

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

What Did He Believe?

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

Contents

Lesson 1: What Did He Believe? - Part One 4

Major Themes 4

Key Arguments 5

Scripture References 6

Discussion Questions 8

Applications 10

Personal Application and Notes 11

Lesson 2: What Did He Believe? 12

Major Themes 12

Key Arguments 13

Scripture References 14

Discussion Questions 16

Applications 18

Personal Application and Notes 19

Lesson 3: What Did He Believe? - Part Two 20

Major Themes 20

Key Arguments 21

Scripture References 22

Discussion Questions 24

Applications 26

Personal Application and Notes 27

Online Lecture Resources 28

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

What Did He Believe?

Part One

May 23, 2010

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-18.

Major Themes

The Lordship of Christ

Jesus Christ is the sovereign Lord, possessing absolute authority over all, and true faith acknowledges His right to command obedience.

Lecture support: Weaver explains that the centurion addressed Jesus as 'Lord' (Kyrios), meaning sovereign, boss, owner, master. He emphasizes that calling Jesus 'Lord' without obedience is hypocrisy (Luke 6:46).

The Omnipotence of Christ

Christ is all-powerful, able to accomplish His will with a single word, and this power is inherent to His divine nature.

Lecture support: The centurion said, 'speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.' Weaver cites Psalm 62:11 and argues that God's power is self-existent and demonstrated in creation and Christ's once-for-all sacrifice.

Human Unworthiness and Humility

True faith involves a deep sense of personal sinfulness and unworthiness before God, leading to humility and dependence on Christ's righteousness.

Lecture support: The centurion said, 'I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof.' Weaver connects this to Isaiah's vision (Isaiah 6) and the prodigal son (Luke 15), stressing that we are made worthy only through Christ.

Faith and Obedience

Genuine faith is evidenced by actions that align with one's profession; doctrine shapes conduct.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Our words, our actions, and our conduct are based upon our doctrine. We literally act out that which we believe.' He cites David: 'I believed, therefore have I spoken.'

Divine Revelation of Christ

Knowledge of Christ's true identity comes only through revelation from the Father, not human wisdom.

Lecture support: Weaver references Matthew 11:27 and Matthew 16:17, arguing that the centurion's recognition of Jesus as Lord was revealed by the Father.

Key Arguments

The centurion's faith was great because it recognized Christ's Lordship before the resurrection.

The centurion acknowledged Jesus as Lord before the crucifixion and resurrection, which later publicly demonstrated His Lordship, making his faith remarkable.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts the centurion's faith with the post-resurrection declaration in Acts 2:36 and Romans 1:3-4, noting that the centurion believed solely on Christ's word.

Christ's omnipotence means He only needs to act once.

Because God is all-powerful, His actions are once-for-all; this is seen in creation, His covenant promises, and Christ's singular sacrifice for sins.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Psalm 62:11, Psalm 33:6, Psalm 89:35, Hebrews 9:28, and 1 Peter 3:18 to argue that God's power ensures the efficacy of a single act.

True humility arises from seeing God's glory and one's own corruption.

Genuine humility comes from a revelation of God's greatness and our sinfulness, as seen in Isaiah and the centurion.

Lecture support: Weaver references Isaiah 6 and the centurion's statement of unworthiness, arguing that such humility is essential for faith.

Sincerity of belief does not save; right doctrine is essential.

Sincerity cannot substitute for truth; believing wrongly about Christ hinders prayer and leads to loss.

Lecture support: Weaver uses the analogy of sincerely drinking poison and states, 'Sincerity has never saved anyone.'

Scripture References

Matthew 8:5-13

The primary text of the sermon, recounting the centurion's faith and Jesus' response.

Matthew 9:29

Jesus says, 'According to your faith be it unto you,' paralleling the principle in Matthew 8:13.

Luke 3:14

John the Baptist instructs soldiers to avoid violence, false accusation, and discontent, highlighting the typical sins of Roman soldiers.

Matthew 11:22

Jesus pronounces a curse on Capernaum for its unbelief, contrasting with the centurion's faith.

Acts 2:36

Peter declares that God made Jesus both Lord and Christ, demonstrated by the resurrection.

Romans 1:3-4

Jesus is declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead.

Matthew 7:21-22

Not everyone who says 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom; true faith requires doing the Father's will.

Matthew 11:27

No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son reveals Him.

Matthew 16:17

Peter's confession of Christ was revealed by the Father, not flesh and blood.

Luke 6:46

Jesus asks, 'Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?'

Isaiah 46:10

God declares, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure,' affirming His omnipotence.

Psalms 62:11

God has spoken once; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God.

Psalms 33:6

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, demonstrating God's creative power.

Psalms 89:35

God swears once by His holiness, showing the finality of His word.

Hebrews 9:28

Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many.

1 Peter 3:18

Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust.

Mark 14:62

Jesus says He will sit on the right hand of power, equating power with God.

Isaiah 6:1-5

Isaiah's vision of God's holiness leads him to cry, 'Woe is me! for I am undone.'

1 Timothy 1:15

Paul declares himself the chief of sinners, exemplifying humility.

Luke 15:21

The prodigal son confesses, 'I am no more worthy to be called thy son.'

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to truly acknowledge Jesus as Lord, and how should that affect our daily obedience?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that calling Jesus 'Lord' without obedience is hypocrisy, citing Luke 6:46.

2. How does the centurion's understanding of Christ's omnipotence challenge our own faith in God's power to act in our lives?

Consider: The centurion believed Christ could heal with a word from a distance; Weaver asks if we truly believe in God's omnipotence.

3. In what ways do we struggle to see our own unworthiness, and how can a proper view of God's holiness lead to genuine humility?

Consider: Weaver discusses the centurion's sense of unworthiness and references Isaiah's vision.

4. Why is sincerity not enough for salvation, and what are the dangers of believing wrongly about Christ?

Consider: Weaver argues that sincerity cannot save and that wrong belief hinders prayer and causes loss.

5. How does the centurion's faith, demonstrated before Christ's resurrection, compare to the faith we should have with the completed Scriptures?

Consider: Weaver notes that we have the full revelation of God and should have even greater faith.

Applications

Examine your belief in Christ's Lordship

Evaluate whether your life demonstrates obedience to Christ as Lord, not just verbal profession.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If Christ is our Lord, we will obey Him,' and cites Luke 6:46.

Trust in Christ's omnipotence for your needs

Believe that Christ can answer prayer and act powerfully in any situation, without limitation.

Lecture support: The centurion trusted Christ to heal from a distance; Weaver asks, 'Do you really, genuinely believe that Jesus Christ is omnipotent?'

Cultivate humility by seeing your sinfulness

Ask God to reveal His greatness and your corruption, leading to genuine humility like the centurion.

Lecture support: Weaver advises asking God to show three things: His glory, our vileness, and Christ as the answer.

Ensure your doctrine aligns with Scripture

Recognize that what you believe matters; study the attributes of God to avoid hindering your prayers.

Lecture support: Weaver warns that believing wrongly about Christ is a sin and causes irreparable loss.

Let your actions reflect your faith

Live in a way that demonstrates your beliefs, as the centurion's words and actions showed his faith.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Our words, our actions, and our conduct are based upon our doctrine.'

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

What Did He Believe?

June 19, 2012

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 19-33.

Major Themes

The Nature of Saving Faith

True faith involves believing specific truths about Christ - His Lordship, omnipotence, and our own unworthiness - not mere sincerity.

Lecture support: Weaver asks 'What did he believe?' and states, 'It is important what we believe... Sincerity never saved anyone.'

The Lordship of Jesus Christ

Jesus is sovereign, boss, owner, and master, demanding obedience from those who call Him Lord.

Lecture support: Weaver explains the Greek word kurios and cites Luke 6:46: 'Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say unto you?'

The Omnipotence of God in Christ

God's power is inherent, infinite, and effective; Christ demonstrated this by healing with a word.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Psalm 62:11 and Stephen Charnock on God's power, and notes the centurion's request: 'speak the word only.'

Human Unworthiness and Divine Grace

Believers are utterly unworthy of Christ's presence, yet He condescends to dwell in them and clothes them with His righteousness.

Lecture support: Weaver highlights the centurion's words, 'I am not worthy,' and references 2 Corinthians 5:21.

The Consistency of Profession and Practice

Our actions must align with our confession of Christ's Lordship; disobedience reveals a false profession.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If you call Him Lord and you disobey Him, your actions are revealing that your profession is false.'

Key Arguments

The centurion's faith was great because it was based on revelation, not sight.

The centurion acknowledged Christ's Lordship before the resurrection, showing that the Father had revealed it to him.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Matthew 11:27 and Matthew 16:17 to argue that knowledge of Christ comes by divine revelation.

God's omnipotence means He acts once and for all.

Because God is all-powerful, He only needs to speak or act once - creation, covenant, and Christ's sacrifice are once-for-all events.

Lecture support: Weaver references Psalm 62:11, Psalm 33:6, Psalm 89:35, Hebrews 9:28, and 1 Peter 3:18.

True humility recognizes personal corruption.

The centurion's sense of unworthiness was a mark of genuine faith, contrasting with superficial professions.

Lecture support: Weaver points to the centurion's statement and compares it to Isaiah's vision and the prodigal son's confession.

Our faith should exceed the centurion's because we have the completed Word.

Believers today have the full revelation of Christ and should therefore possess greater faith than the centurion.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'We have the full, final revelation of God... therefore, we should have a greater faith even than this Roman soldier.'

Scripture References

Matthew 8:5-13

The primary text of the sermon, recounting the centurion's faith and Jesus' healing of his servant.

Matthew 9:29

Jesus says, 'According to your faith be it unto you,' illustrating the principle of faith.

Luke 3:14

John the Baptist instructs soldiers to avoid violence, false accusation, and discontent, highlighting typical Roman soldier sins.

Matthew 11:22

Jesus pronounces woe on Capernaum for its unbelief despite mighty works.

Acts 2:36

Peter declares that God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ, proven by the resurrection.

Romans 1:3-4

Jesus is declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead.

Matthew 7:21-22

Not everyone who says 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom; obedience is required.

Matthew 11:27

No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son reveals Him.

Matthew 16:17

Peter's confession of Christ was revealed by the Father, not flesh and blood.

Luke 6:46

Jesus asks, 'Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?'

Isaiah 46:10

God declares, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure,' affirming His omnipotence.

Psalms 62:11

God has spoken once; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God.

Psalms 33:6

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, demonstrating God's creative power.

Psalms 89:35

God swears once by His holiness, showing the finality of His word.

Hebrews 9:28

Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many.

1 Peter 3:18

Christ suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust.

Mark 14:62

Jesus tells the high priest he will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power, equating power with God.

Isaiah 6:1-5

Isaiah's vision of God's holiness leads him to cry, 'Woe is me! for I am undone.'

1 Timothy 1:15

Paul calls himself the chief of sinners, illustrating deep awareness of sin.

Luke 15:21

The prodigal son confesses, 'I am no more worthy to be called thy son.'

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to call Jesus 'Lord' in practical, daily terms?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that 'Lord' means boss, owner, master, and sovereign, and that obedience is the proof of genuine confession.

2. How does the centurion's faith challenge our own understanding of Christ's power?

Consider: The centurion believed Jesus could heal from a distance with a word; Weaver asks if we truly believe Christ is omnipotent.

3. In what ways do we struggle to acknowledge our own unworthiness before God?

Consider: Weaver points out that most of us have never seen the depth of our vileness and corruption.

4. Why is sincerity not enough for salvation, according to this sermon?

Consider: Weaver argues that believing the right things about Christ is essential; sincerity in false belief leads to destruction.

5. How can we cultivate a faith that is greater than the centurion's, given that we have the completed Word of God?

Consider: Weaver states that our faith should be greater because we have the full revelation of Christ.

Applications

Examine your belief in Christ's Lordship

Evaluate whether your life demonstrates obedience to Christ as your sovereign Master, not just verbal profession.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If you call Him Lord and you disobey Him, your actions are revealing that your profession is false.'

Trust in Christ's omnipotence for every need

Believe that Christ can answer any prayer and overcome any obstacle because He is all-powerful God.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If you believe that Jesus Christ is omnipotent, that means He can do anything and everything.'

Cultivate humility by seeing your own sinfulness

Ask God to reveal your corruption and unworthiness, leading to genuine humility like the centurion's.

Lecture support: Weaver advises, 'You need to ask Him to show you how vile and how corrupt you are.'

Align your actions with your doctrine

Recognize that your conduct flows from what you truly believe; ensure your life matches your confession.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Our words, our actions, and our conduct are based upon our doctrine. We literally act out that which we believe.'

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 3

What Did He Believe?

Part Two

May 30, 2010

Read Chapter 3 in the companion book, pages 35-51.

Major Themes

The Authority and Power of Christ

Christ possesses all authority and power in heaven and earth, sufficient to accomplish anything by His word alone, without the use of means.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'this man believed that Christ had all authority and all power and it was sufficient for Christ just simply to speak the word.' He cites Matthew 28:18 and explains the centurion's reasoning.

Theocentric vs. Anthropocentric Universe

The universe is God-centered, not man-centered. Everything exists for God's pleasure and glory, and Christ is the head over all.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts the two philosophies, citing Revelation 4:11 and Romans 11:36, and explains the centurion's reasoning from lesser to greater authority.

Ministry of Condemnation

The faith and obedience of believers serve to condemn those who reject the gospel, as seen in the examples of Noah, the Queen of Sheba, and the men of Nineveh.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'the very fact that you believe in Jesus Christ... your belief, your faith, condemns those who do not believe.' He cites Matthew 12:41-42, Hebrews 11:7, and 2 Corinthians 2:14-16.

Unworthiness and Grace

Believers are unworthy of God's blessings, but He grants them out of His grace, mercy, and sovereign power.

Lecture support: Weaver emphasizes the centurion's sense of unworthiness and states, 'He does not owe us anything but justice... I want grace. I want mercy.'

The Necessity of Right Belief

Sincerity is insufficient; one must believe rightly in the Lordship, deity, and authority of Christ, as evidenced by conduct.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'sincerity does not mean anything. You may be sincere, but you may be sincerely wrong.' He ties belief to conduct.

Key Arguments

Christ's word is sufficient because He has all authority

The centurion believed Christ only needed to speak to heal, recognizing His divine authority over all things, which is greater than any human chain of command.

Lecture support: Weaver explains the centurion's reasoning: 'I am a man under authority... how much more You who have all power and all authority... You just speak and it will be done.'

God works both mediately and immediately

God is not bound to means; He can act directly by His word or through secondary causes, demonstrating His sovereignty.

Lecture support: Weaver distinguishes 'mediately' and 'immediately' with examples like Hezekiah's poultice and creation by God's word.

Faith condemns unbelief

The very act of believing and obeying God serves as a condemnation to those who reject the truth, as seen in biblical examples.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Noah condemning the world by his faith (Hebrews 11:7) and the Queen of Sheba condemning those who won't seek truth (Matthew 12:42).

Excuses for unbelief are invalid

People's excuses for not believing, such as lack of access or insufficient hearing, are refuted by the examples of the Queen of Sheba and Nineveh.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If there's not a Bible-preaching church near you, drive. Ride a camel.' and notes Nineveh repented after one sermon.

Believers must submit to Christ's authority

Since Christ has unlimited authority, believers should willingly obey Him, just as soldiers obey their commanders.

Lecture support: Weaver applies: 'If Christ has unlimited power and unlimited authority, we must submit to Him and be willing, ready, and eager to obey what He speaks.'

Scripture References

Matthew 8:5-13

The primary passage about the centurion's faith, read at the beginning and referenced throughout.

Matthew 9:29

Jesus says, 'According to your faith be it unto you,' illustrating the principle of reaping according to faith.

Romans 1:3-4

Mentioned as demonstrating Christ's Lordship through the resurrection.

Acts 2

Referenced alongside Romans 1:3-4 regarding Christ's Lordship.

1 Timothy 1:15

Paul's statement that Christ came to save sinners, of whom he is chief, used to illustrate unworthiness.

Psalms 33:6

Cited to show God created the heavens by His word, demonstrating immediate action.

Genesis 2:7

God formed man from dust, an example of mediate creation.

Ecclesiastes 8:4

'Where the word of a king is, there is power,' applied to Christ as King of kings.

Isaiah 55:11

God's word will accomplish His purpose, supporting the power of Christ's spoken word.

Matthew 28:18

Jesus declares all power is given to Him, which the centurion believed before it was spoken.

Isaiah 46:10

God declares He will do all His pleasure, showing only God can do as He pleases.

Revelation 4:11

All things were created for God's pleasure, supporting a theocentric universe.

Romans 11:36

All things are of, through, and to God, emphasizing His centrality.

Ephesians 1:20-21

Christ is far above all principality and power, confirming His supreme authority.

Colossians 2:10

Christ is the head of all principality and power.

Isaiah 54:17

Believers will condemn every tongue that rises against them, as their heritage.

Hebrews 11:7

Noah condemned the world by his faith, illustrating the ministry of condemnation.

Matthew 12:41-42

The men of Nineveh and the Queen of the South will condemn Jesus' generation for their unbelief.

Acts 13:45-46

Paul and Barnabas turn to Gentiles after Jews judge themselves unworthy of eternal life.

2 Corinthians 2:14-16

Believers are a sweet savour of Christ, either life unto life or death unto death.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. How does the centurion's understanding of authority challenge our own view of Christ's power in our lives?

Consider: Weaver explains the centurion's reasoning from his military chain of command to Christ's absolute authority.

2. In what ways do we limit God by insisting He must work through certain means, rather than trusting His immediate word?

Consider: Weaver distinguishes between God working mediately and immediately, emphasizing His sovereignty.

3. How should the concept of a theocentric universe change the way we make decisions and set priorities?

Consider: Weaver contrasts God-centered and man-centered worldviews, citing Revelation 4:11 and Romans 11:36.

- 4.** What does it mean that our faith can condemn others, and how should this affect our witness?

Consider: Weaver explains the ministry of condemnation using examples like Noah and the Queen of Sheba.

- 5.** Why is a sense of unworthiness essential to genuine faith, and how can we cultivate it without falling into despair?

Consider: Weaver highlights the centurion's confession of unworthiness and connects it to God's grace.

- 6.** How can we exercise and grow our faith, especially when it feels small or weak?

Consider: Weaver applies the need to exercise faith and pray for its increase, referencing the disciples' request.

Applications

Submit to Christ's Authority

Because Christ has all authority, believers must bow in submission and be eager to obey His commands, just as soldiers obey their commanders.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If Christ has unlimited power and unlimited authority, we must submit to Him and be willing, ready, and eager to obey what He speaks.'

Trust God with the Impossible

Since nothing is too hard for God, believers should trust Him with all needs, including the salvation of loved ones, and not limit Him by unbelief.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Jeremiah 32:17, 27 and Mark 10:27, asking, 'How can we not trust such a God?'

Exercise and Grow Faith

Believers should actively use the faith they have, however small, and pray for God to increase it, following the example of the disciples.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'if we have any faith at all, it needs to be exercised. It needs to be used. It needs to be developed.'

Recognize the Ministry of Condemnation

Believers must understand that their faithful testimony will either lead to reconciliation or condemnation, and they should not be discouraged when the gospel is rejected.

Lecture support: Weaver explains from 2 Corinthians 2 that we are a sweet savour to God in both salvation and rejection.

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: What Did He Believe? - Part One

Lecture JW00740

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00740&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00740&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: What Did He Believe?

Lecture JW01308

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01308&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01308&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 3: What Did He Believe? - Part Two

Lecture JW00739

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00739&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00739&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

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.