



CBS



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## Community Bible Study

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2009

7:00PM

STUDY OUTLINE #001

**THEME:** HEAVEN'S STRATEGY FOR ALL-TIME LIVING.

**SCRIPTURAL TEXT:** "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY HIS FAITH" (HABAKKUK 2:4).

### **WORDS IN MARBLE:**

"The strategy of all strategies is heaven's strategy. Times may change and men may differ but God's prescription for living in every generation remains the same. As it was in the past, so it is now and so shall it be forever."

### **VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION:**

What is God's prescription for living in every generation and dispensation? What precisely is heaven's strategy for living in good times, extremely bad times and every season of life?

### **ANSWER:**

God has only one standard and strategy recorded in His WORD - The Bible - for believers to live by: "The just shall live by his faith." (HABAKKUK 2:4)

### **OUR MOST VALUABLE AND RELIABLE RESOURCE: THE HOLY BIBLE**

Let us make it plain up-front that for today's study and future series, our most valuable and reliable resource will remain The Bible. The reason for this is not far-fetched. Paul the Apostle declared in ROMANS 1: 16 & 17: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

### **WHY THE BIBLE?**

1. The Bible is God's inspired revelation of the original destiny of all things. Here, heaven is opened and the gates of hell disclosed. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's charter; the final authority on all issues relating to life. (2 TIMOTHY 3:16&17 & PSALM 119 v. 105)
2. The Bible is the power of God unto eternal salvation and the source of present help for body, soul and spirit. Christ is its grand subject, man's good its design and the glory of God its end. It is the believer's source of health and mine of wealth. (PROVERBS 4: 20-22, JOHN 15: 7 & ROMANS 1: 16 & 17)
3. The Bible is God's will or testament to men in all ages revealing the plan of God for man here and now and in the hereafter. It will be opened at The Judgment and it will last forever. It contains the highest responsibility, the reward for the least as well as the greatest labour, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents. (JOHN 5: 39-47)
4. The Bible is the record of God's dealings with man in the past, present and future. It contains His message of eternal salvation for all who believe in Christ and eternal damnation for all who rebel against the gospel. (JOHN 3: 16-21)
5. As an inspired literary composition, The Bible is the most remarkable book ever written. It is a divine library of 66 books, some of considerable size and others no larger than a tract. These books include various forms of literature-history, biography, poetry, proverbs, psalms, hymns, treatise letters and epistles; direction for wholesome worship, laws, parables, riddles, allegories, prophesy and all other forms of human expression. (PSALM 119: 17-19; 126 -133, LUKE 1: 1-4 & ACTS 1: 1-3)
6. The Bible is authoritative and final. It is the only book that reveals the mind of God, the state of man, the

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## **HEAVEN'S STRATEGY FOR ALL-TIME LIVING***(Continued)*

way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the eternal joy and happiness of believers. Its doctrine is holy, its precepts binding, its histories true and its decisions immutable. It contains light to direct, spiritual food to sustain and comfort to cheer. Man should study it to be wise, believe it to be saved and practice it to be holy. Furthermore, it is meant to be eaten and digested till our minds are renewed, our spirits are saturated and it becomes a part of our being generating faith that will move mountains. (JEREMIAH 15: 16-21)

7. The Bible remains a closed book until the real author opens our understanding and fills our heart with the Holy Spirit - the very inspiration that produced the book in the first place. (PROVERBS 20:27, PSALM 18:28, ISAIAH 29: 11-16, DANIEL 12: 8-10 & LUKE 24:45)

If living by faith is heaven's strategy for all seasons of life, then studying and obeying the Bible is non-negotiable because it is the only source of genuine faith.

“So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God” (ROMANS: 10: 1-17)

### **PRAYER FOCUS**

PSALM 119: 12-19

PROVERBS 30: 5-9