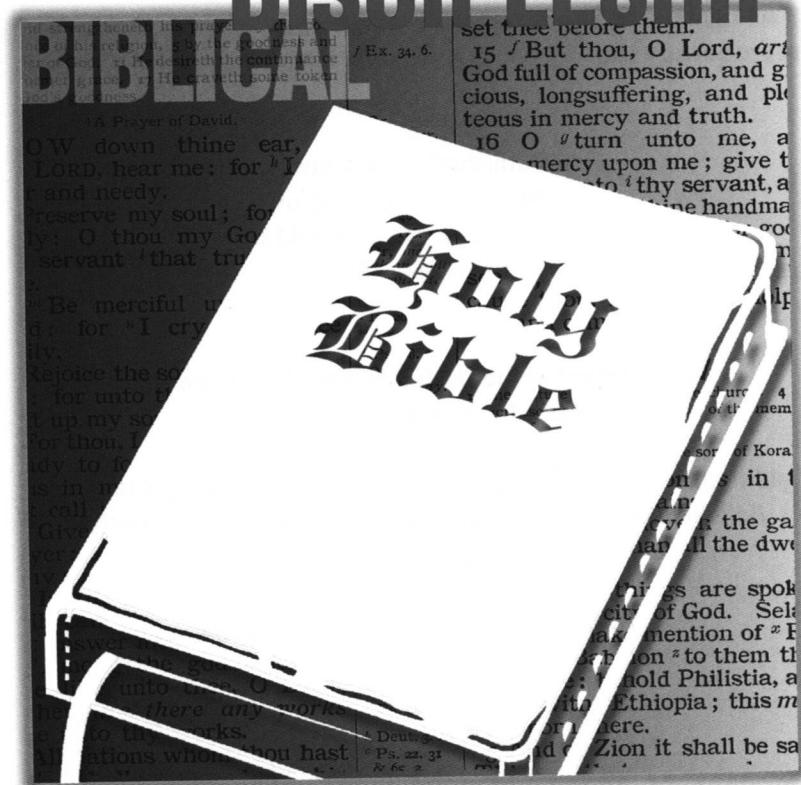


# THE WORD OF GOD

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## LESSON 5: THE WORD OF GOD

### “What is the Significance of the Bible in My Life?”

What separates Christianity from any "religion" in the world is its claim to an absolute written authority from God. Having the Word of God is essential to a Christian's growth in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. The standards by which we as Christians are to govern the details of our individual lives are found in the pages of the Word of God.

The purpose of this lesson is to acquaint you with the basics of the Bible and how it relates to everyday life. This should lead to an understanding of how its principles are to guide every facet of your personal walk with Jesus Christ.

- I. The Word of God is infallible and therefore, is absolutely reliable.
  - A. The very words of God are inspired.  
*II Timothy 3:16-17; Proverbs 30:5-6*
  - B. The very words of God are preserved.  
*Psalm 12:6-7, 119:160; Matthew 5:17-18, 24:35; Isaiah 40:8; Proverbs 22:20-21; John 10:35*

C. The very words of God are not to be changed by man.

*Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19; Deuteronomy 4:2; John 12:48; I Timothy 6:3-5*



D. The very words of God are more sure than the audible voice of God. This is a very critical point. It must be understood that **all** "experiences" are to be judged by an infallible standard which is greater than **any** experience. Peter said the Word of God was MORE SURE than the physical appearance and audible voice of God.

See *II Peter 1:16-21* compared with *Matthew 17:1-9*.

Therefore, which translation of the Bible you use is critically important. While many modern translations and paraphrases attempt to make the Bible more readable, they sacrifice the integrity of the very words of God.

II. The Word of God is active in salvation.

A. *I Peter 1:23* says we are born again "**by the word of God.**" The Word of God is the agent which brings about the new birth.

B. *Ephesians 2:8-9* says, "*For by grace are ye saved through faith;...*" *Romans 10:17* says, "*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing **by the word of God.***"

C. Speaking to the brethren, *James 1:21* says the Word of God is "... able to save your souls."

D. Paul's summary of the Gospel contains three parts, all ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES.

*I Corinthians 15:1-4*

1. Jesus Christ died for our sins.

2. Jesus Christ was buried.

3. Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

E. You must believe what the Bible says about sin, your condition, and God's plan of salvation in order to be saved.

III. The Word of God is spiritually discerned.

A. The Bible is learned by comparing scripture with scripture, relying on God's Spirit to teach you and not your own natural intellect. "*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God.*"

*I Corinthians 2:9-16*

- B. The Holy Spirit of God will guide you into all truth. He often uses other instruments to aid in teaching such as books, tapes, and preachers. Remember, truth is always revealed by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, any believer indwelt by the Holy Spirit can learn the Bible.

*John 14:26, 16:13-15*

IV. The Word of God has a unique history.

- A. The Bible has a total of 66 books, 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.
- B. The Bible was written through more than 40 men.
- C. The Bible fits together perfectly as if written by one man because the author of all 66 books is the Holy Spirit.

*II Peter 1:21*

- D. The Bible was written over a time span of about 2,000 years.
- E. The Bible is totally accurate in matters of history, of prophecy and of every issue of life. There are no contradictions in the Bible.

V. The Word of God has had a profound impact on human history.

A. "The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given to you in life, will be open at the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents." -- Anonymous

B. "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without the Bible." -- George Washington

C. "I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given man." -- Abraham Lincoln

VI. The Word of God is your absolute, infallible guide for life.

A. Every major purchase (car, appliance, etc.) is accompanied by an owner's manual which tells you how to operate it. If you don't go by the book, it won't work.

B. The Bible is God's "owner's manual" for your life. God would not save you and call you to service without clear, exact directions. You must go "by the book."

*Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 3:5-6*

VII. The Word of God accomplishes many purposes in the life of a Christian.

A. The Word of God equips you for service, "*That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*"

*II Timothy 3:16-17; Ephesians 6:10-18*



B. The Word of God sustains you. It is often associated with different foods. See *Job 23:12* and *Jeremiah 15:16*. It is a complete and balanced diet.

1. Milk. *I Peter 2:2*
2. Honey. *Psalms 119:103; Proverbs 16:24*
3. Apples. *Proverbs 7:2, 25:11*
4. Bread. *Luke 4:4*
5. Water. *Isaiah 55:10-11; Ephesians 5:26*
6. Meat. *Hebrews 5:12-14; I Corinthians 3:1-2*
7. Vegetables. *Psalms 78:24*

C. The Word of God keeps you clean to please God.

*Psalms 119:9-11; John 15:3*

VIII. Basic questions.

A. Where should I start reading?

As a young Christian, focus on the primary places which deal with your new relationship with your Heavenly Father. The Gospel of *John*, the Epistle of *I John*, and *Psalm 119* are excellent places to begin.

1. The Gospel of *John* is written that you might believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. *John 20:31*
2. The Epistle of *I John* is written that you might have complete assurance of salvation. *I John 5:13*
3. *Psalm 119* is written to establish your love for the Word of God.

B. What if I find something I don't understand?

1. You will find many things you do not understand. Don't get frustrated. Wait for God to reveal it in His time. *John 16:12*
2. The most important thing is to live what you do understand. God will not give you more than you are capable of handling. As you put into practice the things you are learning, God will entrust you with more.

# THE NOTES OF GOD

When you have finished reading the notes, please write down your thoughts and impressions.

A spiritual life is not a matter of mere knowledge, but of living truth. The only way to know the truth is to live it.

The word of God is not a mere book, but a living voice. It is the voice of God speaking to our hearts.

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Lesson #5

1. What are three scriptures demonstrating you have God's preserved Word in your hands?
  - A.
  - B.
  - C.
  
2. According to *II Peter 1: 16-21*, the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ than the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
The Bible judges all of our \_\_\_\_\_ because it  
is an \_\_\_\_\_.
  
3. The Word of God is active in our salvation. Briefly explain how the following verses apply.
  - A. *I Peter 1:23*
  
  - B. *Romans 10:17*

C. James 1:21

4. Paul lists three key elements of the Gospel in *I Corinthians 15:1-4*. How do we know they are true?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. We learned from lesson #4 that the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ guides us into all truth. The Bible is  
also learned by \_\_\_\_\_ scripture with  
\_\_\_\_\_ and depending on God's Spirit to  
teach you.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. According to *I Corinthians 2:9-16*, why can't lost people  
properly understand what the Bible teaches?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. The Bible is likened to God's "owner's manual"  
for your life. Briefly explain why this is true.

8. What are the major purposes of the Word of God in the Christian's life?

A. Paul lists three key elements of the Gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. How do we know they are true?

B.

C. We learned from lesson #4 that the Bible is a guide as into all truth. The Bible is also learned by \_\_\_\_\_ and depending on God's Spirit to \_\_\_\_\_

9. From *II Timothy 3:16-17*, we understand all scripture is profitable for the following:

A. According to 1 Corinthians 13:10, why can't we properly understand what the Bible teaches?

B.

C.

7. The Bible is referred to God's "owner's manual." For your life, briefly explain why this is true.

D.

10. Your physical body needs food in order to function properly. Your spiritual body needs food also. Give two scripture references that show us this.

A.

B.

11. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson.

**Key memory verses:**  
*II Peter 1:21; Psalm 119:9;*  
*II Timothy 3:16-17*

NOTE: Many popular attitudes about the Bible are:

1. The Bible is just another religious book written by men.
2. The Bible can only be understood by the clergy or by years of formal education.
3. In order to understand the true meanings of scripture, you must study Greek and Hebrew.

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand these attitudes are false and why.

→ Write any questions you may have concerning the subjects in this lesson.









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