



BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

Bible

1 INTRODUCTION

When you received Jesus Christ as your Savior, 1 Corinthians 2:10-15 declares that you now have a new ability: you can begin to understand and comprehend Scriptures like never before. This is accomplished through the illuminating work of the Holy Spirit.

The Scriptures are the source of truth that not only have taught the Gospel message, but also helps us know our great God more fully. This study is designed to give you a greater reverence for God's Word and also equip you to use the Scriptures more effectively in your everyday life.

2 GOD'S WORD: THE ONLY SOURCE OF AUTHORITY

The Word of God is to be the one and only source of authoritative truth by which man lives his life.

- From where do people in society typically get advice for living, for relationships, what to think on certain issues, how to handle trouble, or about where man originated, etc.? In other words, to what sources of "truth" does society listen?

People use many of sources of truth:

- Reason
- Experience
- Tradition
- Science
- Feelings

READ 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- What did God give us?

- According to verse 17, why did He give us the Scriptures?

God gave us His word, the Scriptures, so that we would be equipped for all of life! God's word has the answer for every situation we face.

READ: Matthew 7:24-27
(which is about standing firm amidst the storms of life)

🗒️ What did the wise man build his house on?

🗒️ How about the foolish man?

Now here's the real question:

🗒️ What was the difference between the wise man and the foolish man?

3 INFALLIBLE SOURCE OF TRUTH

Not only is the Word of God the exclusive source of authority, but also an inerrant and 100% accurate source of truth.

2 Timothy 3:16 says, "*All Scripture is inspired by God.*"

Inspired literally means "breathed out by God." Thus, the Scriptures have been directly "exhaled" from God.

Realizing that Scripture is from God, remind yourself of some of God's characteristics by recording what the following passages say about God.

🗒️ 1 John 1:5

🗒️ Numbers 23:19

🗒️ Psalms 31:5

🗒️ James 1:17

Many people believe that only parts of the Bible are "inspired."

Which view below fits best with 2 Timothy 3:16?

CIRCLE the correct answer.

- Only the parts of the Bible that deal with salvation and spiritual truths are inspired.
- Everything but the historical records are inspired.
- Everything but the miracles are inspired.
- Everything but those events that do not correspond with modern science are inspired.
- Everything from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 is inspired.

READ 2 Peter 1:16-21 and answer the following questions.

What is "more sure" than extraordinary experiences perceived by our senses?

Approximately 39 men of God wrote the Scriptures under special inspiration over a period of 1500 years.

Who specifically guided these men so that what they wrote was inspired by God?

As we study God's Word what are we to keep in mind (v. 20)?

4 SUFFICIENT SOURCE OF GUIDANCE

Finally, in addition to being the exclusive and inspired source of truth, the Word of God is also ALL that we need for life and godliness.

READ again 2 Timothy 3:15-17

✎ What is the most important teaching that we learn from the Scriptures (v. 15)?

✎ The Scriptures are also profitable for _____, for _____, for _____, and for _____ in righteousness (v. 16).

✎ Thus, the Scriptures enable the believer to be what according to verse 17?

READ 2 Peter 1:2-4

✎ What has God given us?

✎ Where would one find this?

READ: Psalms 19:7-11

✎ List all that the Word of God does and how it would be sufficient and superior to anything else this world has to offer.

5 THE BELIEVERS USE OF GOD'S WORD

In order for God's Word to be profitable we must regularly be exposing ourselves to the Word in the following three ways.

1. HEARING GOD'S WORD

READ Hebrews 11:6

- ✎ What is the one thing that God requires in order to please Him?

READ Romans 10:17

- ✎ Faith comes through a specific activity written in this passage. What is that activity?

- ✎ What are some actions you can take to make sure you are regularly hearing the Word of God?

2. READING GOD'S WORD

READ: Deuteronomy 17:18-20 This passage was specifically addressed to kings of Israel.

- ✎ What was the king of Israel commanded to do (v. 19)?

- ✎ For how long?

🔍 What would this do for a King of Israel?

🔍 If reading the Word of God would help a mighty king, how might that same word help you?

By reading God's Word we can obtain an overall knowledge of God. Spend a few minutes each day, highlighting and marking key thoughts. This can be a great aid in helping you to know God more.

As you read ask yourself these questions:

- To whom is the passage speaking?
- What is the circumstance?
- What does it tell me about God/Christ?
- Are there sins I should confess/avoid?
- Are there promises to claim?
- Are there items that I don't understand in which I need to study to find answers?

3. STUDYING GOD'S WORD

READ Ezra 7:10

🔍 What had Ezra set out to do?

READ 2 Timothy 2:15

🔍 How was Timothy to handle the word of God?

🔍 What should you be doing in YOUR life?

6 LIFE CHANGE

- Memorize 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Start reading the book of John story by story.
- In a journal, record some lessons for your life each time you read.

DIGGING DEEPER: (RECOMMENDED BOOKS)

"Learning and Living God's Word" by Daniel J. Estes