

BIBLE STUDY REFERENCE LIST - CHAPTER 5

The Mystery of Godliness Restored to Man

INTRODUCTION

Quick reference Bible studies for the 12 Mysteries are essential for two purposes: defending the gospel against skeptics, and teaching Christians reasons they should hope in the Word of God. This book's length naturally begs for a quick reference guide for Biblical proof "*the mystery of God*"¹ has been finished, or revealed.

Below you'll find Bible study references for **Chapter 5** only. References for remaining chapters are available for free at www.pastorjessesmith.com/12mysteriesbook. You can also reach me via email, jesse.smith11@sbcglobal.net, or text 330-929-2037.

As Christians, we must verbally defend our faith. Twice Paul says he was set for the defense of the gospel in Philippians 1:7 and 17. In Greek, "defence" means "verbal defence, speech in defence, a reasoned statement or argument." The same Greek word for "defence" is also translated as "answer" in Peter's first epistle: "*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.*"² You can be ready to share the truth with any inquirer.

Ministers especially must faithfully test all beliefs. Paul commands us to "*Prove all things*" in 1 Thessalonians 5:21. Prove means "to test, examine, prove, scrutinize (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals" in the Greek. Since the Bible is our Absolute, all revelations are proven true by the pure words of Scripture alone.

Paul's message to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:15 is: "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" Acts 17:11 labels the Bereans as a noble group because they searched the Scriptures daily to verify Paul's preaching.

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5TH MYSTERY: GODLINESS RESTORED TO MAN

Revelation: Through justification and sanctification, God incrementally adds eight measures of His character-anointing to bring Christians to the Holy Ghost baptism.

Godliness is a precious, obtainable level of Christian character few worshippers reach:

1 Tim. 3:16 God becoming a man in Jesus, showing us how to live godly, is the revelation of godliness—*great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh*

Phil. 3:14 *press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*

Mat. 5:48 *Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect*

Luke 2:49 at 12 years old, Jesus was about His *Father's business* and *increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man*

¹ Revelation 10:7

² 1 Peter 3:15

Mat. 7:14 *few there be that find the narrow way to eternal life*

Godliness is attainable through human effort motivated by love for God:

Mat. 22:37-39 Jesus says the greatest commandment is *love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind*

Mark 12:30 Jesus says *love the Lord thy God...with all thy strength*

Luke 14:27, Rom. 8:13, Col. 3:5-6, 1 Cor. 15:31 loving God with all human effort is only attainable through a self-crucifixion of human will

Luke 16:13 Jesus says you can only love one master—either God or riches

Rom. 6:13 yielding to God in obedience shows you are His servant

All human actions are based upon love—whether for God or sin:

John 3:19 *this is the condemnation...men loved darkness [sin] rather than light*

2 Tim. 3:4 *lovers of pleasures [sin] more than lovers of God*

Rom. 5:5 *the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost—God's indwelling love motivates a Christian*

Two types of godliness—one before you're born again (initial devotion), one afterwards (mature devotion):

1 Tim. 3:16 the mature, complete *mystery of godliness* in Jesus' life as He fully obeyed the Father

1 Tim. 4:7, 6:11, 2 Tim. 4:2 Paul instructs young Timothy to exercise himself unto more godliness as he follows after (mature) godliness

1 Tim. 2:2 Christians should seek to display *all godliness*

2 Pet. 3:11-12 Peter says to look for Jesus' coming *in all holy conversation and godliness*

John 5:19 mature godliness is like Christ, Who did *nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do*

More of Paul's teaching on mature godliness:

Titus 1:1-2 Paul says the Christian faith is *after godliness*, or follows godliness

1 Tim. 2:1-3 *all godliness* is attainable and pleases the Lord

1 Tim. 3:16, 4:7-8 godliness is attainable through spiritual exercise, or consistent obedience

1 Tim. 6:3-12 false teachers suppose financial gain is a sign of godliness

2 Tim. 3:1-17 Paul lists 18 sinful attributes men will exhibit while maintaining a *form of godliness*

Peter's steps to initial godliness:

2 Pet. 1:1-15 Peter lists 8 spiritual portions (or measures) of character God adds to believers as they mature in Christianity; godliness is the 6th measure

Rom. 12:8 God gives every man a *measure of faith*

Luke 2:52 *Jesus increased in wisdom and stature*, or received more measures of God's anointing

Eph. 4:8-24 believers grow into the *measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ*; here originates the terminology The Stature of a Perfect Man

Measure #1—Faith to overcome unbelief:

Heb. 1:1, 6 faith is a substance (measure of anointing) and without it God cannot be pleased

Eph. 2:8 saved by grace through faith; faith is a gift from God

Rom. 8:32 God has freely given all things to us; faith is a free gift

Eph. 2:1 unbelievers are *dead in trespasses and sin*

John 5:24 Believing in Jesus Christ as Savior brings spiritual life; Jesus says believers pass *from death unto life*

Luke 1:17 faith comes when one rejects unbelief, or turns his heart in repentance and obedience to the Lord

Acts 26:18 preaching turns the believer from darkness to light

Mark 1:4 John the Baptist's preaching began with urging sinners to repent

Mark 1:14-15, 2:17 Jesus' preaching began with the same urgency for repentance

Eph. 2:2, 8 sinners walk in the spirit of disobedience; they're anointed with an evil spirit; believers are anointed with a measure of God's Spirit, or Life, called faith

Luke 19:9-10 this day salvation (faith) comes to Zacchaeus

Luke 7:36-50 Jesus tells repentant woman, *Thy faith hath saved thee*

Rom. 6:4 Salvation is *newness of life*; death was sinful unbelief

Acts 2:22-23, 37-39, 41 faith comes after God's Word convicts 3,000 guilty sinners who admit and turn from their hopeless wickedness (repentance), desiring to trust in Jesus Christ for complete forgiveness

Gal. 5:6 faith works by love; love for Jesus happens first, producing faith, which did works

Eph. 2:10 Christians were *created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them*

Rom. 3:24 *justified freely by his grace*; justified means to declare one to be just

Rom. 4:5 *But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness*; believers are justified by believing, or simple faith in Christ

Rom. 5:1-2 *being justified by faith, we have peace with God*

Luke 22:31-32, 2 Pet. 1:5 faith is the first, or foundational measure of God's anointing, as Jesus told Peter his faith would not fail even though he'd deny Christ thrice

Measure #2—Virtue to overcome hypocrisy:

2 Pet. 1:5 *add to your faith virtue*; virtue is the strength to daily walk in God's way

Mat. 23:25, 28 Christ rebukes scribes, Pharisees for hypocrisy—presenting a false moral strength to the public

Mat. 10:32-42 through His virtue, Jesus requires all believers to confess Him before men and their families

Ruth 3:11 all the city knew Ruth was virtuous

Prov. 31:10-31 the Proverbs 31 Woman's strength is witnessed both in public and in the home

Dan. 6:1-28 Daniel's virtue caused him to pray despite knowing the death consequence

Mat. 5:38-42 Christ teaches four virtuous responses to public trouble and surprising requests

Mat. 6:1-4 Jesus teaches about virtuously giving alms in private, not seeking public recognition

Mark 5:30, 1 Cor. 12:29-30 Jesus' virtue to heal is the gift of healing, not the measure of virtue in the Stature of a Perfect Man because not all believers have gifts of healing
Mat. 26:69-75, Acts 2:4, 14 Peter lost his virtue anointing the night of Jesus' arrest, unable to admit he knew Jesus to a maid, but never lost of faith; he gained it back (and more) after Jesus' resurrection

Judas Iscariot's life shows gaining and losing Jesus' character qualities, or measures of anointing:

John 4:1-2 Jesus' apostles baptized new believers, proving Judas must have first confessed his faith in Jesus as Messiah and been baptized before he would be ordained to baptize others

John 2:11 Jesus' disciples believed on Him, including Judas

Mat. 10:1-8, Acts 1:15-26 Jesus gave His 12 apostles power to preach, heal the sick, etc.; Judas obtained part of this ministry through the anointing of the Holy Spirit;

John 6:37 since Jesus promised to never cast away a true believer, Judas cast away Jesus and His divine nature

Mat. 26:22-25, Mark 14:19 during Passover, none of Jesus' disciples knew Judas would be the betrayer, proving his lived a relatively holy life

John 12:5-8 Judas' spiritual weakness apparent as he complained about Mary anointing Jesus, yet inwardly he was a thief

Mat. 7:21-23 Jesus' exact description of the many Judas-like churchgoers who temporarily receive God's anointing but then reject it for iniquity-sake, or wicked living

Mat. 12:29-30, 43-45, Luke 8:1-18, Heb. 3:7-4:16, Heb. 6:1-12, Heb. 10:19-39, 2 Pet. 2:19-22 these 6 texts prove many will be like Judas, temporarily receiving the character qualities of Christ, but will ultimately reject them and be damned

Luke 22:3 *Then entered Satan into Judas;* Judas previously rejected the Holy Spirit's anointing

John 13:27 *And after the sop Satan entered into him*

The rich young ruler's life exhibits all men recognize their lack of Jesus' character qualities and God knows everyone's spiritual weight:

Mat. 19:16-30, Mark 10:17-31, Luke 18:18-30 rich young ruler knew he lacked eternal life, or the full portion of God's Spirit

Acts 17:26-28 Jesus' Spirit is near to every heart attempting to show their current character and offer a greater experience serving Christ

Prov. 16:2 God weighs each person's character: *the LORD weigheth the spirits*

Dan. 5:27 *Thou (Belshazzar) art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting*

Job 31:6 after enduring months of tests, Job cried, *Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity*

2 Cor. 4:16-18 earthly trials and tests of faith produce an *eternal weight of glory*

Measure #3—Knowledge to overcome human reasoning:

2 Pet. 1:5 *add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge*

2 Pet. 1:3-4 every promise of God is obtained by knowledge or understanding God's will

Isa. 1:16-20 God invited Israel to reason with Him, promising to wash their sins white as snow if they were obedient

Gen. 3:1-8 Satan uses the serpent to beguile Eve through sinful human reasoning

Mark 2:1-12 the Lord Jesus confronted scribes about their sinful reasoning when He forgave the palsy-stricken man's sins

Acts 17:1-12 Paul uses godly reasoning *out of the scriptures* for three straight Sabbath days

Mat. 23:13, Luke 11:52 Jesus calls knowledge a key, rebuking Jews for not entering the kingdom

Mat. 16:19, Acts 2:14-47, 8:1-17, 10:34-48 given the keys to the kingdom by Jesus, Peter opens the door of salvation to Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles

2 Cor. 4:6-7 Paul uses light to describe knowledge in our hearts, or human spirits

Ps. 119:130 *The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding*

2 Cor. 2:14-16 godly knowledge is like a fragrance unto life

Rom. 3:4 *let God be true, but every man a liar*—have the knowledge God cannot lie

Rom. 2:16 God will judge men by Paul's gospel, so the Bible must be contradiction-free

Mark 16:15-18, 1 Cor. 12:1-31 Jesus promised the existence of the gifts of the Spirit; Paul does the same 20 years after Pentecost, urging believers to covet the best gifts;

Measure #4—Temperance to overcome sensuality:

2 Pet. 1:6 *And to knowledge temperance*

Gal. 5:24-25 summary of the spiritual versus natural battle: *And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts*

2 Tim. 2:22 *Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace*

Jude 1:18-19 affirms sensual ones separate themselves and cannot have the Holy Spirit

1 Cor. 3:1-7 Paul describes the damage sensual, carnal sins had upon the Corinthian church

1 John 2:15-16 sensual temptations come through one of three categories: lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life

Gen. 3:6 Eve falls into sin through all three categories: flesh, eyes, pride

Mat. 4:1-11 Jesus defeats Satan in all three categories: flesh, eyes, pride

Measure #5—Patience to overcome haste:

2 Pet. 1:6 *and to temperance patience*

Job 23:10 *When he [God] hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold*

Luke 21:19 Jesus says, *"In your patience possess ye your souls"*

Rom. 5:3-4 patience is gained in the middle of your tribulation

Isa. 26:3 patience comes as you purposely choose to think about God's goodness rather than your disappointments: *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee*

Phil. 4:6-7 offering thanksgiving to God while praying about your tribulation yields patience

Prov. 1:16 *sinners make haste to shed blood*

Prov. 14:29 *a hasty spirit exalteth folly*

Prov. 29:20 *a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him*

Prov. 28:22 *He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye*

Ps. 52:8-9 *I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever...and I will wait on thy name*

Jam. 5:11 *Ye have heard of the patience of Job*

Job 2:7, 7:3-4, 29:2 Job endured intense physical suffering with open skin sores from his head to his feet; lasted for months and caused sleepless nights

Jam. 5:10 the prophets are examples of patience

Gen. 12:4-7, 21:5 Abraham waited 25 years for Isaac to be born

Ex. 7:7, Acts 7:23-24 Moses waited 40 years, until he turned 80, before God used him to deliver Israel out of Egypt

Heb. 6:12, 10:36 we inherit promises through faith and patience

Measure #6—Godliness to overcome irreverence:

2 Pet. 1:6 *and to patience godliness*

Mat. 5:43-48 godliness is being like God—kind to sinners and the unthankful

2 Pet. 3:9 God is *not willing that any should perish*

1 Tim. 2:4 God wishes *all men to be saved*

Eze. 33:11 God does not delight in the death of sinners

Rom. 9:1-4 Paul wishes he could be cursed so his Israeli brethren could be saved

Eze. 9:1-11 godliness makes you sigh and cry in prayer for abominations done by sinners

Ps. 119:136 *Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law*

Ps. 103:8, Prov. 16:32 be slow to anger because God is slow to anger

Mat. 5:7 Jesus says, *Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy*

Rom. 9:18 God *hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth*

Mic. 7:18 God *delighted in mercy*

Measure #7—Brotherly kindness to overcome selfishness:

2 Pet. 1:7 *And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity*

Gal. 6:10 *let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith*

John 13:35 *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another*

Mat. 24:12 *And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold*

2 Tim. 3:1-4 men in last times will love themselves and pleasures more than God

1 Thes. 3:12 *the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another*

Luke 4:14-17 Christ's *custom* or habit was to be with believers in the synagogue

Acts 20:7 on Sunday, *the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them*

Eph. 4:11-14 five preaching gifts protect believers from immaturity, doubt, hesitation, and deception

Mat. 25:31-46, Acts 6:1, Phil. 2:3-4, James 2:14-17 brotherly kindness moves believers to meet the physical needs of other Christians

Mat. 18:21-35, Luke 17:5, Phile. 1:10-19 brotherly kindness promotes radical forgiveness towards fellow Christians

Heb. 10:24-25 increasing the number of gatherings with Christians is an attribute of brotherly kindness

Rom. 12:6 seek to spend time with the least esteemed, or less popular Christians

Jam. 2:1-9 Christians offer brotherly kindness with impartiality regardless of socioeconomic status

1 Cor. 12:35-26, Eph. 6:18 brother kindness leads Christians to pray for one another
Ps. 12:6 complete purification comes through seven steps: *The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times*

Measure #8—Charity to overcome resistance:

2 Pet. 1:7 *and to brotherly kindness charity*

1 John 4:8 *God is love; so God = love/charity*

Rom. 5:5 charity = baptism of Holy Ghost because *the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost*

Acts 1:5 Jesus promises the baptism of the Holy Ghost, which fell in Acts 2:4

2 Cor. 1:22, Eph. 1:13, 4:30 the baptism of the Holy Ghost is the seal unto the day of redemption

The Three Stages or Works of Grace:

2 Cor. 6:1 *We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain; genuine reception of grace causes believers to willingly work for Christ*

Mark 16:20 *they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following; God only works within man's free moral agency*

1 Cor. 15:10 grace caused Paul to labor more abundantly than all the apostles

Eze. 36:26-27 three stages: new heart, new spirit, God's Spirit

Mark 4:28 Jesus' kingdom grows in 3 stages: blade, ear, full corn

John 14:6, 17:17 Jesus is the way, truth, life; sanctified through the truth, the Word

1 Cor. 3:6-7 Paul: *I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase*