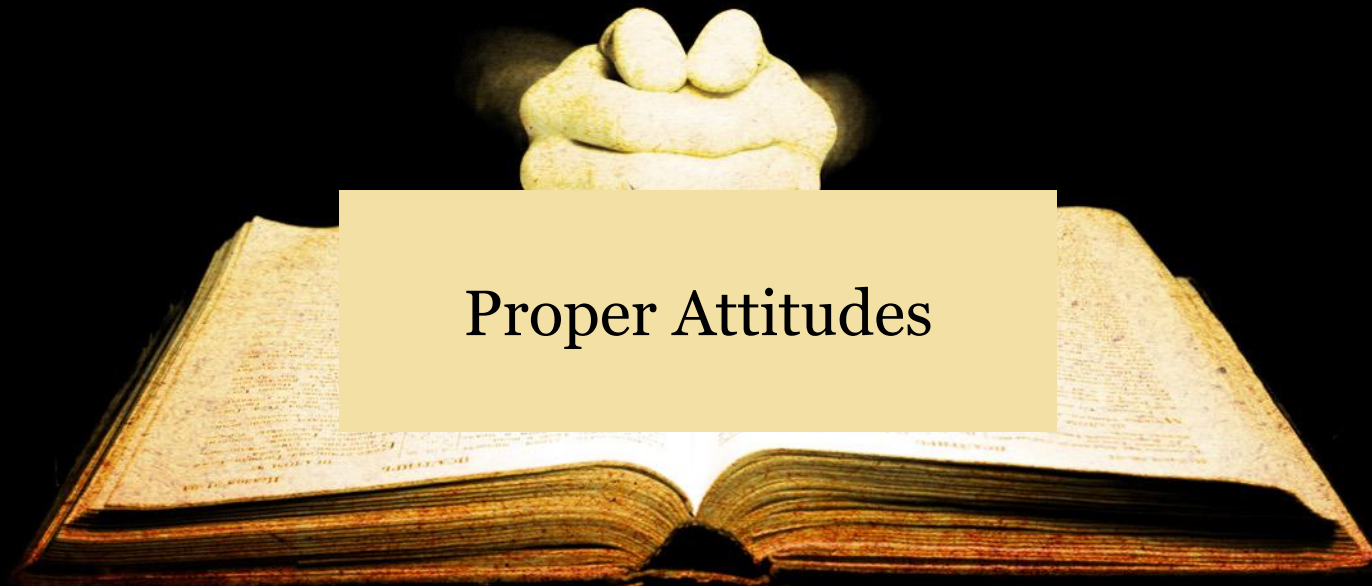


# Communicating with God (38)

## A study of prayer and Bible study



Proper Attitudes



# Studying the Bible

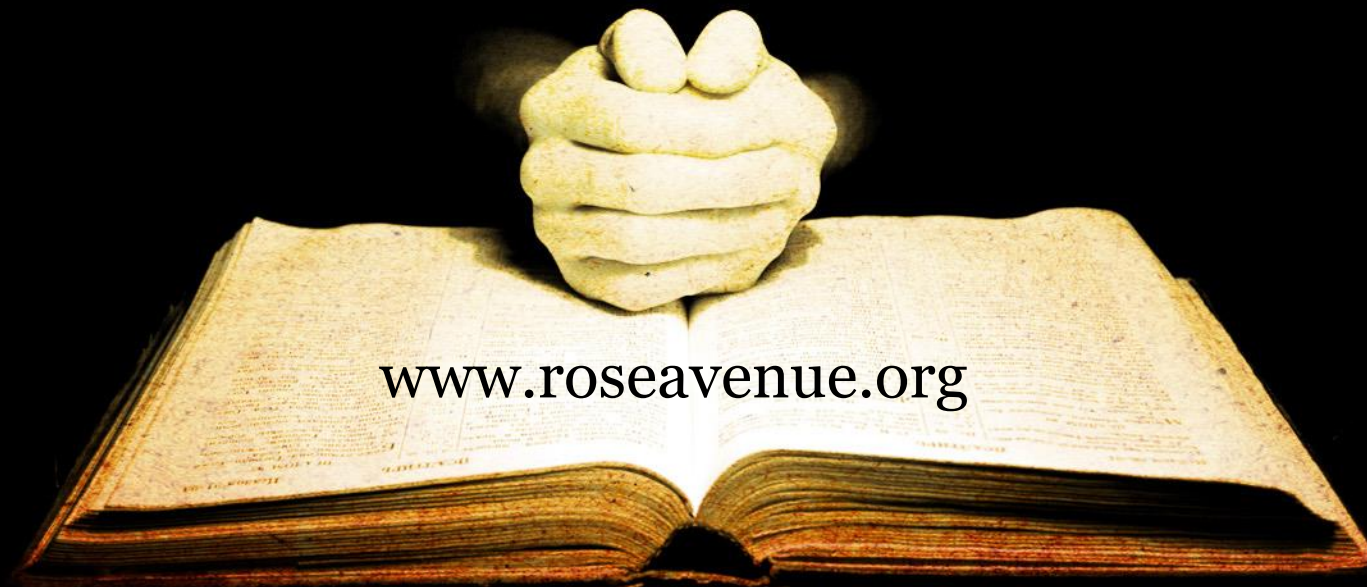


- Last week, we defined Bible study, discussed the difference between Bible reading and study. We also noted some negative attitudes (or approaches) to Bible study.
- Today...



# Bible study (10)

## Proper Attitudes



[www.roseavenue.org](http://www.roseavenue.org)

Communicating with God:  
A study of Prayer & Bible Study  
**Our 2024 Theme**



A person in a light blue shirt is holding an open book, reading it. The background is dark and out of focus.

## Attitudes

- Attitude - a manner of thinking, feeling, or behaving that reflects a state of mind or disposition. AHD.
- The NKJV does not use the word “attitude” (NASB does), but it is implied throughout:
  - **Philippians 2:5** - this mind...
  - **Philippians 3:15** - have this mind
- **Matthew 8:3-10** - the “beatitudes”
- Attitude is something we can control. We choose to have a good or bad attitude.
- Attitude will determine what you do with God’s word!



# Bible study - Proper attitudes

## Reverence

- To hold in high regard and respect.
- **Hebrews 12:28** - we serve God with reverence and godly fear.
- We begin with a reverent attitude toward Him and all that belongs to Him!



A person wearing a light blue button-down shirt is holding an open Bible with both hands. The background is dark and out of focus.

## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### Respect for the Bible as His word

- **1 Thessalonians 2:13**, welcomed as the message of God's word.
- If we do not respect the Bible as His word, it could lead to many faulty attitudes.



## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### Open-mindedness

- A willingness to accept God's word for what it actually says
- We approach God's word intending to learn what it actually says, EVEN if it means we have to change.
- **Acts 17:11, cf. 10:33**
- **Matthew 28:19-20**, willing to “observe all things commanded.”



# Bible study - Proper attitudes

## Spiritual mindedness

- **Romans 8:6**
- To be spiritual minded means we think about things from a spiritual (Biblical) perspective
- **1 Corinthians 2:13-16**
- **Matthew 13:10-11ff**, why Jesus taught in parables





# Bible study - Proper attitudes

## Humility

- **Isaiah 55:8-9**
- This will keep us from making God's word what we want it to be. We realize who is talking to us. We need His guidance
- **James 4:10**, humble yourselves and let Him exalt you.



## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### A passion for truth

- **Proverbs 23:23**, *Buy the truth and do not sell it. Also, wisdom and instruction and understanding.*
- Do we genuinely cherish truth? His truth?
- Far too many do not!
- **John 17:17**, His truth can sanctify us.
- If His word is to transform us, we must love it. His word ought to be special to us -  
**Psalm 119:97, 1:2, etc. Cf. Luke 10:38-42**





## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### Moral courage

- “The truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.”
- As we study God’s word, we need the courage to accept what He tells us, even when it is hard or has consequences.
- **Cf. Luke 14:25ff**, are you willing to “hate” anyone that stands in your way of putting Him first?
- **Matthew 19:22**, the rich, young ruler...
- If we study long enough, we will find those passages requiring courage to accept, and to teach others.



## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### Reason

- In our study of authority, we have noted the need to apply rational thought (logic) as we study. We need common sense.
- **Ephesians 5:17**, He expects us to understand it!
- **1 Thessalonians 5:21**, Test all things. Hold fast to what is good.
- We cannot let emotion or bad logic explain away His word.





# Bible study - Proper attitudes

## Sincerity

- We need to be genuine. This stems from a deep desire to be right with Him.
- This is about our eternal destiny. Seriousness!
- **Philippians 1:9-10**, He expects us to understand it!
- **1 Timothy 1:3-5**, Timothy's teachings from, "*a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith*"



## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### Integrity

- Tied to previous qualities, this implies we have high character and will not fold under pressure.
- We WILL respect His boundaries as we study.
- **2 Peter 1:5**, we add to our faith, “virtue” (moral excellence), and THEN knowledge.
- Integrity will help us to identify the false teacher.





# Bible study - Proper attitudes

## Persistence

- God's word is challenging at times. We cannot give up or quit studying.
- It is a willingness to keep working at it.
- **2 Timothy 2:15**, "Be diligent to present yourself approved..."
- **1 Timothy 4:13**, "give attention to reading" - devotion. **Vs. 15**, "meditate"
- **Galatians 6:9**, let us not grow weary...



# Bible study - Proper attitudes

## Trusting the word of God

- We believe what it says and have confidence in its message.
- Far too many, dismiss His word as outdated and unreliable, politically incorrect and uncomfortable.
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17**, we must not doubt its inspiration or effectiveness.
- **Proverbs 3:5-6**, trust in the Lord with all your heart.
- **James 1:21**, receive with meekness the implanted word





## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### Expect to understand it

- The Bible is written so that the common man can grasp its meaning.
- **Ephesians 5:17**, it is a command!
- Yes, there are difficult texts, (**2 Peter 3:15-16**) but the overall message can be understood with effort (study)
- The message is simple, though sometimes hard.
- We approach His word believing it is beneficial.



## Bible study - Proper attitudes

### A prayerful attitude

- Our Bible study needs to be accompanied with prayer.
- **James 1:5**, *if anyone lacks wisdom...* While not miraculous, we must always seek His guidance as we study.
- **James 5:16**, *the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much.*





## Bible study - Proper attitudes

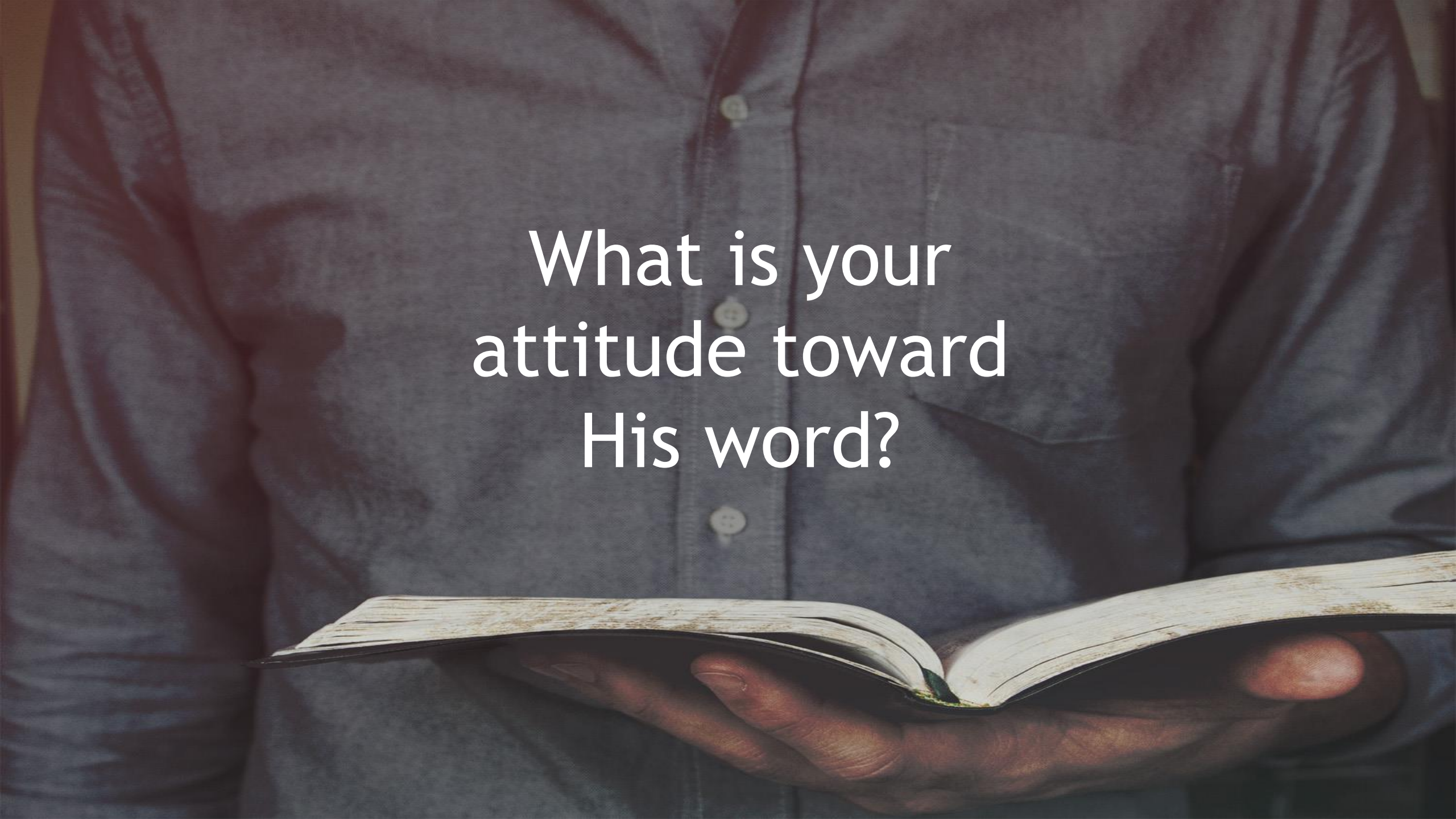
### A desire to obey

- All the Bible knowledge and understanding is meaningless if we have no intention of applying it to our lives.
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17**, it is intended to make us complete
- **James 1:22-25**, it is the perfect law of liberty. We must not only be a hearer, but a doer of the work.

- IF you have a godly attitude and are seeking first His kingdom, the time you spend in His word will be highly beneficial to you.
- *That attitude will be reflected in your pursuit of, “the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.”*





A close-up photograph of a person wearing a blue button-down shirt, holding an open book with both hands. The book is held horizontally, and the pages are visible. The lighting is soft, and the background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the person and the book. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

What is your  
attitude toward  
His word?

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a blue button-down shirt, holding an open book. The person's hands are visible at the bottom of the frame, supporting the book. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue. The text "Let us pray!" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Let us pray!



