

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Just Thinking

Study Guide

New Testament Studies

John Weaver

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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

Pastor John Weaver - Just Thinking

Part One of Two

February 08, 2012

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-21.

Major Themes

The Importance of Deep Thinking (Musing)

Weaver contrasts musing (meditative thinking) with amusement (mindless entertainment), urging believers to think deeply about God's works, especially death.

Lecture support: David said, 'I muse on the work of thy hands.' ... Thinking is something that most folks do very little. In fact, we'd much rather be amused than to think.

The Certainty and Sovereignty of Death

Death is appointed by God for every person; our days are determined and cannot be extended by human effort.

Lecture support: Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth? ... His days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass.

The Anger of God Toward Sinners

God is angry with the wicked every day, and death ushers the sinner into the presence of a furious, holy God who will not acquit the guilty.

Lecture support: God is angry with the wicked every day. ... God is furious. ... Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger?

The Terror of Remembrance After Death

The lost will remember every sin and every missed opportunity for salvation, causing eternal torment of conscience.

Lecture support: Son, remember. ... The sting of death is sin. ... They will remember in stinging and striking detail every sin that they ever committed.

Christ as Sovereign Judge

Sinners will encounter Christ not as a gentle lamb but as the exalted, sovereign judge to whom every knee must bow.

Lecture support: The Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son. ... Every sinner will bow before the sovereign Lord Jesus Christ and confess that He is King of kings.

God's Eternal Contempt for the Wicked

God will despise the wicked, treating them with scorn and contempt for eternity, a punishment intensified by His infinite attributes.

Lecture support: When thou awakest, O God, thou shalt despise their image. ... God's hatred, God's contempt, God's despisement for the lost is limitless.

The Urgency of Preparation and Witness

Since death is certain and its consequences eternal, the unsaved must prepare to meet God, and believers must warn others.

Lecture support: Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. ... We should use this message as an encouragement to be witnesses to warn our family and our friends.

Key Arguments

Musing vs. Amusement

True thinking (musing) is neglected in favor of amusement, which requires no deep thought. This applies especially to considering death.

Lecture support: When you think about amusement, it means that you do not study, you do not think, you do not ponder, you do not meditate, you do not concentrate.

God's Sovereignty Over Life and Death

God alone determines the length of our days; no wealth or power can redeem a person from death.

Lecture support: None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him. ... His days are determined, the number of his months are with thee.

The Sinner Faces an Angry God

Death does not change God's disposition toward the wicked; He remains angry and will not acquit them.

Lecture support: God is angry with the wicked every day. ... The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked.

Conscience as the Undying Worm

The 'worm that dieth not' refers to the conscience, which will eternally torment sinners with remembrance of sins and opportunities.

Lecture support: By their worm is meant their conscience. ... Conscience will be ever distressing, wracking, and torturing them. It will never cease.

Lawful Things Used as Excuses

Many sinners use lawful activities (property, work, family) as excuses to avoid seeking God, leading to eternal regret.

Lecture support: Buying property is not unlawful. Buying oxen is not unlawful. Getting married is certainly not unlawful. What these people were doing was this, they were using lawful things unlawfully.

Christ's Exaltation as Judge

The same Jesus presented as a tender lamb is now the exalted judge; sinners will bow before Him in terror.

Lecture support: Christ is not in a cradle. He's not in a manger. Christ is not on a cross. He is the enthroned, resurrected, sovereign God of heaven and earth.

The Infinite Weight of God's Contempt

Even without physical torment, being eternally despised by an infinite, omnipotent, immutable God is an unbearable punishment.

Lecture support: Only God can despise with perfect despisement. Only God can hate with a perfect hatred. ... God's hatred, God's contempt, God's despisement for the lost is limitless.

The Necessity of Repentance and Faith

The only escape from this fate is to seek Christ in repentance and faith, receiving salvation as a free gift.

Lecture support: If you're unsaved, you better seek Christ. You better ask God to give you repentance and faith and turn from your sins and embrace Jesus Christ as He's fully and freely offered in the Gospel.

Scripture References

Psalm 143:5

Introduction of the sermon's theme: David muses on God's works.

Psalm 95:5

The sea and dry land are the work of God's hands in creation.

Psalm 102:25

The heavens are the work of God's hands.

Psalm 119:73

God's hands made and fashioned us.

John 1:1-3

All things were made by Christ.

Psalm 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, showing providence.

Psalm 139:9-10

God's hand leads and holds us, even in remote places.

Psalm 92:4

David triumphs in the works of God's hands.

Ephesians 1:1-14

The work of the Trinity in redemption.

Psalm 12:6-7

God preserves His pure words from wicked generations.

Psalm 111:7

The works of God's hands are verity and judgment.

Romans 1:18-20

God's wrath is revealed against ungodliness; truth is held in unrighteousness.

Hebrews 9:27

It is appointed unto men once to die, then judgment.

Job 7:1

There is an appointed time for man on earth.

Job 14:1-5

Man's days are determined; his bounds are appointed by God.

Psalms 90:9-10

Our years pass quickly; lifespan is 70 or 80 years.

Jeremiah 9:21

Death comes up into our windows like a peeping tom.

Proverbs 29:1

He who hardens his neck will be suddenly destroyed.

Psalms 66:9

God holds our soul in life.

Psalms 31:15

My times are in thy hand.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to 'muse' on the works of God's hands, and how can we cultivate this practice in our daily lives?

Consider: Weaver contrasts musing with amusement and emphasizes deep thinking about God's works.

2. How does the certainty of death and God's sovereignty over it affect the way we live?

Consider: Weaver cites Job 14 and Psalm 90 to show that our days are determined.

3. Why is the anger of God a terrifying reality for the unrepentant sinner?

Consider: Weaver describes God as furious and unwilling to acquit the wicked, citing Nahum 1.

4. In what ways does the conscience act as a 'worm that dieth not' for the lost?

Consider: Weaver explains that the conscience will eternally remind sinners of their sins and missed opportunities.

5. How can lawful activities become excuses for avoiding God, and how can we guard against this?

Consider: Weaver uses Luke 14:16-20 to show that buying property, oxen, and marriage were used as excuses.

6. What does it mean that Christ is both the Lamb of God and the Lion of Judah, and how should this shape our view of judgment?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that sinners will face Christ as sovereign judge, not as a baby in a manger.

7. How does the concept of God's eternal contempt for the wicked intensify the horror of hell?

Consider: Weaver expounds Psalm 73:20, explaining that God's despisement is infinite and eternal.

8. What practical steps can we take to warn our unsaved family and friends about the reality of death and judgment?

Consider: Weaver applies the message by urging believers to be witnesses, referencing Luke 16.

Applications

Cultivate Deep Thinking About Death

Believers should intentionally muse on the reality of death and what follows, rather than being distracted by amusement.

Lecture support: One of the greatest ploys of sin and Satan is to keep us so busy that we either do not think or do not have time to think.

Prepare to Meet God

Since death is certain and its timing unknown, everyone must prepare to meet God through repentance and faith in Christ.

Lecture support: Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. ... You will meet God whether you are prepared or not.

Warn the Lost

Believers should use the sobering truths about the sinner's death to urgently warn family and friends.

Lecture support: We should use this message as an encouragement to be witnesses to warn our family and our friends.

Seek Christ Without Delay

The unsaved must seek Christ immediately, asking God for repentance and faith, and embracing the gospel.

Lecture support: If you're unsaved, you better seek Christ. You better ask God to give you repentance and faith and turn from your sins and embrace Jesus Christ.

Study notes

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

Pastor John Weaver - Just Thinking

Part Two of Two

February 08, 2012

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 23-42.

Major Themes

The Death of the Saint vs. the Sinner

God puts a difference between the death of the saint and the sinner; for the saint, death's sting, fear, and bondage are removed through Christ.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'God places such a difference upon the death of the saints that he says in Psalm 116 in verse 15, Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.' He then lists three differences: sting removed, fear destroyed, immediate presence with Christ.

The Glory of God Revealed in Death

Upon death, believers will be stunned by the full revelation of God's glory, which they could not fully perceive in life.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'I believe we will be absolutely so stunned, so overwhelmed... Our eyes have not seen, nor have our ears heard the minutest amount of his glory.'

The True Nature of Sin

In heaven, believers will understand the true vileness and wickedness of sin, especially as it necessitated Christ's sacrifice.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Ralph Venning: 'Sin is the dare of God's justice, the rape of His mercy, the jeer of His patience, the slight of His power, the contempt of His love.'

The Graciousness of Forgiveness

Seeing God's glory and sin's greatness will magnify the believer's appreciation of God's gracious forgiveness.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Spurgeon: 'That He should pardon me. That I should have forgiveness of sins and redemption by the blood, that does astonish me.'

Regret Over Inadequate Service

Believers will grieve over their lack of faithful service and love for Christ when they see His glory and grace.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'How can we not understand this when we behold His glory? ... Will we not be grieved that we served Him so infrequently and so ineffectively?'

Eternal Life as Knowing God

Eternal life is defined as an intimate, growing knowledge of God through Jesus Christ, which begins now and continues forever.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes John 17:3: 'And this is life eternal, that they may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.'

Key Arguments

Death for the saint is fundamentally different because of Christ's work.

Christ has removed the sting of death (sin), destroyed the fear and bondage of death, and ensures immediate presence with Him.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 1 Corinthians 15:56, Hebrews 2:14-15, and 2 Corinthians 5:6-8 to support each point.

Believers will be overwhelmed by God's glory at death.

Scripture shows that no one can see God's full glory and live; in heaven, the pure in heart will see God face to face.

Lecture support: Weaver references Exodus 33:18-23, Matthew 5:8, 1 John 3:2, and Revelation 22:4.

Understanding sin's greatness is essential to appreciating Christ's sacrifice.

In heaven, believers will see sin as cosmic treason against an infinitely holy God, making Christ's atonement all the more gracious.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Jonathan Edwards: 'The slightest sin is nothing less than cosmic treason when we realize against whom we have sinned.'

God's grace in personal forgiveness will be most astonishing in heaven.

Each believer will see their own sin as uniquely heinous and thus be overwhelmed by the personal nature of God's pardon.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Spurgeon: 'That He should pardon me... that does astonish me.'

The judgment seat of Christ will reveal the worthlessness of much of our service.

Believers will give an account for deeds done in the body, and many works will be shown as worthless, leading to grief.

Lecture support: Weaver explains 2 Corinthians 5:10, noting the Greek word 'phaulos' means worthless or faulty.

Tears in heaven are real and will be wiped away by God.

Revelation 7:17 and 21:4 indicate there will be tears, likely from regret over inadequate service, which God will comfort.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'How can God wipe away tears from our eyes if there are no tears?'

Eternal life is knowing God, which begins now.

John 17:3 defines eternal life as knowing God; believers should pursue this knowledge now to love and serve Him more.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Eternal life is an intimate relationship with the sovereign God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ.'

Scripture References

Psalms 143:5

Introduction: David muses on God's works; the sermon title 'Just Thinking' is derived from this.

Psalms 73:20

Review of sinner's death: God will despise the image of the wicked.

Exodus 11:7

God puts a difference between Egyptians and Israel, illustrating the difference in death between saint and sinner.

Psalms 116:15

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

1 John 1:7

The blood of Jesus cleanses from all sin, removing the sting of death.

1 Peter 1:18-19

Redeemed with the precious blood of Christ.

Hebrews 2:14-15

Christ destroyed the devil and delivered believers from the fear and bondage of death.

2 Corinthians 5:6-8

Absent from the body, present with the Lord; immediate presence with Christ at death.

Philippians 1:23-24

Paul's desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

John 17:24

Christ's prayer that believers be with Him and behold His glory.

1 Kings 10:7

The Queen of Sheba said the half was not told her of Solomon's glory; similarly, we cannot grasp God's full glory.

Exodus 33:18-23

Moses could only see God's back parts; no man can see God's face and live.

Isaiah 6:1-5

Isaiah saw the Lord's glory and was undone by his sinfulness.

Job 19:26

Job's hope to see God in his resurrected body.

Psalms 17:15

David's satisfaction in beholding God's face in righteousness.

John 1:18

No man has seen God; the Son has declared Him.

John 14:8-9

Jesus says, 'He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.'

1 Corinthians 13:12

Now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face.

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

1 John 3:2

When He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Study notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Discussion Questions

1. How does understanding that God puts a difference between the death of the saint and the sinner affect your view of death?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that while death is common to all, its experience is fundamentally different for believers.

2. In what ways do you think seeing God's full glory will change your understanding of Him?

Consider: Weaver argues that we cannot grasp God's glory now, but at death we will be overwhelmed.

3. Why do you think we will discover the greatness of our sins in heaven, even though they are forgiven?

Consider: Weaver clarifies this is not about condemnation but about appreciating Christ's sacrifice.

- 4.** How does the quote from Spurgeon about personal forgiveness challenge your view of God's grace?

Consider: Spurgeon said he is more astonished that God would pardon him personally than others.

- 5.** What do you think it will feel like to grieve over your inadequate service at the judgment seat of Christ?

Consider: Weaver suggests believers will experience regret and tears over their lack of faithful service.

- 6.** How can we begin now to 'fill our hearts with all the knowledge' of God to prepare for eternity?

Consider: Weaver applies the message by urging believers to study God's Word and know Him more.

7. What does it mean that eternal life is knowing God, and how should that shape our daily lives?

Consider: Weaver defines eternal life relationally, not just as endless existence.

Applications

Determine to love and serve Christ more faithfully now.

In light of the coming judgment seat and the grief of inadequate service, believers should resolve to love and serve Christ more.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We should determine in our hearts today that we're going to love Him more. We're going to serve Him more.'

Pursue the knowledge of God as eternal life.

Believers should fill their hearts with the knowledge of God's person and attributes now, as this is the essence of eternal life.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'We should in this present time begin to fill our hearts with all the knowledge of the person and attributes of our glorious Lord.'

Live to be well-pleasing to Christ.

Believers should labor to be accepted (well-pleasing) to Christ, knowing they will give an account of their deeds.

Lecture support: Weaver explains 2 Corinthians 5:9: 'Wherefore we labor, that whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.'

Remember that God forgets sins but remembers service.

God graciously forgets our sins but remembers every act of service, encouraging faithful labor.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hebrews 6:10: 'God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love.'

Study notes

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: Pastor John Weaver - Just Thinking - Part One of Two

Lecture JW01247

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01247&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Lesson 2: Pastor John Weaver - Just Thinking - Part Two of Two

Lecture JW01248

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01248&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.