

Study All The Bible Says On Any Given Subject.

1. Never form a conclusion until you examine all God says on that subject. Truth does not contradict itself.
2. For example:
Jno. 3:16 –Some conclude the only thing necessary to salvation is an intellectual agreement (belief) that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
 a. However, Jno. 12:42-43 illustrates believers who are lost. Cf. Heb. 11
 b. Faith that saves is described in Jms. 2:14-26 as an obedient faith. Without works of obedience to God's will, man will be lost, Lk. 6:46; Mt. 7:21-23.

Do Not Study To Justify Yourself.

1. Some think it is an admission of weakness to say, ***"I was wrong."*** Everyone should want to be right, but our motive for study should be to learn what is right and not just to prove we were never wrong!
2. Lk. 16:15 –The Pharisees often questioned Jesus from this motive which caused them to pervert the truth.
3. 2 Cor. 5:7 –We walk by faith, not sight.

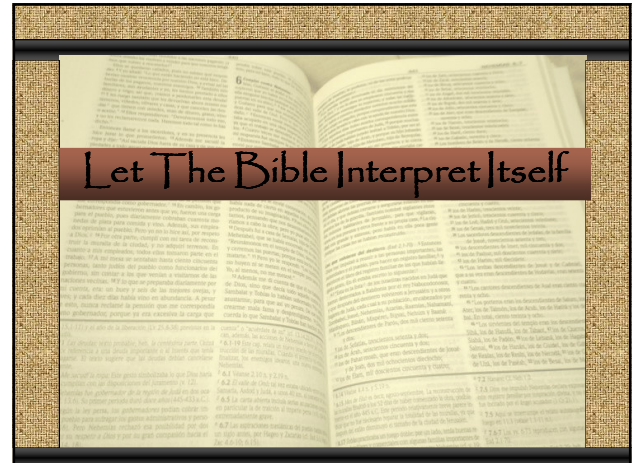


Let The Bible Mean What It Says.

1. God has revealed to us what we need to know and understand, Eph. 3:3-5, Deut. 29:29.
2. Some turn away from the simple truths of the Bible in search for deeper philosophies of men or for mystical ceremonies, 2 Cor. 11; Col. 2:6-8.
3. False teachers often use the more difficult passages of the Bible to teach some theory, 2 Pet. 3:14-17.

Do Not Let Prejudice Blind You.

1. If we “pre-judge,” making a decision without fair treatment of all the evidence, we will blind ourselves to truth, 2 Thess. 2:10-12
2. Some do not understand the Bible, but the fault is not God’s, Mt. 13:14-15.



Understand Difficult Passages In The Light Of Clear Passages.

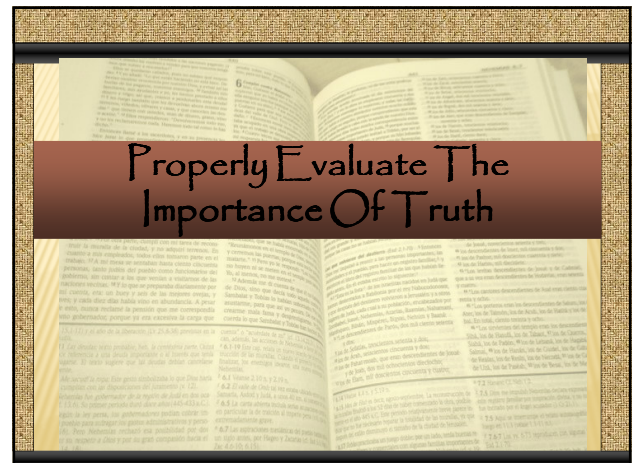
1. Some scriptures are more difficult, 2 Pet. 3:16. For the mature Christian the Bible has “**meat**,” but for the new babe in Christ there is “**milk**,” Heb. 5:13-14.
2. When one comes to something that seems confusing, be careful to harmonize them with other scriptures that clearly have but one meaning. Do not isolate scriptures in such a way as to form a contradiction, for God is not the author of confusion, 1 Cor. 14:33.
3. The most important attitude is the willingness to study for yourself, Acts 17:11; Jno. 7:17; 1 Thess. 2:13

Do Not Worship The “Idols” Of The Devil.

1. **Idol Of Personal Opinion:** “I know the Bible says...but I think...”
Those who live in the “*imagination of their own heart*” reject God, Jer. 9:1ff, 13-16; Isa. 55:8-9.
2. **Idol of Wisdom:** “Dr. So and So said this...he is educated and should know.”
His worldly wisdom might have blinded him. 1 Cor. 1:18-31
3. **Idol of Ecclesiasticism:** “Our church teaches...”
The religious leaders rejected Christ. Would you have followed them? 1 Cor. 2:8; 2 Tim. 4:2-4; Jer. 10:23.
4. **Idol of Human Creeds:** “The catechism says thus and so...”
Doctrines of men are the source of religious division, Mt. 15:7-9; Prov. 14:12

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5. **Idol of Inherited Traditions:** “My parents believed...and if it was good enough for them it is good enough for me.” Rom. 14:12; Mt. 10:34ff. Paul left everything. Phil. 3:3ff
6. **Idol of Convenience:** “Believe what you want...we are all headed to the same place,” Mt. 7:21-23.
7. **Idol of Popularity:** “The majority believe this...surely so many could not be wrong,” Mt. 7:13-14.



Buy The Truth And Sell It Not.

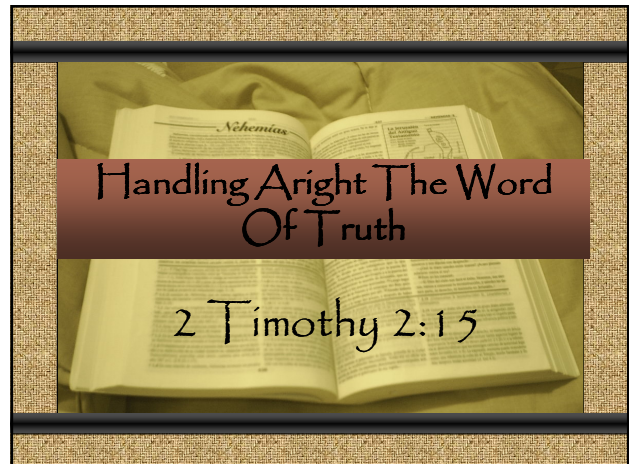
1. Give up anything for the sake of truth, and when once you have learned and obeyed it, refuse to part with it for any price, Prov. 23:23.
2. A desire for truth above all else be rewarded, Mt. 5:6; Jno. 17:17.
3. Handle the truth with respect, reverence, and obedience, Rom. 6:17-18.

Do Not Presume God Will Accept Anything Else.

1. Presumptuous sins are those which overstep the proper bounds of God's word, taking for granted God will accept, Ps. 19:13.
 - a. God has always required more than "good intentions," 1 Sam. 15:22-23
2. The apostles taught that whether or not we accept God's Will without alteration makes a difference to Him, Gal. 1:6-8; 2 Jno. 9.

Do Not Presume God Will Accept Anything Else.

3. Adding to or taking from God's word brings a curse, Rev. 22:18-19
4. Remember that His word is everlasting, unchangeable, and the standard by which we shall be judged, 1 Pet. 1:23-25; Jno. 12:48



Why Don't All Obey It?

Answer:

- God has assured us that when His word is preached that it shall not return unto Him void. Isa. 55:11
- If it does not save all men, it is not because God does not will it so. 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9
- The trouble is... some will not come to God! John 5:39-40 "and ye will not come to me, that ye may have life."

CONCLUSION:

- If you are not a Christian....
 - Hear the gospel, Rom. 10:17.
 - Believe the Gospel, Mark 16:15,16.
 - Repent of sins, Acts 2:38.
 - Confess faith in Jesus, Acts 8:37.
 - Be Baptized, Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27.
- Obey the gospel "which is the power of God unto salvation" Rom. 1:16; 2 Thess. 1:7ff