



# The Christian Life

Module 12

*God and His  
Relationship to Man*

## MODULE TWELVE

# *God and His Relationship to Man*

## INTRODUCTION

You have made it to the final lesson of the course, and we rejoice with you for the things God has been teaching you. But you're not through yet by any means. This lesson on God and His relationship to man will be one you will return to time and again. A proper understanding of God is, in fact, basic to a Christian's spiritual, emotional, and mental well-being.

So don't let up in your studies just because you've almost completed the course. Rather, we would encourage you to spend more time in prayer and earnest study so that you might have a solid biblical knowledge of our wonderful God.

Before we begin our lesson, let us set a few facts straight concerning the study of God. First of all, if you have entertained the belief, as many Christians have, that God is not understandable, now is the time to bury that fallacy once and for all. You CAN understand God.

It is true, of course, as we shall see in our lesson, that in some respects God is beyond human comprehension. Our finite minds are not capable of understanding one who is infinite. On the other hand, God has chosen to reveal, through His word, all that we need to know about Him. He does not wish for us to be forced to say, "I just don't understand God at all!"

But the truth is that many Christians don't understand God. Why is that? First of all, the problem is rooted in the fact that many of man's ideas and concepts of God are human invention and imagination. And, sadly, many of these false concepts have been instilled into our thinking since childhood.

Secondly, the problem is compounded by a very serious lack of bible study on the part of Christians. One of the aims of this course has been to help you to become not only a lover of God's word, but also a proficient bible student. It is our prayer that that very thing has happened, for preaching and teaching, whether it be from church or through books and other media, cannot replace bible study.

And anyone who will seriously and earnestly study his or her bible can come to a sound and joyous understanding of our wonderful God.

This lesson is not intended to be a complete study about God and His relationship to us. (Actually, you have already been discovering God through the first eleven lessons of this course!) Nevertheless, this lesson provides an orderly study of God's nature, attributes, and will, and it sets forth a proper understanding of His sovereignty.

Most importantly, we will discuss God's view of mankind and how He works in our lives each and every day, drawing us, in love, ever closer to Him.

So before you study this final and extremely important lesson, we encourage you to spend a few moments in prayer. Ask God to help you have an open mind and heart so that He might reveal Himself to you in a fuller and richer way.

## **Part One: The Person of God**

### **1. THE NATURE OF GOD**

#### **STUDY John 4:24 and 1 Timothy 6:14-16.**

Many have tried to describe the physical characteristics of God, some even going so far as to say that God has a body similar to ours. But Jesus said, "God is Spirit," and we would do well not to argue with that statement. Furthermore, Paul says that God "lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him." Paul evidently saw that light, for, as we discussed in lesson seven, he was caught up to heaven (2 Corinthians 12:1-10).

We can go no further, however, in describing God, for three scriptural witnesses tell us that no one has ever seen God. Paul referred to God in his letter to Timothy as one "No human eye has ever seen him, nor ever will." John writes in his gospel, "No one has ever seen God" (1:18). And Jesus himself said in John 5:37, "You have never heard his voice or seen him face to face."

At this point it might seem that the New Testament writers are at odds with the Old Testament which records several appearances of God on earth. However, all such "appearances" of God are in fact angels, or perhaps in some cases, as many Bible scholars believe, earthly visits by the pre-incarnate Christ. Acts 7:53 and Galatians 3:19 both state that **angels** delivered the Law to Moses, although the Old Testament says that God gave it to him. To the Hebrew way of thinking, since an angel acted on God's behalf, it was as though God himself were involved.

But God is spirit and cannot be contained in any one place at any one time. That is why Jesus said, "Those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." God is not contained to a church building or anywhere else. God is everywhere, available to everyone who calls upon Him through Jesus Christ.

#### **STUDY Romans 1:20.**

God is eternal. People often ask where God came from, but the only answer the Bible gives is that **He always was, is, and ever will be**. As early as Genesis 21:33 He is called "The Eternal God," and the Psalmist declared, "But the Lord reigns forever" (9:7). The prophet Isaiah likewise writes, "Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock (26:4). Just as Jesus and the Holy Spirit are eternal, so is God from everlasting to everlasting.

#### **STUDY Psalms 139:7-10 and Jeremiah 23:24.**

Strangely, some people think that by avoiding Christians or church they have escaped God. But the truth is there is not a spot in the universe where God cannot be found. He is in the deepest ocean depths, and He inhabits the farthest star. **God does indeed fill Heaven and earth, for He is everywhere.**

### **God Knows Each of Us**

#### **STUDY Psalms 139:1-4.**

Some people also have the strange notion that if nobody knows their thoughts and actions, God doesn't know them either. Nothing could be further from the truth. David understood well the fact that God knew his words **even before he spoke them**. Another Psalmist said of God, "for he knows the secrets of every heart" (44:21).

We would all do well to confess and repent of our sins **now** before we are called to account, for Paul says that Jesus will one day judge “everyone’s secret life” (Romans 2:16), because He will “bring our darkest secrets to light and will reveal our private motives” (1 Corinthians 4:5).

**It is impossible to hide anything from God. He knows us better than we know ourselves.**

**STUDY Mark 14:60-62**

In Jesus’ confession to the High Priest that He was indeed the Messiah, the very Son of God, He referred to Himself as sitting at God’s right hand, in the place of “Power,” God’s power. God is called by many names in the Bible, most of which are descriptive. The name “Power” is no exception, for He is an all-powerful God.

A story in Genesis stands out as an example of God’s power. When Sarah and Abraham found it difficult to believe that God would give her a child at the age of ninety, God said, “Is anything too hard for the Lord? (Genesis 18:9-14). The answer, of course, was (and **is**) a resounding **NO**.

Jeremiah also affirmed God’s power when he said, “O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you!” (32:17).

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**SELF-STUDY #1**

The bible is a record book of God’s unlimited power. For this SELF-STUDY we would like you first of all to take a concordance and look up all the scriptures which record the miracles wrought by God’s power. We will limit it to whatever you can find under the word POWER. Secondly, read chapters 26, 38 and 39 in Job, all of which magnificently teach us about God’s awesome power in the world around us.

Just as the bible is a record book of God’s power, so should our lives be an open record of the power of God. From the very moment of salvation, the power of God is at work in us. But this is only the beginning of His power in our lives, for he ministers to us each day, often subtly, often miraculously, but always precious and beautifully. As you trust in Him your life can and should be a record of His never-changing miracle power.

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## 2. THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

### **STUDY John 14:6-11.**

It is rather strange that Philip, a devout apostle of Jesus, did not seem to know much about God. Jesus was surprised when he asked Him to reveal the Father. He reminded Philip, “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!” **If we know Jesus, we know God.**

Not only do we understand God through studying the life of Jesus, but all Scripture reveals much about Him. In this section we will look at seven basic attributes of God, each of which gives us tremendous insights into our wonderful, loving father.

**(1) God is holy. STUDY Leviticus 11:44-45.** The word holy has been bandied about to the point where it has almost lost its true meaning. But the true meaning of the word implies **spiritual purity**, and absolute and total separation from all that is evil.

Moreover, it is used of God to denote His superiority over anything man is or can ever become. It designates His divinity as opposed to our humanity.

One of the Old Testament women, Hannah, miraculously bore a child after being barren many years. That child was Samuel, one of the famous leaders of Israel. Following his birth, Hannah gave thanks to God, and in her prayer she very beautifully captured the meaning of God’s holiness: “No one is holy like the Lord! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. (1 Samuel 2:2).

God is holy not only because He is the example of moral perfection, but also because **there is none like Him in the whole universe.**

**(2) God is righteousness. STUDY Psalms 71:15-19.** When we speak of a person who is righteous, we are usually referring to the fact that he exhibits right actions. But the righteousness of God goes far beyond the working of good deeds. **Righteousness is at the core of His very nature to the exclusion of all that is unrighteous.**

Furthermore, because God is righteous, **he cannot tolerate** unrighteous. Some people say that if God is love, how can he possibly send anyone to hell. In the first place, God sends no one to hell – man **chooses** to go there (John 3:16-18). Secondly, **because God is righteous, He cannot allow unrighteousness in Heaven.** Revelation 21:27 says of Heaven, “Nothing evil will be allowed to enter.”

Thus, God’s righteous is both **saving** and **punitive**. Because He is righteous He **must** offer salvation to those whom He has created. Conversely, He **must** punish those who refuse to become righteous through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Well did the psalmist speak when he observed, “O Lord, you are righteous, and your regulations are fair” (Psalms 119:137).

**(3) God is just. STUDY Jeremiah 9:23-24.** Many people complain about God and become bitter toward Him, but that is only because they don’t understand Him. The person who really knows God **glories in Him**, for God **delights** in everything that is holy and just and good.

Jeremiah quotes God in saying that He brings justice, and each of us should take comfort in the fact that **God is a just God.** We do not always see justice in our society. Sometimes

the innocent are punished while the guilty go free. Sometimes men and women are judged falsely because of their colour or ethnic background or religion. Our humanness does not always permit us to make knowledgeable or unbiased judgements.

On the other hand, God can and does make just judgements, first of all because He is a holy and righteous and just God, and secondly because He knows the secrets of men's hearts. Peter told the first Gentile converts of the New Testament church, "I see very clearly that **God shows no favouritism**. In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right" (Acts 10:34-35).

Furthermore, because God is just He **must** forgive us of our sins when we are truly repentant. As we have discussed before, John writes, "But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness" (1 John 1:9). The point we want to emphasize here is that **God cannot refuse to forgive a sincerely repentant sinner**. His very nature does not permit Him to go back on His promise of forgiveness.

### **Praise God that He is a just God!**

**(4) God is loving.** We've already discussed God's love in lessons 1 and 10, not to mention the whole course! What more can we say? We'll just let Paul summarise God's love in Ephesians 2:4-7.

**"But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, <sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup> For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus."**

**(5) God is good. STUDY Psalms 103:1-5.** Real love can only produce good, and thus **God can only be a good God**. We may not always understand the things God does in our lives, but that is only because God has knowledge and insight that we do not have. Often we ask God why He did something or why He let a certain thing happen. Then our bewilderment melts away as – sometimes days later – God gives us understanding that what He did was good.

King David declared, "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever" (1 Chronicles 16:34 and also Psalms 106:1 and 136:1). We need to let God cultivate our trust in His goodness so that even when difficulties and trials come our way we can say without reservation, **"God is a good God!"**

**(6) God is faithful. STUDY Deuteronomy 7:9.** Not even our friends are always faithful, but we can trust the faithfulness of God. He is faithful not only because He is holy and righteous and thus cannot be unfaithful, but He is faithful to us because He loves us.

Paul writes, "God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:9). God desperately wants us in Heaven! No matter what we do – how bad we sin or turn our backs on Him – God will be faithful in helping us get to Heaven. Paul even writes later on in his letter to

the Corinthians that because “God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure” (1 Corinthians 10:13). You can triumph over temptation because God is faithful to you.

If there is one thing you can depend upon it is the faithfulness of God.

**(7) God is patient. STUDY Exodus 34:6.** Few people can boast of patience, even Christians, although patience is one of the fruits of the Spirit. **But God is incredibly patient.** He is **NOT**, as some preachers have claimed, ever-threatening to punish us or cast us into hell. **That is a lie of the devil.**

Rather, God is patient with us that we might all attain eternal life. Remember the words of Peter, who wrote that God is not slow about His promise of sending Jesus back to earth, but it is simply that He does not wish “anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent” (2 Peter 3:9).

**We need to remember, be thankful for, and praise God for His limitless patience with each of us.**

The attributes of God should not be taken lightly or forgotten, for they reveal God in all His radiant beauty. When you have doubts about who God is, come back to this section and review it once again, for God is desirous that each of us know and understand who He is and accept His precious love and goodness.

### 3. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

The sovereignty of God is a subject that has been much discussed and while no one would deny that God is sovereign, there have been different interpretations of the meaning of God's sovereignty. Thus, false concepts concerning the sovereignty of God have often been implanted in the minds of Christians from childhood. Therefore, before we even discuss the biblical view of the sovereignty of God, we need to examine the meaning of the word.

According to the American College Dictionary, sovereign means “**having supreme rank, power, or authority; supreme, as power, authority, etc.; greatest in degree; utmost or extreme; being above all others in character, importance, excellence, etc.**” Applied to God, the word would simply mean that He, as creator of the heavens and the earth, is **over and above all things**. In other words, **God is the supreme ruler of the entire universe**. He has undisputed and absolute ascendancy.

Sovereignty, then, refers **only** to a person's position. It says nothing about whether or not the one who is sovereign is subject to limitations of any sort. And that is exactly where the confusion lies in Christian thinking.

Some people feel that if God were lacking in one iota of knowledge, power or freedom, He would not be God. Thus, their idea of the sovereignty of God is boiled down to the belief that “God can do anything He wants to do.”

While that may **appear** to be an obvious conclusion, **think a moment**. According to the above concept, God could lie, judge falsely, or, as some Christians firmly believe, send believers in Christ to hell if He felt like it!

As you can see, there are flaws in the belief that God is free to do anything He wants to do. Even God has certain limitations **by choice** and by virtue of the fact that **His divine nature does not permit Him to engage in conduct which we as human beings can involve ourselves in**.

Now let's see just what the Bible has to say about the **real** meaning of the sovereignty of God.

#### **STUDY 1 Chronicles 29:10-13.**

What a glorious prayer to Almighty God! Plainly and powerfully King David of Israel gives testimony to the fact that God is “over all things,” that He “rules over everything,” and that “power and might” are in His hand. This prayer is in perfect accordance with the simple meaning of the word sovereignty. David is merely claiming that **God is the supreme ruler of the entire universe**. That is what the sovereignty of God is all about.

## SELF-STUDY #2

**STUDY the following scriptures and write down what each one says concerning the sovereignty of God:**

(a) Deuteronomy 4:39 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Psalms 83:18 \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Isaiah 45:5 (see 44:6-11 also) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(d) 1 Timothy 2:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**STUDY Numbers 23:19, 1 Samuel 15:29, and Isaiah 40:8.**

Some people do not believe that God has to hold Himself to the moral standards He requires of us. They say that what is sin for us may not be sin for God. **That kind of thinking is not only absurd but totally unscriptural.** When God says, “be holy, because I am holy,” (Leviticus 11:44) He is attempting to bring us up to **His standard of morality.** Furthermore, **He would not even be a holy, righteous, just and loving God if he had a double standard** – one for us and one for Himself.

However, God is – **by His very nature** – a moral God **as man understands morality from the scriptures.** As we have seen, in God alone lies moral perfection. He cannot lie, judge falsely, or sin as we know sin in any way. James 1:13 says, “God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else.”

The bible, you see, applies the same standard of morality to mankind and God alike. When James says God cannot be tempted with evil, **he is thinking of evil as God has defined it for us.**

It is time we buried forever the belief that God could – if He chose – be anything other than that which His Word says He is: a holy and just God. Rather, we need to remember that God’s sovereignty encompasses only His **position** as absolute ruler of the universe, and that it is his **nature** which dictates His moral actions.

The words of Hannah, “No one is holy like the Lord! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God,” give us assurance that through Jesus Christ we **serve** the Ruler of the universe, and that we can **trust** Him with absolute confidence in His goodness and love.

## **Part Two: God and Man**

### **1. THE WILL OF GOD**

#### **STUDY Genesis 1:26-31.**

Originally, God intended man to have a perfect life in a perfect world. God's intentions were basically three-fold. (1) that man would live an innocent and sinless life in spiritual union with Him; (2) freedom from sickness, disease and injury; and (3) immortality.

But God's plans were soon thwarted.

#### **STUDY Romans 5:12.**

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, the whole course of man's history was altered. His spiritual union with God was broken, and the paradise God had intended for him was no longer an automatic attainment.

Some people say, "Why does God punish us for the sins of Adam and Eve?" The truth is, **He doesn't**. We've **all** sinned, as we pointed out in Lesson Three, and as Paul relates in our study passage. Adam and Eve simply happened to be the first human beings to be given a choice in sin. Given the same choice we also would have sinned just as all of us have done since then.

**You can be certain that God does not punish us for the sins of someone else. Each of us is responsible for our own sins and ours alone.**

As you can see, it has **always** been God's will that men have eternal life with Him. That is God's desire and His longing, for **He deeply loves each of us whom he has created**.

But because we have all sinned no one can now get to God's paradise – Heaven – except through the shed blood of Jesus. **He is the supreme expression of God's will for mankind**. In the death and resurrection of His very own Son, God has shown His desire for **all** men to be saved, to live with Him eternally in Heaven.

### **Jesus Died for Everyone**

#### **STUDY Romans 10:9-13.**

Paul teaches us, "If you openly **declare** that Jesus is Lord and **believe** in your heart that God raised him from the dead, **you will be saved**." Declaration and belief involve the will – both the heart and the mind – **of man**.

Secondly, Paul says that **God makes absolutely no distinction between men, but that all who call upon Him will be saved**. Again we see that the choice in the matter of salvation has **not** been arbitrarily decided by God, but that **it is left up to each person**. As we pointed out earlier in the lesson, Acts 10:34-35 plainly tells us, "**God shows no favouritism**."

#### **STUDY 1 Timothy 2:3-6**

Paul says God "wants **everyone** to be saved," and that "**Christ Jesus ..... gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone**." God really does love every man and woman and boy and girl in the world. And He has provided a home in Heaven for all who put their trust in Jesus.

## 2. THE FREE WILL OF MAN

### STUDY Deuteronomy 30:19.

God has given man a free will. We are not, as some would have us believe, puppets either of God or of Satan. Rather, **we have the freedom of choice to serve God or the devil.**

Man's ability to make his own decisions and thus choose his own ultimate destiny was made very clear to the Israelites long ago. God set before them the choices of serving Him or not serving Him, urging them to "choose life," that is to make the decision to keep His commandments. Man is confronted with the same choice today in the person of Jesus Christ. And he has a free will to accept or reject Him.

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### SELF-STUDY #3

**STUDY the following scriptures and write down the statement (or statements) each makes which indicate that man has a free will:**

- (a) Isaiah 1:19-20. (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) John 5:39-40 \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) John 7:16-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- (d) Revelation 3:20 \_\_\_\_\_
- 

### STUDY Acts 17:24-27.

Why did God give man a free will when He could have made him automatically obey Him? Had he done that man would be merely a puppet. And God has no joy in puppets. Remember, God is love, and Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:5, "It (love) does not demand its own way." It breaks God's heart to see the wickedness of man and man's insistence on spending eternity without Him, but because He loves man He **must** let him have his own way.

According to Paul in our study passage, God created us so that we might "seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him." It is **God's** delight when we choose to follow Jesus Christ, for **we are his joy**. And it is **our** delight to follow God, for **He is our joy**.

Let us never forget that God gives us freedom of choice because He loves us. And when we willingly respond to His love we are blessed for all eternity.

### 3. GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LIVES

#### **STUDY Deuteronomy 2:7.**

If God has given us a free will, does He ever intervene in our lives? **Absolutely!** And you could not have worked your way through this course without seeing the many ways that God does indeed intervene in our lives. Remember, He does **not** violate our free will in the matter of salvation. But time and time again He intervenes to reprimand, to keep us from harm, to bless us with a much-needed miracle, or **maybe just to let us know that He loves us.**

#### **STUDY Acts 9:1-20.**

How God does intervene in our lives! The great missionary Paul (at this time called by his Jewish name, Saul) was knocked to the ground by the power of God, and for three days he was without sight until God healed him.

Why did God intervene in such a powerful way? Because He was mad at Paul? Well, God probably was upset with Paul for persecuting those who believed in Jesus, but the real reason God intervened is that Paul was on a collision course with eternity. He wasn't really serving God, but his own interests and ambitions. **God intervened to put Paul on the right track. And because He loved him.**

Moreover, God intervened in Paul's life because He had a plan and a purpose for him – to become perhaps the greatest missionary ever. God, you see, has a plan and a purpose for all of us. When we are not dedicated to Christ we can expect God to intervene, for He knows that His purpose is best for us.

Yes, God has given us a free will. Nobody is forced to accept Jesus Christ, and no Christian is forced to make a total commitment to Him. But God will – just because He loves us – intervene time and time again so that we might be all we could be and really know the joys of living a rich and exciting life in Him.

#### **STUDY Matthew 6:31-33.**

We have looked at this scripture more than once already, but there is another message we can get from it. And that is because God loves us and knows our needs. **He may intervene with a special blessing at a moment's notice.** You may have read testimonies of the way God shows His love to us, but one is worth repeating here.

A young couple were attending a Bible college and, as is the case with most young students, did not have much money. They were quite dependent on a monthly payment from a previous financial deal.

One month they were told the payment would be a week late, and their hearts sank for they had no food in the house and only a few dollars left. **In faith** they set out for the supermarket hoping that somehow God would see them through the week.

As they were driving to the shop the young woman suddenly yelled, "Stop! I think I saw a banknote!" Excited, her husband hit the brakes, backed up, they pulled over and jumped out. Lying in the gutter was a \$50 banknote!

Does God ever intervene in our lives? **Absolutely! He can't do otherwise, for He loves us with a love that we can only begin to comprehend.**

### **Conclusion**

It is our prayer and our desire that not only this lesson but the entire course has been a blessing to you. God does indeed want us to grow in our faith, and growth is inseparably related to three things: (1) Our knowledge of the Word. (2) A proper relationship to Christ. (3) And most of all, to a solid understanding of who God is and how and why He works in our lives.

If you have studied this course faithfully, you are well on your way to a full and mature Christian life. We wish all of you God's richest blessings, and say with Jude, "Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. <sup>25</sup>All glory to him who alone is God, our Saviour through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen." (verses 24-25)

### SELF-STUDY #4.

- (1) Define the physical characteristics of God \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) In the Old Testament God often appeared to man through an angel. T ( ) F ( )
- (3) God, as well as Jesus and the Holy Spirit, has always existed. T ( ) F ( )
- (4) All the secrets of men will one day be brought to light. T ( ) F ( )
- (5) Which of the following statements best describes the holiness of God?
- (a) He is the most religious being.
  - (b) He is far and above anything man could be.
  - (c) He is the author of the Bible.
  - (d) All of the above.
- (6) People end up in hell because they choose to go there. T ( ) F ( )
- (7) Give two reasons why God's judgements are just
- (a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_
- (8) Why must God forgive a truly repentant sinner? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- (9) God sent Jesus Christ into the world so that we might know the immeasurable riches of His grace throughout eternity. T ( ) F ( )
- (10) What we often see as bad for us, God sees as good for us. T ( ) F ( )
- (11) God is in control even when we are tempted by the devil. T ( ) F ( )
- (12) God often loses His patience with hardened sinners. T ( ) F ( )
- (13) The word "sovereignty" as applied to God refers to supremacy. T ( ) F ( )
- (14) Which of the following statements best defines the sovereignty of God.
- (a) He is the supreme ruler of the universe.
  - (b) He can do whatever He feels like.
  - (c) He can send everyone to hell if He decides to.
  - (d) All of the above.
- (15) What is the basic reason why God cannot lie? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- (16) Give an explanation of the scripture, "God is never tempted to do wrong" (James 1:13). Try to keep your answer under 35 words. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- (17) List the three blessings God originally intended man to have.
- (a) \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_
- (18) If Adam and Eve had not sinned we would not be suffering the loss of a perfect paradise. T ( ) F ( )
- (19) God has always desired eternal life for all men, but now it is obtainable only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. T ( ) F ( )
- (20) Declaration and belief involve the will of man. T ( ) F ( )
- (21) God chooses the saved according to His preferences. T ( ) F ( )
- (22) The life and death of Jesus Christ is important to the belief in a pre-determined destiny. T ( ) F ( )
- (23) Jesus gave Himself as a ransom only for those whom Jesus had already appointed to eternal life. T ( ) F ( )
- (24) Free will refers to man's ability to choose or reject salvation through Jesus Christ. T ( ) F ( )
- (25) God gave us a free will just because He loves us. T ( ) F ( )
- (26) God makes some people accept Christ. T ( ) F ( )
- (27) Sometimes God intervenes in our lives because we have failed to see what is good for us. T ( ) F ( )
- (28) In light of this lesson, and the course as a whole, upon what would you say your relationship to God in Jesus Christ is based, and how does God view you as a person? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## **ANSWERS FOR SELF STUDY #1**

The only answers for this self-study will be what you note in your concordance and in your bible.

## **ANSWERS FOR SELF STUDY #2**

- (a) The Lord is God – there is no other
- (b) God alone reigns over all the earth
- (c) There is only one God
- (d) There is only one God

## **ANSWERS FOR SELF STUDY #3**

- (a) (1) If you will only obey me  
(2) But if you turn away and refuse to listen
- (b) You refuse to come to me
- (c) Anyone who wants to do the will of God
- (d) If you hear my voice and open the door

## **ANSWERS FOR SELF-STUDY #4**

- 1. None – God is spirit
- 2. T
- 3. T
- 4. T
- 5. b
- 6. T
- 7. (a) He is a holy, righteous, and just God, OR He shows no partiality, OR God is loving.  
(b) He knows the secrets of men's hearts
- 8. He is faithful and just, OR He does not go back on His promises
- 9. T
- 10. T
- 11. T
- 12. F
- 13. T

14. a
15. His very nature does not permit Him to do so.
16. It is not God's nature to sin or be tempted. He cannot even choose to do so. There should be the understanding that that which is sin for us is sin for God.
17. (a) An innocent and sinless life in spiritual union with God  
(b) Freedom from sickness, disease and injury  
(c) Immorality
18. F
19. T
20. T
21. F
22. F
23. F
24. T
25. T
26. F
27. T
28. (a) My relationship with God is based upon love.  
(b) God views me as a valuable person, OR As a child of His, OR As righteous.