



REAL MOMENTUM

a movement of men
transforming families & churches
to the ends of the earth

A Man & The Word of God
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Luke 13-32

Introduction

The word “Bible” is translated from the Greek word “biblia” that means “books.” So we can see that the Bible is a collection of books. Although the Bible contains many books by many authors, it shows in its continuity that is also one book.

66 Books (39 OT | 27 NT)

The Bible was:

- 1. Written over a 1,500 year span.**
- 2. Written by more than 40 authors** from every walk of life, including kings, military leaders, peasants, philosophers, fisherman, tax collectors, poets, musicians, statesmen, scholars, and shepherds.
- 3. Written in different places...** by Moses in the wilderness, Jeremiah in a dungeon, Daniel on a hillside and in a palace, Paul inside prison walls, Luke while traveling, John while in exile on the isle of Patmos.
- 4. Written on three continents:** Asia, Africa, Europe.
- 5. Written in three different languages:** Hebrew (OT), Aramaic, Greek (NT).
- 6. In spite of its diversity, presents a single unfolding story:** *God's redemption of Human beings.*
- 7. Finally, and most important, among all the people described in the Bible, the leading character throughout is the One, True, Living, God made known through Jesus Christ.**

The Bible is an all time bestselling. One stat that I read said that 50 Bibles are sold every minute. But the sad reality is that the Bible is much more often purchased than it is read.

And I want to see that change for me and for you—for my family and your family—for my church and for your church.

Great men and women of history have known and appreciated the Bible:

Andrew Jackson, The Bible is the rock on which our republic rests.

Abraham Lincoln, called it the best gift God has given to man.

Woodrow Wilson, I am sorry for the men who do not read the Bible daily. I wonder why they deprive themselves of the strength and the pleasure.

Theodore Roosevelt, A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.

Yet many people have not liked the Bible:

The great French philosopher Voltaire predicted the Bible would vanish within a hundred years. He said that more than two hundred years ago—in the eighteenth century.

By the twentieth century great sections of the formerly “Christian” parts of the world had fallen in the skepticism about the Bible. A *Dictionary of Foreign Words*, published by the Soviet government about 60 years ago defined the Bibles as, “A collection of different legends, mutually contradictory and written at different times and full of historical errors, issued by churches as a ‘holy’ book.”

Overview

Things we need to keep in mind as we make this journey:

1. Studying the Scriptures in hard work.

2 Tim. 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.

2. The Bible was written for people.

Acts 20:32, So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

3. The Bible was written with power.

Hebrews 4:12, 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.

2 Tim. 3:16-17, All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, [17] that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

HOW TO RESPOND TO A TEXT MESSAGE

Psalm 119:25-32

²⁵ My soul clings to the dust;
Revive me according to Your word.
²⁶ I have declared my ways, and You answered me;
Teach me Your statutes.
²⁷ Make me understand the way of Your precepts;
So shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.
²⁸ My soul melts from heaviness;
Strengthen me according to Your word.
²⁹ Remove from me the way of lying,
And grant me Your law graciously.
³⁰ I have chosen the way of truth;
Your judgments I have laid *before me*.
³¹ I cling to Your testimonies;
O LORD, do not put me to shame!
³² I will run the course of Your commandments,
For You shall enlarge my heart.

Jeremiah 15:16, Your words were found, and I ate

them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.

Psalm 19:7-14, The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

Law – torah is used for law → instruction, direction, teaching

It comes from a word that means to shoot an arrow...

Perfect – flawless and complete, never needing revision or improvement

HOW TO RESPOND TO A TEXT MESSAGE??

Turn to Luke 24:27-32

John Butler, There are two very important and basic qualifications for obtaining instruction from God. If you are not interested in what God has to say, do not expect God to open to you the Word of God and give you much understanding of His Word. And if you have little interest in obeying what God says to do, you can forget about learning much from His Word.

Most church members today have little concept of what the Scriptures say because they fail in these two areas.

Their interest in the Word is very poor—their attendance at preaching services evidences that fact;

and their obedience to the Word is also very poor—their poor conduct evidences that fact.

Pierre Marcel, When, then, will believers en masse understand that they are primarily responsible for the preaching which they hear, yes, more than their preachers? If every pastor knew and felt that the congregation was praying and that each member had prayed, that the congregation was supporting him, interceding for him... what preacher would not feel himself a new man? And whose preaching would not be transformed. Once again, preaching the Word is a function and activity of the Church, not the function and specialty of a man.

1. MAKE A DECISION WITH THE TEXT

Psalm 119:30, I³⁰ have chosen the way of truth;
Your judgments I have laid *before me*.

Making an emotional connection with the text will force a decision...

Accept and apply a Biblical text
or
Reject and refuse a Biblical text?

30 – I have **chosen** [to try, select, require] the **way** [a course of life, mode of action] of **truth** [firmness, security, moral fidelity]

YOUR judgments I HAVE LAID (have I **SET**) before me
intense desire or feeling of attitude of wanting or desiring

To adjust something, means to alter, correct, fine tune, bend, amend, modify, tweak. In other words, **when adjustments are made, things change.**

Psalm 119:26, I have declared my ways, and You answered me; Teach me Your statutes.

From one verse to the next... the Psalmist makes a decision.

Psalm 119:29-30

He saw before him two paths.
He could choose lying, or
he could choose the way of truth.

Sooner or later that choice faces every MAN, the choice between compromising some biblical principle and complete obedience to the Word of God—even if it means offending friends, family, or employer.

Making a decision to a Biblical text is **as Henry Blackaby says,**

“A Crisis of Belief, When God speaks, what you do next will indicate what you believe about God. That’s where the crisis of belief comes in. It’s what you believe about God that is always put on the line.

2. MAINTAIN A DEVOTION WITH THE TEXT

Psalm 119:31, I cling to Your testimonies;
O LORD, do not put me to shame!

31a – I **cling** | **stuck** [to catch by pursuit, keep close (attach, adhere), pursue hard] to your testimonies

The word cling is a picture of a person who has adhered themselves to the Word of God. They are not **stuck with the Word** as some kind of burden, but **stuck to it!**

John Butler, God takes the Word away when people refuse to honor it. This is happening in our churches today. People have too long demonstrated a disinterest in a church program that is centered around the Word of God. So now our churches are plagued with a great famine/lack of good, solid Bible preaching and teaching. **But if the church and pastor want a ministry that provides superior blessings to mankind, then they must major on preaching and teaching the blessed Word of God.**

31b – O Lord, DO NOT PUT ME to **shame [pale, disappointed]**

TO cause my head to drop...

Psalm 119:27-28, Make me understand the way of Your precepts; So shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.

²⁸ My soul melts from heaviness; Strengthen me according to Your word.

Make me to **understand [separate mentally, distinguish]** the way of your precepts: so shall I meditate **[talk]** of on your wondrous works. [28] My soul **melts away [weeps, pour out]** for sorrow (heaviness): **strengthen [to rise, establish, stand, stir up]** me according unto your word!

To be in strong agreement with

Scripture is not a concept, Scripture is a person.

3. MOVE IN DIRECTION WITH THE TEXT

Psalm 119:32, I will run the course of Your commandments, For You shall enlarge my heart.

Movement

God is about changing history, or better yet, making history.

Is there a willingness to move forward when all you know is God?

Erwin McManus, in his book, *an Unstoppable Force, daring to become the church God had in mind*, said "God never intended the Bible to be studied for information or knowledge alone. The Bible was written so that we might respond to the truth and voice of God... Biblical interpretation must be missiological, not theological. A theological concept for interpretation finds success in the attainment of knowledge. The more you know, the more mature a Christian you are thought to be. And yet knowledge of the Bible does not guarantee application of the Bible. To know is not necessarily to do. When the concept applied to the Bible is missiological, you engage the Bible to discover the response required of your life. It is significant that the history of the first century church is called the book of Acts, not the book of Truths."

Question? What good is it to own a Bible, attend a Sunday School class and a worship service week in and week out? Hey, even a Life Action Camp... A Summit.

About another question... What good is a devotional time in the morning... if there is not desire to be make necessary adjustments in our lives that would make us look more like Christ.

Application – an energetic response to the Word of God... not just an energetic response, but an energetic response of obedience

Application is what makes the Bible come alive and makes sermons practical.

The believer must always be ready to move.

But there are things that are in the way of any movement toward experiencing and living the Truth that is being preached, studied, or read privately or publically...

Congestion...

On the Interstate...

**During rush hour is painful
Roads were not designed for it
Everyone sits and waits**

Head/Chest Congestion

Struggle to breath, Days seem longer

Many believers are congested, movement is stifled...

Idolatry

Fear of man

Love of the world

A hard-heart

An unbelief

cynical

unforgiveness

critical spirit

As a result you stay the same... unchanged, unmoved.

It is not enough to have knowledge.

32 – I will run [to rush for whatever reason] THE COURSE (the way) of your commandments,

When you shall enlarge [broaden, make room, make open wide] my heart (will, even the intellect)

The next time you receive a text message, please...

Make a decision

Maintain a devotion

Move in direction