

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Despised Truths

Study Guide

New Testament Studies

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

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Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the September 30, 2026 edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

Despised Truths

Part One

May 21, 2014

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-24.

Major Themes

Despising God's Word

Individuals, nations, and even believers can despise God's Word by disobeying it, which is equivalent to despising God Himself.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Esau, Israel, David, and Judah as examples, and states: 'Any time that we despise the word of God, at the same time we're despising the God of the word.'

Sovereignty of Christ

Christ is absolutely sovereign; He does as He pleases and is not subject to human influence or control. This is the attribute that proves He is God.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'If Jesus Christ is sovereign, how can she persuade him? ... The one attribute that demonstrates and proves that God is God is He is absolutely sovereign.' He uses the healing at Bethesda as illustration.

No Human Claim on Christ

Fallen man has no natural claim, right, or merit before Christ. Physical descent, family ties, or religious heritage are worthless without a spiritual relationship.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'Fallen man has absolutely no claim upon Christ, not in and of himself.' He shows that even Christ's mother and brothers had no special claim.

The Danger of Unbiblical Anger

Unrighteous anger manifests as volcanic eruption or internalization and leads to sin and destruction, as seen in the Nazarenes' attempt to murder Christ.

Lecture support: Weaver describes the two types of unbiblical anger and says: 'These people in Luke 4 were angry enough to murder, they tried to murder.'

Spiritual Relationship Transcends Physical

In Christ, physical relationships are superseded by spiritual ones. Knowing Christ after the flesh is irrelevant; only a new creation matters.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 and says: 'The physical has been done away with. The spiritual transcends the physical.'

Key Arguments

Despising God's Word is despising God

One cannot maintain a different attitude toward God's Word than toward God Himself; they stand or fall together.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'Any time that we despise the word of God, at the same time we're despising the God of the word.' He cites 2 Samuel 12:9-10.

Even believers can despise God's Word

David, a man after God's own heart, despised God's commandment by committing adultery and murder, showing that believers are not immune.

Lecture support: Weaver asks: 'If David... despised God's Word and despised God himself, is it not possible for those of us who may not be as holy as David could end up despising his Word as well?'

Christ's sovereignty means no human influence

If Christ is Lord and sovereign, no one - including Mary - can persuade or influence Him; otherwise He would not be God.

Lecture support: Weaver argues: 'If Mary or anyone else can have influence upon Jesus Christ and persuade Him, in that case, He is not sovereign. If He is not sovereign, He is not God.'

Physical relationship to Christ is worthless

Christ's own mother and brothers had no claim on Him; only those who do the will of God are His true family.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Matthew 12:46-50 and Luke 8:19-21, where Jesus redefines family as those who hear and do God's Word.

Sinners must come to Christ as beggars

Since we have no claim on Christ, we must approach Him in humility, seeking mercy and grace, not demanding rights.

Lecture support: Weaver concludes: 'We must come to Him as beggars, as helpless, as hopeless, and as lost sinners, seeking His salvation and His mercy, because we have no claim upon Him.'

Scripture References

Luke 4:16-30

The main passage for the sermon; Jesus reads Isaiah in the Nazareth synagogue, is rejected, and the people attempt to kill Him.

Isaiah 53:3

Prophecy that Christ would be despised and rejected by men.

Hebrews 12:16

Esau described as a profane person who despised his birthright.

Genesis 25:34

Esau despised his birthright by selling it for a meal.

Leviticus 26:43

Israel despised God's judgments and abhorred His statutes, leading to captivity.

2 Samuel 12:9-10

Nathan confronts David for despising God's commandment and despising God Himself.

Isaiah 5:24

Judah and Jerusalem cast away the law and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

Amos 2:4

Judah despised the law of the Lord and did not keep His commandments.

Ezekiel 22:8

God charges His priests with despising His holy things and profaning His Sabbaths.

Proverbs 1:30

The wicked would have none of God's counsel and despised all His reproof.

Proverbs 5:12

After sinning, a man laments that he hated instruction and his heart despised reproof.

Hebrews 10:28-29

Despising Moses' law brought death; how much worse punishment for despising the Son of God.

Ephesians 4:26

Be angry and sin not; do not let the sun go down on your wrath.

Matthew 2:23

Jesus dwelt in Nazareth to fulfill prophecy that He would be called a Nazarene.

2 Samuel 19:41-43

Israel and Judah fought over who had more right to bring back King David.

Matthew 13:54-57

Jesus' own countrymen were offended at Him, questioning His wisdom and mighty works.

Mark 6:1-6

Jesus could do no mighty work in Nazareth because of their unbelief.

Matthew 3:7-10

John the Baptist warns not to trust in physical descent from Abraham; God can raise up children from stones.

Matthew 12:46-50

Jesus says whoever does the will of His Father is His brother, sister, and mother.

Luke 8:19-21

Jesus says His mother and brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways might we, as believers, be guilty of despising God's Word in our daily lives?

Consider: Weaver argues that doing something we know is contrary to God's Word is despising it. How does this challenge our view of sin?

2. Why did the people of Nazareth become so angry at Jesus' teaching? What truth did they find offensive?

Consider: The sermon poses this question to introduce the first despised truth. What does their reaction reveal about human nature?

3. How does the sovereignty of God challenge our tendency to think we have a claim on Christ?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that Christ does as He pleases. How should this affect our prayers and our sense of entitlement?

4. What does it mean that 'the spiritual transcends the physical' in our relationship with Christ?

Consider: Weaver uses 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 to show that physical lineage or contact with Christ is irrelevant. How does this shape our understanding of the church?

5. Why is it dangerous to view Christ primarily as a baby in a manger or a dead man on a cross?

Consider: Weaver says people are not afraid of a baby or a dead Christ, but a risen, sovereign Christ. How does a low view of Christ affect worship and obedience?

6. How should the truth that we have no claim on Christ change the way we share the gospel?

Consider: The sermon concludes that we must come as beggars. How does this affect our evangelism and our own assurance?

Applications

Examine your attitude toward God's Word

Recognize that willful disobedience is despising God's Word and God Himself. Repent of any area where you are choosing your will over His commands.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'When you do something that you know that is contrary to God's Word, and you're going to do it anyhow, what are you doing? You're despising the Word of God.'

Approach Christ with humility, not entitlement

Since we have no claim on Christ, we must come to Him as helpless beggars, seeking mercy and grace, not demanding rights based on heritage or works.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'We must come to Him as beggars, as helpless, as hopeless, and as lost sinners, seeking His salvation and His mercy.'

Guard against unbiblical anger

Unrighteous anger leads to sin and destruction. Deal with sin and problems directly rather than erupting or internalizing.

Lecture support: Weaver describes volcanic eruption and internalization as unbiblical anger, and says biblical anger deals with the sin to bring repentance and reconciliation.

Trust in Christ's sovereignty

Rest in the truth that Christ is sovereign and does all things according to His will. This should produce awe, worship, and submission rather than fear or manipulation.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Daniel 4:35 and says: 'God does as He pleases, only as He pleases, and always as He pleases. Why? Because He's God.'

Value spiritual relationship over physical

Do not rely on religious heritage, family background, or external associations. True relationship with Christ is spiritual, evidenced by hearing and doing God's Word.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'The physical has been done away with. The spiritual transcends the physical.' He cites 2 Corinthians 5:16-17.

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

Despised Truths

Part Two

May 22, 2014

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 25-45.

Major Themes

God Owes Nothing to Man

God is not obligated to give anyone anything except justice; all blessings are acts of grace and mercy.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'God does not owe you anything except justice... anything we receive from God other than justice we receive in grace and mercy.'

Absolute Sovereignty of God

God does as He pleases, only as He pleases, and always as He pleases; He is not moved by human need but by His own will.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God does not move based upon your needs... He moved according to his will.'

Human Inability to Obligate God

No one can give God anything that He has not first given; thus, man cannot place God in his debt.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Romans 11:35: 'Who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?' and comments, 'You cannot obligate God to yourself.'

Grace and Mercy as the Source of All Blessings

Since God owes nothing, every good thing is a gift of grace, which should produce continual thankfulness.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Everything you get from Him is pure grace and pure mercy... the more you're going to thank Him and praise Him.'

The Offense of Divine Sovereignty

The Nazarenes' murderous anger reveals that fallen man despises the truth that God is sovereign and not under human control.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'They realize the implication of these stories... If you have no claim upon me and I do not owe you anything, that means I'm absolutely sovereign and I'm God. They didn't like that.'

The Call to Gratitude and Praise

Understanding these despised truths should lead believers to a life of humility, gratitude, and continual praise.

Lecture support: Weaver exhorts, 'If you don't hate these truths... you will love them... It will make you more appreciative. More grateful. More thankful. More humble.'

Key Arguments

The Nazarenes' demand reveals their belief that God owes them

The people of Nazareth thought Jesus owed them miracles because He was raised among them, but Weaver argues this is a fundamental error.

Lecture support: Weaver interprets Luke 4:23: 'Here is what the people of Nazareth were saying. You owe us... You owe us.'

Scripture proves God cannot be obligated

Romans 11:35-36 and Job 41:11 show that no one can give to God first, making obligation impossible.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Romans 11:35: 'Who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?' and concludes, 'You cannot obligate God to yourself.'

Even Christ's obedience did not add to God

Psalm 16:2 shows that Christ's goodness extended to the saints, not to the Father, because God is already perfect.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Psalm 16:2: 'my goodness extendeth not unto thee' and explains, 'Nothing can be added to God because God is already perfect.'

God's sovereignty is demonstrated in His selective mercy

The stories of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath and Elisha and Naaman show God bypassing Israel to bless Gentiles, proving His sovereign choice.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God overlooked, bypassed, and did not help any widow in the land of Israel through Elijah... God does not owe his favors or his grace or his mercy to anyone.'

God moves according to His will, not human need

Ephesians 1:9-11 teaches that God works all things after the counsel of His own will, not in response to human circumstances.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Ephesians 1:11: 'who worketh all things after the counsel of his will' and states, 'The cause of all things is the will of God.'

The parable of the laborers illustrates God's right to do as He pleases

Matthew 20:1-16 shows the landowner's right to pay all workers equally, demonstrating God's freedom in dispensing grace.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Matthew 20:15: 'Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?' and applies it to God's sovereignty.

Despised truths, when embraced, produce gratitude

If believers accept that they have no claim on Christ and God owes them nothing, they will be more thankful for every blessing.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If you understand these truths. It will make you more appreciative. More grateful. More thankful. More humble.'

Scripture References

Luke 4:16-30

The main passage for the sermon, describing Jesus' rejection at Nazareth.

Isaiah 53:3

Referenced in review to show Christ was despised.

2 Samuel 12:9-10

Used to show David despised God's word and God Himself.

James 4:17

Cited to show that knowing truth without applying it is sin.

Ephesians 4:26

Referenced in review about righteous vs. unrighteous anger.

Romans 8:6-8

Quoted to show the carnal mind is enmity against God.

John 5:1-9

Illustration of Christ's sovereignty in healing one man at Bethesda.

Isaiah 61:1-2

The passage Jesus read in the synagogue, stopping before 'day of vengeance.'

Acts 13:27

Cited to show the Jews did not recognize Christ.

John 20:30-31

Used to show many of Jesus' miracles are unrecorded.

Matthew 11:23

Shows Capernaum was cursed despite many miracles.

Job 41:11

Quoted to show God owes no one.

Romans 11:33-36

Read to show no one can give to God first.

Psalms 50:9-12

Read to show God owns everything and needs nothing from man.

Psalms 16:1-3

Used to show Christ's goodness did not extend to the Father.

1 Chronicles 29:10-14

David's prayer acknowledging all things come from God.

Lamentations 3:22-23

Cited to explain why we are alive each morning.

Hebrews 13:15

Exhortation to offer the sacrifice of praise continually.

Luke 17:17-19

The story of the one leper who returned to give thanks.

Ephesians 1:9-11

Read to show God works all things after the counsel of His will.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think the people of Nazareth became so angry when Jesus implied they had no claim on Him?

Consider: Weaver explains their anger stemmed from realizing they were not in control.

2. In what ways do we sometimes act as if God owes us something?

Consider: Weaver challenges the assumption that God is obligated to provide life, health, or blessings.

3. How does understanding that God owes us nothing change the way we pray?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that all we receive is by grace, which should foster humility and gratitude.

4. Why is the sovereignty of God a 'despised truth' even among some professing Christians?

Consider: Weaver gives the example of the secretary who rejected the biblical God.

5. How can we cultivate a heart of continual thankfulness like the one leper who returned?

Consider: Weaver contrasts the nine ungrateful lepers with the one who gave glory to God.

6. What does the parable of the laborers teach us about God's right to dispense grace unequally?

Consider: Weaver uses Matthew 20 to show God's freedom in giving as He wills.

Applications

Cultivate Gratitude for All Blessings

Recognize that everything you have is by God's grace and mercy, leading to continual thankfulness.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If you understand that God does not owe you anything... the more you're going to thank Him and praise Him.'

Reject a Spirit of Entitlement

Do not act as if God owes you life, health, or prosperity; instead, humbly receive His gifts.

Lecture support: Weaver warns against the Nazarenes' attitude: 'You owe us.'

Praise God Continually

Offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, as Hebrews 13:15 commands.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Hebrews 13:15 and exhorts, 'By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually.'

Embrace God's Sovereignty with Humility

Accept that God has the right to do as He wills with His own, and do not complain when He blesses others differently.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'There should be no cause of complaining if God deals more bountifully with some than with others.'

Thank God for Small, Daily Mercies

Be thankful for simple things like a hot bath, recognizing millions lack such blessings.

Lecture support: Weaver shares his personal practice: 'Every time I get in that water, I say, thank you, Lord, for this bath.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: Despised Truths - Part One

Lecture JW00575

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00575&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Lesson 2: Despised Truths - Part Two

Lecture JW00574

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00574&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.