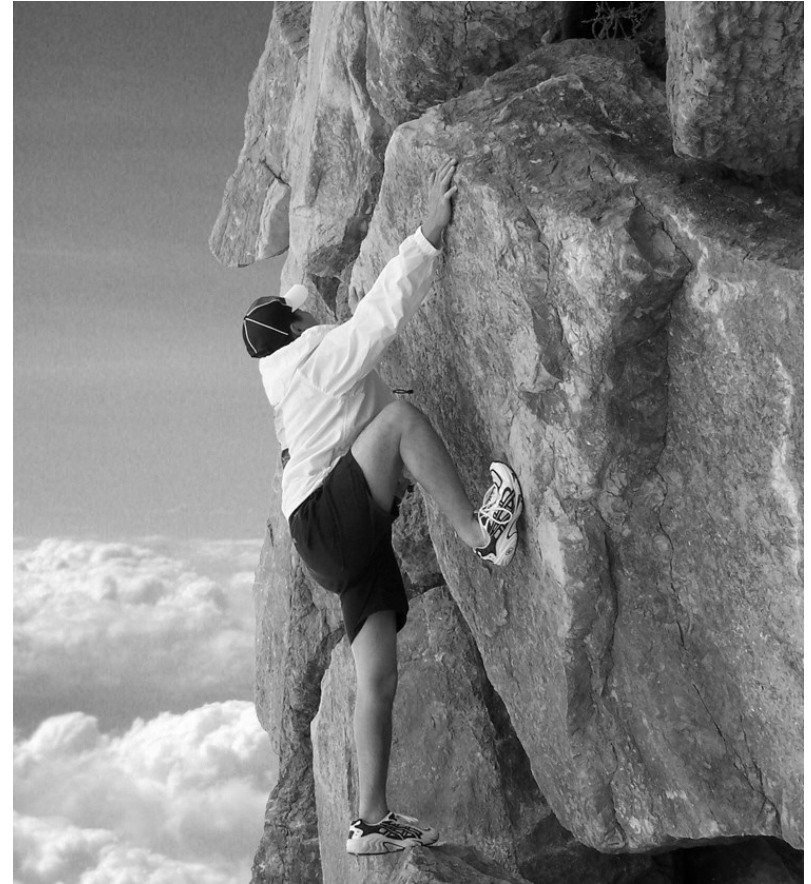


Application: Olivet Reminders

1. Olivet reminds us that Jesus came to bring **justice** and **forgiveness** to all mankind (John 8; Luke 4:18-19).
2. Olivet reminds us of the **victory** we have in Jesus (triumphal entry)
3. Olivet reminds us that this world will not stand **forever**.
4. Olivet reminds us of our obligation to be **soul winners**.
5. Olivet reminds us to be **hopeful** and **watchful** for Jesus' return.

NOTES



Climbing Bible Mountains

*Great Bible Stories from Atop
the Mountains*

“Now therefore give me this mountain...”

Joshua 14:12 NKJV

These are the words of Caleb, “God’s Mountain Man,” as he entered the Promised Land to receive his inheritance. The Bible tells us Caleb was **85 years old** when he called upon Joshua to deliver his inheritance, and had participated in Israel’s 40 year wilderness journey (Joshua 14:10-11).

The English word “mediocre” has come to mean “moderate to inferior in quality, barely serviceable.” It comes from a Latin compound meaning “half way up the mountain” — Medius = middle + ocris = rugged mountain.

Caleb was certainly no mediocre follower of God. He had been faithful since he was sent to spy out and bring a report concerning the Promised Land (Numbers 13:6, 30).

As Christians, genuine followers of God, there are many mountains we must face. We should “attack” our mountains with the same faith as Caleb, God’s Mountain Man.” One doesn’t just pick a mountain and start climbing. Attacking a mountain requires both training and planning.

Our study this week will examine some great lessons of faith and courage that were received on mountains. I hope you will “attack” these lessons with the same fervor as one who is preparing himself to climb a rugged mountain.

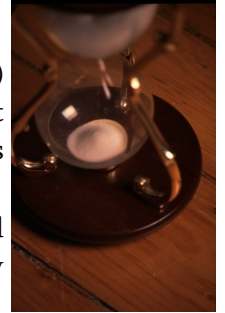
LET’S GET STARTED!

Lesson 5

The Mount of Olives: the Mountain of Duty & Anticipation

Introduction: The Mount of Olives (a.k.a. Olivet) was east of Jerusalem (Zech 14:4). Mentioned but once in the Old Testament (cf 1 Sam 15:30), it was the site of many memorable events in Jesus’ life:

1. Jesus came from Olivet when He was confronted by the Jews with the woman taken in adultery (John 8:1ff).
2. Jesus resided on Olivet during the night as he taught each day in the Temple (Luke 21:37-38), and just prior to cleansing the Temple for the second time (Matt 21:12).
3. Jesus was on Olivet when He sent two disciples to obtain the colt upon which He would make His “triumphal entry” into Jerusalem (Matt 21:1ff, Mark 11:1ff, Luke 19:26ff).
4. It was there that Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:29ff) and from there where He told His disciples of the signs preceding the destruction of Jerusalem (Matt 24:1ff; Mark 13:1ff).
5. It was to Olivet that Jesus and His apostles resorted following the institution of the Lord’s Supper (Matt 26:30; Luke 22:39).
6. Olivet was place from whence Jesus last spoke to the apostles just before He ascended to heaven, never to return to earth.
7. Prior to His ascension, Jesus gave the apostles instruction to go to Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit.
8. It was also here that Jesus gave the Great Commission to go and preach the gospel to every person.
9. It was here that the angel appeared to the apostles, telling them that Jesus would return just as they had seen Him leave.



- It was at this place where Jesus served as our substitute and sacrifice.

Application: Jesus was our Substitute and Sacrifice

Jesus was our Substitute

- Matthew 27:15-26 – It wasn't Barabbas who was released, it was _____!
- Galatians 1:3 – He gave _____ for our sins: Titus 2:14; Hebrews 9:14, 26, 28
- 1 John 2:1-2—And not for our sins only, but for the sins of the _____.

Read Isaiah 53:4-8 and note the 7 times that our sins are connected to the Jesus' death:

- He has _____ our _____ & _____ our _____ - v 4
- He was _____ for our _____ - v 5
- He was _____ for our _____ - v 5
- He was _____ for our _____ - v 5
- By his _____ we are _____ - v 5
- The Lord _____ on _____ the _____ of us all - v 6
- He was _____ for our _____ - v 8

Jesus was our Sacrifice

- He was _____ and put to _____—Isaiah 53:10
- His _____ was made as an _____ for sin—Isaiah 53:10
- He sacrificed His _____ - Luke 22:19
- He sacrificed His _____ - Matthew 26:28

Lesson 1

Mount Sinai: the Mountain of Separation

Texts: Exodus 19-20, Deuteronomy 5.



Introduction and Storyline: This lesson should help us learn the lesson of being a special people, separate from the world, dedicated to God.

- In the third month following Israel's deliverance from Egypt (Ex 13:17-14:31), God's children find themselves at Mount Sinai (Ex 19:1). It is at this place that God calls Moses to meet with Him to receive preliminary instructions to prepare Israel to receive their new law (Ex 19:2-25).
- In Exodus 20, God delivers to Moses the Ten Commandments and (later) other portions of what is known as the Mosaic Law or Law of Moses (cf Acts 15:5).
- In Deuteronomy 5, Moses issues a reminder to the children of Israel that the law they received at Sinai was for them **alone**, and set them apart from every other nation on earth. (FYI -"Deuteronomy" means "second law," specifically here, the second giving of Moses' Law.)
- "The Lord made this covenant with us in Horeb" (the name of the northern part of the Sinai mountain range - v 2). "The Lord did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who are here today, all of us who are alive" (v 3).

Thinking about our theme of “separation”:

1. From whom was Israel separated at Sinai? _____
2. What did God use to separate Israel? _____
3. Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8. What words or phrases are used to describe God’s people in this text? _____

4. What did God have to remove/take out of the way to rejoin Israel and the Gentile world (Eph 2:14-16)? _____
5. How did He do this (Col 2:14)? _____

Application:

1. From whom are Christians and the church separated today?

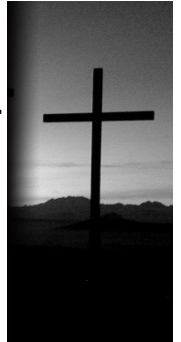
2. How does God separate spiritual Israel (Romans 2:28-29, the church) today? _____
3. In each of the following texts, find the word or idea that corresponds to those found in Deuteronomy 7:6-8.
1 Peter 1:15-16 _____
1 Peter 2:9 _____
Titus 2:14 _____
John 14:23 _____

Discussion: Read 2 Corinthians 6:14 - 7:1. From what types of things should we separate ourselves?

Lesson 4

Mount Calvary: the Mountain of Substitution and Sacrifice

Introduction: The story of Calvary begins in the garden of Eden, when man first disobeyed God, bringing sin into the world, and with sin, death (cf Gen 3; Rom 6:23). At that time, God instituted a system of animal sacrifice (cf Gen 4). This animal was a not only a sacrifice, but served as a substitute to show man the seriousness of sin and its consequences.



1. Concerning the place where Jesus was crucified, we first read of this area (called Mt. Moriah) in Genesis 22:2 when God sent Abraham there to offer Isaac as a burnt offering.
2. As they made their way to Moriah, Isaac says, ‘Father, here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?’ v 7. Abraham replied, “My son, God will provide himself the lamb for the burnt offering” (v 8).
3. As Abraham was about to kill Isaac, the Lord intervened, telling him not to harm the boy (vv 11-12). Abraham saw a ram caught in the bushes and offered it instead (v 13). Abraham calls the place “Jehovah Jireh” = “the Lord will provide.”
4. 2 Chronicles 3:1 speaks of this place as the location of Araunah’s threshing floor and the site of Solomon’s temple (cf 2 Sam 24:18-25).
5. This place is called Golgotha in Matthew, Mark and John. Only Luke uses the Greek Cranion (skull).

Discussion: The Need for Metamorphosis

1. Jesus' change is mentioned in the passive voice, meaning what was happening was being done **to** Him, not **by** Him.
2. Genuine change in my own life is not the result of self-effort, but instead through yielding and submitting myself in the hands of God.
3. Read **Romans 12:1-2**. "Be transformed" is a passive imperative. An "imperative" is "must" statement. A command. Something we are required to do. Knowing what "passive" means, what is the only way for me to be transformed as I am instructed in this text? _____

4. Read the following scriptures and discuss the words found in them that relate to our topic of change / metamorphosis:
Acts 3:19 _____
2 Corinthians 5:17 _____
1 Peter 1:22-23 _____

Application: The Reality of Metamorphosis

1. Jesus' transfiguration was not so much a change in Jesus as it was allowing the true Jesus to shine through, the Jesus who had existed from all eternity (John 1:1-4, 14).
2. The change in Moses—Read Exodus 34:29-35. Where had Moses been to make his face shine? _____
3. The change in ME—2 Corinthians 3:7-18.
4. Discuss the "revealing" of Jesus and how it relates to our own change.

Lesson 2

Mount Carmel: the Mountain of Decision

Introduction: In our previous lesson, we learned about the events that led to the special separation of God's people at Mt. Sinai (cf Deut 5:1-5). Now, almost 600 years later, God's people are no longer distinct from the heathen nations around them, being led by their wicked king, Ahab. Consider Ahab's wickedness in 1 Kings 16:29-33...



1. Though Israel never had a king who pleased the Lord, Ahab was said to have provoked God to anger more than every other king before him - v 30
2. Ahab considered it a trivial thing to continue in the sins of Jeroboam (v 31), a reference to Jeroboam's perversion of Divinely authorized worship (cf 1 Kings 12:25-33).
3. Ahab married **Jezebel**, the pagan daughter of Sidonian king Ethbaal (meaning "with Baal"- a pagan god) - v 32. Among the notorious deeds of Jezebel were the slaughter of God's prophets (1 Kings 18:4) and the murder of righteous Naboth in order to steal his vineyard (1 Kings 21:1-16). See also 1 Kings 21:25.
4. Ahab built a temple and altar for Baal - v 32. Additionally, Ahab made a grove for Asherah, the Canaanite goddess of fertility - v 33.

Highlighting the Story - 1 Kings 17-18: the Chase; the Charge; the Challenge; and the Choice.

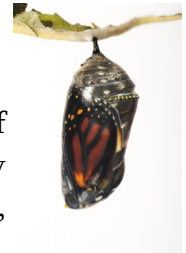
1. What did Elijah do that caused him to have to flee from Ahab (17:1)? _____ How did he accomplish this (James 5:17-18)? _____
2. By what title or name did Ahab address Elijah (18:17)? _____
3. What challenge to the prophets of Baal did Elijah issue? _____
4. What choice did the people make at the end of this display? _____

Discussion:

1. Did Christians ever have to flee from their enemies for their teaching and practice of the truth (Matthew 10:23; Acts 9:23-25; 22:18; Revelation 6:9)? _____
2. Do you think this is going on in places around the world today or do you know of such a thing? _____
3. Is it possible that we might someday be in the same boat in the United States? _____
4. Do people falsely charge Christians today as being trouble-makers? _____ In what areas or issues do they accuse us? _____
5. What choice must we be willing to make if or when we are persecuted for righteousness' sake? _____
6. What does Matthew 5:10, sometimes called "the forgotten beatitude," say of those persecuted for righteousness' sake? _____ And what are we supposed to do when this happens (Matt 5:11-12)? _____ Why? _____

Lesson 3

The Mount of Transfiguration: the Mountain of Change



Introduction: Summarizing the Text

1. Though in a much lesser role, the Mount of Transfiguration involves the primary characters in our previous two studies, Moses and Elijah.
2. This is one of the few instances where Jesus only had with Him His "inner circle" of disciples: Peter, James and John (cf Luke 8:51; Matt 26:37).
3. When they had gone up together into a high (and unnamed) mountain, the Bible says that Jesus was "transfigured" before them. Note: The Greek word here translated "transfigured" is *metamorphothe*, from which we get our English word, **metamorphosis**.
4. Luke's account says this transfiguration took place as Jesus' disciples were awakened from a heavy sleep. And when they awoke, they saw Moses and Elijah standing there, talking with Jesus.
5. Among the Jews, Moses was known as the great law **giver** (Micah 4:4; John 1:17; Acts 7:38) , while Elijah was known as the great law **restorer** (cf Micah 4:5-6; Matt 17:11-12).
6. The topic of Jesus' conversation with Moses and Elijah was His imminent **decease** (Greek *exodon*) which would be accomplished at Jerusalem (cf 2 Peter 1:12-15).