

## The Bible Our most Prized Possession Pt 1

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- In all the world and throughout history the most controversial and yet most popular book ever written is the bible, no matter where you are in the world, Russia, the Middle East, India, Florida, North Carolina, New York, on Vacation or at a family gathering if you quote scripture or open up the Bible it will cause one of two reactions > Rejection or Acceptance. There is no in between for those who say they don't follow its teachings but respect it if you continue to quote from Scripture eventually they will avoid you or ask you to tone it down, for the only true response is "**I love it**" so I can never get enough of someone who is either reading or quoting it.
- Ever since Eve encountered Satan's barrage of questions filled with deceit and intended to cause doubt and denial, mankind has continued to question and view God's Word with skepticism. I want you to go back to the beginning > **Gen 2:15-17**- Adam is asked to work and tend the garden so he is a tenant in the Garden of Eden, "Eden" means either delight or place of much water, and suggests that this garden was a paradise coming directly from the Hand of God.
- So man's history begins with Paradise, meaning it was perfect because it came from the Perfect God, this is the God who today is pictured as untrustworthy, uncaring, uninterested, uninvolved, but in the beginning we see that none of these things are true, in fact God has done everything possible for Adam and Eve to not only survive but to thrive, if that's the case what Happened? **Gen 3** happened, Satan questioned God's Word, and unfortunately neither Eve nor Adam ignored him, rebuked him, or stood against him for even insinuating that God was wrong.
- **2 Cor 11:3**- makes it clear that Satan's target was Eve's mind and that his weapon was deception. By questioning what God said Satan raised doubts in Eve's mind concerning the truthfulness of God's Word and the goodness of God's plans for their lives. Notice the first question "do you really mean that you can't eat from every tree" what he was saying is "If God really loved you He would be much more generous, as He's holding out on you".
- At that point if Eve wasn't going to say something then Adam who was right there should have, they had ignored the fact that God did say "they could eat from all the trees of the garden" but for their own good God had forbade them from eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Notice in Eve's response she altered what God had said in **2:15-17**, as she omitted the word "**freely**" and added the phrase nor shall we touch it", what's the big deal I do that all the time. In omitting "**freely**", she's taking away from God's goodness, and in adding "**nor shall we touch it**" she's implying God is too harsh, and people do this all the time as well don't they!

- **V4-5** Satan's response to disobedience of God you won't be harmed or hurt, in fact you will be blessed as you will be as smart as God and that's the very thing He is holding you back from. You have kids battling this very temptation as parents are trying to tell them for their own good what is beneficial for them and what is not and they think nah their just trying to hold me back, those warning their giving me no harm or hurt will come from it as I'm just as smart as them. The same thing Satan did to God he is suing society to do to our children with Godly parents.
- **V5-13** now the result is your forced to cover up, hide from the presence of God, and blame shift whose fault it is, people this is the world we now live in, as we've gone from a Paradise God created to a chaotic mess that we created, and were covering up, hiding from God, and blame shifting, about whose fault it is, that is why people are attacking the Word of God and those who follow it, because they don't want to be held accountable to what it says.
- What's interesting that I spite of living in a fallen world everything other than man praises the Lord > **Ps 150:6, Job 12:7-10**- animals will teach us birds will tells us as they do exactly what God created them to do, as everything in nature praised God and looks to Him for whatever they need > **Ps 104:27, Math 6:26**, out of all creation only man rebels against God. That's what happened in the beginning, now we'll fast forward to the present and what shall we do?
- **2Tim 3:16-17**- it begins by saying "**all scripture is given by inspiration of God**" translation everything written in this Bible is "**God breathed**". That is what Satan was attacking from the beginning when he asked "**yea has God said**" when you think about it it should be inconceivable that God would give His people a book they could not trust > **Deut 32:4**- says "**he is the God of truth, Jn 14:6**- says "**Jesus is the truth**", and **1Jn 5:6**- says "**The Holy Spirit is truth**" **Jn 17:17** says "**thy Word is truth**" so everything about the scriptures points to truth yet we still doubt.
- Therefore I need to believe that whatever the Bible says about God, itself, man, life, death, history, science, and every other subject is true. That's what makes it profitable, for it records not only the truth of God but also the lies of men-Satan, so we trust it for "**Doctrine**" (what is right), "**Reproof**" (what is not right), "**Correction**" (how to get right), and "**Instruction in Righteousness**" (how to stay right). This protects us from the wiles of the Devil > **Eph 6:11**.
- **V17** the believer who studies and applies what he learns will grow and mature so that he not only avoids the many pitfalls in the world but also will help other to do the same. Complete or Perfect means "**in fit shape or fit condition**" it's showing that we do not start out ready for service but as we continue to learn and apply, it'll then whip us into shape so that were now ready for God's purpose for our lives. Then the phrase "**thoroughly equipped**" comes into play, furnished or ready, equipped for service, that's what the Word of God does for us, it equips a believer so that we can live a life that pleases the Lord and do the Work God wants us to do.