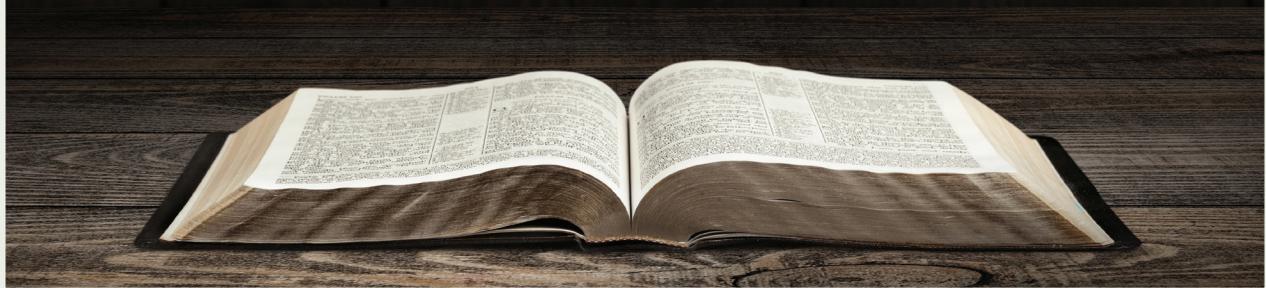


GOD'S WRITTEN WORD IS THE PART OF
HIS ETERNAL WORD THAT IN HIS INFINITE
WISDOM HE CHOSE TO REVEAL TO US
SO THAT WE MAY KNOW WHAT WE
NEED TO KNOW.



Outline & Notes

God's written word is the part of his eternal word that in his infinite wisdom he chose to reveal to us so that we may know what we need to know.

1. **In the Bible God tells us what we need to know.**

He speaks to us concerning salvation and service—what he requires.

- (Micah 6:8 GW) You mortals, the LORD has told you what is good. This is what the LORD requires from you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to live humbly with your God.

For salvation ... So are you saved?

- (Exodus 14:13 ESV) And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.
- (Exodus 15:1–2 ESV) Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. 2 The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.
- (1 Chronicles 16:23 ESV) Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.
- (Psalm 3:8 ESV) Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

Selah

- (Psalm 25:5 ESV) Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.
- (Psalm 27:1 ESV) The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- (Psalm 62:1–2 ESV) For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. 2 He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.
- (Acts 4:12 ESV) And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.
- (Ephesians 1:13 ESV) In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

For service ... So are you serving?

- (2 Timothy 3:16–4:2 ESV) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 1 I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.
- (Ephesians 2:10 ESV) For we are his

workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. **In the Bible God does not tell us everything.**

God decided. God in his infinite wisdom decided how much of his eternal word that we needed to know. So then men, led by the Holy Spirit, wrote down these things.

God was selective. But he did not have them write down everything—in some ways only a glimpse of God and his greatness and glory.

The Holy Spirit chose the content of Scripture according to his infinite wisdom. This is what he had the men write down for us.

- (2 Peter 1:21 ESV) For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

We would be overwhelmed by the sheer volume of information just from the things that Jesus did ... let alone the full picture of all of God's works. (As if we could comprehend those things of glory. Nope.)

- (John 21:25 ESV) Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

In Christ God has called us to his glory. But right now we more “live on the outskirts” of his greatness and glory.

- (1 Peter 5:10 ESV) And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.
- (2 Peter 1:3 ESV) His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.
- (Job 26:7–14 NASB95) He stretches out the north over empty space And hangs the earth on nothing. 8 He wraps up the waters in His clouds, And the cloud does not burst under them. 9 He obscures the face of the full moon And spreads His cloud over it. 10 He has inscribed a circle on the surface of the waters At the boundary of light and darkness. 11 The pillars of heaven tremble And are amazed at His rebuke. 12 He quieted the sea with His power, And by His understanding He shattered Rahab. 13 By His breath the heavens are cleared; His hand has pierced the fleeing serpent. 14 Behold, these are the fringes of His ways; And how faint a word we hear of Him! But His mighty thunder, who can understand?
- (Job 26:14a GW) These are only glimpses of what he does.
- (Job 26:14 ESV) Behold, these are but the outskirts of his ways, and how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?”

3. **In the Bible God speaks to those who are**

prepared to listen.

God will through his written word—which is part of his eternal word—speak to those who through the work of the Holy Spirit are bowed before him and tremble at his word.

Who doesn't “get it”?

The ever learning but never bowing ...

There is never enough “truth about God” or “truth about godly living” to help the rebellious heart. These “lovers of self” are ever learning but never bowing. They will have only an appearance of godliness and are to be avoided.

- (2 Timothy 3:2–8 ESV) For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. 6 For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, 7 always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith.

Who “gets it”?

The always bowing, ever trembling ...

How do we make sense of God's world and God's word? How do we hear the voice of God? Humble our hearts before him. Receive God's simple truth ... such as ... What must I do to be saved?

- (Acts 16:30–32 ESV) Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” 32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.
- (Isaiah 66:1–2 ESV) Thus says the LORD: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest? 2 All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the LORD. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.”
- (Isaiah 66:1–2 NIV) This is what the LORD says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? 2 Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the LORD. “These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word.”