

The Bible

What the Bible Is

What the Bible is Able to Do

How the Bible Should be Used



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What the Bible Is

(Psalm 68:11 page 778 ot) The Lord gave the word...

What is the ultimate origin of the Bible?

If “gave” is the verb, think of the what the noun is. Because the Lord gave the Bible, what does that make the Bible?

(II Timothy 3:16 page 303 nt) All scripture is given by inspiration of God...

There were 40 different men who penned the Bible. What happened to those men that made them able to write books in the Bible?

(II Peter 1:21 page 332 nt) For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

How did the Bible not come to be written?

What were the writers of the Bible called?

Think of the word “moved” like a sailboat that is driven with the wind. What happened to the writers of the Bible that caused them to write the Bible?

Who caused the Bible to be written?

(I Samuel 3:7 page 383 ot) Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

When Samuel was a little boy, who did Samuel not know?

When Samuel was a little boy, what did Samuel not know because it was not yet revealed to him?

Why didn't Samuel know the Bible when he was a little boy?

Who would later reveal the Bible to Samuel?

What goes hand-in-hand with having the Bible revealed?

(Matthew 11:25 page 18 nt) At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

What happened to those who saw themselves as the experts or “the wise and prudent”?

What happened to those who saw themselves as “babes” when it comes to spiritual things?

Who hid the true meaning of the Bible from the wise and prudent and revealed it to babes?

What power is described that the Father has who hid the true meaning of the Bible from the wise and prudent and revealed it to babes?

(I Corinthians 2:14 page 238 nt) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

What is the description of the person who does not receive the things of the Spirit of God or what the Bible teaches?

How does the Bible appear to the natural man?

Why does the natural man think the Bible is foolish?

What ability does the natural man not have to enable him to receive and value the Bible?

What is another word for “discernment”?

(2 Corinthians 3:6 page 256 nt) Who hath also made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Some people know the Bible very well, but are still dead in their sins having never received the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. What does the letter of the Bible alone do?

What does the Spirit of God do?

Who is necessary to have in order to get life from the Bible?

(John 5:39 page 139 nt) Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Of whom does the Scripture testify?

If the Lord Jesus Christ is the overriding subject of the Bible, then what goal should we have whenever we read the Bible?

If a person rejects or ignores the Lord Jesus Christ, what will that person never be able to understand?

(Isaiah 55:9-11 page 937 ot) For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Who is speaking in these verses?

Are God's ways and thoughts the same as man's ways and thoughts?

What is used as an analogy to express how much higher God's ways and thoughts are from man's ways and thoughts?

Think of the Bible as a revelation of God's ways and thoughts. What is the Bible able to do for our ways and thoughts?

What words in these verses tell us that the Bible comes directly from God?

What words in these verses tell us that God sends His Word or the Bible with particular purposes?

What words in these verses tell us that God will be successful to achieve His purposes for sending His Bible or Word to man?

As analogies to God sending His Bible to earth, what else does God send to earth and what purposes do they accomplish?

What the Bible is Able to Do

(I Peter 2:2 page 327 nt) As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

Who is being addressed in this verse?

What command is given to the “newborn babes”?

Think of the word, “sincere” as “without fault or deception.” What is the Bible called?

What is the Bible stated as being able to do?

What is the goal of a newborn babe or a person who has just received the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour?

(Matthew 4:4 page 6 nt) But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

This passage is from when the Lord Jesus Christ was addressing the devil who was tempting him in the wilderness. What did the Lord Jesus Christ use as His authority?

What did God tell man was not enough for him to live by?

What does man need to live spiritually?

How is each word in the Bible to be viewed?

(Psalm 119:105 page 816 ot) Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

For what is the Bible useful?

What is the difference between a “lamp to the feet” and “a light to the path”?

(Psalm 17:4 page 746 ot) Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept *me from* the paths of the destroyer.

How is the Bible described?

We have a destroyer whose name is the devil. He oftentimes works through others and is constantly trying to lure us into traps to destroy us. What is a benefit of the Bible?

(Psalm 119:11 page 813 ot) Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

What did the Psalmist do with the Bible?

How would you practically hide God’s Word in your heart?

Why did the Psalmist hide God’s Word in his heart?

(Psalm 119:9 page 813 ot) Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.

What need is addressed in this verse?

How is that need met?

What is the difference between “reading” and “heeding”?

(II Timothy 3:16-17 page 303 nt) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

What four ways does the Bible benefit us?

Which word in this verse tells us that the Bible tells us what is true and false, right and wrong?

When we have done wrong, which word tells us that the Bible will tell us when we are wrong?

After we know we are wrong, which word tells us that the Bible will show us how to get straightened out?

After we get straightened out, which word tells us that the Bible will help us to not fall again?

(Hebrews 4:12-13, page 310 nt) For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Think of the word “quick” as meaning “alive.” What makes the Bible different from any other book and not just like any other ordinary book?

When the Bible is described as “powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder,” what is the Bible described as being able to do?

When the Bible is described as being “a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart,” how would you describe the word “discerner”?

Since Jeremiah 17:9 (page 972 ot) describes our hearts as deceptive or tricking us, what part of the above verse tells us that we need the Bible in order to prevent self-deception?

Since every creature is exposed and transparent before the Creator (the author of the Bible) what is the Bible able to do for us?

(Ephesians 6:17 page 279 nt) And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Our enemy, the devil, is a spiritual person. What is the offensive weapon called that we are told to use against our enemy?

What is that weapon?

How the Bible Should be Used

(John 6:63 page 141 nt) It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

The word “quickeneth” means “to make alive.”
Who makes us alive?

What is contrasted with the life-giving Spirit and is said to have no profit for man?

Which words of the Bible bring us spiritual life?

(John 7:17 page 142 nt) If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or *whether* I speak of myself.

How can a person really know for himself if the Bible is the Word of God?

On whose behalf was the Lord Jesus Christ speaking?

(I Timothy 4:13 page 298 nt) Till I come, give attendance to reading...

What should be done with the Bible?

What words indicate that keeping up with regular Bible reading requires discipline?

(Revelation 1:3 page 343 nt) Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein...

What are the three steps to follow to get the most from the Bible?

What is the difference between “reading,” “hearing” and “keeping” the words of the Bible?

(Psalm 119:18 page 814 ot) Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

What should be done before reading the Bible?

What do we want to see in the Bible?

What needs to happen to our spiritual eyes in order to see wondrous things from the Bible?

Who is able to open our spiritual eyes so that we can behold wondrous things out of the Bible?

(II Corinthians 3:12 page 257 nt) Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:

If the plain sense makes good sense, seek no other sense. How should we assume that the Bible is written?

It is not that we can understand every part of the Bible. But, for what we do understand, why is the Bible written with great plainness of speech?

(Proverbs 4:4 page 834 ot) He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

God personally and tenderly teaches us through the Bible. What is God's goal when He teaches us?

Why should we obey God?

What must we do in order to get the best benefit from the Bible?

(II Timothy 2:15 page 301 nt) Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

What must we do with the Bible?

Who are we to please when we study the Bible?

What word in the verse indicates that studying the Bible will be work and will require discipline?

If we do not do a good job in studying the Bible, of what are we in danger?

What should we be able to do when we have studied the Bible well?

(Joshua 1:8 page 301 ot) This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

What should be the topic of much of our talk?

What are we to do therein “day and night?”

What is the goal or what should be done as a result of constantly speaking about and meditating on the Bible?

Think of meditation as a cow chewing the cud. What is the goal of meditating on the Bible?

What can we expect to happen to us if we meditate on the Bible with a goal of obeying it?

(I Timothy 4:15 page 298 nt) Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them;

What should we do when we meditate on the Bible?

(Psalm 1:1-3 page 739 ot) Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law

of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Think of the word “blessed” as “happy.” In what part of the ungodly is the happy man not to walk?

What is another word for counsel?

In what part of sinners is that happy man not to stand?

What is another word for way?

What is the happy man not to do with the scornful?

What is another word for scornful?

Instead of walking in the counsel of the ungodly,
standing in the way of sinners, or sitting in the seat of
the scornful, what is the delight of the happy man?

What does the happy man do with the Bible?

To what does this passage liken the happy man?

What is the advantage of “a tree planted by the
rivers of water?”

What happens to the person who meditates in the
Bible?

What does not happen to the person who meditates
in the Bible?

Notes:

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