

same. We can begin a thorough study of this in Luke 24:44-48 and see a typical example of how the Apostles absorbed this kerygma into their own styles in Acts 13:47 and, of course, Acts 15.

E. I am Determined to Know Christ in My Bible Understanding, Doctrine, and Teaching.

Christ is the key to breaking this book wide open. Col. 1:15-19)

Christ is the answer to this world's need.



Stash it or Trash it!

A disposable mini-guide to keep us on task for today's study.

TriCity ABF 06/27/2021 - Steel

CHRIST ALONE!

I. Christ, Our Life)

Series Introduction: *Our study has to do with the centrality of Christ in our thinking, our theology, our worship, our teaching, and in the presentation of ourselves in everyday life. This is part of a series.*

Our Session Goal: This first entry in a short series is a humble effort to help us all focus more intently on what it means to be Christ centered.

Our Session Outline: A. I am Determined to Know Christ. B. I am Determined to Know Christ in my Salvation. C. I am Determined to Know Christ in my Fellowship. D. I am Determined to Know Christ in my Imprinting. E. I am Determined to Know Christ in my Bible Understanding, Doctrine, and Teaching.

Todays Introduction: New Covenant dynamics have become almost incidental to contemporary teaching models. We want to restore their importance and apply them to our lives.

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

I like to summarize that verse this way: *“When the child of God looks into the Word of God and sees the Son of God he is changed by the Spirit of God into the image of God for the glory of God.” Now, that is what we call a dynamic!*

A. I am Determined to Know Christ.

Philippians 3:12-14 - Being Christ centered in an ongoing pursuit.
Romans 12:1-2 - Being Christ centered requires renewal or renovation.

Again, notice that the Bible assumes we experience entropy, else Romans 12:1 and 2 would not exist. Every time we pick up a devotional, every time we read our Bibles, and every time we listen to a sermon we are renewing or renovating our minds. Renovation is important because spiritual entropy is the order of the day in a fallen world.

Philippians 3:10 - Being Christ centered in an intense pursuit.

“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;” (Philippians 3:10, KJV)

Our English translation does not do as well in conveying the emotion which lies behind this verse. There is some intensity here. There is direction. There is a fixed focus. An older edition of the Amplified version places the emphasis where it belongs:

“For my determined purpose is that I may know Him...”

B. I am Determined to Know Christ in My Salvation.

Another way to say this is that I am determined to *experience* Christ in my salvation. Now, it goes without saying that one must come to know Christ at a single point in time.

John 10:10b - Jesus said: *“...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”*

John 7:37-39 -

This dynamic is about knowing a PERSON, not a creed. Salvation begins with a living relationship, and an intimate one at that. We never want to forget this in our evangelistic endeavors!

C. I am Determined to Know Christ in my Fellowship.

John 14:14 -

The whole gospel of John is about *intimacy*.

Notice the following cascade of verses in John (14:15,21,23-24,31; 15:9,10,12,and 13) and observe:

- This intimacy requires submission.
- This intimacy flows like a fountain from the Father.
- This intimacy is sacred and private. (Similar in many ways to our marriages.)

D. I am Determined to Know Christ in My Imprinting.

1. The Person of Christ is not only our Great Teacher, He is also our Great Teaching Model.
2. Jesus Christ is the template upon which all of God’s Word is structured.
 - a. Jesus Christ reshaped the disciples. (Acts 4:13)
 - b. Jesus Christ replicated Himself in them. (Matt. 11:28-30)
3. Jesus Christ replaced their kerygma.

Definition from Wikipedia: Kerygma (from the ancient Greek word κήρυγμα kérugma) is a Greek word used in the New Testament for “proclamation” (see Luke 4:18-19, Romans 10:14, Gospel of Matthew 3:1). It is related to the Greek verb κηρύσσω kērússō, literally meaning “to cry or proclaim as a herald” and being used in the sense of “to proclaim, announce, preach”. Amongst biblical scholars, the term has come to mean the core of the early church’s teaching about Jesus.

Jesus Christ made Himself the centerpiece of all Bible interpretation, not just the centerpiece of the gospel itself. He taught the disciples to do the

Continued on the back side...