

A CHALLENGING WORD

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Can I Teach You?

By Dwight Knight
(Part 2 and conclusion)

His first question He asks every believer is, “Can I teach you?”

To many this question seems at first rhetorical, but pause and think: How easily have you availed yourself to the unique way God teaches His loved ones?

Sometimes He uses tribulation, trials, trouble and temptation to accomplish this task.

In other situations, He may use pain, persecution, problems or people.

It is completely within the purview of His divine will that the perfect course of action is found.

His teaching is rarely fun; always innovative and only for our good and totally for His glory.

We each of us must attend these sessions despite our experiences or Christian maturity. For He promises that the “work He has begun in us, He will complete”.

The college of Christ is an institution of Life Long Learning. We matriculate, mature, and move on, but graduation day will not be seen in this life. No, it will only be seen on the day of redemption. We with the whole body of Christ are to be vessels of honor; garments without spot, blemish or any such thing. Christ Himself is headmaster, the Holy Spirit the special perfect private Teacher and Tutor, and the Father the ever present and expecting Parent.

We look to the lessons of this earthly life with ambiguity; and rightfully so. But the courses of heaven are to be looked upon with longing and faith.

The Teacher knows exactly what we need to make it and has set into motion the lesson plan rightly suited to bring us into the full measure and stature of Christ. Surrender to His way and will bring peace sooner and the joy unspeakable full of glory.

Our Handbook, the Holy Bible

By Dwight Knight

“A man has deprived himself of the best there is in the world who has deprived himself of this; a knowledge of the Bible. When you read the Bible, you will know that it is the word of God, because you will have found it the key to your own heart, your own happiness, and your own duty.” – Woodrow Wilson

The Holy Bible is the only document that *is* the inspired, inerrant, and infallible word of God. It does not merely contain the word of God; it is the word of God.

When it speaks, God has spoken.

Without the knowledge of this book the believer is virtually helpless. The study of its principles is absolutely essential for mature, balanced faith and growth.

No other source can provide the things necessary to the life of the Christian.

In this great book you’ll find everything God wanted to say to every person ever created. In it’s pages God has written a seamless document with two major divisions called testaments, penned in four languages, using over forty men and women, over a period of over four thousand years, that can be divided into ten separate subdivisions, containing a total of sixty-six books, which have 1,167 chapters, with 28,592 verses and over two million words, each in their own individual way and

distinction saying to all mankind one thing, "I love you and want you to be with Me forever." All this is done without error and without contradiction.

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It is the most amazing document in the entire history of life.

However, one of the most common mistakes that people make is to view the Bible as a book to be merely read. It is not. The Bible is a book to be studied.

This chapter is aimed at helping you study the Bible in a simple and consistent manner.

So, let's begin by looking at the Bible in three different ways. We will not address the assertions of the Bible's many critics and skeptics, nor we will trace its' origin (how it came to be) or it's canonicity (why these books are in the collection of 66 and not others), but rather we will try to build a strong study foundation that will hopefully start you on a wonderful journey through the word of God.

To do this, we will use the three "R" s method of study. They are, *reading the text*, *researching the text* and *reasoning the text*.

Let's begin.

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Reading the Bible

Reading the Bible daily is the lifeblood of a maturing walk with Christ. One can never expect to develop fully without consistently reading God's word.

The apostle Paul told his disciple Timothy, "Till I come, give attendance to reading".

Reading through the Bible should be an active part of every believer's life. In fact, reading through the Bible at least once a year can be easily accomplished by reading only three chapters a day!

However, the questions arise, "What do I read first?" And, "How do I develop a worthwhile meaningful study time?"

Well, to begin your journey as a Christian the best place to start is with a study of your Savior, Jesus Christ.

And God has provided the life story of Jesus as seen through four very different men. Amazingly, the whole Bible is the story of Jesus. His birth, life, ministry, death, resurrection and kingdom were told hundreds of years before the New Testament was penned, recorded in predictions called prophecies. However, the specific encounters and teachings of Christ are found written in the second part of the Bible called the New Testament.

The first four books of the New Testament are called the gospels. The word "gospel" means "good news".

And that's exactly what they report, the story of how an infinite God did everything necessary to redeem mankind. This is the most wonderful news the world will ever hear. These accounts tell the wonderful story of how Jesus came to earth to give His love, life and light to lost humanity. Getting intimately familiar with His life is essential to your growth. (Continued in next issue)