

## Understanding The Scriptures Acts 8:26-31

### Scripture Can Be Misunderstood

If don't understand scriptures not because they can't be understood

*Psalms 119:130; Ephesians 3:4*

What will help us to understand the scriptures, the Word of God?

### A Fervent Desire For Understanding Acts 8:28-31

*1Peter 2:2; John 7:17; Matthew 5:6*

We will spend time reading and studying God's word

### Honest Attitude Acts 8:34

Willing to accept and obey although contrary to what had believed

Even though he was a man of great authority

He made no excuse, held no reservations, Immediately obeyed Truth

When find thinking in conflict w/Scriptures need be honest enough to lay aside our cherish thinking

- Note Paul Acts 26:9,19-20

### A Capable Teacher Acts 8:30

*Romans 10:14*

Paul was such a teacher - Acts 16:14

Men with understanding can help us to understand, but they cannot take the place of our own

study of the Word - Matthew 11:29; Acts 17:11; 2Timothy 2:15

### A Background Knowledge Acts 8:35

Secular knowledge, course built on another: Math, English, Science

In spiritual knowledge one must begin with basics as well - Hebrews 5:12; 1Corinthians 3:1-3

More background knowledge build better understanding we have

How can one prove Jesus of Nazareth is indeed promised Messiah of OT without a knowledge of prophecies and fulfillment?

A knowledge of Daniel 2 will help us to a proper understanding of the time the church and kingdom were established Acts 2

### Sound Study Methods Acts 8:34

Ask God to help - James 1:5-8

Must be rightly divided - 2Timothy 2:15

This shows that it can be wrongly divided

Study in light of context and all passages dealing with subject

Four questions need to be asked in study

When? (Old, New; Past, Present, Future)

Who is speaking? (devil? Genesis 3:4)

To whom, is it applicable to me? (2Timothy 4:21 come before Winter)

What is the purpose? (1Timothy 4:8 Not against physical exercise)

When we study, it involves more than just reading the words that are written on the page. We must contemplate, ponder and try to find out just what God wants us to know.

### Diligent Faithful Practice

Knowledge is not enough - Luke 6:46; Matthew 7:21

Three basic steps in understanding God's word

**Recognize** its truthfulness when it is stated

Be able to **use** it, teach and explain it to others

Put it into **practice** and live by it daily

Don't have true understanding of Word until put it into practice.

## **Desire To Understand**

A great blessing to the Eunuch

He had opportunity to learn and obey the will of God

You are offered that opportunity today

If you have the desire, are honest, and are willing to study there are capable people who are willing to help you to understand

You can then obey it and diligently and faithfully practice it all the days of your life and have a home with God in heaven.

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