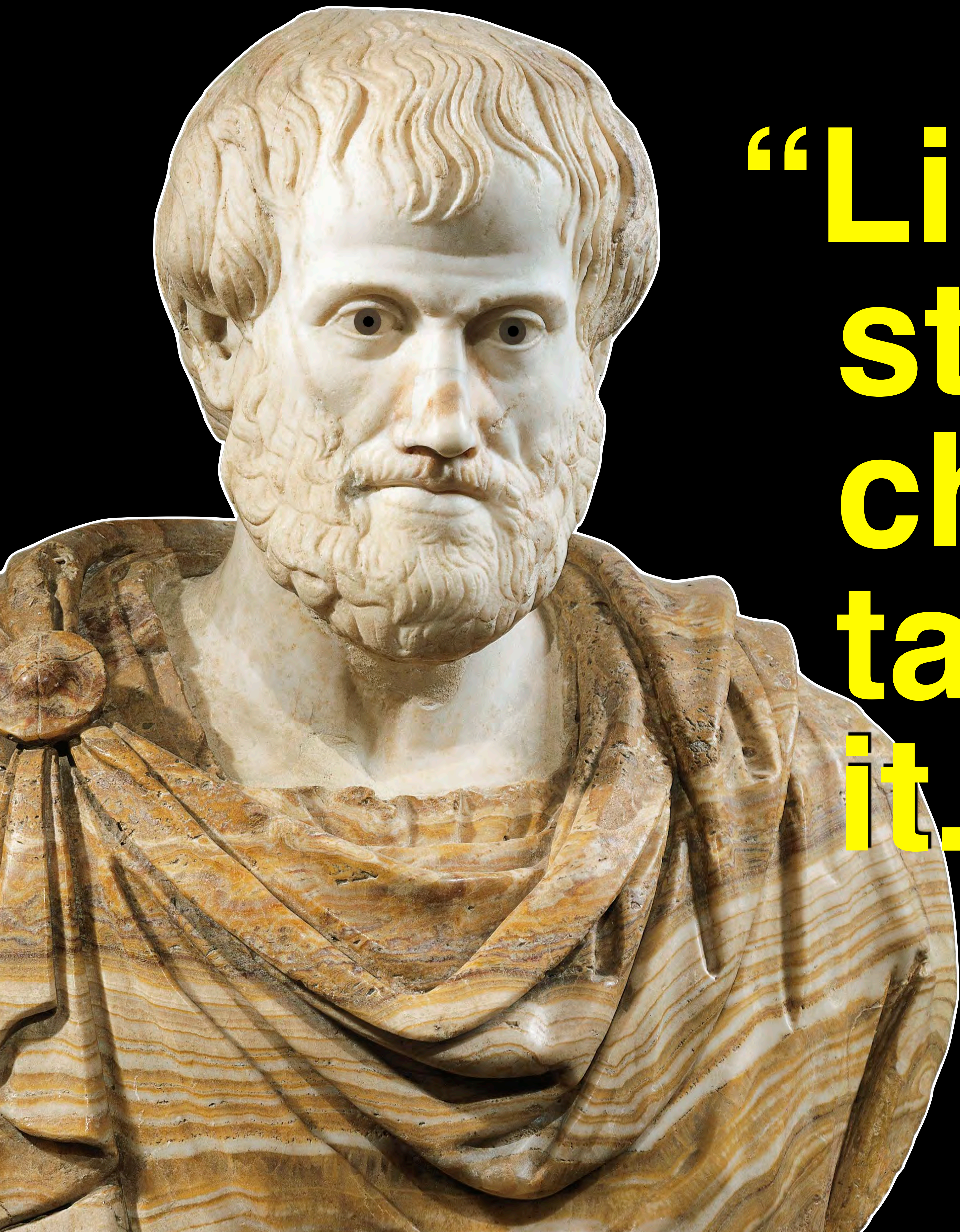


HOW TO READ THE BIBLE PART 1

Sermon Slides

PASTOR STEVE PRUITT
01.07.24





“Like archers, we will stand a far greater chance of hitting the target if we can see it.”

—Aristotle?

**“We believe what we do to
the Bible is important rather
than what it does to us.”**

**“The big question is not
‘Is this the word of God?’ but
‘What difference does it make?’”**

“The Word of God is like a lion. You don’t have to defend a lion. All you have to do is let the lion loose, and the lion will defend itself.”


Charles Spurgeon →



¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2 Timothy
3:16 esv

A photograph of Howard Hendricks, a man with glasses and a patterned suit, standing at a podium. He is gesturing with his right hand towards the text on the screen. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**“The big question is not
‘Is this the word of God?’ but
‘What difference does it make?’”**

←Howard Hendricks

16 **All Scripture is** breathed out by God and **profitable** for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2 Timothy
3:16 esv

**Are you
profiting from
the Word of
God?**

¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.



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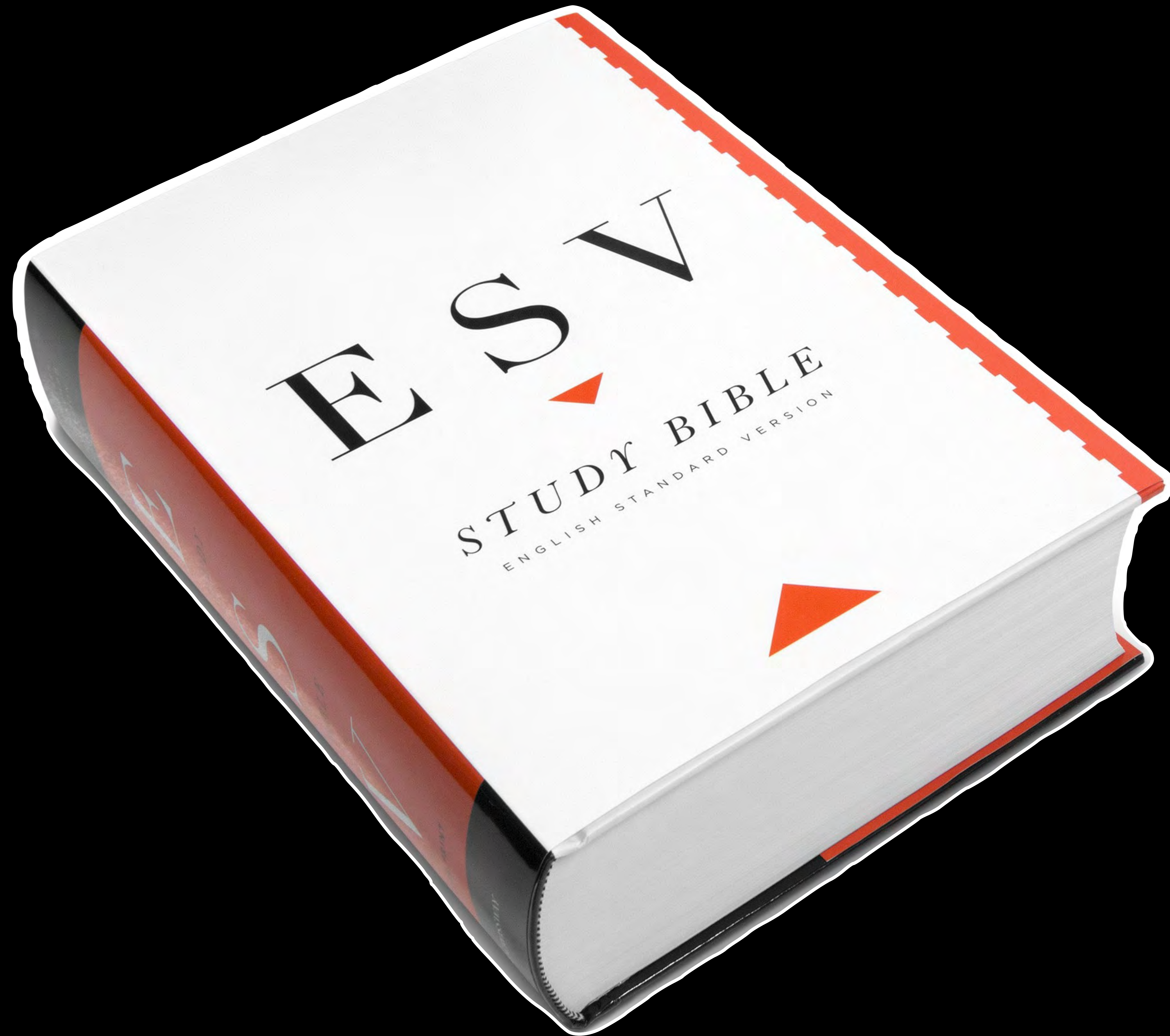
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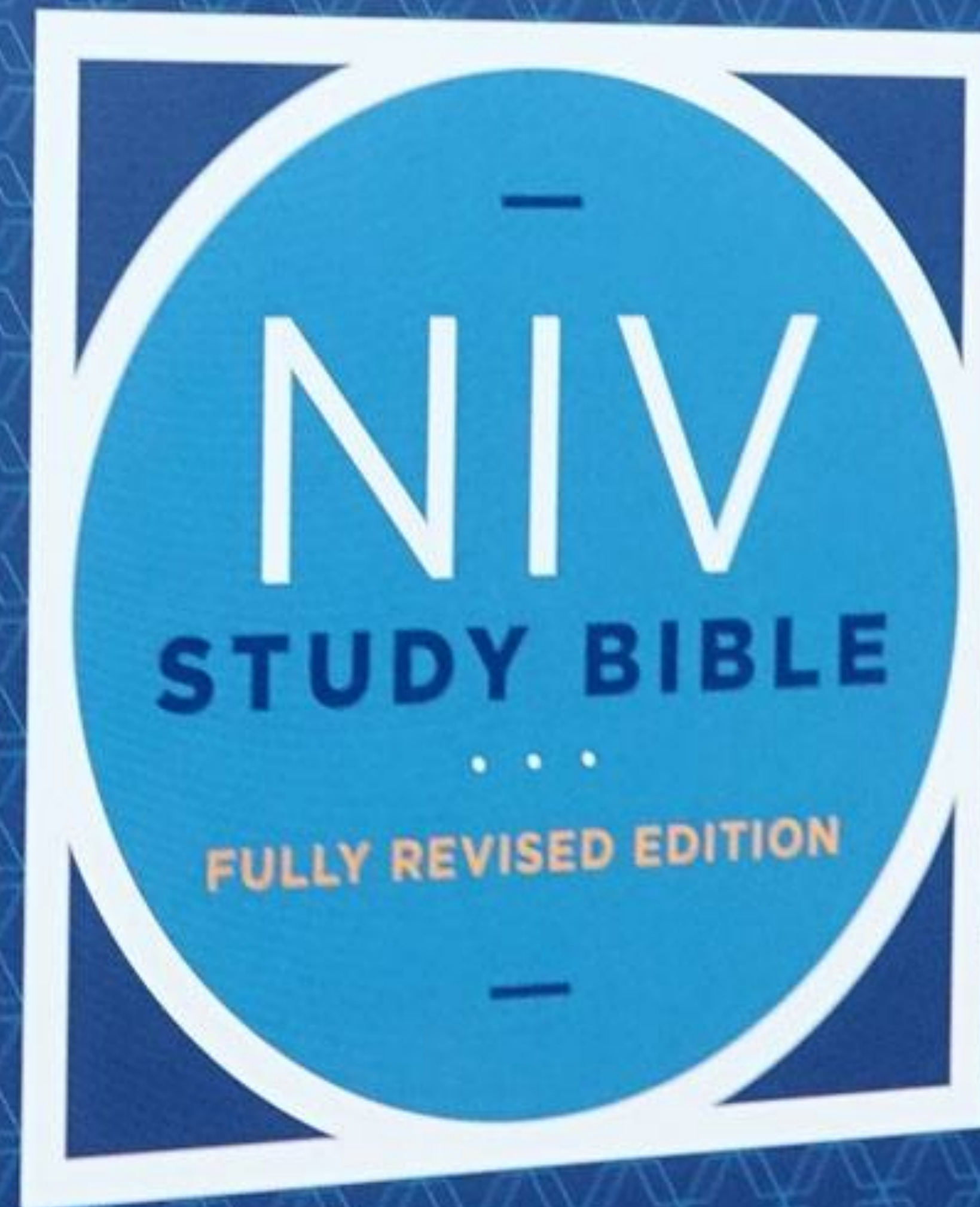
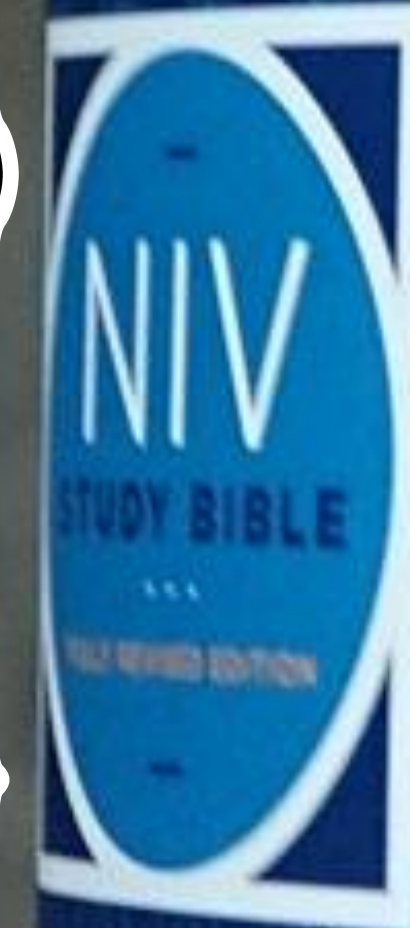
ESV

STUDY BIBLE
ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

ESV

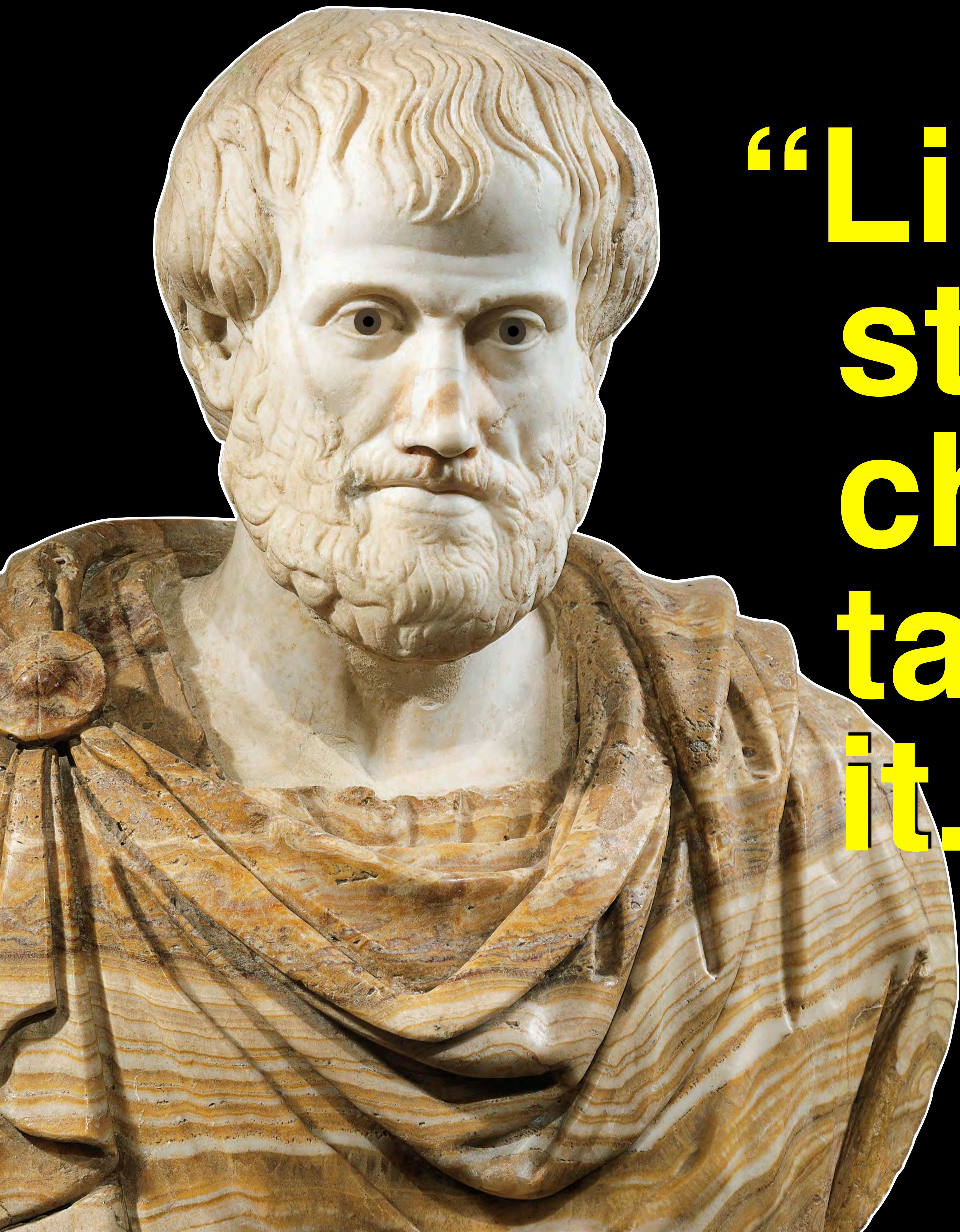
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—Aristotle?

¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2 Timothy
3:16 esv

17 that the man of God may
be complete, equipped for
every good work.

2 Timothy
3:17 esv



1. Observation.

2.

3.

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts
1:8 esv

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Acts
1:8 esv



1. Observation.

2. Interpretation.

3.

1. Observation.

2. Interpretation.

3. Application.

1. Observation.

2. Interpretation.

3. Application.

1. Exegetical.

2. Theological.

3. Homiletical.

1. Observation.

2.

3.

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**So where should
we start?**

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Gospels

History



John
1:1-5

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ In the **beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and **the Word was with God**, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of **the only Son** from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through **Jesus Christ.**

John

1:14,17 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and **the Word was with God**, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and **the Word was with God**, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.** ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² **He** was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

¹ **In the beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John
1:3 esv

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis
1:1 esv

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

³ All things were made through him,

John
1:1,3 esv

3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John
1:3 esv

4 In him was life, and
the life was the light of
men.

John
1:4 esv

4 In him was life, and
the life was **the light**
of men.

John
1:4 esv

5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John
1:5 esv



¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.

John
1:1-2 esv

all over there = 5 sig
keep your mind on God

B He Is Single-minded, 2:3-4

Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.

C He Is Strict, 2:5-10

Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

D He Is Secure, 2:11-13

Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

2:4 gets involved. A minister must put priority on his calling and be completely dedicated to his task and his Commander.
2:5 The picture in this verse is of an athlete who must play according to the rules. A minister must adhere to the requirements of his calling, making the Word and will of God his standard in all things.
2:7 Reflect. If they would reflect on his teachings (in the previous verses), Christ would open up for them depths of meaning.
2:10 Therefore. I.e., because the Word of God remains unimprisoned (v. 9).
2:11 died. Perhaps a reference to the crucifixion of the sin nature, as in Gal. 2:20, but more likely a reference to physical death. I.e., if we die physically, we shall be raised physically.
2:13 if we are faithless, he will remain faithful. A statement of the consistency of God's character, a strong promise to the believer of the security of

12 If we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

E He Is Sound of Faith, 2:14-19

Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymanaeus and Philetus, who have wandered away from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.

his salvation even though he may lose all rewards (see 1 Cor. 3:15).
2:14 quarreling about words. I.e., indulge in word battles, wordy controversies, and quibbling about words. These are not only profitless but harmful to those who hear them.
2:15 correctly handles. I.e., in both analysis and presentation—in contrast to the inane interpretations of false teachers.
2:17 Hymenaeus and Philetus. These troublemakers (Hymenaeus is also mentioned in 1 Tim. 1:20) were probably teaching that the doctrine of resurrection had only an allegorical or spiritual meaning. Gnostic teaching conceived of resurrection allegorically, as referring to acquaintance with truth and as occurring at baptism.
2:19 sealed. A mark of authentication and ownership.

F He Is Sanctified, 2:20-23

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.

G He Is a Servant, 2:24-26

And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

V THE CAUTION FOR A SOLDIER OF CHRIST, 3:1-17

A The Peril of Apostasy, 3:1-9

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. There will be some wicked persons who will be some wicked persons (food and earthenware) in every church, but no one need remain wicked. evil desires. Not only for immoral but also for what hinders, by following what helps, by seeking the company of spiritual people. when... captive. I.e., by Satan at Satan's bidding. Eph. 2:3). the last days. The whole period between the writing of this letter and the Lord's return. Return draws near, these characteristics will signify (see 1 Tim. 4:1-5). The description of law and tradition.

B The Protection from Apostasy, 3:10-17

You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, love, endurance, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and

3:5 having a form of godliness. Having the outer semblance of it without its spiritual dynamic.
3:6 weak-willed women. These women, apparently because of sin, were changeable of mind, prone to accept new ideas and swayed by impulses.
3:8 Jannes and Jambres. Though these names do not appear in the O.T., in late Jewish, pagan, and certain early Christian writings they are applied to the Egyptian magicians who performed counterfeit miracles in opposition to Moses (Ex. 7:11, 22). They are symbols of the folly of opposing the truth.
3:11 persecutions. See Acts 13-14.
3:12 to live a godly life. Apparently involves an

People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, brutal, without self-control, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them. They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men opposed the truth—men of depraved minds, who, as far as faith is concerned, are rejected. But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone. Christians?

3:2 notice how common today
3:3 not nec. evil
3:4 me before
3:5 (people who are Christians)
3:6
3:7
3:8
3:9
3:10
3:11
3:12
3:13

21 There will be some wicked persons (food and earthenware) in every church, but no one need remain wicked.
22 evil desires. Not only for immoral but also for what hinders, by following what helps, by seeking the company of spiritual people.
23 when... captive. I.e., by Satan at Satan's bidding. Eph. 2:3).
24 the last days. The whole period between the writing of this letter and the Lord's return.
25 Return draws near, these characteristics will signify (see 1 Tim. 4:1-5).
26 The description of law and tradition.
27 Think of it as not nec. this is but a more "acceptable" occasional form

2:12 if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

2:12
2:13
2:14
2:15
2:16
2:17
2:18
2:19
2:20
2:21
2:22
2:23
2:24
2:25
2:26
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2:28
2:29
2:30
2:31
2:32
2:33

“People tell me they want to make the Bible relevant. Nonsense. The Bible’s already relevant. You’re the one that’s irrelevant!”

Howard Hendricks →



23 For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,

Matthew
26:23 esv

24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Matthew
26:24 esv

25 In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Matthew
26:25 esv

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Matthew
26:26 esv