

Scoffers will reject the Bible with criticisms and excuses about the accuracy of its contents and its sources. If you believe in an all-powerful God, then you believe He is able to preserve His Word. The age of the original words and the various translations from one language to another as well as the deceptions of the enemy do make the meaning difficult to discern. However, we are led to understanding by the continuing power of the Holy Spirit. Our Saviour has promised us we will know the truth.

³² **And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

John 8:32

Explicitly, He has promised we will have all truth through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

¹³ **Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**

John 16:13

Explicitly, we have been told we will receive this truth through study of the Bible.

¹⁵ **Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

II Timothy 2:15

Are you studying the Bible for Present Truth to increase your knowledge of God and to remember His law?

I pray we may all continue to seek love, peace, and unity in truth preparing for the soon coming of Iaushua (ee-ah-oo-shoo-ah) Messiah, the Son of God.

Introduction

"IAUA End Time Ministry" presents these *Present Truth Bible Study Guides* to support individual and group Bible Study on the topics of Present Truth. These Bible Studies are not evangelistic in nature but are focused for committed Seventh-day Adventists seeking a deeper study, knowledge, and understanding of the Bible.

Present Truth for the 21st century is not the same as it was in the 19th century or even the 20th century. Truth is progressive. All the truth of God is far greater than we see and much has been lost to apostasy through the Dark Ages. These Bible Studies will seek to promote understanding on areas of Biblical confusion and disagreement which are important to the present time. Issues and controversies in the Adventist church will be addressed.

¹² **Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.**

II Peter 1:12

These study guides are for serious students of the Bible pursuing the ideal goal of "Sola Scriptura". "Sola Scriptura" is Latin for "Scripture Only" which means the Bible alone is the rule of faith. This was the goal of the Reformation which was not completely followed as evidenced by the failure of almost all Protestant denominations to forsake the Catholic Sunday worship and obey the 4th commandment. This goal is not completely followed by the Seventh-day Adventist denomination as evidenced by failure to forsake the Catholic/pagan holy days and follow God's Sacred Calendar as described in the Law of Moses.

⁴ **Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.**

Malachi 4:4

Issues of doctrine are exclusively determined by our best understanding of the Bible alone. Doctrine is matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith. There is no place for compromise of

core doctrinal values but there is always a place for patience and tolerance. There are also issues of prophetic interpretation which are based on Biblical principles. There is a wider range of understandings on these issues and a need for greater toleration and some compromise.

I offer my own commentary and understanding on these topics. I always base my belief on the Bible even though my basis may not be fully explained. I also offer commentary, guidance, and advice from the writings of Ellen G. White. She is not the source for doctrine though I have never found her to contradict the Bible.

There are stages of spiritual growth beginning with the most basic. Growth must continue through Bible study to increase our knowledge of God and His law. Reading the texts presented in this study is only the beginning of your study. You must meditate on these texts to ingrain their full meaning into your own understanding. Read the entire chapter containing these texts for the full context in which they are given.

⁶ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Hosea 4:6

There are errors and deceptions being taught within and without the church. There are important truths which need to be discovered being taught within and without the church. The guidance of the Holy Spirit is needed to discern and separate truth from error. When we move beyond the doctrines of the church, we open ourselves to more truth, we also open ourselves to a deluge of errors against which we must guard.

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

II Timothy 2:15

There is also a need to recognize what is primary and important and what is secondary and less important. In this time of impending crisis we need to put more focus on what is critical.

²³ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay

title of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Matthew 23:23

The Bible

You are not a believer in the God of the Bible unless you believe in the Bible. You are not a believer in the Messiah of the Bible unless you believe in the Bible. Only the religion of the Bible offers a Saviour, who can save you from eternal death. It does not matter what denominational label you accept.

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

You are not a believer unless you believe in God, in His Son, and in the Bible, which is God's written communication to us through His servants who recorded His Words.

¹⁶ For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

¹⁷ For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

¹⁸ And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

¹⁹ We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

²⁰ Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

²¹ For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:16-21