

Understand The Bible

Complaint of many regarding Bible “hard to understand”

Result of general religious teaching that only “clergy” can truly know the Bible

Leads to practices not in accordance with Scripture since “can’t understand it anyway”

Understanding Bible comes from reading and studying

2Timothy 2:15 *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.*

Rather than turn away from Scriptures, should encourage others to study

Only God’s Word can lead us to Him

John 5:39-40 *You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.*

2Peter 1:2-3 *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*

Bible reveals God, Christ, Holy Spirit and purpose of man

God wanted us to understand; Bible written to help us understand

Consider these things and help prepare to teach others also...

Another “Mark Your Bibles” Route

Understand The Bible (Route 2)

John 20:30-31 - Why was This Gospel written? Can we understand this simple statement? It is clear that accounts of the signs done by Jesus were recorded that those who read might believe Him to be the Son of God.

John 8:32 - Jesus said we could know what the Truth is. That should settle it.

Ephesians 5:17 - Paul commanded that we understand it (**1John 5:2-3**)

1John 5:2-3 *By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.*

Ephesians 3:1-4 - What does Paul say would happen when we read? The word “perceive” means “to understand with the mind.” One can understand Paul’s understanding of God’s revelation in Christ Jesus.

2Timothy 3:13-17 - Timothy “knew” the Holy Scriptures and as a result was made “wise unto salvation.” These same Scriptures are able to “thoroughly furnish” a man unto ALL good works. How is that possible if men cannot understand what the Scriptures teach?

2Timothy 4:3-4 - Paul explains why some men do not understand the truth revealed in the Bible, they turn away from truth to follow what their heart desires to do. They follow “fables,” that is, literally fiction. They make it up as they go along to suite themselves.

2Thessalonians 2:11-12 - Men are led away from truth into error because they do not love truth more than anything else. This is why they can be seduced and deceived.

2Peter 3:16 - There are difficult things in the Bible which require much study. Those who are ignorant and are not grounded in the Scriptures will be led into error.

John 7:17 - The promise of God is that those who want to know the truth can and will find it.

Luke 8:15 - The “good ground” is characterized by “an honest and good heart.” Pride, prejudice, skepticism and lust keep men from understanding the Bible, the Word of God. The fault is in man and not in the Word.

1Corinthians 2:12-16 - Paul affirms that the Apostles had received from Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit “the hidden wisdom of God.” This they had received in order that they might “know the things freely given to us of God.” The Word of God can be understood. The “natural man” that does not receive the things of the Spirit is that man who does not will to do God’s will (**Romans 8:7**); he has a skeptical mind (**1:23**), and he is following the desires of the flesh (**1:26**).

Romans 8:6-8 *For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

Romans 1:22-23 *Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.*

Romans 1:26-27 *For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.*

Hebrews 4:12-13 - We are told the Word is living and active. How can instructions be living and active if they cannot be understood? How is it possible for the Word to discern the character of our thoughts and intentions without being understood by the one reading it?

James 1:21-25 - The Word is able to save us. However, we must be doers of the Word. We cannot ignore what the Scriptures reveal to us about ourselves and our needs. How could the Word be such a “mirror” of the soul if we cannot see the image it portrays? James clearly shows us that the fault is with the “forgetful hearer” and not the Word.