

THE BIBLE—THE WORD OF GOD

MEMORY VERSE

II Timothy 3:16-17

"All scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

The word "Bible" comes from the Greek word "biblos," meaning book. The Bible, divided into the Old and New Testaments, is a compilation of 66 different books written by 44 authors.

A testament refers to a treaty, pact or covenant. The Old Testament scriptures, written in the Hebrew language, were given to the Jews, the Hebrews, the physical descendants of Abraham. The Old Testament covers history, God's law, and the terms of God's relationship with man from the creation to the coming of the Messiah (who would establish the New Covenant).

The New Testament consists of the terms of the New Covenant, which God has made with those who surrender their lives to His Son Jesus Christ. The New Testament, written in Greek, covers the life, death and resurrection of Christ, His teachings, the apostles, the early church, and the future coming of the Messiah.

The Lordship of God's Word

Read II Timothy 3:16-17

1. How were the scriptures given to us?

2. What is scripture profitable or useful for?

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____

3. Will God's Word and the principles and commands contained therein ever change?
(Psalm 119:89, Matthew 5:18)

4. What are some of the advantages of studying the Word of God?

- a) Psalm 1:1-3

b) Psalm 119:9-11

c) Proverbs 4:20-22

d) Ephesians 5:25-27

e) Romans 12:2

f) Joshua 1:8

When you meditate on God's word it will cause you to be careful to do all that He commands. And when you obey God's commands, He prospers every area of your life. The Word of God tells us in Deuteronomy 28:1-2, "Now it shall be, if you will diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you will obey the Lord your God."

5. Read James 1:22-25

a) What is our responsibility upon reading God's word?

b) What will happen if we fail to fulfill that responsibility?

c) What will happen if we do fulfill that responsibility?
