

## The Importance of the Written Word of God (Power Point Notes)

- **The Bible is the Word of God, and it is our final authority.**

### *1 Timothy 3:16-17*

*All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

- **Scripture is Inspired by God**

### *Inspired*

*Theopneustos (theh-op'-nyoo-stos)*

*Divinely breathed in: - given by inspiration of God.*

- **What is Meant by “Scripture”?**

### *2 Peter 1:19-21*

*And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; <sup>20</sup> knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

### *2 Peter 3:15-16*

*And consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, <sup>16</sup> as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.*

- **The Canon of Scripture A.D. 367**

**“Canon”:** *rule, standard, measuring rod*

1. Apostolicity: *Was the book the product of an apostle or a close associate? (Objective)*
2. Universality: *Was the book widely accepted and used in the churches? (Objective)*
3. Contents: *Did the subject matter of the book appear to be on a plane with known Scripture? (Objective)*
4. Inspiration: *Did the book bear the special quality that speaks of divine inspiration? (Subjective)*

- **Scripture is Profitable**

1. Teaching: *instruction (the function or the information): - doctrine, learning, teaching*
2. Reproof: *refutation, that is, reproof: - rebuke.*
3. Correction: *a straightening up again, that is, (figuratively) rectification (reformation): - correction.*
4. Training in Righteousness: *tutorage, that is, education or training; by implication disciplinary correction*

- **Paul Demanded Scriptural Accuracy**

**2 Timothy 3:14**

You, however, continue (abide) in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them.

**Timothy learned directly from Paul through hearing his teachings and reading his epistles (letters).**

- **Sound Doctrine/Teaching**

**2 Timothy 4:3-4**

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,<sup>4</sup> and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

- **“Another” Gospel**

**Galatians 1:6-9**

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,<sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

<sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

- **Get Your Doctrine Straight!**

**2 Timothy 4:1-4**

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; <sup>2</sup> preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

**Reprove: to expose, convict**

**Rebuke: to tax with fault, rate, chide, rebuke, reprove, censure severely**

**Exhort: to call to or for, to exhort, to encourage**

- **Stop Being Tossed**

**Ephesians 4:11-15**

As a result (of being equipped through receiving sound doctrine Vv 11-13), we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; <sup>15</sup> but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.

- **The Mighty Teacher Apollos**

**Acts 18:24**

Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures.<sup>25</sup> This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John;<sup>26</sup> and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue.

**But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.**

- **Apollos was teaching the baptism of John.**

**Mark 1:4**

John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

**The apostles taught a baptism of death and resurrection with Christ (Rom. 6:3-4) (spiritual and symbolic) and forgiveness by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus. Acts 20:20-21**

I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, <sup>21</sup> solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Repentance toward God and Faith in Jesus**

**Acts 26:15-18**

And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. <sup>16</sup> But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; <sup>17</sup> rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

- **The Scriptures Bring Hope**

**Romans 15:4 NKJV**

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

- **Jesus Used Scriptures to Resist Temptation**

**Matthew 4:1, 3**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

<sup>3</sup> Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

**Matthew 4:4, 7**

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"

**Matthew 4:10**

Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

**In all three temptations, Jesus spoke the written Word to combat the enemy.**

- **Basic Hermeneutics**

1. Word Analysis: Discovering the original intent of the words used. Examining how the same words are used in other scriptures (Bible dictionary, concordance, commentaries).
2. Historical and Cultural Context: When was a scripture written and what cultural factors should be considered in interpreting the original purpose for the passage along with the intended audience (commentaries, Bible history).

3. Immediate Context: A verse has many verses surrounding it which will contribute to its understanding. No one verse can establish a doctrine (keen observation, commentaries).
4. Theological Context: What other passages of Scripture have to say on the same topic (Bible knowledge, commentaries, cross-references).
5. Type of Scripture: Many passages have an original purpose; for example, prophecy, poetry, history, etc.

- Bible Study Pitfalls (The Short List)

1. Demeaning the Written Word: Rhema vs. Logos

Rhema and Logos are both Greek words for the word “word”.

Some falsely teach that “rhema” refers to the spoken word and “logos” to the written word.

They teach that the written word (which they mean to be the Bible) has no power until God speaks (rhema) to you personally.

**THIS IS NOT TRUE!!!**

Rhema and Logos are used synonymously in the New Testament. (See the appendix in your notes on The Uses of Rhema and Logos.)

2. Misinterpretation of the Phrase “the letter kills”.

“The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

Some falsely teach that “the letter” refers to the written word of God—the Bible. They say that the Bible can kill you—only the Spirit can bring us life.

2 Corinthians 3:6

Who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

- The “Letter” is the Law

This is a very good example of the need to view the verse **IN CONTEXT**. When we read the verses that follow, we realize what “the letter” is the Law of Moses—The Ten Commandments and **NOT** the written words in the Bible.

2 Corinthians 3:7-9

But if the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it was, <sup>8</sup> how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to be even more with glory? <sup>9</sup> For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory.

- The Spirit Gives Life

The ministry of the Spirit is speaking of the New Covenant. The ministry of the Spirit is the ministry of righteousness—our right-standing before God by faith in Jesus.

The “letter”; that is to say, the Old Covenant law, brings death, but the Spirit; that is to say, the New Covenant:

- Brings life
- Abounds in glory
- Is the ministry of righteousness

3. Inductive Bible study apart from rightly dividing the word of truth (the gospel)

Question: "What is inductive Bible study?"

Answer: Inductive Bible study is an approach to God's Word focusing on three basic steps that move from a general overview to specifics. Through these three steps, we apply inductive reasoning, which is defined as the attempt to use information about a specific situation to draw a conclusion.

The steps are:

Observation (What does it say?),

Interpretation (What does it mean?), and

Application (What does it mean for my life?).

- Misuse of Inductive Study

Change #3 to:

***DOES*** this apply to my life or was it intended for a different audience? If it does apply, in what ways does it apply (edification, exhortation, comfort)?

- He Said...She Said

4. Spreading Ignorance: "What do YOU think this Scripture means?"

Sitting in a circle and going around the room asking people to share their "insight" who haven't studied the verse and don't know what the verse means.

Scripture has an original meaning. Seek out that meaning using good hermeneutics. THEN share how the true meaning MIGHT apply to your life.

**2 Timothy 2:14-16**

Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. <sup>15</sup> Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. <sup>16</sup> But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. <sup>17</sup> And their message will spread like cancer.

**2 Timothy 2:14-16**

"Study" is spoudazō "to make haste, to exert one's self, endeavor, give diligence." -Wuest

"That needeth not to be ashamed" is explained by Expositors, "a workman who has no cause for shame when his work is being inspected." -Wuest

"Rightly divide" Vincent defines the word, "to cut straight, as paths, to hold a straight course, to make straight, to handle rightly." -Wuest

- The New is NOT LIKE the Old

5. Unawareness of the Difference between the Old and New Covenant

**Jeremiah 31:31-32**

"Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a NEW covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup> NOT LIKE the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the Lord.

**2 Corinthians 3:14-16**

But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. <sup>15</sup> But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; <sup>16</sup> but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

- Ever-Learning

6. Studying the Bible just to appear knowledgeable

The Scriptures reveal Jesus.

*John 5:39*

*You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*

Learning the Bible, has a purpose.

*2 Timothy 3:5, 7*

*Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away... 7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

Knowledge-only can cause one to be proud and judgmental.

*1 Corinthians 8:1*

*Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies.*

Finding the newest and coolest revelation to tickle the ears of those who hear, is misguided.

*1 Corinthians 11:19-20*

*For you put up with fools gladly, since you yourselves are wise! <sup>20</sup> For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face.*

- “Special Revelation”

7. The Bible is our authority for doctrine.

What we proclaim is to be based on New Covenant truths as revealed IN SCRIPTURE. If someone shares a “truth” that came to him/her by “special revelation” and it cannot be proved by Scripture or it contradicts scripture, don’t receive that word.

*2 Peter 1:20*

*Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation.*

This includes teachers, books, commentaries, etc.

- The Gift of Prophecy is NOT Scripture

Paul ignored the prophecies telling Him to not go to Jerusalem.

*Acts 21:4, 10-11*

*After looking up the disciples, we stayed there seven days; and they kept telling Paul through the Spirit not to set foot in Jerusalem... <sup>10</sup> As we were staying there for some days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. <sup>11</sup> And coming to us, he took Paul’s belt and bound his own feet and hands, and said, “This is what the Holy Spirit says: ‘In this way the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’”*

*Acts 20:22-23 And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup> except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.*

- The “Moving of the Spirit” is NOT more important than the Gift of Teaching  
What did Jesus do most while on earth?  
He taught them.

What did the early apostles do most?  
They taught them.

What did Paul instruct Timothy to do?  
You guessed it! Preach! Teach!

## **2 Timothy 4:2**

*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.*

- Teaching is as much a gift of the Spirit as any other gift.

## **1 Corinthians 12:27-31**

*Now you are Christ’s body, and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they? <sup>30</sup> All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? <sup>31</sup> But earnestly desire the greater gifts.*

- Jesus is the Point!

## **Luke 24:25-27**

*And He said to them, “O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?” <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.*

- Scripture Points to Jesus

## **Luke 24:30-31**

*When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight.*

***These disciples could not “see” Jesus when He was with them physically. When they “saw” Him in throughout the Old Testament, He then vanished from their sight.***

***God wants us to “see” Jesus throughout the entire Bible; it is all about Him!***

## **Mark 9:2-9**

*Six days later, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; <sup>3</sup> and His garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them. <sup>4</sup> Elijah appeared to them along with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup> For he did not know what to answer; for they became terrified. <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!” <sup>8</sup> All at once they looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus alone.*

- God has not hidden His word FROM us. He has hidden it FOR us.

**1 Corinthians 2:9-10**

*But as it is written:*

*“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,*

*Nor have entered into the heart of man*

*The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

*10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.*

*For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*

- The Word Reveals What God Has Freely Given to us

**1 Corinthians 2:12**

*Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God*

*“Freely Given” charizomai (khar-id'-zom-ahee)*

*To grant as a favor, that is, gratuitously, in kindness, pardon or rescue: - deliver, (frankly) forgive, (freely) give, grant.*

**Greek Interlinear**

*“being-graciously-given”*

- The Holy Spirit Teaches the Word to Us Personally

**1 John 2:20-21, 26-27**

*But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know. <sup>21</sup> I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, <sup>26</sup> These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. <sup>27</sup> As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.*