

The Importance Of A Man's Time With God - Part 1

I. A Man and His Bible Reading and Doctrine

A. Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines "doctrine" this way: Whatever is taught. A principle or position. Whatever is laid down as true by an instructor or master.

1 The Greek word for doctrine is "didache" which denotes "teaching" either that which is taught or the act of teaching. Scripturally one should lead to the other.

2. Hebrew 5:11-12 - *"I have a lot more to say about this, but it is hard to get it across to you since you've picked up this bad habit of not listening. 12 By this time you ought to be teachers yourselves, yet here I find you need someone to sit down with you and go over the basics on God again, starting from square one."* THE MESSAGE

B. John 1:1 - To the degree you love God's word is the degree that you love God, to the degree that you spend time in God's word is to a large degree the time you spend with God.

1. 1 Timothy 4:6 - *"In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following."* NASB

a. **The Greek word translated "good" in the English is "kalos, which means a person who is well adapted to his circumstances."**

b. Reading the word imparts to you everything you need to adapt.

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - *"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work."* NASB

- The King James says "thoroughly furnished."

- **The Contemporary English Bible says verse 17 this way - "The scriptures train God's servants to do all kinds of good deeds."**

- 1 Corinthians 12:6 - *"And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons."* NAS

- 1 Thess 2:13 - *"And 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."* NAS

c. When I see Christians who aren't engaged in ministry to others they are either not reading their Bibles or they are only reading the parts that will bless them.

II. We need to move beyond reading the Bible and start studying it.

A. Our Mandate to Study

1. **2 Timothy 2:15** - *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”KJV*
 - a. Study = “Spoudazo” = to make effort, be diligent, to labor or to exert oneself.
 - b. Workman = “ergates” = a toiler or a laborer.**
 - c. “To show thyself” - the Greek word is “paristemi” which means “to exhibit”
 - **God wants fruit and not just seeds**
 - He wants to see something and not just hear something
 - d. “Approved unto God” - The Greek word is “dokimos” which means to be judged worthy by testing.”**
 - When you show it, God is going to test it.
 - **If you pass the test, you get His approval**
 - e. Rightly Dividing = “*orthotomeo*” = to cut, dissect or measure correctly, it denotes great skill.
 - 1) **Orthodromy, the skill of sailing a straight course.**
 - 2) Orthoepist, one is well skilled in pronunciation.
 - 3) **Orthographer, one who spells words with great skill.**
 - 4) Difficulty is what produces skill
2. **1 Timothy 4:13-16** - *“Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching. Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed upon you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to all. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.” NASB*
 - a. Studying the Bible is work
 - b. It’s working not to just know what it says but it is also work to do what it says.**

B. Our Motive to Study.

1. It will bring the favor of God

- a. It will keep us from sinning against God - Psalm 119:11
- b. It will help us to take every thought captive - 2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

- c. **It will bring fruitfulness and prosperity - Psalm 1:3 & Joshua 1:8**
- d. It will guard my life from temptation and deliver me from evil - Proverbs 2:10-12

2. It will bring the faith of God.

- a. Romans 10:8 “*Word of Faith*” Verse 17 “*Faith Cometh by Hearing*”

b. 2 Greek words for “Word Of God” Logos & Rhema

- 1) Logos = Expression of Thought - Logos produces knowledge
John 1:1 - Matthew 25:25
- 2) **Rhema = That which is spoken personally - Rhema’s produce faith.**
Matthew 4:4 - John 6:68 - Ephesians 6:17

- c. It’s when the written word in our mind becomes a living word in our heart.

- 1) **Logos will make you smarter - Rhema will make you better**
- 2) Logos will build an audience - Rhema will build an army
- 3) **Logos will make you educated - Rhema will make you effective**

- d. It’s what I call hearing in faith

- e. **John 10:3 - Only Sheep hear His voice not lambs.**

C. Our Method of Study.

1. Verse by Verse

2. Books of The Bible

THE EPISTLE OF JAMES - Theme: The Proofs of Faith

Proof 1 - ENDURANCE OF TEMPTATION (1).

Proof 2 - IMPARTIAL BENEVOLENCE (2).

Proof 3 - CONTROL OF THE TONGUE (3).

Proof 4 - GODLINESS IN ALL THINGS (4:1-5:6).

Final encouragements,5:7-20.

3. Topical

4. Exegesis

- a. Isaiah 35:7-10

- b. **Jeremiah 48:11-12**