

FIRMLY ROOTED | WORD OF GOD

THE BIBLE TODAY

The Bible is **NOT** just a book of history and stories. The Bible is God's written Word, demonstrating His authority and power. The Bible is the foundation of all our beliefs. The Bible contains thoughts and words from God Himself written and recorded by godly men through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Though the Bible was written hundreds of years ago, it is relevant to our lives today. The Bible is the written authority of God and is vital to the growth of a Christian. What God says to us through the biblical writers is relevant to life in any time and place.

This lesson will introduce you to the basic facts about the Bible and show you how you can apply its principles to your life today.

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

HISTORY OF THE BIBLE

One Book, one author- The Word BIBLE (biblia in the Greek) means "these books, one in unity". It is one volume, 66 books, and 40 writers, written over a span of 1600 years. Men are not the authors of this book. The Bible has one author: God. The word "Scripture" in the Latin means "writings". The Bible is totally accurate in its recording of history and prophecy. It was written down and recorded by men but inspired by the Holy Spirit. Each book and chapter are in perfect harmony without any contradictions.

2 Tim 3:16 says: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. "Inspired of God" literally means, "God breathed." God breathed life into these words. They are not just words and thoughts of men; they are the words and thoughts of God Himself. Men spoke as the Holy Spirit moved upon them.

2 Peter 1:20-21 says: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Through the Bible, you can become personally acquainted with God yourself and understand why you were created and what your purpose is in this life. You can see God's plan for salvation and His heart for the lost. You can come to personally know and understand God's heart concerning your life, how He speaks to you, and how He can help you. Jesus the redeemer is the central figure, and redemption is the central theme. Major subjects covered in the Bible are God, man, and redemption. The Bible is separated into two sections, the Old Testament (39 books) and the New Testament (27 books). The Bible is unique in its origin, its manifestation of the human and divine, and in its life-giving power.

HOW DID WE GET THE BIBLE WE KNOW TODAY?

Understanding this process is called the transmission of God's Word.

1. Original Autographs- This term is used to describe the original writings from the original writers. Some were written in **Hebrew and some in Aramaic**. All the books of the New Testament were written in Greek. These original documents no longer exist. However, we do have copies of the documents.

2. Ancient Manuscripts- These are copies of the original autographs. These are the oldest copies of the Bible in the original language. Some of these are present today. The oldest are the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in 1947, but date back to 200 BC- 70 AD. The Dead Sea Scrolls are in full agreement with the Masoretic text (the standard Hebrew text), which attests to their validity. There were fragments of all the Old Testament books except Esther. All the ancient manuscripts were written between 40 to 50 AD and 100 AD. Some of these early manuscripts were written by Rylands, Beatty, and Papyrus. Many of these writings are dated within one generation of the originals.

- **Ancient Translations** means translating the original language into another language. This was done through a series of processes:
- **Literal translation-** Expresses as far as possible the exact meaning of the words.
- **Transliteration-** Rendering of the text from one language to another by using corresponding letters, e.g. A for A, B for B
- **Version-** A translation of the language of the literary text to another language.
- **Revised version-** This name is given to a work that was translated from one language to another then carefully and systematically reviewed to make corrections of any errors.
- **Old Testament version-** Translation book for book from Hebrew to Greek.

3. Lectionary- Church service books containing selected readings from the New Testament. These served as manuals and were read throughout the church. During the time these were used, the church had become very liturgical, meaning it had a prescribed form of worship. There are over 2100 copies of lectionaries written in Greek. These books help establish the true text and contain the entire New Testament except Revelation and part of Acts.

4. Modern Version- The English Bible. People opposed translating the Bible into another language so everyone could understand it. Many people worked to translate the Bible into English, with some completing only portions. Edbert, Alfred, and Wycliff were a few of the translators who translated the Bible from Latin into English. Here are a few significant translations:

- **1455 - The Gutenberg Bible**, also called the Latin Vulgate, was the first printed book.
- **1525 - Tyndale** translated from the Greek to English and is the Father of the English Bible.
- **1535 - The Coverdale Bible** was the first complete Bible in English, translated from German and Latin.
- **1537 - Matthew's Bible** revised Coverdale's and Tyndale's Bibles.
- **1539 - The Great Bible**, a revision of Matthew's Bible.
- **1560 - The Geneva Bible** was the first complete Bible in verse form.
- **1568 - Bishop's Bible**, not a very popular version, was the first Roman Catholic Bible.
- **1611 - King James Version** - All translators were believers and desired accuracy from the Greek and Hebrew. It took 5 years to complete. This version is considered to be the most reliable.
- Many other translations and revisions have been made over the years to bring us the Bible as we know it today.

AUTHENTICITY OF THE SCRIPTURE

Proof of the divine origin of the Bible. What are the credentials of this book that give it the right to be the authority?

1. The Bible is its own proof- The Bible speaks with the ultimate vindicating authority. The Bible needs no higher authority to confirm it because God has confirmed it.

...that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. Heb 6:18

God cannot lie and can swear by no one greater than Himself because there is no one greater than Himself. It is much like the lion in the jungle. He doesn't need to tell other animals that he is king of the beasts. He is self-vindicated by who he is.

2. The Bible's durability- Even if every Bible were destroyed on earth, it would not be destroyed because it is recorded in heaven.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. Matt 24:35

The message is always current. It has the power to transform lives. It has never gone out of date. The major themes are man, God, His purpose and plan of redemption, giving a view of life and its meaning.

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. John 6:63

Cities, nations, and history have been changed because of the Bible.

3. Unity in the Bible- Even though the Bible was recorded by different people and written over a span of 1600 years, there is complete unity as if one person wrote it.

4. Prophecy- There are so many fulfilled prophecies in the Bible, some recorded hundreds of years before they took place. God, being all-knowing, knew what would happen. Some examples are:

- Amos 9:14- The rebuilding of Israel
- Isaiah 11:11-12- Destruction of Trye
- Micah 5:2- The Birth of Christ
- Isaiah 52- The passion of the Messiah

There is no other book like the Bible. The scarlet thread of redemption runs through every book. The very reason the Bible is superior to all other books is that it is the written Word of God.

OTHER THOUGHTS CONCERNING THE BIBLE

- If you know the author, you will love the book.
- The Bible stands alone in uniqueness. There is nothing like it. No other books or writings are equal to it.
- The Bible can't be accepted by intellect alone but rather by faith.
- No other book has endured throughout generations.
- No other book has profoundly affected so many lives and changed the course of history.

SUMMARY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

- **Genesis** includes the events of the Creation, the Fall, the Flood, the Dispersion, and the Patriarchs.
- **Exodus** recounts the history of the Israelites. It also includes the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness and God's giving of the Law to the Hebrew nation.
- **Leviticus**, called "The Book of the Law of the Priests," gives the people practical guidelines and instructions for practicing the Law.
- **Numbers** picks up the narrative of Exodus and tells us about the wanderings of the Israelites as they proceeded toward Canaan.
- **Deuteronomy**, the sequel to Numbers, records many great deeds done by God as well as the giving of His Law to the chosen people.
- **Joshua** records how he led the people into the Promised Land. It also tells us about the takeover of Canaan and the division of the land among the twelve tribes.
- **Judges** tells of the lives and times of the various rulers and judges.
- **Ruth** tells the story of Ruth, the Moabitess, and her mother-in-law Naomi. Ruth was the great-grandmother of David, the ancestor of Jesus.
- **First and Second Samuel** are historical books concerning the religious and moral conditions of the time. The reigns of Saul and David are also recorded.
- **First and Second Kings** trace the monarchy to its peak under Solomon and its division, decline, and fall under subsequent rulers.
- **First and Second Chronicles** contain genealogical tables as well as the early monarchy, the history of the temple, and of Judah.
- **Ezra and Nehemiah** are companion books that continue the story from Chronicles. Included in them are details about the return of the Jews from their captivity and the rebuilding of Jerusalem's Wall.
- **Esther** is the last of the historical books. It contains an early example of Jewish persecution, as Esther, through her position, is able to save her people.
- **Job** is the first of the poetical books and deals with the problem of suffering.
- **The Psalms** are a collection of poems also called "The Book of Praises." Originally, the poems were chanted or sung to the accompaniment of a stringed instrument.
- **Proverbs** are short bits of practical advice that relate to all aspects of life.
- **Ecclesiastes** contains the writings of Solomon, who had everything and realized it didn't mean anything. He now tries to discover the true value and meaning of life through God.

- **Song of Solomon** is a collection of love songs.
- **Isaiah** is the first book of prophecy. The coming judgment is the basis of Isaiah's teachings. It is also in Isaiah that prophecies of Christ are first found.
- **Jeremiah** was sent to predict doom for his nation because of its many sins. He is also called the "Weeping Prophet."
- **Lamentations** consists of five poems and is a book of sorrow expressed over the fact that the people have been disobedient and are now separated from God.
- **Ezekiel** is divided into two sections: the first part denounces the sins of Jerusalem, and the second part looks to the future with hope.
- **Daniel** tells of his faith and the greatness of his God, as well as his visions and their interpretations.
- **Hosea** is the first book of the twelve Minor Prophets. He urges a return to God, who is merciful and forgiving.
- **Joel**, the prophet, speaks of the coming judgment, but with repentance, there is hope for Israel.
- **Amos** is the first prophet to proclaim that God is the ruler of the whole world.
- **Obadiah** is the shortest book in the Old Testament. It contains a prediction of judgment on Edom for their treatment of Israel.
- **Jonah** is a story of rebellion against God's call and Jonah's subsequent return to God's will.
- **Micah** has a stern and uncompromising message. The people are wicked and headed for destruction, and only God can save them.
- **Nahum** consists of two poems. The prophet recounts the fall of Nineveh after its repentance and its judgment.
- **Habakkuk** is a book of prophecy concerned with the problem of unpunished evil in the world.
- **Zephaniah** reveals that God will hold us accountable for all our actions. The day of the Lord is coming, and the nation must prepare.
- **Haggai** is a book about priorities concerned with the rebuilding of the Temple, their place of worship.
- **Zechariah** is concerned that the Temple has not been rebuilt yet because the Messiah is coming soon.
- **Malachi** is the last book of the Old Testament. The prophet's message to the priests and the people is to stop worshiping halfheartedly. Honor Him wholeheartedly. Malachi tells of the coming day of the Lord and closes the book with a prophecy about John the Baptist.

SUMMARY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS

The New Testament begins with the Gospel, which records the life and teachings of Christ from four different viewpoints.

- **Matthew** tells the complete story of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. The Beatitudes and some of Jesus' parables are also contained in this book.

- **Mark** presents what Christ did. Mark shows Jesus as a servant in the shortest of the four Gospel accounts.
- **Luke** tells us about the compassionate Savior, healer, redeemer, and friend to the weak. From this book, we learn of God's mercy, as Mark wrote to convince the Romans that Jesus was God.
- **John** tells us who Jesus is and what He can be to those who love Him. This book also establishes Jesus' deity.
- **Acts** tells us what Jesus' disciples did after His death and resurrection, and about the organization of the new church. This book is also called "The Acts of the Holy Spirit" because it shows how the church is continually guided by the Holy Spirit.
- **Romans** stresses that all men are sinful, but that God saves all men through faith in Jesus Christ. This book lays out logically why Christianity works.
- **First and Second Corinthians** were written to address the challenges of the early church in Corinth. In First Corinthians, Paul answers their questions, solves their problems, and offers correction and encouragement. Second Corinthians contains Paul's message of love and commitment to the Church in Corinth.
- **Galatians** is the cornerstone of the Christian's freedom. In this book, Paul corrects misconceptions about Christianity.
- **Ephesians** reminds us of God's eternal purpose and teaches that we receive God's love and, in turn, are to love each other.
- **Philippians** is filled with thankfulness and encouragement and tells us that knowing God brings true joy.
- **Colossians** was written to encourage believers not to let the world around them sway them from the truth - that faith in Christ is all they need, nothing else.
- **First and Second Thessalonians** were written to tell Christians how they should live, and that they must not stop working and just wait for the Second Coming. They were to continue to live their lives for Jesus while waiting.
- **First and Second Timothy** are full of advice and requirements for Christians who want to serve God in a significant way. Second Timothy is Paul's final personal letter of advice and encouragement.
- **Titus** addresses issues in pastoral ministry.
- **Philemon** is a personal letter in which the apostle Paul beseeches Philemon to take back a runaway slave. This book shows that every believer is important, no matter who they are.
- **Hebrews** urges the Hebrew Christian community not to revert to Jewish rituals. It shows Christ's supremacy over the OT priests and the Law.
- **James** teaches not only what faith is, but also what it does. It explains not only what to believe but how to live it. It is clear and practical in its dealing with Christian behavior.
- **First Peter** admonishes the new believers to have hope and courage in difficult times and to trust in God alone.
- **Second Peter** warns of false teachers in the church and sets the record straight. It also urges believers to keep the faith and let it get them through the hard times.
- **The Epistles of John** teach us to beware of false teachers, that we are to love one another because God is love, and to stand firm in our beliefs.
- **Jude** urges believers to stand firm against false teachers and the false doctrine they bring. He admonishes us to examine what people say and the kind of lives they live
- **Revelation** is the only prophetic book in the New Testament. In it are charges to the seven Christian churches in Asia Minor. The book then describes what will happen in the future to the world and believers in it. Included in it are images of the Tribulation, the Second Coming of

Christ, and the Judgment Seat. It may be hard for us to understand today, but John's message is clearly one of hope, courage, and faith in times of trouble.

WHY SHOULD I READ MY BIBLE?

- **It has the power to transform your life.**
And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Rom 12:2
- **It provides wisdom, counsel, and direction.**
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Ps 119:105
- **It brings faith.**
So, then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Rom 10:17
- **It provides fellowship with God**
Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Matt 7:7-8

WHERE DO I START?

Here are some tips to get you started:

- There is no right or wrong way to read your Bible. The important thing is that you do it. A good place to start is to see the value in reading your Bible. If you do not place a high value on it, you will not be faithful to do it.
- If you are new to reading the Bible, a good place to start is the Book of John or one of the other gospel accounts.
- Find the right spot to read your Bible, a place away from distractions and noise.
- Set aside some time every day to spend in the Word.
- Read the Bible to understand it, not just to get through it.
- Use study aids such as concordances, commentaries, and dictionaries to help you better understand the passages.
- Read difficult passages in context and use other Scriptures to help you interpret them.
- Make it a part of your everyday life.

6 WAYS TO STUDY THE BIBLE

1. ***Study a topic.*** Choose a topic and research the entire Bible to find out what has been written about that topic. Topics usually are doctrines, events, places, duties, words or biographies.
2. ***Study a word or words.*** Find the meaning of the original word or words used in a text. By studying a word's definition, you will understand what is being said. Then compare where and how the word is used throughout the Bible.

3. **Study a section.** When searching for the meaning of a truth or concept in Scripture, use the entire Bible to help you arrive at a proper interpretation.
4. **Study an entire book.** When possible, read a book of the Bible through in one sitting. By doing this, you can see the full context. When studying a book of the Bible, research the history and customs of the time it was written. Also, research the author and culture.
5. **Study a verse or verses.** Some verses are historical, and others are doctrinal, expository, narrative, or descriptive, but all can be applied to our lives. When we concentrate on one verse at a time, we gain insight and appreciation for every aspect of God's Word. Often, a verse will stand out to you, take time to meditate on what the Lord is saying to you in it.
6. **Study a character.** Character studies show that God uses people with different talents and gifts. By studying them, we gain confidence that we, too, can live for God and be used by Him. Abridged from *"Back to the World"* by Thomas Trask & Wayde Goodall

8 THINGS THAT WILL BE TRUE OF HIS DISCIPLES

1. Disciples believe in Him. (John 2:11)
2. Disciples spend time with Jesus. (John 3:22)
3. Disciples come to Jesus. (Matthew 13:36)
4. Disciples follow Jesus. (Matthew 8:21-23)
5. Disciples obey Jesus. (Matthew 14:22)
6. Disciples are expected to bear fruit. (John 15:7-8)
7. Disciples are taught by Jesus. (Luke 10:23-24)
8. Disciples fast. (Luke 5:33-35)

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF BIBLE STUDY

In his book entitled "Reality Living", Pastor Jeff Adams lists 14 basic principles of Bible Study.

- Effective Bible study depends upon a correct heart attitude. (Ezekiel 14:1-5)
- All Scripture is to be understood within its proper context. (2Peter 1:20)
- All Scripture is to be rightly divided. (2Timothy 2:15)
- The individual words of Scripture are the key to correct understanding. (Proverbs 30:5-6)
- Understanding the Bible is not a matter of private interpretation. (2Peter 1:20)
- The Bible must be understood by the normal and literal meaning of the words in the context in which you read them.
- The Bible must be understood in the light of God's consistency. (1Corinthians 14:40)
- Never violate a clear passage of Scripture with one that is more obscure.

- The invisible things of God are understood by seeing them illustrated in God's creation. (Romans 1:20)
- Never base a doctrine on a question, a rhetorical or hypothetical statement. (1Corinthians 13:1:15:29)
- Never base a doctrine on a single verse of Scripture. (2Corinthians 13:1; Isaiah 28:9-10)
- Understanding the Scriptures comes in time through spiritual growth. (1Corinthians 2:11-16)
- Always give the Bible the benefit of the doubt - innocent until proven guilty.
- God teaches us using similitudes (comparisons) and pictures. (John 15:5)

20 REASONS TO READ THE BIBLE

1. God commanded it. Deuteronomy 6:6-9; 2Timothy 2:15
2. The only true revelation of God that man has. John 17:8
3. Voice of God. - "Thus, saith the Lord..."
4. God's revealed will to mankind. Acts22:14; Ephesians 2:12-13
5. The only basis for saving faith in Jesus. John 20:31; Romans 10:17
6. Declares itself to be the power of God. Romans 1:15; 1Corinthians 1:18
7. Agent for continual cleansing. Titus 3:5, Ephesians 5:26; John 15:3
8. It is the hammer that breaks the rock (our heart), Hosea 10:12; Jeremiah 23:29
9. Lamp unto our feet. Psalm 119:130
10. It is Pure. Psalm 12:6; 119:140
11. It is Truth. John 17:7
12. It is Strength. Psalm 119:28; 119:116
13. It is unchangeable. Psalm 119:89; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35
14. It is profitable for our spiritual lives. 2Timothy 3:16
15. It is our weapon of combat. Ephesians 6:17
16. It is Spirit and Life to the inner man. John 6:63
17. It is food for our spiritual life. Deuteronomy 8:3
18. Keeps us from forgetting essential truths. Hebrews 2:1; Malachi 3:16
19. Preventative power from sin. Psalms 119:111
20. Reveals Jesus, who is the Son of God. Revelation 1:1; 19:10

WHAT SHOULD MY ATTITUDE BE TOWARDS WORD OF GOD?

Receive the Word of God with meekness: *James 1:21* “*humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.*” Receive it as servants, for it is the voice of the Master; receive it as saints, to cleanse from all defilement; receive it as subjects, for it is the command of the King; receive it as soldiers, to equip for the warfare with evil; receive it as saved ones, as the direction of grace; receive it as surrendered ones, as the rule for life.

Let the Word of God dwell in you richly: *Colossians 3:16* “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom...*” Let it dwell in the heart, as a preservative from evil; let it dwell in the soul, as the propeller in service; let it dwell in the mind, as the plan for direction; and let it dwell in the affection, as the power for conflict.

Keep the Word of God tenaciously: *John 17:6* “*I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word,*” Christ said of His disciples. We should keep it as a treasure - securely; as our teacher for instruction; as a tower for protection; and as our trust, we should keep it faithfully and well.

Continue in the word of God tirelessly: *John 8:31* “*If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.*” Continuing in the Word is the mark of true discipleship, the manifest evidence that we are true followers of Christ.

Live out the Word of God faithfully: *2 Corinthians 3:3* “*You show that you are a letter from Christ...*” The Christian is the world’s Bible, a living object lesson. If we are not walking Bibles, then we are walking libels.

Hold the Word of God boldly: *Philippians 2:16* “*as you hold out the word of life...*” As the man holds the lighted torch above his head in the dark night, to show himself and others the path in which to tread, so the Christian is to hold up the Word by his life, and its testimony with his lips, that others may be enlightened and benefited.

Meditate on the Word of God prayerfully: *Psalms 1:2* “*But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law, he meditates day and night.*” As the well-watered tree by the river’s side grows and is fruitful, so the Christian who muses and meditates in the truth of God’s Word is prosperous in life and profitable to others.

MASTER BIBLE CHART

| Section | Category | Books |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|
| Old Testament | Law (Torah / Pentateuch) | Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy |
| | Historical Books | Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther |
| | Poetic / Wisdom Books | Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon |
| | Major Prophets | Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel |
| | Minor Prophets | Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi |
| New Testament | Gospels | Matthew, Mark, Luke, John |
| | History | Acts |
| | Pauline Epistles | Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon |
| | General Epistles | Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude |
| | Prophecy | Revelation |

FAMOUS QUOTES ABOUT THE BIBLE

President Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States - "Of the many influences that have shaped the United States into a distinctive nation and people, none may be said to be more fundamental and enduring than the Bible."

President George Washington, First President of the United States - "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Robert E. Lee, Civil War General who fought for the Southern Confederacy: "In all my perplexities and distresses, the Bible has never failed to give me light and strength."

Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States - "I am busily engaged in the study of the Bible. I believe it is God's word because it finds me where I am."

"I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good of the Savior of the world is communicated to us through the Book."

Woodrow Wilson, 28th President of the United States - "When you have read the Bible, you know it is the word of God, because it is the key to your heart, your own happiness, and your own duty."

Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States - "A thorough understanding of the Bible is better than a college education."

POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

- The Bible is a religious book written by ordinary men.
- The Bible is just a history book or a science fiction story
- Only priests can read the Bible; it is not for ordinary people.
- Jesus was just a prophet or a good teacher.
- The Old Testament doesn't apply to Christians today.
- The Bible is not to be taken literally; the events in it are not true.

From this lesson, you should know that these misconceptions are wrong, and why.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

- Evidence That Demands a Verdict, by Josh McDowell.
- Your Bible, by R. Laird Harris
- Hailey's Bible Handbook, by Hailey
- Understand Your Bible from A - Z, by Alister E. McGrath

MEMORY VERSES

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

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:20-21

You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. John 15:3

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Col 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Tim 3:1

QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions:

1) How does the Bible relate to my life?

2) The Scriptures are unique in several ways. Can you list 3 of them?

3) List 4 benefits of personally reading the Bible?
