

The Bible - God's Inspired Word

The Scriptures are God's inspired Word. It is the foundation of our faith and practice. It instills Comfort and Hope and gives us insight into God and man. It shows us the future and gives us practical principles to live by in the world today. Most of all it reveals Christ and the way of everlasting life.

1. All of the Bible is inspired by God:

2 Timothy 3:16 **All Scripture** is given by **inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine (**Teaching**), for **reproof**, (Shows were you are Wrong), for **correction** (How to get Right), for instruction in **righteousness** (How to Stay Right):

Note: The Scriptures were not the product of Man's invention. It is of Divine Inspiration. It shows us what is right, where we are wrong and how to get back on track. It is a guide book to teach us how to live in this world and how to prepare for the world to come.

2. The Holy Spirit Moved Holy men to write the Scriptures:

2 Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the **will of man: but holy men of God** spake as they were **moved by the Holy Ghost**.

Note: Holy men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to write the Scriptures. The Bible did not originate by man's invention or will, but from God. It is not man's book but God's word. God inspired the men with the message and they recorded it in human language. It is the message God put in our language so we may understand eternal things. The Bible is clear – its message comes from God.

3. Process of Revelation:

God gave the revelation to ->Jesus who gave it to the ->Angel, who gave it to ->His Servant and the (Holy Spirit Inspired the Holy Man to write out the message.)

Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of **Jesus Christ**, which **God** gave unto **him**, (Jesus) to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified (Revealed) it **by his angel** unto his **servant John**:

Note: This is how the process looks: God to->Jesus-to >Angel to ->Servant. And the Holy Spirit moves on the holy men of God and they write the message down.

How to Study the Bible

4. Study the Bible – We are to rightly divide (teach) the word of Truth:

2 Timothy 2:15 **Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing (teaching) the word of truth.**

Note: We are to study – to apply – ourselves in studying God’s word in a way that will please God. We are to study God’s word in a way that will make him proud of us.

5. Jesus' method of explaining the Scriptures: - Comparing Scriptures with Scriptures.

And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. Luke 24:27.

6. We study by comparing Scripture with Scripture:

Isaiah 28:10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

Note: The Bible explains itself. If we study a topic, we find all that the Bible says about that topic and in that way we have a clearer picture of what God wants us to know on that topic.

7. We study the Bible by Comparing Spiritual things with Spiritual things:

1 Corinthians 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; **comparing spiritual things with spiritual.**

Note: We are to compare Scripture with Scripture. The Scriptures are its own – best – commentary.

8. We are to Search the Scriptures:

John 5:39 **Search the Scriptures**; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Note: We are to search the Scriptures like one searches for precious metals in the earth. Some interpreters’ think that the word search is indicative – meaning since you search the Scriptures ... they testify of me. Others translate the word in the imperative sense – a command - “Search the Scriptures and you will find out that they testify of me. In either case – we are to search the Scriptures. Christ is in His words.

Several ways we need to study the Bible. 1. Devotional – reading the Bible to know what it says and what it says to us. 2. Study the Bible topically: take a subject and search throughout the Bible what it says about that topic. In this way we get a completed picture of the subject. The Bible is its own interpreter. It explains itself. We must also beware not to take Scriptures out of context. It is helpful to read the texts before and after the one we are reading to understand the background and why it is saying what it is saying. When we study topically we are also studying in context to what the entire Bible says on that subject. Also In some cases we may need to understand – who is the writer writing to and why.

What more does the Scriptures Do?

9. **The scriptures teach how to live:**

2 Timothy 3:16 **All Scripture** *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine (**Teaching**), for **reproof**, (Shows were you are Wrong), for **correction** (How to get Right), for instruction in **righteousness** (How to Stay Right):

The Bible is Good for Teaching:

The Bible Teaches about – God, Creation, Love, Evil, Angels, Life, Death, Wisdom, Relationships, History, etc.

The Bible is Good for Reproof:

Its Shows us were we are Wrong – our Sins, mistakes.

The Bible is Good Good for Correction:

It shows us How to Get Right – Forgiveness, Come back to God, How to straighten out your life,

The Bible is Good Good for Instruction in Righteousness:

It shows us How to Stay Right – How to live right, How to be right with God and Man.

10. **Scriptures instill Comfort and Hope:**

Romans 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written** aforetime were **written for our learning**, that we through **patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.**

Note: The world of God inspires us with hope and teaching how to live in this world and how to prepare for the world to come.

11. **Gives us wisdom:**

Psalms **119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.**

Psalms 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the **beginning of wisdom**: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Note: The word of God gives us wisdom to live in this world and to prepare for the world to come.

12. **The Word of God represents – Christ's flesh and blood – His life and Sacrifice:**

John 6:53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Note: The communion service – featuring the bread and wine (grape juice) = flesh and blood of Jesus = His words. We are to eat His words and assimilate His principles into our life.

13. The Bible Testifies (Tells us) of Jesus:

John 5:39 Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have **eternal life**; and they are they which **testify of me**. (Jesus)

The Scriptures Point us to Christ

In this next section we will look at how many Old Testament (OT) prophecies are fulfilled by Christ in the New Testament (NT).

14. The Old Testament (OT) pointed to Jesus:

Luke 24:26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?
27 And **beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He (Jesus) expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.**

Note: After the resurrection Jesus met two of his followers on the road leaving Jerusalem. He told them that from the books of Moses (Genesis to Deuteronomy) and all the prophets (prophetic Old Testament books) spoke of Him. The prophecies would predict His coming, His rejection, death, and resurrection.

Let us look at the most important prophecies in the Bible – the prophecies of Christ and how they predicted so much about Him. These prophecies prove He is the messiah and that He is the only one that can fulfill of the predictions concerning the Messiah.

Prophecies concerning Jesus

Note: OT = Old Testament, NT = New Testament.

15. It was predicted that Jesus was to be Born of a Virgin and that He is God with us:

OT Prediction: Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name **Immanuel**.

NT Fulfillment: Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us**.

Note: Immanuel, Emmanuel, means “God with us.” Jesus is God with us, God in the flesh.

16. Christ the Word of God – entered Human flesh and lived among us.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**.

John 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 14 And the **Word was made flesh**, and **dwelt among us**, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Note: Christ, the Creator of the world, called the Word, entered human flesh and lived among us. He is eternal – He is the first and the last. It all begins and ends with Him. He predated creation because He was the one who created the world. He is from eternity – He has no beginning and will have no end. And yet He entered human flesh and lived among us to express God’s love to us in a human form. His example of good works and love was a language all us can understand.

17. It was predicted Jesus was born in Bethlehem:

OT Prediction: Micah 5:2 But thou, **Bethlehem** Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

NT fulfillment: Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was **born in Bethlehem** of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

18. Christ – is Eternal – from everlasting:

OT Prediction: Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, **from everlasting.**

NT fulfillment: Revelation 22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

NT fulfillment: John 8:58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am.**

Note: Before Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation came to be, Jesus existed. When He said “before Abraham was, I am – I existed – the Jews tried to stone him to death – believing that he was blaspheming God by claiming to be God. (Vs. 59). They knew that “I Am” was the Divine Name of God – thus Jesus was claiming to be the Eternal One. (Exodus 3:1-14)

19. Born a King of the Jews – star rise out of Jacob (God’s People):

OT Prediction: Numbers 24:17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a **Star out of Jacob**, and a **Sceptre shall rise out of Israel**, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

NT fulfillment: Matthew 2:2 Saying, Where is he that is born **King of the Jews?** for we have seen **his star in the east**, and are come to worship him.

20. Jesus was a great Light in Galilee:

OT Prediction: Isaiah 9:2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a **great light:** they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

NT fulfillment: Matthew 4:16 The people which sat in darkness saw **great light;** and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Note: Jesus was the great light predicted by Isaiah. His ministry began in Galilee just as Isaiah predicted. It was there among the common people that his word was accepted and multitudes followed Him.

21. Jesus was to preach the gospel:

OT Prediction: Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

NT fulfillment: Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, Lu 4:19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Note: This is the scripture Jesus read in the synagogue service in His home town. This scripture reading announced and described His ministry of healing and teaching.

22. Jesus would make God's Law Honorable;

OT Prediction: Isaiah 42:21 The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable.

NT fulfillment: Matthew 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: **I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.**

23. One Example of How Christ Magnified the Law:

The Adultery commandment:

Matthew 5:27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt **not commit adultery:**

24. His deeper explanation of the Adultery is explained this way:

Matthew 5:28 But I say unto you, That whosoever **looketh on a woman to lust** after her hath **committed adultery with her already in his heart.**

Note: Christ was saying that we shouldn't even look at a woman to desire her sexually. Our thoughts should be pure.

Matthew chapter 5 – 7. Illustrates how Jesus took the understanding of the Ten Commandments to a deeper level by magnifying its principles in a practical way.

25. Jesus is predicted to be our sacrifice for our sins – The Lamb of God:

OT Prediction: Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a **lamb** to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

NT fulfillment: Acts 8:32 The place of the Scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and **like a lamb** dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

Note: In Acts 8. Philip is explaining to the Ethiopian that the Lamb in the prophecy of Isaiah is Jesus.

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same Scripture, and **preached unto him Jesus.**

26. John the Baptist had announced that Jesus was the Lamb:

NT fulfillment: John 1:29 The next day John seeth **Jesus** coming unto him, and saith, Behold the **Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**

NT fulfillment: 1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed (Bought Back) with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a **lamb** without blemish and without spot:

27. Jesus was Rejected and Despised by men:

OT Prediction: Isaiah 53:3 He is **despised and rejected of men;** a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

NT fulfillment: John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, **and the world knew him not.**

NT fulfillment: Luke 9:22 Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be **rejected** of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.

28. Jesus was Betrayed by a friend:

OT Prediction: Psalm 41:9 Yea, mine own **familiar friend,** in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath **lifted up his heel against me.**

NT fulfillment: John 13:18 I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, **He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.**

John 13:21 When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you **shall betray me.**

NT fulfillment: Luke 22:48 But Jesus said unto him, Judas, **betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?**

29. Christ's Crucifixion was prophesied:

OT Prediction: Psalms 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they **pierced my hands and my feet.**

NT fulfillment: John 20:25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in **his hands the print of the nails,** and put my finger into the **print of the nails,** and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

John 20:27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold **my hands;** and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

Luke 24:39 **Behold my hands and my feet,** that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

Luke 24:40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his **hands** and his **feet.**

30. When they crucified Jesus they gambled for his garments:

OT Prediction: Psalm 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

NT fulfillment: Matthew 27:35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

31. When they crucified Jesus they gave him vinegar

Matthew 27:34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

32. Jesus was Buried with Rich in death:

OT Prediction: Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

NT fulfillment: Matthew 27:57 When the even was come, there came a **rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph,** who also himself was Jesus' disciple:

58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered.

59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

60 And laid it in his **own new tomb,** which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

33. Christ's Resurrection from the dead:

OT Prediction: Psalm 16:10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell;(grave) neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (Decay)

NT fulfillment: Acts 2:27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (Decay)

NT fulfillment: The resurrection. Matthew 27:1 In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. 5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. 8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

34. Jesus was scene after his Resurrection:

Jesus was seen of Mary Magdalene.

Mark 16:11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and **had been seen of her,** believed not.

Jesus was seen for 40 days after His resurrection.

Acts 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Jesus was seen of Peter and the 12 apostles.

1 Corinthians 15:5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

Jesus was seen by over 500 people after His resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

Jesus was seen by James.

1 Corinthians 15:7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

Jesus was seen by Paul.

1`Corinthians 15:8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

Note: Jesus is the Son of God, the one sent from Heaven to this earth to die for our sins and rise from the dead. He is the savior of the world. No one in all of history can fulfill all of this prophecies. He is the answer all of our needs.

The Power of God's Word to Cleanse, Free, and leads to Eternal Life

35. We are Cleansed by obeying God's word:

Psalm 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Note: Old habits and sins are broken when we obey God's word. By doing right we stop doing wrong.

36. We are clean through God's word:

John 15:3 Now ye are **clean through the word** which I have spoken unto you.

Note: Christ Words cleanse us. By studying and putting them into practice we think differently and when we think differently we eventually start acting differently.

37. We are Christ's followers if we Continue in His word:

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye **continue in my word**, then are ye my disciples indeed;

Note: Following God is not to be a stop and go experience. It is to be a continual experience in His word. No matter what happens we are to continue in following His word.

38. By Continuing in His Word we will be set free:

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

39. We are Freed from Sin by continuing in his word and experiencing its truth:

John 8:34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth (habitual – lives a life of continual) sin is the servant of sin.

Note: Whoever lives a life of habitual sin is a servant to that sin. God's word bring us the truth about ourselves, mankind, God, the devil, and life. It opens our eyes and sets us free from our blindness so we can make the right choices. Also God delivers us with His power from our sins and faults when we walk in obedience to His word.

40. The Body and Blood – is His Word that Gives us Life:

John 6:53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**

Note: The bread of communion is not the literal body and blood of Christ – it represents His words that we are to eat and assimilate into our lives. We are to contemplate and put into practice the sayings of Jesus.

41. Bible Makes Us Wise to Salvation:

2 Timothy 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the **holy Scriptures**, which are able to make thee **wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus**.

Note: The primary purpose of the Scriptures is to lead us to God through Jesus and show us the way of Salvation.

Do you want to Follow God by Studying and obeying His word? Do you you're your life to change and start living a changed life?
