

EXTRA-BIBLICAL LITERATURE

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – THE MEMPHIS CHURCH – WINTER/SPRING 2019



TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Reconciling Men to God and to one another

BIBLE STUDY
9:30 AM

WORSHIP SERVICE
10:45 AM

**WORSHIP NOW.
BEAT THE
EASTER RUSH.**





**"In the old days, your Grandma and I
watched TV with rabbit ears."**

EBL – Schedule

Extra Biblical Class (20 Weeks)		
10-Feb		Introduction to Topic, materials needed, & present the history/plan
17-Feb		Class 1 - Old Testament - Formation (42:26)
24-Feb	Douglas Jacoby	Class 2 - Old Testament - Apocrypha (25:03)
3-Mar	How the Bible Came to Be	Class 3 - New Testament - Formation (42:28)
10-Mar		Class 4 - New Testament - Apocrypha & Pseudepigrapha (40:22)
17-Mar		Class 5 - Gospels - False & True (35:55)
24-Mar		Tobit
31-Mar		Judith
7-Apr		Additions to the Book of Esther / Wisdom of Solomon
14-Apr		Ecclesiasticus (Part 1 of 2)
21-Apr	Apocrypha	Ecclesiasticus (Part 2 of 2)
28-Apr		Baruch / Letter to Jeremiah / Additions to the Book of Daniel
5-May		1 Maccabees
12-May		2 Maccabees
19-May	Apostolic Fathers	1 Clement
26-May		2 Clement
2-Jun		The Letters of Ignatius
9-Jun		Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians / Martyrdom of Polycarp / Didache
16-Jun		Shepherd of Hermas
23-Jun	Wrap-up / Party	

Sirach

Sirach 5:4 Do not say, “I sinned, yet what has happened to me?”
for the Lord is slow to anger.

5 Do not be so confident of forgiveness
that you add sin to sin.

6 Do not say, “His mercy is great,
he will forgive the multitude of my sins,”
for both mercy and wrath are with him,
and his anger will rest on sinners.

7 Do not delay to turn back to the Lord,
and do not postpone it from day to day;
for suddenly the wrath of the Lord will come upon you,
and at the time of punishment you will perish.



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Sirach

Matthew 24:37-39

³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.



Doug's Notes

- This is the only apocryphal book whose author's name is known. (Sirach 50:27 - *Instruction in understanding and knowledge I have written in this book, Jesus son of Eleazar son of Sirach of Jerusalem, whose mind poured forth wisdom.*)
- Originally written in 180 BCE in Hebrew (Grandson around 132 BCE in the Prologue) – Malachi written around 445 BCE
- The oldest manuscript is a fragment found at Qumran (the famous Dead Sea community) in 1952 -- nearly two millennia old!

Doug's Notes

Allusions to Sirach are found in the New Testament:

2:1 My child, when you come to serve the Lord,
prepare yourself for testing.

2 Set your heart right and be steadfast,
and do not be impetuous in time of calamity.

3 Cling to him and do not depart,
so that your last days may be prosperous.

4 Accept whatever befalls you,
and in times of humiliation be patient.

5 For gold is tested in the fire,
and those found acceptable, in the furnace of
humiliation.

6 Trust in him, and he will help you;
make your ways straight, and hope in him.

James 1:2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and
sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3
because you know that the testing of your faith
produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish
its work so that you may be mature and
complete, not lacking anything.

12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial
because, having stood the test, that person will
receive the crown of life that the Lord has
promised to those who love him.

13 -15

Doug's Notes

- Allusions to Sirach are found in the New Testament:

5:11 Be quick to hear, but deliberate in answering.

7:14 Do not babble in the assembly of the elders, and do not repeat yourself when you pray.

James 1:19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

Matthew 6:7 And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.

Doug's Notes

- And yet not everything is theologically correct. 12:4-7 teaches the opposite of Luke 6:27-31 (don't give to the unrighteous). In 25:24-26, we read we may divorce a wife if we are having marriage problems. And in 30:1 we read, "He who loves his son will whip him often..." Although it is similar to the teaching of Proverbs, it goes just a bit too far doesn't it?

Doug's Notes

To sum up, "He is a theologian of rank and a teacher of religious truth but nonetheless a man of the world proud of his practical philosophy. Put your trust in the Lord (32:24-33:1), but trust also the wisdom that comes of experience. His advice to the sick man, 38:1-15, may serve for partial illustration: "My son, when you are ill, pray to the Lord and he will heal you. Cleanse your heart from sin, offer your sacrifice, and then put yourself in the hands of a physician, for God created him (this is said twice): let him not go from you. A wise man will not refuse to take medicines" (Torrey, *The Apocryphal Literature* 94).

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