10-14 (NIV)

10 The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

11 He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

12 Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

13 This is why I speak to them in parables: “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

(2) Understanding can be concealed

(e) Matthew 13:47-51 (NIV)

Parable of the Net

47 “Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

48 When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away.

49 This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous

50 and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked. “Yes,” they replied.

(C) (3) Understanding can be evaluated through our results

- Proper understanding will lead to productivity/fruitfulness.

Read **Matthew 13:3-9 and 18-23 (NKJV)**

23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands *it*, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

- **John 15:8 (NKJV)**

8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Prayer Points

- Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

- Psalm 119:34 (NLT)

34 Give me understanding and I will obey your instructions; I will put them into practice with all my heart.

- 1 Chronicles 12:32 (NLT)

32 From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take

The Mystery ^{of} Understanding in the Kingdom.

Part. 2

Luke 24:44-45 (NKJV)

44 Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

(D) (4) Benefits of understanding

Mark 15:16-20 (NIV)

16 The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers.

17 They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him.

18 And they began to call out to him, “Hail, king of the Jews!”

19 Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him.

20 And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Discern the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

Ephesians 6:17 (NIV)

16 Take the **helmet of salvation...**

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (NIV)

8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and **the hope of salvation as a helmet.**

Discern the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

Hebrews 10:19 (NLT)

19 And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus.

The blood of Jesus Christ has granted us access...

(D) (4) Benefits of understanding

(a) The Lord rejoices

(b) We are strengthened

(4) Benefits of understanding

Nehemiah 8:7-10 (MSG)

7-8 Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, and Pelaiah, all Levites, explained The Revelation while people stood, listening respectfully. They translated the Book of The Revelation of God so the people could **understand it** and then explained the reading.

9 Nehemiah the governor, along with Ezra the priest and scholar and the Levites who were teaching the people, said to all the people, "This day is holy to GOD, your God. Don't weep and carry on." They said this because all the people were weeping as they heard the words of The Revelation.

10 He continued, "Go home and prepare a feast, holiday food and drink; and share it with those who don't have anything: This day is holy to God. Don't feel bad. **The joy of GOD is your strength!**"

(4) Benefits of understanding

c) Blessed

- Proverbs 3:13 (NKJV)

13 Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding,

d) Established

- Proverbs 3:13 (NKJV)

19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding He established the heavens;

- Proverbs 24:3-4 (NKJV)

3 Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established;

4 By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches

(4) Benefits of understanding

e) Guardianship

- Proverbs 2:11

ESV

11 discretion will watch over you, understanding will guard you,

TPT

11 If you choose to follow good counsel, divine design will watch over you and understanding will protect you from making poor choices.

(E) (5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(1) Inability to understand due to language barrier or age

Nehemiah 8:1-3 (NKJV)

1 Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that *was* in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel.

2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and **all who *could* hear with understanding** on the first day of the seventh month.

3 Then he read from it in the open square that *was* in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who **could understand**; and the ears of all the people *were attentive* to the Book of the Law.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(1) Inability to understand due to language barrier or age

Nehemiah 8:4-6 (NKJV)

4 So Ezra the scribe stood on a platform of wood which they had made for the purpose; and beside him, at his right hand, stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Urijah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah; and at his left hand Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbadana, Zechariah, *and* Meshullam.

5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was *standing* above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.

6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with *their* faces to the ground.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(2) Lack of help

Nehemiah 8:7-8 (NKJV)

7 Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, **helped the people to understand the Law**; and the people *stood* in their place.

8 So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, **and helped *them* to understand the reading.**

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(3) Costly

Therefore, inability or refusal to invest in understanding.

Proverbs 4:7

TPT

7 Wisdom is the most valuable commodity—so buy it! Revelation-knowledge is what you need—so invest in it!

NIV

7 The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(4) Laziness / Impatience

Proverbs 25:2 (NIV)

2 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to **search out** a matter is the glory of kings.

Definition of search

try to find something by looking or otherwise seeking carefully and thoroughly.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(4) Laziness / Impatience

Proverbs 2:1-3 (AMPC)

1 My son, if you will receive my words and treasure up my commandments within you,

2 Making your ear attentive to skillful *and* godly Wisdom *and* inclining and directing your heart *and* mind to understanding [applying all your powers to the quest for it];

3 Yes, if you cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding,

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(4) Laziness / Impatience

Proverbs 2:4-6 (AMPC)

4 If you seek [Wisdom] as for silver and search for skillful *and* godly Wisdom as for hidden treasures,

5 Then you will understand the reverent *and* worshipful fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of [our omniscient] God.

6 For the Lord gives skillful *and* godly Wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(5) Lack of reverence for God

- Matthew 12:22-24 (NIV)

Jesus and Beelzebul

22 Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see.

23 All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"

24 But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons."

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(5) Lack of reverence for God

Matthew 13:10-14 (NIV)

10 The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

11 He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

12 Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

13 This is why I speak to them in parables: “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “You will be ever hearing but never understanding. You will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(5) Lack of reverence for God

Psalm 25:14

NIV

14 The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

AMPC

14 The secret [of the sweet, satisfying companionship] of the Lord have they who fear (revere and worship) Him, and He will show them His covenant *and* reveal to them its [deep, inner] meaning.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(5) Lack of reverence

Nehemiah 8:1-3 (NKJV)

1 Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that *was* in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel.

2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who *could* hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month.

3 Then he read from it in the open square that *was* in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people *were attentive* to the Book of the Law.

(5) Reasons for concealed understanding

(5) Lack of reverence

Nehemiah 8:4-6 (NKJV)

⁴ So Ezra the scribe stood on a platform of wood which they had made **for the purpose**; and beside him, at his right hand, stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Urijah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah; and at his left hand Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbadana, Zechariah, *and* Meshullam.

⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he **was *standing* above all the people**; and when he opened it, **all the people stood up**.

⁶ And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with *their* faces to the ground.

Prayer Points

- Proverbs 21:16 (KJV)

16 The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.

- Psalm 103:7 (NIV)

7 He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

- Psalm 119:19 (NIV)

19 I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me.

The Mystery ^{of} Understanding in the Kingdom.

Part. 3

Luke 24:44-45 (NKJV)

44 Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Discern and Partake of the Lord's Supper

- Hebrews 10:9-21 (MSG)

19-21 So, friends, we can now—without hesitation—walk right up to God, into “the Holy Place.” Jesus has cleared the way by the **blood** of his sacrifice, acting as our priest before God. The “curtain” into God’s presence is his **body**.

Prayer

- Ephesians 1:17 (NIV)

17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

- Philippians 1:9 (NLT)

9 I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.

- Colossians 1:9 (NLT)

9 So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding.

(F) (6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(i) **God the Father**

• **Isaiah 54:13 (NIV)**

All your children will be taught by the LORD, and great will be their peace.

• **Psalm 27:11 (NASB)**

Teach me Your way, O Lord, And lead me in a level path because of my foes.

• **Psalm 32:8 (NASB)**

I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(i) God the Father

- John 6:45 (NASB)

It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught of God.'
Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:9 (NASB)

Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(ii) God the Son

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(ii) God the Son

- **Matthew 11:1 (NIV)** - After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to **teach** and preach in the towns of Galilee.
- **Luke 20:1 (NLT)** - One day as Jesus was **teaching** the people and preaching the Good News in the Temple, the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders came up to him.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(iii) God the Holy Spirit

John 14:16 (NKJV)

16 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(iv) Teachers of the Word

Ephesians 4:11-13 (NIV)

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and **teachers**,

12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

2 Timothy 1:11 (NLT)

11 And God chose me to be a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of this Good News.

Romans 12:6-7 (NIV)

6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(v) Other Teachers - Disciples of Christ

Acts 18:24-25 (NIV)

24 Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures.

25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(v) Other Teachers - Disciples of Christ

Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV)

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(v) Other Teachers

- Parents

Deuteronomy 11:18-19 (NIV)

18 Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(v) Other Teachers

(a) Fathers

Genesis 18:19 (NIV)

19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Proverbs 4:3-4 (NIV)

3 For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother.

4 Then he taught me, and he said to me, "Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(a) Identify your teachers

(v) Other Teachers

(b) Mothers

Proverbs 31:1 (NIV)

! The sayings of King Lemuel—an inspired utterance his mother taught him.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(b) Identify the significance of the role of teaching

Acts 2:40-42 (NIV)

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Psalms 119:130 (NLT)

130 The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(b) Identify the significance of the role of teaching

2 Timothy 4:2-3 (NLT)

2 Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.

3 For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(c) An in-depth study of the Holy Spirit

John 14:26 (AMP)

But the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], **He will teach you all things.** And He will help you **remember everything** that I have told you.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(d) Prayer

Ephesians 1:15-18 (NKJV)

Prayer for Spiritual Wisdom

15 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,

16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of

His inheritance in the saints,

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(e) Lifestyle of worship / reverence

Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV)

1 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,

2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding—

3 indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,

4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,

5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(e) Lifestyle of worship / reverence

- Proverbs 25:2 (TPT)

2 God conceals the revelation of his word in the hiding place of his glory. But the honor of kings is revealed by how they thoroughly search out the deeper meaning of all that God says.

(6) Ways to improve understanding

(f) Living a joy filled life

Isaiah 12:3

TPT

3 With *triumphant* joy you will drink deeply from the wells of salvation

NIV

3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation

Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition

3 You shall draw waters with joy out of the saviour's fountains:

Prayer Points

- Psalm 86:11 (NIV)

11 Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

- Psalm 25:4-5 (NIV)

4 Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths.

5 Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

The Mystery ^{of} Understanding in the Kingdom.

Part. 4

Luke 24:44-45 (NKJV)

44 Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Demonstration Lesson #1 – 11/02/2021

- Study the temptations of Jesus Christ with understanding.
- Come ready to share your findings (lessons learnt) with the group.

Discern the Body and the Blood of Jesus Christ

Mark 14:22-24 (NIV)

The Body

22 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; **this is my body.**”

The Blood

23 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

24 “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them.

Luke 4:1-6 (NIV) - Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

- 1** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,
- 2** where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.
- 3** The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
- 4** Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"
- 5** The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.
- 6** And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to."

Luke 4:7-13 (NIV)

7 If you worship me, it will all be yours.”

8 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here.

10 For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;

11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

12 Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

Matthew 4:1-5 (NIV) - Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.

Matthew 4:6-11 (NIV)

6 “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.””

7 Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Mark 1:12-13 (NIV)

12 At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness,

13 and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Matthew's Account of Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness

(a) Matthew 4:1-11

- It is written... vs 4
- It is written... vs 7
- It is written... vs 10

(b)

- Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him. vs 11

(c) Order of temptations

- Bread
- Jesus was taken to the highest point of the temple
- Jesus was taken to the highest point of the mountain

Luke's Account of Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness

Luke 4:1-13

- It is written... vs 4
- It is written... vs 8
- It is said... vs 12

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. vs 13

Order of temptations

- Bread
- Jesus was taken to the highest point of the mountain
- Jesus was taken to the highest point of the temple

Lessons

(a) The enemy challenges the Word of God.

Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

- The Father's approval to His Son (by declaring His love and satisfaction) serves as a boost to self worth and self esteem.

-The Father's approval to His Son was not based on anything the Son had done.

Lessons

Jesus Christ is the Word in flesh, therefore, he had to be challenged.

Matthew 13:20-21

NIV

20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy.

21 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away

TPT

20 “The one sown on gravel represents the person who gladly hears the kingdom message, but his experience remains shallow.

21 Shortly after he hears it, troubles and persecutions come because of the kingdom message he received. Then he quickly falls away, for the truth didn't sink deeply into his heart.

(b) Wherever the Word of God is, there MUST be challenges.

However, we should not quickly fall away.

Matthew 13:20-21 (TPT)

20 “The one sown on gravel represents the person who gladly hears the kingdom message, but his experience remains shallow.

21 Shortly after he hears it, troubles and persecutions come because of the kingdom message he received. Then he quickly falls away, for the truth didn't sink deeply into his heart.

(c) Wilderness seasons are proofing/refining grounds for the next level(s).

Matthew 4:1 (NIV)

1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Our actions in the wilderness (desolate; solitary) will determine our next level.

Questions.

What was your last wilderness season?

How did you respond?

(d) The devil's temptations were all centered around “identity”.

If you...

A close examination of every temptation we face could be linked to identity distortion.

Jesus Christ came to restore our original identity. We have been created in the image of God.

Genesis 1:28a (NIV)

26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in **our image,**

(e) The devil does not fear when we fast, neither does fasting put him to flight.

However, the principles that we learn when we fast and willfully apply, will put the devil to flight.

(f) The Word of God should not be used for a challenge. Or just to prove a point.

Our actions are not what validate the Word of God. God does not need our validation. His Word has already stood the test of time and continues to stand the test of time.

Psalm 12:6 (NIV)

And the words of the LORD are flawless, like silver purified in a crucible, like gold refined seven times.

Proverbs 30:5 (AMPC)

Every word of God is tested *and* refined [like silver]; He is a shield to those who trust *and* take refuge in Him.

(g) Matthew 4 account

- vs 3 = If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.
- vs 6 = If you are the Son of God, He said, throw yourself down.
- vs 8-9 = Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. All these I will give to you, he said, if you will bow down and worship me.

Test Category	
Bread (satisfying our appetites/hunger)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Identify the appetites that are still challenges.
Challenging the Word of God (how we use the word)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Do we use the Word of God for personal growth?- Or to proof to others how much we know?- Or to challenge God?
Worship (Whom and what we worship)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Is worship a lifestyle or a duty?- Who/what is the object of our worship?

(h) The enemy is a strategic accuser and attacker

Luke 4: 13(NIV)

13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

- He attacks when we are at our lowest points (discouraged; in need; in distress; anxious; etc.).
- He attacks when a kingdom word has been received.
- He takes advantage of our weaknesses and attacks.
- He uses our imperfections to attack us or others.

(i) Angels ministered to Jesus Christ after his temptations by the devil.

This is proof that Jesus Christ did not overcome the temptations of the devil as “God”, rather “as man.”

Matthew 4:11(NIV)

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Hebrews 1:14 (NIV)

14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

Psalms 8:4-5 (NIV)

4 what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

5 You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

The Mystery ^{of} Understanding in the Kingdom.

Part. 5

Luke 24:44-45 (NKJV)

44 Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Demonstration Lesson #2 – 11/09/2021

- Study the Book of Philemon.
- Come ready to share your findings (lessons learnt) with the group.