

TEN REASONS WHY SOME CAN'T UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE

INTRODUCTION

If you find the Bible a little too hard to understand, do not be too disappointed, or discouraged, or surprised. There are many other folks who have faced this very same problem. The disciples of the Lord Jesus were confounded on a number of occasions and had to come to Him for help.

Mark 4:10: And when He [Jesus] was alone, they that were about Him with the twelve asked of Him a parable.



Mark 4:13: And He said unto them, "Know ye not this parable? And how then will ye know all parables?"

Mark 7:17-18:

¹⁷ And when He was entered into the house from the people, His disciples asked Him concerning the parable.

¹⁸ And He saith unto them, "Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him;?"

Mark 8:17-18:

¹⁷ And when Jesus knew it, He saith unto them, "Why reason ye because ye have no bread? Perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened?

¹⁸ Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?"

Mark 16:14: Afterward He appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen Him after He was risen.

Luke 24:45: Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures.

Jesus had to open these disciples' understanding, and He will do the same for you.

Let us first look at some of the reasons why people, though they may be well

educated, cannot understand the Bible. This is recorded in:

Isaiah 29:11-12:

11 And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men delivered to one that is learned, saying, "Read this, I pray thee:" and he saith, "I cannot; for it is sealed."

12 And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, 'Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.'

Here is an amazing thing: an uneducated man, who doesn't know his A-B-C's, but knows the Lord as his personal Saviour, can ask the educated man to read the Bible to him; and, to the amazement of the scholarly man who can't grasp the meaning of the Scriptures, this heretofore ignorant man will give him the revelation of the Word.

Matthew 16:15-17:

15 He [Jesus] said unto them, "But whom say ye that I AM?"

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father Who is in Heaven."

Acts 4:13-20:

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

16 Saying, "What shall we do to these men? For that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifested to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this Name."

18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the Name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God,



judge ye.

²⁰ For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”

1 Corinthians 2:9-12:

⁹ But it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.



¹⁰ But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

¹¹ For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man,

but the Spirit of God.

¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit Who is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

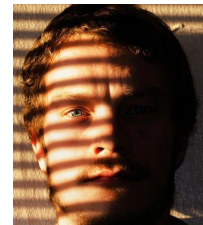
REASONS WHY THE BIBLE IS NOT UNDERSTOOD

1. The **main reason** why the Bible is difficult for some people to understand is that **satan has their minds blinded**. This is recorded in the following verses:

2 Corinthians 4:3-4: [god of this world is satan]

³ But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

⁴ In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, Who is the Image of God, should shine unto them.



***Ephesians 4:18:** Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hearts.*

1 Corinthians 1:18-25:

¹⁸ For the preaching of the Cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are Saved it is the Power of God.

¹⁹ For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

²⁰ Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

²¹ For after that in the Wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not

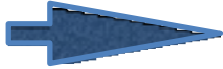
God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

²² For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

²³ But we preach Christ Crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

²⁴ But unto them who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the Power of God, and the Wisdom of God.

²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.



There is not a single means whereby a sinner can release himself alone from this *mind-paralyzing grip of satan*. No human weapon is invincible enough to force the natural and unconverted (unsaved) man out of this death-dealing power of man's worst enemy (satan).

Satan's mind-blinding powers make mens minds drowsy and indifferent to their soul's lost condition. Like a man in a stupor from drugs or too much alcohol, the sinner is unaware that his destiny is eternal damnation and without hope.

While time is running out and eternity is getting closer, those that are not saved go undisturbed, ever downward, to their eternal doom. Loved ones pass away as they stand by in grief, but the reminder of *their own* demise is but for a moment. For satan has them under his spell, and they are unaware of it.

2. The **second reason** the Bible is a closed book to so many people is **any cherished, unconfessed, and unrepented sin** will blind the mind and harden the heart of man to the Truth of the Word of God.

Daniel 9:13: As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand Thy Truth.

Daniel 12:10: Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

3. The third reason is: **satan will snatch away God's Word out of your mind and memory**. This prevents you from believing on the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved from your sins.

Matthew 13:19: When anyone heareth the Word of the Kingdom, and

understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the wayside.

Mark 4:15: And these are they by the way side, where the Word is sown; but when they had heard, satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the Word that was sown in their hearts.

Luke 8:12: Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the Word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

Jesus revealed this fact to us. Even if you are saved and are a born-again Christian, remember that if the devil is mean enough to pull this stunt on you *before* you get right with God and is wicked enough to snatch the Word of God away from you *before* you are saved, don't think he won't try it *after* you come to Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:11: For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 2:14: But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

An unsaved man or woman doesn't know any more about God or His Word than a hog does about Sunday. He is as blind as a bat.

Nicodemus was one of the smartest and sharpest Rabbis in Israel. He was master in theology, with plenty of alphabet soup after his name. Yet, he did not know any more about Salvation than a hog does about Sunday.



He questioned Jesus, and then cross-questioned Him about being born-again of the Spirit. The Bible was a Book that was sealed to him. The same sad situation exists in our world today. The Bible remains untranslated into the minds, hearts, and lives of many who are otherwise educated people. The whole problem lies in the fact that they are trying to figure God's Word out with their heads. Without the illuminating power



of the Holy Spirit, no person can understand the Bible. God's Word tells us these facts.

1 Corinthians 2:11: For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Without the illuminating power of the Holy Spirit, no person can understand the Bible.

4. Another reason people can't understand God's Word is because **it is hidden from the wise and prudent: It is the Power of God Who reveals Truth.**

Matthew 11:25: At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes."

Think of that!! The Word becomes a sealed book and veiled in the deepest obscurity to the scholar. Yet, the unlearned have the seal removed -the Bible is opened - for them, providing they are saved, and its meaning is as the light (sun) of the day.

If anyone should have known the Scriptures, it should have been the scribes, elders, priests, and the Pharisees of the synagogue of the first century. It was their custom, amongst the Hebrew families, to teach the Scriptures to their children very faithfully and systematically. Somehow, all the pertinent facts without the aid of the Spirit, completely escaped their view.



This was no less true of the Lord's disciples. They could not piece together the giant crossword puzzle of Jesus' death and resurrection. After Jesus arose from the dead, He had to appear to them and explained to them the Scriptures concerning Himself.

Luke 24:44-46:

44 And He said unto them, "These are the Words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the Prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning Me."

45 Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures,

46 And said unto them, "Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:"



There is a stupid allegation which is made by scoffing unbelievers who try to make us believe that the disciples were very gullible, as simple-minded children at heart. They were supposed to have accepted everything that was told to them. This is a characteristic of the *simple* who believe every word.

Proverbs 14:15: The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well on his going.

This is far from the truth. Scriptures show us this.

Matthew 15:16-17:

16 Jesus said: "Are ye also without understanding?"

17 Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly and is cast out into the draught?"

Mark 8:17: And when Jesus knew it, He saith unto them: "Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? Perceive ye not yet, neither understand? Have ye your heart yet hardened? Having eyes, see ye not, and having ears hear ye not?"

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

Mark 16:13: And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.

Listen now to the fourteenth verse speaking of Jesus:

Mark 16:14: Afterward He appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen Him after He was risen.

Luke 2:46-50: Jesus was 12 years old

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.

48 And when they saw Him, they were amazed: and



His mother said unto Him, Son, why hast Thou thus dealt with us? behold, Thy father and I have sought [searched] Thee sorrowing.

⁴⁹ And they understood not the saying which He spake unto them: "How is it that ye sought Me? Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?"



⁵⁰ And they understood not the saying which He spake unto them.

Luke 9:45: But they understood not this saying; and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not; and they feared to ask Him of that saying.

Luke 18:34: And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

John 8:43: Why do ye not understand My speech? even because ye cannot hear My Word.

John 12:37-38:

³⁸ But though He had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on Him;

³⁸ That the saying of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which He spake, "Lord, who hath believed our report? And to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

Mark 7:18: And He saith unto them: "Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; because it entereth not into his heart, but into his belly."

John 16:12-13: Jesus' Words

¹² "I have yet many things to say unto you but ye cannot bear [grasp] them now.

¹³ Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will shew you things to come."

Mark 4:33: And with many such parables spake He the Word unto them, as they were able to hear it.

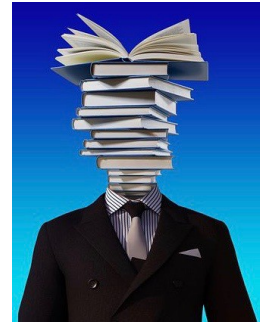
Jesus is the key to understanding the Bible, because He is the author of the Word of God. He possess the Key to Understanding the Scriptures for in Him

are hid all the treasures of wisdom and understanding.

Colossians 2:3: In Whom [Jesus Christ] are hid all the treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge.

5. The fifth reason the Bible is not often understood is because **many preachers take the simple, plain, and common language of the Bible and explain it away.**

They go to colleges and seminaries for years to get educated above their intelligence where learn a whole lot of big double-jointed words that nobody can understand. It didn't take a lot of university education for Peter to **preach** that memorial sermon on the Day of Pentecost. It did take a lot of "kneeology" — which is superior to theology — to produce that great revival wherein 3,000 souls were saved on the first day of Pentecost. Just a few days later, another 5,000 came into the Family of God on short notice. It happened after the miracle of healing on the impotent man. Kneeology - Wisdom one gains from prayer on their knees.



6. The six reason the Bible is not often understood is because of **ignorance or man's proud heart. The Holy Spirit is the interpreter of the Bible.** HE opens our understanding to its true meaning. Only a proud heart is independent and will try to by-pass or ignore the Holy Spirit's help and thereby go on their ignorance. We need His help. Jesus tells us what will happen when we rely upon the Holy Spirit:

John 16:13: "Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come. He will guide you into ALL truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will show you things to come."

In fact, this is also borne out in the following references:

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

1 John 2:27: But the Anointing which you have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same Anointing teacheth you of all things, and is Truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him.

Nehemiah 9:20: Thou gavest also Thy good Spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not Thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.

God wants you to understand His Word so much that He even offers to teach you.

Exodus 4:12, 15:

12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

15 And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

God wants you to understand His Word so much that He even offers to teach you.

Deuteronomy 4:36: Out of Heaven He made thee to hear His Voice, that He might instruct thee: and upon earth He showed thee His great fire; and thou heardest His Words out of the midst of the fire.

2 Chronicles 6:27: Then hear Thou from Heaven, and forgive the sin of Thy servants, and of Thy people Israel, when Thou hast taught them the good way, wherein they should walk: and send rain upon Thy land, which Thou hast given unto Thy people for an inheritance.

Nehemiah 9:20: Thou gavest also Thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not Thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.

Psalm 25:8-9:

8 Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will He teach sinners in the way.

9 The meek will He guide in judgment: and the meek will He teach His Way.

Psalm 25:12: What man is he that feareth the Lord? Him shall He teach in the Way that he shall choose.

Psalm 32:8: I will instruct thee and teach thee in the Way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with Mine eye.

Psalm 71:17: O God, Thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared Thy wondrous works.

Psalm 94:12: Blessed is the man whom Thou chastenest, O Lord, and teachest him out of Thy Law;

All these references show that God will teach us.

Should you have further need of help to overcome your difficulty in perceiving the

Word, another key is found in:

Psalm 111:10: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, a good understanding have ALL they that DO the commandments; His praise endureth for ever.

Notice these words “all”, “do”, and “commandments” in this scripture.

Compare **Psalm 111:10** with:

Psalm 119:99-100:

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for Thy testimonies are my meditation.

100 I understand more than the ancients, because I KEEP THY PRECEPTS.



John 7:17: [Jesus speaking] “If any man will do His Will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of Myself.”

The Lord will only give you as much light as you are willing to walk in. Jesus’ words:

Matthew 13:10-17:

10 And the disciples came, and said unto Him, “Why speakest Thou unto them in parables?”

11 He answered and said unto them, “Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it is not given.”

12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

13 Therefore speak I to them in Parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

14 And in them [those who reject Christ and the Cross] is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which saith, ‘By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:’

15 For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.”

Disobedience to what we already know will bring us into darkness. For, light rejected, disbelieved, disobeyed or neglected will cut off from us the favor of God, His illuminating our hearts any further; until we repent and seek to do what He tells us.

Disobedience to what we already know will bring us into darkness.

Matthew 6:33: But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you.

7. Another reason people cannot understand the Bible is because of their **attitude towards God's Word.**

Remember always that the Bible was given to us by God and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16-17:

16 All Scripture is given by Inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Also, the Holy Spirit is come to reprove the world of sin, righteousness, and of judgment to come. Jesus in John 16:8 -

John 16:8: “And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:”

Therefore, when you read or hear the Word, the Bible says:

Psalms 119:130: The entrance of Thy Words giveth light and understanding to the simple.

If rejected:

Proverbs 15:32a: He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul; . . .

Proverbs 1:24-25:

24 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out My hand, and

no man regarded;

²⁴ But ye have set at naught all My counsel, and would none of My reproof: I will also laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh.

Proverbs 1:29: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord.

8. **Personal prejudice can hinder your perceiving the Word of God.** The scribes and Pharisees came to Jesus not to hear the Word, but to pick holes in what He was teaching. These faultfinders were too biased to receive anything different from their traditions. One such incident is recorded in;

Matthew 15:1-9:

¹ Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying,

² "Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread."

³ But He answered and said unto them, "Why do ye also transgress the Commandment of God by your tradition?"

⁴ For God commanded, saying, 'Honour thy father and mother: and, he that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.'

⁵ But ye say, 'Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by Me;

⁶ And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the Commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

⁷ Ye hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying,

⁸ 'This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me.

⁹ But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

Church traditions can warp our minds into thinking we are the only ones who are right. The acid test on all doctrinal beliefs is the Bible. That is why Israel was told to write:

Church traditions can warp our minds into thinking we are the only ones who are right.

Isaiah 8:20: To the law and to the testimony if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them.

Hosea 4:6: My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest

to Me: seeing thou hast forgotten the Law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

John 8:43: Why do ye not understand My speech? Even because ye cannot hear My word.

9. One of the greatest hindering factors to receiving the Word of God is: the spirit of error.

*1 John 4:6: We are of God; he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby we **know the spirit of truth**, and the spirit of error.*

This evil spirit causes the heart to be closed to truth and only receptive to error — which is truth perverted. Many warnings are given

Many warnings are given in the Word concerning false doctrines and false prophets.

in the Word concerning FALSE DOCTRINES AND FALSE PROPHETS. These agents of satan so poison the minds of their followers against the truth that they become belligerent against the Truth. The following are examples.

Acts 13:4-11

4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Spirit, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the Word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:

7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the Word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Spirit, set his eyes on him.

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the Right Ways of the Lord?

11 And now, behold, the Hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

2 Timothy 4:14-15:

14 Alexander the copper smith did me much evil: the Lord rewarded him according to his works:

15 Of whom be thou ware also for he hath greatly withstood our words.

2 Peter 2:1-3:

1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of Truth shall be evil spoken of.

3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

2 Peter 2:12-19

12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;

13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.



Jude 4: For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness [lacking moral restraint], and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude 11: Woe unto them! For they have some in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

Matthew 24:4-5:

⁴ And Jesus answered and said unto them, "Take heed that no man deceive you.

⁵ For many shall come in My Name, saying, 'I am [a false] Christ;' and shall deceive many."

10. The Bible is the strongest reprove of sinful living and sinful habits. Many people fail to understand the Bible because **they resent reproof or rebukes [correction of a fault] for their crooked living and refuse to hear it.**

Proverbs 15:32: He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul; but he who heareth reproof getteth understanding.

It is recorded in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 the Four-Fold Purpose of the Bible:

- a. It is profitable for doctrine - (belief system - instruction)***
- b. It is profitable for reproof - (correct a fault, admonish)***
- c. It is profitable for correction***
- d. It is profitable for instruction in Righteousness***

2 Timothy 3:16-17:

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by Inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in Righteousness:

¹⁷ That **the man of God** may be perfect [in the sight of God], **thoroughly furnished unto all good works**

Hebrews 4:12: The Word of the Lord is quick, powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow [for what one ought to be In Christ Jesus], and is the discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

It is no wonder that many refuse to hear it, lest their evil deeds should be uncovered

and exposed. By this same token, refusal to hear becomes another reason why they cannot understand the Word of God.



The Bible is a unique Book. There is none like it in the whole world. Its uniqueness lies in the fact that when it is read prayerfully and carefully, and in faith, then it becomes very profitable to you.

Hebrews 4:2b: . . . BUT The Word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

If you want to understand the Bible, you need these ten keys that unlock its sacred contents. The mysteries are resolved and disappear when you approach the Word of God with a right motive and an honest heart. Otherwise, then it will be meaningless to you. It makes little difference how educated you may be, or if you have been raised in a God-honoring home and heard the Scriptures read from childhood, they are but a sealed Book if your *heart* is not right with God.

If anyone should have known the Scriptures well, it should have been the Scribes and the Pharisees of Jesus' day. The elders and the priests of the synagogue of this first century taught the people the Law of the Lord regularly. It was a custom in each Jewish home for the Scriptures to be taught to all the family from infancy. It had to be read when they arose in the morning, and when they retired at the close of each day. The Word of God had to be written upon the doorposts of the home, and bound with a leather strap to their foreheads, and to their arms, called Phylacteries.



Deuteronomy 6:7, 9: God instructed His People that . . .

⁷ Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Thou shalt write them on thy gates.

⁹ And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

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