

**I Am Resolved To Study the Bible**  
**II Tim. 3:10-17**

*Thesis: To encourage us to study the word of God.*

**Introduction:**

- A. As someone once said, “you have to have help in order to misunderstand the Bible.”
  - 1. Notice “The Lawyer’s Prayer.”
    - a. A lawyer prayed: “We respectfully request, and entreat, that due and adequate provisions be made this day and the date hereinafter subscribed, for the organizing of such methods and allocations and distribution as may be deemed necessary to properly assure the reception by and for said petitioner of such quantities of baked cereal products as shall, in the judgment of the aforementioned petitioner, constitute a sufficient supply thereof.”
    - b. When translated, it means, “Give us this day our daily bread” (Mt. 6:11).
    - c. Some things are difficult to understand; however, we can be thankful that the Bible is not one of them.
  - 2. Many people do not understand the Bible because they do not read it.
  - 3. They rely on what others tell them about the Bible.
  - 4. They have help in misunderstanding it.
- B. II Tim. 2:15 - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
- C. Much religious confusion could be cleared up if only people would study their Bible.
- D. Today, we will notice three reasons why we should study the Bible.

**I. We study the Bible because it is inspired of God (3:16).**

- A. To say that the Bible is inspired is to say that it is to say that it comes directly from Him.
  - 1. It is God-breathed.
    - a. According to Strong’s, the phrase “given by inspiration of God” is from one Greek word.
    - b. That word literally means, “divinely breathed in.”
  - 2. The Bible that we have comes directly from God.
    - a. We can read and study it as much as we like.
    - b. It has been given to us by God.
    - c. While man penned the Bible, it was given to them by God.
    - d. It truly is “God-breathed.”

## B. The Bible is God's revealed will to us.

1. God has always revealed His will to man
  - a. God has never left His people without revealing His will to them.
  - b. From the beginning, God spoke with Adam and Eve and told them the things that they should do.
  - c. God gave His law to Moses, and instructed him to give it to the people.
  - d. **II Pet. 1:20-21** (God revealed His will to the prophets) - **knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, {21} for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**
2. Today, God has revealed His will for us in the written word.
  - a. It was the Holy Spirit who guided the apostles in all that they taught.
    - 1) It was Jesus who sent the Holy Spirit, and told the Holy Spirit what to say and teach.
    - 2) **Jn. 14:26** - **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**
    - 3) **Jn. 16:13** - **However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.**
  - b. Therefore, we follow after the words of Christ.
    - 1) **Heb. 1:1-2** - **God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, {2} has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;**
    - 2) The words of the Bible are the words of Christ, which is the inspired word of God.

## C. The Bible is all that God has given us; therefore, it is all that we need.

1. The Bible is the only book that we have that is inspired of God.
  - a. There are others who teach an ongoing revelation from God.
  - b. They teach that God is still revealing His will to us.
  - c. However, according to the inspired word of God, this is not true.
    - 1) **Gal. 1:6-9** - **I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, {7} which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. {8} But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. {9} As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.**

- 2) **Jude 3** - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.
2. Therefore, when it comes to the things of God (especially salvation), it is all that we need.

## II. We study the Bible because it is profitable for us (3:16-17).

### A. The word of God is profitable for several reasons (3:16).

1. It is profitable for “doctrine.”
  - a. Doctrine is the teachings of the word of God.
  - b. It is the things that God requires us to do.
  - c. Notice some passages that use this same Greek word.
    - 1) **I Tim. 4:6** - If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.
    - 2) **I Tim. 4:13** - Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.
    - 3) **I Tim. 4:16** - Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.
2. It is profitable for “reproof.”
  - a. Reproof is “conviction (of a sinner), punishment, refutation of error” (Strong’s).
  - b. This is the only place in the New Testament where this Greek word is used; however, its meaning is seen throughout the New Testament.
  - c. This word comes from another Greek word with the same meaning.
    - 1) **Lk. 3:19-20** (John the baptizer rebuked Herod) - But Herod the tetrarch, being rebuked by him concerning Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, and for all the evils which Herod had done, {20} also added this, above all, that he shut John up in prison.
    - 2) **I Tim. 5:20** (Paul’s command to the elders) - Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.
3. It is profitable for “correction.”
  - a. Correction literally means, “a straightening up again” (Strong’s).
  - b. This is also the only place in the New Testament where this word is used; however, its meaning is seen throughout the New Testament.
  - c. While “reproof” is us correcting of others, “correction” is us correcting ourselves.
  - d. When left to ourselves, we will destroy our lives.

- e. However, it is the word of God that corrects the sinner.
- f. All error is corrected not by what we think, but by what the word of God says.
- 4. It is profitable “for instruction in righteousness.”
  - a. Not only does the word of God correct our errors, but it also teaches us how to live.
  - b. It instructs us in how we can live a righteous life.

**B. It is also the word of God that allows us to “be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (3:17).**

- 1. It is only by a study of the word of God, and the application of it, that we can be complete and ready for the work of God.
- 2. It is His words that we must apply to our lives.
  - a. **Ps. 119:105** - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
  - b. **Mt. 4:4** - But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”
  - c. **I Jn. 2:5** - But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

**III. We study the Bible because we must continue in the things that we have learned from it (3:10-15).**

**A. Paul encourages Timothy to continue in the word of God (3:10-15)**

- 1. Paul tells Timothy to follow his example (3:10-12).
- 2. Paul tells Timothy of the necessity of continuing in the word of God (3:14-15).
- 3. **II Tim. 1:13** - Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

**B. Paul tells Timothy that there will be a time when the people will not listen to the word of God (3:13).**

- 1. Paul reminds Timothy that evil men will try and destroy the things that he preaches.
- 2. Notice also **II Tim. 4:1-5**.
- 3. Because of this false doctrine and the unwillingness of the people to heed sound doctrine, we must continue in the inspired word of God.

**Conclusion:**

- A. Are you a student of the word of God?
- B. It is the inspired word of God that will judge us.
  - 1. **Jn. 12:48** - He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.
  - 2. We have the standard by which God will judge.
  - 3. Therefore, we must be students of the word of God.