

How to Get the Most from Reading your Bible (Part 1)¹

Deut 17.18–20 “And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. 19 And it shall be with him, and **he shall read in it all the days of his life**, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, 20 that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

- **The Bible is sent to us from God, so It should be read _____.**

Matt 22.29 But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.

John 5.39a search the Scriptures

2 Tim 3.16–17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and **profitable** for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

- **Ways to read the Scriptures with the most spiritual _____:**

1. Remove _____.

A. Remove the love of every _____.

B. Remove the distracting _____ of this world, especially covetousness.

Matt 13.22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

2. Prepare your _____.

1 Sam 7.3 And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, “If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you and **direct your heart to the LORD** and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.”

¹ Adapted from Thomas Watson, abridged and modernised by Matthew Vogan

A. Focus your _____

2 Cor 10.5 take every thought captive to obey Christ,

B. Purge unclean affections and _____

Col 3.2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

C. Don't come to the Bible rashly or _____.

Psa. 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

3. Read it with _____.

Judg 3.20 And Ehud came to him as he was sitting alone in his cool roof chamber. And Ehud said, "I have a message from God for you." And he arose from his seat.

Deut 17.19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, **that he may learn to fear the LORD his God**

4. Read the books of the Bible in _____.

Is. 28:13 And the word of the LORD will be to them
precept upon precept, precept upon precept,
line upon line, line upon line,
here a little, there a little,

5. Get a true _____ of Scripture.

Psa 119.73 Your hands have made and fashioned me;
give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.

- The first step is to get a sense of the different parts of Scripture and how they _____ to one another.
- The second step is to _____ relevant parts of Scripture with each other.

6. Read with _____.

Deut 32.46–47 he said to them, "**Take to heart all the words** by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. 47 For **it is no empty word for you, but your very life**, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess."

Luke 13.24 *“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.*

Heb 4.1 *Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.*

7. Persevere in _____ what you read.

Psa 119.52 *When I think of your rules from of old,
I take comfort, O LORD.*

Col 3.16a *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,*

James 1.25 *But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.*

Matt 13.4 *And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.*

Matt 13.19 *When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.*

8. _____ on what you read.

Psa 119.15 *I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.*

Psa 39.3 *My heart became hot within me.
As I mused, the fire burned;
then I spoke with my tongue:*

9. Read with a _____ heart.

James 4.6 *But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”*

10. _____ it all to be God's Holy Word.

2 Tim 3.16 *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*