

Summer, 2019 – Handout #7
Series: How to Study the Bible
Lesson – Topical Bible Study

INTRODUCTION

It may be important to know what the great men have to say on important subjects; it is far more important to know what God has to say on these subjects. It is important also to know all that God has to say.

A great many people know a part of what God has to say--and usually a very small part--and so their ideas are very imperfect and one-sided. If they only knew all God had to say on the subject, it would be far better for them and for their friends.

The only way to know all God has to say on any subject is to go through the Bible on that subject. To do this it is not necessary to read every verse in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. It would be slow work, if we had to do that on every subject we took up. This would be necessary were it not for Text Books and Concordances.

Topical Bible study is the study of the topical teachings in the Bible. You may limit the topic to a single book, such as a study of the teaching in the Book of James about the use of the tongue. You may also trace the topic throughout Scripture, such as a study of the miracles in the Bible. The topic can be narrow, such as prophecies about Jesus' birth, or it can be broad and lengthy, such as prophecies in the Bible.

Topical Bible study can involve the study of a doctrine, such as the nature of God or the work of the Holy Spirit. It can also involve a practical matter like the ministries of a local church. The purpose of topical study is not just to satisfy curiosity. The focus must be on ways you can apply the topic to your life.

Topical Bible study is important because it provides a logical and orderly method of studying the Bible. The Bible's instructions and guidelines appear throughout Scriptures. You can use the topical method of study to bring together in an orderly manner all the Bible teaches about the use of time, money, or another suitable subject.

After you have studied a book like 1 Peter, you can study it again to examine such topics as God's directions for meeting suffering, the Christian and government, church leaders' duties, and Christ's example

• **Tools for a Topical Study**

- **Strong Exhaustive Concordance - \$13.37 on Amazon** - https://www.amazon.com/Strongs-Exhaustive-Concordance-Bible-Strong/dp/1598566938/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=Strong%27s+Exhaustive+Concordance&qid=1561733889&s=books&sr=1-6
- **Nave's Topical Bible - \$8.49 on Amazon** - https://www.amazon.com/Naves-Compact-Topical-Bible-Orville/dp/0310489911/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=Nave%27s+Topical+Bible&qid=1561733826&s=books&sr=1-6
- **Torrey's New Topical Textbook \$7.99 on Amazon** - https://www.amazon.com/Torreys-Topical-Textbook-James-Bible-ebook/dp/B072JLMCYW/ref=sr_1_5?keywords=Torrey%27s+New+Topical+Textbook&qid=1561733302&s=books&sr=1-5

- **Other good tools include:**
 - ISBE – International Standard Bible Encyclopedia
 - Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words
 - Thompson Chain Reference Bible

• **Tips for a Topical Study**

- **Pick your topic and understand it probably will not be a one-day study.**

The topic you select should be one in which you have a spiritual interest or need information.

As you study certain topics in the Bible, you may want to limit your research by restricting your study to one book. A study of the tongue can be a broad study. Both the Books of Proverbs and James have extensive teachings on the use of the tongue.

As you are reading through a book of the Bible, make a list of topics in the book you would like to study.

Ideas – Adoption, Blood of Christ, Contentment, Money, Revenge, Foolishness, Pride, Parenting, Joy, Patience, Kindness, God's Mercy, Giving, Courage, Righteousness, Assurance, Affliction, Defilement, Drunkenness, Church, Confession, Conversion, Covetousness, Edification, Forgiveness, Faithfulness, Fasting, Godly Fear, Forgetting God, Gifts of the Spirit, Grace, Hypocrisy, Reproof, Tongue, etc.

- **Identify cognates of the topic (i.e. redeem, redeemer, redeemed, redemption, redeeming)**
- **Identify synonyms and antonyms for the topic of study.**

You can study a topic in a book. For instance, we have studied together Paths in Proverbs. The following words reveal truths about this topic:

Abideth, Among, Astray, Chaseth, Come, Cometh, Depart, Departeth, Ditch, End, Ends, Enter, Fall, Falleth, Flee, Foot, Followeth, Forsaketh, Found, Feet, Go, Goeth, Goings, Guide, Pass On, Passeth by, Passing, Path, Paths, Pathway, Pit, Pursueth, Returneth, Runneth, Seek, Seeketh, Steps, Streets, Stumbleth, Turn, Walk, Walketh, Wandereth, Way, Ways, Went

To do this work a concordance is not necessary but it is often very helpful. For example, if you are studying the subject "Prayer" you can look up from the concordance the passages that contain the words "pray," "prayer," "cry," "ask," "call," "supplication," "intercession," etc.

- **Be Thorough.**

When you take up a subject do not be content to study a few passages on this subject, but find just as far as possible every passage in the Bible on this subject.

- **Learn the meaning(s) of the word used throughout Scripture.**

Example – the word "love" occurs 310 times in 280 verses in the KJV. There are 20 different Hebrew words for love in the Old Testament and twenty different Greek words for love in the New Testament.

Phileo Love – to be a friend to another; to be fond of; tender affection; emotional; can be developed; **Phileo** is based on the qualities in another person that you find admirable or attractive. **Phileo** love does feed on response, and it cannot survive long without response from the other. Friendship love requires attention. **Phileo** love gives as long as it receives and thus is a conditional love. **Phileo** love is

never used in a command to men to “love” God. **Phileo** arises from a sense of pleasure found in the object loved.

John 5:20 (KJV)

²⁰ For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.

John 11:3 (KJV)

³ Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

John 15:19 (KJV)

¹⁹ If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

Agape Love – an unselfish love, ready to serve; a self-sacrificial love;

Romans 5:8 (KJV)

⁸ But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1 John 3:16 (KJV)

¹⁶ Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1 John 2:5 (KJV)

⁵ But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

1 John 4:7-8 (KJV)

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

⁸ He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

John 14:21 (KJV)

²¹ He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

1 John 2:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Summary - Phileo love for another emanates chiefly from one's heart (emotions, will) whereas **agapao** selfless love originates from the "head" as a choice one makes independent of the loveliness or unloveliness of the recipient.

Philoxenos – Hospitable Love for strangers and foreigners

Titus 1:8 (KJV)

⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

- List the verses you have found to study on your topic
- Record & Organize what you learned about the topic.
 - Write down an observation or question about each Bible Reference
 - Outline your topic (Torrey's Topical Textbook is fantastic at this)
- Organize what you have learned about the topic.
- How do these truths affect me? Develop a plan whereby that the timeless truths affect change in your life.

THE STRONG'S CONCORDANCE ON "REDEEM"

"Redeem" occurs 56 times in 40 verses in the KJV; You can search a Strong's Concordance Online at <https://www.blueletterbible.org/search.cfm>

Strongs #	Hebrew	Transliterated	English Equivalent
Old Testament (Hebrew) for "redeem"			
H1350		<i>ga'al</i>	redeem , redeem er, kinsman, revenger, avenger, ransom, at all, deliver, kinsfolks, kinsman's part, purchase, stain, wise
H1353		<i>gěullah</i>	redeem , redemption, again, kindred, redeem , right
H6299		<i>padah</i>	redeem , deliver, ransom, rescued, misc
H6302		<i>paduwy</i>	redeem ed
H6304		<i>pěduwth</i>	redemption, redeem , division
H6561		<i>paraq</i>	break off, break, rent, rend in pieces, redeem , deliver, tear in pieces
H7069		<i>qanah</i>	Buy, get, purchased, buyer, possessor, possessed, owner, recover, redeem ed, misc
Strongs #	Greek	Transliterated	English Equivalent

Strong's #	Hebrew	Transliterated	English Equivalent
New Testament (Greek) for "redeem"			
G59	ἀγοράζω	agorazō	buy, redeem
G1805	ἐξαγοράζω	exagorazō	redeem
G3084	λυτρόω	lytroō	redeem
G3085	λύτρωσις	lytrōsis	redemption, redeem

"Redemption" occurs 20 times in 20 verses in the KJV

Strong's #	Hebrew	Transliterated	English Equivalent
Old Testament (Hebrew) for "redemption"			
H1353	קָנָה	gěullah	redeem, redemption , again, kindred, redeem, right
H6304	פְּדוּתָא	pěduwth	redemption , redeem, division
H6306	פְּדוּיָא	pidyowm	redemption , ransom, variant
Strong's #	Greek	Transliterated	English Equivalent
New Testament (Greek) for "redemption"			
G629	ἀπολύτρωσις	apolytrōsis	redemption , deliverance
G3085	λύτρωσις	lytrōsis	redemption , redeem

TORREY'S TOPICAL TEXTBOOK ON REDEMPTION

1. Defined. 1 Co 6:20; 7:23.
2. Is of God. Isa 44:21–23; 43:1; Lu 1:68.
3. Is by Christ. Mt 20:28; Ga 3:13.
4. Is by the blood of Christ. Ac 20:28; Heb 9:12; 1 Pe 1:19; Re 5:9.
5. Christ sent to effect. Ga 4:4, 5.
6. Christ is made, to us. 1 Co 1:30.
7. Is from
 - a. The bondage of the law. Ga 4:5.
 - b. The curse of the law. Ga 3:13.
 - c. The power of sin. Ro 6:18, 22.
 - d. The power of the grave. Ps 49:15.
 - e. All troubles. Ps 25:22.
 - f. All iniquity. Ps 130:8; Tit 2:14.
 - g. All evil. Ge 48:16.
 - h. The present evil world. Ga 1:4.
 - i. Vain conversation. 1 Pe 1:18.
 - j. Enemies. Ps 106:10, 11; Jer 15:21.
 - k. Death. Ho 13:14.
 - l. Destruction. Ps 103:4.
8. Man cannot effect. Ps 49:7.
9. Corruptible things cannot purchase. 1 Pe 1:18.
10. Procures for us
 - a. Justification. Ro 3:24.
 - b. Forgiveness of sin. Eph 1:7; Col 1:14.
 - c. Adoption. Ga 4:4, 5.
 - d. Purification. Tit 2:14.
11. The present life, the only season for. Job 36:18, 19.
12. Described as
 - a. Precious. Ps 49:8.
 - b. Plenteous. Ps 130:7.
 - c. Eternal. Heb 9:12.
13. Subjects of
 - a. The soul. Ps 49:8.
 - b. The body. Ro 8:23.
 - c. The life. Ps 103:4; La 3:58.
 - d. The inheritance. Eph 1:14.
14. Manifests the
 - a. Power of God. Isa 50:2.
 - b. Grace of God. Isa 52:3.
 - c. Love and pity of God. Isa 63:9; Joh 3:16; Ro 6:8; 1 Jo 4:10.
15. A subject for praise. Isa 44:22, 23; 51:11.
16. Old Testament saints partakers of. Heb 9:15.
17. They who partake of
 - a. Are the property of God. Isa 43:1; 1 Co 6:20.

- b. Are first-fruits to God. Re 14:4.
- c. Are a peculiar people. 2 Sa 7:23; Tit 2:14; 1 Pe 2:9.
- d. Are assured of. Job 19:25; Ps 31:5.
- e. Are sealed to the day of. Eph 4:30.
- f. Are Zealous of good works. Eph 2:10; Tit 2:14; 1 Pe 2:9.
- g. Walk safely in holiness. Isa 35:8, 9.
- h. Shall return to Zion with joy. Isa 35:10.
- i. Alone can learn the songs of heaven. Re 14:3, 4.
- j. Commit themselves to God. Ps 31:5.
- k. Have an earnest of the completion of. Eph 1:14; 2 Co 1:22.
- l. Wait for the completion of. Ro 8:23; Php 3:20, 21; Tit 2:11–13.
- m. Pray for the completion of. Ps 26:11; 44:26.
- n. Praise God for. Ps 71:23; 103:4; Re 5:9.
- o. Should glorify God for. 1 Co 6:20.
- p. Should be without fear. Isa 43:1.

18. Typified

- a. Israel. Ex 6:6.
- b. First-born. Ex 13:11–15; Nu 18:15.
- c. Atonement-money. Ex 30:12–15.
- d. Bond-servant. Le 25:47–54.¹

NEW NAVE'S TOPICAL BIBLE ON REDEMPTION

REDEMPTION. Of persons or property, Lev. 25:25–34; 27:2–13, 14–33; Ruth 4:3–10. Redemption money paid to priests, Num. 3:46–51. Of firstborn, see **FIRSTBORN**; of land, see **JUBILEE**.

Of our Souls: Psa. 111:9; Psa. 130:7; Matt. 20:28 Mark 10:45. Luke 2:38; Acts 20:28; Rom. 3:24–26; 1 Cor. 1:30; 1 Cor. 6:20; 1 Cor. 7:23; Gal. 1:4; Gal. 2:20; Gal. 4:4, 5; Eph. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Col. 1:14, 20–22; 1 Tim. 2:6; Tit. 2:14; Heb. 9:12, 15; 1 Pet. 1:18, 19; Rev. 5:9, 10 See **ATONEMENT**; **RANSOM**.²

¹ Torrey, R. A. (2001). *The new topical text book: A scriptural text book for the use of ministers, teachers, and all Christian workers*. Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Bible Software.

² Swanson, J., & Nave, O. (1994). *New Nave's Topical Bible*. Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems.

Topical Bible Study

Tools for the Study

- Strong’s Concordance - <https://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/>
- Nave’s Topical Bible - <https://www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/naves-topical-bible/>
- Torrey’s New Topical Textbook - <https://www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/torreys-topical-textbook/?letter=r>

Topic: _____

Cognates of the Word _____

(i.e. redeem, redeemed, redemption, redeeming, etc)

List Synonyms & Antonyms for the Topic _____

Look up the topic/word in the Strong’s Concordance and its meaning(s)

Strong’s #	Meaning
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List of Bible References to Study

Record the truths that you learned (Write down an observation or question) about each Bible Reference)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Determine WHY this is important & Apply it to your own life. Then develop a plan of application! Write out in first person the truths God has taught you. How does it apply to your relationship to God, to your relationship to the church, to your life, to your family? What will you do about?

- _____
- _____
- _____