November 5, 2023

Scripture God's Window Into Our World Rekindling a Passion for God's Word



John 1:5 (ESV) — The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

When we read the <u>WORD</u> of God, through the lens of the <u>SON</u> of God, guided by the <u>SPIRIT</u> of God, we unlock the mysterious <u>TRUTHS</u> of God.

Three Keys for unlocking Scripture...

Key #1 – <u>JESUS</u> is the <u>LENS</u>

John 5:39–40 (ESV) — You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. John 14:9 (ESV) — Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father...

In Genesis, Jesus is the promised Redeemer that will crush the serpent's head.

In Exodus, He is the Passover Lamb

In Leviticus, He is the Great High Priest

In Numbers, He is the Manna from heaven and the Rock providing water

In Deuteronomy, Jesus is the foretold Prophet that is greater than Moses

In Joshua, He is the Commander of the Army of the Lord

In Judges, He is the Angel of the Lord bringing deliverance

In Ruth, He is the Kinsman Redeemer

In Samuel, Jesus is the Prophet, Priest, and King

In Kings, He is the Glory Cloud filling the Temple; the Fire consuming the sacrifice

In Chronicles, He is the descendant of King David, the promised Shepherd King In Ezra, Jesus is the Ruler of all earthly kings

In Nehemiah, He is the Restorer of the broken-down walls

In Esther, He is the Orchestrator of relief and deliverance for His people

In Job, He is the Mediator between God and Man

In Psalms, He is our Song of Deliverance

In Proverbs, Jesus is our Wisdom from above

In Ecclesiastes, He is our true Meaning to life

In Song of Solomon, Jesus is the Beloved of His bride

In Isaiah, He is the Suffering Servant bearing our griefs and carrying all our diseases

In Jeremiah, He is our Fountain of Living Waters

In Lamentations, He is our Faithful God whose mercies are new every morning

In Ezekiel, Jesus is the Son of Man, the Shepherd guarding His sheep

In Daniel, Jesus is the Stranger in the fire with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

In Hosea, He is the Faithful Husband redeeming His bride In Joel, He is the Restorer of blessings and the Refuge for His people

In Amos, He is the Revealer of secrets and the Restorer of fortunes

In Obadiah, Jesus is the Judge of the oppressor

In Jonah, He is the Merciful God who relents from disaster on those who repent

In Micah, He is the Ancient of days coming from Bethlehem to cast our sins in the sea of forgetfulness

In Nahum, He is the Bearer of Good News and Proclaimer of Peace

In Habakkuk, He is the Judge promising justice for the oppressed

In Zephaniah, Jesus is the One who sings over us

In Haggai, He is the Restorer of worship

In Zachariah, He is the Fountain of Living Water opened for the cleansing of His people

In Malachi, He is the Son of Righteousness with healing in His wings

In Matthew, Jesus is the promised Son of David

In Mark, He is the long-awaited Son of God

In Luke, He is the promised Healer and Deliverer

In John, Jesus is the Word that became flesh and dwelt among us

In Acts, He is the Spirit who has come to dwell within us

In Romans, He is the Righteousness of God appeasing God's wrath

In 1 Corinthians, He is the Wisdom and Power of God

In 2 Corinthians, He is the "Yes" to all God's promises

In Galatians, Jesus became the Curse that redeems us from the curse

In Ephesians, He is the One seated at the right hand of God far above all rule, and authority, and power, and dominion

In Philippians, He is our Joy in every circumstance

In Colossians, He is the Creator of all things and in Him all things hold together

In Thessalonians, He is our soon coming King

In 1 Timothy, He is the One Mediator between God and Man

In 2 Timothy, He is the Abolisher of death and Giver of life and immortality In Titus, He is our Great God and Savior training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions

In Philemon, He is our Mediator

In Hebrews, He is our Great and gracious High Priest

In James, He is our Faith made active

In 1 Peter, Jesus is our Hope and Guide through troubling times

In 2 Peter, He is our Patient God longing that none should perish, but all to come to Him in repentance

In 1 John, He is the Perfect Love that casts out all fear

In 2 John, He is God in the flesh

In 3 John, He is the Source of all truth

In Jude, He is the Faith once for all delivered unto the saints

In Revelation, Jesus is ...

The Alpha and Omega The Beginning and the End The One worthy to take the scroll The Lamb that was slain The Lion of the Tribe of Judah The King of kings and Lord of lords The One Who makes all things new!

Key #2 – <u>THE SPIRIT</u> is the <u>GUIDE</u>

Genesis 1:2 (ESV) — The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

The Holy Spirit takes chaos and brings clarity; He invades darkness with light!

John 16:13a (ESV) — When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth ...

John 17:17 (ESV) — Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

2 Peter 1:21 (ESV) — For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:14 (ESV) — The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Jesus is the focus of Scripture, and the Holy Spirit brings focus to the Scripture! I WAVENTI READ O HE BENEH BIBBOMANY HEVBLOGUTAGAN PNSVER KOTKGM MY SENSS CAFE OFHERADIS BE MOISADOD WANT TOR BAD AN BUT FIAVA PREULY PLANCHEGHAD FOR ANOLSTNIALYO ALBYE FOR BESTMIKNOW MOND

I HAVE TRIED TO READ THE BIBLE MANY TIMES BUT CAN NEVER MAKE ANY SENSE OUT OF WHAT IS BEING SAID, I WANT TO READ IT, BUT HAVE PRETTY MUCH GIVEN UP AND SIMPLY LIVE THE BEST-I KNOW HOW

WHEN I READ THE BIBLE THROUGH THE BLOOD AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS I SEE THE RADICAL LOVE GOD HAS FOR ME AND THE BEAUTIFUL PLAN HE HAS FOR MY LIFE AND ALSO FOR THE WHOLE WORLD

Key #3 – <u>REDEMPTION</u> is the <u>STORY</u>

The Bible is...

Sixty-six books Written over a fifteen hundred year span By forty different authors On three different continents In three different languages All with one clear theme

Ephesians 1:3–4 (ESV) — Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Genesis 3:15 (NLT) — And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

The Bible tells the Redemption Story as a journey...

First, we see our creation for RELATIONSHIP

Second, we see our corruption in RUIN

Third, we see our journey to REDEMPTION

Fourth, we see our destiny in RESTORATION!

"The Bible. That is what fools have written, what imbeciles commend, what rogues teach, and young children are made to learn by heart."

"We are living in the twilight of Christianity."

"Christianity is the most ridiculous, the most absurd, and bloody religion that has ever infected the world...My one regret in dying is that I cannot [rid] the world of this infamous superstition."

"Voltaire boasted that he had seen the twilight of Christianity, and that the pall of an endless night would soon cover it forever. Yes, sir, he did see the twilight, but he was mistaken as to the hour of the day – it was twilight of morning!"

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) — For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword ...

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_____ of God, guided by the ______ of God, we unlock

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Key #1 – _____ is the _____

Key #2 – ______ is the _____

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