

A “**Biblical Biggie**” is my term for a Scripture that is

1. Critical – shaping a key Christian belief or character
2. Unique – saying it in a special clarity like no other verse
3. Memorable – therefore, worthy of remembering

I have chosen 70 such verses – just as Jesus sent out 70 to minister his message (Luke 10) so these 70 verses encapsulate the heart of God’s message to us.

THIS IS NOT MEANT TO BE

1. The “Readers Digest” version of the Bible
2. My choosing of your 70 most important verses

RATHER – they are verses that have “changed my life” = shaped my belief and character as a follower of Christ. Undoubtedly theses have or will do the same for you.

- If you know them – treasure them anew – perhaps committing them to memory
- If you don’t know them – discover them and let them “change your life”
- May the categories help you – knowing some of the key verses on key issues
- You can find all the verses and their categories online at oaksbible.org

We will study 9 categories, in 10 lessons from June through August. When you have to miss, I encourage you to “catch up” online or by CD

1-3. GOD, JESUS, HOLY SPIRIT

4-6. SALVATION, BIBLE, PRAYER

7-9. BEHAVIOR, BELIEF, ETERNITY

7 BIBLICAL BIGGIES about GOD

1. Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. GOD IS ANCIENT

- There is a beginning to “my story”
- God was there – already existent
- It speaks to origins & evolution
- Not only was the earth created, but all the universe (heavens)
- If there is a beginning, there is an ending – I am a part of God’s big story

2. Deuteronomy 6:4 *Hear, O Israel! The Lord [Jehovah] is our God [Elohim]. The Lord is one! GOD IS ONE*

- I worship the one and only God
- He has a name – Jahweh or Jehovah = the great I AM
- He is one God – not many gods
- This speaks to Hindus, Buddhists, and most tribal cults
- This is something all the world needs to HEAR

3. Revelation 4:8... *Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come. GOD IS PERFECT*

God is triune – 3 in 1 – 3x Holy

God is perfect – pure in every way – flawless

He is exalted – set apart above all creation in thought and ways (Is. 55:8)

He is almighty – He can do anything He wants with no restriction – omnipotent

He is eternal – past, present and future - always

4. Psalm 23: *The Lord [Jehovah] is my shepherd, I shall not want. GOD IS PROVIDER*

- I am like a sheep – needy, not so smart, but of value and worthy of caring for
- I have a shepherd-God who guides, guards, protects and provides all I need
- I am not “on my own” – a great Someone is always watching and caring
- THE - the one & only – Jehovah! – the lover / relater
- LORD - worthy of my allegiance, honor, submission, awe and service
- IS - always present and available – on duty 24 / 7 – my “I AM”
- MY - personal to me in relationship – personally interested in me
- SHEPHERD - guiding, guarding, protecting and providing

5. James 1:17 *Every good thing bestowed, and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow. GOD IS GOOD*

- In English, God & good have the same root
- Every good thing that happens is PERFECT and from GOD–people, things, occurrences
- God is not only GOOD – He is the SOURCE of good
- “Coming down” implies that the gifts are especially chosen and given for me
- “No variation” means He is pure in motive and consistent in His goodness

6. 1 John 1:5 *And this is the message we have heard from Him [Jesus] and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. GOD IS LIGHT*

- ILLUMINATION – God helps us to see life more clearly
- CONSISTENCY – there is never any darkness with God – IMMUTABLE
- BRIGHTNESS – He is positive and give us a positive attitude
- He is light by nature, but also the very SOURCE OF LIGHT
- He gives wisdom, direction, rightness
- We borrow light from Him (Purity, goodness, enthusiasm)

7. 1 John 4:7-8 *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (v. 9: By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.) GOD IS LOVE*

- He is loving by nature, but also the very SOURCE OF LOVE
- He is our source of love = AGAPE = selflessness
- To love one another is not only right, but GOOD =God
- We borrow love from Him (compassion, mercy, graciousness, sympathy)
- Only Christians can LOVE = AGAPE
- LOVE is to know what God is like
- To LOVE is to show GOD IN US

Footnote: If **HELL** is the absence of God, then

1. Hell is not timeless, but goes on and on – interminable time
2. There are MANY tormenters – not just one
3. It is UNHOLY – despicably sinful
4. There is no provision for our need – HOPELESSNESS
5. Bad as bad can be – evil – full of black shadows
6. DARK – no light, hope, direction of positive at all
7. HATE – no love or source of loving – nothing to love

HEAVEN will be

1. Timeless – old, but ever new
2. Unified around the one God
3. Clean, pure and transparent in its perfection
4. Constant provision for every need
5. Good gifts being given always – joys forever
6. Light always – Jesus is the light
7. Love always