

How to Understand and Interpret the Bible

- I. Why do we need to study our Bible?
 - A. Our doctrines have a divine origin (John 7:16).
 - B. Our doctrines are outlined in Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16).
- II. Devotion to sound doctrine is vital to our faith.
 - A. We must continue in sound doctrine (1 Timothy 4:16).
 - B. We guard doctrine by the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 1:13-14).
 - C. We hold sound doctrine (Titus 1:9).
- III. The doctrines that affect salvation are what we call essential doctrine.
 - A. It directly affects our relationship to God (1 John 2:23-24).
 - B. It must center on the true Jesus, the true Holy Spirit, and the true Gospel (2 Corinthians 11:4; Galatians 1:6-9).
- IV. Bible teachers bear a heavy responsibility to teach doctrine correctly.
 - A. We will be judged by our teaching (James 3:1).
 - B. Our words should emulate the words of Jesus (1 Timothy 6:1-5).
- V. However, some variation on “non-essential” doctrines (doctrines other than salvation matters) is permissible between Christian believers without affecting our standing with God (Romans 14:1-5; Colossians 2:16; 1 Corinthians 13:9-10 – we know in part).
- VI. Is sound doctrine a matter of interpretation?
 - A. There are proper and improper ways to approach Scripture. As evangelical Christians we stand for the literal interpretation in contrast to liberal and allegorical interpretations.
 1. The Bible is God’s infallible word (Hebrews 6:18).
 2. We must use proper rules for interpretation, which are exemplified by Jesus and the Apostles. We take the Bible literally in its historical-grammatical sense.

How to Understand and Interpret the Bible

- I. Why do we need to study our Bible?
 - A. Our doctrines have a divine origin (John 7:16).
 - B. Our doctrines are outlined in Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16).
- II. Devotion to sound doctrine is vital to our faith.
 - A. We must continue in sound doctrine (1 Timothy 4:16).
 - B. We guard doctrine by the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 1:13-14).
 - C. We hold sound doctrine (Titus 1:9).
- III. The doctrines that affect salvation are what we call essential doctrine.
 - A. It directly affects our relationship to God (1 John 2:23-24).
 - B. It must center on the true Jesus, the true Holy Spirit, and the true Gospel (2 Corinthians 11:4; Galatians 1:6-9).
- IV. Bible teachers bear a heavy responsibility to teach doctrine correctly.
 - A. We will be judged by our teaching (James 3:1).
 - B. Our words should emulate the words of Jesus (1 Timothy 6:1-5).
- V. However, some variation on “non-essential” doctrines (doctrines other than salvation matters) is permissible between Christian believers without affecting our standing with God (Romans 14:1-5; Colossians 2:16; 1 Corinthians 13:9-10 – we know in part).
- VI. Is sound doctrine a matter of interpretation?
 - A. There are proper and improper ways to approach Scripture. As evangelical Christians we stand for the literal interpretation in contrast to liberal and allegorical interpretations.
 1. The Bible is God’s infallible word (Hebrews 6:18).
 2. We must use proper rules for interpretation, which are exemplified by Jesus and the Apostles. We take the Bible literally in its historical-grammatical sense.

How to Understand and Interpret the Bible

- I. Why do we need to study our Bible?
 - A. Our doctrines have a divine origin (John 7:16).
 - B. Our doctrines are outlined in Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16).
- II. Devotion to sound doctrine is vital to our faith.
 - A. We must continue in sound doctrine (1 Timothy 4:16).
 - B. We guard doctrine by the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 1:13-14).
 - C. We hold sound doctrine (Titus 1:9).
- III. The doctrines that affect salvation are what we call essential doctrine.
 - A. It directly affects our relationship to God (1 John 2:23-24).
 - B. It must center on the true Jesus, the true Holy Spirit, and the true Gospel (2 Corinthians 11:4; Galatians 1:6-9).
- IV. Bible teachers bear a heavy responsibility to teach doctrine correctly.
 - A. We will be judged by our teaching (James 3:1).
 - B. Our words should emulate the words of Jesus (1 Timothy 6:1-5).
- V. However, some variation on “non-essential” doctrines (doctrines other than salvation matters) is permissible between Christian believers without affecting our standing with God (Romans 14:1-5; Colossians 2:16; 1 Corinthians 13:9-10 – we know in part).
- VI. Is sound doctrine a matter of interpretation?
 - A. There are proper and improper ways to approach Scripture. As evangelical Christians we stand for the literal interpretation in contrast to liberal and allegorical interpretations.
 1. The Bible is God’s infallible word (Hebrews 6:18).
 2. We must use proper rules for interpretation, which are exemplified by Jesus and the Apostles. We take the Bible literally in its historical-grammatical sense.