

PROFITABLE BIBLE STUDY

INTRODUCTION

(2 Timothy 3:14-17) "But you **must continue** in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood **you have known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, **and is profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

"**Profitable**" - gainful; paying; advantageous; beneficial; rewarding; useful; worthwhile.

We live and abide by the NT message; however, the OT has value: (Romans 15:4) "For whatever things were written before were **written for our learning**, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

(1 Corinthians 10:11) "these things happened to them as **examples**, **written for our admonition** ... "

1. PRIORITY

"**Priority**" - give it attention before other things of less importance; precedence. Don't place Bible study at the bottom of today's "To Do" list.

2. PERSONAL

Recognize that the truths of the Word are directed to the individual (me). It is making the application to me.

3. PRAYERFUL

We often pray before other things in life: travel, decisions, assembly ... So pray at the start, "God, open my heart to the reading."

4. PURPOSE

(Matthew 4:4) "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

This "food for the soul" should be studied with this purpose in mind.

5. PRACTICAL / PUT INTO PRACTICE - (James 1:21-27)

6. PONDER - (Proverbs 4:23-27) "... ponder the path of thy feet ... "

(1 Timothy 4:15-16) "Mediate on these things, give thyself wholly to them ... "