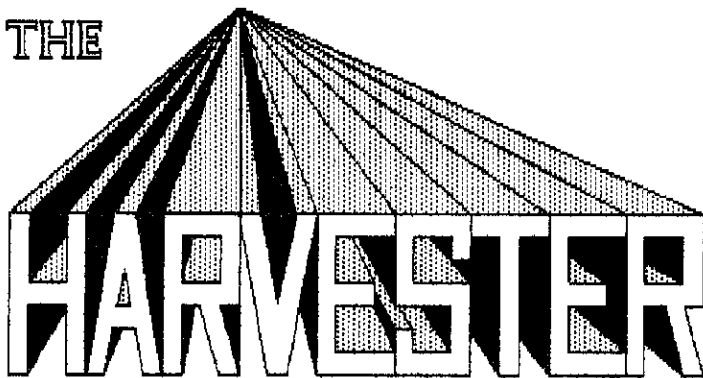


THE



*"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2)*

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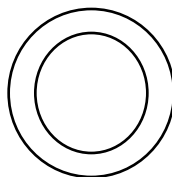
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## TWELVE REASONS FOR STUDYING THE BIBLE

How much time do you spend each day in studying God's Word? How many times a week? Or do you study it at all? Studying the Bible is an individual duty of every person, and especially the Christian. If we are not interested in studying the Bible, we are not very interested in where we will spend eternity. Without the Bible and a knowledge of its teachings, we could not truly know that there is a God, a heaven,

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a hell, or what we must do to be saved and have an eternal life in heaven. For this reason, we must study the Bible or suffer the eternal fire of hell.

Jesus said to the Jews who thought within themselves to be in good standing with God, *"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me that ye might have life."* John 5:39-40.

If the unbelieving Jews would have searched the scriptures, as they should have, they would have had a knowledge of Christ and would not have rejected Him. For this reason Paul said, *"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved. For I bear them record, that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they, being ignorant of God's righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."* Romans 10:1-3. Let us now study twelve of some of the main reasons for studying the Bible daily:

1. That we might believe that Jesus is the Christ. *"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."* John 20:30-31.

2. Faith comes by hearing or studying the Bible and without faith it is impossible to please God. *"So then faith cometh by*

hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17. No studying, no faith; no faith, no salvation. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6. We seek him by diligently searching the scriptures. Paul said to Timothy, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

3. We should study the Bible because it is the power of God by which we are saved, and we cannot be saved without a knowledge and understanding of what is written therein. Paul says, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; for therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:16-17

4. Life and immortality is revealed to us through the gospel. Paul says, "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." II Timothy 1:10.

5. By the Bible we are called into fellowship with God, that we might share with Christ in His glory. Paul says, "Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." II Thess. 2:14.

6. The Bible is able to save our souls when obeyed. James says, "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save

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*your souls. But be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."* James 1:21-22.

7. The Bible instructs us in the way of righteousness and will make us perfect in Christ. Paul said to Timothy, "*And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto 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 perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*" II Timothy 3:15-17.

8. The Bible teaches us God's plan of salvation and how we should live a godly life. Paul said to Titus, "*For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.*" Titus 2:11-12.

9. We should study God's word because it is the spiritual seed that begets the new birth. Paul said to the Corinthians who were converted under his preaching, "*For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, ye have ye not many fathers:*

for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel." I Cor. 4:15.

**10.** We should study the Bible to know what we must do to be saved. All who do not obey the gospel will be eternally lost. Paul said, "Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; and to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." II Thess. 1:6-9.

**11.** The Bible is God's law book and all will be judged by it. John said, "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell, delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:11-15.

**12.** The Bible is the only book that is inspired by the Holy Spirit and gives us the answer to "What must I do to be

saved?" *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."* Mark 16:15-16. The Bible is God's last will to mankind; and Christ said, *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven."* Matthew 7:21.

Since we must do the Father's will to enter into the kingdom of heaven and since his will is revealed to us in the Bible, then we must study the Bible to know what his will is. Any person who will not study the Bible to know God's will, but puts his trust in some preacher to tell him God's will, does not value his soul. Preachers are just men, and can be mistaken; and furthermore, Satan has his ministers and the only way we can know if they are perverting the word of God and destroying its true meaning, is if we study the Bible for ourselves.

ALBERT L. DAVIS (deceased)  
 Lucedale, MS  
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## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Who defended Saul in Jerusalem after his conversion?
2. How long did the Plague of Darkness sent by God remain in the land of Egypt?

3. Why did the Lord send serpents to plague the Israelites?

4. If one speaks evil of a fellow Christian, what is he also speaking evil of?

5. How many strings does the harp/lyre have that David plays to sing praises to God?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH . . .

and remember last month's questions?

1. Who gave Daniel a word of encouragement after the king gave orders for him to be thrown in the lion's den? KING DARIUS (Dan. 6:16)

2. How long did the Israelites grieve for Moses? 30 DAYS (Deut. 34:8)

3. Why would no one speak openly against Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles? FOR FEAR OF THE JEWS (John 7:13)

4. What is the shield in the armor of God? FAITH (Eph. 6:16)

5. What did the writer of Ecclesiastes hate about the efforts of his labor? HE HAD TO LEAVE THEM TO SOMEONE ELSE (Eccl. 2:18)

## **THE ONE CHURCH**

Christ promised to build only ONE church. He did so almost 2000 years ago and it is described precisely in the New Testament. Read about it yourself.

## HEAVEN'S STORE

Some time ago, walking through a path between falls and victories, I found a big sign that said "Heaven's Store". At that moment the door opened and without thinking, I was inside.

There were angels standing everywhere. One of them came and handed me a basket and said: "Here, buy cautiously. Everything that a person needs to be happy is in this store".

I hesitated and started to walk and see.

First, I bought 10 pounds of PATIENCE. There were lots of LOVE boxes and so I took as many as I could. Just below I found UNDERSTANDING and bought 5 packages. I took 5 boxes of KNOWLEDGE and of course, 20 boxes of FAITH and TRUST IN GOD which I couldn't leave behind.

In front there was an offer of FORGIVENESS and I picked up 500 (recalling that 70 times 7 equals 490). I also took several envelopes of STRENGTH and COURAGE. The basket was full and then I remembered that I needed HUMILITY. I bought 20 bags since they were on sale, two for one. Walking toward the register I saw PRAYER and I took some.

I unloaded my basket at the cash register and asked, "How much do I owe you?" The cashier smiled and said, "Take your basket wherever you go". I answered, "Yes, but how much do I owe?" He smiled again and said, "Take your basket peacefully. A long time ago a man named Jesus paid your debt".