



## *The Importance Of The Call To Study The Bible*

### ❶ THE BIBLE IS TO BE READ, SEARCHED, STUDIED, MEDITATED UPON, AND APPLIED BECAUSE OF WHAT IT IS

#### ● IT IS THE VERY WORD OF GOD:

The Bible differs radically, and entirely from all other books, and it is immeasurably superior to all other books! **THE REASON FOR ITS DIFFERENCE AND SUPERIORITY IS ITS AUTHOR!** Paul stated in **II Timothy 3:16** *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God”* The word translated *“inspiration”* is the Greek word *“theonuestos”* and means;

*“to breathe”*

This means that THE BIBLE IS **GOD-BREATHED!** IT IS THE **BREATH OF GOD!** Explaining this *“inspiration”* it is said in **II Peter 1:21** that; *“holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit”* These men (*Moses, David, Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Paul*) had the Holy Spirit of God dwelling within them and were under His direction (**I Peter 1:10-11**). God put into their minds, thoughts and ideas, and guided their pens in writing down those thoughts and ideas. **The men who were used to write the Bible spoke from God, as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (II Peter 1:21).** **WHEN ONE READS THE BIBLE THEY ARE NOT MERELY READING THE WORDS OF MAN, BUT THE WORDS OF GOD!** The Bible from beginning to end is the Word of God! It is referred to as; *The word of the Holy One of Israel” (Isaiah 5:24)*, as *“the word of our God” (Isaiah 40:8)*, as *“the word of His mouth” (Jeremiah 9:20)*, as *“the oracles (utterances) of God” (Romans 3:2; Hebrews 5:12; I Peter 4:11)*, as *“the word of Christ” (Colossians 3:16)*, and as *“the word of God” (I Thessalonians 2:13)*. A word is:



A means of expression

A means of manifestation or presentation

A means of communication or contact and connection

A means of revelation.

The Bible as the Word of God is a manifestation and presentation, a communication, and a revelation of the thoughts, the will, and the ways of God! What is said in **Isaiah 1:20** *“the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it”* can be said of all the Bible! A word can take the form of

**writing**; The Lord said of Ephraim in **Hosea 8:12** *“I have written to him great things of My law”* THE BIBLE IS THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD, and is referred to as *“the book of the LORD”* (Isaiah 34:16), THE BIBLE IS A DICTATION FROM GOD HIMSELF, THE WRITING OF THE LIVING GOD TO US! The Bible is A MESSAGE ORIGINATING WITH GOD, AND A MESSAGE FROM GOD TO US! As the written Word of God; THE BIBLE CONTAINS EVERYTHING THAT WE NEED TO KNOW OF GOD AND GOD’S WAYS!

Throughout **Psalm 119** various synonyms are used to exalt the Bible as the **Word of God**:

SYNONYMS	REFERENCE	MEANING
“law”	verses 1, 8, 29, 34, 44, 51, 53, 55, 61, 70, 72, 77, 85, 92, 97, 109, 113, 126, 136, 142, 150, 153, 163, 165, 174.	The Bible is a <b>rule</b> , a <b>regulation</b> , and a <b>requirement</b> of conduct.
“testimonies”	verses 2, 14, 22, 24, 31, 36, 46, 59, 79, 95, 99, 111, 119, 125, 129, 138, 144, 146, 152, 157, 167, 168	The Bible is the <b>declaration</b> , the <b>witness</b> , and the <b>confirmation</b> of God.
“ways”	verses 3, 15 and in the singular verses 1, 14, 27, 30, 32, 33, 37	The Bible is a <b>pattern</b> and an <b>order</b> and <b>method</b> for living.
“precepts”	verses 4, 15, 27, 40, 45, 56, 63, 69, 78, 87, 93, 94, 100, 104, 110, 128, 134, 141, 159, 168, 173	The Bible is a book to <b>control</b> and <b>manage</b> one’s life.
“statutes”	verses 5, 8, 12, 16, 23, 26, 33, 48, 54, 64, 68, 71, 80, 83, 112, 117, 118, 124, 135, 145, 155, 171	The Bible is a definite, lasting written <b>rule</b> of conduct.
“commandments”	verses 6, 10, 19, 21, 32, 35, 47, 48, 60, 66, 73, 86, 98, 115, 127, 131, 143, 151, 166, 172, 176	The Bible is <b>authoritative</b> .
“judgments”	verses 7, 13, 20, 30, 39, 43, 52, 62, 75, 102, 106, 108, 120, 137, 156, 160, 164, 175	The Bible is the <b>determinations</b> , and legal <b>sanctions</b> of God.
“word”	verses 9, 11, 16, 17, 25, 28, 38, 41, 42, 43, 49, 50, 58, 65, 67, 74, 76, 81, 82, 89, 101, 105, 107, 114, 116, 123, 133, 140, 147, 148, 154, 158, 160, 161, 162, 169, 170, 172	The Bible is a <b>revelation</b> of God’s thoughts.
“truth”	verse 30	The Bible is a book of <b>firmness</b> & <b>stability</b> .
“righteousness”	verses 40, 123	The Bible is a book of <b>honor</b> , & <b>purity</b> .

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD LIKE GOD IS ETERNAL:**

The Psalmist wrote in **Psalm 119:89** *“For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven”* God’s book, the Bible is not fickle or uncertain; but it is settled, determined, fixed, sure, and immoveable! While kings, emperors, nations, and institutions have tried to destroy it; **THE BIBLE STILL STANDS!** Man’s hatred for the Bible has been and is persistent, determined, and relentless **BUT THE BIBLE CANNOT BE DESTROYED!** Every possible effort has and continues to be made to undermine faith in the inspiration and authority of the Bible, **BUT IT CONTINUES ON (Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35; I Peter 1:25).**

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD, LIKE GOD IS IMMUTABLE:**

Despite the years of time, and man’s attempts to change and alter the Bible, **IT REMAINS THE SAME!** Despite all the *burnings*, the *inquisitions*, and *torture chambers*, **GOD’S BOOK HAS SURVIVED, AND THE MESSAGE REMAINS THE SAME!** Unbelief and rejection does not alter the Bible! In a world of constant change, **THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE REMAINS UNCHANGED!** The Bible is still up to date, and answers every vital question **which concerns the soul of man!** **IT IS A SOLID ROCK IN THE MIDST OF A DESERT OF SHIFTING SAND!** It is written in **I Kings 8:56** *“there hath not failed one word of all His good promise”* He has left us His **Word**, therefore we are not left without a compass, we are not left to wander around in the fog of human opinion!

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD, LIKE GOD IS PURE:**

David declared in **Psalm 12:6** *“The words of the LORD are pure words”* and in **Psalm 19:8** *“The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes”* and in **Psalm 119:140** *“Thy word is very pure”* It is recorded in **Proverbs 30:5** that; *“Every word of God is pure”* Paul said in **Romans 7:12** *“Wherefore the law is holy, and just and good”* **THE BIBLE IS UNTAINTED, AND FLAWLESS!**

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD, LIKE GOD IS TRUE:**

The Bible is the word of One who cannot lie, cannot be mistaken, or deceived! The world abounds with error and falsehood, **BUT THE WORD OF GOD STANDS AS A PILLAR OF UNSHAKABLE TRUTH!** The Psalmist declared in **Psalm 119:160** *“Thy word is true from the beginning”* It is called the *“scripture of truth”* (**Daniel 10:21**), and the *“word of truth”* (**II Timothy 2:15; James 1:18**). *Jesus* declared in **John 17:17** *“Thy word is truth”* **THE BIBLE IS IN ABSOLUTE ACCORD WITH GOD**, and therefore correct and accurate! It is certain, it is definite, it is firm, it is unwavering, it is guaranteed, unfailing, and absolutely reliable! In **II Peter 1**; Peter makes reference to his experience upon the *Mount of Transfiguration (verses 16-18)*, and then speaking of the *Scriptures*, he says; *“We have also a more sure word of prophecy” (verse 19)*. It is so true that whatever is contrary to it is a lie (**Romans 3:4**). **THE WORD OF GOD DOES NOT NEED HUMAN AUTHORITY FOR ACCREDITATION!** It is the infallible, inerrant Word of God **IT NEEDS NO UPDATING, EDITING, OR REFINING!**

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD, LIKE GOD IS POWERFUL:**

The Bible is the **authority**, the **power**, and the **influence** of God! From **Psalm 29** we see that “*the **voice of the LORD**” is actively **powerful**! The Bible as the **Word of God** is “*the voice of the LORD*” and as such it has:*

Universal Power	“The voice of the LORD is upon the <b>waters</b> ” (verse 3)
Awe Inspiring Power	“The voice of the LORD is full of <b>majesty</b> ” (verse 4)
Breaking Power	“The voice of the LORD <b>breaketh</b> ” (verse 5)
Moving Power	“He maketh them to <b>skip</b> like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn” (verse 6)
Dividing Power	“The voice of the LORD <b>divideth</b> ” (verse 7)
Shaking Power	“The voice of the LORD <b>shaketh</b> ” (verse 8)
Enlivening Power	“The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to <b>calve</b> ” (verse 9)
Revealing Power	“and <b>discovereth</b> ” (verse 9)

There are various **metaphors** used in describing the Bible, and such also illustrates the **power** and **function** of the **Word of God**:

Metaphor	Reference	Illustrating
Fire	<b>Jeremiah 23:29</b>	<b>Consuming, Melting, Refining, Penetrating, Hurting, &amp; Comforting Power</b>
Hammer	<b>Jeremiah 23:29</b>	<b>A tool used to accomplish a purpose</b>
Seed	<b>I Peter 1:23</b>	<b>Life-Giving Power</b>
Lamp	<b>Psalm 119:105</b>	<b>Guiding, Instructing, Warning, &amp; Protecting Power</b>
Sword	<b>Ephesians 6:17</b>	<b>Penetrating &amp; Repelling Power</b>
Mirror	<b>James 1:22-25</b>	<b>Revealing &amp; Examining Power</b>
Food	<b>Hebrews 5:11-14; I Peter 2:2</b>	<b>Nourishing Power</b>
Water	<b>Ephesians 5:26</b>	<b>Cleansing Power</b>

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD, LIKE GOD IS LIVING:**

The Bible is a living, active, and speaking book (**Proverbs 6:22**).

● **THE BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD, LIKE GOD IS MAJESTIC:**

God is majestic, glorious, and great, and the Bible (*the inspired Word of God*) is a unique (*one of a kind*) book! It is a book that is above all others! It is unequaled, unmatched, and absolutely superior to all other books! The Psalmist declared in **Psalm 138:2** "*for Thou hast magnified Thy word above all Thy name*"

The Bible is the **breath of Almighty God**, the **writing and communication of the Creator of the universe**, and of the **All-Knowing, All-wise, Living God**! THE BIBLE IS NO ORDINARY BOOK! The Bible is not the erring opinions, or philosophies, reasonings, and ideas of mere short lived mortals, but THE UNVEILING OF THE UNCHANGING MIND OF THE SOVEREIGN OF THE UNIVERSE! The Bible is a book that **reveals the thoughts of God**, a book that **reveals God**! THE BIBLE IS A REVELATION OF THE INVISIBLE GOD! It is a book of **God's testimony of who He is, and what He requires**! Therefore **it should have a place of prominence in daily life!** Daily and continuously it should be:



**READ**  
**SEARCHED**  
**STUDIED**  
**MEDITATED UPON**  
**APPLIED**

② **THE BIBLE IS TO BE READ, SEARCHED, STUDIED, MEDITATED UPON, AND APPLIED BECAUSE OF ITS DESIGN**

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR GIVING LIFE:**

This is stated in **Psalm 119:50, 93; James 1:18; and I Peter 1:23**. Again, the Bible is a living book, the seed that the Holy Spirit uses in imparting spiritual life into dead sinners, and in reviving His people. It is what the Holy Spirit uses to arouse His people into activity (**Psalm 119:25, 107, 154**), and is called "*the word of life*" (**Philippians 2:16**).

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR SUPPORTING SPIRITUAL LIFE:**

This is stated in **Deuteronomy 8:3**, and **Matthew 4:4**. The Holy Spirit uses the **Word of God** to sustain and feed the spiritual life of a child of *God*! Because of such a design it is referred to as food (**Job 23:12; Psalm 119:103; Jeremiah 15:16; Hebrews 5:11-14; I Peter 2:2**). **THE WORD OF GOD SUPPLIES SPIRITUAL NUTRIENTS TO THE SOUL!**

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR PROMOTING SPIRITUAL GROWTH:**

This is stated in **Acts 20:32**, and in **I Peter 2:2**. **Spiritual growth** is taught in the **Word of God** (**Ephesians 4:15; Philipians 1:9; Colossians 1:10; I Thessalonians 4:1, 10; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; 2 Peter 3:18**), and the Holy Spirit uses the **Word of God** as an instrument to bring about such growth! **Spiritual maturity** does not come about where there is neglect of, or a careless attitude toward the **Word of God** (**Hebrews 5:11-14**). **THE BIBLE IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND MATURITY!**

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR PRODUCING AND STRENGTHENING FAITH:**

This is stated in **John 20:31** and in **Romans 10:11-17**. The Holy Spirit uses the **Word of God** to impart saving faith, and He uses the **Word of God** to feed and increase faith in the child of *God*!

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR CONVERTING:**

This is stated in **Psalm 19:7**. When *God* saves a sinner He converts or turns them to Himself, and the Holy Spirit uses the **Word of God** to accomplish this conversion. The child of God can become wayward, and again, the Holy Spirit will use the **Word of God** to turn them from their own ways, to Himself!

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR ILLUMINATING:**

This is stated in **Psalm 119:130**. The first entrance of His Word gives light and understanding to the unsaved sinner concerning their sinful condition and their need of Jesus Christ! The **Word of God** is said to enlighten (**Psalm 19:8**), and is referred to as “a light that shineth in a dark place” (**2 Peter 1:19**), and is called a “lamp” (**Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23**). There are lights that are used for guiding, and **THE WORD OF GOD IS A GUIDING LIGHT THROUGH THE MAZE OF LIFE!** There are lights that are used to instruct (*traffic lights instruct drivers what to do*). **THE WORD OF GOD IS A LIGHT OF INSTRUCTION** (**Romans 15:4**). The Bible is a book that **tells how to bear present trials and burdens**, a book that **tells how to live!** A book that **gives wisdom** (**Psalm 19:7**).

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR CLEANSING THE HEARTS AND WAYS OF MEN:**

This is stated in **Psalm 119:9**, and in **Ephesians 5:26**. The *Word of God* is a revelation of *God's* ways, which are holy and pure, and when one takes heed to the instruction of *God's* **Word**, it purifies the heart, which results in walking in a way that is pure!

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR PROTECTION:**

This is stated in **Psalm 17:4**. The world is evil in its thinking, in its ways, in its speech, in its pursuits, and these things are designed to captivate the hearts, minds, and lives of *God's* people! *Satan* has his wiles to deceive, and his snares to entrap, but **THE WORD OF GOD IN THE HEART SERVES AS A PROTECTION FROM THE EVIL THAT SURROUNDS US!**

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR PRODUCING HOPE:**

This is stated in **Psalm 119:49**, and in **Romans 15:4**. The word *“hope”* in Scripture has the meaning of **assurance** *“Thus saith the LORD”* is a great source of **assurance**, and **confidence!**

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR ADMONISHING:**

This is stated in **Psalm 19:11**, and in **I Corinthians 10:11**. The **Word of God warns** the child of *God* of the **dangers** of the way, of Satan’s **tactics**, and of the **workings** of sinful flesh. The Bible records the **sins**, the **failures**, and the **experiences** of others to serve as a warning and encouragement!

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR COMFORTING:**

This is stated in **Psalm 119:82**, and in **Romans 15:4**. **THE BIBLE IS A SOURCE OF COMFORT!** To *“comfort”* is;

*“to soothe, to heal, to mend, to encourage, and to strengthen”*

The Bible applied by the Holy Spirit can and does all of these things! The same Bible that **convicts** and **breaks** the heart can also **soothe** and **mend** the heart!

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR REJOICING THE HEART:**

This is stated in **Psalm 19:8**, and in **Psalm 119:111**. There is a **joy** and **peace** independent of earthly circumstances found in believing the **Word of God (Romans 15:3)**. There is **pleasure** and **satisfaction** independent of earthly circumstances found in the **Word of God (Psalm 19:10)**.

● **THE BIBLE IS DESIGNED FOR THE SPIRITUAL BENEFIT OF GOD’S PEOPLE:**

This is stated in **II Timothy 3:16-17**. Paul states the **authority** of the Bible; *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God”* Paul states the **usefulness**, the **productiveness**, and the **adaptability** of the Bible; *“and is profitable”* He then mentions five **profitable functions** of the Bible which form a summary of its design:



It profitable for the **communication of teaching**; *“doctrine”*

It is profitable for **admonishment** and **warning**; *“reproof”*

It is profitable for **restoration** and **amendment**; *“correction”*

It is profitable for **direction** and **guidance**; *“instruction in righteousness”*

It is profitable for **spiritual provision** and **effectiveness**; *“thoroughly furnished unto all good works”*

The Bible is the **Word of God**, and as such it is the most **important**, the most **valuable**, the most **useful**, the most **advantageous**, and **worthwhile** of all books! The Bible is a storehouse and mine of inexhaustible **wealth**, a fountain that cannot be drawn dry! The Bible is like a **cluster of heavenly fruit hanging within our reach!** The Bible is absolutely **indispensable to the Christian life** (**Deuteronomy 8:3; Job 23:12; Matthew 4:4**), and it should have a place of **prominence in daily life!** **Daily** and **continuously** it should be:



**READ**  
**SEARCHED**  
**STUDIED**  
**MEDITATED UPON**  
**APPLIED**