

# Why Study the Bible?

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John 17:3 *This is life eternal that they might know*  
Luke 6:38 *Give, and it will be given to you*  
2 Timothy 3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration*  
2 Peter 1:21 *For prophecy never came by the will*  
Luke 6:31 *Do for others as you would like them to*

1 An unbeliever asked a believer, “Will your God give me a hundred dollars?” The believer said, “He will if you know Him well enough.”

2 God has already given the wealth of His Word and the riches of His kingdom free of charge.

3 The key is *knowing* God as He is waiting to pour out His blessings on us. AV John 17:3 *“This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”*

4 Getting to *know* God is getting into His Word that contains all the information we need to live a godly life of faith in Jesus.

5 The Scriptures and the Spirit of God cannot be separated—*both* are needed to understand the meaning of God’s Word.

6 For instance: God will bless us as we bless others. NIV Luke 6:38 *“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.”*

7 The entire Bible is needed to understand all of Scripture. The story of Adam and Eve *before*

the Fall must be known so we are informed what God planned for the human race. The relationship between God and man *before* sin entered the world is what He wants with us now.

8 If we know about the lives of people in Scripture, we will see how God worked in *their* life—like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, David, Ruth, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, the apostle Paul, and so many others.

9 They went through the same experiences we do, and they drew upon the same divine strength and power that is available to us. God recorded their actions and reactions to help guide us in our walk of faith.

10 When Haman tried to destroy the Jews, Mordecai said to the Queen NIV Esther 4:14 *“If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?”*

11 We should read the Prophets to see how God is working through human history. The apostle said NIV 1 Corinthians 2:7 *“We speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.”*

12 Reading the Word tells us of *God’s* thoughts—that are different from *our* thoughts; and reading tells us of *God’s* ways—which are higher than *our* ways. AV Matthew 11:25 *“Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.”*

13 Reading the Gospels informs us of the life of Jesus—of His divine power and His compassion for others—what we are to emulate. And we see His forgiving Spirit toward everyone.

14 We read the NT letters and the four Gospels—asking God to enable us to apply the divine truths we learn. The writers of these letters

were inspired to explain God’s Truth and how that is applied in daily situations.

15 We read Revelation as we approach the rapture and end of this world—as it is all part of being reminded to allow God to prepare us to go back with Jesus.

16 This present darkness will pass, rebellion will end, and Jesus will return to make the world what it was meant to be.

17 The Bible surpasses all other documents and is far greater in value than any other printed material.

18 With the diversity of the 40 authors; the vast span of time over which it was written, the Bible has *one message*; tells *one story*; and focuses on *one Person*!

19 A diverse collection of books and dozens of authors giving one message is possible only if every writer is inspired by one Divine Author.

20 AV 2 Timothy 3:16 *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”*

21 The Bible is the story of God; of His Son Jesus; and of the human race. The Bible explains *what we are* and how we came to *be this way*.

22 It instructs us, corrects us, encourages us, and teaches us divine truth. God includes everything in the Bible that we *need to know* to get to where we *need to go*—to Heaven.

23 Scripture enables us to see how ordinary humans can know the divine thoughts of a holy God. It enables us to know that the Holy Spirit inspired the writing.

24 NKJV 2 Peter 1:21 *“For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”*

25 God’s Word is more profound than any other writing. The Bible has survived countless attempts to suppress it and destroy it—God has preserved and protected the Scriptures through

the centuries. Now we have the Bible in the palm of our hand.

**26** Why is this Book important to us and *what* is its ultimate purpose? NLT **Ephesians 1:9** “*God’s secret plan [the mystery of His will AV] has now been revealed to us; it is a plan centered on Christ, designed long ago according to his good pleasure.*”

**27** The Creator of the universe who made millions of galaxies with billions of stars, has a purpose for us—AV **Ephesians 1:11** “*In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.*”

**28** God wants us to become *like* His Son, so we *read* the Bible that we might *know* God’s purpose for us—a purpose that is *real* and *now* and *personal*—intertwined with our life as we emulate and copy the attitudes He showed us.

**29** We learn Christlike ways and responses as we ask God to *help us be a help to others* in some way—NIV **Ephesians 4:12** “*To prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.*”

**30** **13** *until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God.*”

**31** We cannot achieve *maturity in Christ* until we know about the *life of Christ*. God wants us to have the *information* about His Son and to *put* that knowledge into practice.

**32** Faith is the *first* step which leads to knowledge of the *second* step.

**33** “*Unity in the faith*” means we *fellowship* together; *worship* together; *pray* together; and *study* God’s Word together. It is then we grow to maturity in Christ—resulting in our being a blessing to others as we follow the Lord’s example.

**34** The Bible is not just a collection of sixty-six books written by forty authors over a span of

fifteen centuries—it is a *single Book* with a *single message*—how to live a godly life in an ungodly 21<sup>st</sup> century so that we bring glory to God with all our words and ways.

**35** Although it is *many* books the *one* focus is Jesus—Creator, Redeemer, and Lord of our life. He is first met in AV **Genesis 1:26** “*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.*”

**36** The coming of a Savior is foretold throughout the Old Testament, and His life is detailed *four times* in the Gospels. His way of meeting and treating everyone is in *all* NT letters.

**37** His kingdom and second coming are mentioned in AV **Revelation 22:20** “*Even so, come, Lord Jesus.*”

**38** We study the Bible because God wrote it for *us*. He wants us to *read* it because He wants to *speak* with us. Our one goal in this life is living in Paradise with Him, His Son, and all believing Christians who have gone before.

**39** From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is about Jesus. In every prophecy, every narrative, and every aspect of the Book, the focus is on God’s Son.

**40** In reading it, we understand *why* problems are met and *how* they can be solved in a scriptural way. AV **Matthew 11:28** “*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*”

**41** Jesus gives us encouragement by saying—NKJV **John 10:10** “*I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*”

**42** That is good news—we not only can have our sins *forgiven*, but He guides us on our way to *Heaven* through His atoning sacrifice at Calvary.

**43** We don’t have to struggle through life and trying to make the best of bad situations—falling, failing; doubting and despairing until we finally cross to the other side. That would not be good news!

**44** The life of Christ is an *abundant* life of faith in Him that we can choose to live.

**45** We can have His Spirit within to help us *be* what He *wants* us to *be* and to live *the life* Jesus came to give us. NLT **Luke 6:31** “*Do for others as you would like them to do for you.*”

**46** God’s purpose for our life can be fulfilled—it starts with a choice on our part to let Him teach us.

**47** The Bible is where the knowledge of a right life is written—and it waits for us to *read* and to *apply*.

**48** Knowing God and His Son Jesus *enough* to live this life *enough* is a learning process that starts with a *commitment* and the *application* of the principles of truth in this divine Book.

**49** If we are asked: “*Will your God give me eternal life?*” Our answer: “*He will if you know Him well enough, in reading His Book enough, and living the life He gives us enough by keeping an attitude of love, forgiveness, and faith in Him enough!*”

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