

Wisdom Booklet 3

Lynda

upon outside sources for his life and daily survival. How does the prayer Jesus taught us to pray remind us of this fact?

- 4 The Apostle Paul acknowledged that he was the worst sinner who ever lived so that no one who lived after him would be able to say that he was too great a sinner to be saved.

(Read I Timothy 1:15-16.)

- A beggar must openly acknowledge his bankrupt condition before his need can be met. How does this illustrate the requirement that a sinner confess his need for salvation?

- 5 We can become poor in spirit by comparing ourselves with those around us.

(Read II Corinthians 10:12.)

- Comparing ourselves to those who are better than we are will produce an attitude of inferiority, while comparing ourselves to those who are inferior to us will produce an attitude of superiority. How do these attitudes differ from being poor in spirit?

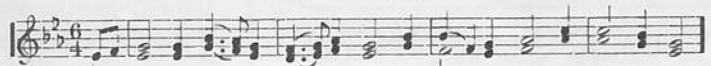
- 6 When we are humiliated, we experience God's grace because He promised to give grace to the humble.

(Read James 4:6.)

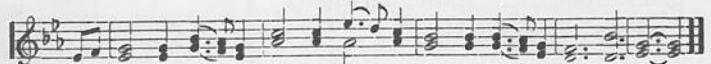
- Humiliation occurs when a proud person is embarrassed. Humility occurs when any person recognizes his true spiritual condition before God. Which person experiences God's grace?

Total Correct 6

Just As I Am



- Just as I am, with-out one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me,
- Just as I am, and wait-ing not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
- Just as I am, tho' tossed a-bout With many a con-flict, many a doubt,
- Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, heal-ing of the mind,
- Just as I am, Thou wilt re-ceive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;



And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Fight-ings and fears with-in, with-out, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Be-cause Thy prom-ise I be-lieve, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

WISDOM QUIZ

Matthew 5:3

"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."



How well do you understand the concept of being poor in spirit?

True/False

- 1 The blessing of God refers to the protection and provision of a covenant relationship with Him.

- The word *blessing* comes from the Old English *bledsian* which literally meant "covered with blood." What did God promise when He first used the word *blessing* in Scripture, and how are we included in this promise?

- 2 When Jesus said that a person would be blessed, He meant that person would experience continual happiness.

(Read II Corinthians 6:10.)

- Happiness depends upon happenings, whereas joy comes by knowing that our tribulations are being used of God to reproduce Godly character in the lives of others. Based on this, how is it possible to experience joy and sadness at the same time?

- 3 To be poor in spirit means that any goodness that we have within ourselves is not enough to merit eternal life.

(Read Romans 7:18.)

- The term *poor in spirit* pictures a beggar who is totally dependent

WISDOM WORKSHEET ON MATTHEW 5:3



**“BLESSED ARE THE
POOR IN SPIRIT ...”**



How does a beggar illustrate the attitude of being poor in spirit?

- Recognizing that in ourselves we are spiritually bankrupt.
- Acknowledging that in our own strength we are powerless to do anything about our spiritual condition.
- Realizing that God has all the resources we need if we but ask Him for them.

Do Resource A.

**“... FOR THEIRS IS
THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN.”**



What kind of kingdom does God have for His disciples?

- A present kingdom in which Christ rules in the hearts of His people, giving them many spiritual benefits. (See Colossians 1:13-14.)
- A future kingdom in which Christ will return to Jerusalem to rule the world. (See Revelation 21:1-3.)

Linguistics

Languages,
Grammar, Vocabulary,
Communication



BLESSED

Greek: μακάριος (mah-KAH-rih-oss)

DEFINITION: To be joyful; spiritually prosperous; to be envied.

POOR

Greek: πτωχός (ptoe-KOSS)

DEFINITION: To be poverty-stricken; beggarly; utterly dependent on others.

There is another Greek word for poor that simply means “life is difficult,” but the Greek word used here means “I am not going to make it without help.”

Do Resource B.

SPIRIT

Greek: πνεῦμα (NYOO-muh)

DEFINITION: Breath; the essence of conscious life which God breathed into man’s spirit at creation; the inner man which is capable of communion with God’s Spirit; the inmost nature of a person.

FOR

Greek: ὅτι (HAW-tih)

DEFINITION: This word shows cause or reason. In each beatitude there is a cause-and-effect relationship between the right attitude and the reward which God gives.

Mature Christians operate on the basis of pleasing God, not on the basis of receiving a reward.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Greek: βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν

(bah-sih-LAY-uh tone ooh-rah-n-OWN)

DESCRIPTION: The priceless rewards of living in the presence and protection of God. (See Luke 17:21 and Revelation 21:1-3.)

Do Resource C.

History

Archaeology,
Geography, Prophecy,
Music, Art, Literature



What men in history were poor in spirit?



David

God identifies David as a man who was poor in spirit.

David describes his own heart’s condition in Psalm 40:17.

“But I am poor and needy; yet the

Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.”

David’s heart attitude was maintained because of the enemies that God allowed to rise up against him. They forced him to pour out his heart before God and to cry out continually for God’s resources.

All these struggles won for David the title of “... a man after mine [God’s] own heart ...” (Acts 13:22).

In the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, Jesus provided a significant contrast between a man who was poor in spirit and a man who was proud in spirit.



The Publican
(See Luke 18:9-14.)

The Pharisee reminded himself how much better he was than others.

The Publican, “... standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other ...” (Luke 18:13-14).

Do Resource D.

Science

Chemistry, Biology,
Astronomy, Geology,
Physics, Mathematics



In what way did God create man to be poor in spirit?

Every dimension of man's need was designed by God to be met on a daily basis.

- ☐ His need for food, water, air, exercise, and sleep.
- ☐ His need for fellowship with God and others.
- ☐ His need for wisdom in discerning evil.



THE
RESULT
OF
TRYING
TO BE
INDE-
PENDENT
OF GOD

Adam and Eve
(See Genesis 3:23-24.)

Do Resource E.

How did man's sin increase his need to depend on God?



- ☐ Our need for food from a cursed earth—"Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee . . ." (Genesis 3:17-19).
- ☐ Our need for comfort in increased sorrows—"... I will greatly multiply thy sorrow . . . in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life" (Genesis 3:16-17).
- ☐ Most of all, our need for salvation and daily cleansing by the blood of Christ. (See John 3:3.)

Do Resource F.

Law

Government,
Economics, Logic



How does our understanding of law affect our ability to be "poor in spirit"?

JUSTICE

... is God's law system, which is wholly consistent with His holy character.

MERCY

... is God's provision for those who repent of breaking His just laws.



The Scale of Justice

"FAIRNESS"

... is lowering God's standards to the level that can be achieved by our human will and ability.

If we focus on God's just laws, we will recognize our total inability to keep them and become poor in spirit.

If we focus on man's "fairness," we will become proud and tend to curse God.

Do Resource G.

How does the lack of a humble spirit lead to rebellion and treason?



Lucifer

Before Satan rebelled against God he was a shining angel of light.

Lucifer means "light bearer." His heart was lifted up with pride and he said, "I will be like the most high God." (See Isaiah 14:14.)

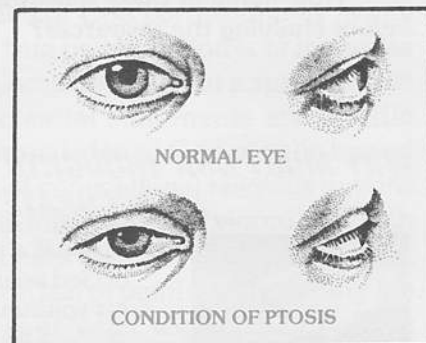
With two opposing authorities in heaven, the angels had to choose which one to serve. One-third chose to follow Lucifer and were evicted from heaven. (See Revelation 12:3-4, 7-9.)

Medicine

Health,
Nutrition, Behavior,
Counseling



How does a medical condition in the eye illustrate the phrase "poor in spirit"?



NORMAL EYE

CONDITION OF PTOSIS

The Greek word for poor is the same root word that is used to describe a drooping organ of the body.

Ptosis occurs in the eye when the muscles of the eyelid no longer hold themselves up. The result of this condition is that a person is not able to look up.

Do Resource H.

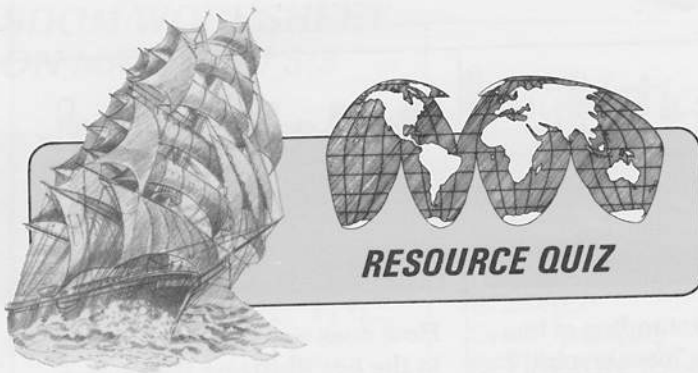
**WHEN IS
LOOKING
DOWN A
SIGN OF
HUMILITY?**



"Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until that he have mercy upon us" (Psalm 123:2).

The master would give direction and provision from his hand.

- ☐ When we are truly humble before God, He is the "... lifter up of ... [our] head" (Psalm 3:3) so that we can behold the beauty of His face. (See Psalm 27:4.)



How many of these questions can you answer before studying the resources?

WHY MUST OUR THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD BE ACCURATE?



- How will a person's view of God accurately predict his spiritual future?71
- How will correct thoughts about God eliminate worry?72
- What is the essential nature of idolatry?72
- How is holiness a prerequisite for health?74

WHAT WORDS DESCRIBE MAN'S HEART?



- What are ten synonyms and ten antonyms of poor in spirit?75
- How did Jesus describe a person who had a proud heart?76
- Whom did Christ use as an example of genuine humility?76

WHAT LETTERS COMPLETE THE GREEK ALPHABET?



- What marks indicate whether breathing is smooth or rough?78
- Can you recite the entire Greek alphabet?79
- Can you name the Greek vowels?80
- How are the Greek diphthongs formed?80

WHAT MUST WE LEARN FROM BABYLON?



- Why was Babylon called "The Gate of God"?81
- What reasons did Nebuchadnezzar have to be exceedingly proud of Babylon?81
- How did God humble a proud king?83

HOW CAN DUST PRODUCE HUMILITY?



- In what two ways are Adam and dust related?85
- What is the chemical composition of the human body?85
- Are some elements in the body more important than others?87
- How quickly does the body decompose after death?88

HOW CAN MATH BUILD DEPENDENCE?



- How much would it cost to buy the oxygen you breathe in a lifetime?89
- How much water does the average person drink during his life?90
- What would a lifetime supply of water cost?90

WHY MUST LAWS BE BASED ON JUSTICE?



- What is the definition of equity?91
- How does mercy differ from fairness?91
- What are thirteen differences between justice and mercy and fairness? ...92
- How does fairness lead to cursing God?94

HOW CAN EYELIDS SHOW HUMILITY?



- What is the condition of ptosis?95
- What three functions occur every time we close our eyes?95
- How are eyelids used for seductive purposes? ...98



WISDOM RESOURCE



Ewing Galloway

"WHY WE MUST THINK RIGHTLY ABOUT GOD"

—A. W. Tozer

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.

"The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God.

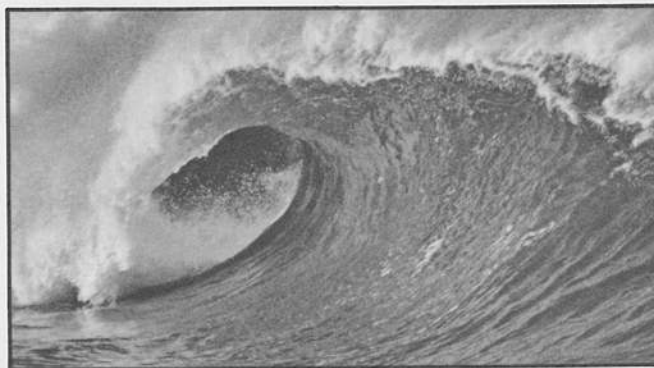
"For this reason the gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like. We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God. This is true not only of the individual Christian, but of the company of Christians that composes the Church. Always the most revealing thing about the Church is her idea of God, just as her most significant message is what she says about Him or leaves unsaid, for her silence is often more eloquent than her speech. She can never escape the self-disclosure of her witness concerning God.

"Were we able to extract from any man a complete answer to the question, 'What comes into your mind when you think about God?' we might predict with certainty the spiritual future of that man. Were we able to know exactly what our most influential religious leaders think of God today, we might be able with some precision to foretell where the Church will stand tomorrow.

"Without doubt, the mightiest thought the mind can entertain is the thought of God, and the weightiest word in any language is its word for God. Thought and speech are God's gifts to creatures made in His image; these are intimately associated with Him and impossible apart from Him. It is highly significant that the first word was the Word: '*... And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*' [John 1:1] We may speak because God spoke. In Him word and idea are indivisible.

"That our idea of God correspond as nearly as possible to the true being of God is of immense importance to us. Compared with our actual thoughts about Him, our creedal statements are of little consequence. Our real idea of God may lie buried under the rubbish of conventional religious notions and may require an intelligent and vigorous search before it is finally unearthed and exposed for what it is. Only after an ordeal of painful self-probing are we likely to discover what we actually believe about God.

"A right conception of God is basic . . . to practical Christian living. . . . Where it is inadequate or out of plumb the whole structure must sooner or



*"The Lord on high is mightier . . . than the
mighty waves of the sea" (Psalm 93:4).*

later collapse. I believe there is scarcely an error in doctrine or a failure in applying Christian ethics that cannot be traced finally to imperfect and ignoble thoughts about God.

"It is my opinion that the Christian conception of God current in these middle years of the twentieth century is so decadent as to be utterly beneath the dignity of the Most High God and actually to constitute for professed believers something amounting to a moral calamity.

"All the problems of heaven and earth, though they were to confront us together and at once, would be nothing compared with the overwhelming problem of God: That He is; what He is like; and what we as moral beings must do about Him."



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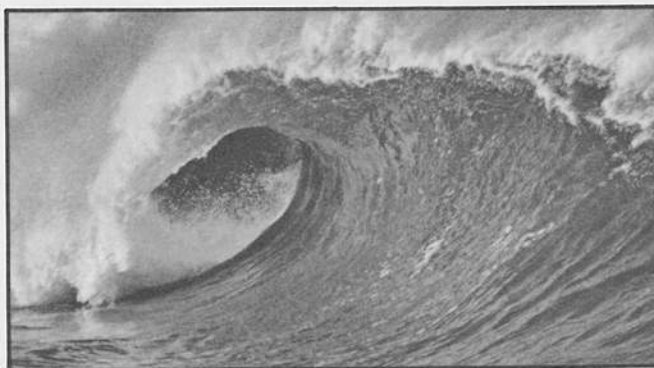
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Accurate thoughts eliminate worry

"The man who comes to a right belief about God is relieved of ten thousand temporal problems, for he sees at once that these have to do with matters which at the most cannot concern him for very long; but even if the multiple burdens of time may be lifted from him, the one mighty single burden of eternity begins to press down upon him with a weight more crushing than all the woes of the world piled one upon another. That mighty burden is his obligation to God. It includes an instant and lifelong duty to love God with every power of mind and soul, to obey Him perfectly, and to worship Him acceptably. And when the man's laboring conscience tells him that he has done none of these things, but has from childhood been guilty of foul revolt against the Majesty in the heavens, the inner pressure of self-accusation may become too heavy to bear.

"The gospel can lift this destroying burden from the mind, give beauty for ashes, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. But unless the weight of the burden is felt the gospel can mean nothing to the man; and until he sees a vision of God high and lifted up, there will be no woe and no burden. Low views of God destroy the gospel for all who hold them."

Accurate thoughts expose idolatry

"Among the sins to which the human heart is prone, hardly any other is more hateful to God than idolatry, for idolatry is at bottom a libel on His character. The idolatrous heart assumes that God is other than He is—in itself a monstrous sin—and substitutes for the true God one made after its own likeness. Always this God will conform to the image of the one who created it and will be base or pure, cruel or kind, according to the moral state of the mind from which it emerges.

"A god begotten in the shadows of a fallen heart will quite naturally be no true likeness of the true God. *'Thou thoughtest,'* said the Lord to the wicked man in the psalm, *'that I was altogether such an one as thyself.'* Surely this must be a serious affront to the Most High God before whom cherubim and seraphim continually do cry, *'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth.'*

"Let us beware lest we in our pride accept the erroneous notion that idolatry consists only in kneeling before visible objects of adoration, and that civilized peoples are therefore free from it. The essence of idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him. It begins in the mind and may be present where no overt

act of worship has taken place. *'When they knew God,'* wrote Paul, *'they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.'* [Romans 1:21]

"Then followed the worship of idols fashioned after the likeness of men and birds and beasts and creeping things. But this series of degrading acts began in the mind. Wrong ideas about God are not only the fountain from which the polluted waters of idolatry flow; they are themselves idolatrous. The idolater simply imagines things about God and acts as if they were true.

"Perverted notions about God soon rot the religion in which they appear. The long career of Israel demonstrates this clearly enough, and the history of the Church confirms it. So necessary to the Church is a lofty concept of God that when that concept in any measure declines, the Church with her worship and her moral standards declines along with it. The first step down for any church is taken when it surrenders its high opinion of God.

"Before the Christian Church goes into eclipse anywhere there must first be a corrupting of her simple basic theology. She simply gets a wrong answer to the question, *'What is God like?'* and goes on from there. Though she may continue to cling to a sound nominal creed, her practical working creed has become false. The masses of her adherents come to believe that God is different from what He actually is; and that is heresy of the most insidious and deadly kind.



"Before the mountains were brought forth . . . from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God" (Psalm 90:2).

"The heaviest obligation lying upon the Christian Church today is to purify and elevate her concept of God until it is once more worthy of Him—and of her. In all her prayers and labors this should have first place. We do the greatest service to the next generation of Christians by passing on to them undimmed and undiminished that noble concept of God which we received from our Hebrew and Christian fathers of generations past. . . ."



Ewing Galloway

"THE HOLINESS OF GOD"

—A. W. Tozer

"The moral shock suffered by us through our mighty break with the high will of heaven has left us all with a permanent trauma affecting every part of our nature. There is disease both in ourselves and in our environment.

"The sudden realization of his personal depravity came like a stroke from heaven upon the trembling heart of Isaiah at the moment when he had his revolutionary vision of the holiness of God. His pain-filled cry, '*... Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts,*' [Isaiah 6:5] expresses the feeling of every man who has discovered himself under his disguises and has been confronted with an inward sight of the holy whiteness that is God. Such an experience cannot but be emotionally violent.

"Until we have seen ourselves as God sees us, we are not likely to be much disturbed over conditions around us as long as they do not get so far out of hand as to threaten our comfortable way of life. We have learned to live with unholiness and have come to look upon it as the natural and expected thing. We are not disappointed that we do not find all truth in our teachers or faithfulness in our politicians or complete honesty in our merchants or full trustworthiness in our friends. That we may

continue to exist we make such laws as are necessary to protect us from our fellow men and let it go at that.

"Neither the writer nor the reader of these words is qualified to appreciate the holiness of God. Quite literally a new channel must be cut through the desert of our minds to allow the sweet waters of truth that will heal our great sickness to flow in. We cannot grasp the true meaning of the divine holiness by thinking of someone or something very pure and then raising the concept to the highest degree we are capable of. God's holiness is not simply the best we know infinitely bettered. We know nothing like the divine holiness. It stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible, and unattainable. The natural man is blind to it. He may fear God's power and admire His wisdom, but His holiness he cannot even imagine.

"Only the Spirit of the Holy One can impart to the human spirit the knowledge of the holy. Yet as electric power flows only through a conductor, so the Spirit flows through truth and must find some measure of truth in the mind before He can illuminate the heart. Faith wakes at the voice of truth but responds to no other sound. '*... Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*' [Romans 10:17] Theological knowledge is the medium through which the Spirit flows into the human heart, yet there must be humble penitence in the heart before truth can produce faith. The Spirit of God is the Spirit of truth. It is possible to have some truth in the mind without having the Spirit in the heart, but it is never possible to have the Spirit apart from the truth. . . .



U.S. Naval Observatory

"The heavens declare the glory of God . . ."
(Psalm 19:1).

"[The holiness of God is] incomprehensible. [It is an] awesome Mystery, surrounding and enfolding the universe. [It] can never be intellectually conceived, only sensed and felt in the depths of the human spirit. It remains as a permanent religious instinct, a feeling for that unnamed, undiscoverable Presence that 'runs quicksilverlike through creation's veins' and sometimes stuns the mind by confronting

it with a supernatural, suprarational manifestation of itself. The man thus confronted is brought down and overwhelmed and can only tremble and be silent. . . .

"The feeling for mystery, even for the Great Mystery, is basic in human nature and indispensable to religious faith, but it is not enough. Because of it men may whisper, 'That awful Thing,' but they do not cry, 'Mine Holy One!' In the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures God carries forward His self-revelation and gives it personality and moral content. This awful Presence is shown to be not a Thing but a moral Being with all the warm qualities of genuine personality. More than this, He is the absolute quintessence of moral excellence, infinitely perfect in righteousness, purity, rectitude, and incomprehensible holiness. . . .

"Through the self-revelation of God in the Scriptures and the illumination of the Holy Spirit the Christian gains everything and loses nothing. . . . Today his heart may leap up with the happy cry, 'Abba Father, my Lord and my God!' Tomorrow he may kneel with delighted trembling to admire and adore the High and Lofty One that inhabiteth eternity."

Holiness is a prerequisite for health

"Holy is the way God is. To be holy He does not conform to a standard. He is that standard. He is absolutely holy with an infinite, incomprehensible fullness of purity that is incapable of being other than it is. Because He is holy, all His attributes are holy; that is, whatever we think of as belonging to God must be thought of as holy.

"God is holy and He has made holiness the moral condition necessary to the health of His universe. Sin's temporary presence in the world only accents this. Whatever is holy is healthy; evil is a moral sickness that must end ultimately in death. The formation of the language itself suggests this, the English word *holy* deriving from the Anglo-Saxon *halig*, *hal*, meaning 'well, whole.'

"Since God's first concern for His universe is its moral health, that is, its holiness, whatever is contrary to this is necessarily under His eternal displeasure. To preserve His creation God must destroy whatever would destroy it. When He arises to put down iniquity and save the world from irreparable moral collapse, He is said to be angry. Every wrathful judgment in the history of the world has been a holy act of preservation. The holiness of God, the wrath of God, and the health of the creation are inseparably united. God's wrath is His utter intolerance of whatever degrades and destroys. He

hates iniquity as a mother hates the polio that would take the life of her child.

"God is holy with an absolute holiness that knows no degrees, and this He cannot impart to His creatures. But there is a relative and contingent holiness which He shares with angels and seraphim in heaven and with redeemed men on earth as their preparation for heaven. This holiness God can and does impart to His children. He shares it with them by imputation and by impartation, and because He has made it available to them through the blood of the Lamb, He requires it of them. To Israel first and later to His Church God spoke, saying, '*Be ye holy; for I am holy.*' [1 Peter 1:16] He did not say 'Be ye as holy as I am holy,' for that would be to demand of us absolute holiness, something that belongs to God alone. Before the uncreated fire of God's holiness angels veil their faces. Yea, the heavens are not clean, and the stars are not pure in His sight. No honest man can say 'I am holy,' but neither is any honest man willing to ignore the solemn words of the inspired writer, '*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.*' [Hebrews 12:14]



"... The broken and the contrite heart He will not despise. We must hide our unholiness in the wounds of Christ as Moses hid himself in the cleft of the rock while the glory of God passed by. We must take refuge from God in God. Above all we must believe that God sees us perfect in His Son while He disciplines and chastens and purges us that we may be partakers of His holiness.

"By faith and obedience, by constant meditation on the holiness of God, by loving righteousness and hating iniquity, by a growing acquaintance with the Spirit of holiness, we can acclimate ourselves to the fellowship of the saints on earth and prepare ourselves for the eternal companionship of God and the saints above. Thus, as they say when humble believers meet, we will have a heaven to go to heaven in."

A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, (New York, Harper and Row, 1961), Chapter 1, pages 9-13 and Chapter 21, pages 110-114. Used by permission, June 1984.

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



POWER THROUGH PRECISION

LEARN WORDS WHICH DESCRIBE THE TRUE CONDITION OF THE HEART

In order to become "poor in spirit" we must first understand and accept God's description of the heart.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9).

It is only as we comprehend the true condition of our hearts that we will understand our need for the Lord.

PROJECT 1

SYNONYMS of "utterly dependent"

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Destitute | <input type="checkbox"/> Base |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sinful | <input type="checkbox"/> Desolate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impoverished | <input type="checkbox"/> Devoid |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wretched |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unworthy | <input type="checkbox"/> Abject |

When we understand the true nature of our hearts, we have a choice: either repent and recognize our utter dependence upon God or reject God and develop the following destructive attitudes of the heart.

ANTONYMS of "utterly dependent"

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proud | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-sufficient |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conceited | <input type="checkbox"/> Boastful |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vain | <input type="checkbox"/> Egotistical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Smug | <input type="checkbox"/> Pompous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrogant | <input type="checkbox"/> Haughty |

PROJECT 2



Illustration from Explaining the Gospels ©Scripture Union, London published in America by David C. Cook. Used by permission.

HOW DID JESUS WARN ABOUT PRIDE AND ILLUSTRATE HUMILITY?

After learning the definitions of the vocabulary words, test your ability to use them precisely by filling in the blanks of the following account. Choose the best word for each blank, and use each word only once.

THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN

Two men went up into the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee; the other a Publican. The Pharisee had a (1) heart, which gave him the pleasurable deception that he was better than others and worthy of their praise.

He approached the Temple with a (2) display so that others would be sure to notice him. As he glanced at people along the way, he exhibited a (3) expression of self-righteousness. His (4) eyes added a message of scorn.

As he entered the Temple, his (5) manner conveyed to all the fact that he was overly impressed with himself. He stood and began to pray, but his (6) words were simply a preoccupation with his own goodness. "God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this Publican."

Then he went on with a (7) account of what he had accomplished, "I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess."

The number of times that he used the word "I" in his (8) prayer illustrated just how self-centered he really was and how (9) he thought he was.

When he finished praying with himself and strutted out of the Temple, he was even more (10) than when he came in.

PROJECT 3



CHRIST'S ILLUSTRATION OF HUMILITY

As the Publican entered the Temple, his life was completely ⁽¹¹⁾ of the righteousness which the Pharisee claimed to possess. The Publican knew that his ⁽¹²⁾ living made him ⁽¹³⁾ to come into the presence of a Holy God.

His evil ways caused him to feel ⁽¹⁴⁾, and he knew that in regard to any goodness that would give him entrance into heaven, he was totally ⁽¹⁵⁾.

The sin in his life had caused even the physical resources which God had given him to be ⁽¹⁶⁾.

He saw the contempt in the eyes of the Pharisee toward his miserable and ⁽¹⁷⁾ condition. When he compared himself to the Pharisee, he felt ⁽¹⁸⁾ even to enter the Temple; but when he compared himself with God he realized that he was completely deplorable, one of the most contemptible men on earth.

Conscious of his ⁽¹⁹⁾ spiritual poverty, he could not even look up, but lowered his eyes from the Holy God Whom he approached. In anguish he pounded his chest with his fists and cried, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

When God saw the brokenness of the Publican whose life truly was ⁽²⁰⁾, He forgave him of all of his sin. Thus Jesus declared, "... *This man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted*" (Luke 18:14).

PROJECT 4



PROUD
PHARISEE



REPENTANT
PUBLICAN

If a verse relates to the Pharisee, mark the "P" column. If it relates to the Publican, mark the "R" column.

P R

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 | "... Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way . . . do I hate" (Proverbs 8:13). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2 | "... A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 51:17). |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 | "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 4 | "Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Proverbs 16:19). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 5 | "... The humble shall hear thereof, and be glad" (Psalm 34:2). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 6 | "The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility" (Proverbs 15:33). |

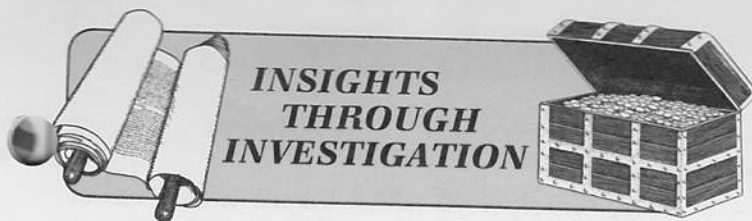
PROJECT 5



Take your written testimony on how you became a Christian (page 36) and rewrite it, adding appropriate words from this resource. Use antonyms of "utterly dependent" to describe your attitude before salvation and synonyms of "utterly dependent" to describe your attitude as a Christian.

By doing this you will communicate what it means to be "poor in spirit."

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



GREEK INVESTIGATION 3

ENGLISH

BLESSED

English Equivalents:



m	=
a	=
k	=
a	=
r	=
i	=
o	=
s	=

POOR

English Equivalents:



p	=
t	=
o	=
ch	=
o	=
s	=

SPIRIT

English Equivalents:

p	=
n	=
e	=
u	=
m	=
a	=



Μακάριοι οἱ πτωχοὶ τῷ πνεύματι,
Blessed (are) the poor in the spirit;
ὅτι αὐτῶν ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία
for theirs is the kingdom
τῶν οὐρανῶν.
of the heavens.

GREEK

Lexicon Form (Root words)

μακάριος (mah-KAH-rih-oss)

Greek Letters	Names	Sounds
μ	(mu)	m as in mum
α	(alpha)	ä as in father
κ	(kappa)	k as in kick
α	(alpha)	ä as in father
ρ	(rho)	r as in roar
ι	(iota)	i as in pit
ο	(omicron)	o as in pot
ς	(sigma)	s as in sauce

πτωχός (ptoe-KOSS)

Greek Letters	Names	Sounds
π	(pi)	p as in pop
τ	(tau)	t as in tight
ω	(omega)	ō as in toe
χ	(chi)	ch as in chord
ο	(omicron)	o as in pop
ς	(sigma)	s as in sauce

πνεῦμα (NYOO-muh)

Greek Letters	Names	Sounds
π	(pi)	p as in pop
ν	(nu)	n as in no
ε	(epsilon)	e as in pet
υ	(upsilon)	ōō as in boot
μ	(mu)	m as in mum
α	(alpha)	ä as in father

(ευ is a diphthong, pronounced like eu in feud)

THE PRECISION OF THE GREEK LANGUAGE

The Greek language contains many synonyms which suggest subtle differences to the reader. These distinctions provide rich insight into God's Word. Study the following examples for our English word, "poor."

The New Testament uses three different Greek words for poor: πένης, πενιχρός, and πτωχός. The first two of these words come from the same root stem, πέν. Each of these words occurs once in the New Testament and could be translated "pauper." They refer to someone who has little of life's means. Xenophon, a Greek writer, used this stem to refer to people whose entire possessions would not bring five mina (about \$100.00) if sold. An individual who was "poor" in this sense would normally earn his food through personal labor. (See II Corinthians 9:9 and Luke 21:2.)



Doré Bible Illustrations

The widow gave out of her poverty.



Doré Bible Illustrations

Lazarus depended on the rich man for sustenance.

The third Greek word, πτωχός, corresponds to our English word "beggar." It occurs between thirty and forty times in the New Testament. One who is "poor" in this sense depends entirely upon the donations of others to exist. (See Luke 16:20-21.)

BREATHING MARKS

◌ = Smooth

◌ = Rough

- Every Greek word which begins with a vowel (α, ε, ι, ο, υ) or diphthong (ευ, οι, ου, etc.) has a breathing mark.
- A smooth breathing mark (◌) is not sounded; thus, ὄρος is pronounced or-os
- A rough breathing mark (◌) sounds like h. ὅτι is pronounced ho-ti



PROJECT

Write the Greek words that you have learned thus far on a separate sheet of paper.

ὁράω

to see

ὄχλος

multitude

ὄρος

mountain

καθίζω

to sit

μαθητής

disciple

ἀνοίγω

to open

διδάσκω

to teach

μακάριος

blessed

πτωχός

poor

πνεῦμα

spirit

ὅτι

for

GREEK ALPHABET

α	ä as in father	alpha	(al-fə)
β	b as in bib	beta	(bā-tə)
γ	g as in gag	gamma	(gam-mə)
δ	d as in deed	delta	(del-tə)
ε	e [e] as in pet	epsilon	(ep-si-lon)
ζ	ds as in ads z as in zebra when ζ begins a word	zeta	(zā-tə)
η	ā as in pay	eta	(ā-tə)
θ	th as in thin	theta	(thā-tə)
ι	i [i] as in pit or e as in bee	iota	(i-ō-tə)
κ	k as in kick	kappa	(kap-pə)
λ	l as in lid	lambda	(lamb-də)
μ	m as in mum	mu	(mū)
ν	n as in no	nu	(nū)
ξ	x as in exceed	xi	(xī) or (xē)
ο	o [o] as in pot	omicron	(o-me-kron)
π	p as in pop	pi	(pī)
ρ	r as in roar	rho	(rō)
σ	s as in sauce	sigma	(sig-mə)
ς	FINAL SIGMA used when sigma is the last letter of a word	sigma	
τ	t as in tight	tau	(tou) rhymes with cow
υ	ōō as in boot ū as in cute	upsilon	(ūp-sə-lon)
φ	f as in fife	phi	(fi) or (fē)
χ	k as in kick	chi	(kī) or (kē)
ψ	ps as in caps	psi	(psī) or (psē)
ω	ō as in toe	omega	(ō-mā-gə)

ALPHABET PRACTICE SHEETS

α α α α

β β β β

γ γ γ γ

δ δ δ δ

ε ε ε ε

ζ ζ ζ ζ

η η η η

θ θ θ θ

ι ι ι ι

EXERCISE:

Practice writing the letters of the alphabet on the practice sheets and pronouncing each letter properly.

TEST YOURSELF:

Using the alphabet flashcards, can you say the letters in alphabetical order without looking at the list?

VOWELS

α (ä or ā)

ε (e)

η (ā)

ο (o)

ι (i or ē)

υ (ü or ū)

ω (ō)

ε and ο are always short. η and ω are always long. α, ι, and υ may be either short or long. (See Ray Summers' *Essentials of New Testament Greek* pages 2-3 for more information.)

DIPHTHONGS

Diphthongs occur when two vowels unite to form one sound. Note the seven common diphthongs of Greek and their pronunciations.

αι (ai) as in aisle

ει (ei) as in sleigh or
as in height

οι (oi) as in oil

αυ (au) as in kraut

ευ (eu) as in feud

ου (ou) as in group

υι (ee) as in wee

Date Completed _____ Evaluation _____



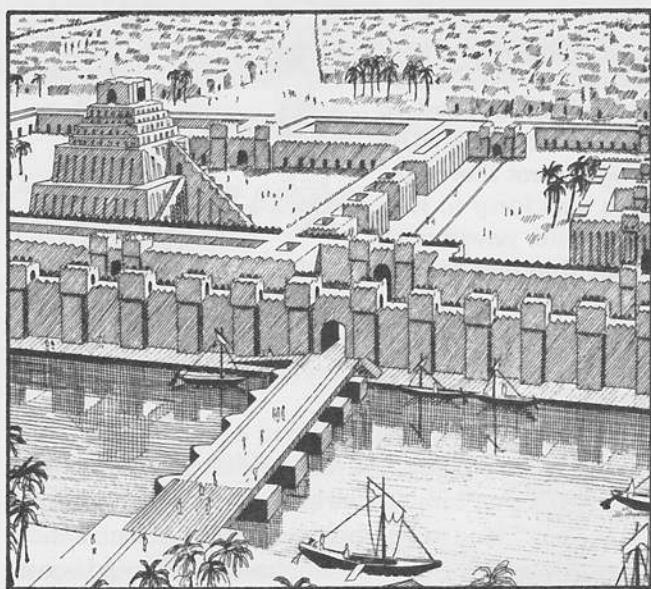
HISTORY RESOURCE

THE CONSEQUENCES OF PRIDE



"... IS NOT THIS GREAT
BABYLON, THAT I HAVE BUILT
FOR THE HOUSE OF THE KING-
DOM BY THE MIGHT OF MY
POWER, AND FOR THE HONOUR
OF MY MAJESTY?"

—Nebuchadnezzar
Daniel 4:30



The Entrance of Babylon

After Unger

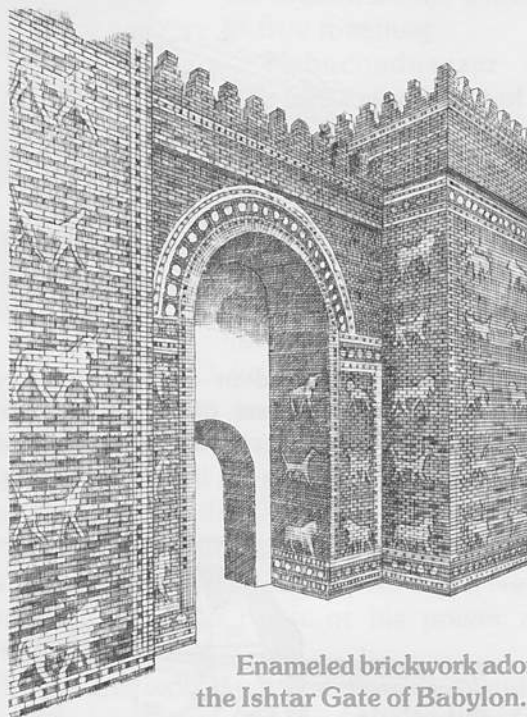
If any ruler had valid reasons to boast about the greatness of his power and the splendor of his achievements, it would have been King Nebuchadnezzar II.

The reign of Nebuchadnezzar lasted from 605–582 B.C. During those twenty-three years, he ruled the entire world. He built ancient Babylon into the most beautiful and the most fortified city in the world.

Babylon was located on the banks of the Euphrates River. It was a world trade center and the capital of the Babylonian Empire.

God used the Babylonians to bring judgment to the apostate nation of Israel. Thousands of

captives were brought in chains from Palestine to Babylon. There they were used as slave laborers for Nebuchadnezzar's building projects.

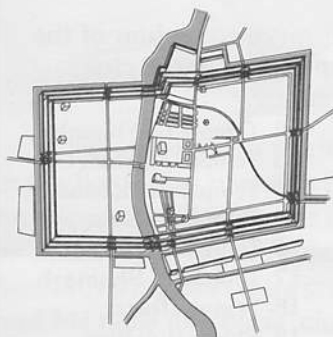


Enameled brickwork adorned the Ishtar Gate of Babylon. The massive twin towers, decorated with sacred dragons and bulls, stood forty feet high.

Babylon means "gate of god." It had been founded with the Tower of Babel in an attempt to unite the world around the worship of the heavens. The great Tower of Babel, known as the Ziggurat, was located in the temple area.

As Nebuchadnezzar looked out over the magnificent city which he had built, he must have smiled with great satisfaction.

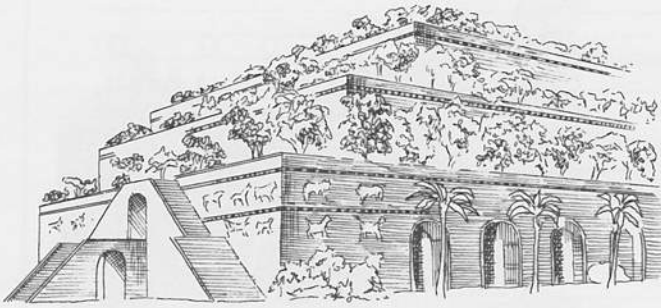
Sixty miles of massive stone walls, wide enough for chariot traffic, encircled the city limits. Spectacular temples overshadowed the broad thoroughfares linking each of the city's gates.



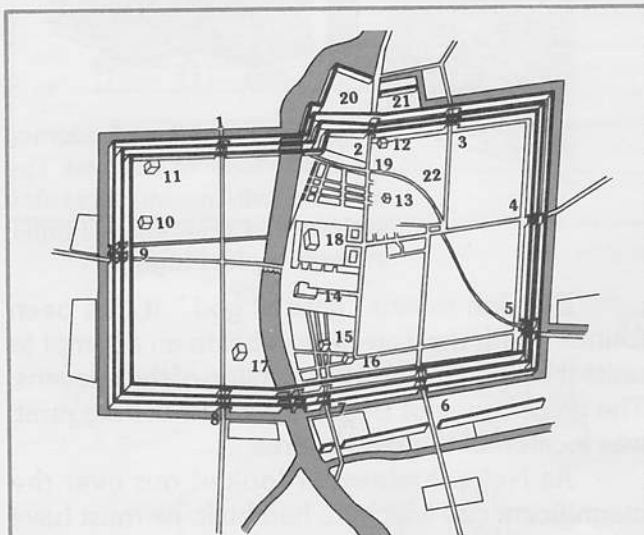
An intricate system of canals supplied the city of Babylon (two hundred square miles) with an abundant source of water from the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

The most impressive structures were the palaces of the kings and the huge temple built in honor of the patron god of Babylon, Bel Marduk.

Not far from the great Tower of Babel were the Hanging Gardens. These lush gardens grew on the roofs of a multitiered building. They provided cool, shady relief from the heat.



The "Hanging Gardens of Babylon" became one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Nebuchadnezzar constructed the gardens to please his wife who had grown up in the lush mountain region of Media.

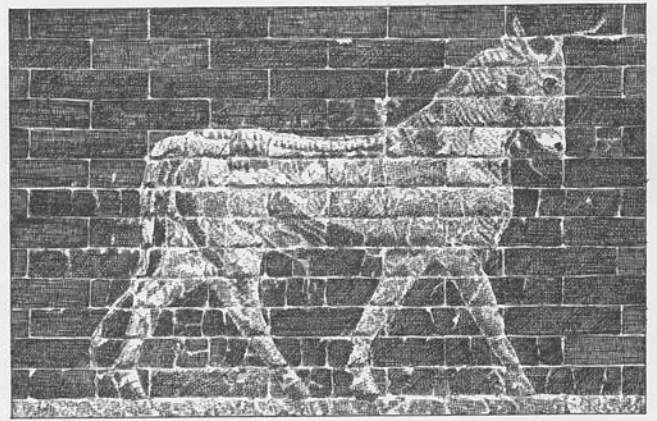


The city of Babylon was constructed in the shape of a rectangle. Through its center ran the Euphrates River. The gates in the massive walls were made of bronze, and the temples were decorated with blue glazed brick and pictures of mythical beasts.

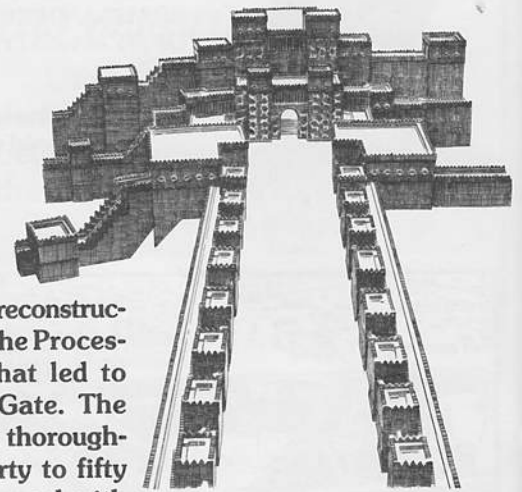
The following list gives some hint of the number of structural splendors in the city.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Lugalgirra Gate | 12 Temple of Ninmah |
| 2 Ishtar Gate | 13 Temple of Ishtar |
| 3 Sin Gate | 14 Temple of Marduk |
| 4 Marduk Gate | 15 Temple of Gula |
| 5 Zababa Gate | 16 Temple of Ninurta |
| 6 Enlil Gate | 17 Temple of Shamash |
| 7 Urash Gate | 18 Temple Tower |
| 8 Shamash Gate | 19 Procession Way |
| 9 Adad Gate | 20 N Citadel |
| 10 Temple of Adad | 21 Citadel |
| 11 Temple of Belitnina | 22 S Citadel |

Illustrated Bible Dictionary, IVP



Sacred bulls represented the god Marduk, which Nebuchadnezzar worshiped during the days of his pride.



A model reconstruction shows the Procession Way that led to the Ishtar Gate. The magnificent thoroughfare was forty to fifty feet wide, paved with stone that had been quarried in nearby mountains.

The Babylonian word for *Procession Way* is *Ai-ibur-sabu*. It means "the enemy shall not prevail."

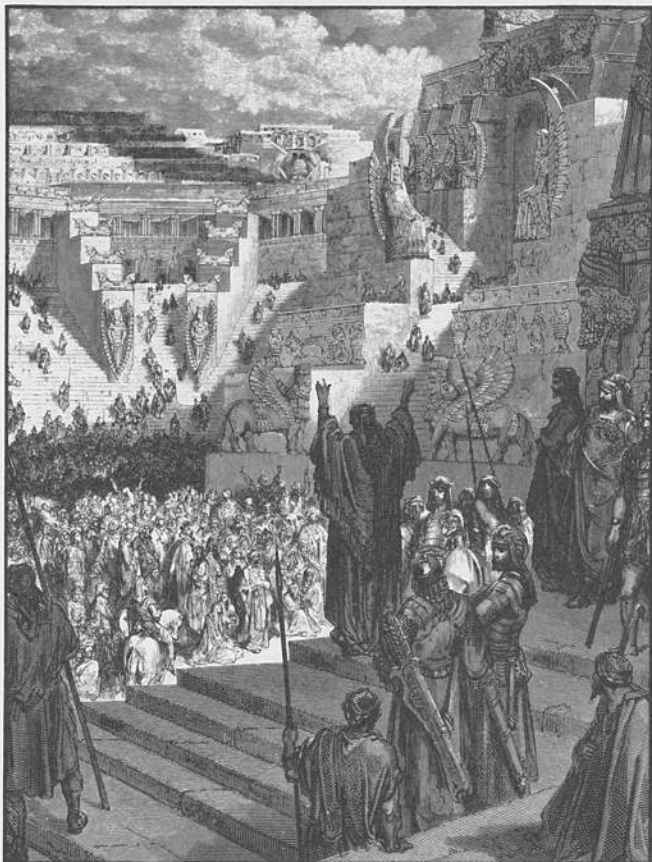


In addition to all of the wealth and power and achievements about which Nebuchadnezzar could boast, he had the distinction of being named by God as the greatest ruler that the secular world would ever have.

To make this fact known to him and all of his leaders, God gave the king a dream. Daniel interpreted it:

"Thou, O King, sawest . . . a great image . . . whose brightness was excellent. . . . This image's head was of fine gold. . . .

"Thou, O King, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory" (Daniel 2:31-32, 37).



Doré Bible Illustrations

The splendor of Babylon

"PRIDE GOETH BEFORE DESTRUCTION . . ."

Twelve months before Nebuchadnezzar's prideful proclamation, God had given him a stern warning. It came in the form of a disturbing dream.

"... I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great. The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth: The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.

"I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven; He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit. . . . Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth. . . .

"Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him" (Daniel 4:10-16).



DANIEL
605-530 B.C.

When all the Chaldean magicians, astrologers, and soothsayers failed to interpret the dream, Daniel declared its true meaning.

Nebuchadnezzar was "the tree in the midst of the earth." His kingdom would be cut down, but a "stump" would remain.

However, because God is rich in mercy, Daniel appealed to the king to humble himself.

"Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity" (Daniel 4:27).

However, Nebuchadnezzar did not repent of his sins and his pride. Just a year later, Nebuchadnezzar began to boast of his power and accomplishments.

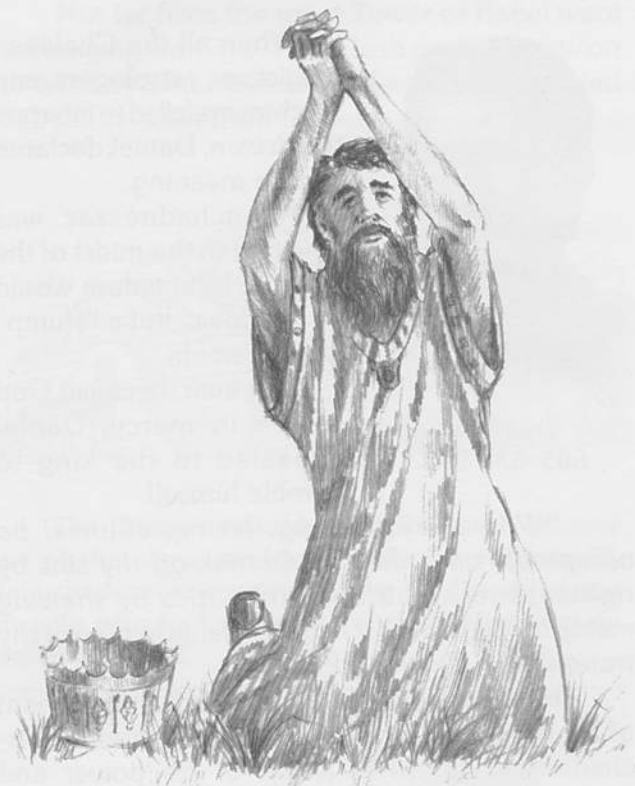
While the words were still in his mouth, a voice from heaven proclaimed the price of his arrogance. *"... O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee" (Daniel 4:31).*

The same hour, the once powerful monarch was driven into the fields like an animal. Most Bible scholars believe that God struck Nebuchadnezzar with *lycanthropy*, a madness in which a man imagines himself transformed into an animal.



For seven years the king wandered aimlessly in the fields and pastures that surrounded the city he once ruled. During this time he *"... did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws" (Daniel 4:33).*

Realizing that he was spiritually bankrupt, the king looked to heaven in a spirit of humility. Nebuchadnezzar had become "poor in spirit." At that moment, God returned his sanity, and the once



egotistical king responded with a grateful heart:

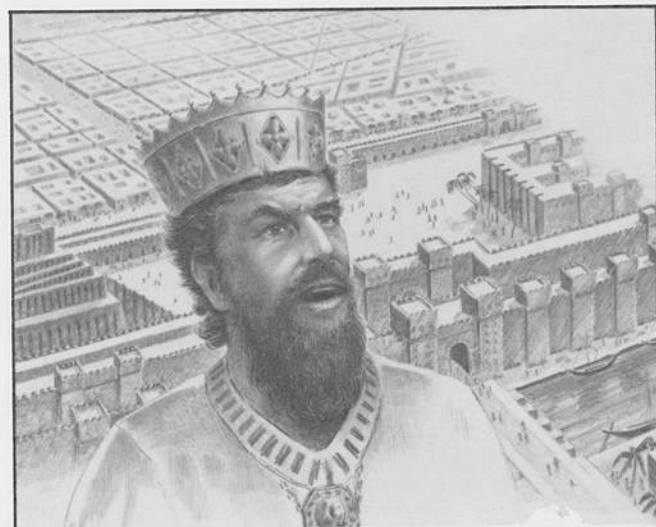
"... All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"

"At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

"Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase" (Daniel 4:35-37).



Nebuchadnezzar's empire



Nebuchadnezzar has been praised by historians for making Babylon "... the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency" (Isaiah 13:19). Herodotus declared, "In magnificence there is no other city that approaches it."

KEY CONCEPTS

- A man's pride is a signal that he is approaching a fall. (See Proverbs 16:18 and Proverbs 29:23.)
- God's swiftest and most severe judgment comes upon those who are proud.
- Since God is the One Who gives power to rulers, He is also able to humble them at His pleasure. (See Psalm 75:6-7.)
- God uses pagan rulers to judge the disobedience and unbelief of His people.
- God's wrath is turned away from the proud when they turn to Him in true repentance.

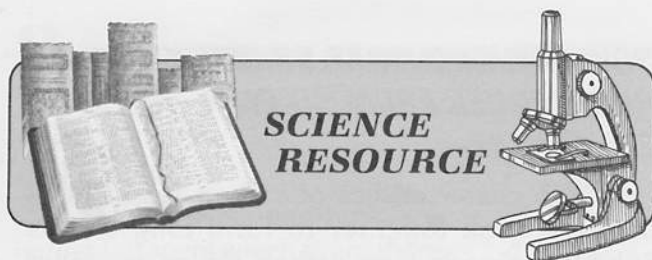
PROJECT

The operational definition of pride is: "Believing that I achieved what in reality God and others have done in me and for me."

Recall your most important achievement, and then list the ways in which God and others made it possible for you to accomplish it.

Work out ways to thank them if you have not done so.

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



HOW DOES THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE BODY PROMPT US TO BE POOR IN SPIRIT?

In order to help us keep our relationship to our Creator in perspective, God reminds us that our bodies are simply dust. (See Genesis 3:19.)

The intimate relationship between man and his origin in the ground is reflected in the Hebrew language itself.

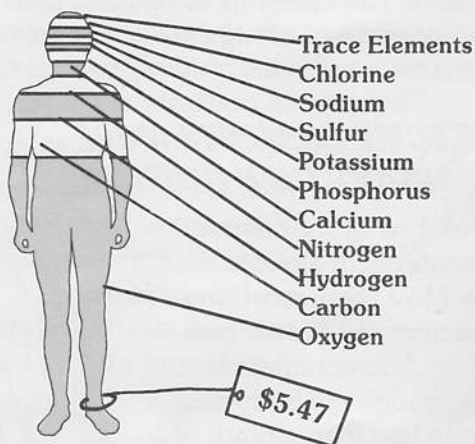
One of the Hebrew words for man is:

אָדָם (adam).

The Hebrew word for ground is:

אֲדָמָה (adamah).

The body is composed of the same nonliving chemical elements that make up dust. It is only the breath of God that gives the body life. Without the breath of God, the body begins to decompose immediately and quickly returns to dust.



FORMED FROM THE DUST:

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7).

WHAT ELEMENTS MAKE UP THE BODY?

Ninety-two different elements exist naturally in the earth. The body, however, contains only eighteen. Oxygen is the single most abundant raw material. It comprises almost sixty-five percent of the body's weight. Carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium, and phosphorus make up another thirty-four percent. Together these six elements account for ninety-nine percent of the total composition of the body. The other twelve elements, while extremely important, are only found in small amounts.

While the commercial value of these elements varies from time to time, the component elements from which our bodies are made have rarely cost more than a few dollars.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE BODY

(Based upon 165 lbs.)

ELEMENT	SYMBOL	% BY	
		WEIGHT	# LBS.
Oxygen	O	65%	107
Carbon	C	18%	30
Hydrogen	H	10%	16
Nitrogen	N	3%	5
Calcium	Ca	2%	3
Phosphorus	P	1%	1.5
Potassium	K	0.4%	0.7
Sulfur	S	0.3%	0.5
Sodium	Na	0.2%	0.3
Chlorine	Cl	0.2%	0.3
Magnesium	Mg	0.05%	0.08
TRACE ELEMENTS			
Iron	Fe	*	*
Zinc	Zn	*	*
Copper	Cu	*	*
Iodine	I	*	*
Fluorine	F	*	*
Manganese	Mn	*	*
Chromium	Cr	*	*

* less than .004%

By understanding the chemical make-up of our bodies, we are able to marvel at God's creation and remember that without His Spirit we are but dust.

1 BLOCKS OF LIFE

WHAT DOES THE HEBREW WORD FOR "DUST" REVEAL ABOUT GOD'S RAW MATERIALS?

The Hebrew word for "dust" is **אֶפֶר** (eh-FAHR). It does not mean a clump of clay or a collection of dust. Instead, it is thought to refer to the smallest particles of existence, the atomic elements. Thus, Adam was formed from the nonliving "elements" of the earth.

Look at your hand. It is a part of your living body; however, your hand is made up of "nonliving" atoms. It is only as God places those atoms together according to His design that they become "alive." They remain alive only as they function in accord with that design.



Living or nonliving?

Hands are composed of "nonliving" atoms.

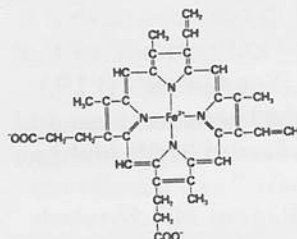
WHAT IS THE MOST COMMON SUBSTANCE IN THE BODY?

The most common substance in the body is water (H₂O). Water accounts for fifty to seventy percent of the total body weight. About half of the body's water is found within cells and the other half within blood, saliva, tears, and urine. If an average body were completely dried out, it would yield up to seventeen gallons of water. There would be less than twenty-five pounds of solids left. This amount varies depending upon age, activity, and quantity of fat. Older adults have less water. Athletes have a greater proportion of water, because excess fat decreases the proportion.

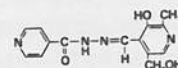
Man can survive without water for only a few days. If the loss of water is greater than the intake of water for even a few hours, an imbalance can occur. Cells shrink and poisonous waste products begin to build up. Unless balance is restored, serious illness may result. An imbalance of as little as one to two percent can lead to death.

HOW CAN GOD MAKE SO MANY SUBSTANCES FROM SO FEW ELEMENTS?

The characteristics of carbon atoms allow them to hook together to form long chains. Substances made from carbon chains are called organic molecules. By attaching hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen at different places along carbon chains, the body can construct hundreds of different substances from the same elements.



The "heme" in hemoglobin



A waste product which the body "identifies" and eliminates

For example, the growth hormone *somatotrophin* is made up of a string of 191 groups of carbon atoms. It is composed of C, N, H, and O just like many other organic substances of the body. However, the atoms are arranged in a unique order so that somatotrophin has an unmistakable identity. Skin, muscles, fat, bone, carbohydrates, protein, and amino acids are all made out of the same basic elements. The elements are merely rearranged in different patterns along carbon chains of varying lengths.

ARE SOME ELEMENTS MORE IMPORTANT THAN OTHERS?

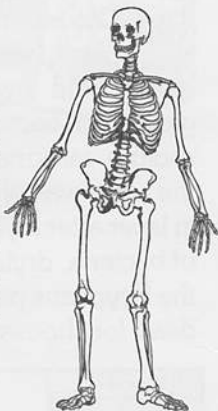
No. Few of the chemical elements occur alone in the body. Most are parts of large molecules that form hundreds of different substances. Even though the body may contain less than a tenth of an ounce of some elements, each plays an important role. If an element is missing, one or more kinds of important molecules may not be formed. Such deficiencies often result in serious illness.



2 THE FUNCTION OF MINERALS IN THE BODY

CALCIUM

Calcium (KAL-see-um) is a hardening agent which strengthens bones and teeth. As much as ninety-nine percent of all calcium is located in these two areas. The other one percent is necessary to maintain a normal heart rhythm and is a key ingredient in the clotting of blood.



PHOSPHORUS

Phosphorus (FOSS-fer-us) is located in every living cell. It is an important component of nucleic acids, which control the function and reproduction of body cells.

MAGNESIUM

Magnesium (mag-NEE-zee-um) is required for the chemical reactions which release energy to the body (metabolism). Without magnesium the body could not keep warm, muscles would not work, and new proteins could not be formed.



SULFUR

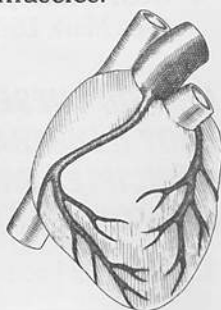
Sulfur (SUL-fer) is a part of every hair, fingernail, and cartilage of the body.

SODIUM

Sodium (SOE-dee-um) regulates the water balance outside of cells. It is the ingredient in salt which causes thirst. Sodium also plays a major role in controlling the contraction of muscles.

POTASSIUM

Potassium (poe-TASS-ee-um) regulates the water balance inside of cells. It is important in the transmission of electrical impulses along nerve fibers and affects the heart rhythm and protein formation.



CHLORINE

Chlorine (KLOR-een) is a part of the gastric juices that digest food in the stomach.

CHROMIUM

Chromium (KROE-mee-um) is a factor in the action of insulin. Without chromium the body has difficulty metabolizing sugar. A main source of chromium today is food cooked in stainless steel cookware.

IRON

While iron (EYE-ern) is one of the most abundant elements in the earth's crust, it is only found in trace amounts in the body. However, these trace amounts are necessary for transporting oxygen throughout the body.

Four atoms of iron rest in the center of each molecule of hemoglobin (located in red blood cells). The iron captures oxygen atoms in the lungs and then releases them in other parts of the body where they are needed. It is this combination of iron and oxygen that gives blood its red color.



IODINE

Iodine (EYE-uh-dine) is an important part of the thyroid hormones that control metabolism and growth.

MANGANESE

Manganese (MANG-guh-NEEZ) is a part of the enzymes which are active in producing the energy which powers each cell.

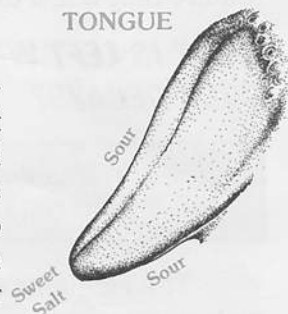
COPPER

The highest concentrations of copper (KOPP-er) are found in the liver, brain, kidneys, and heart. Copper is also found in the walls that surround nerve cells.

ZINC

The body uses some twenty-four different compounds that contain zinc (zink). Zinc is found in saliva and plays a major role in the way that we are able to taste. It is also a part of insulin which controls the use of sugar in the body.

TONGUE



FLUORINE

The main source of fluorine (FLUHR-een) is water. Fluorine prevents tooth decay and helps to keep bones strong, especially in adults.

Although some water naturally contains fluorine, many cities add fluorine to water to improve the community's dental health. Dentists also regularly treat teeth with fluorine.



3 THE DECOMPOSITION OF THE BODY

HOW QUICKLY DOES THE BODY DECOMPOSE AFTER DEATH?

Death is that point at which the spirit is separated from the body.

Bacteria exist throughout the body at all times. However, as long as the spirit is with the body, white blood cells and lymphocytes work to keep the number of bacteria in check. When the spirit leaves the body, there is no longer a need to protect the body from decay, and thus, body functions cease.

The already present bacteria begin immediately to break down the complex tissues of the body. Brain cells are broken down first, followed by the soft tissues of the intestines, liver, kidneys, and lungs. Then the tissues of the muscles and skin breakdown. Finally, the hard tissues such as fingernails and hair decompose. The skeletal bones, however, remain long after the rest of the tissues have been converted back to their original elements.

Under warm, humid conditions the process of decomposition may take only a few weeks. If animals and insects are present, the process may require only a few days.

WHAT IS LEFT WHEN THE BODY DECAYS?

"...For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (Genesis 3:19).

The elements of the body return to simpler molecules containing carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, and a few trace elements. These are the very elements of which the earth itself is formed.

HOW DID THE EGYPTIANS ATTEMPT TO PRESERVE THEIR PHARAOKS?

The Egyptians believed that the body and the spirit were tied together and that each person would use the same body in the next world. Anyone with enough money, therefore, could preserve his body while he waited for the next world to come.

The process of preserving a body took seventy days. The internal parts of the body were removed and replaced with rags or sawdust saturated with oils, spices, and heavy metals. These prevented the growth of bacteria. The body was then placed in sodium carbonate to dry out all the water. Finally, the body was often covered with pitch and wrapped in layer after layer of linen. By preventing the growth of bacteria, drying the body, and sealing out insects, the Egyptians preserved the physical remains of their dead for thousands of years.



Egyptian embalmers

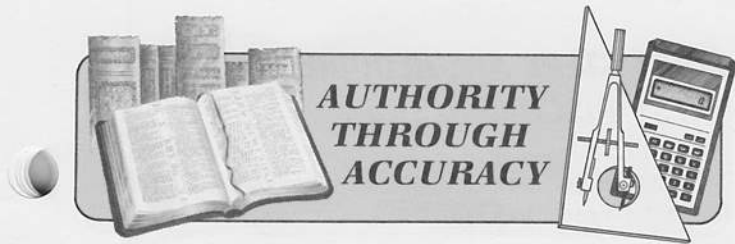
HOW DO THESE ELEMENTS OF THE BODY ILLUSTRATE SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLES OF HELPING OTHERS AS MEMBERS OF ONE BODY?

1. **CALCIUM:** Strengthens bones and teeth. (See Isaiah 35:3-4.)
2. **SODIUM:** Causes thirst. (See Matthew 5:13.)
3. **POTASSIUM:** Transmits message to other members. (See II Timothy 2:2.)
4. **IRON:** Transports life-giving oxygen. (See Mark 16:15.)

HOW DO THESE ELEMENTS OF THE BODY ILLUSTRATE SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLES WHICH KEEP US SPIRITUALLY STRONG?

1. **IODINE:** Promotes growth. (See I Peter 2:2.)
2. **ZINC:** Enables us to taste. (See Psalm 34:8.)
3. **MANGANESE:** Produces energy. (See Ephesians 6:10.)
4. **FLUORINE:** Prevents decay. (See Mark 14:38.)

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



**AUTHORITY
THROUGH
ACCURACY**

HOW DOES MATHEMATICS EMPHASIZE OUR TOTAL DEPENDENCE UPON GOD?

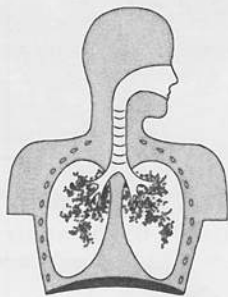


Doré Bible Illustrations

Pride and the desire
to be self-sufficient
caused Adam and Eve
to sin.

What things do we tend to take for granted
which cause us to develop an unwarranted sense
of pride and self-sufficiency?

1 THE AIR WE BREATHE



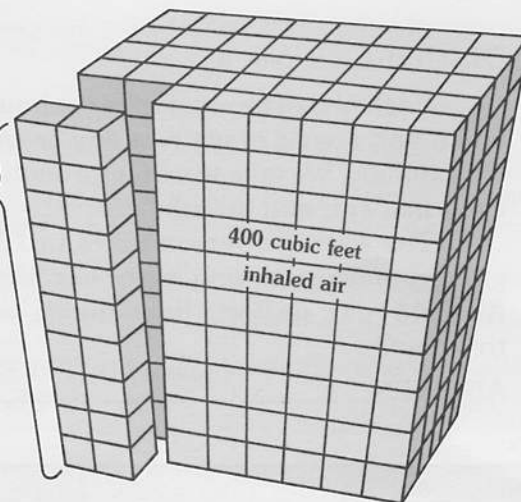
How much would
it cost you to buy the
oxygen which you
need in order to stay
alive for one year?

DISCOVERY No. 1

A person breathing quietly inhales and exhales about one pint of air with each breath. A person who is exercising can inhale about four quarts of air with each breath. Based on these amounts, how many pints of air would a person use in one day if he did work that required exercise for six hours and breathed quietly the rest of the day? Assume an average rate of twelve breaths per minute.

ANSWER 47,520 pints of air

20 cubic
feet of
oxygen
absorbed



DISCOVERY No. 2

Oxygen comprises about 20% of room air, but our bodies absorb only 25% of the oxygen that we inhale. This means that if we breathe in 400 cubic feet of air, we absorb only 20 cubic feet of oxygen. According to this proportion, how many cubic feet of oxygen would be absorbed in one day by the person described in Discovery Number 1? (One cubic foot contains 58.8 pints of air.)

ANSWER 46.225 cu. ft. oxygen absorbed



DISCOVERY No. 3

A hospital sells oxygen at the rate of seven and a half cents per cubic foot. How much would you pay for the oxygen you absorb in one year and in a seventy-year lifetime?

ANSWER \$ 266.28 / year
\$ 88,639.60 / 70 yrs.

2 THE WATER WE USE



If you were required to
purchase all of the water that
you use during your lifetime,
how much money would it
take?

DISCOVERY No. 4

Each one of us must take in about two and a half quarts of water a day or we will die painfully. We take in water through what we drink, eat, and breathe.

The average person takes in 16,000 gallons of water during his or her lifetime. At \$.45 per gallon, how much would this cost?

ANSWER \$7,200



The painful death from thirst is graphically depicted in this illustration from *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*.

DISCOVERY No. 5

In the United States, the average person uses seventy gallons of water every day.

At this rate, how many gallons are used during a seventy year lifetime?

ANSWER 1,789,725 gall.

What would the cost of this water be at \$.45 a gallon?

ANSWER \$805,376.25

WHAT STEPS ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE THESE DISCOVERIES?

DISCOVERY No. 1

Fill in the missing figures of the following equations. (Note: "/" means "in a" or "per")

Quiet breathing pints per day

$$\text{_____ pints/quiet breath} \times \text{_____ breaths/min} \times \text{_____ min/hr} \times \text{_____ quiet breathing hrs/day} = \text{_____ quiet breathing pints per day}$$

Working breathing pints per day

$$\text{_____ quarts/working breath} \times \text{_____ pints/quart} \times \text{_____ breaths/min} \times \text{_____ min/hr} \times \text{_____ working breathing hours/day} = \text{_____ working breathing pints/day}$$

Add the total of quiet breathing pints _____

To the total of working breathing pints + _____

Total number of pints of air breathed in a day _____

DISCOVERY No. 2

First determine how many cubic feet (cu. ft.) of oxygen are absorbed per one cubic foot of air inhaled.

$$20 \text{ cu. ft. of oxygen absorbed in } 400 \text{ cu. ft. of air inhaled} = \frac{20}{400} = \text{_____}$$

Convert this fraction to a decimal.

$$\text{_____ cubic foot of oxygen absorbed/one cubic foot of air inhaled}$$

Next find out how many cubic feet of air we breathe in a day.

$$\text{_____ pints of air breathed/day} \div \text{_____ pints of air/cu. ft.} = \text{_____ cubic feet of air breathed in one day.}$$

Now fill in the missing figures of the following equation.

$$\text{_____ cubic feet of air breathed/day} \times \text{_____ oxygen absorbed/cu. ft. of air} = \text{_____ cubic feet of oxygen absorbed in a day.}$$

DISCOVERY No. 3

Fill in the missing figures of the following equation.

$$\begin{aligned} &\$ \text{_____ oxygen/cu. ft.} \times \text{_____ cubic feet of oxygen absorbed/day} \\ &\times \text{_____ days/year} = \$ \text{_____ for a year's supply of oxygen.} \\ &\$ \text{_____ cost/year for oxygen} \times \text{_____ years/life} = \$ \text{_____ for a lifetime supply of oxygen.} \end{aligned}$$

DISCOVERY No. 4

Fill in the missing figures of the following equation.

$$\text{_____ gallons/lifetime} \times \$ \text{_____ cost/gallon} = \$ \text{_____ cost/lifetime}$$

DISCOVERY No. 5

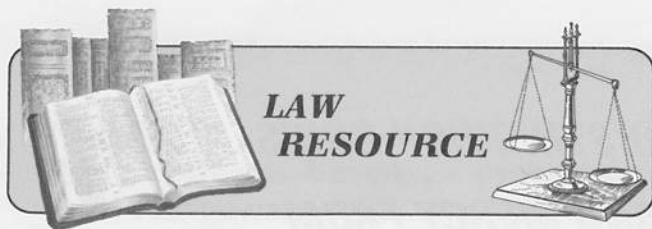
$$\begin{aligned} &\text{_____ gallons/day} \times \text{_____ days/year} \times \text{_____ years/lifetime} = \text{_____ gallons/lifetime} \\ &\text{_____ gallons/lifetime} \times \$ \text{_____ cost/gallon} = \$ \text{_____ cost/lifetime} \end{aligned}$$

- Total cost of the oxygen we absorb and the water we use:

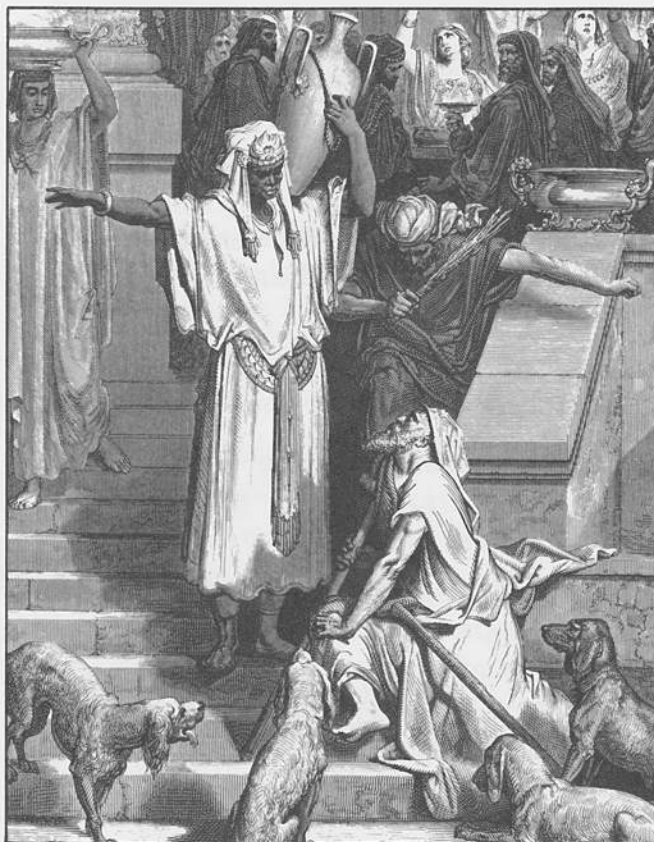


- Name ten other basic provisions that God has freely given to us.
- When was the last time that you thanked Him for them?

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____



WHY MUST LAWS BE BASED ON JUSTICE RATHER THAN FAIRNESS?



Doré Bible Illustrations

Lazarus ate crumbs at the rich man's gate, and the dogs licked his sores.

God is perfectly just. He is also perfectly fair. His ability to be fair will be revealed in the rewards and punishments that He will be giving after this life is over. Those who fail to understand this concept will conclude that life has many inequities.

It will be unfair to their way of thinking that some are rich and others are poor, that some are talented and others are not, or that one person dies in an accident while another person continues to live.

When laws are based on justice, God's values and standards are upheld. When they are based on fairness, humanistic values are exalted. Fairness laws are futile attempts to make everyone equal and bypass God's larger purposes for allowing different things to happen to different people.

JUSTICE IS . . .

based on the principles of God's Word which are totally consistent with His holy character.

- The principles of justice are universal and are not optional.
- Justice reveals the true nature of God. It also exposes the rebellious nature of man.
- Justice requires full payment for every violation of God's holy law.

MERCY IS . . .

the provision which God has made, in that His Son has paid the full price for man's violation of His holy law.

- Mercy is withholding from us the just punishment of our transgression.
- Mercy is given to those who affirm God's righteous standards and confess their failure to achieve them.

EQUITY IS . . .

the application of justice to situations not covered by the law.

- Equity always follows justice. Therefore, principles of justice must be understood before equity can be determined. (See Colossians 4:1.)
- Equity is applying God's general principles to specific situations.

"FAIRNESS" IS . . .

lowering God's standards to the level that can be achieved with our human will and ability.

- "Fairness" is based on man's value system and timetable. It is the product of human comparisons.
- "Fairness" is looking at a situation from the viewpoint of each person rather than from the viewpoint of God.

It was not "fair" for Lazarus to have to beg for food at the gate of a rich man and for the rich man to have so much more money than Lazarus.

However Lazarus' condition caused him to become "rich in faith" and to gain wealth that the rich man overlooked until it was too late. (See Luke 16:19-31.)



DISTINGUISH GOD'S JUSTICE AND MERCY FROM MAN'S "FAIRNESS"

JUSTICE AND MERCY

versus

"FAIRNESS"

- 1** Justice is based on the universal, unchangeable principles of God's Word.

EXAMPLE: *God alone is the giver of life. No individual has the right to destroy it at his or her own whim. (See Exodus 20:13.)*

- 2** Justice establishes guilt when God's standards are violated.

EXAMPLE: *God states that every person is responsible for his or her own thoughts, words, and actions. (See Matthew 5:21-23.)*

- 3** Justice causes us to confess our failures and plead for mercy.

EXAMPLE: *A convicted murderer may be shown mercy and be pardoned. (See I John 1:9-10.)*

- 4** Justice and mercy are based on personal responsibility to a holy God, and they will produce revival in a nation.

EXAMPLE: *When God's law was read to the kingdom of Judah during Josiah's reign, the people wept, confessed their sin, and turned back to God. (See II Kings 22:1-23:28.)*

"Fairness" is based on the variable customs of a society and the changing will of the majority.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws now give mothers the right to decide whether or not they want their unborn children to live.

"Fairness" tries to remove guilt by lowering God's standards.

EXAMPLE: A judge in Wisconsin excused a high school boy for raping a girl on the basis that the boy had been subjected to sensual stimuli in our society and was only doing what was natural.

"Fairness" causes us to justify our failures so that we do not think that we need mercy.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws do not convict a murderer who successfully argues "temporary insanity."

"Fairness" is based on personal rights, and it will produce rebellion within a nation.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" legislation now calls sodomy a "victimless crime." The fact is that sodomy unleashes passions which damage others and bring God's judgment on the entire community.

5 Justice is based on protecting eternal values.

EXAMPLE: Truthfulness and loyalty to sacred vows are more important than personal pleasure. (See Ecclesiastes 5:4.)

6 Justice emphasizes personal responsibility.

EXAMPLE: Every person is responsible for his or her every thought. If a man has lustful thoughts toward a woman, he is already guilty of adultery with her in his heart. (See Matthew 5:27-32.)

7 Justice is the expression of God's wisdom for our nation, and its application will lead to prosperity.

EXAMPLE: If a nation followed God's principles of finance, its welfare needs would be met by individuals, families, employers, and charitable institutions, not by the government. (See Deuteronomy 28:1-14.)

8 Justice is impartial. It is objective and nonemotional.

ILLUSTRATION: The impartiality of justice is expressed by the blindfold on the statue of Justice. God warns us that we should not show favoritism to either the rich or the poor. (See Exodus 23:2-3.)

9 Justice results in the swift prosecution of criminals.

REASON: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil" (Ecclesiastes 8:11).

"Fairness" is based on protecting temporal values.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws on divorce and remarriage are based on the assumption that personal happiness is more important than fidelity and loyalty to marriage vows.

"Fairness" emphasizes personal rights.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws on pornography conclude that every person has a personal right to read whatever he or she wants to read. "Fairness" laws claim that morality cannot be legislated. The fact is that every law legislates morality. The only question is, who determines what is moral—God or man?

"Fairness" is the expression of human reasoning for a nation, and its application will lead to financial ruin.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws are taking more and more rights from parents, churches, and businesses. As a result, the government is assuming an overwhelming responsibility for the social welfare of its citizens.

"Fairness" is partial. It is subjective and based on arbitrary emotional considerations.

EXAMPLE: In trying to enforce traffic laws "fairly," a California policeman testified, "I have found that when I attempt to be 'fair,' I inevitably cite those who should have been warned, and warn those who should have been cited."

"Fairness" results in the slow prosecution of criminals.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws allow convicted criminals to evade the consequences of their actions by lengthy trial procedures which focus on the rights of the accused while ignoring the needs of the victims and by parole systems which shorten the sentences for the guilty.

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10 Justice limits the punishment of a criminal.

EXAMPLE: "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth..." (Exodus 21:24) puts limitations on punishment. By the time of Christ, the true meaning of this law had become distorted.

11 Justice establishes God's view of what is essential for a nation to be successful.

EXAMPLE: God places great value on the life and worth of an individual. He requires punishment for anyone who murders another person: "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man" (Genesis 9:6).

12 Justice allows an employer to be generous to those who are in special need.

EXAMPLE: After paying agreed-upon wages, an employer may wish to give an extra amount to someone in need. (See Ephesians 6:8-9 and Colossians 4:1.)

13 Justice holds the individual guilty for his offense.

EXAMPLE: Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit and kept back part of the price of the land they had sold. Because of this, God took their lives. (See Acts 5:1-11.)



Job in affliction

"Fairness" results in the inconsistent punishment of a criminal.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws will often overreact to parents who spank their children, while neglecting drug pushers and pornography pushers who violate the morals of children.

"Fairness" establishes man's view of what is essential for a nation to be successful.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws make it legal to kill millions of unborn children, our national heritage; but they bring swift, harsh fines and imprisonment for killing an endangered species such as our national bird, the eagle.

"Fairness" legislates against an employer's being generous with those who are in need.

EXAMPLE: "Fairness" laws require employers to give each person in a given job classification the same pay, regardless of individual need.

Humanistic laws based on "fairness" hold society guilty for an individual's offense.

EXAMPLE: The "fairness" penal code of our day is based upon the philosophy that the criminal needs to be rehabilitated at the taxpayer's expense, rather than on the philosophy that the criminal needs to make restitution for his crime.

PROJECTS

- ☐ Read the account of Job and his wife losing their wealth, their children, and his health. Note the opposite responses of Job and his wife to the losses. Which one was focusing on God's justice, and which one was focusing on human fairness? (See Job 1-2.)
- ☒ List three situations in your life or in your family that do not seem fair. Then list the possible ways that God will make them turn out to be fair in the days or years to come.

Date Completed _____ Evaluation _____

MEDICINE RESOURCE

HOW DOES PTOSIS OF THE EYELIDS ILLUSTRATE BEING POOR IN SPIRIT?



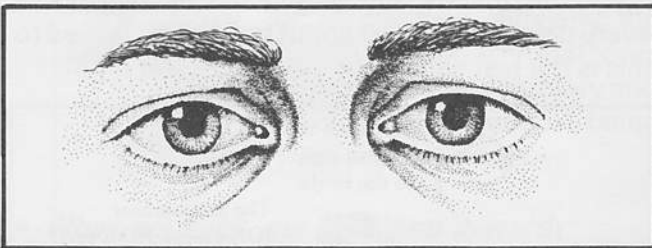
The condition of drooping eyelids is called *ptosis*. The Greek word for "poor" is *ptochos*. Both words come from the same root.

WHAT IS PTOSIS OF THE EYELIDS?

Ptosis (TOE-sis) takes place when one or both eyelids are physically not able to be raised all the way up. The result is a drooping eyelid.

"Normal ptosis" occurs every time we blink or voluntarily close or lower our eyelids.

A "seductive ptosis" is a winking of the eye that is used by an evil man or an immoral woman to seduce another person.



WHAT THREE VITAL FUNCTIONS OCCUR EVERY TIME WE CLOSE OUR EYELIDS?

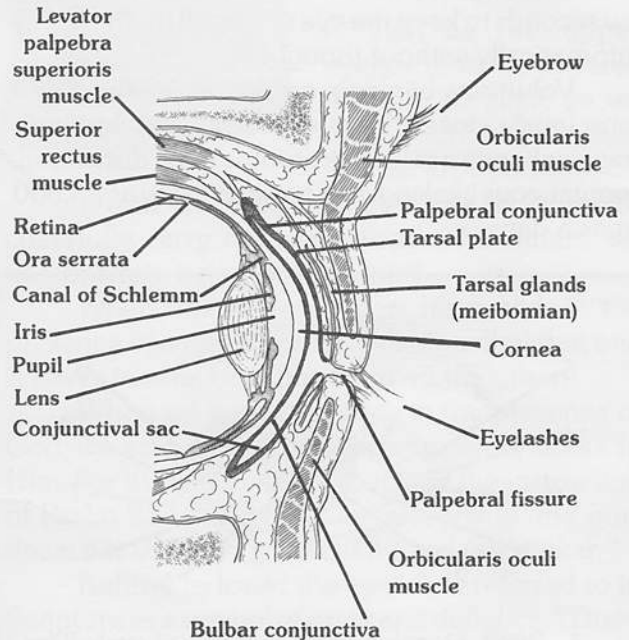
1 CLEANSING

Every time we close our eyelids, they spread lacrimal fluid from our tear ducts evenly over our eyes.

This fluid cleans the eyes, kills bacteria, lubricates the movement of the eyes, and keeps the soft tissue of the eyes moist.

Without this continual process, the eyes would soon dry out, infection would set in, and we would lose our ability to see. This cleansing process takes place thousands of times every day!

Cross Section of the Eye and Eyelid



Used by permission. Leonard Dank

In the same way that our eyelids apply cleansing fluid to our eyes, our spirits must take in the water of God's Word to the spiritual eyes of our soul.

The cleansing power of Scripture is explained in John 15:3. "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

The need to apply it to our spiritual eyes is emphasized in Revelation 3:18. "... Anoint thine eyes with eye-salve, that thou mayest see."

2 PROTECTION

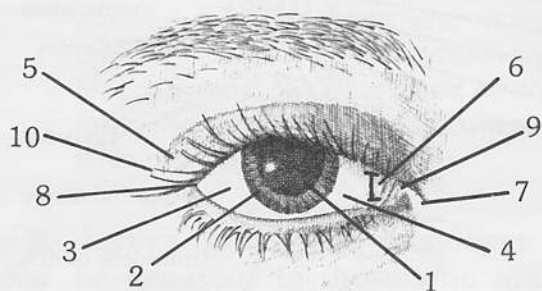
Eyelids shield the eye from harmful objects which might scratch or puncture the eye.

Eyelids also serve to screen out excessive light on bright days. When a person squints, the eyelid is either lowered slightly to cover a portion of the pupil or it is closed entirely. It is able to keep out about ninety-nine percent of all the light that strikes it. Without eyelids, the eye is in danger of being burned by the concentrated light that the *lens* focuses on the *retina*.

Protection of the eye comes by voluntary and involuntary closing of eyelids.

Involuntary control is called a *reflex*. A sudden bright light, a puff of air, or the sight of movement toward the eye will cause the eyelids to close automatically without conscious thought. Sleepiness will also cause the eyelids to close. They blink more slowly and feel heavier and heavier until sleep occurs. The eyelids also blink spontaneously every few seconds to keep the eye moist. All this happens automatically without thought.

Voluntary blinking occurs when the mind consciously closes the eyelids such as when you pray or choose not to look at something distasteful. Spontaneous blinking may occur as many as 20,000 times a day.



1. **Pupil.** Opening of center of iris of eyeball for light transmission.
2. **Iris.** Circular, pigmented, muscular membrane behind cornea.
3. **Sclera** (SKLEH-ruh). "White" of eye, a coat of fibrous tissue that covers entire eyeball except for cornea.
4. **Conjunctiva** (CON-junk-TIE-vuh). Membrane that covers exposed surface of eyeball and lines eyelids.
5. **Palpebrae** (PAL-puh-bray). The eyelids; folds of skin and muscle lined by conjunctiva.
6. **Palpebral fissure** (PAL-puh-brul FISH-er). Space between eyelids when they are open.
7. **Medial canthus** (MEE-dee-al CAN-thus). Site of union of upper and lower eyelids near nose.
8. **Lateral canthus.** Site of union of upper and lower eyelids away from nose.
9. **Lacrimal caruncle** (LAK-ri-mul CAR-unk-ul). Fleshy, yellowish projection of medial canthus that contains modified sweat and sebaceous glands.
10. **Eyelashes.** Hairs on margins of eyelids, usually arranged in two or three rows.

Each eye has two folds of skin that close over the eye to protect it. That means that we have four eyelids altogether. They are called *palpebrae*.

The upper eyelid is the *superior palpebra* and the lower eyelid is the *inferior palpebra*. Muscle names often include such terms as *superior*, *inferior*, and as *superior*, *inferior*, and *lateral*. These simply mean top, bottom, and side, respectively.

Squinting is also a form of voluntary control. When you squint, the eyelids cover part of the pupil to shade the eye from bright light.



Just as our eyelids instantly protect our physical sight, so God has given us the shield of faith to protect our spiritual sight.

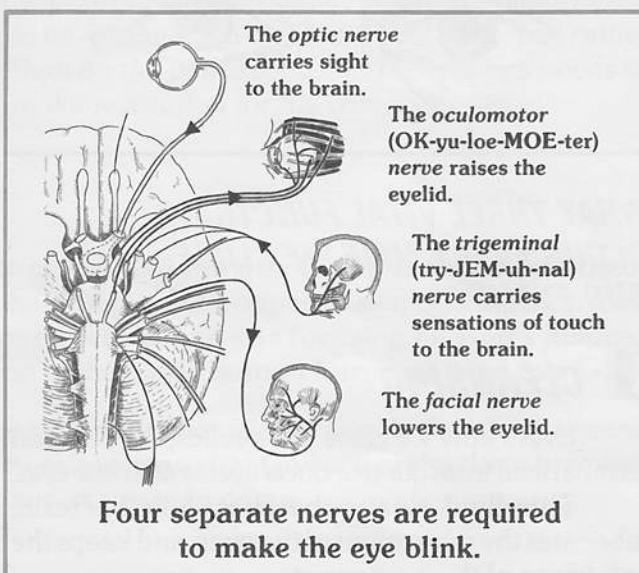
Whenever a "fiery dart" from Satan is hurled at us, we must instinctively put up that shield. (See Ephesians 6:16.)

3 REST

God has established the principle of work and rest throughout the body. The heart rests between every beat, and the eyes rest every time the eyelids close.

The blink of an eye lasts for only one-fourth of a second. Blinking is so automatic that usually it is completely unnoticed. However, if you add up the total number of blinks in eight hours, you may find that your eyes have been closed for more than fifty-six minutes. That is almost a full hour out of every eight hour working day.

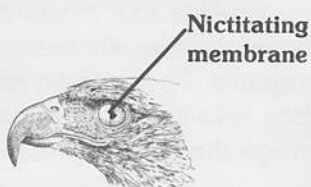
This means that during our waking hours every day our eyes rest about two hours. Added to this is the rest which our eyes receive at night.



Blinking requires the coordinated control of two muscles which pull in opposite directions. The *levator palpebra superioris* (luh-VAY-ter PAL-puh-bruh sue-pir-ee-OHR-is)—the upper eyelid raiser—lifts the eyelid and the *orbicularis oculi* (or-BIK-yu-LAIR-is OK-yu-lie) pulls the eyelid closed.

To cause the eyelid to close, the brain must send two different signals along two different nerves. One signal tells the levator palpebra superioris to relax. The other tells the orbicularis oculi to tighten. This closes the eyelid. It remains closed until a new signal from the brain tells the “upper eyelid raiser” to contract and the “muscle around the eye” to relax. If both muscles contract at the same time, or if both relax at the same time, the eyelid goes nowhere.

A Red-Tailed Hawk, like most other birds, has a third eyelid called a *nictitating* (NIK-tuh-TAY-ting) *membrane*. Birds close the membrane to blink and the other eyelids to sleep.



HOW DOES THE BLINK OF THE EYE ILLUSTRATE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE POOR IN SPIRIT?

• We must blink throughout the day



The health of the eye depends on the voluntary and involuntary blinking that goes on all day long. Similarly, the health of our spiritual eyes depends on our voluntary and involuntary attitude of being poor in spirit.

• When we blink, our eyes turn upward



In order to blink, the superior palpebra (upper eyelid) lowers until it meets the inferior palpebra (lower eyelid). As the eyelid closes, the eyeball turns slightly upward. When the eyelid is raised again, the eye returns to its previous position. To be successful Christians, we must be continually aware of our personal insufficiency and turn our spiritual “eyes” on God in meditation and

prayer again and again as we go about our daily duties. (See Psalm 1; I Thessalonians 5:16–17.)



• Blinking requires lowering the eyelids

Just as the upper eyelids must be lowered in order to blink, so we must humble ourselves in order to be poor in spirit.

When we “lower” ourselves in order to cheerfully carry out menial tasks for others, we demonstrate being poor in spirit.

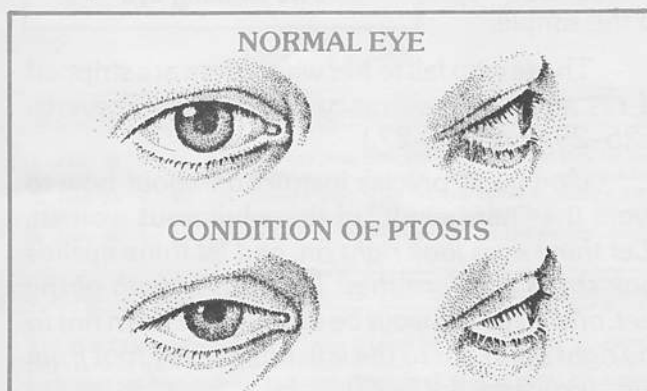
When one person lowers his eyelids in the presence of another, it acknowledges that that one is lower in rank or subordinate to the other.

When we bow our heads in the presence of God, we acknowledge that we are subordinate to Him. For this reason we also follow the instruction of Psalm 95:6. “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.”

Refusal to lower the eyelids is referred to in Scripture as a symbol of pride and defiance. “There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up” (Proverbs 30:13).

WHAT CAUSES PTOSIS TO OCCUR?

A drooping of the eyelid is called ptosis. Ptosis can afflict one or both eyelids. Sometimes one eyelid droops more than the other. In most cases the nerve connections between the brain and the levator palpebra superioris is blocked. Blockage may be caused by a damaged nerve, by a chemical imbalance resulting from drug use or disease, or by a tumor. Occasionally the “upper eyelid raiser” itself has been damaged and is unable to “lift” the eyelid.





The curious looking tarsier (TAR-see-er) has very large eyes. It appears "wide awake" because its eyelids retract completely.

HOW ARE EYELIDS USED FOR SEDUCTIVE PURPOSES?

The eyelids are also noted in Scripture as a weapon that is used by those with impure motives.

• A naughty person

"A naughty person... winketh with his eyes... he deviseth mischief..." (Proverbs 6:12-14).

The wink spoken of here is that of a deceiver. He uses it to signal others to help or at least not to hinder him as he mocks or deceives a third person.

• An evil woman

"Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids" (Proverbs 6:25).

An attractive, but immoral woman can use a wink to communicate lustful desires and sensual entrapments to the simple.



The winking eye

Those who fall to her whoredom are stripped of resources and vibrancy of life. (See Proverbs 6:25-29 and 7:22-27.)

God gives precise instruction about how to avoid the "narrow pit" of the adulterous woman. "Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil" (Proverbs 4:25-27).



The basset hound's drooping eyelids make it look sad and lonely.

Eyelids communicate by the amount of the eye that they cover, their shape, and their tightness. Droopiness can convey a feeling of "dullness," or it can be a sign of "humility." Most of the time, the eyelids work along with the eyebrows, nose, and mouth to express a feeling.

Eyelids can also communicate grief, joy, surprise, fatigue, alertness, danger, judgment, and arrogance. They can be used to bring peace or to entice into sin. This versatility makes the eyelid perhaps the most expressive member of the body.

ANALOGIES ON THE EYELID

From the information in this resource, fill in the following blanks.

1. Ptosis is to the eyelid what _____ is to the spirit.
2. God's Word is to the heart what _____ is to eyes.
3. The eyelid is to the eye what the _____ is to the spirit.
4. Involuntary blinking is to the eye what God's _____ is to the spirit.
5. Work and rest are to the soul what seeing and _____ are to the eyes.
6. The Holy Spirit's control of the spirit is like the _____ control of the eyelids.
7. A humbling limitation is to the spirit what _____ is to the eyelids.
8. A seductive wink is to a young man what a _____ is to a bird.

Date completed _____ Evaluation _____