

## Key Text: II Timothy 3:16

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

### Why should a person study the Bible?

- It is the Word of God to mankind. Psalms 19:7-9
- It is Alive and active. Hebrews 4:12
- It effectually works in those that believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13
- As it states in the Key text, The Bible is profitable. 2 Timothy 3:16
- Study of the Bible will keep us on the straight path that leads to Godliness and Heaven. Psalms 119:9

### How did we get our Bible?

- Through “Inspiration”. 2 Peter 1:20-21
- Through “Eye-witnesses” who testified. 2 Peter 1:16
- Through Scriptures that were passed on. 1 Corinthians 15:3,4

The Bible was written by 40 different authors over a period of 1600 years. The writers were often speaking prophetically and in ways where their prophecies would only be fulfilled if very specific things took place. (*i.e.* “A virgin will conceive.” Isaiah 7:14 *This verse is an example of one Messianic/Messiah focused prophecy that was specifically fulfilled.*) There are hundreds of predictive prophecies that have been specifically fulfilled as proof of the Bible's authority.

The Bible that we have in our hands has been translated from the original languages into our language and the books within the Bible have been canonized. This means that these books have passed a test for canonization. Here is a summary of the test:

1. Is the Book “Inspired” and is there evidence of that fact?
2. Was the book universally accepted by the people of God and witnesses of Christ?
3. Is the content of the book in harmony with all other Biblical writings?
4. Are the authors named as apostles, prophets or patriarchs?

By the end of the 4th century most all of our current Bible was canonized. In addition to canonization we also have, Historical & Archeological proof, manuscript evidence, the influence of the Bible in the world, and the miraculous preservation of the Bible throughout history. In Summary, we can trust that the Bible we have today is truly the revealed word of God. All that is left, is for the reader of the Bible to place their total faith in the Words of God. **Amen**

### Seven “Editions” of God’s Divine Law that are...

1. Law is written on Nature. Psalm 19:1; 97:6 and Romans 1:20
2. Law is written on our Consciences. Romans 2:15
3. Law is written on tablets of Stone. Exodus 24:12
4. The Word embodied in Christ as the “Living” word. John 1:14
5. The Actual written word existing in the form of the Entire Bible. Romans 15:4 and 1 Corinthians 15:3,4.
6. God’s Law is written on our hearts. Hebrews 8:10
7. Christians as living letters or editions. 2 Corinthians 3:2-3

**Remember that the first Bible most people recognize or read is not Matthew, Mark, Luke or John but YOU!**

## Why are there TWO Testaments, the Old & the New?

- The Revelation of God is Progressive. See how God does things in steps or stages and God does this in this particular way for His own reasons. Isaiah 28:9-13
- The Old Testament is a record of how God prepared for Christ's Redemption. John 5:39
- The Old Testament is a shadow of things that are shown in the New Testament. Hebrews 8:5

## WHAT IS DOCTRINE & WHY DOES IT MATTER?

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### **DOCTRINE = TEACHING/ INSTRUCTION & SUBSTANCE**

There are different doctrines mentioned in the Bible. Like...

1. The Doctrine of God. Deut.32:2; Titus 2:10
2. The Doctrine of Christ. John 7:16-17; 2 John verses 9-10
3. The Doctrine of Devils. 1 Tim.4:1; Rev. 2:,24
4. The Doctrine of Men. Mark 7:7; Eph. 4:14
5. The Doctrine of the Apostles. Acts 2:2

All religions, true and false, are founded on various teachings and doctrines. These doctrines **believed, received, and practiced** determine:

**CHARACTER**  
(What we are.)

**ACTION**  
(What we do.)

**DESTINEY**  
(Where we go.)

### **KNOW GOOD DOCTRINE**

"You however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of..."  
2 Tim. 3:14

"Hold fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching..."  
Titus 1:9

"Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers."  
1 Tim. 4:16

## HOW SHOULD I STUDY THE BIBLE?

### **Keep it simple and consistent:**

- Have a good attitude.
- Select a specific time.
- Choose a special place.
- Pray as part of your study time.
- Get the right TOOLS.
- Use a structure or method either with specific plans and topics or through classes etc.

### **Tools that you will benefit from:**

- A Good Study Bible. (Like a Thompson Chain-Reference Bible.)
- A Good Concordance. (Like Strongs Exhaustive Concordance.)
- A Good Bible Dictionary. (Like Nelsons Illustrated Bible Dictionary)
- A Good Word-Study book. (Like The Vines Dictionary of New Testament Words & The Theological Word Book of the Old Testament.)
- A Systematic Theological Study Guide. (Like The Foundations of Christian Doctrine by Kevin J. Conner)