

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

Thursday Bible Study

ACA Avadi Church

04 January 2024

Ezra 7:10.

...Ezra had determined in his heart to **study** the law of the Lord, **obey** it, and **teach** its statutes and ordinances in Israel.

- The Bible is NO ORDINARY book
- It is THE GREATEST BOOK EVER WRITTEN

- In the whole of Human History, The Holy Bible is the
 - **Most Printed**
 - **Most Translated**
 - **Most Read**
 - **Most Popular book ever!**
- In all respects THE BIBLE IS WORTHY TO BE STUDIED

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

1. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO _____

John 5:39 -

37 And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. 38 But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. 39 **You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.**

- **The Bible is not just an account of human efforts to find God,**
- **but rather an account of God's effort to reveal Himself to humanity.**

- It is not for knowledge only but because they testify of Jesus.
- Without knowing Jesus there is no eternal life

John 17:3 -

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Proverbs 9:10 -

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

Ephesians 1:17 -

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you **the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

- The Pharisees did not know ABOUT Jesus,
- They ended up crucifying their Saviour

1 Corinthians 2:6-9

6 However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory, 8 which **none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

- We should NEVER be impressed with how much we know intellectually about the Bible.
- We study that we may intimately abide in our relationship with Jesus.
- You cannot physically see Him with your natural eyes, but you can "see" Him through the pages of your Bible.

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

2. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO _____

a. TO KNOW ABOUT _____

Psalm 139:13-16 ESV

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Genesis 1:27 ESV

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

b. TO KNOW ABOUT _____

Psalm 40:7-8

7 Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: 8 I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

c. TO KNOW ABOUT _____

Ephesians 2:10 ESV

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

1 Peter 2:9 ESV

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

1 Corinthians 3:16 ESV /

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV /

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Romans 8:37 ESV /

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

d. TO KNOW ABOUT _____**1 John 3:1-2** ESV

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?**3. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO _____****Acts 17:11.**

These (in Berea) were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and **searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.**

- The Bereans received God's Word eagerly.
- They desired to know the truth.
- They examined God's Word daily to make sure what was being preached was true.
- **The Greek word used here means to investigate in a forensic sense, like a judge searching for evidences of the truth in a case.**
- This type of investigation is significant in helping the person you are discipling and avoid false teaching.
- Bible study helps them discern truth from error.
- Charles Spurgeon: ***"discernment is not just knowing the difference between right and wrong, it is knowing the difference between right and almost right."***

- Sound doctrine is one of the apostle Paul's main themes in his letters to Timothy and Titus.

2 Timothy 2:15.

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

(The words diligent, workman, unashamed, and accurately are used to describe the manner in which we study God's Word)

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

4. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO _____

John 10:14 -

I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and **am known by My own.**

John 10:1-10

1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

Hosea 4:6 -

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

5. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO _____

- False teaching has made its way into the church on the back of truth by twisting and even denying God's Word.
- From the very beginning, we read Satan's first spoken words to Eve through the serpent:

Genesis 3:1

"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

- With this statement, Satan introduces both doubt and unbelief into Eve's life.
- But it was what he said next that would bring the false teaching to her, questioning and misinterpreting God's purposes:

Genesis 3:4-5

“‘You will not certainly die,’ the serpent said to the woman. ‘For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil’”

- This blatant denial of God’s spoken word has continued through the years in one form or another.
- But how does it happen? We’re given a hint in the book of Jude:

Jude 1:4

“For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord”

- false teaching is very dangerous, and it should never be underestimated.
- We should look at false teaching as a *disease*; it is a deadly virus that seeks to infect and contaminate individuals and even entire congregations.
- Likewise, we should see the truth that is God’s Word as the vaccination or cure that will stop its spread and eradicate the damage it causes spiritually to your life.
- Because the church was unequipped, those with harmful intentions were able to find a place among the people of God and introduce doctrines of demons.
- Every child of God needs to guard against the threat of false teaching by executing a battle plan that includes the consistent and diligent study of God’s Word.

Matthew 4:5-7

5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’ and, ‘In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ ” 7 Jesus said to him, “**It is written again**, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’ ”

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?**6. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD’S WORD FOR _____****Psalm 19:7-11 -**

7 The law of the Lord *is* perfect, **converting the soul**; The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, **making wise the simple**; 8 The statutes of the Lord *are* right, **rejoicing the heart**; The commandment of the Lord *is* pure, **enlightening the eyes**.

- In short, the Word is life-changing.
- the Bible is the Word of God that contains the mind of God and His will for each one of our lives.
- For thousands of years the Bible has aided people in personal edification.

- It is full of individuals facing moral choices, life challenges, and, frankly, situations that are applicable to us even today.

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

7. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO _____

Ezra 7:10.

..Ezra had determined in his heart to **study** the law of the Lord, **obey** it, and **teach** its statutes and ordinances in Israel.

- Study. Practice. Teach.
- What a great pattern for making disciples!
- God's people are returning from exile in Babylon to their native land.
- Nehemiah rebuilds the wall.
- Zerubbabel rebuilds the temple.
- Ezra rebuilds the people with the Word of God.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, NIV

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be **thoroughly equipped for every good work**".

- The Bible is available for us to learn from not only on an intellectual level, but on a personal and emotional level.

Matthew 28:19-20 -

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

ANSWERS

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

1. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO KNOW ABOUT GOD
2. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO KNOW WHO WE ARE
 - a. TO KNOW ABOUT OUR ORIGINS / OUR CREATION
 - b. TO KNOW ABOUT GOD'S WILL FOR US
 - c. TO KNOW ABOUT WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST
 - d. TO KNOW ABOUT WHO WE WILL BE IN ETERNITY
3. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO DISCERN THE TRUTH
4. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO KNOW GOD'S VOICE
5. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO WITHSTAND THE DEVIL
6. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD FOR PERSONAL EDIFICATION/GROWTH
7. WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD TO TEACH THE WORD OF GOD