



Newsletter

October 2018

Let the Bible Speak
PO Box 292921 • Lewisville, TX 75029

1-800-380-5827

Airing Each Sunday At 6:30 AM on **21** TXA

HOW SHOULD WE STUDY THE BIBLE?

By Noah Howard

What is the most effective way to study the Bible? Depending on whom you ask, you are sure to receive a variety of answers. Many believe that, because the Bible is a supernatural book, the only way to comprehend it is to utilize supernatural means (e.g. praying that the Holy Spirit will reveal the proper interpretation of the text). Is this really an accurate means of arriving at a proper understanding of the scriptures?

In Acts 17:10, Paul and Silas arrived in the city of Berea and went into its synagogue to preach the gospel to the Jews. In verse, 11, the Bereans are commended by the writer. Unlike their neighbors in Thessalonica, the Bereans “received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.” Let’s learn from the example of the Bereans: what elements of their study method made it commendable?

They “searched the Scriptures daily.”

The first step to successful Bible study is to make it a regular habit. According to Nehemiah 8:1-8, the Israelites gathered together in the town square, and Ezra read the Law of Moses to them from morning until noon. In 2 Timothy 3:14, the Apostle Paul instructs Timothy to “continue in the things which you have learned and become convinced of” (NASB). How had Timothy obtained such a sure conviction about spiritual things? According to Paul, Timothy had known the Holy Scriptures since childhood. Now Timothy was blessed in that he had been taught the scriptures as a child; fortunately, he developed convictions early and stayed with them. Even if we did not have that blessing, we can reach the same plateau of Bible knowledge that Timothy had by studying the scriptures. Regular, consistent study is as vital to

understanding the Bible as it is to mastering any other discipline.

They “received the word with all readiness.”

The Bereans are commended because they were willing to accept the gospel truth that Paul brought to them and make the necessary changes in their own lives. Unfortunately, this attitude toward the truth is often the exception rather than the rule. Paul writes in 2 Timothy 4:3-4, “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.” Attitude is everything when it comes to our reaction to the scriptures. To benefit from Bible study, we must have an open mind that will accept the principles we are being taught and will allow them to change our lives for the better. Paul solemnly warns that people who do not possess a love of the truth will be condemned (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12).

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October TV Broadcast Schedule

10/7

Sermon #1165

Blessed are the Peacemakers

10/14

Sermon #1166

Religious Innovations

10/21

Sermon #1167

Religious Prejudice

10/28

Sermon #1168

Where is Jesus?

They tested doctrine “to find out whether these things were so.”

Finally, the Bereans not only received the gospel from Paul, but they tested it to determine if it were the truth. John advises in 1 John 4.1, “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” What method did the Bereans use? Did they pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal the truth to them? No! They analyzed what they were being taught and compared it with the scriptures to determine if it were the truth. Consider Acts 17.2-4: “Then Paul, as his custom was...reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead...and some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks...joined Paul and Silas.” Both of these cases demonstrate that an understanding of the gospel comes through the method of logic and reasoning, not mysticism nor blind chance. Therefore, believers must be able to exercise common sense, compare evidence, draw logical conclusions, and reject faulty reasoning in order to arrive at the truth.

The fact of the matter is, there is no forgotten knowledge or mystical skill required to interpret the message of the Bible. God has clearly and effectively communicated His will to all people of the world: all it requires is that we give it the same due attention we would give to any other field of knowledge we would wish to master.



Audio / video library, transcripts and other information can be found at:

www.LetTheBibleSpeak.com



Check out Let the Bible Speak on Facebook. Post questions and interact with Brett Hickey and others at:

www.facebook.com/LBSunityseeker



Watch videos of our program at:

www.youtube.com/LetTheBibleSpeak

Upcoming Gospel Meetings

October 3 - 7

Denton County CHURCH OF CHRIST

1305 S. Business State Highway 121, Suite 105
Lewisville, TX

Speakers: Randy Ballard, Matt Tison & Wade Branch

7:30 pm (3rd - 5th)

6:00 pm (6th)

10:30 am & 2:30 PM (7th)

October 12 - 14

Bankhead Drive CHURCH OF CHRIST

2610 East Bankhead Drive

Weatherford, TX

Speaker: Mike Criswell

7:30 pm (12th)

6:00 pm (13th)

10:30 am & 2:00 PM (14th)

October 19 - 20

Northside CHURCH OF CHRIST

301 East Jasper Street

Jacksboro, TX

Speaker: Brett Hickey

7:00 pm (19th - 20th)

We support Brett Hickey's message, and the truths taught in the Bible for all mankind. We assist bringing this TV program to the north Texas area, and are glad you have watched the program! We would like you to visit any of our worship services!

Allen

East Allen CHURCH OF CHRIST

1008 E. Exchange Parkway
Allen, TX

Arlington

CHURCH OF CHRIST on Green Oaks

4601 S. W. Green Oaks Blvd.
Arlington, TX

Bridgeport

East Mound CHURCH OF CHRIST

Highway 2123, 1.5 miles south of town
Bridgeport, TX

Canton

Phalba CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hwy 198 between Maybank & Canton
at Hwy 316 intersection
Phalba, TX

Cleburne

South Walnut CHURCH OF CHRIST

306 South Walnut Street
Cleburne, TX

Dallas

Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST

122 Carol Lane
Red Oak, TX

Dallas (Spanish speaking services)

Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST

5905 Martinez Drive
Dallas, TX

Duncanville

Duncanville CHURCH OF CHRIST

1615 Stratford Lane
Duncanville, TX

Fort Worth

Fossil Creek CHURCH OF CHRIST

3517 North Beach Street
Fort Worth, TX

Frisco

CHURCH OF CHRIST in Frisco

9201 North County Road
Frisco, TX

Grapevine

CHURCH OF CHRIST in Grapevine

713 North Lucas Drive
Grapevine, TX

Lewisville

Denton county CHURCH OF CHRIST

1305 S. Business State Highway 121,
Suite 105
Lewisville, TX

Mineral Wells

Mineral Wells CHURCH OF CHRIST

300 Southeast 15th Street
Mineral Wells, TX

Paris

Paris CHURCH OF CHRIST

35 13th Street S.E.
Paris, TX

Rockwall

Northview CHURCH OF CHRIST

NE corner of I-30 Frontage & Industrial
Blvd
Rockwall, TX

Weatherford

Bankhead Drive CHURCH OF CHRIST

2610 East Bankhead Drive
Weatherford, TX