

Understanding The Scriptures In The Christian Bible

It may shock some readers of this website but there is a vast difference between being taught by the Word of God, the Christian Bible, and being taught by the Holy Spirit.

It is possible to be instructed in the rudiments of the Christian faith from the Holy Scriptures and still have **no** real understanding of the whole spiritual concept of such teaching.

It is even possible to go on to become an expert in Bible doctrine and still **not** have spiritual illumination of what we know so well.

As a result of this a veil still remains over our mind, preventing it from apprehending the Truth in its spiritual essence.

Because of this lack of the vital Holy Spirit in our lives we are forced to live with the outward shell of our faith, while all the time we are starved of spiritual reality.

2 Timothy 3:16 [NIV] *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,”*

For the scriptures to be understood, we must read with the same Spirit that originally inspired them.

2 Peter 1:19-20 [NIV] *“And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation.”*

The Greek word translated “*prophecy*” is “*prōphēteia*” meaning the speaking forth of the mind and council of God, that is an inspired speaker.

Among religious persons of unquestioned orthodoxy there is something found, a dull dependence upon the letter of the text without the faintest understanding of its spiritual intent.

John 16:12-14 [NIV] *“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.”*

This spiritual understanding of the Truth is promised by Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:1-10 [NIV] *“When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, **but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.** We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. However, as it is written: ‘No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him,’ but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.”*

Paul was allowing the Holy Spirit to guide his words.

Paul's confidence was **not** on his great intellect or speaking ability but in the knowledge that the Holy Spirit was helping him and guiding him.

The "*deep things of God*" refers to God's unfathomable nature and His wonderful plan for all humanity.

This plan is Jesus Christ's death and resurrection and its promise of salvation revealed to those who believe what God has promised in His Word, the Christian Bible, is true.

This saving knowledge however **cannot** be grasped by even the wisest people unless the Holy Spirit is working with them or in them. [**John 14:17**]

1 Corinthians 2:11 [NIV] "*For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no-one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.*"

Paul gives a physical example of the human spirit [**Job 32:8**] giving humans an intellect, that animals do **not** have, as an example of the understanding the indwelling Holy Spirit can give to a human being.

1 Corinthians 2:12-14 [NIV] "*We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.*"

No-one can even accept the spiritual promises that God has given to those who have within them the Holy Spirit guiding their minds.

The great need of the people within the Christian Church at this time is –

First to actually know the Holy Scriptures, apart from which we have **no** saving truth.

Second to be enlightened by the active indwelling of Holy Spirit apart which the Holy Scriptures will **not** be understood.

[Please download and study the articles under title '*Holy Spirit*' to find out how this can happen to you.]