How to Study the Bible

The Study of a Person

I. THE NAME OF A PERSON

A. Name Occurrences

- 1. Chart every occurrence of the person's name (include all forms and various names).
- 2. Divide the occurrences based on the major sections of the Bible, books of the Bible, or chapters of the Bible.
- 3. Give the first and last occurrence of the name noting any significance.
- 4. List the references to this person in the Bible with notations.
- 5. Make sure that each of the references are for the person you are studying and not another person in scripture with the same name.

B. Name Meanings

- 1. Look for the meaning of a name in scripture.
- 2. Is there significance for this person's name to mean what it does?
- 3. Was the person's name changed and what does each of the names mean?

C. Titles for a Person

- 1. What titles are found in scripture for this person?
- 2. Are these titles descriptive (i.e., character, occupation)?
- 3. Was it necessary for the title to be given or was it inserted for insight?

II. WORDS OF A PERSON

A. Statements About the Person

- 1. What interpretive statements are made concerning this person?
- 2. Who made these statements about the person?

B. Statements from the Person

- 1. What are some important sayings or statements made by this person?
- 2. Were these sayings true or false? Were they doctrinally correct?

III. FAMILY OF A PERSON

- A. Father and Mother (Trace this back as far as you can go.)
- B. Husband(s) or Wife/Wives

- C. Brothers and/or Sisters
- D. Children (Trace this forward as far as you can go.)

IV. DETAILS OF THE PERSON'S LIFE

A. Birth and Death

- 1. Birth
 - When and where was this person born?
 - How old were the parents when this person was born?
 - What were the conditions surrounding this person's birth?
- 2. Death
 - When and where did this person die?
 - b. How old was this person when he or she died?
 - What were the conditions surrounding this person's death?
 - Was this person buried or not? If so, where? d.

B. Location in Scripture

- 1. What is the main location in scripture where this person is mentioned?
- List each location consider the following.
 - Is this the person mentioned prophetically, currently, or historically?
 - Is the person used as an example of something right or wrong?

C. Major Events

- What is this person's background? Does this explain any of his actions?
- What can you learn about the childhood of this person?
- What are the major accomplishments or failures of this person?

D. Strengths and Weaknesses

- What are the strengths and weaknesses that this person has?
- Is this person a good example, a bad example, or both?

Typology

- 1. Is this person a type of Christ? If so, how?
- Is this person a type of someone or something else? If so, how?

V. **OUTLINE THE PERSON**

- A. Outline the Person's Life in Detail
- B. Outline Reasons for the Person's Strengths
- C. Outline Reasons for the Person's Weaknesses
- D. Outline What Lessons Should Be Learned from this Person's Life