



THE GREATEST BOOK EVER WRITTEN

The Bible is the only Word of the Living God that we have. No other book makes this claim. The Bible is not *philosophy*, although it is philosophical. The Bible is not a *scientific treatise*, yet there are no discrepancies between certain facts of science and the Bible. The Bible is not a *book of history*, yet it is accurate when recording history. The Bible is the only book throwing light on or into past and future eternities. How far is it from earth to heaven? That is the height the Bible is above all other books.

THE BIBLE IS A NOW BOOK—SPOKEN TO US BY A NOW GOD.

It's the Revealed Word of God to us. *Facts on the Bible:*

- It contains 66 books
- It has 35 authors
- It was written in *Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic* over a period of 1500 years.
- Its subjects include *religion, history, law, science, poetry, drama, biography, autobiography, and prophecy.*
- The writers represent a cross section of humanity: *educated and uneducated, farmers and kings, fishermen and doctors, teachers and public officials.*

Give an example of how the bible has affected a "now" issue in your life:

The Biblical writers were the same in these respects:

- ~All were moved by God's Spirit
- ~All searched diligently for the meaning of the words they were given
- ~All uttered things beyond their knowledge

The various books of the Bible are as harmoniously united as the parts that make up the human body- they all work together. The Bible should always be read ~~with an ear~~ while listening for the voice of God. Only through the Bible can we hear the Almighty speak to us as our Father.

It has been said of the Bible: Read it to be wise. Believe it to be safe. Practice it to be right. *Give an example of how scripture has helped you with wisdom or safety.*

5 TRUTHS ABOUT THE BIBLE:

I. THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD

Not just some, but the entire Bible is the inspired Word of God. *Write below 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What words or phrases stick out in this verse?*

"Inspired" means God's Spirit supernaturally influenced the writers. The Scriptures of God are inspired, word for word. Every word is equally inspired; however this does not mean the KJV is the 'real' version of the bible. All our current Bibles are 'translations' of the original manuscripts.

Therefore, the Bible does not only contain the Word of God; it is the Word of God.

God's Spirit is the author of the Bible.

- Men were used by God's Spirit to write the Bible. *Read 2 Peter 1:20-21*
- The Bible is absolutely trustworthy and free from error in its original form. *Read Psalm 119:160, Proverbs 30:5*
- The Bible is eternal. *Read Matthew 24:35*

II. CHRIST IS THE CENTER OF THE BIBLE

The Old Testament points forward to Jesus. The New Testament points back to Jesus. He is the circumference of the Bible. The Bible reveals Christ from Genesis to Revelation. Read John 5:39. *What does this say about eternal life? Write your answer below.*

III. SOME PASSAGES ARE HARDER TO UNDERSTAND THAN OTHERS

It is difficult to interpret the Bible sometimes:

- it came from unlimited, all-powerful God to limited man
- it came from the infinite (God) to the finite (man),
- it came from the spiritual (God) to the natural (man).

What book(s) of the Bible are hard for you to understand? Why?

Write 1 Corinthians 2:14–16 below...

We cannot understand the Bible as we would the writings of Plato or Aristotle. By study and diligent application, we are able to grasp the profound meaning of writers such as Plato and Aristotle. Natural man understands natural books. But we cannot understand the Bible on our own; it is not a natural book. We can only apply our limited natural reasoning. Because the Bible is a spiritual book given by God, to understand the Bible and its teaching we must have the mind of Christ—be no longer controlled by the natural mind but rather by God's Spirit. *Read Philipians 2:2–5*

When we ask humbly for God to reveal His Word to us- Then the Bible is not so difficult.

Read the Bible prayerfully, asking that God's Spirit teach and guide you to understanding. If not, it will remain a difficult, closed book to you. *Write out John 16:12–15 below. Be prepared to share how this applies to your life today.*

IV. THE BIBLE HAS "SPECIAL POWERS"

Write out Hebrews 4:12 below. Then circle the words that stick out to you

- Bible will separate man from sin and sin can separate man from the Bible. Psalm 119:11, Isaiah 59:2
- The Bible has the power to reflect as a mirror. In the Bible we see ourselves as God sees us. James 1:22–25
- The Bible has the power to cleanse like water. The Bible purifies. Ephesians 5:26
- The Bible has the power to reproduce like a seed. The Bible shows us how to become spiritually alive. 1 Peter 1:23, John 3:17
- The Bible has the power to nourish our spirit. The Bible is spiritual food for the soul. 1 Peter 2:2

TRUE OR FALSE: A Christian can remain strong in the Lord if he or she does not study the Word of God. *Write your thoughts below, be prepared to share why.*

V. THE BIBLE COMMANDS THE BELIEVER TO STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

The believer must study the Scriptures. *Write out 2 Timothy 2:15 below:*

Be diligent in your study of the Bible so you can work for God without shame. Equip yourself completely so you may handle God's Word of truth accurately and be able to give the true meaning to those you teach or who seek answers.

To grow as a Christian, look at the Scriptures in terms of its application to your life. When studying the Scriptures, remember: *God is true and cannot lie, and man is natural and is therefore limited.*

What is your Bible study patterns now? Chances are- you've come a long way from where you started! However-Do you think you can improve? Write down your thoughts below...

Study adapted from:

Ussery, Terdema. ABCs of Christianity (CH 2). FaithWords. Kindle Edition.

JESUS IN EVERY BOOK OF THE BIBLE

(Author Unknown)

In **Genesis**, Jesus Christ is the seed of the woman.

In **Exodus**, He is the passover lamb.

In **Leviticus**, He is our high priest.

In **Numbers**, He is the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night.

In **Deuteronomy**, He is the prophet like unto Moses.

In **Joshua**, He is the captain of our salvation.

In **Judges**, He is our judge and lawgiver.

In **Ruth**, He is our kinsman redeemer.

In **1st and 2nd Samuel**, He is our trusted prophet.

In **Kings and Chronicles**, He is our reigning king.

In **Ezra**, He is the rebuilder of the broken down walls of human life.

In **Esther**, He is our Mordecai.

In **Job**, He is our ever-living redeemer.

In **Psalms**, He is our shepherd.

In **Proverbs and Ecclesiastes**, He is our wisdom.

In the **Song of Solomon**, He is the loving bridegroom.

In **Isaiah**, He is the prince of peace.

In **Jeremiah**, He is the righteous branch.

In **Lamentations**, He is our weeping prophet.

In **Ezekiel**, He is the wonderful four-faced man.

In **Daniel**, He is the forth man in life's "fiery furnace."

In **Hosea**, He is the faithful husband, forever married to the backslider.

In **Joel**, He is the baptizer with the Holy Ghost and fire.

In **Amos**, He is our burden-bearer.

In **Obadiah**, He is the mighty to save.

In **Jonah**, He is our great foreign missionary.

In **Micah**, He is the messenger of beautiful feet.

In **Nahum**, He is the avenger of God's elect.

In **Habakkuk**, he is God's evangelist- "revive thy work in the midst of the years."

In **Zephaniah**, He is our Saviour.

In **Haggai**, He is the restorer of God's lost heritage.

In **Zechariah**, He is the fountain opened up in the house of David for sin and uncleanness.

In **Malachi**, He is the Sun of Righteousness, rising with healing in His wings.

In **Matthew**, He is King of the Jews.

In **Mark**, He is the Servant.

In **Luke**, He is the Son of Man, feeling what you feel.

In **John**, He is the Son of God.

In **Acts**, He is the Savior of the world.

In **Romans**, He is the righteousness of God.

In **I Corinthians**, He is the Rock that followed Israel.

In **II Corinthians**, He is the Triumphant One, giving victory.

In **Galatians**, He is your liberty; He sets you free.

In **Ephesians**, He is Head of the Church.

In **Philippians**, He is your joy.

In **Colossians**, He is your completeness.

In **1st and 2nd Thessalonians**, He is your hope.

In **I Timothy**, He is your faith.

In **II Timothy**, He is your stability.

In **Philemon**, He is your Benefactor.

In **Titus**, He is truth.

In **Hebrews**, He is your perfection.

In **James**, he is the Power behind your faith.

In **I Peter**, He is your example.

In **II Peter**, He is your purity.

In **I John**, He is your life.

In **II John**, He is your pattern.

In **III John**, He is your motivation.

In **Jude**, He is the foundation of your faith.

In **Revelation**, He is your coming King.

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