



THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD

Revelation 4:5 "Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God."

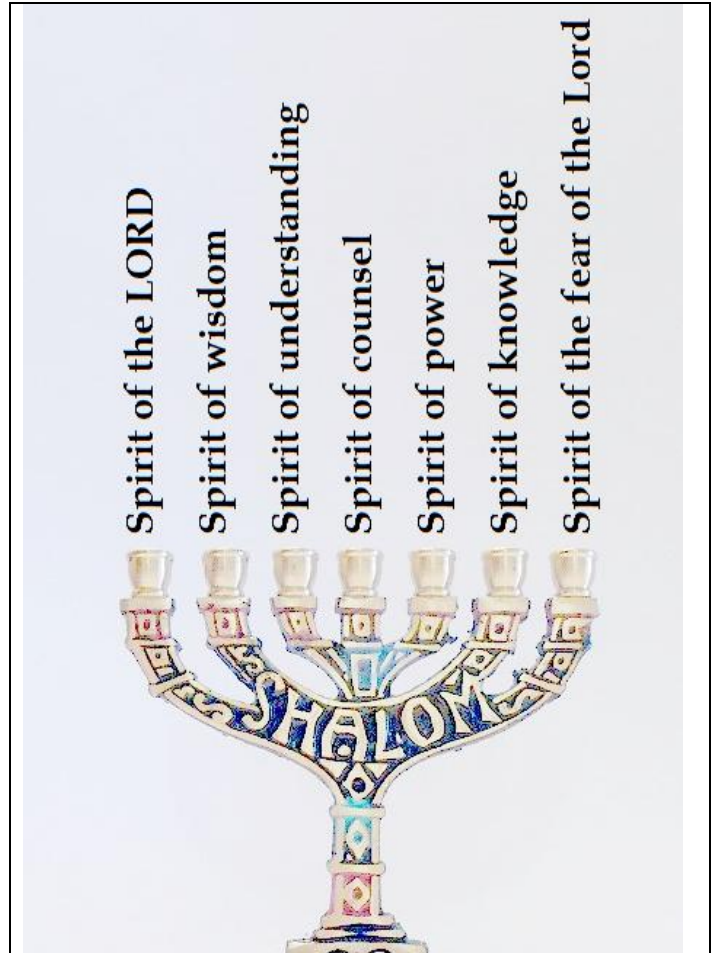
Course Text: Isaiah 11:1-10

<u>Lesson</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	The Journey Begins
2	Wisdom
3	Understanding
4	Counsel
5	Strength
6	Knowledge
7	Fear of the Lord
8	Wisdom and Understanding
9	The Journey Continues

Introduction: Over twenty years ago I was reading Revelation and noticed that several times it mentions "the seven spirits of God." I studied this term at some length and was not able to come to a satisfactory conclusion regarding who or what these were. Several times since then I have tried the study again, but with similar results. I still do not have an answer that I am happy with, but the journey has been interesting and informative. The intention of this course is to share with you the journey, not a conclusion.

Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the lesson's text aloud from the Bible. (... or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer if it is based on Scripture.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak.**
7. Discuss your "Think & Pray" answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)



Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting, or consider breaking into two groups. The final "Think & Pray" question should always be covered, because that is when everyone takes a quiet moment to listen to the Teacher, the Holy Spirit. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called "For Further Thought"

Copyright Information

All content of this training course not attributed to others is copyrighted, including questions, formatting, and explanatory text. **Copyright © 2014 by Thor F. Carden. All rights reserved.**

Illustrations and Photographs by Trish Carden Copyright © 2014 by Patricia S. Carden. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Michael D Waters Copyright © 2006-2014. All rights reserved. Used by permission. <http://www.joyfultoons.com>

NASB or **NASV** (New American Standard Bible) Unless otherwise noted, scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

NIV (New International Version) Scripture taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

----- PRICE INFORMATION -----

This material is provided at no cost to those in jail or prison or those ministering to them. You have permission to print and copy these course materials as much as you like as long as you keep this page intact with the contents. Although we are a ministry, we are not a non-profit organization. If you are not in jail or prison or at least using this with someone who is incarcerated, we expect to be paid, to help finance our ministry to those who are behind bars. We suggest two different ways of determining the price.

(1) Take up an offering from the students at the end of the course, and send it to us.

OR

(2) Pray about it and pay us what God tells you to send.

Of course, we have designed the website so that there is nothing to stop you from just downloading and printing the course. If you think it is worth nothing, why are you using it? If you think God would have you take or teach this course and you have no money to pay for it, I urge you to reconsider. If God does not want you to use this course He might be trying to let you know that by withholding funds. Or He might have some other purpose, like teaching you to humbly ask somebody else to fund it. Or maybe something else, but if we worship the same God, He would not have you just take it without regard to our wishes. We hope to make enough money to continue producing and providing these lessons. If God does not bless this ministry with financial encouragement, we will take that as pretty strong evidence He does not want us to make any more of these lessons available.

We prefer that you mail us a check, but you may also pay by credit card via PayPal.

Love Bible Study

PO Box 1075

Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1075

Paypal information at

<http://www.LoveBibleStudy.com/price.htm>

Lesson 1 - The Journey Begins

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

(1A) Revelation 1:4-8 Who has seven Spirits before His throne? _____

(1B) Revelation 3:1 What besides seven Spirits does He have? _____

(1C) Revelation 4:5 What are the seven lamps of fire? _____

(1D) Revelation 5:6 Where are the seven eyes sent? _____

(1E) Revelation 5:6 What are the seven eyes? _____

(1F) Zechariah 4:1-7 What was on top of the lampstand with the bowl? _____

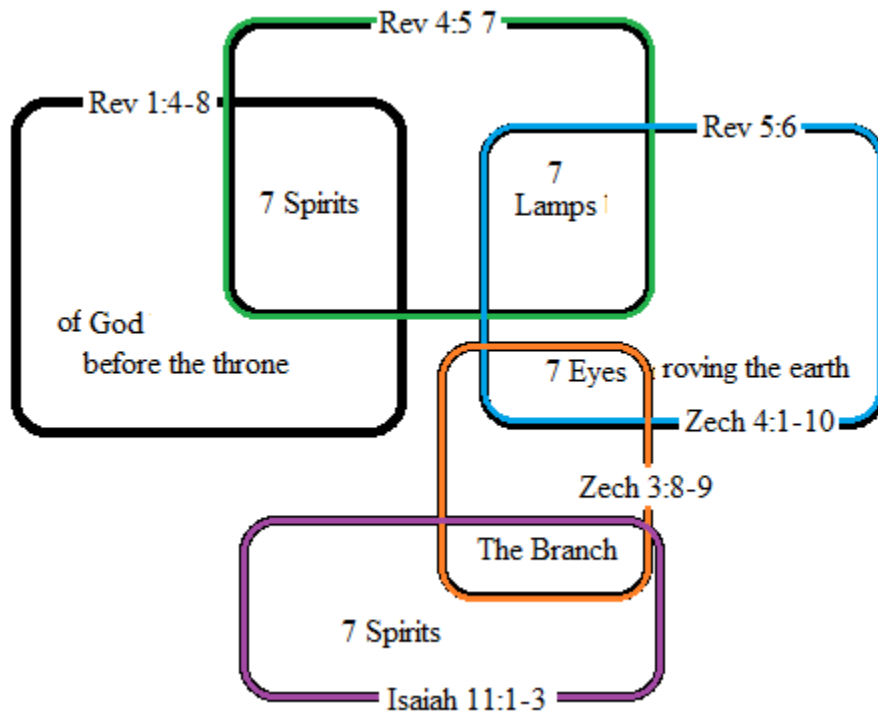
(1G) Zechariah 4:8-10 Where do the seven eyes of the Lord go? _____

(1H) Zechariah 3:8-9 How many eyes does the stone associated with the Branch have? _____

(1I) Isaiah 11:1-3 The stem or branch from Jesse will have how many spirits resting on him? _____

(1J) There are many ideas about what the seven spirits of God really are. Some say they are just attributes of the Holy Spirit. Some think they are persons of the Holy Spirit similar to the way God is three persons, the Holy Spirit is seven persons. Some consider them to be seven angels. Some think of them as just a feeling like team spirit. Some think they are a metaphor for some of the gifts of the Spirit or Godly virtues. Some follow the chain of the verses below from seven spirits, to seven eyes, to The Branch, and finally to seven spirits listed in Isaiah 11:2. What do you think and why?

Think & Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 1 - The Journey Begins

- (1A) Revelation 1:4-8 Who has seven Spirits before His throne? The Lord God Rev 1:4 & 8
- (1B) Revelation 3:1 What besides seven Spirits does He have? Seven Stars
- (1C) Revelation 4:5 What are the seven lamps of fire? The seven Spirits of God
- (1D) Revelation 5:6 Where are the seven eyes sent? Into all the Earth
- (1E) Revelation 5:6 What are the seven eyes? The seven Spirits of God
- (1F) Zechariah 4:1-7 What was on top of the lampstand with the bowl? Seven lamps Zech 4:2
- (1G) Zechariah 4:8-10 Where do the seven eyes of the Lord go? Throughout the earth Zech 4:10
- (1H) Zechariah 3:8-9 How many eyes does the stone associated with the Branch have? Seven
- (1I) Isaiah 11:1-3 The stem or branch from Jesse will have how many spirits resting on him? Seven or four depending on how you count it. Is "the spirit of wisdom and understanding" one or two spirits?

(1J) I don't know the answer, but I hope y'all had a good discussion. The rest of this course is based on the final idea mentioned, that the seven spirits of God are listed in Isaiah 11:2. I'm not at all sure that is the "right" answer, but it gives us an excuse for a very interesting word study. The next six lessons study the terms "wisdom," "understanding," "counsel," "strength," "knowledge" and "fear of the Lord." We don't study the Spirit of the Lord here because it was impossible to distinguish that term from the Holy Spirit, and we have a whole course on Him. The final two lessons in this course will look at how these terms often come together in pairs and groups. That adds an intriguing layer to the puzzle. So welcome to the quest! I'm not sure where this road will ultimately lead, but I do enjoy studying the Bible.

For further thought:

[1k] In Proverbs 20:27 it says, "The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord..." What does this imply with regard to Revelations 4:5 and Zechariah 4:1-7, if anything? Why?

[1l] Those who believe that the seven spirits are angels point to other references in Revelations to angels that use similar language. (See Rev 4:6-9, Rev 5:6-14, Rev 19:4-5) What do you think about this argument and why?

[1m] Those who believe that the seven spirits are feelings, symbols or metaphors point out that other than the 28 references to "Spirit of the Lord" and 24 references to "Spirit of God" there are over 70 phrases in the Bible that begin with "Spirit of ..." Some samples: Gen 7:22 – "spirit of life"; Num 5:14 – "spirit of jealousy"; 2Kgs 2:15 – "spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha"; 1Chrn 5:26 – "spirit of Pul"; Ps 76:12 – "spirit of princes"; Isaiah 19:14 – "spirit of distortion"; Rom 8:15 – "spirit of slavery" & "spirit of adoption"; Heb 10:29 – "spirit of grace"; 1 Pet 4:14 – "spirit of glory"; etc. What do you think about these with regard to understanding the seven spirits of God?

[1n] For me trying to somehow separate the first of the spirits on the list, Spirit of the Lord, from the Holy Spirit was impossible. However, there are only 28 times where the actual phrase "Spirit of the Lord" appears. Perhaps you can find some distinction I was not able to discern.

Judges 3:10	1 Samuel 10:6	2 Chronicles 18:23	Ezekiel 37:1
Judges 6:34	1 Samuel 16:13	2 Chronicles 20:14	Micah 2:7
Judges 11:29	1 Samuel 16:14	Isaiah 11:2	Micah 3:8
Judges 13:25	2 Samuel 23:2	Isaiah 40:13	Luke 4:18
Judges 14:6	1 Kings 18:12	Isaiah 61:1	Acts 5:9
Judges 14:19	1 Kings 22:24	Isaiah 63:14	Acts 8:39
Judges 15:14	2 Kings 2:16	Ezekiel 11:5	2 Corinthians 3:17

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 2 – Wisdom

- (2A) Romans 11:33 What has deep riches? Wisdom and knowledge of God
- (2B) Exodus 31:1-3 Where did Bezalel get his wisdom? God filled him with it
- (2C) 2 Chronicles 1:10-12 What did Solomon pray for? Wisdom and knowledge
- (2D) Job 12:12 Who is wisdom with? Aged men, older people
- (2E) Job 12:13-16 With Who is wisdom and might? The Lord Job 12:9
- (2F) Proverbs 4:4-12 Who is the "her" that is mentioned several times? Wisdom and understanding
- (2G) Ecclesiastes 9:16 What is better than strength? Wisdom
- (2H) Jeremiah 49:7 Jeremiah wonders what has happened to counsel and what? Wisdom
- (2I) Who does wisdom and power belong to? God Dan 2:20
- (2J) Who gives wisdom to the wise? God Dan 2:21
- (2K) Daniel thanked God for giving him what and power? Wisdom and power Dan 2:23
- (2L) Paul did not come in what? Superiority of speech or of wisdom 1Cor 2:1 & 4
- (2M) Paul did not want their faith to rest on what? Wisdom of men 1Cor 2:5
- (2N) Paul speaks God's wisdom to the mature. What are some of the distinguishing characteristics he lists for God's wisdom? Not of this age, a mystery, not understood by rulers past or present 1Cor 2:6-8
- (2O) It means that the Holy Spirit is the source of any wisdom we might have, not human beings. That is why it is so important that on the "think and pray" questions in our courses, that we actually stop, think and pray. If we fill the air with the sound of our own voices how can we ever hear the Teacher?

Chokmah in Hebrew is usually translated "wise" or "wisdom". It could also be translated "shrewdness," "skillful," "wits," or "prudence." The Greek word is the noun *sophia* or the adjective *sophos* which is where we get words like "sophomore" and "sophistry." They are almost always translated "wisdom" or "wise" but could be translated "skilled", "learned", "cultivated", "intelligent" or "intelligence." You can look up the English definition in a dictionary, but the definition I think of when I use the word *wisdom* is "knowledge and understanding correctly applied to the situation, particularly in the process of making decisions and taking appropriate actions."

For further thought:

[2p] Proverbs 9:1 has wisdom building a house with seven pillars. How can wisdom actually do anything if it is just a virtue or an attribute? What seven pillars is it talking about? What does this verse mean? (1 Kings 7:17 and Ezekiel 40:26 might have something to say about this?)

[2r] James 3:13-18 is making a distinction between more than one kind of wisdom. What are they? How does it help us to know about them?

[2s] Read and explain the use of "wise" and "wisdom" Proverbs 9:7-12 and 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

[2t] The words "wisdom" or "wise" appear over 375 times in the Bible. Use a concordance to find some of them to read and discuss. Over a hundred of the appearances are in the book of Proverbs. If you don't have a concordance, you should be able to just scan through Proverbs and find more to think about and discuss concerning the Biblical term "wisdom."

Lesson 3 – Understanding

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

(3A) Colossians 2:2-3 Where does wealth come from? _____

(3B) 1 Kings 7:13-14 What was Hiram filled with? _____

(3C) Job 32:6-10 Where does wisdom come from? _____

(3D) Psalm 147:5 How much understanding does God have? _____

(3E) Proverbs 14:6 Knowledge comes easily to whom? _____

(3F) Proverbs 14:29 A man slow to anger has great what? _____

(3G) Proverbs 28:2 What causes a nation to endure? _____

(3H) Jeremiah 3:15 How will God's shepherds feed us? _____

(3I) Mark 12:32-33 Loving God with your whole heart, understanding and strength is better than what? _____

(3J) Luke 2:47 They were amazed the what of the young Jesus? _____

(3K) James 3:13 How do we show our understanding? _____

(3L) How do we get understanding? (Hints: Colossians 1:9, 1 John 5:20; Proverbs 2:1-6)

Think & Pray _____

STRIKE IT RICH

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



© 2009 Michael D. Waters
www.joyfultoons.com

and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. - PROVERBS 2:4-5 NIV

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 3 – Understanding

- (3A) Colossians 2:2-3 Where does wealth come from? Full assurance of understanding
(3B) 1 Kings 7:13-14 What was Hiram filled with? Wisdom and understanding
(3C) Job 32:6-10 Where does wisdom come from? A little from experience, but mostly from God
(3D) Psalm 147:5 How much understanding does God have? Infinite, unlimited
(3E) Proverbs 14:6 Knowledge comes easily to whom? One who has understanding
(3F) Proverbs 14:29 A man slow to anger has great what? Understanding (See also Prv 17:27)
(3G) Proverbs 28:2 What causes a nation to endure? Leadership with understanding and knowledge
(3H) Jeremiah 3:15 How will God's shepherds feed us? With knowledge and understanding
(3I) Mark 12:32-33 Loving God with your heart, understanding and strength is better than what? All burnt offerings and sacrifices.
(3J) Luke 2:47 They were amazed the what of the young Jesus? Understanding and answers
(3K) James 3:13 How do we show our understanding? By good behavior, gentleness and wisdom.

(3L) God is the one who gives us understanding. If you want more, pray for it. "But what about 2nd Timothy 2:15?" you ask, "Aren't we supposed to study?" Yes, we are, like now for instance. Praying and thinking about this question was when the Holy Spirit was teaching you something about "understanding", or at least that is my hope and prayer.

The Hebrew word *biynah* is almost always translated "understanding" but sometimes it is translated "wisdom", "knowledge" and even "meaning." The Greek word *syniemi* is usually translated "understanding." The Greek lexicon also gives it the meaning "bring together (as in making peace between opposing forces," or "join together in the mind." My definition of *understanding* is "correctly discerning the complex relationships between known facts and their implications."

There is another Greek term sometimes translated "understanding" which has the English sense of "empathetic" or "considerate." You can find this 1 Peter 3:7.

For further thought:

[3m] In Matthew 22:29 what caused them to make a mistake? How do you know you are not making the same mistake they did?

[3n] In Job 20:3 what is the "spirit of my understanding" talking about?

[3o] Deuteronomy 32:28 mentions a nation lacking in understanding and lists the symptoms of that lack of understanding. What nation is it talking about?

[3p] The word "understanding" appears over 125 times in the Bible. Use a concordance to find some of these appearances to read and discuss.

Lesson 4 – Counsel

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

- (4A) Ephesians 1:11 God works all things after the what of His will? _____
- (4B) 2 Kings 18:20 Hezekiah is accused of vainly believing that he had "counsel and strength for war." Who was right? Hezekiah or Rabshakeh? _____
- (4C) 2 Chronicles 10:6-13 Is all counsel good counsel? _____
- (4D) Job 15:8-9 Does God give some counsel in secret? _____
- (4E) Job 38:2 & Job 42:3 What diminishes the value of counsel? _____
- (4F) Psalm 33:8-18 How reliable is God's advice? _____
- (4G) Proverbs 13:10 What is a way to gain wisdom? _____

**Through insolence comes nothing but strife,
But wisdom is with those who receive counsel.**

~ Proverbs 13:10



(4H) In Romans 11:34 & Isaiah 40:13 we learn something about God. What?

(4I) Isaiah 28:29 What is the difference between God's advice and God's commands?

Think & Pray _____

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 4 – Counsel

(4A) Ephesians 1:11 God works all things after the what of His will? Counsel

(4B) 2 Kings 18:20 Hezekiah is accused of vainly believing that he had "counsel and strength for war."

Who was right? Hezekiah or Rabshakeh? Hezekiah 2Kgs 19:35-36 Hezekiah listened to counsel of God delivered by Isaiah. (See also Isaiah 36:5)

(4C) 2 Chronicles 10:6-13 Is all counsel good counsel?

No. It can't be. Sometimes it is contradictory. 2Chr 10:7 vs. 2Chr 10:10-11.

(4D) Job 15:8-9 Does God give some counsel in secret? Yes

(4E) Job 38:2 & Job 42:3 What diminishes the value of counsel? Ignorance

(4F) Psalm 33:8-18 How reliable is God's advice? Totally reliable.

(4G) Proverbs 13:10 What is a way to gain wisdom? Humbly and peacefully listen to good advice

(4H) In Romans 11:34 & Isaiah 40:13 we learn something about God. What? He does not need advice

(4I) Nothing. There is no difference. His advice is always right. If you do not take God's advice you will bear the consequences, just as you do when you disobey Him.

In Hebrew the word for counsel or advice is *ya-ats*. It's range of sense is a little wider than the English. It can also mean a "decision" or "plan." Similarly the Greek *boulah* sometimes translated "counsel" can also mean the "purpose" or "plan" that someone has decided. This can be seen in Luke 7:30 where it is translated "counsel" by the King James but "purpose" by the New American Standard and the other modern versions that I checked. My definition of *counsel* is "expanding your own point of view by considering the views of others."

For further thought:

[4j] Compare the decision making processes described in Acts 1:15-26, Acts 5:33-42 and Acts 6:1-6. Which one is the most like the process your church uses to make decisions? So what?

[4k] What does 1 Corinthians 2:16 teach us about a saved person's mind? So what?

[4L] Read John 18:14. Is it possible for an evil person to give correct advice?

[4m] The word "counsel" and words related to it like "counseled, advice, and advise" appear almost 150 times in the Bible. Use a concordance to find some of these appearances to read and discuss.

My further thought:

[4j] Casting lots (rolling dice or flipping a coin) as they did in Acts 1:15-26 is used in more than one place in the Bible. Perhaps the most interesting use of it is in 1 Samuel 10:17-24. They chose Saul as king by lots, but it was the confirmation of what Samuel had already been told in 1 Sam 9:15-16. Unless God tells you as He did Samuel, I do not recommend this for making decisions.

The elders came to a decision based on the advice of Gamaliel in Acts 5:33-42. That is not a bad idea, but unlike in earlier times when God selected the elders, these elders were selected by political favoritism and nepotism. I prefer the method used in Acts 6:1-6 where God's people prayerfully come together in unity and consensus.

Lesson 5 – Strength

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

- (5A) 1 Corinthians 1:25 How strong is God? _____
- (5B) 2 Timothy 4:17 How as Paul strengthened to proclaim the Gospel to the gentiles? _____
- (5C) Judges 16:5-19 How did Samson lose his strength? _____
- (5D) Job 36:5 How is God mighty? _____
- (5E) Ecclesiastes 10:10 What enhances strength? _____
- (5F) Isaiah 28:5-6 Where do those who repel the onslaught get their strength? _____
- (5G) Isaiah 41:10 Who will strengthen us? _____
- (5H) Mark 3:27 Who is the strong man in this example? _____
- (5I) Acts 16:5 What were the churches being strengthened in? _____
- (5J) Acts 9:22 Who was increasing in strength? _____
- (5K) Romans 4:20 Who grew strong in faith? _____
- (5L) Hebrews 13:9 It is good for the heart to be strengthened by what? _____
- (5M) In Isaiah 41 the concept of strength is mentioned four times. Does it always mean the same thing? Why? (Isaiah 41:1, Isaiah 41:6, Isaiah 41:10 and Isaiah 41:21) So what?

Think & Pray _____

THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



© 2009 Michael D. Waters
www.joyfultoons.com

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.
- PHILIPPIANS 4:13 NIV

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 5 – Strength

- (5A) 1 Corinthians 1:25 How strong is God? He has strength without limit.
(5B) 2 Timothy 4:17 How as Paul strengthened to proclaim the Gospel to the gentiles? By God
(5C) Judges 16:5-19 How did Samson lose his strength? He had a hair cut
(5D) Job 36:5 How is God mighty? In understanding (and other ways, but here in understanding)
(5E) Ecclesiastes 10:10 What enhances strength? Wisdom
(5F) Isaiah 28:5-6 Where do those who rebel the onslaught get their strength? The Lord of hosts
(5G) Isaiah 41:10 Who will strengthen us? God
(5H) Mark 3:27 Who is the strong man in this example? Satan
(5I) Acts 16:5 What were the churches being strengthened in? Faith
(5J) Acts 9:22 Who was increasing in strength? Saul (Paul)
(5K) Romans 4:20 Who grew strong in faith? Abraham Rom 4:16
(5L) Hebrews 13:9 It is good for the heart to be strengthened by what? Grace

(5M) In my opinion each time the term is used it has a slightly different meaning based on the context. In verse 1 it is talking about the courage to speak. In verse 6 it is talking about the physical strength to work with a hammer and metal. In verse 10 it is talking about the virtue necessary to overcome our fears. In verse 21 it is talking about how convincing an argument can be. What is common is that in each case it is the *ability to do* something. It is also clear that such ability is a gift from God and not anything inherent in us.

It turns out there are a number of different Hebrew words translated as strength. Here they are with how the King James translates them:

- Isaiah 41:1 – *Koach*: strength (58x), power (47x), might (7x), force (3x), ability (2x), misc (7x)
Isaiah 41:6 – *Chazaq*: strong (48x), repair (47x), hold (37x), strengthened (28x), strengthen (14x), misc (116x)
Isaiah 41:10 – *Amats*: strengthen (12x), courage (9x), strong (5x), courageous (2x), harden (2x), misc (11x)
Isaiah 41:21 – *Atstsumah*: strong (14x), mighty (8x), mightier (7x), feeble (1x), great (1x), much (1x)
Isaiah 11:2 – *Gebuwrah*: might (27x), strength (17x), power (9x), mighty acts (4x), misc (4x)

The Greek word is *dynamis* where we get the words "dynamic" and "dynamo." Like Hebrew, there are a number of synonyms which I'll not go into detail about here. My definition of *strength* is "the ability to get things done, which might mean physical muscle, but more often means determination, resolve and courage."

For further thought:

[5n] What does Romans 15:1-2 mean? Which of the people described here is more like you?

[5o] Analyze the use of the terms "strong," "strength," "might," "able to stand firm," "powers," "forces," "able to resist," "stand firm," and "able to extinguish" in Ephesians 6:10-17.

[5p] Has God ever enabled you to do something you could not ordinarily do? What? How?

[5q] Analyze the use of the terms "power of God," "stronger," "mighty" and "strong" in 1 Cor 1:18-31. Notice how much this passage also talks about wisdom.

[5r] The word "strength" and words related to it like "strong, power, ability and might" appear almost a 1,500 times in the Bible. Use a concordance to find some of these appearances to read and discuss. You need to be aware that about a third of these are the word "might" which sometimes means "strong" but sometimes means "maybe." Obviously you need to skip the places where it means "maybe."

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 6 – Knowledge

- (6A) 1 Corinthians 12:8 The same spirit gives us both wisdom and what? Knowledge
- (6B) Exodus 35:30-31 Who filled Bezalel with knowledge and other things? The Lord
- (6C) Proverbs 1:28-29 What did they hate that causes their pleas to be ignored? Knowledge
- (6D) Isaiah 44:19 What do they lack knowledge about?
They use half a piece of wood to cook their food and worship the other half. How stupid is that?
- (6E) Ezekiel 11:5 Who knows our thoughts? The Lord
- (6F) Daniel 5:12 Daniel had an extraordinary spirit, what and insight? Knowledge
- (6G) Micah 3:8 Micah was filled with power, spirit, justice, and courage so he could do what?
Make known the rebellions and sins of God's people
- (6H) Luke 11:52 What have they taken away the key of? Knowledge
- (6I) Romans 15:14 What were they full of? Goodness and knowledge enabling to admonish each other
- (6J) 2 Peter 3:17-18 Peter wants his listeners to continue to grow in what? Grace and knowledge
- (6K) It matters very much. If our zeal for God involves trying to offer him our righteousness we are doomed. We must focus on His righteousness, not ours, and unless we know Him (Jesus Christ) we are unaware of how His righteousness is necessary for our salvation.

The Hebrew word *da-ath* is almost always translated "knowledge." It can also be translated "perception" or "awareness." The Greek *gnosis* is also almost always translated "knowledge" although in one case it was translated "science" by the King James. My definition of *knowledge* is "awareness of facts."

For further thought:

- [6l] The word "know" or "knows" appears 32 times in the First Epistle of John, or about once every third verse. None of these are in the first chapter and yet the first three verses of 1 John 1 are entirely about knowledge, at least in my opinion. Read 1 John 1:1-3. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- [6m] Can you think of a time when knowledge of God and/or the Bible was helpful to you in some way? What were the circumstances? How did it turn out?
- [6n] The word "knowledge" appears 5 times in 2 Peter 1:2-8. Does it mean the same thing in all cases? So what?
- [6o] What is your plan for increasing your knowledge?
- [6p] The word "know" or some form of it appears eleven times in 1 Corinthians 8:1-13. What can we learn about the virtue of knowledge from this passage?
- [6q] The word "knowledge" appears over 150 times in the Bible. Use a concordance to find some of these appearances to read and discuss. "Know" appears another 800 or so times, just in case you run out. ☺

Lesson 7 - Fear of the Lord

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

(7A) Matthew 10:28 Who are we to fear? _____

(7B) Hebrews 10:31 What is terrifying? _____

(7C) Revelation 14:7 Why are they to fear God? _____

(7D) Proverbs 1:7 What is the beginning of knowledge? _____

(7E) Genesis 20:11 What frightened Abraham into telling lies about his wife? _____

(7F) 1 Kings 18:12 who had feared the Lord from his youth? _____

(7G) Job 28:28 What is wisdom? _____

(7H) Psalm 34:7 What happens to those who fear Him? _____

(7I) Proverbs 10:27 What does the fear of the Lord do? _____

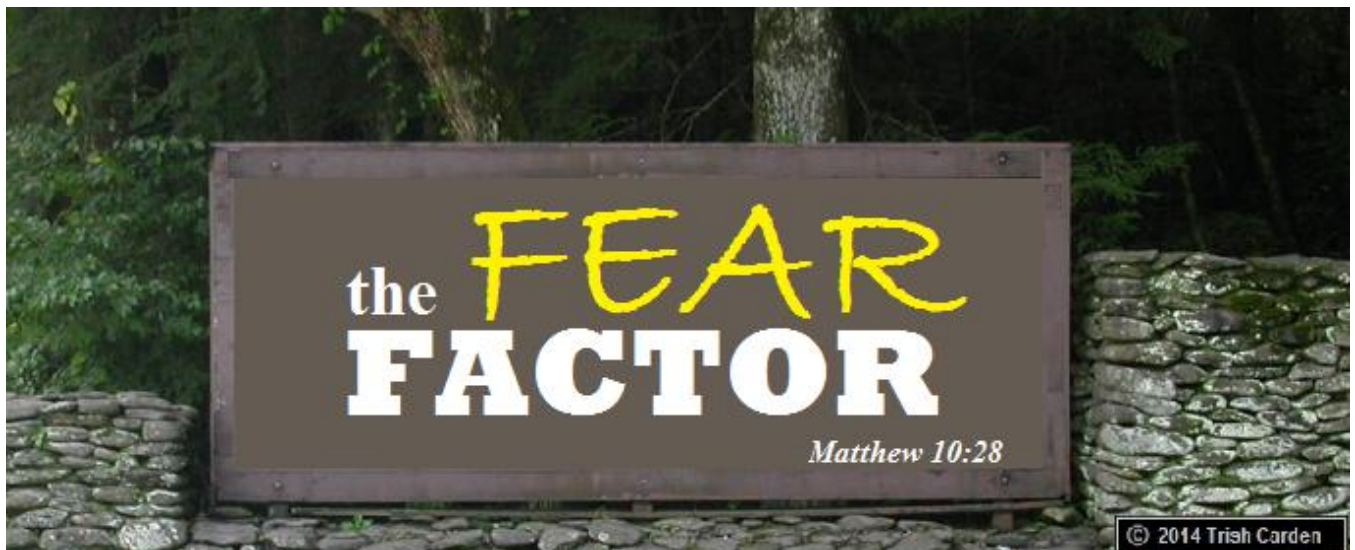
(7J) Proverbs 22:4 What are the rewards of humility and fear of the Lord? _____

(7K) Isaiah 33:6 What is the treasure? _____

(7L) What besides comfort of the Holy Spirit was involved in the church's growth? _____

(7M) Haggai 2:5 says do **not** fear. Which is it; fear or don't fear?

Think & Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 7 - Fear of the Lord

(7A) Matthew 10:28 Who are we to fear?

"Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (See also Luke 12:5)

(7B) Hebrews 10:31 What is terrifying? "To fall into the hands of the living God"

(7C) Revelation 14:7 Why are they to fear God? "Because the hour of His judgment has come."

(7D) Proverbs 1:7 What is the beginning of knowledge? The fear of the Lord

(7E) Genesis 20:11 What frightened Abraham into telling lies about his wife? The lack of fear for God

(7F) 1 Kings 18:12 who had feared the Lord from his youth?

Obadiah I don't think this is the same one as wrote the little book, but that is just an opinion.

(7G) Job 28:28 What is wisdom? Fear of the Lord

(7H) Psalm 34:7 What happens to those who fear Him? They are guarded and rescued

(7I) Proverbs 10:27 What does the fear of the Lord do? Prolongs life

(7J) Proverbs 22:4 What are the rewards of humility and fear of the Lord? Riches, honor and life

(7K) Isaiah 33:6 What is the treasure? The fear of the Lord

(7L) What besides comfort of the Holy Spirit was involved in the church's growth? The fear of the Lord

(7M) It means the same thing as Matthew 10:28 above. The only fear that makes sense is fear of Him who can facilitate a trip to Hell. Once you are sure He loves you, you have nothing to fear. Do you know He loves you?

My definition of *fear of the Lord* is "respect for His authority and power, awe or reverence for His amazing goodness, and terror of His wrath."

For further thought:

[7n] What does Ecclesiastes 12:13 mean?

[7o] 2 Kings 17:25-39 mentions "fear" ten times. What is it talking about?

[7p] Psalm 19:9 says "the fear of the Lord is clean." What does that mean?

[7q] What does 2 Corinthians 5:11 mean?

[7r] What does Hebrews 12:4-17 mean?

[7s] Are you afraid of God? Why or why not?

[7t] The phrase "fear of the Lord" or "fear of God" appears 33 times in the Bible. Some of them are discussed above. The rest are listed below. Read and discuss some of these:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Samuel 23:3 | Proverbs 1:29 | Proverbs 16:6 |
| 2 Chronicles 19:7-9 | Proverbs 2:5 | Proverbs 19:23 |
| Nehemiah 5:15 | Proverbs 8:13 | Proverbs 23:17 |
| Job 4:6 | Proverbs 9:10 | Isaiah 11:1-3 |
| Psalm 36:1 | Proverbs 14:26-27 | Acts 9:31 |
| Psalm 111:10 | Proverbs 15:16 | Romans 3:18 |
| Psalm 128:1 | Proverbs 15:33 | 2 Corinthians 7:1 |

Lesson 8 - Wisdom and Understanding

You may have noticed as we have studied this course that the seven spirits of God often appear in the same passage working together towards some purpose. They most often appear in the pairings they have in Isaiah 11:1-3. "Wisdom and understanding" are the most numerous, appearing as a pair 46 times. In this lesson we are going to look at some of those.

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

(8A) Colossians 1:9 Praying that they be filled with knowledge of His will in all spiritual what?

(8B) Ezekiel 28:4 Whose wisdom and understanding is it talking about? _____

(8C) Daniel 1:20 Who was ten times better in every "matter of wisdom and understanding"?

(8D) Deuteronomy 4:6 How will they be regarded as a great nation, a wise and understanding people?

(8E) Job 39:17 What has God done to make the mother ostrich unconcerned?

(8F) Proverbs 24:3 What is needed to have a successful building project? _____

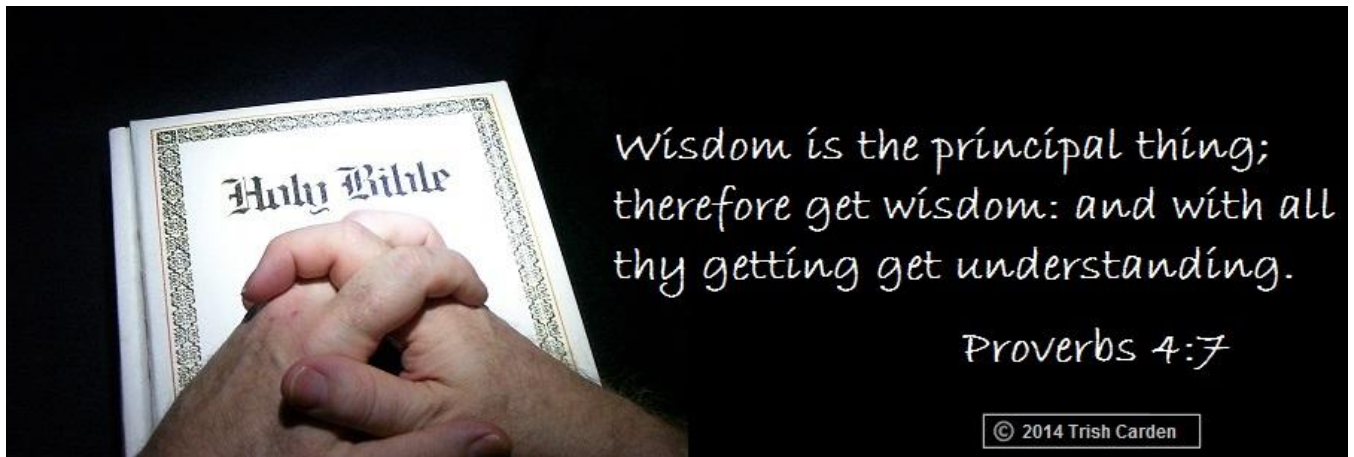
(8G) Proverbs 3:13-14 What is better than silver and gold? _____

(8H) Isaiah 10:13 Who is boasting arrogantly? _____

(8I) Jeremiah 51:15 How did God create the universe? _____

(8J) Why do you suppose wisdom and understanding are so often found together?

Think & Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 8 - Wisdom and Understanding

(8A) Colossians 1:9 Praying that they be filled with knowledge of His will in all spiritual what? Wisdom and understanding. Notice that the spirit and knowledge are also present. "His will" can also be understood as "His strength"

(8B) Ezekiel 28:4 Whose wisdom and understanding is it talking about? Leader or King of Tyre Ez 28:1

(8C) Daniel 1:20 Who was ten times better in every "matter of wisdom and understanding?"
Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah Dan 1:19

(8D) Deuteronomy 4:6 How will they be regarded as a great nation, a wise and understanding people?
If they keep God's statutes

(8E) Job 39:17 What has God done to make the mother ostrich unconcerned? Made her forget wisdom and withheld understanding. Does that mean there was a time when ostriches were wise?

(8F) Proverbs 24:3 What is needed to have a successful building project? Wisdom and understanding

(8G) Proverbs 3:13-14 What is better than silver and gold? Wisdom and understanding

(8H) Isaiah 10:13 Who is boasting arrogantly? King of Assyria.

(8I) Jeremiah 51:15 How did God create the universe? Strength (power), wisdom, and understanding

(8J) The Bible does not say but in my opinion you almost can't have one without the other. Understanding has to do with fitting all the pieces together in your head and wisdom is about using that synthesis of knowledge to make good decisions.

For further thought:

[8k] Psalm 111:10 says "A good understanding have all those who do His commandments." Do they obey because they understand or do they understand because they obey? I think the more we obey the more God gives us understanding. Do you agree? Why or why not?

[8l] What is Proverbs 5:1-6 talking about?

[8m] Revelation 13:18 says that he who has wisdom and understanding will be able calculate the number of the beast. I can't. Does that mean I don't have wisdom and understanding? How about you?

[8n] The terms "wisdom" and "understanding" appear in the same verse 46 times in the Bible. Some of them are discussed above. The rest are listed below. Read and discuss some of these:

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| Exodus 31:3 | Proverbs 2:6 | Proverbs 14:33 |
| Exodus 35:31 | Proverbs 3:19 | Proverbs 16:16 |
| 1 Kings 7:14 | Proverbs 4:5 | Proverbs 17:24 |
| Job 12:12 | Proverbs 4:7 | Proverbs 19:8 |
| Job 12:13 | Proverbs 5:1 | Proverbs 21:30 |
| Job 28:12 | Proverbs 7:4 | Proverbs 23:23 |
| Job 28:20 | Proverbs 8:1 | Isaiah 11:1-3 |
| Job 28:28 | Proverbs 8:14 | Jeremiah 10:12 |
| Job 38:36 | Proverbs 9:10 | Daniel 1:4 |
| Psalm 49:3 | Proverbs 10:13 | Daniel 2:21 |
| Proverbs 1:2 | Proverbs 10:23 | James 3:13 |
| Proverbs 2:2 | Proverbs 14:6 | Revelation 13:18 |

Lesson 9 - The Journey Continues – the Mystery of the Seven Spirits of God

Besides often appearing in pairs the terms associated with the seven spirits also often appear in clusters, just as they do in Isaiah 11:1-3, where there are several of them together. This is most often seen in Proverbs where approximately a third of the verses contain one or more of these terms. We are going to conclude our study by looking at a few passages which seem to give tantalizing clues to this mystery.

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

(9A) Proverbs 1:5-7 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? _____

(9B) Proverbs 2:5-6 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? _____

(9C) Proverbs 8:12-14 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? _____

(9D) Proverbs 24:3-6 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? _____

(9E) Acts 19:17 What two things happened? _____

(9F) 1 Corinthians 1:18 To those who are being saved, what is the cross? _____

(9G) 1 Corinthians 1:24 Who is the *power* and *wisdom* of God? _____

(9H) 1 Corinthians 1:30 What did Christ Jesus become to us? _____

(9I) 2 Corinthians 2:14 How does the *knowledge* of Christ smell? _____

(9J) Ephesians 3:19 What surpasses all other *knowledge*? _____

(9K) Colossians 2:2 We have the full assurance of *understanding* resulting in the true *knowledge* of God's mystery which is? _____

(9L) 1 Timothy 1:12 Who *strengthened* Paul? _____

(9M) 2 Timothy 2:1 We are to be *strong* in what kind of grace? _____

(9N) 2 Peter 2:20 How are the defilements of the world escaped? _____

(9O) 1 John 5:20 What do we *know*? _____

(9P) 1 John 5:20 We have been given *understanding* so that we may *know* who? _____

(9Q) Do you believe the spirit of *counsel* is represented in Hebrews 10:23-25? Why or why not?

Think & Pray _____

If someone asked you what this course was about, what would you tell them?

Of all that you learned in this course, what do you hope most you will remember?

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson 9 - The Journey Continues

- (9A) Proverbs 1:5-7 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? Five v.5 *wisdom, understanding, counsel*, v.6 - *understanding, wisdom*, v.7 – *fear of the Lord, knowledge, wisdom*
- (9B) Proverbs 2:5-6 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? Four v.5 – *fear of the Lord, knowledge*, v.6 – *wisdom, knowledge, understanding*
- (9C) Proverbs 8:12-14 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? Six v.12 – *wisdom, knowledge*, v.13 - *fear of the Lord*, v.14 - *counsel, wisdom, understanding* and *strength* (power)
- (9D) Proverbs 24:3-6 How many of the seven spirits of God can you find? Five v.3 – *wisdom, understanding*, v.4 – *knowledge*, v.5 *wisdom, knowledge, strength*, v.6 - *counsel*
- (9E) Acts 19:17 What two things happened?
The fear fell upon them and the name of the Lord Jesus was being magnified.
- (9F) 1 Corinthians 1:18 To those who are being saved, what is the cross? The power of God
- (9G) 1 Corinthians 1:24 Who is the *power* and *wisdom* of God? Christ
- (9H) 1 Corinthians 1:30 What did Christ Jesus become to us? Wisdom of God
- (9I) 2 Corinthians 2:14 How does the *knowledge* of Christ smell? Sweet
- (9J) Ephesians 3:19 What surpasses all other *knowledge*? Knowing the love of Christ
- (9K) Colossians 2:2 We have the full assurance of *understanding* resulting in the true *knowledge* of God's mystery which is? Christ Himself
- (9L) 1 Timothy 1:12 Who *strengthened* Paul? Christ Jesus our Lord
- (9M) 2 Timothy 2:1 We are to be *strong* in what kind of grace? The grace in Christ Jesus
- (9N) 2 Peter 2:20 How are the defilements of the world escaped?
By the knowledge of the Lord & Savior Jesus Christ
- (9O) 1 John 5:20 What do we *know*? That the Son of God has come
- (9P) 1 John 5:20 We have been given *understanding* so that we may *know* who? Him who is true, Jesus Christ

(9Q) That is the way I see it. We gather together in fellowship, and He gives us the spirit of *counsel*, just as he promised in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst." That is what this study has done for me. I now find those seven spirits of God all over the place. It is fun, it is beautiful, and it contributes greatly to my enjoyment of God's word. Welcome to the journey, may it be long and fruitful for you.

Our prayer for you: Lord we ask that those who study this course may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that they will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light. (Based on Colossians 1:9-12)

For further thought:

- [9u] If Isaiah 11:1-3 is not talking about the seven spirits of God, then what is it talking about?
- [9v] What does 2 Timothy 1:7 mean?
- [9w] Do you see any relationship between the "eyes" in Ephesians 1:18 and the ones in Revelation 5:6, Zechariah 3:8-9 and/or Zechariah 4:8-10?
- [9x] How many of the terms associated with the seven spirits of God can you find in Ephesians 1:8-19?
- [9y] In John 16:13 he mentions the "spirit of truth." Is this another name for one of the seven spirits of God, another name for the Holy Spirit, or another spirit altogether? Why? (See also John 14:17, John 15:26 and 1st John 4:6)
- [9z] In 2 Timothy 3:14-16 where does the wisdom come from that leads to salvation through faith?