Dr. John Welborn

Get in the Bible Various Texts

"His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire." 2 Peter 1:3-4

- Speculation
- Revelation
 - General Revelation
 - o Special Revelation

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

Main Idea: The Bible is God's Special Revelation of Himself to Us and We Must Know It

I. The Bible is Useful for Knowing and Relating to God

"My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." **Proverbs 4:20-23**

"The purpose of Scripture is to place men and women in a right standing before God and to enable believers to seek God's glory in all of life's activities and efforts." David Dockery (A Theology for the Church)

II. The Bible is Useful for Living the Christian Life

Why Should I Read, Meditate On, and Memorize the Bible?

- **To Know God's Wisdom and Will:** *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."* **Psalm 119:105**
- **To Grow in Faith and Knowledge:** "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." **Rom 10:17**
- **To Receive Instruction and Correction:** "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." **Hebrews 4:12**
- To Find Comfort and Encouragement: "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." Romans 15:4

- To Share God's Word with Others: "But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect." 1 Peter 3:15
- **To Equip Ourselves for Every Good Work:** *"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable...that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."* **2 Timothy 3:16-17**
- **To Overcome Temptations and Sin:** *"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."* **Psalm 119:11**

III. An Ignored Bible is Completely Useless to a Follower of Jesus

"Everyone then who **HEARS** these words of mine and **DOES** them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock." **Matthew 7:24-25 (Emphasis Mine)**

How to Get Started in the Bible:

- Make A Plan
 - YouVersion Bible App
- Bring a Friend
- Don't Quit

"...not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit says the LORD of hosts." **Zec 4:6**

I'm Saved! Now What?

- Get Baptized
- Join a Local Church
- Start Praying
- Get in the Bible
- Share the Gospel

It's Good to Be Saved! How do you get Saved?

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:

- *The Wiersbe Bible Commentary* Warren Wiersbe (2007)
- Word Pictures in the New Testament A.T. Robertson (1933)
- Swindoll's Ultimate Book of Illustrations & Quotes Charles R. Swindoll (1998)
- *Tony Evans Book of Illustrations* Tony Evans (2009)
- Evangelical Dictionary of Theology Walter A. Elwell (2001)
- A Theology for the Church, Revised Edition Daniel L. Akin (2014)
- *Knowing God* J.I. Packer (1973)