

Lesson 14: The Salutation and Collect, The Lessons and Their Responses, The Gradual or Sentence, and the Hallelujah: How We Are to Regard the Bible

Then shall be said or chanted

The Salutation

℟: The Lord be with you. (Judges 6:12; Ruth 2:4; Luke 1:28; 2 Tim. 4:22; 2 Th. 3:16)

℞: And with thy spirit.

℟: Let us pray.

Then shall the Minister say or chant

The Collect for the Day (John 15:16, 1 Tim. 2:8)

℞: Amen.

Then shall the Minister read

The Epistle (Col. 4:16)

The Gradual (Varies by Sunday)

The Hallelujah or The Triple Hallelujah (Psalms 113-118, Rev. 19:6)

Or:

Sentences for the Seasons (Varies by Season)

The Gospel (Luke 4:17-21, John 20:30-31)

The Congregation shall rise, unless it has stood during the reading of the Epistle, and shall say or chant:

Glory be to Thee, O Lord! (Eph. 3:21; 2 Pet. 3:18)

The Gospel ended, the Minister shall say:

Here endeth the Gospel.

Congregation: Praise be to Thee, O Christ! (Rev. 5:13)

What is the purpose of the Salutation? How is the Lord with us? (What's just happened and about to happen in the Service?)

Why is the Minister designated as the one who prays the Collect and reads the Lessons?

What are the functions of the Collect? Read the Collects on p. 102ff; what pattern is evident?

Why do we have (several) readings from the Bible in our Service?

What is an Epistle? A Gospel?

What is a Gradual? What is its function and purpose? Where do you find the Gradual?

What is the Hallelujah in response to and in anticipation of?

What's the difference between the Gradual and the Sentences for the Seasons?

Why do we rise for the Gospel and have the special ascriptions of praise before and after it is read? Consider St. Matthew 28:19-20 and Hebrews 2:1,2.

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As it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches. I Corinthians 2:9,10,13

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What is the Bible?

- (a) **Mark 7:10,11,13** **Moses said...** But you say... making **the Word of God** of no effect through your tradition.
- (b) **1 Th 2:13** When you received **the Word of God which you heard from us**, you welcomed it **not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God.**
- (b) **John 14:26** The Helper, **the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in My name, He **will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**
- (a b c) **Heb 1:1,2** **God**, who at various times and in different ways **spoke** in time past to the fathers **by the prophets** has in these last days spoken to us **by His Son.**

THESE WORDS OF GOD TEACH US:

- (A) The first part of the Bible, known as the Old Testament, is...
- (B) The other part of the Bible, known as the New Testament, is...
- (C) The whole Bible, from beginning to end, is...
(‘Bible’ simply means ‘book’; what a book it is, to simply be called The Book! Other names for the Bible are: Holy Scripture, The Scriptures, Holy Writ, Book of Books, The Word of God.)

Who wrote the Bible?

- (a) **2 Pet 1:21** Holy **men** of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
- (b) **1 Pet 1:10** The **prophets**... prophesied of the grace that would come to you.
- (c) **1 Cor 2:13** These things **we** also speak.

THESE WORDS OF GOD TEACH US:

- (A) The Bible was written by...
- (B) The Old Testament was written by the holy...
- (C) The New Testament was written by the holy...
(The Old Testament was written (in Hebrew and Aramaic) before...
The New Testament was written (in Greek) after...
The contents of both parts revolve around...)

Why is the Bible the Word of God even though it was written by men?

- (a) **2 Pet 1:20,21** No **prophecy of Scripture** is of any private interpretation, for prophecy

never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

- (b) 2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God (is 'God-breathed').*
- (b) 1 Cor 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches.*
- (b) 2 Pet 3:15,16 Our beloved brother Paul... has written to you, as also in all his epistles... which those who are untaught and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.*

THESE WORDS OF GOD TEACH US:

- (A) God moved (that is, 'impelled', 'carried along') the prophets, evangelists, and apostles to write and as they wrote.
- (B) "All Scripture," that is, every single word of both Testaments, was "breathed by God," God giving them the very thoughts which they expressed and the words with which to express them, so that the whole Bible is...

(This is known as 'plenary verbal inspiration'.)

Other things which show the divine character and divine authorship of Scripture are:

Unity: Comprised of over five dozen books by more than three dozen different writers across the span of sixteen centuries on a subject more disagreed about than any, yet one Book, one spirit, one theme (Jesus Christ as Savior: in the Old Testament concealed, in the New Testament revealed).

Fulfillment of Prophecies (at least 226 directly cited) in the Life of Christ:

Effects:

Preservation:

What are some of the qualities, or attributes, of the Bible?

- (a) John 17:17 Your Word is truth.*
- (a) John 10:35 Scripture cannot be broken.*
- (b) Psa 119:105 Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*
- (c) Luke 16:29 They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.*

THESE WORDS OF GOD TEACH US:

- (A) The Bible is 'true', that is...
- (B) The Bible is...
- (C) The Bible is sufficient, containing all that we need to know for salvation and life. We are not, therefore, to seek information and guidance in spiritual matters from any other source, whether reason, tradition, new revelations and visions, etc. All teaching and activity is to be measured ultimately in the light of the Bible alone.

For what purpose did God give us the Bible?

- (a) 2 Chr 34:27 You humbled yourself before God when you heard His words.*
- (b) John 5:39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and (yet) these are they which testify of Me.*
- (b) 2 Tim 3:15 The Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*