

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**  
**HOW TO BE A STUDENT OF THE BIBLE**  
**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

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**Introduction**

The **BIBLE** is a **BOOK** unlike any other book that we will ever read or study! Therefore, the approach to **ITS** study must be unlike any other. We cannot come to this **BOOK** in our own way and expect to be fruitful in the study of **IT**. There is a proper way and many improper ways to study this **BOOK!** The **BIBLE ITSELF** reveals the prerequisites needed to study this amazing **BOOK** we call the **BIBLE!**

**I. PREPARATION FOR STUDYING THE WORD!**

**A. There Must Be Personal Preparation!**

**1. There Must Be A Personal Relationship With Christ! (1 Corinthians 2:11-14)**

A **BIBLE** student must be “*BORN AGAIN*” in order to know the **SCRIPTURES!** This is a **SPIRITUAL BOOK** that can only be quickened in our hearts by the **HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD!**

**2. There Must Be A Positive Persuasion Concerning Inspiration! (1 Thessalonians 2:13)**

This **BOOK** must be recognized for what **IT** truly is—**THE WORD OF GOD!**

If we approach the **BIBLE** with any other persuasion, it is doubtful that we will have any degree of success in **ITS** study!

**3. There Must Be A Passionate Desire To Know The Bible! (Psalm 119:33-40)**

A real appetite for the **SCRIPTURES** is needed!  
*Matthew 5:6—“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”*

*Job 23:12—“. . . I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.”*

*Psalm 19:7-11*

*(The WORD of GOD is referred to in this CHAPTER as LAW, TESTIMONY, STATUTES, COMMANDMENTS, FEAR, and JUDGMENTS OF THE LORD!)*

*Psalm 119:103—“How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”*

**4. There Must Be A Prayer For Discernment! (James 1:5-7)**

**PRAY** when you are going to study! Ask the **HOLY SPIRIT** to direct you and **ILLUMINE** your heart to the truth of the **WORD** that **HE** has for you!

*Proverbs 3:5-6—“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”*

*Jeremiah 33:3—“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”*

Martin Luther said, “*To have prayed well is to have studied well.*”

**5. There Must Be Predisposition To Obedience! (Psalm 119:9-16)**

Keep your heart and mind open to every message **GOD** has for you!

Remember the **four-fold profitability of the WORD:** (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

**a. Doctrine—It teaches us what is right!**

**b. Reproof—It teaches us what is wrong (i.e. That needs to be corrected!)**

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**  
**HOW TO BE A STUDENT OF THE BIBLE**  
**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

- c. **Correction**—It teaches us how to make the wrong in our lives right!
- d. **Instruction In Righteousness**—It teaches us how to stay right!

*James 1:21-25*

The **GREAT TEACHER** will not **TEACH** those who do not obey **HIM!**

**6. There Must Be A Persistence Of Study!**

*(Proverbs 2:1-6)*

Study requires hard work, diligence, and steadfastness! **TRUTH** is found by study! You can get the **TRUTH** yourself with the help of the **HOLY SPIRIT!** Dig it out! Verify teaching and preaching by the **WORD!** Study!

*Acts 17:11*—“*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.*”

*There Must Be Personal Preparation...*

**B. There Must Be Practical Preparation!**

**1. A Good Bible Is Essential!**

Get a good **Old King James Version of the Bible** (with some practical study aids in it if possible.)

*Old Scofield Reference Bible*

*Thompson Chain Reference Bible*

**2. A Good Concordance Is Helpful!**

*Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance Of The Bible*

**3. Other Good Books Can Be Helpful!**

*The Treasury Of Scripture Knowledge*

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**  
**HOW TO BE A STUDENT OF THE BIBLE**  
**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

*Manners and Customs Of The Bible* (Freeman)  
*Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*  
*(2 Volume Set)*

*Vine’s An Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*  
*Wilmington’s Guide To The Bible*

Other Commentaries and special books on one book of the Bible. (Be careful whose books you choose!)

Books of Sermons.

Books on Types.

**CAUTION:** Never let anything that any man says supersede what the **WORD OF GOD** says. Commentaries can be good, but they can contain error for they are written by fallible men. Only the **WORD OF GOD** is without error! Study it for yourself!

*PREPARATION FOR STUDYING THE WORD OF GOD...*

**II. PROMOTION GAINED FROM STUDYING THE WORD!**

**A. Profound Wisdom—Knowledge And Understanding!**  
*(2 Timothy 3:15-17)*

*Proverbs 2:6*—“*For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.*”

*Romans 15:4*—“*For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*”

**B. Personal Faith!**

*Romans 10:17*—“*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*”

*Colossians 2:6-8*—“*As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and*

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**  
**HOW TO BE A STUDENT OF THE BIBLE**  
**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

*stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."*

**SCRIPTURAL FAITH** comes only through the study of the **BIBLE!**

**C. Please God!**

**Hebrews 11:6**—*"But without faith it is impossible to please Him (speaking of God):"*

**2 Timothy 2:15**—*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God"*

**D. Purification Of Life!**

**John 15:3**—*"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."*

**John 17:17**—*"Sanctify them through thy Truth: Thy Word is Truth."*

**Ephesians 5:25-26**—*"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word,"*

**Psalms 119:9**—*"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word."*

**Dwight L. Moody** said, *"The Bible will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from the Bible."*

**E. Principles And Precepts For Living!**

*precept = "mandate"*

**Psalms 119:4**—*"Thou hast commanded us to keep Thy precepts diligently."* **Psalms 119:15**—*"I will meditate in Thy precepts, and have respect unto Thy ways."*

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**  
**HOW TO BE A STUDENT OF THE BIBLE**  
**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

**F. Preparation For Service! (2 Timothy 2:15)**

A student is not equipped for service apart from the **WORD OF GOD!** The more we know the **WORD OF GOD**, the better equipped we are!

We are to use the **SWORD** of the **SPIRIT** which is the **WORD OF GOD!** (*Ephesians 6:17*)

The world today needs people who are both **SAVED** and **STUDENTS OF THE BIBLE!**

**G. Power In Ministry!**

We need to put an emphasis on the **WORD OF GOD!**

**Hebrews 4:12**—*"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."*

**III. PROPOSITION REGARDING THE WORD!**

**A. Prostrate To Its Truth!**

**Isaiah 57:15**—*"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."*

**James 4:6-7**—*"But He giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God."*

**B. Procure Its Truth!**

Diligently study the **WORD OF GOD** so that you are constantly saturated with its **TRUTH!**

**Proverbs 4:7**—*"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get*

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**  
**HOW TO BE A STUDENT OF THE BIBLE**  
**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

*wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.”*

**C. Practice Its Truth!**

*James 1:22—“But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”*

**D. Proclaim Its Truth!**

*2 Timothy 4:2—“Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”*

**E. Provoke Its Truth!**

*Titus 2:15—“These things speak, and **exhort**, and rebuke with all authority.”*

*Hebrews 10:24—“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:”*

**F. Protect Its Truth!**

Don't let anyone or anything move you away from **ITS TRUTH!**

*Jude 3—“. . .earnestly contend for the faith. . .”*