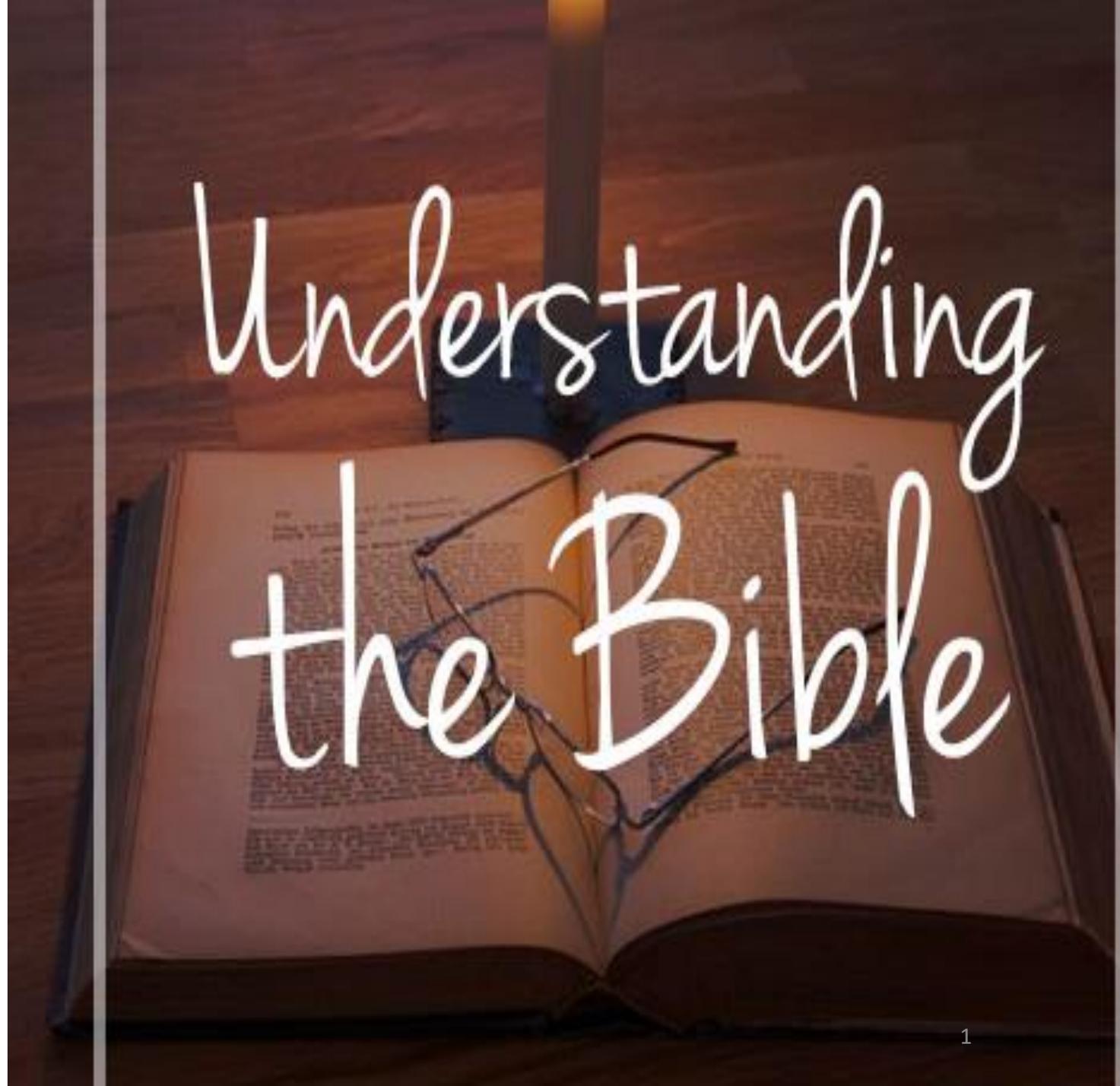


WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN
OUGHT TO KNOW
HOW TO UNDERSTAND
THE BIBLE

*“Open my eyes, that I may
behold Wonderful things from
Your law.”* (Psa. 119:18)



Holy Bible

- “A wise man once said, “These hath God married and no man shall part, **DUST** on the Bible and **DROUGHT** in the heart.” If you do not **know love, understand, practice** and **obey** the Word of God, I can tell you without stutter, stammer, or apology that YOU are not a victorious Christian.”-

Adrian Rodgers

Three Great Terms YOU NEED TO KNOW!

1. **REVELATION**: Is the process by which God unveils Himself and His will to human messengers.
2. **INSPIRATION**: This refers to God's inbreathing into the chosen human messengers through the Holy Spirit, enabling them by divine guidance to deliver or record God's revealed message. In a scriptural sense it means God breathing into His Messenger.
3. **ILLUMINATION**: Is the Holy Spirit's work as He enlightens the human mind with spiritual understanding in order that persons might grasp the revealed truth.

THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE BIBLE

➤ 1. THE BIBLE IS INFALLIBLE!

- The Bible, in its entirety, has no mistakes. Specifically, in its original autographs it is without errors. In (Psa. 19:7) the Bible says of itself, ***“The law of the Lord is perfect.”*** It is flawless because it was authored by God—and He is flawless. Therefore, if God wrote the Bible, and if He is the ultimate authority, and if His character is flawless, then the Bible is flawless and is the ultimate authority. You see, the fact that God is perfect demands that the original autograph, the original giving of the Word of God, must also be perfect. So, the Bible is infallible, and that’s the first reason to study it; it is the only Book that never makes a mistake—everything it says is the truth!

➤ 2. THE BIBLE IS INERRANT!

- The Bible is not only infallible in total, but inerrant in its parts. In (Prov. 30:5–6) ***“Every word of God is tested (Pure); He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. 6 Do not add to His words Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar.”*** This means, every word in the Word of God is **pure and true!**

THE **ATTRIBUTES** OF THE BIBLE

3. THE BIBLE IS COMPLETE!

- Nothing needs to be added. Now that may be a surprise to some people, because there are those today who believe we need to add to the Bible. There exists a *philosophy/theology* combination known as **neo-orthodoxy**. It tells us that the Bible was simply a comment in its day on man's spiritual experiences, and today man is still having spiritual experiences, therefore he needs another comment. One writer said that we need a Bible to be written today, just as we did when the Bible we hold in our hands was written, because we need somebody to comment on what God is doing now. He also said that when Tom or Mary stand up in your church and say, "**Thus says the Lord,**" they are as equally inspired as **ISAIAH, JEREMIAH**, or any of the other **PROPHETS**. In other words, they claim that the Bible is not complete. That's the current philosophical/theological thought.

THE **ATTRIBUTES** OF THE BIBLE

- (Rev. 22:18-19) says *“If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”*
- The Bible ends with a warning not to **TAKE AWAY** anything, and not to **ADD ANYTHING**. That’s a testimony of its completeness. This principle applies to **ALL** of scripture, not just the book of Revelation!
- It is **INFALLIBLE** in its total, **INERRANT** in its parts, and it is **COMPLETE!**

THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE BIBLE

4. THE BIBLE IS AUTHORITATIVE!

- If it is perfect and complete, then it is the last Word—the final authority. (Isa. 1:2) says, *“Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord hath spoken.”* When God speaks everybody listens, because His is the final authority; the Bible demands obedience. We can discuss its implications, its applications, and its meanings, **but we shouldn’t discuss whether or not it is true.**
- **IN JOHN 8** Jesus was confronted by some of the Jewish leaders, and there were other people present. (John. 8:30–32) *“As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him. (31) So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; (32) and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”* In other words, He demanded a response to His Word. It is **AUTHORITATIVE**
- (Gal. 3:10) *“For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM.”* Amazing! Cursed was anyone who didn’t continue in everything that was written in the law. That’s a tremendous claim to **ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY!**
- (Jam. 2:9–10) *“But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. (10) For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.”* To violate the Bible at one point is to break God’s law. **The Bible is authoritative in every part.**

THE BIBLE IS SUFFICIENT FOR A NUMBER OF THINGS!

5. THE BIBLE IS SUFFICIENT FOR:

1. SALVATION

- In (2 Tim. 3:15) *“and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”*
- First of all, the Bible is sufficient to make you wise unto salvation. Ask yourself this question: What is more important than salvation? **NOTHING!** It is the greatest reality in the universe—and the Bible reveals that salvation.

2. PERFECTION

- (2 Tim. 3:16) *“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;”*
- **“REPROOF”** that means you’re able to go to someone and say, “Hey, you’re out of line. You can’t behave like that; there’s a standard and you’re not keeping it.” Scripture is also **profitable “FOR CORRECTION”**—that says to the person you’ve just reproofed, “Now don’t do that, do this instead; this is the right path.” You teach, you reprove, you show the correct way—and further it is **profitable “FOR TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS.”** Now you point to the new way and show them how to walk in it.
- The Bible is a fantastic Book. It can take somebody who doesn’t know God, who isn’t saved, and then save them. Then it will **TEACH** them, **REPROVE** them when they do wrong, **POINT OUT** the right thing to do, and then **SHOW** them how to walk in that right path.
- The result is stated in (2 Tim. 3:17) *“So that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”* The incredible reality of the Bible is that it is sufficient to do the **WHOLE** job.

3. HOPE

- In (Rom. 15:4) *“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”* The Bible is the source of **patience** and **comfort**, ultimately giving us **hope** now and forever.

4. EFFECTIVE

- Listen to the words of (Isa. 55:11) *“So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”*
- That’s great! **God’s Word is effective**. One of the incredible things about being a teacher of the Word of God is that it will do what it says it will do.
- (1Thess. 1:5) *“for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.”* In other words, when you hear the Word of God, it isn’t just words. When the Word goes forth it has power; it is powered by the Holy Spirit, and we have the assurance that it will do what it says.

5. DETERMINATIVE!

- The Bible is determinative because how you respond to the Word of God determines the essence of your life and your eternal destiny.
- **Notice (John. 8:47) *“He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God.”*** In other words, the determination of whether an individual is of God or not of God is based on whether he/she **listens** to the Word of God.
- **Notice (1 Cor. 2:9–14) *“but just as it is written, “THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.” (10) For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. (11) For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. (12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, (13) which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. (14) But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.”***