

## **“Introduction To the Bible”**

**INTRO:** As we begin our study through the Bible, we want to establish a solid foundation to build on as we begin our study of the Bible. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, and it is the foundation of the Christian faith.

We believe that the Bible (i.e., the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments) is inspired by God in its entirety, and is without error in the original autographs, a complete and final written revelation from God. (2 Timothy 3:15-17, 2 Peter 1:21)

The Bible is, without question, the greatest book ever written. It has historically been, and presently is, the world’s best-selling book of all time, year after year, decade after decade.

### **I. NOTABLE SAYINGS ABOUT THE BIBLE.**

#### **A. Abraham Lincoln:**

- 1. “I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book.”**

#### **B. George Washington:**

- 1. “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”**

#### **C. Napoleon:**

- 1. “The Bible is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it.”**

#### **D. Patrick Henry:**

- 1. “The Bible is worth all other books which have ever been printed.”**

#### **E. John Quincy Adams (#6):**

- 1. “So great is my veneration for the Bible that the earlier my children begin to read it the more confident will be my hope that they will prove useful citizens of their country and respectable members of society. I have for many years made it a practice to read through the Bible once every year.”**

#### **F. Sir Isaac Newton:**



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1. “There are more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane history.”

G. [Read Hally’s Bible Handbook, p. 20-23.](#)

## II. QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE.

### A. The word “Bible”

1. “**Bible**” - Gr. *biblion* - “**scroll; book; written document**”
  - a. The Bible is a 1 Book, made up of 66 different books.
    - 1) **KEY:** The Bible is really *a small library of books!*

### B. The Bible consists of:

1. **66 different books (scrolls)**
2. **~40 different authors.**
  - a. Shepherds (Hosea and Amos).
  - b. Fishermen (Peter and John).
  - c. Tax Collector (Matthew).
  - d. Prime Minister (Daniel).
  - e. Doctor (Luke).
  - f. Military Generals (Joshua).
  - g. Kings (David, Solomon).
  - h. Prophets (Jeremiah).
  - i. Priests (Ezra).
  - j. Prisoners (Jeremiah, John and Paul).

#### QUICK FACTS

66 different books (scrolls)  
~40 different authors  
3 separate continents  
3 different languages  
~1,500 years



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- k. Cup bearer (Nehemiah)
- l. Etc...
- 3. 3 separate continents.**
  - a. Asia (Ezekiel wrote in Babylon).
  - b. Europe (Paul in a Roman jail).
  - c. Africa (Moses in the Sinai Desert).
- 4. 3 different languages.**
  - a. Hebrew
  - b. Aramaic
  - c. Greek
- 5. ~1,500 years**
  - a. O.T. = 1,400 B.C. — 400 B.C.
  - b. N.T. = 50 A.D. — 100 A.D.

<b>QUICK FACTS</b>			
	<b>Books</b>	<b>Chapters</b>	<b>Verses</b>
<b>The Whole Bible</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>31,173</b>
<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>23,214</b>
<b>New Testament</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>7,959</b>



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**THE HEBREW OLD TESTAMENT**

LAW (Torah)	PROPHETS (Nebhiim)	WRITINGS (Kethubhim)
1. Genesis	<b>A. Former Prophets</b>	<b>A. Poetical Books</b>
2. Exodus	6. Joshua	14. Psalms
3. Leviticus	7. Judges	15. Proverbs
4. Numbers	8. Samuel	16. Job
5. Deuteronomy	9. Kings	<b>B. Five Rolls (Megilloth)</b>
	<b>B. Latter Prophets</b>	17. Song of Songs
	10. Isaiah	18. Ruth
	11. Jeremiah	19. Lamentations
	12. Ezekiel	20. Ecclesiastes
	13. The Twelve	21. Esther
		<b>C. Historical Books</b>
		22. Daniel
		23. Ezra-Nehemiah
		24. Chronicles

**THE PROTESTANT OLD TESTAMENT**

<b>LAW (Pentateuch)</b> 1. Genesis 2. Exodus 3. Leviticus 4. Numbers 5. Deuteronomy	<b>POETRY</b> 18. Job 19. Psalms 20. Proverbs 21. Ecclesiastes 22. Song of Solomon																										
<b>HISTORY</b> 6. Joshua 7. Judges 8. Ruth 9. I Samuel 10. II Samuel 11. I Kings 12. II Kings 13. I Chronicles 14. II Chronicles 15. Ezra 16. Nehemiah 17. Esther	<b>PROPHECY</b> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><b>A. Major</b></td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><b>B. Minor</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>23. Isaiah</td> <td>28. Hosea</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24. Jeremiah</td> <td>29. Joel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25. Lamentations</td> <td>30. Amos</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26. Ezekiel</td> <td>31. Obadiah</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27. Daniel</td> <td>32. Jonah</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>33. Micah</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>34. Nahum</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>35. Habakkuk</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>36. Zephaniah</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>37. Haggai</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>38. Zechariah</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>39. Malachi</td> </tr> </table>	<b>A. Major</b>	<b>B. Minor</b>	23. Isaiah	28. Hosea	24. Jeremiah	29. Joel	25. Lamentations	30. Amos	26. Ezekiel	31. Obadiah	27. Daniel	32. Jonah		33. Micah		34. Nahum		35. Habakkuk		36. Zephaniah		37. Haggai		38. Zechariah		39. Malachi
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THE PROTESTANT NEW TESTAMENT		
<b>GOSPELS</b> 1. Matthew 2. Mark 3. Luke 4. John	<b>EPISTLES (Letters)</b> <i>A. Paul's Epistles</i> 6. Romans 7. I Corinthians 8. II Corinthians 9. Galatians 10. Ephesians 11. Philippians 12. Colossians 13. I Thessalonians 14. II Thessalonians 15. I Timothy 16. II Timothy 17. Titus 18. Philemon	<b>EPISTLES cont...</b> <i>B. Jewish Epistles</i> 19. Hebrews 20. James 21. I Peter 22. II Peter 23. I John 24. II John 25. III John 26. Jude
<b>HISTORY</b> 5. Acts		<b>PROPHECY</b> 27. Revelation

### C. What the Bible is NOT:

#### 1. Not a World History Book.

- a. It does not go into detail of all the empires of the world, or every person that ever lived.

#### 2. Not a Book of Philosophy.

- a. It doesn't give to us a philosophy of life.

#### 3. Not a Scientific Textbook.

- a. Although it touches on science, and is completely accurate when it comes to science.

#### 4. Not a Self-Help Manual.



### III. OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE:

#### A. The Bible is GOD'S REVELATION OF HIMSELF TO MAN.

##### 1. The Bible is God's Word to Us!

- a. **KEY:** He has revealed Himself because He wants to bring man into a loving fellowship with Himself.

#### B. The Bible is THE HISTORY OF REDEMPTION.

##### 1. The Bible really is "His-story" of Redemption.

- a. The Bible is about the redemptive activity of God that is *progressively revealed* in His works and words throughout human history in the Person of Jesus Christ. God has progressively revealed His plan and program through Jesus Christ, and He is going *with* a purpose *toward* a goal!<sup>1</sup>

- 1) Cf. Numbers 14:21; Habakkuk 2:14; 2 Peter 3:13; 2 Thessalonians 2:14

#### C. The Bible is BASICALLY ABOUT:

##### 1. ONE PERSON: the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth.

##### 2. TWO MAJOR EVENTS involving Redemption:

- a. 1st Coming - Spiritual Redemption
- b. 2nd Coming - Physical Redemption

#### D. **KEY:** Jesus Christ is the Theme of the Bible!

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. Psalm 22:27; Malachi 1:11; Romans 8:18, 29; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:3; 22:3-5  
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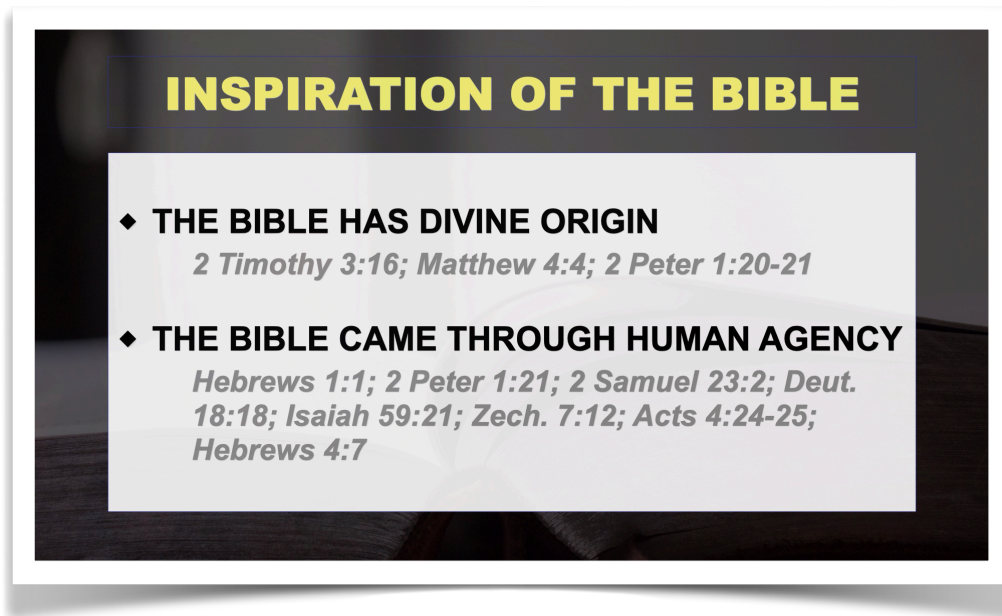


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### IV. THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE:

#### A. What we DO NOT mean by *Inspiration*:

1. **Not being mentally stimulated to be creative or feel something.**
  - a. Some are inspired by nature. It takes your breath away.
  - b. Some are inspired by poetry.
  - c. Some are inspired by music.
  - d. Some are inspired by a great accomplishment, maybe an athlete making the big play.
2. **Not that the writers were inspired to write.**



### INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

#### ◆ THE BIBLE HAS DIVINE ORIGIN

*2 Timothy 3:16; Matthew 4:4; 2 Peter 1:20-21*

#### ◆ THE BIBLE CAME THROUGH HUMAN AGENCY

*Hebrews 1:1; 2 Peter 1:21; 2 Samuel 23:2; Deut. 18:18; Isaiah 59:21; Zech. 7:12; Acts 4:24-25; Hebrews 4:7*

#### B. The Bible is LINGUISTIC INCARNATE:

##### 1. The Bible has DIVINE ORIGIN:

- a. Cf. [2 Timothy 3:16](#)
  - 1) "All scripture is given by inspiration of God,..."
    - a) "All" - Gr. *pasa* - "every"



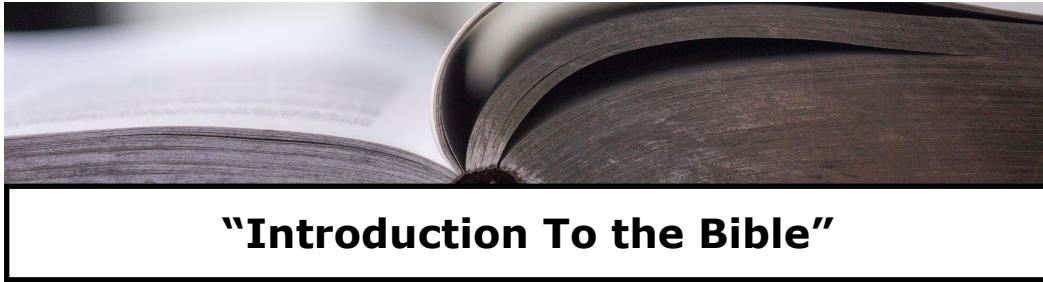
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- b) "Scripture" - Gr. *graphē* - "writing"
  - c) "is given by inspiration of God" - Gr. *theopneustos* - "God-breathed"
- 2) Lit. "Every writing God-breathed"
- a) **KEY:** The Writings are inspired, not the writers!
  - b) Cf. [2 Peter 1:20-21](#) - "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."
    - i. "moved" - Gr. "carried along; driven along"
      - a. Cf. [Acts 27:15](#) - Same word used of Paul's boat that was "driven along" by the storm when they ended up in Malta. This is true of the Holy Spirit inspiring the authors of Holy Scripture to write the Word of God.
- 3) **NOTE:** There are many evidences of Divine Origin, but the most obvious evidence is the multitude of *Fulfilled Prophecy!*
- a) The Bible is the only book that tells history *before it happens*, with 100% accuracy!
    - i. Cf. [Deuteronomy 18:18-22](#); [Isaiah 41:21-24](#); [44:6-8](#)
    - ii. Cf. [John 14:29](#) - Jesus said, "And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe."

## 2. The Bible came through HUMAN AGENCY:

- a. Cf. [Hebrews 1:1](#); [2 Peter 1:21](#); [2 Samuel 23:2](#); [Deuteronomy 18:18](#); [Isaiah 59:21](#); [Zechariah 7:12](#); [Acts 4:24-25](#); [Hebrews 4:7](#)





3. **KEY:** Just as Jesus Christ has a Dual-Nature (100% God and 100% Man), so the Bible is **100% Divine in Origin**, and **100% Human in Authorship!**

**C. The Bible is THE VERY WORD OF GOD.**

**1. The Bible is not just man's word, but it's God's Word.**

- a. The Scriptures declare what God wants to say to humanity.
- b. **KEY:** God still speaks today!
  - 1) Cf. [Matthew 22:23-33](#)
  - 2) **KEY:** All of the Being and the very Character of God are behind every word that He speaks!
    - a) **NOTE:** When we sit down to study the Bible, it's like sitting in front of the Lord Himself and just having the Creator/Redeemer express His very heart and mind to us!

**V. THE INERRANCY OF THE BIBLE:**

**A. The Bible is TOTALLY RELIABLE and WITHOUT ERROR.**

1. **Q = If it was written by men, then could they have made any mistakes?...** The answer is NO! There are *no* errors, and those men *could not* have made a mistake.

- a. HERE'S THE LOGIC:
  - 1) God cannot err.
  - 2) The Bible is the Word of God.
  - 3) Therefore, the Bible cannot err.



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- b. **KEY:** If the Bible is God’s Word, and the Holy Spirit *carried along* the human writers to write down *His very Words* in the Scriptures, then those documents cannot err!
- 2. The Bible is COMPLETELY ACCURATE in *EVERYTHING* it says.**
- a. Scientific Accuracy:
    - 1) Biology; geology; astronomy; etc.
  - b. Historical Accuracy:
    - 1) Events, people, etc.
    - 2) Archaeology discoveries.
  - c. Prophetic Accuracy.
  - d. Etc.

## **VI. THE INFALLIBILITY OF THE BIBLE:**

### **A. This speaks of the ENDURING NATURE of the Bible.**

- 1. **If God has given His Word to man, it stands to reason that He will also PRESERVE His Word for man!**
  - a. Cf. **Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:23-25**
  - b. Cf. **John 10:35; Matthew 4:4, 7, 10; 5:17-18; 15:3-6; 24:35; Isaiah 55:11; Romans 3:2; 1 Peter 1:23-25**

### **B. This speaks of the INDESTRUCTIBILITY of the Bible.**

- 1. Cf. **Psalm 119:89** - “*For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.*”
- 2. Cf. **Isaiah 40:8** - “*The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*”
- 3. Cf. **Matthew 5:17-18**



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4. Cf. **Matthew 24:35** - "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."
5. Cf. **1 Peter 1:23** - "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

### C. This speaks of the **INEXHAUSTIBILITY** of the Bible.

1. Cf. **Romans 11:33** - "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"
2. Cf. **Ephesians 2:7** - "That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

## VII. THE **AUTHORITY** OF THE BIBLE:

### A. Since the Bible is ***Inspired by God and Inerrant***, it must also be ***Authoritative!***

1. **NOTE:** The Early Church had confidence in the Authority of the Scriptures and used the Scriptures to confirm all of their experiences:
  - a. Cf. **Acts 2:16; 4:25-28; 13:27-30; 15:13-15**
2. The Early Church used the Scriptures to confirm all of their experiences! They did not try to get their experiences to fit Scripture.
  - a. **KEY:** The Bible confirms things that are true; things don't confirm the Bible!
    - 1) Archaeology does not confirm the Bible to be true. The Bible confirms the archaeology discoveries!

### B. The Bible is **COMPLETE**:

1. **KEY:** By the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D., the Bible was **COMPLETE**, and the Canon was recognized by the Church.



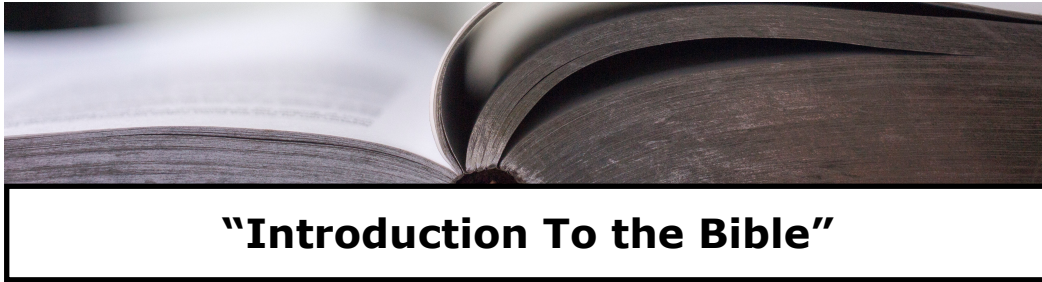
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- a. **The Old Testament Canon was ALREADY ACCEPTED as authoritative by Jesus Christ and the Apostles.**
    - 1) Cf. **Matthew 23:35; Luke 4:4; 24:27, 44; John 5:39; 2 Timothy 3:16**
  - b. **Jesus anticipated the New Testament.**
    - 1) Cf. **John 14:26; 16:13; 17:20**
    - 2) Cf. **Ephesians 2:20—3:6; Hebrews 1:1-2; Revelation 1:1; 22:18-21**
- 2. Q = Is the Canon Closed? Are we waiting for book 67? Nope!**
- a. **NOTE:** The Canon closed with the death of the Apostle John, thus the Bible was complete by the end of the 1st century!
    - 1) There are no more credible authors. The Apostles are all dead.
  - b. **KEY:** No other writings after the 1st century should be considered Scripture! The Bible is complete!
    - 1) Koran; Book of Mormon; etc...

## **VIII. THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE BIBLE:**

### **A. The Bible is ALL THAT WE NEED.**

1. Cf. **2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:3**
2. Cf. **Matthew 4:4** - Jesus said, *“It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”*
3. Cf. **Romans 10:17** - Paul, in writing to the Romans said, *“So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*
4. Cf. **Romans 15:4** - “He also wrote, *“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”*



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### IX. THE CHARACTER OF THE BIBLE:

#### A. Cf. [Hebrews 4:12](#)

##### 1. The Word of God is **LIVING**.

- a. Life-Giving (John 6:63).
- b. Life-Sustaining (Matt. 4:4)

##### 2. The Word of God is **POWERFUL**.

- a. The Word of God has a dynamic Person at work within it – the Holy Spirit.
- b. “powerful” – Gr. *energees* – “energizing, active, effectual, operative; to work in”
  - 1) **NOTE:** Just because something is *living* does not mean that it’s *powerful* or *active*.
    - a) **Illust.** – A turtle is living, but not very active.
  - 2) **KEY:** The Word of God is NOT passive, inactive, incapable, or inoperative, but the Word of God IS powerful, energizing, active, effectual, and operative!
- c. The Word of God is **Actively** at work in you.
  - 1) Even when you do not realize it, as you receive the Word of God, it works in you.
    - a) Cf. [Acts 20:32](#); [1 Thessalonians 2:13](#)
  - 2) **Q** = Do you ever get frustrated seeing areas in your life that you wish you could change?...



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- a) **NOTE:** More important than getting into the Word is getting the Word into me!
- b) **KEY:** As you take in the Word from God, believing and trusting in His promises, His Word will work in you who believe.

### 3. The Word of God is **SHARP**.

- a. It divides the Soulish from the Spiritual.
- b. It discerns the thoughts and intents of the heart.

## X. **THE ABILITY OF THE BIBLE:**

### A. **THE WORD OF GOD IS ABLE:**

#### 1. To **BUILD YOU UP**.

- a. Cf. [Acts 20:32](#) - "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

#### 2. To **EQUIP You For Every Good Work**.

- a. Cf. [2 Timothy 3:17](#)
- b. Cf. [Ephesians 4:11-12](#)

#### 3. To Produce A **RESCUED** Life.

- a. Cf. [1 Peter 1:23](#) - "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

#### 4. To Produce A **HEALED, WHOLE** Life.



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- a. Cf. **James 1:21** - *“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.”*
  - 1) “save” – Gr.  $\sigma\acute{\omega}\zeta\omega$  *sōzō* – “heal; make whole”
    - a) **KEY:** The Word of God has the ability to make someone WHOLE!
      - i. **Q** = Why would we ever turn to the philosophies of man (psychology) to try and heal the soul when we can turn to the Word of God and actually be made whole?

### 5. To Produce A CHANGED Life.

- a. Cf. **Psalms 19:7-8** - *“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.”*

### 6. To Produce A WATERED, FRUITFUL Life.

- a. Cf. **Psalms 1:1-3** - *“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”*
- b. Cf. **Isaiah 55:10-11** - *“For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”*



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### **7. To Produce A SANCTIFIED, CLEANSED Life.**

- a. Cf. **John 15:3** - *“Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.”*
- b. Cf. **John 17:17** - *“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”*
- c. Cf. **Ephesians 5:26** - *“That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,”*
- d. Cf. **Psalm 119:9, 11** - *“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. ... Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”*
- e. Cf. **Jeremiah 23:28-29** - *“The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD. Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?”*

### **8. To Produce A PERSEVERING, COMFORTED, HOPE-FILLED Life.**

- a. Cf. **Romans 15:4** - *“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”*

### **9. To Produce A FAITH-DEVELOPING Life.**

- a. Cf. **Romans 10:17** - *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

### **10. To Produce A WORSHIPFUL Life.**

- a. Cf. **Psalm 119:171** - *“My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes.”*





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### 11. To Produce a **CHRIST-CENTERED** Life.

- a. Cf. **John 5:39-40** - *"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."*
- b. Cf. **John 8:31-32** - *"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*
- c. Cf. **Hebrews 10:5-7** - *Speaking of Jesus the Messiah, "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God."*

## XI. **THE APPLICATION OF THE BIBLE:**

### A. **Q = What is YOUR part in all this?...**

#### 1. **LEARN the Bible.**

- a. Involves LISTENING.
  - 1) Cf. **Ephesians 4:11-12**
  - 2) Cf. **Colossians 3:16-17**
- b. Involves READING.
- c. Involves STUDYING.
  - 1) Cf. **Acts 17:11** - *"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."*
  - 2) Cf. **2 Timothy 2:15** - *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*



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### **2. SUBMIT TO the Bible.**

- a. Allow the Bible To Govern Your Life.
  - 1) In those areas where your life contradicts the Word of God, repent and ask the Lord to correct that area of your life.
- b. Cf. **James 1:22-25** - *“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.”*

### **3. GROW IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD.**

- a. Cf. **Jeremiah 9:23-24** - *“Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.”*
- b. Cf. **2 Peter 3:18** - *“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”*