

The Bible and the Importance of Studying it.

First I would like to give a brief description of the Bible.

It contains the mind of God, the way of salvation and the doom of sinners. We should read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be happy and holy. It contains light to direct us, food to support us, and comfort to cheer us. It should fill our memories, rule our hearts, and guide our feet. It involves responsibility and will reward our labor, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents. It offers assurance for old age, comfort for death, and salvation for eternity.

We are commanded to study and understand it. God said in Hos. 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee." Man should take time to study the only Book that tells of his origin and destiny. Man is a dual being consisting of the "inward man" and the "outward man." Paul speaks of the "outward man" as the things that are seen and the "inward man" as the things not seen. And this unseen man is ETERNAL. So by studying the Bible we get the proper food for the "inward man," or the soul. Jesus says in Matt. 4:4 "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

The very fact that God gave us the Bible is proof that he wants us to read it, study it, and live it.

In the Judgment to come we will face this word which we are now commanded to study and live, and by it we will be judged. See John 12:48 and Rev 20:12.