

Themes in the Gospel of John

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Lesson #10 for December 7, 2024

Scriptures: John 1:14,18; 5:38-40; 13:1-20; 14:1-3,5-11; Daniel 7:27; Colossians 1:16-17.

1. Jesus is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”

[From the Bible study guide=BSG:] The Gospel of John is divided into four main sections: The Prologue (*John 1:1–18*), the Book of Signs (*John 1:19–12:50*), the Book of Glory (*John 13:1–20:31*), and the Epilogue (*John 21:1–25*). Our study [of the themes in the Gospel of John] so far has focused mainly on the Prologue and the Book of Signs, laying out who Jesus is via His miracles (signs), dialogues, and teachings. The lessons now shift particularly to the third section of John, the Book of Glory.

Interestingly, the famous seven “I AM” statements form a bridge across the Book of Signs and the Book of Glory. These are “[I am] the bread of life” (*John 6:35, 41, 48, 51*), “[I am] the light of the world” (*John 8:12, John 9:5*), “[I am] the door” (*John 10:7, 9*), “[I am] the good shepherd” (*John 10:11, 14*), “[I am] the resurrection and the life” (*John 11:25*), “[I am] the way, the truth and the life” (*John 14:6*), and “[I am] the true vine” (*John 15:1, 5*).—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Sabbath Afternoon, November 30.^{†§} [Do you need to be God to make those claims?][†]

2. Jesus described Himself in a number of different ways using the words “I AM.” We understand that when He used those words, He was describing Himself as God. Did the people recognize those claims? God, “the bread of life”; God, “the light of the world”; God, “the door”; God, “the good Shepherd”; God, “the resurrection and the life”; God, “the way, the truth and the life”; and God, “The true vine.” Do we recognize that **not only Jesus but also the Father can be described in all of those ways?**
3. When Jesus said that He was the way, the truth, and the life and that no one goes to the Father except by Him, does that apply also to all the people who died in the times of the Old Testament? What did they know about Jesus?
4. In this lesson we will focus on Jesus’s farewell messages to the disciples at that last supper in the upper room (John 13-17) and then talk more about the implications of His statement: “I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

John 13:1-17: ¹ It was now the day before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end.

² Jesus and his disciples were at supper. The Devil had already put into the heart of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, the thought of betraying Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. [How did He know that?] ⁴ So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel round his waist. ⁵ Then he poured some water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and dry them with the towel round his waist. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?”

⁷ Jesus answered him, “You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later.”

⁸ Peter declared, “Never at any time will you wash my feet!”

“If I do not wash your feet,” Jesus answered, “you will no longer be my disciple.”

⁹ Simon Peter answered, “Lord, do not wash only my feet, then! Wash my hands and head, too!” [Mary had washed Jesus’s feet, hands, and head with perfume!]

¹⁰ Jesus said, “Those who have had a bath are completely clean and do not have to wash themselves, except for their feet. All of you are clean — all except one.” ¹¹(Jesus already knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, “All of you, except one, are clean.”)

¹² After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. “Do you understand what I have just done to you?” he asked. ¹³ “You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. ¹⁴I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another’s feet. **¹⁵I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you.** ¹⁶I am telling you the truth: slaves are never greater than their master, and messengers are never greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice!”—American Bible Society. (1992). *The Holy Bible: The Good News Translation** (2nd ed., John 13:1-17). New York: American Bible Society [abbreviated as *Good News Bible*].[†]

5. Jesus taught not only by words but also by example as He washed the feet of His disciples when they were arguing over who would be greatest in the new kingdom which they thought Jesus was about to establish. Certainly, no one who is honored in an earthly kingdom could be expected to wash the feet of anyone. However, Jesus demonstrated what we should do.

John 13:15: “I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you.”—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

6. **Try to imagine, having your feet washed by God!**

7. Jesus knelt down and washed the feet of His disciples, including the feet of Judas who Jesus knew was about to betray Him. Judas resented the fact that Jesus was willing to wash even his dirty feet. It led him to proceed with his plan to go out and betray Jesus.
8. Peter was embarrassed to have Jesus wash his feet and tried to back out of that ceremony. But then, when Jesus explained that anyone who was not washed would not have a part with Him, Peter wanted to be washed all over.
9. Why do you suppose so many Christians today do not carry out the foot washing ceremony despite Jesus’s clear instructions to do so?
10. It is uncomfortable for us as selfish human beings to kneel down and wash the feet of another. But, when we refuse to do that, basically, we are saying we do not like the kind of God that Jesus revealed! What kind of God washes dirty feet? Would your God do that?
11. After washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus continued:

John 13:18-20: ¹⁸ “I am not talking about all of you; I know those I have chosen. But the scripture must come true that says, ‘The man who shared my food turned

against me.’ ¹⁹I tell you this now before it happens, so that **when it does happen, you will believe that ‘I Am Who I Am.’** ²⁰I am telling you the truth: whoever receives anyone I send receives me also; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.”—*Good News Bible*.*†

12. We can be certain that the fact that Jesus knew in advance that Judas was to be the one who betrayed Him was one of the proofs of His divinity.
13. Jesus slipped in some words that perhaps did not really sink into the disciples thinking at the time, saying, in effect, when all these things that I am warning you about happen, then: “You will believe that **‘I Am Who I Am.’**” (John 13:19, *Good News Bible**†)
14. Soon after that, Jesus made a startling statement to them.

John 13:33-35: ³³ “My children, **I shall not be with you very much longer.** You will look for me; but I tell you now what I told the Jewish authorities, ‘You cannot go where I am going.’ ³⁴And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵**If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.**”—*Good News Bible*.*†

15. ***Was Jesus stating that everyone on this earth is inherently selfish? Is that why loving people stand out? Because of the contrast to others?***
16. His disciples must have been in a state of panic when He told them that He was going away. (John 13:33) However, almost immediately, Jesus gave those immortal words found in John 14:1-3.
17. Many of us grew up reading and even hearing songs quoting John 14:1-3 in the *King James Version* as saying that Jesus will prepare mansions for us, and then, He will take us to those mansions in heaven to live with Him forever.

John 14:1-3: [Jesus promised the disciples:] ¹ “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many **mansions**: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself: that where I am, *there* ye may be also.”—*King James Version*.*†‡§

18. It is important to notice that in the Greek, the word *mansions* translated in the *King James Version* is not talking about large, spacious, expensive houses. The word translated *mansions* in the *King James Version* simply means *rooms* as in an inn! Jesus wants to dwell with us in the same physical space.
19. These words of Jesus are more correctly translated in the *Good News Bible* as:
John 14:1-3: ¹ “Do not be worried and upset,” Jesus told them. “Believe in God and believe also in me. ²There are many **rooms** in my Father’s house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. ³And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am.”—*Good News Bible*.*†
20. The Greek form of His promise in John 14:3 makes it certain that He definitely will come again, and He definitely will take us to heaven.

[BSG:] What is the basis for confidence in that promise? Many would say the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, and that is certainly true. But in John 14:3, the

basis is stated differently. In this verse, *I will come* is actually in the present tense in Greek (*I am coming*). This is a use of the present tense in Greek called the **futuristic present**. It is a **future event spoken of with such certainty that it is described as though already happening**. Thus, it is fair to translate the phrase as, ***I will certainly come again***.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Monday, December 2.^{†‡§} [Remember that Jesus was actually speaking Aramaic, not Greek.][‡]

21. The second coming of Jesus is based in absolute certainty, not just because it is prophesied in the Bible, but also because the One who is Truth has told us Himself.

22. ***After all, there was no reason for Jesus to come the first time if He does not plan to come back!***

23. After spending years with Jesus, the disciples had come to depend upon Him for virtually everything. To be told that He was going away and that they could not go with Him was very troubling to them. However, Jesus was looking forward to a time when sin itself and all things connected with sin will be destroyed.

Daniel 7:27: “The power and greatness of all the kingdoms on earth will be given to the people of the Supreme God. Their royal power will never end and all rulers on earth will serve and obey them.”—*Good News Bible.**

24. Jesus continued:

John 14:4: “You know the way that leads to the place where I am going.”—*Good News Bible.**

25. What questions would have popped into your mind right at that point in the discussion in the upper room? Thomas’s question was:

John 14:5-6: ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; so how can we know the way to get there?”

⁶ Jesus answered him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me.”—*Good News Bible.**

[BSG:] We may observe an interesting progression in how Jesus describes Himself as the Way, the Truth, and the Life (*John 14:6*). Consider the sequence of these three words. Jesus is the Way. As we walk, we learn the truth from Him, which eventually leads us to life abundant in this world and in the eternal world to come. Notice that this sequence was Christ’s response to Thomas’s question about the way to pursue, in John 14:5. We may wonder why Thomas made this query, considering Jesus’ clear explanation in the previous verse: “‘And where I go you know, and the way you know’” (*John 14:4, NKJV*).—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 134.^{‡§}

26. In the expression, “the way, the truth, and the life,” (*John 14:6, Good News Bible**) we realize that in the early experiences of the apostles, Christianity was known as “the Way.” **So, if Jesus is the Way, He is the Way that leads us to the Truth which gives us eternal life.**

27. ***Does it seem true to you that even today Jesus is the Way?***

28. The discussion continued:

John 14:7: “Now that you have known me,” he [Jesus] said to them, “you will know my Father also, and from now on **you do know him and you have seen him.**”—*Good News Bible*.*††

29. Then, after Thomas got things started, Philip expressed an obvious quandary.

John 14:8: Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father; that is all we need.”—*Good News Bible*.* [What does it mean to say that Jesus is the way to the Father?][‡]

30. Jesus was obviously disappointed that Philip did not seem to understand that He had been revealing the Father to them. What had Jesus done to reveal the Father to them?

John 14:9-11: ⁹ Jesus answered, “For a long time I have been with you all; yet you do not know me, Philip? **Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.** Why, then, do you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe, Philip, that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I have spoken to you,” Jesus said to his disciples, “do not come from me. The Father, who remains in me, does his own work. ¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. If not, believe because of the things I do.”—*Good News Bible*.*†

31. Try to imagine yourself exposed to the idea given to the disciples that they were walking around every day, working with Someone who looked like an ordinary human being. However, He lived and acted and spoke as God. We know that His divinity was veiled. How long did it take for them to realize that Jesus was God?

32. **So, Jesus made it clear that His main task during His first coming was to make the Father known. Jesus Himself, as implied by the Greek in John 1:18, said that He was here to explain and interpret and bring the correct and full meaning to our relationship with God.** What kinds of things did Jesus do that set Him apart from other humans?

33. We have discussed in the past the idea that Jesus spent a portion of each night, in some cases the entire night, talking with His Father in preparation for what was going to happen the next day. (For example, see Luke 6:12.) Were those close conversations with the Father one of the ways that Jesus was able to so fully represent the Father to us?

34. ***Is it possible and even mandatory that we learn about God by studying the life of Jesus as recorded in the Bible?***

35. Do we believe that the Father is just like the Son?

[From the writings of Ellen G. White=EGW:] **Had God the Father come to our world and dwelt among us, veiling His glory, humbling Himself, that humanity might look upon Him, the history that we have of the life of Christ would not have been changed** in unfolding its record of His own condescending grace. In every act of Jesus, in every lesson of His instruction, we are to see and hear and recognize God. In sight, in hearing, in effect, it is the voice and movements of the Father.—Ellen G. White, *Letter 83, 1895*,* par. 25 [*Letters and Manuscripts*,* vol. 10, 1895, Letter 83, par. 25.] [10LtMs 1.2160].†† Compare *That I May Know Him* 338.4.

[<https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p14060.5690031&index=0>][‡]

John 16:25-27: [Jesus said:] ²⁵ “I have used figures of speech to tell you these things. **But the time will come when I will not use figures of speech, but will speak to you plainly about the Father.** ²⁶**When that day comes [and it is now], you**

will ask him in my name; and I do not say [notice the word *not*] that I will ask him on your behalf, ²⁷for the Father himself loves you. He loves you because you love me and have believed that I came from God.”—*Good News Bible*.*† [With these words, Jesus completely set aside the entire Old Testament sacrificial system.]‡

36. Dr. Hart’s mentor, Dr. A. Graham Maxwell, told the story many times of being in a meeting with many senior Seventh-day Adventist ministers and administrators when John 16:25-27 was read WITHOUT the word *not* in verse 26 as is so often done, unconsciously, to fit the incorrect paradigm many have that Jesus must ask the Father on our behalf. When the misreading was pointed out, one minister stated that to say that Jesus is not pleading for us before the Father is heresy, and that if Jesus is not pleading for us, we all will be eternally lost. That view misstates and flatly contradicts these words from Jesus Himself in John 16:25-27! See also Zechariah 3:1-5, describing Satan accusing us before God.

37. Do we believe that we can approach the Father directly without any interceding person or being, even Jesus Himself, between us? The children of Israel begged Moses to stand between themselves and God. **Note that God of the Old Testament was Christ Himself.** It was certainly not God’s idea that they needed an intercessor between Himself and them.

Exodus 20:18-21: ¹⁸ When the people heard the thunder and the trumpet blast and saw the lightning and the smoking mountain, they trembled with fear and stood a long way off. ¹⁹They said to Moses, “If you speak to us, we will listen; but we are afraid that if God speaks to us, we will die.”

²⁰ Moses replied, “Don’t be afraid; God has only come to test you and make you keep on obeying him, so that you will not sin.” ²¹But the people continued to stand a long way off, and only Moses went near the dark cloud where God was.—*Good News Bible*.*

38. ***Are we still begging for someone—a priest or some kind of being or even Jesus—to plead with the Father on our behalf? Jesus Himself said it is not necessary. (See John 16:25-27.)***

39. Some major churches teach that one cannot pray directly to the Father. They say that one must confess his/her sins to a human intermediary and must pray to a “saint” who then transmits the message to God.

40. Are you comfortable with the idea that Jesus adequately revealed the Father to us?

41. Does studying the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ lead you to understand the truth about God?

John 1:14-17: ¹⁴ The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father’s only Son.

¹⁵ John [the Baptist] spoke about him. He cried out, “This is the one I was talking about when I said, ‘He comes after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.’ ”

¹⁶ Out of the fullness of his grace he has blessed us all, giving us one blessing after another. ¹⁷God gave the Law through Moses, **but** grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.—*Good News Bible*.*†

42. John 1 makes it very clear that Jesus is *the truth*. By contrast, John 8:44 makes it very clear that the Devil was/is a liar from the beginning.

John 8:44: [Jesus said to the Jewish religious leaders:] “You are the children of your father, the Devil, and you want to follow your father’s desires. From the very beginning he was a murderer and has never been on the side of truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he is only doing what is natural to him, because he is a liar and the father of all lies.”—*Good News Bible*.*‡ [They were about ready to throw stones!][‡]

43. ***Why do you think those words were spoken about the Sanhedrin and to the Sanhedrin? Why do you think it is that our world is turning away from the truths of the Bible?***

[EGW:] There are many who are crying out for the living God, longing for the divine presence. Philosophical theories or literary essays, however brilliant, cannot satisfy the heart. The assertions and inventions of men are of no value. Let the word of God speak to the people. Let those who have heard only traditions and human theories and maxims hear the voice of Him whose word can renew the soul unto everlasting life.—Ellen G. White, *Christ’s Object Lessons** 40.1.‡ [<https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p15.111&index=0>][‡]

44. What is implied by the fact that everything that has been created was created by Jesus Christ?

Colossians 1:16-17: ¹⁶For through him God created everything in heaven and on earth, the seen and the unseen things, including spiritual powers, lords, rulers, and authorities. **God created the whole universe through him and for him.**

¹⁷**Christ existed before all things**, and in union with him all things have their proper place.—*Good News Bible*.*†

45. C. S. Lewis so aptly stated that it is only by Jesus, the Truth, that we are able to interpret anything in the world around us correctly.

[C. S. Lewis quoted in BSG:] “I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”—“Is Theology Poetry?” (n. p.: Samizdat University Press, 2014), p. 15, originally presented in 1944.—[as quoted in *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Wednesday, December 4].[‡]

46. Is it clear to you that the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation is a revelation of Jesus Christ?

John 5:38-40,46-47: ³⁸ “And you do not keep his message in your hearts, for you do not believe in the one whom he sent. ³⁹You study the Scriptures, because you think that in them you will find eternal life. And these very Scriptures speak about me! ⁴⁰Yet you are not willing to come to me in order to have life....” **[They thought that memorizing Scripture was like a ticket to heaven!]**

⁴⁶ “If you had really believed Moses, you would have believed me, because he wrote about me. ⁴⁷But since you do not believe what he wrote, how can you believe what I say?”—*Good News Bible*.*‡

47. Luke 24:13-44, recounting the story of Jesus on the road to Emmaus with the followers who did not recognize Him, make it very clear in Jesus own words that the entire Bible is about

Him. Jesus Himself and the apostles repeatedly said that His life fulfilled the prophecies from the Old Testament. (See Matthew 22:31; Luke 1:70; Acts 1:16.)

[BSG:] The Bible is not a textbook on science. It does not explain how to split the atom or perform brain surgery. But it does something even more significant. **It provides the context within which our universe has meaning.** It is the key that opens the door, the light that makes it possible to see. Without it, we would be in the dark about the existence of God, His role in the universe, our own origin, the meaning of life, and the future.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Thursday, December 5.^{†‡}

48. **While science can determine many facts, it cannot tell us anything about history. Science cannot tell us that Abraham Lincoln was responsible for the Emancipation Proclamation being the law of the land. While it is a part of history, it cannot be proven in the laboratory.**

[EGW:] When He spoke these words [“I am the light of the world”], Jesus was in the court of the temple specially connected with the services of the Feast of Tabernacles. In the center of this court rose two lofty standards, supporting lampstands of great size. After the evening sacrifice, all the lamps were kindled, shedding their light over Jerusalem. This ceremony was in commemoration of the pillar of light that guided Israel in the desert, and was also regarded as pointing to the coming of the Messiah. At evening when the lamps were lighted, the court was a scene of great rejoicing. Gray-haired men, the priests of the temple and the rulers of the people, united in the festive dances to the sound of instrumental music and the chants of the Levites.

In the illumination of Jerusalem, the people expressed their hope of the Messiah’s coming to shed His light upon Israel. But to Jesus the scene had a wider meaning. As the radiant lamps of the temple lighted up all about them, so Christ, the source of spiritual light, illumines the darkness of the world. Yet the symbol was imperfect. That great light which His own hand had set in the heavens was a truer representation of the glory of His mission.

It was morning; the sun had just risen above the Mount of Olives, and its rays fell with dazzling brightness on the marble palaces, and lighted up the gold of the temple walls, when Jesus, pointing to it, said, “I am the light of the world.”—Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages** 463.2-4.[‡]

[\[https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p130.2256&index=0\]](https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p130.2256&index=0)[‡]

49. The same is true about events recorded in Scripture. We can determine if they are consistent with archaeological evidence or other historical information. However, we cannot prove them by science. Science could never prove what happened on the cross or the resurrection or prove the eventual second coming.
50. The issues and outcomes of the great controversy and, thus, the truth about Lucifer/Satan can never be proven by science.
51. We can never understand why a perfect being, such as Lucifer, would choose to rebel against God even while living in God’s presence in heaven. We might believe that it proves to us the truth about free will.

52. In this lesson, we are led to believe that only Jesus has seen the Father. No other human being has seen the Father.

John 6:46: “This does not mean that anyone has seen the Father; he who is from God is the only one who has seen the Father.”—*Good News Bible*.*

53. How did Jesus Himself learn about the Father? Who taught Him?

[EGW:] The child Jesus did not receive instruction in the synagogue schools. **His mother was His first human teacher.** From her lips and from the scrolls of the prophets, He learned of heavenly things. The very words which He Himself had spoken to Moses for Israel He was now taught at His mother’s knee. As He advanced from childhood to youth, He did not seek the schools of the rabbis. He needed not the education to be obtained from such sources; for **God was His instructor.**—Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages** 70.1.†† [The angels also taught Him.]‡

<https://egwwritings.org/read?panels=p130.246&index=0>‡

54. Jesus told His disciples that He was going away. However, He would not leave them without guidance.

John 15:26-27: ²⁶ “The Helper will come — the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God and who comes from the Father. I will send him to you from the Father, and he will speak about me. ²⁷And you, too, will speak about me, because you have been with me from the very beginning.”—*Good News Bible*.*

John 16:13: “When, however, the Spirit comes, who reveals the truth about God, he will lead you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own authority, but he will speak of what he hears, and will tell you of things to come.”—*Good News Bible*.*

[BSG:] In a permissive and pluralistic society, truth is a moving target, for it seems to keep shifting and evolving. What is truth today is not necessarily truth tomorrow. But Jesus, in one sentence, cuts through all of that and declares: “ ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me’ ” (*John 14:6, NKJV*).—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 135.‡§

55. Read again the words that Jesus spoke to the Sanhedrin. Most of the Jews of Jesus day memorized the Books of Moses and some memorized the entire known Scriptures—the Old Testament. They were taught that just memorizing the Scriptures assured them of eternal life and salvation. However, Jesus suggested otherwise. As we read earlier:

John 5:38-40: [Jesus said:] ³⁸ “You do not keep his message in your hearts, for you do not believe in the one whom he sent. ³⁹You study the Scriptures, because you think that in them you will find eternal life. And these very Scriptures speak about me! ⁴⁰Yet you are not willing to come to me in order to have life.”—*Good News Bible*.*‡

[BSG:] The entire Bible testifies to the truth. Scripture is a consistent and cohesive whole, for **both Testaments have the same Author—the Holy Spirit.** This same truth applies to the testimony of Jesus in His day. The religious leaders claimed to believe strongly in Moses, but they disbelieved his testimony about Jesus. (*See John 5:46.*) The leaders claimed to believe in the

Old Testament; however, they felt that a mere assent to it guaranteed them eternal life.—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 135.^{†‡§}

56. Did the Jewish leaders completely comprehend the idea that apart from Jesus, their only option was eternal death?

57. Fortunately, we have two verses that tell us that some of those doubting Pharisees and Sadducees finally realized that Jesus was the answer.

Acts 6:7: And so the word of God continued to spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem grew larger and larger, and a great number of priests [mostly **Sadducees**] accepted the faith.—*Good News Bible*.^{*‡}

Acts 15:5: But **some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees** stood up and said, “The Gentiles must be circumcised and told to obey the Law of Moses.”—*Good News Bible*.^{*‡}

58. ***In light of what Jesus has said about the Father and assuming we believe it is the truth, are you looking forward to having Jesus come back in your lifetime? Do you think that is possible? Are you looking forward to meeting God the Father face-to-face?***

©2024, Kenneth Hart, MD, MA, MPH. Permission is hereby granted for any noncommercial use of these materials. Free distribution of all or of a portion of this material such as to a Bible study class is encouraged. ^{*}Electronic version. [†]Bold type is added. [‡]Text in brackets is added. [§]Italic type is in the source. [sic-Br]=This is correct as quoted; it is the British spelling.

Last Modified: November 10, 2024

Email: Info@theox.org