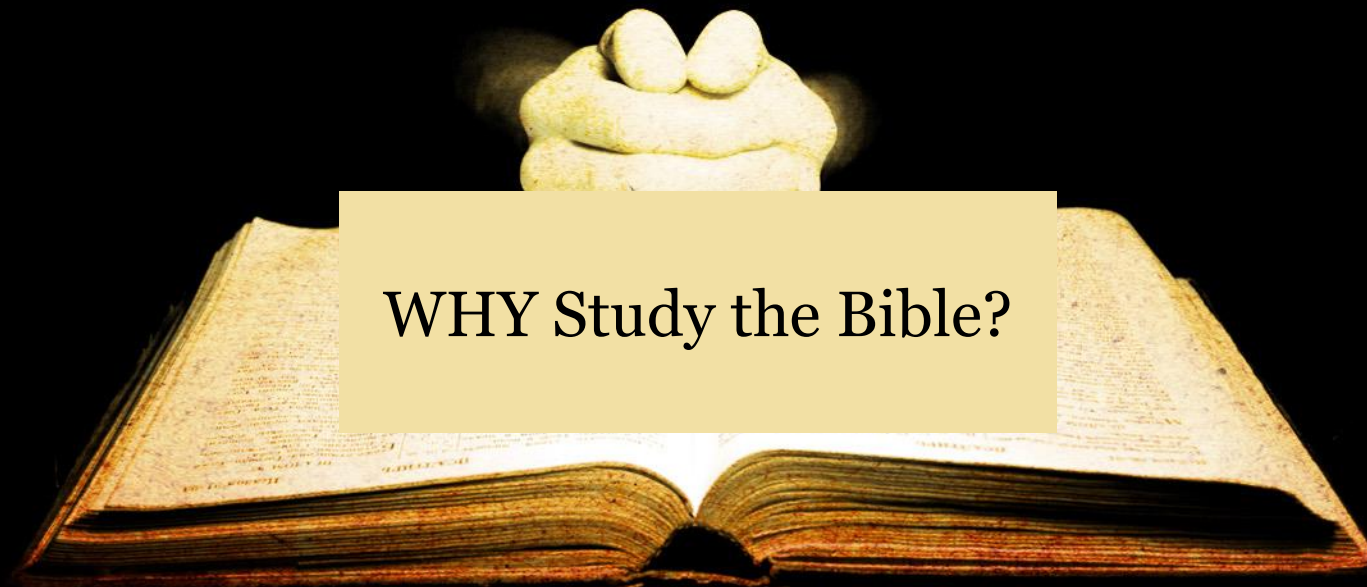


Communicating with God

A study of prayer and Bible study



WHY Study the Bible?

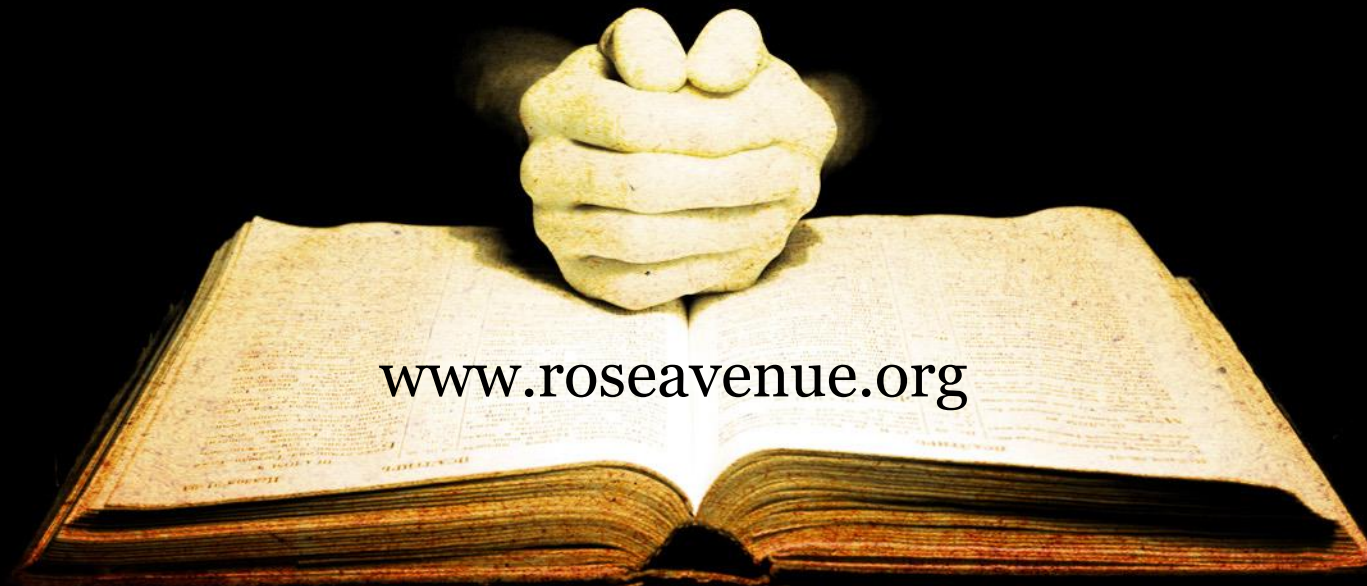


Studying the Bible

- Last week, we began our examination of Bible study. We introduced why the Bible is the word of God by asking the question: If a book was from God, what would you expect it to contain?
- The Bible fits every parameter that we examined.
- Today, we discuss so reasons WHY we should study the Bible.

Bible study (2)

Why Study the Bible?



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



So that we can know who God is

- We addressed this last week.
- **Romans 1:17** - in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed
- **1 Corinthians 2:6-12**, we know “the mind of God” because His Spirit revealed it to us
- **Ephesians 2:8** - “Grace” describes who God is and what He has done for us.



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

So we can see ourselves as God sees us

- **Genesis 1:26** - He sees us as His creation, made in His image.
- **Psalms 139:14** – “I am fearfully and wonderfully made”
- **Matthew 10:29-31** - we are valuable to Him
- He sees me for who I am within -
cf. 1 Samuel 16:7



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

So we can see ourselves as God sees us

- **1 John 3:4** - we learn what sin is and that we are all sinners. **Romans 3:23** “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
- He sees us as redeemable - **John 3:16, Romans 5:8**
- We are capable of doing good works (obedience) - **Ephesians 2:10**
- We learn what He sees in us and expects because we study His word!



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

We learn what we can do to correct ourselves

- Because we are sinners, we need to take care of our sins. Study helps us learn what to do.
- It is the theme of the Bible - **cf. Genesis 3:15ff** – from the fall of man to the coming of Jesus to the final consummation.
- God has provided a plan - **Romans 6:23**
Acts 2:38, 22:16, 1 Peter 3:20-21, Gal. 3:27
- He tells us how to STAY saved and live faithfully - **1 John 1:7-9, 2:1-2, etc.**



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

To express our gratitude and love for Him

- Appreciating what He has done ought to provoke us to learn more - love, gratitude, delight
- **1 John 4:19, Matthew 22:37-39, 1 John 5:3**
- His love causes us to love Him
- How do we show love? Keep His commandments.
- Do we delight in His law? - **Psalm 1:1-2, 119:47-48, 97-99**



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

To inoculate us from error

- We are continually warned about false teachers and doctrines in scripture. Consider:
- **Ephesians 4:14-15** - we learn to avoid being “tossed to and fro...”
- **1 John 4:1-3, 2 John 9** - test the spirits...
- **1 Thessalonians 5:21-22** - test all things...
(Consider how to spot counterfeits)
- **2 Timothy 2:15** - “rightly dividing the word of truth”



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

So we can better understand His will

- If you appreciate God's and His word, you will want to understand it as fully as possible.
- **Ephesians 5:17** - an imperative
- **Colossians 1:9** - Paul's prayer - filled with knowledge, wisdom and understanding
- **2 Peter 3:18** - Grow in grace and knowledge...
- God wants us to seek Him - **Matthew 6:33, Hebrews 11:6, Acts 17:27**



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

So we can better understand His will

- Our understanding needs to be more than “surface level”
- **Matthew 16:6-12** - Jesus warns, “beware of the leaven of the Pharisees...” Why did He say it that way?
- **Matthew 13:10-15** - why did Jesus speak in parables?
- **Acts 17:11** - they searched the scriptures...



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

So we can better understand His will

- The more you study, the better you will understand!
- **Ephesians 1:15-19** - the eyes of your understanding being enlightened...
- **Ephesians 3:3-5** - Paul wrote so that they could understand (expected)
- **Hebrews 5:12-14** - the mature can digest “solid food”



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

When we study we are blessed

- God abundantly blesses those who belong to Him
- **James 1:22-25** - when we obey we are blessed in what we do



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

So that we can teach others

- The gospel is NOT intended to be kept to yourself
- **Romans 10:13-17** - how shall they hear without a preacher...?
- **Matthew 28:18-20** - the “great commission”
- How can we teach others if we do not know it ourselves? **1 Peter 3:15**
- A great hindrance to evangelism is OUR lack of knowledge.



Some Reasons to Study the Bible

Because one day we will be judged by His word


- We do not know when (**2 Peter 3:9-10**), but a day of judgement is coming
- **2 Peter 3:11-12** - what manner of persons ought you to be...?
- **Hebrews 9:27** - after we die...
- **John 12:48, 5:28-29** - Jesus spoke of that day coming
- **Revelation 20:12-15** - judged by the way we lived
- **KNOWLEDGE** helps us prepare for that day!

Considering **Psalm 19:7-11**, the law of the LORD is perfect converting the soul...

Bible study is crucial to drawing closer to God for many reasons!

IT is a “spiritual indicator”



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, holding the book open. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

How much time are
spending listening to
Him?

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, holding the book open. The background is a solid blue color, matching the shirt. The text "Let us pray!" is centered in the middle of the image.

Let us pray!