



YOU CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

APPROVED UNTO GOD – 2 TIMOTHY 2:15

In today's text we will examine _____ and valuable *final* instructions given by the apostle Paul to the young pastor and missionary, Timothy. These truths are for _____ believer and can change the way you think and act as a Christian if they are adopted and applied.

1. The text – 1 Timothy 2:15

a. Key points

- *What* to do with the Bible:

We are to _____ the Bible

- *Why* we must study the Bible:

To be _____ unto God

To not be _____ before God

- *How* we must study the Bible:

Rightly _____ the *word of truth* (the completed revelation of scripture— all 66 books of the Bible)

b. Attitude and posture while studying:

- That of a _____ – 2 Timothy 2:2-7

2. Fulfilling the key points

a. Any _____ can understand the Bible

- The Bible is an *open book*

It is not difficult to understand

Anyone can get a working knowledge of the Bible if they are willing to do the work

Beware of the doctrine of the Nicolaitans (Nico-to *conquer*; laitans - *laity*) – Rev. 2:6, 15

The main reason most Christians have no logical understanding of *how to study the Bible* is: their pastors and leaders do _____ understand how to study the Bible... they teach what they read in a book or commentary, heard from a podcast or recording, watched on YouTube, or by following their [pastoral] peer groups

b. Basic principles of learning and understanding the Bible

- You learn by following rule #1: _____ the Book
- You learn as the Holy Spirit _____ and guides you – John 14:16-17, 26; 16:13-14
- You learn by avoiding the hazards of Bible study
 - #1 threat: The search for hidden meanings
 - #2 threat: Refusal to see beyond the literal historic and grammatic meaning
 - #3 threat: A personal desire to be the authority
- You learn by receiving God's purpose of scripture – 2 Timothy 3:15-17
 - A *copy* of the originals is also considered inspired by God
 - By knowing the four profitable purposes of scripture: doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness...
 - God's overall objective for scripture in each believer: thoroughly furnished unto all good works
- You learn by studying the _____ English Bible
- You learn by following the basic rules and proven biblical methods of Bible study (referred to as *Hermeneutics* in Bible Colleges and circles of higher education)

NEXT WEEK: HOW TO *STUDY* THE BIBLE – PART ONE – TYPES AND SIMILITUDES

Word pictures, and the two most important words in the Bible