

The Faith

LESSON TWO

Our Faith in God's Word

“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:14–17)

Introduction:

1. Our Receiving of the Bible

A. The Bible began with a process called revelation.

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;” (Hebrews 1:1–2)

“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.” (1 Thessalonians 2:13)

B. The Bible was written down through a process called inspiration. (v. 16)

“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 spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” (2 Peter 1:20–21)

C. The Bible has been delivered to us through a process called preservation.

“The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.” (Psalm 12:6–7)

2. The Reliability of the Bible

A. The Bible’s reliability is seen in its inerrancy

“Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.” (Proverbs 30:5)

B. The Bible’s reliability is seen in its indestructibility.

“Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.” (Psalm 12:7)

3. Our Response to the Bible

A. We should respond by reading it.

"Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine." (1 Timothy 4:13)

"Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee." (Psalm 143:8)

B. We should respond by meditating on it.

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." (Joshua 1:8)

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer." (Psalm 19:14)

C. We should respond by memorizing it.

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." (Psalm 119:11)

D. We should respond by hearing it preached and taught.

"But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;" (Titus 1:3)

"It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul," (Acts 15:25)

E. We should respond by obeying it.

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.” (James 1:22–25)

Conclusion: _____

