

LESSON 2
THE BIBLE, GOD'S WORD

Introduction: The Bible (AV 1611 King James Bible) is given to us by God for a solid foundation and a final absolute authority to direct our lives, families, and churches to the place of blessing and eternal happiness (**Psalm 119:105**).

A. The Bible is the exact Word of God: The evidence and testimony that proves it is:

1. The testimony of the Bible writers: **II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21.**
2. The testimony of the Scriptures: **Acts 7:38; Romans 3:2**
(*"Thus saith the Lord"* is found over 2,000 times in the Bible.)
3. The testimony of fulfilled prophecy: **Isaiah 42:9; Isaiah 46:9,10; Acts 3:18; Revelation 19:10; Luke 42:44** (Over 300 prophecies about Christ's birth, life, and death were fulfilled exactly).

B. The Believer is to Accept: Every word in all sixty-six books of the Bible as God's holy words for his instructions and growth in spiritual things.

1. We must have God's exact "words" to be what He wants us to be.
John 6:63,68; John 8:47; John 12:47,48; John 14:23; John 15:7; John 17:17
2. We must have the exact number of books in our Bible to be sure we have God's complete revelation to us (**II Timothy 3:16,17**: we need "*all scripture*" in order to be "*perfect*", "*furnished*"). Comparing Isaiah chapter one to Genesis chapter one, Isaiah chapter forty to Matthew chapter one, and Isaiah chapter sixty-six to Revelation, we have the right division between the Old and New Testaments and the right number of books in the AV 1611. God who wrote Isaiah, knew how many books would be in the Bible.

C. The Believer is to: Read and study the Bible diligently and properly.

1. Read it daily. **Deuteronomy 17:18,19; Psalm 1:2; Acts 17:11.**
2. Study it thoroughly.
 - a. The believer must learn slowly and methodically. **Isaiah 28:9,10.**
 - b. The believer must compare scripture to learn properly.
I Corinthians 2:12,13 (for example, what are the "*stars*" of **Revelation 1:16**? compare with verse 20.)
 - c. The believer should lay a good foundation by studying Paul's writings to the churches and Christians in this age.
Romans 16:25; Ephesians 3:1-9; II Thessalonians 2:15.
 - d. The believer must "*rightly divide*" the Bible to understand the different ways God deals with men and nations throughout history. By doing this, he will be able to doctrinally apply the books, passages, and verses of the Bible to the right dispensation (i.e., period of time, such as the "*dispensation of the grace of God*" that we are presently living in.
3. Memorize it. **Deuteronomy 6:6; Deuteronomy 11:18; Psalm 119:11.**

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D. The Believer is to use the Bible effectively to be a profitable servant of God.

1. Plant it like seed. **I Peter 1:23; Luke 8:5-11; Psalm 126:5,6.**

2. Handle it like a sword. **Ephesians 6:10-17; Hebrews 4:12 ; Matthew 4:1-11; I Peter 5:8,9.**
3. Send it forth like watering plants. **Isaiah 55:10,11.**
4. Practice what it teaches. **James 1:22-25; Hebrews 5:12-14.**

QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 2

1. The writers of the Bible testify that the Scriptures are the _____ words of God. Give one Scripture reference that proves this _____.
2. The Scriptures themselves testify to the inspiration of the Bible (God wrote and preserved it) by stating over 2,000 times " _____".
3. Fulfilled _____ is another evidence or proof that God wrote the Bible through men. In the life of Jesus Christ no less than _____ verses of Scripture in the Old Testament came to pass or were fulfilled.
4. If we do not have God's exact _____ then we can not be exactly what God wants us to be. Give one verse of Scripture as an example _____.
5. A faithful Christian will try to read the Bible _____. Give the verses of Scripture that shows that King David did this _____.
6. By comparing _____ with _____ we learn the proper interpretation that God wants us to know. What verse of Scripture tells us the truth _____.
7. Today's Christian is to establish himself by first studying the books to the churches written by _____ the Apostle. Give one Scripture reference to prove this _____.
8. In order to know what God is saying to whom at various times the Christian must _____ the Bible. Give the verse of Scripture that commands this _____.
9. To hide the word of God in your heart means to _____ it. Doing this helps you to keep from sinning according to what verse of Scripture _____.
10. Effectively using the Bible is to
 - a. _____ it like seed.
 - b. Handle it like a _____.
 - c. _____ what it teaches.