

Back to the Basics – The Bible

Various passages

Introduction

We need to occasionally be reminded about the basics, the core beliefs and disciplines that are central to a godly life. There are few things in the Christian life that could be more basic and important than the Bible.

Today we are going to see what the Bible says about itself, with a goal being that we be driven to read it, know it, and live it.

Biblical Background

Psalms 119:

⁹How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Thy word.

¹¹Thy word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against Thee.

⁷⁴May those who fear Thee see me and be glad, Because I wait for Thy word.

⁹²If Thy law had not been my delight, Then I would have perished in my affliction. ⁹³I will never forget Thy precepts, For by them Thou hast revived me.

⁹⁷O how I love Thy law! It is my meditation all the day.

¹⁰⁵Thy word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path.

¹³³Establish my footsteps in Thy word, And do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.

¹⁶⁵Those who love Thy law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.

Acts 17:10-12 - ¹⁰And the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea; and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, [to see] whether these things were so. ¹²Many of them therefore believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men.

What truths are contained in this passage about the Bible? _____

What does this passage say we should be doing related to the Bible? _____

1 Thessalonians 2:13 - ¹³And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted [it] not [as] the word of men, but [for] what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

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2 Timothy 3:13-4:4 - ¹³But evil men and impostors will proceed [from bad] to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned [them]; ¹⁵and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. ¹I solemnly charge [you] in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season [and] out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but [wanting] to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.

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James 1:19-21 - ¹⁹*This* you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. ²¹Therefore putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

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James 1:22-25 - ²²But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵But one who looks

intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.

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2 Peter 1:19-2:3 - ¹⁹And [so] we have the prophetic word [made] more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. ²⁰But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is [a matter] of one's own interpretation, ²¹for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. ¹But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. ²And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; ³and in [their] greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

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2 Timothy 2:15 - ¹⁵Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

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Ephesians 6:14-17 - ¹⁴Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, ¹⁵and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; ¹⁶in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil [one.] ¹⁷And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

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Hebrews 4:12 - ¹²For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

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Revelation 20:4 - ⁴And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I [saw] the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

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Practical Application:

What have we discovered today that we should be doing? _____

Conclusion:

The Bible is core to our lives as Christians. Are you reading it every day? Are you studying it regularly? Do you know it? Do you use it in your daily life?