

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Unseen Things

Study Guide

Old Testament Studies

John Weaver

Weaver Bible College

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 - Unseen Things

Part One

October 09, 2022

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

Major Themes

The Reality of Unseen Things

Unseen spiritual realities - God, angels, eternal things - are more real and enduring than the visible, temporal world.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Substance and reality can only be found in that which is not seen. The shadow is seen by our eyes... What we cannot see is real.' (2 Corinthians 4:18)

Faith as the Means of Perceiving the Unseen

Faith is the God-given faculty that enables believers to see and trust in unseen realities, including God's promises and judgments.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'How can we see that which is invisible? ...we see by faith. That which cannot be seen is discerned only by faith.'

The Inseparability of Faith in God and Faith in His Word

To reject God's Word is to reject God Himself; faith in the promises implies faith in the Promisor.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'If you have no faith in God, you will have no faith in his word... If you have faith in God, you're going to have faith in his word.'

God's Judgment on the Wicked

God will judge the wicked both in time and eternity; this judgment is certain and should be perceived by faith.

Lecture support: Weaver cites multiple scriptures (Proverbs 11:31, Deuteronomy 7:9-10, Psalm 73) to show that God repays the wicked.

The Example of Noah's Faith

Noah believed God's warning of an unprecedented flood and acted in obedience, demonstrating that faith sees future judgment and responds.

Lecture support: Hebrews 11:7: 'By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark...'

Walking by Faith, Not by Sight

Believers must focus on eternal, unseen realities rather than the apparent prosperity of the wicked or temporal circumstances.

Lecture support: Weaver concludes, 'We do not walk by sight, we walk by faith. And the faith says that God is going to destroy them.'

Key Arguments

Angels are spirit beings without wings, always appearing as men.

Weaver argues from Scripture that angels are spirits (Psalm 104:4), do not have wings, and when manifested, always appear as men (Hebrews 13:2).

Lecture support: He says, 'angels do not have wings. Because angels are spirit beings... any time an angel is manifest in the Bible, he was always manifest as a man.'

Seen things are temporal; unseen things are eternal.

From 2 Corinthians 4:18, Weaver argues that what is visible is passing and without ultimate substance, while the invisible is eternal and real.

Lecture support: He states, 'the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.'

Faith is the foundation of hope and the evidence of the unseen.

Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as the substance (hypostasis) or foundation of things hoped for, providing conviction about unseen realities.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'faith is the foundation of things hoped for... It is a substance. Faith is that spiritual faculty of the soul which deals in spiritual realities.'

Rejecting God's Word is rejecting God.

Using John 12:48 and John 5:46-47, Weaver argues that the living Word (Christ) and the written Word are inseparable; to deny one is to deny the other.

Lecture support: He says, 'you cannot separate me from my word because the living word gave us the written word.'

Future judgments are only seen by faith.

Noah was warned of the flood - a future event he had never seen - and believed by faith. Similarly, present judgments are not recognized as from God without faith.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Future judgments can only be seen by faith... present judgments, unless viewed by faith... are not going to be seen as the wrath and the justice of God.'

God will repay the wicked in time and history.

Scripture teaches that God's recompense is not limited to eternity; the wicked will face judgment in this life as well (Proverbs 11:31, Deuteronomy 7:9-10).

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God is going to get the wicked in time and in history as well as in eternity.'

Noah's faith was remarkable because rain was unknown.

Noah had never seen rain or a flood, yet he believed God's warning and built the ark, demonstrating that faith trusts God's word over experience.

Lecture support: Weaver notes, 'By Noah's time, it had never rained. A mist came up from the ground... So Noah had never seen rain. He had never seen a flood.'

The prosperity of the wicked is temporary; their end is destruction.

From Psalm 73, Weaver argues that Asaph's envy of the wicked was corrected when he understood their ultimate destruction, teaching believers to focus on eternal outcomes.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'He was looking at things which are temporal... Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.'

Scripture References

Hebrews 11:1-3

Primary text: defines faith as substance and evidence, and states that the worlds were framed by God's word.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God; one must believe that He is and rewards those who seek Him.

2 Corinthians 5:8

Absent from the body, present with the Lord; used to argue against ghosts.

Hebrews 1:13-14

Angels are ministering spirits sent to serve the heirs of salvation.

Psalms 103:20

Angels excel in strength, do God's commandments, and hearken to His word.

Psalms 104:4

God makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flaming fire.

Hebrews 13:2

Some have entertained angels unawares, indicating angels look like men.

Matthew 22:30

In the resurrection, people neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Light affliction produces eternal glory; we look at unseen eternal things, not seen temporal things.

John 12:48

He who rejects Christ and does not receive His words will be judged by that word.

John 5:46-47

If they believed Moses, they would believe Christ; if they don't believe Moses' writings, how will they believe Christ's words?

Psalms 33:6-9

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made; He spoke and it was done.

Hebrews 11:7

By faith Noah, warned of things not seen, moved with fear, prepared an ark.

Isaiah 26:8-11

When God's judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants learn righteousness; but the wicked will not see.

Matthew 24:37-39

As in the days of Noah, people were eating and drinking until the flood came; so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Galatians 6:7-8

Be not deceived, God is not mocked; whatever a man sows, that he will reap.

Proverbs 11:31

The righteous shall be recompensed in the earth; much more the wicked and the sinner.

Deuteronomy 7:9-10

God keeps covenant and repays those who hate Him to their face.

Deuteronomy 32:34-35

Vengeance and recompense belong to God; the foot of the wicked shall slide in due time.

Psalms 73:1-20

Asaph envied the wicked until he understood their end; they are set in slippery places and brought to destruction.

Discussion Questions

1. How does the distinction between temporal and eternal things affect your daily priorities and decisions?

Consider: Based on 2 Corinthians 4:18 and the sermon's emphasis on focusing on the unseen eternal.

2. In what ways can we cultivate a faith that truly 'sees' the unseen realities of God's promises and warnings?

Consider: The sermon stresses that faith is the means of perceiving the unseen; how do we strengthen that faith?

3. Why is it impossible to separate faith in God from faith in His Word? What are the practical implications of this?

Consider: Weaver argues from John 5 and 12 that rejecting Scripture is rejecting Christ.

- 4.** How should the certainty of God's judgment on the wicked influence our prayers, our witness, and our own conduct?

Consider: The sermon repeatedly affirms that God will judge the wicked; how does this truth shape Christian living?

- 5.** Noah believed God despite never having seen rain. What 'unseen things' is God calling you to believe and act upon today?

Consider: Application of Noah's faith to contemporary believers.

- 6.** How can we avoid the error of Asaph in Psalm 73, who envied the prosperity of the wicked?

Consider: The sermon uses Psalm 73 to illustrate the danger of focusing on temporal prosperity.

7. What does it mean to be a 'prudent man' who foresees evil and hides himself in our current cultural context?

Consider: Proverbs 22:3 is applied to discerning and responding to coming judgment.

8. How does the biblical teaching on angels (as ministering spirits, appearing as men) correct common misconceptions?

Consider: Weaver spends significant time correcting popular ideas about angels.

Applications

Focus on eternal, unseen realities rather than temporal circumstances.

Believers should direct their attention and hope toward the eternal promises of God, not the passing visible world.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.'

Trust God's Word completely, even when it contradicts experience or sight.

Like Noah, believers must act on God's warnings and promises by faith, even when they have no visible evidence.

Lecture support: Noah had never seen rain, yet he believed God and built the ark.

Recognize God's hand in present judgments and respond with repentance.

Instead of attributing disasters to natural causes, believers should see them as calls to repentance and righteousness.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If these things were viewed as the justice of God and the wrath of God, it'd be a call to repentance.'

Do not envy the wicked or be deceived by their prosperity.

The apparent success of the ungodly is temporary; their end is destruction. Believers should trust God's justice.

Lecture support: Psalm 73 shows Asaph's correction when he understood the end of the wicked.

Be a prudent person who foresees evil and takes refuge in God.

In light of coming judgment, believers should live wisely, preparing spiritually and practically.

Lecture support: Proverbs 22:3: 'A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself.'

Walk by faith, not by sight, especially regarding God's justice.

When it seems the wicked are escaping judgment, faith clings to God's promise that He will repay.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'we do not walk by sight, we walk by faith. And the faith says that God is going to destroy them.'

Examine your faith: does it produce obedience and fear of God?

True faith, like Noah's, moves with fear and leads to action that saves and condemns the world.

Lecture support: Hebrews 11:7: Noah 'moved with fear, prepared an ark.'

Entertain strangers with hospitality, as some have entertained angels.

Since angels can appear as ordinary people, believers should show kindness to all.

Lecture support: Hebrews 13:2: 'Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.'

Study notes

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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 - Unseen Things

Part Two

October 09, 2022

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 23-40.

Major Themes

Faith as the Substance of Unseen Realities

Faith is the foundation and title deed for things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen, enabling believers to perceive eternal realities.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'faith is a substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen' and 'we live by faith and not by sight.'

The Temporal vs. the Eternal

Everything visible is temporary and will pass away, while the unseen things - God, heaven, and future judgments - are eternal.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes 2 Corinthians 4: 'The things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal,' and later cites 2 Peter 3 on the dissolution of the heavens and earth.

Abraham as the Model of Faith

Abraham's obedience in leaving his homeland without knowing his destination exemplifies the life of faith that believers are called to imitate.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Abraham walked by faith and so must we. So we do not live or walk by sight, we walk by faith.'

The Heavenly City as the Believer's Hope

The eternal city built by God is the true inheritance of believers, and Abraham's sojourn in Canaan pictures the Christian's journey toward heaven.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God,' and 'Canaan was just simply the picture of what you and I would call a heavenly reality.'

Seeing the Invisible by Faith

Believers perceive God, Christ, and heaven only through faith, not physical sight, and this faith is the means of enduring present trials.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'How does one see that which is invisible? Moses endured by seeing Him who is invisible. The answer is, we have to see by faith.'

The Security of the Believer's Hope

The believer's hope is anchored in the immutable promise and oath of God, and in Christ who has entered heaven as the forerunner.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hebrews 6: 'that by two immutable things... we might have a strong consolation' and 'the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the forerunner, has entered into the holiest of all.'

Key Arguments

Faith perceives unseen judgments

Faith enables believers to see both future and present judgments of God, which the world attributes to natural causes.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'faith sees and understands the future judgments of God... present judgments... are not necessarily viewed as judgments from God' but Scripture says they are.

Believers are Abraham's seed and heirs

Through faith in Christ, believers become Abraham's spiritual descendants and inherit the promises given to him.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Galatians 3:29: 'And if you be Christ's, then are you Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.'

Abraham's journey was humanly impossible

The call to leave everything familiar and travel to an unknown land required complete trust in God, as human reasoning would have deemed it insane.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Barnes: 'The whole transaction... was in the highest degree an act of simple confidence in God, where there was no human basis or calculation.'

Canaan was a type of heaven

Abraham lived in the promised land as a stranger because he was looking for the eternal city, showing that the physical land pointed to a heavenly reality.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Canaan was also a picture... of that which could not be seen with the visible eyes.'

Heaven is real though unseen

The reality of heaven is known only by faith, but it is assured by God's promise and Christ's presence there as our forerunner.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Since heaven is unseen, how do we know it's real? And the answer is we know it's real by faith.'

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God

Jesus Christ is God incarnate, and seeing Him by faith is equivalent to seeing the Father, though physically unseen.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes John 14:9: 'He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father,' and 1 Peter 1:8: 'Whom having not seen, you love.'

The temporal must give way to the eternal

Since everything visible will be dissolved, believers must set their affections on the eternal, unseen realities.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 2 Peter 3: 'Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved... what manner of persons ought you to be.'

Scripture References

Hebrews 11:8-10

Main text describing Abraham's faith in leaving his home and looking for the heavenly city.

2 Corinthians 4:18

Quoted to contrast temporal seen things with eternal unseen things.

James 2:18

Referenced to show that faith is demonstrated by works.

Hebrews 11:7

Noah's faith in unseen future judgment, reviewed from previous sermon.

Amos 4

God sent drought, floods, famine, and pestilence as judgments, yet Israel did not return to Him.

Proverbs 22:3

A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself.

Hebrews 2:3

How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?

Romans 4:11

Abraham is the father of all who believe, linking him to Christians.

Galatians 3:16

The promises were made to Abraham and his seed, which is Christ.

Galatians 3:29

If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.

1 John 4:17

As He is, so are we in this world, connecting believers to Christ.

Genesis 12:1-2

God's call to Abram to leave his country and go to a land He would show him.

Hebrews 11:9-10

Abraham sojourned in the land of promise as a stranger, looking for the city built by God.

Hebrews 11:16

They desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one; God has prepared a city for them.

Hebrews 6:13-19

God's promise and oath provide strong consolation; hope is an anchor of the soul, entering within the veil where Jesus has gone as forerunner.

Hebrews 12:22-24

Believers have come to Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to Jesus the mediator.

Revelation 21

Description of the new heaven, new earth, and the New Jerusalem.

Hebrews 11:27

Moses endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

1 Timothy 1:17

God is the King eternal, immortal, invisible.

1 Timothy 6:14-16

God dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see.

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 Abraham's willingness to leave everything familiar challenge our own attachment to the visible and temporal?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that Abraham left his country, kindred, and father's house for an unknown land, trusting God completely.

2. In what ways do we, like Abraham, live as strangers and sojourners in this world while looking for the heavenly city?

Consider: Weaver explains that Abraham dwelt in Canaan as a stranger because his true hope was the eternal city.

3. How can we cultivate a faith that sees the invisible God and eternal realities more clearly than the visible world?

Consider: Weaver discusses Moses enduring by seeing the invisible God and believers seeing Christ by faith.

4. What does it mean that our hope is an 'anchor of the soul' and how does this anchor sustain us in trials?

Consider: Weaver cites Hebrews 6:19, explaining that our hope is sure and steadfast because it is anchored in Christ within the veil.

5. How should the certainty of the coming dissolution of the heavens and earth affect our daily priorities and decisions?

Consider: Weaver reads 2 Peter 3 and urges believers to live in holy conduct and godliness in light of the coming judgment.

6. Why is it impossible to convince an unbeliever of God's existence through human reasoning alone, and what does this teach us about evangelism?

Consider: Weaver states that God can only be perceived by faith, referencing Hebrews 11:6.

Applications

Trust God completely as Abraham did

Believers are called to give themselves up totally to God, trusting His wisdom and love even when the path is unknown.

Lecture support: Weaver prays, 'Help us to believe, prepare our hearts. And may we trust in Thee as Abraham did. Giving ourselves up totally and completely unto Thee.'

Set affections on things above

Since everything visible is temporary, believers must prioritize eternal, unseen realities over earthly concerns.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Colossians 3: 'Set your affection on things above... and not on things below.'

Live by faith, not by sight

The Christian life is to be patterned after Abraham's example of walking by faith in God's promises rather than by what is seen.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Abraham walked by faith and so must we. So we do not live or walk by sight, we walk by faith.'

See present calamities as calls to repentance

Natural disasters should be viewed as judgments from God that call people to return to Him, not merely as random events.

Lecture support: Weaver references Amos 4 and says, 'if some of these natural disasters... were seen as judgments of God... it would be also a call for repentance.'

Rejoice in Christ though unseen

Believers are to love and rejoice in Jesus Christ with joy unspeakable, even without physical sight, because they believe.

Lecture support: Weaver reads 1 Peter 1:8: 'Whom having not seen, you love... yet believing, you rejoice with joy unspeakable.'

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 - Unseen Things - Part One

Lecture JW01678

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01678&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Lesson 2: Pastor John Weaver - Unseen Things - Part Two

Lecture JW01679

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01679&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.