

A Glorious Institution: The Church in History

Stanford E. Murrell

Study Guide

Course GS2

Part One: *When the Church Was Young*

A.D. 33 - 754

Part Two: *The Church in the Middle Ages*

A.D. 754 - 1517

Instructions for this course *(detailed instructions in Appendix 1)*

The *reading material* for this course consists of the book provided with this study guide: "A Glorious Institution: The Church in History; Parts One and Two".

Before each lesson: pray for God to give a teachable heart and understanding.

Begin the lesson by reading the related chapter in the book provided.

Answer the questions for the corresponding lesson in this study guide.

Use the required answer sheet format. Try to be as concise and clear as possible. (sample after the table of contents).

Please do not rush! Meditate on what God wants you to learn.

Don't go to the next question until completing the current one.

If, and only if, you are taking the course as correspondence study (with grading by others):

After completing all lessons for Part One, send the completed answer sheets to your course coordinator. Send again when finished with Part Two.

Only mail the answer sheets, not other materials.

All sent answer sheets are handled confidentially.

Label the envelope's lower left with: student, course, and lesson numbers.

Continue taking the course until all lessons are completed.

Four months are allotted for course completion. Extensions may be granted upon request.

Answer sheets are returned to you after grading.

Keep all materials and returned answer sheets together for future reference.

A Glorious Institution: The Church in History

Stanford E. Murrell

Study Guide

Course GS2

This booklet is the Study Guide for parts one and two of the four part series: *A Glorious Institution: The Church in History*.

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For additional copies of this Study Guide, or information on our other Bible study materials and correspondence courses, please contact the affiliated Mount Zion Bible Institute:

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telephone: (850) 438-1037.

**A Glorious Institution:
The Church in History
Parts One and Two**

Study Guide

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Sample Answer Sheet

Your name Student nr. Course nr. Lesson nr. Date

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Part One: *When the Church Was Young* A.D. 33 - 754

*(part one of this course uses chapters 1 - 8 of the book entitled
A Glorious Institution: The Church in History; Parts One and Two)*

Please answer the questions below from the information given in the book. Each chapter in the book corresponds to the lesson you are doing. For example, the information you need to answer the questions from *lesson one* in this Study Guide, is found in *chapter one* in the book. Before you begin the questions, please read the book chapter for the lesson you are taking. Please read slow enough so you understand what you read. It is also always good to pray before each lesson, asking the LORD for wisdom to apply what you learn to your life, and to enable you to love Him with all your mind, heart, soul, and strength . . . for this is the first commandment (Mark 12:30).

Response questions are intended to support a basic understanding of what was happening at this point in the development of the church. These questions are required as the core part of the study.

Reflection questions go much deeper to ask you to evaluate and integrate the information with the scriptures and with overall trends. These questions are important: please make your best effort to answer them, but please also realize there are no right or wrong answers. We are looking only for your best effort.

Accountability questions are designed to encourage discipline and faithfulness in completing the lessons. Any sort of self-study requires a personal commitment a) to finish, and b) to be regular and thorough ("not cut corners").

Making It Personal questions bring the Biblical principles into practical application. The goal here is change in your own life toward godliness. Again, there are no right or wrong answers; we are looking only for your honesty with yourself in personal commitments.

Lesson 1 The Birth of the New Testament Church

First please read chapter 1 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. What would be meant by a "Divine interpretation" of history?
2. What is the central theme to be found in history? List the supportive Scriptural references.
3. In establishing the Church, what was the Lord's grand design according to 1 Peter 2:9?
4. Describe the difference between the visible Church and the invisible Church. Which one is referred to by the word "church" in this study of Church history?
5. How did the Roman Empire enhance the physical spread of the gospel?
6. How did Greek culture help the people to accept the gospel?

REFLECTION

7. Briefly describe what you believe will help build up the local body of believers. Include Scripture in your response.
8. What are some of the sins of the saints, and why are such sins still found in the Church?
9. Despite inward corruption, what did Jesus promise concerning the Church in Matthew 16:18? Has this promise been fulfilled even to date? What is the evidence?

ACCOUNTABILITY

10. Have you read all of the passages in the text?

Lesson 2 The Suffering Saints

First please read chapter 2 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Why should the Church never be surprised when it is persecuted?
2. a. What were some of the slanderous charges leveled against the early Church.
b. Why were such ugly things said?
3. What important event took place beginning on June 18, A.D. 64?
4. List four groups of the Apostolic Fathers, and the dates for each group.
5. Describe the most significant contribution for each of: Ignatius, Justin Martyr, Polycarp.

6. Who was Blandina?
7. When was the persecution of the Christians the worst?
8. Which emperor showed grace to the Church from his bed of affliction?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

9. Have you ever experienced any form of persecution for the cause of Christ? If so, would you share that experience?
10. Do you think that you would be able to be faithful even unto death if the Lord required that of you?

ACCOUNTABILITY

11. Have you read all of the passages in the text?

Lesson 3 Foundations of Faith

First please read chapter 3 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Do you believe that Bible doctrine is important? Why or why not?
2. What were the four criteria used to determine which documents should be considered inspired, and therefore included in the canon of New Testament scripture?
3. List six Church Fathers and tell one significant fact about each of them. Give the dates they each lived.
4. Write out your own definition of *heresy*.
5. How should the Church distinguish between heresy and: erroneous or immature or misguided teaching?
6.
 - a. Summarize the heresy of *Gnosticism*.
 - b. Defend the Biblical position that Jesus had true humanity.
7. Why was *Montanism* considered heretical.
8. Why was the *Arian Controversy* so important to combat?

REFLECTION

9. Should the government of the Church be simple or complex? Defend your answer with Biblical examples.

ACCOUNTABILITY

10. Memorize the *Apostle's Creed*. Please write it from memory on your answer sheet.

Lesson 4 The Sign of the Savior

First please read chapter 4 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Who is known as the first Christian emperor?
2. a. What were the words that Constantine thought he saw before the battle of Milvian Bridge?
b. Do you believe that this vision was of God? Why?
3. What religious freedoms did the *Edict of Milan* provide for Christians?

REFLECTION

4. a. Many people believe that America is a "Christian nation". Would you agree with this or disagree, and why?
b. What would make any nation a "Christian" nation?
5. When Constantine united the affairs of the State with the affairs of the Church, did he do right? What should be the Christian's attitude towards separation of Church and State?
6. Appealing to Romans 13:1-7 and other passages of your choice, what should be the Christian's attitude toward government?

ACCOUNTABILITY

7. Read the book of Acts in its entirety at least one time while completing this course. When you have read the book of Acts, indicate that on your answer sheet.

Lesson 5 In the Councils of the Church

First please read chapter 5 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. What did each of the four great councils mentioned in this chapter accomplish for the Church? What was the date of each Council?
 - a. Nicea
 - b. Constantinople
 - c. Ephesus
 - d. Chalcedon
2. Describe the doctrine of the deity of Christ, with scriptural quotations (of key phrases only).
3. What perplexed Augustine about the origin of evil? (see the sub-heading "The

Manicheans")

4. a. Comment on the position of Donatus.
b. How much grace and mercy do you think should be shown to people who deny Christ in times of persecution? Support your position with Scripture.

REFLECTION

5. Of all the people discussed in this chapter, whom do you respect the most, and why?
6. What is the true nature of man?
7. If the Church could call an Ecumenical Council today, what topics should be discussed?
8. Eight months after he was denied communion by Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan, the Emperor Theodosius made a public confession. Write out an imaginary account of what his public confession and seeking of forgiveness might have sounded like.
9. Scripturally, should the Church seek public confessions from people?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

10. Would you refuse to serve someone communion, as Ambrose did when he denied it to the Emperor Theodosius? If so, explain the scriptural basis for your position, and then list the practical steps that would need to be taken to enforce this decision.
11. Would you be willing to be denied communion by Church officials? Explain your position.

Lesson 6 Sowing Seeds of Self-Destruction

First please read chapter 6 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. List at least five major unscriptural doctrines and practices of the early Church.
2. Define *monasticism*.

REFLECTION

3. Please comment on the following statement: "No man will be more holy than he wants to be."
4. What would you consider to be the major sins of the Church today?
5. Does monasticism have a valid place in the life of the Church? Why or why not?
6. How can Christians remain *in* the world and yet not be part *of* it?
7. Should Christians ever use force to bring people into the Church or keep them there? Why?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

8. James 4:1-7 explains the origin of warfare in the Church. Have you ever been caught up in such an experience? If so, what has the Lord taught you about your own attitude in such times?

Lesson 7 New Trials and Great Triumphs

First please read chapter 7 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. From which direction did the Roman Empire find new and terrible forces to fight?
2. As the Germanic tribes fought the Romans, what had motivated them to invade the Roman territory?
3. How did Theodosius I bring peace to the warfare with the barbarians?
4. In what year was Rome attacked by the Goths under Alaric?
5. What two spiritual challenges faced the Church after the fall of Rome?
6. In the midst of world change, how did the Church help to preserve her own culture and heritage?

REFLECTION

7. What is the true explanation for the success of the Church, as it grew to be stronger than the Empire of Rome?
8. Though whole tribes technically became Christian when their kings were converted to the Lord, how do people really come to Christ?
9. Why might the Church of this time period try and justify the baptizing of the followers of a king who had made a profession of faith?

Lesson 8 Diminishing Glory

First read chapter 8 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Briefly summarize the life of Mohammed.
2. What are the five main pillars of the Islamic faith?
3. What three basic Christian doctrines does the Koran deny?
4. Describe the major difference in world view between the Christian and the followers of Mohammed.

5. From a human point of view, what four reasons might be given for the setback of the Christian faith against the advance of Islam during this period?

REFLECTION

6. Do you believe that the Christian Church is influencing the world today and is advancing? What leads you to believe this?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

7. Is there a place in Christian theology for religious warfare in order to make converts for the Church?

8. What should be the Christian's attitude toward "holy" wars?

9. If necessary, do you think you would be able to kill in combat?

10. Have you come to Christ as Savior and Lord? If so, *briefly* describe how, and on what basis you believe God will accept you into heaven.

11. Please read over your notes and the main headings for part one of the course book (chapters 1 - 8). List the main lessons the Lord wants you to remember and put into practice.

ACCOUNTABILITY

12. Have you read chapters 1 through 8 (part one) in the book on Church history in their entirety?

Now that you have completed this portion of the course, it is important to put into practice the new insights which the Lord has given you during your study. Spend some quiet time to think through the course, perhaps in re-reading the main headings and your notes. Because we all tend to forget what we do not review, we suggest to review these main lessons daily for the next week, and at least once per week for the following month. In this way the key spiritual principles can begin to become a part of your life and practice.

A Glorious Institution: The Church in History

Study Guide

Part Two:

The Church in the Middle Ages

A.D. 754 - 1517

*(part two of this course uses chapters 9 - 19 of the book entitled
A Glorious Institution: The Church in History; Parts One and Two)*

Lesson 9 New Political Alliances

First read chapter 9 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Who were the Lombards and what does their name mean?
2. What is meant by a belief in the *verbal, inerrant, and plenary* inspiration of Scripture (cp. 2 Tim. 3:16-17)?
3. What erroneous belief did Gregory help to promote (cp. Eph. 2:8-9)?
4. What is significant about Pepin the Short being recognized as king by the papacy?
5. What was the secret for the success of Charlemagne during his reign as emperor? What does his name mean?
6. List the three great empires in existence after the death of Charlemagne, with their borders.

REFLECTION

7. Do you think that even many Protestant churches today still embrace a system of salvation and sanctification by works? If so, provide several specific examples as possible.
8. Will the time come again when the kingdoms of this earth are subordinate to the Kingdom of God (study Matt. 28:19-20; Rev. 11:15)?
9. Did Pepin the Short help or harm the cause of Christ, by seeking ecclesiastical sanction for his actions? Why?
10. How can the Church influence the kingdoms of this world today? Consider in your answer John 13:15; 1 Tim. 4:12; 1 Pet. 2:1.

ACCOUNTABILITY

11. Write out a prayer for the political leaders of your nation as per 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

Lesson 10 The Growing Power of the Papacy

First read chapter 10 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Who was Novatian and what did he contend for?
2. What did *Ebonism* [Hebrew: *poor*] teach?
3. What did the *Manachians* believe about the Trinity?
4. Give an example for each of the five ways the papacy was able to increase its power:
 - a. Organization
 - b. Doctrine
 - c. Political Intrigue
 - d. Deception
 - e. Fantastic Claims
5. Name the two popes who excommunicated each other?

REFLECTION

6. Was Novation right in his position (refer to your answer in question 1)?
7. Do you think that the Church today should be involved in politics, and if so to what extent?
8. If the Church were allowed sweeping political power in the world today, what should it do, on a practical basis?
9. Is there any room in the Christian's life for "pious deceit"? What about Rahab? (Josh. 2:1-3; 6:17-25 cp. Heb. 11:31)
10. *Optional:* If you are familiar with "Liberation Theology", please comment on it (cp. Rom. 13:1-7). Is it correct?
[Note: Liberation Theology contends that it is the right and the responsibility of Christians to violently overthrow oppressive political systems such as Communism.]

MAKING IT PERSONAL

11. What type of authority do you recognize in your local church? (notice 1 Tim. 5:17; Heb. 13:7; 1 Pet. 5:5).
12. Do you have spiritual authority over others? How do you handle it? If not, have you ever desired power over others? If so, did the Holy Spirit confirm that desire (1 Tim. 3:1), or bring conviction of it (James 4:7; 1 Pet. 2:13; Eph. 5:21).

Lesson 11 The Church in the World: The World in the Church

First read chapter 11 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Define and describe *feudalism*.
2. How did feudalism affect the Church?
3. What was the *lay investiture* conflict?
4. How did the recognition of Otto I as emperor of Germany come to affect the papacy?
5. Define *simony*.

REFLECTION

6. Are there any ways in which the principle of simony is still practiced in the Church today? If so, what can be done to correct the abuses?

ACCOUNTABILITY

7. Read Acts 8:9-24. Indicate on your answer sheet when done.

Lesson 12 A House Divided

First read chapter 12 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. In what year did the Church officially divide into the Western and Eastern Church? Do you think this division was necessary and can be justified?
2. Briefly describe five of the factors which fostered the Church division.

REFLECTION

3. Do you think there is a valid distinction between the veneration of images and the worship of images? Explain.

ACCOUNTABILITY

4. Read John 17, and indicate on your answer sheet when completed.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

5. When Jesus prayed for unity in John 17, do you think He had organizational unity or

spiritual unity in mind, or both?

6. What are you doing to promote unity within the body of Christ? What can others do?

Lesson 13 Monasticism and the Cluny Reforms

First read chapter 13 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Define the following.
 - a. *Monasticism*
 - b. *Asceticism*
 - c. *the cloistered life.*
2. Describe the *Cluny Reform Movement*.

REFLECTION

3. Do you believe that Christians should fast today? Why or why not?
4. If love for Christ and a desire for holiness are pure motives for becoming involved in asceticism, what false motives might also be present that could produce the same behavior? Consider for example: pride, love for the praise of man, misguided teaching as to what the will of God is, guilt, and masochism. Incorporate Colossians 2:16-23 and Matthew 16:24 into your answer.
5. It seems that one basic belief for monasticism and asceticism is a fundamental conviction that Christians are more holy, who separate themselves from the world and suffer for righteousness sake. Is this a true or false foundational belief?

ACCOUNTABILITY

6. Have you ever given up anything for Christ, or stopped a certain practice that you believed displeased Him?
7. What are some standards that you adhere to, even though other Christians may not?

Lesson 14 The Church Cries for Spiritual Reform

First read chapter 14 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Explain the role of Henry III in the Cluny reform movement.
2. What basic method of reforming the papacy did Leo IX introduce?

3. List three further ways Pope Leo IX promoted spiritual renewal.
4. Why would the emperors oppose the claim of the Church to elect bishops (as under Stephen X for example)?
5. Who was the real power behind the papal throne beginning with Leo IX?
6. What important issue was decided at the Second Lateran Council held in 1059?
7. How did Alexander II uphold the Church's stand against *simony* and divorce?
8. How did Hildebrand become pope?
9. What was Hildebrand's concept of the papacy?

REFLECTION

10. What great worldly influences do you think are hurting the Church today?
11. What do you think of the political maneuvering of Hildebrand in getting his candidate elected to the papacy?
12. Do you believe that Church leaders should sanction warfare?
13. What do you believe Jesus taught about war?
14. How do you think Church officers should be chosen?
15. What would constitute a "just" war?
16. List six things which the believer is told to fight against.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

17. Have you ever been involved in or observed a church situation that involved political maneuvering? What was the outcome, and what spiritual lessons did you learn from that experience?
18. Do you hold any office in your church? Why or why not? Evaluate your motive for wanting (or not wanting) to hold a church office. What do you do in your church for the cause of Christ and the work of the ministry? What spiritual lessons have you learned from this experience?

Lesson 15 The Struggle for Independence from the State

First read chapter 15 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Why was the conflict over *lay investiture* so important to both the emperor and the pope?
2. Regarding the ban of excommunication:
 - a. What was it?

- b. What did it mean to the person excommunicated?
- c. How was it used in the struggle for power?

3. Identify the following:

- a. Canossa
- b. Concordat of Worms

4. Why did Hildebrand excommunicate Henry IV?

REFLECTION

5. Hildebrand used wrong methods at times to accomplish his ends (goals). Does "the end justify the means" in the work of Christ?
6. Do you think that the repentance of Henry IV at Canossa was sincere? What constitutes genuine repentance?
7. Should the Church today accept the profession of faith or the confession of sin, of every person who comes to her?

ACCOUNTABILITY

8. Study the Doctrine Of Repentance. After you have examined all the Scripture passages, indicate that on your answer sheet.

Lesson 16 Killing in the Name of Christ: The Crusades

First read chapter 16 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. What threefold objectives did Gregory VII hope to accomplish by encouraging the Crusades?
2. Who were the Seljuk Turks? How did they differ from other followers of Mohammed in their treatment of Christians?
3. Define *purgatory* and *transubstantiation*.
4. Describe the Children's Crusade.
5. List at least ten results of the Crusades.

REFLECTION

6. In light of such passages as 2 Corinthians 10:4 and John 18:36, can the concept of the Crusades be justified?
7. Did the Crusades hinder or help to advance the cause of Christ's kingdom?
8. Can the doctrine of *transubstantiation* be confirmed by the Bible?

9. Can the doctrine of *purgatory* be proven by Scripture?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

10. Would you have gone on one of the Crusades if given the chance? Why or why not?
11. Where do you believe Christians go when they die?
12. Do you believe that Christians should confess their sins to one another? If so, to whom should confession of sins be made, when, and where? Include in your answer insight from Matthew 18:15-20, James 5:16, and 1 John 1:9.

Lesson 17 The Height of Earthly Power

First read chapter 17 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. What five factors guided the thinking of Innocent III?
2. What decisions were made at the Lateran Council in 1215?
3. What were the *mendicant orders*?
4. Identify the following:
 - a. Anselm.
 - b. Peter Abelard
 - c. Peter the Lombard
 - d. Albertus Magnus
 - e. Thomas Aquinas
 - f. John Duns Scotus

REFLECTION

5. Why do you think the doctrines of the seven sacraments and of the *immaculate conception* even arose?
6. What place does reason and faith have in the Christian's life?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

7. Which position would you embrace and why?
 - a. Position one: "I believe in order to understand", - Anselm.
 - b. Position two: "I understand so that I might believe", - Abelard.

Lesson 18 The Passing of Power

First read chapter 18 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Define:
 - a. *Papal Bull*
 - b. *The Babylonian Captivity*.
2. List at least five of the eight major factors which led to the decline of the power of the Church.
3. Define *The Papal Schism*.

REFLECTION

4. What is your response to the concept that the Church has two swords to command: the spiritual and the temporal?
5. Record your thoughts as you consider the grasp for power between Church and State.
6. Do you believe that any of the eight major areas of concern (that once caused the decline of the Church) are present again? If so, what does this say about the state of the Church now?
7. List some specific ways that the Church today could gain greater respect among the non-churched.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

8. To what extent are you as a Christian involved in politics? To what extent are you involved in helping the Church be spiritually stronger?

Lesson 19 The Search for Sanctification

First read chapter 19 in the book.

RESPONSE

1. Who were the Albigenses?
2. Who were the Waldenses?
3. What was the Inquisition? Can such an institution ever be justified?
4. What doctrinal contributions did John Wycliffe and John Huss make to the Reformation?
5. Identify:
 - a. Savonarola
 - b. The Brethren of the Common Life
 - c. Johann Wessel
 - d. Erasmus

- e. *In Praise of Folly*
- f. Thomas a` Kempis
- g. *The Imitation of Christ*

6. List four main reasons why the Reformation came to Western Europe.

REFLECTION

- 7. Should the Church be reformed from within or from without?
- 8. Why did the early reformers not succeed in changing the Church overall?
- 9. Have you discerned any pattern of the history of the Church, that can lead you to make some general observations about it?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

- 10. Are you encouraged by what you have discovered up to this point in you studies about the Church? Why or why not?
- 11. What practical and scriptural counsel could you give to someone struggling with a sinful addiction or a repetitive behavior, that causes private humiliation and dishonor to Christ?
- 12. Have you found the ideal Christian life to be as unattainable as the early Renaissance leaders charged? Why?
- 13. In your own search for personal sanctification (holiness), how are you progressing? What are you doing to grow in the Lord and in the power of His might?

- 14. Please read over your notes and the main headings for part two of the course book (chapters 8 - 19). List the main lessons the Lord wants you to remember and put into practice.

Now that you have completed this course, it is important to put into practice the new insights which the Lord has given you during your study. Spend some quiet time to think through the course, perhaps in re-reading the main headings and your notes. Because we all tend to forget what we do not review, we suggest to review these main lessons daily for the next week, and at least once per week for the following month. In this way the key spiritual principles can begin to become a part of your life and practice.

If there are recommendations which you could make to improve the study of Church history in this condensed form, please write to us.

Appendix One: Detailed Course Instructions

If helpful, please read the following instructions before you begin, which will explain the method of study and guidelines to use toward the completion of this course. Please follow these instructions carefully. If you have any questions that the instructions do not answer, please contact your local coordinator, or Mt. Zion Bible Institute (address on back cover).

1. The *reading material* for this course consists of the small book provided with this study guide.

2. Before you begin a lesson, please read completely the corresponding chapter in the related book.

3. After reading the appropriate chapter, then answer the related questions for that lesson in this study guide. The lessons in this course are “open book” exercises. This method of study often enhances learning by removing unnecessary pressure.

In addition, some questions ask for a *personal response*, in which case the answer will not be found in the reading material. In this case, we ask only for your honesty and best effort.

4. *Answer pages.* Try to be concise and as clear as possible in your answers. Please write or type your answers on regular 8.5 x 11 inch (A4 metric) paper, or on the preprinted answer sheets if provided. Please write clearly and neatly, and if possible print. After completion, please store your answer sheets with these booklets for your records and future review.

5. *Supplies.* Paper, pen, and Bible are needed to complete your assignments. Usually the King James version is quoted, but you may use another version if you like.

6. *Completion of Assignments.*

- If you are taking this course with a local coordinator, please follow their instructions.
- If you are taking this course as individual independent study (non-graded), then of course it is not necessary to mail in your answer sheets. We recommend that you still save them for future reference. (*Please skip the following instructions numbered 7 and 9e*).
- If you are taking this course as a correspondence course, you will be mailing your answer sheets to your course coordinator. Four months are allotted for the completion of this course. You may be granted an extension by contacting your course coordinator.

7. *Grading System (only if correspondent study).* Spiritual success is not measured by obtaining a high grade point average, but by growth in grace, a holy life, obedience, and Christ-likeness to the glory of God alone. Therefore, the prime motivation in taking this course is to please God alone, by the actual change for good produced in one’s life. There are no letter or number grades such as “A” or “100” to be earned. The grader will offer comments, suggestions, or direction from scripture in response to the answers. Some answers will have no comments because the answer is correct or is of a personal nature and therefore has no “right” or “wrong” answer. (Other courses offered by Mt. Zion Bible Institute may be graded by a different method than described above.)

8. *Spiritual Preparation.* Before you begin it is important that you pray and ask God to reveal

the truths that are taught in the lesson. Since you are studying spiritual principles, you need the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help you understand and obey what you learn (1 Cor. 2:10-14).

9. Procedure For Taking This Course. After taking time for spiritual preparation and prayer, you are now ready to begin with lesson one. Please use the following steps for the completion of each lesson:

- a. Read the lesson's corresponding book chapter in its entirety. This step must not be overlooked.
- b. After reading the chapter, turn to this study guide for the related lesson. For example, after reading chapter 1 in the book, turn to lesson 1 in this study guide for the first lesson.
- c. The questions are designed to be carefully contemplated and thought through. Several of the questions are sensitive; they have to do with your heart relationship with God. So please don't rush through the answers or you will be defeating the purpose of the course! Answer all of the questions as candidly and honestly as you can. The answers are confidential.
- d. Don't go to the next question until you have answered the previous one.
- e. *Only if Correspondent Study:* After completing part one or part two, mail all answer sheets to your course coordinator. Your lessons will be reviewed and returned as soon as possible. Only mail the answer sheets, not the questions. They will be graded and returned to you by regular mail. ***Please make sure you write your name, student number, course title, and lesson number on each answer sheet. Please see the sample page after the Table of Contents at front. Headings should be in the following format:***

Your name, student number 1234 course GS2 lesson x

Other Courses from Mount Zion

Man's Ruin - God's Redemption GS1 24 lessons Basic level

For those seeking Christ and the true Gospel: clear understanding of the depth of man's sin, and his total need of a worthy Savior.

The Church In History (A) GS2 19 lessons Intermediate

Part one includes AD 33 - 754: the church's beginnings, miraculous spread, sufferings, and the early creeds. Part two includes AD 754 - 1517: the power of the Papacy, the Crusades, heresies, and attempts at reform.

True versus False Christianity PC1 23 lessons Intermediate

Confirms to the believer the Biblical basis of faith, distinct from the false message of "making a decision", without any real commitment to Christ.

The Hidden Life of Prayer PC2 8 lessons Basic level

How to prepare and communicate with God effectively in prayer, in a way that pleases God and gives Him glory!

A Call to Prayer

PC3 14 lessons Basic level

A deeper commitment to pray, great confidence in God's hearing prayer, how to pray, and quiet joy in praying!

In the Footprints of the Lamb

PC4 4 lessons Intermediate

Penetrating devotional study of intimate love-relationship with Christ. Deny self and turn to Christ for victory, in all aspects of daily life.

Saving Faith: Its Meaning and Object

DT101 10 lessons Basic level

Man's free will and God's sovereignty in saving faith. Greater appreciation for the infinite value of Christ as the object of our faith.

The Holy Spirit

DT102 16 lessons Advanced

In-depth scriptural analysis of the Holy Spirit: who He is and what He does. Joyful reverence for the Person and work of the Spirit.

Doctrines of Grace in Gospel of John

DT104 7 lessons Intermediate

Biblical basis for the five points of the Reformation's historic faith. Encouragement for worship, humility, and devotion to God.

Spiritual Foundations of Ministry

SP101 5 lessons Advanced

For pastors and church leaders: personal communion with God as firm foundation for ministering to others. Reawakening spiritual zeal.

Additional courses are in development.

<< inside back cover >>

About Mount Zion Bible Institute

*The purpose of Mount Zion Bible Institute is
to glorify God by teaching His Word,
distributing courses worldwide without charge.*

The courses are offered without charge, and are suitable for either group or individual study. Because we desire to glorify God and not men, *the courses are offered without 'diplomas'*. If you sincerely can use any of this material, please write us and we will send an application.

Overview of Courses

AdvancedFoundations
of Ministry

Holy Spirit

Intermediate

True/False Gospel

Footprints of
the LambDoctrines of Grace
Church History A
Church History B**Basic**

Saving Faith

Hidden Life of Prayer

Ruin - Redemption

Call to Prayer

Salvation**Practical Walk****Doctrine/Other**

The course materials are used in several environments:

1. *individuals* working in independent study.
2. *groups* studying together, with feedback from a group coordinator.
3. *centralized correspondence*, where individuals receive grading feedback from local coordinators, or *Mount Zion*.

<< ***Back Cover*** >>

*This Study Guide contains
parts one and two of the four part series entitled
"A Glorious Institution: The Church in History",
which encompasses the breadth of Church history
from its beginnings up to the present day.*

Part One: When the Church Was Young A.D. 33 - 754

focuses on the early growth of the Christian Church as it developed from a small assembly of believers in Jerusalem, to become a vast spiritual kingdom touching the lives of millions in many lands. Part one includes the Church's beginnings, its miraculous spread, its sufferings, the early heresies and creeds of faith, and the spread of Mohammedanism.

Part Two: The Church in the Middle Ages A.D. 754 - 1517

focuses on the history of the Church from the days of Charlemagne to the dawn of

the Reformation. It was during this period, which historians call the Middle Ages, that the Church divided in two, forming an "Eastern Church" and a "Western Church". Part two includes the increasing power of the Papacy, the politics of mixing with the State, the rise of monasticism, the Crusades, heresies, the Inquisition, and attempts at reform.

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