

**CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**

**SCHOOL OF KNOWING AND SERVING GOD**

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## **TEACHING ON BASIC DOCTRINES**

### **UNIT 1**

## **« THE WAY OF LIFE »**

*By Zacharias Tanee Fomum*

**LESSON 3: HUMAN ATTEMPS AT GETTING OUT OF  
THE OLD CREATION.**

## REMINDER

Dear student,

We are happy for the interest that this course has produced in you.

The purpose of our Bible Correspondence course is to help you to find the Lord Jesus. This first series of this Bible course comprises seven lessons based on the book entitled "The Way of Life". As you begin to study, we encourage you to press right to the end.

We particularly insist that you get a Bible that you will read systematically. If you fail to do this, then this course might not be of full benefit to you. All the Bible passage quoted should carefully be read.

Our prayer is that by the time you finish studying these lessons you would have entered into a living relationship with Jesus.

May God bless you very richly!

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## INTRODUCTION

« I said to myself, come now, I will make a test of pleasure; enjoy yourself. But behold, this also was vanity. I said of laughter, it is mad and of pleasure, what use is it? I searched with my mind how to cheer my body with wine – My mind still guiding me with wisdom – and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven during the few days of their life. I made great works; built houses and planted vineyards for myself. I made myself gardens and parks and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house; I had also great possessions of herds and flocks. More than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces; I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, man's delight.

So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem, also my wisdom remained with me. And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them; I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I have spent doing it and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun » Ecclesiastes 2 :1-11.

« So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me; for all is vanity and striving after wind » Ecclesiastes 2: 17.

If a good number of readers are asked to situate this passage in time, many will not hesitate to attach to it the tag of the contemporary era and they will be right because the passage describes the condition of modern man. Meanwhile the author of the quoted text lived more than two thousand and five hundred years ago.

The economic, social and political system and structures have greatly evolved since prehistoric times to present day. Dating from a few centuries back, technological progress has put at man's disposal, means of production that are increasingly being improved upon, which allows for increasing time for leisure and pleasure. Yet the deep condition of man has not changed. The explanation is simple, if we consider what we saw in the preceding lesson. We saw that man, although initially created in the image of God, fell and was degraded as a result of his disobedience to God. As a consequence of this disobedience, man became an old creation and God drove him (man) from His presence. This separation of man from God is the condition of the fallen man. It is an abnormal situation caused by sin. In actual fact, man was created to live with God to such an extent that fellowship between man and God is a need. This need for fellowship between man and his creator makes the difference between him (man) and other living creatures.

Due to this need, the separation of man from God leaves an emptiness in man. Any normal human being is conscious of this emptiness and all men of good faith confess it. This emptiness is manifested by a thirst which man at all times has tried to quench without success, because he drinks from the wrong sources, which range from the taking of drugs to the possessing of riches, greatness and glory passing through all kinds of sensual pleasures. All the effort that man exerts in order to obtain these, is vanity and a striving after wind. In spite of all these, man has not yet been able to solve the problem. The emptiness remains, boredom remains. The more pleasures and leisures are multiplied, the more man discovers his need of them. And no one ever gets enough. The higher man climbs on the ladder of celebrity and fame the more he feels empty. In the crucible of despair, some have had a dark ending-suicide (either with immediate effect or late). The memory of a number of such, are still fresh in the minds of many. Among these we have Jimmy Hendricks, Mike Brant,

and Bob Marley, who were the great men of show business, then Hitler, the great figure in contemporary history, and so on. They certainly made a way in the path they had chosen, but at the end of their way they came to a deadlock, and their fall was great!

They were thirsty but they sought to drink at the wrong sources, meanwhile the real need is the re-establishing of the fellowship between man and his Creator. This restored fellowship is the only solution to man's problem. Man has tried to substitute this with many things, but the problem remains in whole while in the so-called developed societies, the human condition has grown worse, judging by the observed rate of criminality and suicide. Finally, man's fundamental problem is essentially, God: this should not be ignored. A great majority of men know this, but then, what is their attitude towards God?

Some resign to their condition by trying to ignore God or to prove that He does not exist. These are called atheists. Their «religion» is known as atheism. Others admit the existence of God or gods whom they try to gain. The problem of these is nevertheless, not solved, their religions are simply sedatives which do not heal disease. These religions sometimes calm the consciences of those who adhere to them. Among these we have pagan religions, moral religion and false Christianity. All these religions are human attempts to return to God, and to come out of the old creation. Can man succeed to find God through his own efforts? The answer is no! And we will see why. But before that, what is the outcome of the atheists who deny the existence of God?

## I. ATHEISM

### 1.1. What is atheism?

It is the sum of all atheists « religions », all those who say « we do not need God. God has never existed, or if ever He did, He must be dead ». Among these we have the moralists,

the humanitarians, the freethinkers. They have rejected God and His laws and have replaced Him by man. Man is thus raised to the level of God and faith is not in God but in man

First of all, the atheist's position is foolish. In fact, denying the existence of God requires a supreme knowledge. Think for a while about all that could go as knowledge and all its ramifications: the knowledge of humanity, the knowledge of millions of stars, of all the seas and all that they contain. A man who claims to have 5% of all this knowledge would be presumptuous. And even if an individual had 5% of this knowledge, how could he say that God does not exist in the 95% which he is ignorant of? Someone who admitted that he knew only 0.1% of all that could be known; added that he was sure that in the remaining 99.9% of the knowledge which he hadn't, God did not exist. How ridiculous! He knew that God did not exist in what he did not know.

And then, when the fragility and the weakness of man is considered, one is forced to admit that the deification of man is absolute folly.

## **1.2. Atheists are without excuse**

« Ever since the creation of the world His invisible nature namely, His eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in things that have been made. So they are without excuse » (Romans 1: 20).

Some learned atheists came together a few years ago to evaluate the probability of life appearing spontaneously on earth. They were confounded by the results they obtained. They found that this probability was in the order of 1/585 at the best. « This probability is equal to the likelihood of a monkey producing a master piece of a type writer. It will be considered that this « probability » is very « improbable » even if texts which do not shine by limpidity are accepted as master pieces. Let us be honest! Such a probability is very minute. We might as well say that it is of account (null) mathematicians,

physicists and biologists. So, even if only the scientific reasons were considered, only one conclusion will stand out. Life could not have appeared spontaneously. If the most serious learned men came to the scientific conclusions that it is improbable that on earth man should have appeared on its own, who are you and what are the basis of your unbelief?

It is foolish to say that God does not exist. It would be wiser for someone who doubts, to simply say that he doesn't know if God exists. Yet, it is not enough to stay in ignorance. Every intelligent person ought to actively seek to know if God exists or not. But is there any need for a deep search before one discovers that GOD IS?

Does his creation not impose the fact that He exists? Those who do not acknowledge it remain in the old creation. They should know that their position does not change the truth. The truth is that God exists and one day, all atheists will have to confront Him. On that day they will be languishing in the lake of fire which never goes out, they will believe in God, but it will be too late.

Nevertheless, a great majority (of men) recognise the existence of God. But among those who accept that God exists, a very small proportion is given to piety. All the rest are simply religious animals, more or less bound by religious systems among which we will name only the most renowned such as paganism, the so-called moral religions, false Christianity.

## **II. PAGANISM OR PAGAN RELIGIONS**

### **2.1. What do we mean by Pagan Religion?**

Pagans are found all over the world. They are found in Paris, London, New-York, Africa, Asia, etc. Paganism is not the primitive man's religion, as some would have us believe. Paganism includes all forms of magic, sorcery, witchcraft, astrology, ancestral worship, etc. The fundamentals of

paganism are gods who must be appeased by sacrifices. The reality of the unseen realm is known and man wants to appease the gods. So there is propitiation (Blood sacrifices to the gods) or there is libation (Drink offering to the gods). By various forms of magical practices, magical man tries to know the mind of gods in order to have favours from them. Man also wants to please the gods in order to have favours from them. Paganism knows and worships many gods even if these gods are seen as representing the supreme God.

In a lot of pagan religions, the supreme God is seen as so holy and so totally unapproachable that He can only be contacted through mediums, human beings who act as intermediaries. Other human beings function as priests, witches, wizards etc.

Pagans worship idols who are meant to represent God. All this is hopeless in bringing man out of the Old Creation. It is also a direct disobedience to God who said, « You shall have no other gods besides me » (Exodus 20:3); and « You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; You should not bow down to them; for I the Lord your god am a jealous God » (Exodus 20: 4-5). The whole of paganism is so much against God that the Lord said, « There shall not be found among you any one who burns his son or daughter as an offering, anyone who practises divination, or sorcery, a soothsayer, or a charmer, or a medium, or a wizard, or a necromancer, for whosoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord » (Deuteronomy 18: 10-12). The Word of the Lord says, « The idols of the nations are silver and gold the work of men's hands. They have mouths but they speak not, they have eyes but they see not, they have ears but they hear not, nor is there any breath in their mouths. **LIKE THEM BE THOSE « WHO MAKE THEM! EVERY ONE WHO TRUSTS IN THEM »** (Psalm 135: 15-18).

## 2.2. The failure of Pagan Religions

All who practise paganism are lost. The sacrifices that they make are not to the true God but to demons. The Bible says, « What do I imply them? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? NO. I imply that what Pagans sacrifice they offer it to demons and not to God» (1Corinthians10: 20-29)

Their ancestors are not intermediaries between them and the true God; rather demons act as ancestors and unite them with the unseen world of satan.

Paganism cannot bring anyone out of the old creation. It can only plunge people deeper and deeper into lost. What of Pagans who practise paganism out of ignorance? What if they are sincere? Well, sincerity is not enough. No one is set free even before an earthly court for not knowing what the law says. All sorcerers and pagans of all forms will have their part in the lake which burns with fire and sulphur. The way out is through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus who is God's only way of salvation.

### III. MORAL RELIGIONS.

From all that has been said above about Paganism it comes out clearly that pagans recognise and admit men's limitations and short-comings. They think that the wrong done to God or to any other person can be repaired by means of sacrifices. On the other hand the basis of moral religion is that man is fundamentally good and able. Because man is good and able, by his own efforts he can reach God. We therefore group under Moral Religion, all religions, whose doctrines are based on man's ability to reach salvation through his own effort. The two most important of these are Buddhism and Islam. Other devilish sects as Bahai faith, Jehovah's Witnesses, the Rosicrucian Order. Transcendental meditation, the Moonists, Freemasons etc. are equally included. All these religions are a

lie of the devil who disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11: 14-15- to bring hundreds of millions of followers to hell.

Let us take Islam for example.

### **3.1. What do Muslims believe?**

Having given that man can be saved through his personal efforts, Islam, like other moral religions affirms that on the basis of each person's deeds he will have to suffer eternally away from God. Hence, according to the same doctrine, God will weigh the good and evil of each man and those whose works will weigh more than their evil deeds, will be saved. For this reason Muslims try through many prayers, the giving of alms to the poor, fasting and pilgrimages to Mecca, to set a credit balance on which their good deeds will surpass their evil deeds. They hope to be accepted by God on that basis. It should be admitted that, because of all the efforts made to please God, some who are really committed to these moral religions such as Islam, are people of good morals. They are kind and willing to help since their hope to gain heaven depends on that. But this hope is wrong and we are going to see why.

### **3.2. The failure of Islam**

Before praying, Muslims proceed to ablutions, purification which consist, essentially, of washing with water, certain parts of their body in order to purify them of sins committed. One day, when we went out for door to door evangelism in the Muslim quarter in Yaoundé, we met a Muslim who was getting ready for evening prayers. He had already washed his ears, eyes, nose, and feet. When I asked him by what means he will get to his heart which need washing more than the other parts, he got angry, whereas the truth was evident. We have seen that man is a sinner by nature, a lost sinner, the sin-producing factory is inside him (see Mark 7:20).

In this state, it is impossible for him to get back to God on his own. Even if he were to commit only one sin, he would still be lost. Man cannot save himself. Man's attempts are futile because the Bible says « We have all become like one who is unclean and all our righteous deeds are like polluted garment » (Isaiah 64 : 6). Yes, all the good deeds of a moralist are like polluted garments before God. They may be good before man but they are useless before God. Another failure of moral religions is this: they do not provide a way of dealing with past sins. Even if a thief was capable of stopping and stealing no more, he would still be accountable for his past theft.

Because Islam and other moral religions are fundamentally man's attempts at reaching God, because fundamentally God is unknown and unapproachable, all of them have no assurance of forgiveness of sins. It is right that they should have no assurance of forgiveness since they are not forgiven. What happens to their many prayers? Well, as sinners their prayers leave their lips, bounce on the wall of sin that separates them from God and they return to them. Their prayers do not reach God. Someone may ask, « What of their sincerity? Well, true they are sincere but sincerely mistaken. They are sincere but lost. If a man sincerely believes a lie, will his sincerity change the lie into truth? No!!

The moral religion must look for a way back to God. Only God can provide one and He has provided one in the death, resurrection and glorification of the Lord Jesus.

#### **IV. FALSE CHRISTIANITY.**

Normally Christianity is God's unquestionable answer to the whole business of man's perdition. False Christianity is the religion of all who claim to be Christians meanwhile they do not put Christ's word into practice. This can also be called impotent Christianity because of the lack of a capacity to lead man to salvation. A false Christianity is a religious animal

without any vital relationship with the living God. False Christianity can be seen in the following manifestations:

- 1) Putting the word of God entirely aside
- 2) Adding to the scriptures the thought of man
- 3) Distorting the teaching of scripture.

By so doing he weakens the authority of the Word of God. The ultimate aim of the devil, who is the engineer of false Christianity, is to distort or to put aside the revelation of God concerning the Cross of Calvary where satan was overthrown by Jesus and freedom obtained for all his captives. Impotent Christianity ensures that the devil holds and sways over the souls of men.

"For example, many who call themselves Christians are idol worshippers. They bow to statues and worship human being called saints and believe in a salvation by faith and good works. Yet the Bible says, "You shall not make for yourself a graven image, in any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them"(Exodus 20: 4-5). Sunday by Sunday, multitudes of religious people bow down to statues, pray through human beings instead of praying in the name of Jesus, all these in full knowledge of the fact that the Word of God says, "For there is one God, and there is one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony to which was borne at the proper time"(1 Timothy 2:5), the Word of God is far from central. In an attempt to amass numbers into the religious systems and not to Christ, multitudes of babies were sprinkled with the deceiving aim of making them believers even though they neither repented, nor believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, all this is done for full knowledge that the Lord Jesus said, " He who believes and is baptised will be saved" Mark 16: 16). The product is entire nations of baptised, confirmed sinners twice fit for hell than the pagan who never passed by the walls of a religious meeting place.

If you are trusting on some religious system to get you out of the old creation, you will end up in hell. It does not matter the name of the religious system. It will not save. It cannot save.

What of those who believe in salvation through Jesus plus good works? All these too are lost because the good works that an unbeliever performs in the hope that they will gain him a standing before God are actually dead works. An unbeliever is considered by the Lord as dead. The Bible says that those who are not rightly related to the Lord Jesus are dead. In talking of the past life of the Ephesians believers, the apostle said, "And you he made alive, when you were dead through the trespasses and in which you once walked" (Ephesians 2: 1-2). A sinner is dead in his sins. All that a dead person produces is dead. The good works of a sinner are dead works. When he believes he should repent of having committed the sin of counting on good works for salvation. The Bible says, "Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and faith toward God" Hebrews 6:1).

If an unbeliever gives money to God's work, he commits a sin. If he prays (except the prayer of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus) his prayer is sin. If he does good acts, they are acts of sin for all that issues from an unbeliever bear the marks of the unbeliever's father – the devil. The Lord Jesus told the religious leaders of His day, "You are of your father the devil..." (John 8: 44).

In impotent Christianity (impotent because it cannot save) there is an inadequate cross. So people depend on Christ plus good works for salvation. The Bible says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God not because of works lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). Of course all saved people will do good works but these good works will never add anything to their salvation. For from the moment that a

person repents towards GOD and receives the Lord Jesus, he receives one hundred percent justification from God. He can never add anything to it.

Because of the whole distortion of those systems that have an inadequate Saviour, sinners are not brought face to face with the Lord Jesus who saves to the uttermost those who believe in Him. Because of this inadequacy, numerous things must be done by the people to add to their inadequate faith and the product is a multitude of baptised, confirmed and sincere men on their way to hell.

Any attempt to get back to God by good works is a sort of saying to God, "Although you say that I am altogether wrong, I want to prove to you that you do not quite know what you are talking about, see how good I am!"

Salvation by faith plus good works is the devil's creation aimed at blinding people from seeing God's way of salvation. This may offend you but God says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are my ways yours ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9). Some honest people think that they can be saved by keeping the laws. We know that God gave the law of nature to the non-Jews. The Bible says, "For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them ever since the creation clearly perceived in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse (Romans 1: 19-20). "When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus" (Romans 2: 14-16). God also gave the law called the Ten Commandments to the Jews.

"To be candid, God knew that although the law was perfect and faultless, man would never keep it. The law was given so that it may serve as a mirror of how sinful man is and thus when a man sees his sinfulness revealed by the law, he would fly to God's only true provision for sin - the blood of Christ. The Bible says, "For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, cursed be everyone who does not abide in all things written in the book of the law, and do them." Now it is clear that no man is justified before God by the law (Galatians 3:10-11). "For whosoever shall keep the whole law but fail IN ONE POINT has become guilty of all" (James 2:10). Nothing could be more frustrating to anyone who wants to become a new creation as the attempts to accomplish this by keeping the law. The Bible further says, "Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped and the whole world may be held accountable to God FOR NO HUMAN BEING WILL BE JUSTIFIED (PUT INTO RIGHT STANDING) IN HIS (GOD'S) SIGHT BY WORKS OF THE LAW SINCE THROUGH THE LAW COMES KNOWLEDGE OF SIN" (Romans 3: 19-20).

The law is good but man is weak and sold under sin. If he could keep the law perfectly and not fail in any point of it, he would not need a saviour. Unfortunately no one has ever kept the law perfectly. So all men need a saviour. All men need the saviour.

It is not enough to belong to some denominational system; to be baptised and confirmed. If an unrepentant sinner is baptised, the product is a baptised, confirmed sinner, twice better fit for hell than the pagan.

Why can human attempts not save man?

Why can they not change him into a new creation? The answer lies fundamentally in the nature of sin. Sin renders the sinner dead. A dead man is a corpse which necessarily decays. If you clothe him with expensive clothes, he still, decays. If you inject formalin into him to prevent decay, still, decay will take place. Even if the corpse didn't want to decay

he will all the same decay because the law of death and decay is at work in him. The various religions are like the good clothes which are put on the corpse or the formalin injected into it, but all that is produced is a well-dressed corpse. What the dead man needs is not the law. He does not need a preservative. He does not need good clothes. He needs life. Give it life and later on its clothing can be taken care of.

### **WHAT SHOULD BE RETAINED?**

We saw in Lesson 1 that God created a perfect world. God's privileged creature, was created in the image of God, for a special relationship with his creator, also for dominion over the rest of the creation and to subdue the earth. All these were possible on condition that man remained submissive to God. It was from God that man drew his authority and power to subdue the earth. It happened that man disobeyed God. In disobeying, man broke his fellowship with God and the earth was cursed because of this sin; this is how disorder came into creation that was originally perfect. Man, driven from the presence of God found himself in a less habitable world. Although broken, the fellowship which initially existed between man and God, left in man some amount of the Creator's prints to such an extent that it is innate in man to have nostalgic feeling for the Garden of Eden. We have seen that man created in himself an emptiness which pushes him to thirst for a better existence. A permanent dissatisfaction dwells in the normal man and sets the difference between him and animals.

Consciously or unconsciously, man is seeking to find the Garden of Eden once more. In other words, man needs God. The atheists present man's problem wrongly because they put aside the main given object which is God. The "religious" are aware of this but they fail because they put aside the only way that leads to God, they take many other ways, human efforts which are apparently good, but good to

lead them to hell. Just to name a few out of many; the way of good works, the way of good morals, the way of sacrifices and libations.

The only way which leads to God is Jesus Christ who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but by me" (John 14:6). Many have given themselves to be duped by the devil who makes them believe that God obeys the law of the majority.

These think that truth is found in those religions that have the largest number of followers. They deceive themselves, for the Lord said, "Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life and those who find it are few" (Matthew 7: 13-14). This narrow gate is Jesus. All those who want to go through another gate will find themselves on the way of the old creation. He is the way of the grace of God, the only thing that is left for you to do is to respond to His love for you. There are four things to think about and act upon if you want God to forgive and give you eternal life. These things are represented by the first four letters of alphabet: A, B, C, D.

**ADMIT** that you are a sinner by nature and by practice, and that on your own you are without hope. Tell God that you have personally sinned against Him in your thoughts, words and actions. In a sincere prayer, confess all your sins to Him one after the other. Do not omit any sin that you can remember. It may be helpful if you write out your sins on sheets of paper and then burn them after God has forgiven you. In doing so, you must be truly sorry for them, since they pierce God's heart. Then, truly turn your back to and abandon your sinful ways. If you stole, steal no more. If you have been committing adultery or fornication, stop it. God will not forgive you if you have no desire to stop sinning in all the areas of your life; He will give you power to stop.

**BELIEVE** that Jesus-Christ, who is God's Son, is the only Way, the only Truth and the only Life. Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father but by me" (John 14: 6), and the Bible says, "For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all"(1Timothy 2: 5-6). If you believe this, you are also rejecting every other system or philosophy that suggest that a man can be reconciled to God outside of a personal relationship with Jesus-Christ. If you believe in Jesus-Christ, you will want to receive Him, he gave them the power to become the children of God" (John.1: 12). But,

**CONSIDER** the cost of following Him. Jesus said that all who will follow Him must deny themselves. This includes selfish financial, social and other interests. He also wants His followers to take up their crosses and follow Him. Are you prepared to abandon your own interests daily for those of Christ? Are you prepared to be led in new directions by Him? Are you prepared to suffer for Him and die for Him if need be? Jesus said, "Think not that I have come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace but a sword...and a man's enemies shall be they of his household. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Matthew10: 34-38).

This is very costly, but God's gifts, peace, joy, eternal life, etc., are far greater than whatever it may cost you. You do well to choose Him. Jesus will have nothing to do with half-hearted people. He demands a total commitment. He will only receive and forgive those who are prepared to follow Him **AT ANY COST**. Think about it and count the cost. If you are prepared to follow Him come what may, there is something you must do.

**DO INVITE** Jesus to come into your heart and life. He says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if any one hears

my voice and opens the door (to his heart and life), I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me” (Revelation3: 20). Why not pray like this one, or another one as the Holy Spirit leads you. “Lord Jesus, I am a wretched, lost sinner who has sinned in thought, word and deed. Forgive me all my sins and cleanse me. Receive me, Saviour, and give me eternal life. I will follow you at all cost, trusting Your Holy Spirit to give me all the power that I need. Amen”.

If you have prayed the above prayer sincerely, then Jesus has forgiven you are God’s child right away. Please write to me so that I can pray for you.

May God bless you abundantly!

Zacharias TANEE FOMUM

**SCHOOL OF KNOWING AND SERVING GOD  
TEACHING ON BASIC DOCTRINES**

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**QUESTIONNAIRE ON « THE WAY OF LIFE »**

Student's name and surname (in capital letters)

---

Date of birth .....

P.O. Box or postal code: .....

Telephone: .....

Email address: .....

City: .....

Country: .....

Profession: .....

Marital Status: .....

Student's number: .....

Student's mark: .....

**LESSON 3: HUMAN ATTEMPS AT GETTING OUT OF  
THE OLD CREATION.**

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING THINGS:

Alcohol, films, night clubs, religion, riches, greatness, fame, poverty, women, men, drugs, education, occupation, fellowship with God.

### Quote those which according to you are:

1. Necessary.....  
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2. Dangerous:  
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3. Indispensable: .....  
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4. According to you, what are the reasons for which the writer of (Ecclesiastes 2) hated life?  
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5. Justify your answer .....  
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6. What did he lack? .....  
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7. What is the difference between man and animals?

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8. Man driven out of the Garden of Eden (separated from God) is he complete in himself, yes or no? .....

9. Who is an atheist? .....

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10. Have you met any atheist? .....

11. Quote 2 current doctrines based on atheism.

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12. Can you prove to them that they are wrong, yes or no? .....

13. How?

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14. Can God pardon the one who ignores His existence? .....

Justify your answer: .....

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**CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PRACTICES:**

Magic, witchcraft, pilgrimages to Mecca, astrology, ancestral worship, ablutions, blood sacrifices, alms, divination, casting spells;

15. Quote those which characterise Islam .....

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16. What is the basis for moral religions? .....

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17. Quote two things which prove that Islam is moral religion

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18. What is paganism? .....

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19. Is Paganism :

The primitive man's religion. Yes or no? .....

An African religion. Yes or no? .....

20. What is false Christianity? .....

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21. Who is a false Christian? .....

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22. Who is a true Christian? .....

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23. Classify the following doctrines; quote those which characterise false Christianity.

- Baptism of babies
- Worship of “saints”
- salvation by good Works
- Prayer to human beings call “saints”
- Salvation through purgatory

24. Can baptism save anyone from hell? .....

25. Can confirmation save anyone from hell? .....

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26. In what ways does the devil try to destroy the truth of God's Word?

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27. Can a sincere man perish, yes or no? .....

Why? .....

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28. Name at least 4 diabolic sects that you know.

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29. Why can paganism not save man?

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30. Who is the way of salvation? .....

31. Are you already saved, yes or no? .....

32. If yes, since when? If no do you want to be saved now? .....

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**Read Matthew 7:13-14**

33. How many ways exist? .....

34. What is the way for eternal life? .....

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35. What is the way for eternal perdition? .....

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36. In which way are you? .....

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Write a short commentary of your life on this way.

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37. Do you have someone helping you to grow in your new life with Jesus? If not, should I offer you some one? .....

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