

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Conquering Truths Lesson 1 – Seven Upward Steps

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Psalms 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. Psalms 84:7 They go from strength to strength, Proverbs 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

"Seven upward steps in Christian life we see, First Faith sincere, and then Humility Then the Repentance shown to God and man, Hope that eager grasps salvation's plan; Then Expectation of the joys to come Promised the Christian in his heavenly home Sanctification, next within the soul, blest Adoption, surety of the whole; While Glory over all sheds luster down, the scripture point him to the starry crown; As hopes like these the Christian's life employ, The Cross seems light, as he presses on with joy."

Related Verses:

Mark 11:22 ; Colossians 1:27 ; Psalm 73:24 ; Luke 18:17 ; Romans 8:19
1 Thessalonians 5:23 ; Isaiah 57:15 ; Galatians 4:5-7

In the picture a person is seen ascending the steps from Faith to Glory. He bears the consecrated cross.

The first step represented is Faith, showing that anyone who begins a Christian life must have faith in the being and attributes of God, believing that He is, and that He is a rewarder of all them that diligently seek Him. Many places in Scripture, faith is represented as the principal grace, and without it no one can please God. (Hebrews 11:6) In Hebrews 11 the scriptures give us a long list of people who exercised faith from righteous Abel down to the Christian era, many of whom performed wonders by the power of faith; and it is recorded of them that they all died in faith.

The next step is represented by Humility, when a man has faith in God, and begins to understand something of his nature, and of his obligations to Him, he recognizes a spirit of humility, on account of his short-comings, his

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violation of the divine law, and the spirit of depravity within. He sees that he has broken the law of his Creator, benefactor, and rendered himself liable to the infliction of its penalties. He is humbled in the dust before God, and feels himself undone, unless God has mercy on him. He has now taken the second upward step toward salvation.

The next step is represented by Repentance, in view of his transgressions against so great and so pure a Being, the convicted sinner sees his corrupt vile nature, and of his exceeding depravity, detests himself on account of his sins. He, therefore, feels a deep sorrow for his transgressions, and makes a firm resolution with determination to forsake them. He thus exercises evangelical repentance, and so has taken the third upward step represented in the picture above.

Encouraged by the divine promise, he next takes the fourth step upward. He exercises *Hope* that God will deliver him from all his sins, and save him with an eternal salvation. "The hope of a Christian," says:

- This is an anticipation of all necessary good, both in time and in eternity, founded on the promises, relations, perfections of God, and on the workplaces of righteousness, and intercession of Christ. (Philippians 2:12) It is a compound of desire, expectation, patience, and joy. (Romans 8:24-25).
1. As pure, (1 John 3:2-3,) as it is resident in that heart which is cleansed from sin;
 2. As good, (2 Thessalonians 2:16 in distinction from the hope of a hypocrite,) as deriving its origin from God, centering in him;
 3. It is called lively, (1 Peter, 1:3,) as it proceeds from spiritual life, and renders one active and lively in good works;
 4. It is courageous, (Romans 5:5; 1 Thessalonians 5:8) because it exercises fortitude in all the troubles of life, and yields support in the hour of death, (Proverbs 14:32;)
 5. Sure and Steadfast, (Hebrews 6:19) because it will not disappoint us, and is fixed on a sure foundation;
 6. Joyful, (Romans 5:2) as it produces the greatest happiness in the anticipation of the complete deliverance from all evil.

Expectation, is nearly allied with Sure and Steadfast, and may be considered as an advanced step upward from Hope. We may, indeed, hope for some things which we may have but little prospect of receiving, and it may be so deferred as even to make "the heart sick." (Proverbs 13:12) But the Christian having had some experience with the mercy and goodness of God, now expects to receive still greater blessings in accordance with His promises.

Sanctification, the sixth upward step in the Christian life, is defined as "nothing less than for a man to be brought to an entire resignation of his own

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will turning it over to the will of God, and to live in the offering up of his soul continually in love, as a whole burnt offering to Christ." It is also defined as the work of God's grace, whereby we are enabled to die unto sin and live unto righteousness. (Romans 6: 6,13, 18; 1 Timothy 6:11)

Sanctification is the setting apart from sin unto God. The result is a life of holiness. It is the perfecting (bringing to maturity) of holiness wrought in the life of a believer who desires to yield his life to God to be cleansed and to be set apart unto God. Sanctification is His way of conforming your character and conduct to the image of Christ.

Justification puts you in the right relation to God, and sanctification manifests the fruit of that blessed relationship. The fruit, or result, is shown by separation from evil along with a dedication unto God.

The thought in the word "sanctify" originally meant "to cut." Sanctification, then, is His method of cutting you out of the world and the world's evil out of you. It involves a separation from evil, a dedication unto God, and a holy life. Being purified and sanctified, we are thus rendered complete in Christ, we receive Adoption as sons.

This is the seventh and highest elevation to which mortals can attain in this life before they enter glory above. Adoption is defined to be the act of God's free grace, whereby human beings are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God. Adoption is a word taken from the civil law, and was much in use among the Romans in the time of the Apostles, when it was the custom for persons having no children of their own to adopt one or more, to whom they gave their name, their estates, and were, in all respects, treated and considered as their own children. The privileges of those who are adopted into the family of God are in every way great and extensive. They have God's name upon them, and are described as His people, "called by His name." (John 1:12; Galatians 4:7; Ephesians 2:19); They are no longer slaves to the things of time and sense, but are raised to dignity and honor. They have inexhaustible riches laid up for them; for it is declared that "they shall inherit all things." (Revelation 21:7) They have the divine protection; for it is also declared that "they shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, (Ephesians 2:20-22) They shall have unspeakable contentment and eternal glory. Philippians 4:7; Revelation 21:4) Those adopted into the family of heaven cast off all allegiance to any other; they give up every other interest which interferes with the will and glory of their heavenly Father. "Whom have I in heaven but thee, and there is none on earth that I desire beside thee." They have access to God with a holy boldness.(Hebrews 4:16) Being children by adoption, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ, they can, by the virtue of His merits.

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The Christian traveler having ascended to a state of sanctification and adoption into the family of heaven has arrived in the door of eternal glory.

1 Peter 5:4 *And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

Notes

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Conquering Truths
Lesson 1 – Seven Upward Steps

Name _____

1. What is sanctification?
2. What is justification?
3. What is the first step?
4. Why is the first step so important?
5. What is true repentance?
6. Explain Adoption?
7. Where do these seven steps lead us too?
8. If salvation is a free gift, why is it so important that we strive to live a holy life?
9. What does it mean to have faith in God?

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10. How does the Lord lead us?
11. What is a great verse to prove that we need humility?
12. What is the definition of "contrite"?
13. How does God see us?
14. What is the scripture address of the phrase "*come boldly unto the throne of grace*"?
15. What does the above statement tell us?

True/false

- The Christian must strive daily for a closer relationship with His Lord.
- God is merciful and loving and will give me a crown in heaven even though I did nothing with the gift he gave me while living of this Earth.
- Climbing steps is sometimes difficult, but well worth the reward when we reach the top.

Scripture memorization, write out these verses on the back on this page:
Hebrews 4:16; Hebrews 11:6; 2 Corinthians 10:5 (Must be in KJV)

Any questions?