

# The Need for Bible Study

## Introduction

### Acts 17:10-13

1. **The Bible is the word of God. If it isn't, then God has never spoken to man.**
2. **There is always a dire need for Bible Study**

Hebrews 5:12-14 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

3. **The word of God is something that has been “tried” and we need to “learn” it.**

Psalms 18:30 As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; he is a shield to all who trust in Him.

Matthew 11:28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

4. **Our constant appeal not only to others, but to ourselves must be: “What does the Bible say?”**

1 Peter 4:11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God....

5. **Whatever development one may experience will be because of the word, his knowledge of it and actions based upon it.**

1 Peter 2:2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

## **Beneficial Bible Study Is Conditional**

### **1. Before Bible study can benefit us, we must remove all hindrances.**

1 Peter 2:1-2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all guile, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

- A. Some are unwilling to give up their false doctrines that they regard as truth.**
- B. Immoral practices in one's life must be repented of and abandoned - prejudice can cause one to be unable to learn the truth.**

### **2. We must develop the will within us to want to know the truth.**

John 7:17 If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority.

### **3. Before Bible study can benefit us, we must devote a sufficient amount of time to the study of the Word.**

1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

Acts 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

## **Bible Study Is Objective**

### **1. One must intend to grow by the truth that is learned.**

1 Peter 2:2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

**A. What causes the Christian to grow is the Word of God.**

**B. Therefore, the Word of God should “dwell richly” within us (Col 3:16).**

### **2. We must have a desire for God’s approval of our life.**

2 Timothy 2:15 **Be diligent to present yourself approved to God**, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

### **3. When we apply the Bible to our life, then it will be a preventive tool, such as it was for David and Jesus.**

Psalms 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You!

Matthew 4:3-4 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

### **4. By knowing the Word, we can escape corruption through lust.**

2 Peter 2:20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

## Some Basic Needs for Active Bible Study

**1. We need to study the Bible because: It is the only way to know the truth (Acts 17:11).**

**A. Freedom from sin depends upon our active study.**

John 8:31-32 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

**B. We need freedom to daily "examine" the sacred text.**

**2. We need to study the Bible because: Bible study is the means for man's enlightenment.**

Ephesians 1:17-18 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the **spirit of wisdom and revelation** in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may **know what is the hope of His calling**, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

**A. We are delivered from error by this truth.**

Colossians 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

**B. The truth of the word is convincing.**

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

**3. We need to study the Bible because: Salvation is the purpose in our Bible study.**

1 Peter 1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

**4. We need to study the Bible because: It corrects any falsehood and gives us understanding.**

Psalms 119:104 Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Psalms 119:130 The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

**5. We need to study the Bible because: It produces faith in our heart.**

Ephesians 1:13 **In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth,** the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

### **Assuring Characteristics of the Bible**

- 1. It lives and is active** (Heb 4:12)
- 2. It abides and endures** (1 Pet 1:23-25)
- 3. Never passes away** (Matt 24:35)
- 4. Cannot be broken** (John 10:32; Psalms 119:89)
- 5. The Words of the Lord are pure** (Psalms 12:6; 119:140)
- 6. It is inspired by God** (2 Tim 3:15)
- 7. It holds the precious promises to us** (2 Pet 1:4; 3:9; Rom 8:18)

## Conclusion

### 1. We must all realize this point regarding the Bible:

#### A. It is not enough that the Word be in us, it must abound.

2 Peter 1:8 For **if these things are yours and abound**, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### 2. The Bible must be defended at all times.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to **contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints**.

Philippians 1:17 but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for **the defense of the gospel**.

### 3. Remember, this Bible will be the basis for judgement before the Son of God.

John 12:48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

Romans 2:16 in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

### 4. Knowing these things, we need to lean on God's word, knowing that it comforts us in this life as we look toward eternity.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

