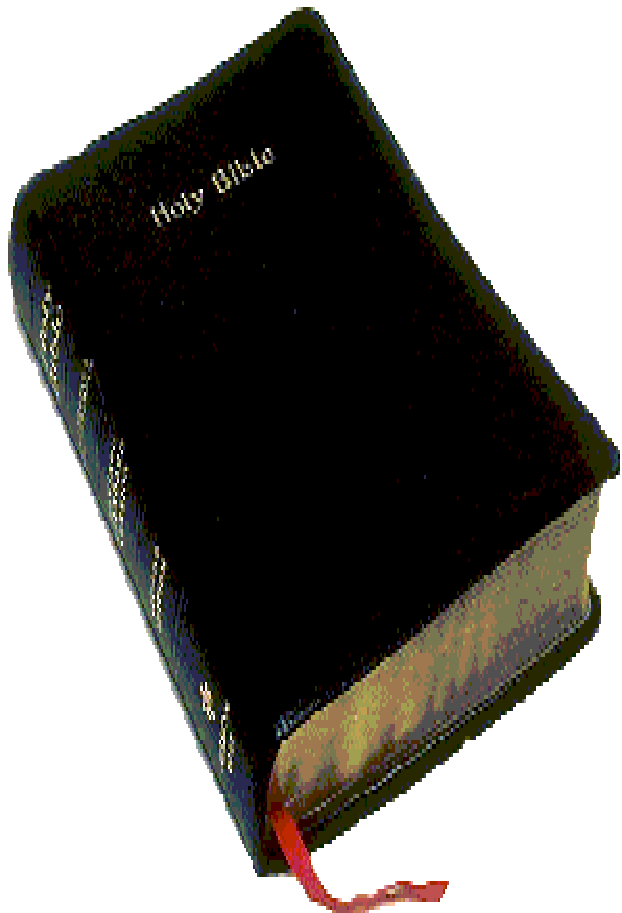


# Can We Understand The Bible Alike?



This has been a question that people have debated for years.

Some argue that the Bible is inclusive and supportive of everyone's own private interpretation.

Some argue that the Bible is strict and holds only one truth and man must be obedient to that truth.

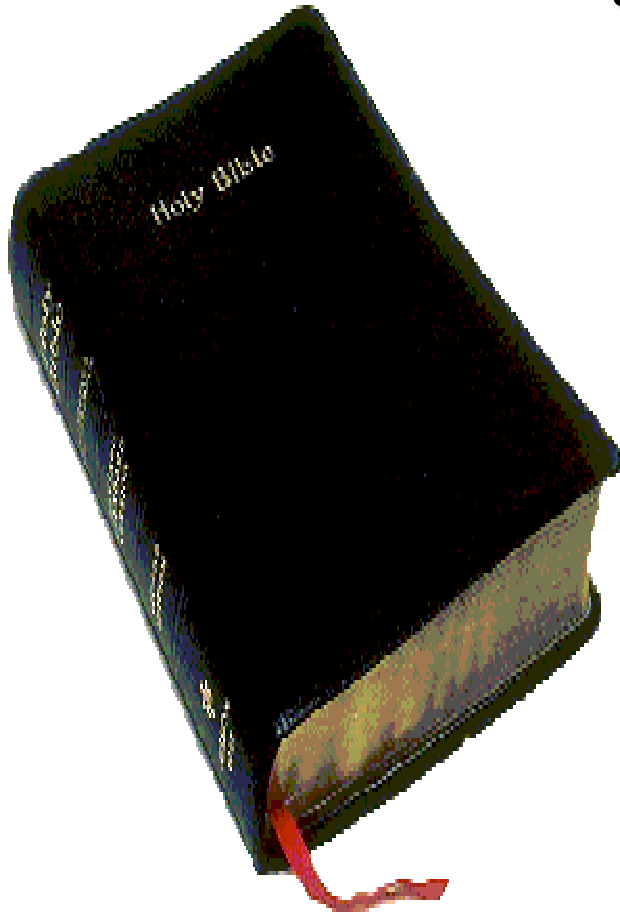
Well, what does the Bible say about this very important question?

**1**

**The Bible was given to us by God to be understood.**

- Though the Bible has some 40 writers, God is the author.

**(II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21)**

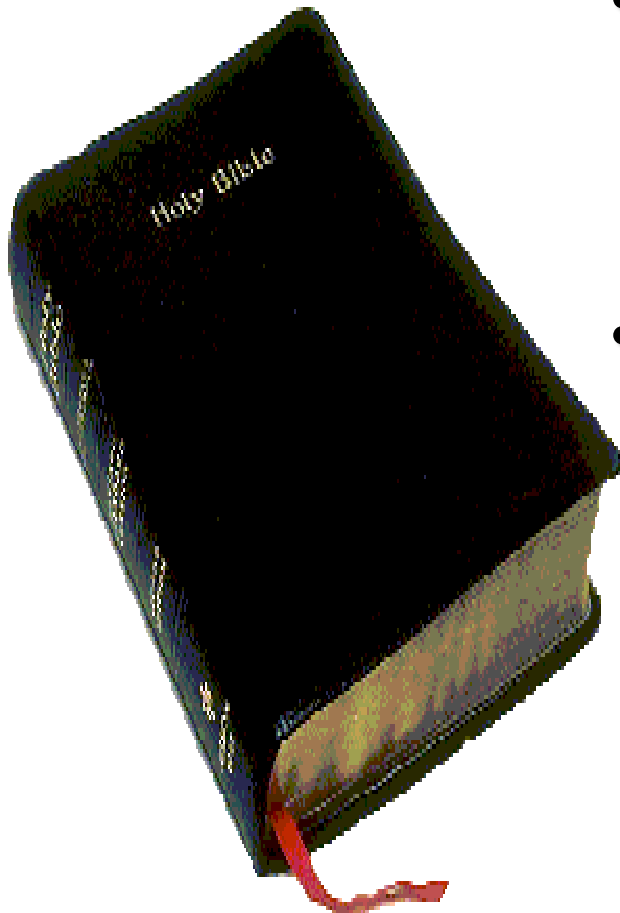


II Timothy 3:16 - **All Scripture is given by inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

II Peter 1:19-21 - And so **we have the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;  
20 knowing this first, that **no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation**,  
21 **for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**

**1**

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- Though the Bible has some 40 writers, God is the author.

**(II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21)**

- The Old Testament contained a great mystery.

**(I Peter 1:10-12; Ephesians 3:3-9)**

1 Peter 1:10-12 - **Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you,**

11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

12 **To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven--things which angels desire to look into.**

Ephesians 3:3-9 - **how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already,**

**4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),**

**5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:**

6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

7 of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.

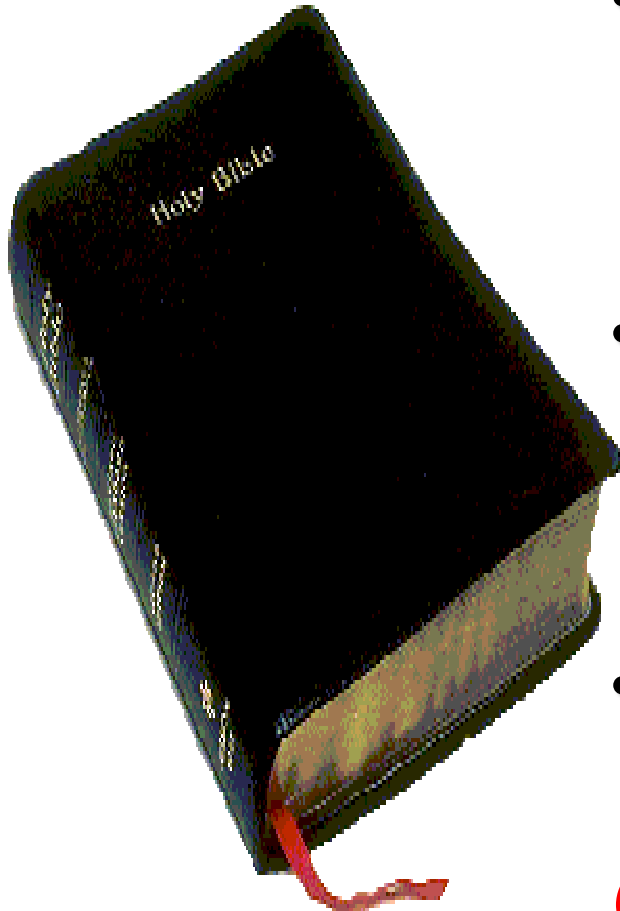
8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

9 and **to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;**



# 1

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**(II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21)**

- The Old Testament contained a great mystery.

**(I Peter 1:10-12; Ephesians 3:3-9)**

- The Old Testament mystery is revealed in the New Testament.

**(Ephesians 3:10-12; I Corinthians 2:9-12)**

Ephesians 3:10-12 - **to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,**

11 according to **the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,**

12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

I Corinthians 2:9-12 - But as it is written: Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.“

10 But **God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.**

11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? **Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.**

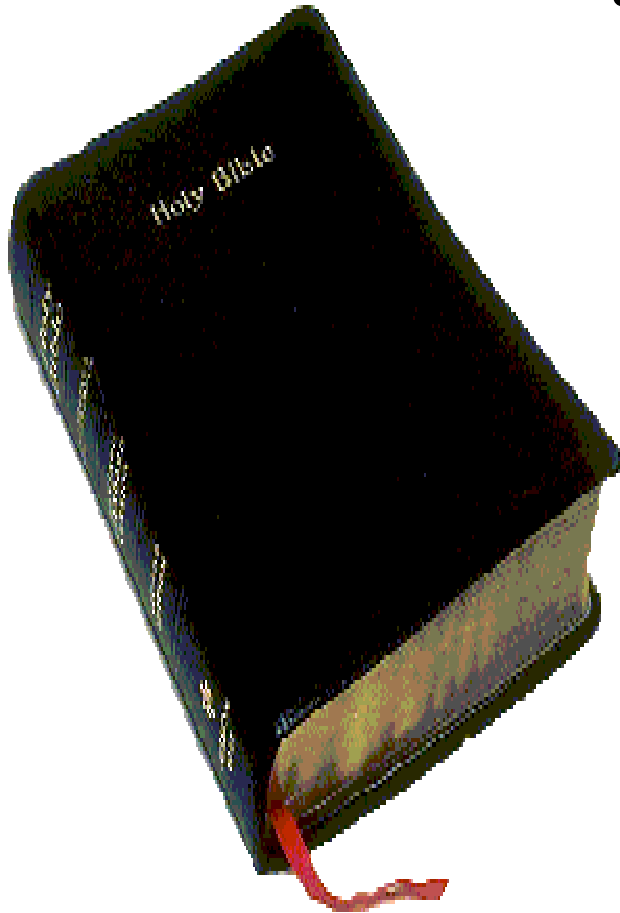
12 **Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.**

# 2

**The Bible was written to unite the followers of Christ in truth.**

- The New Testament is the only standard for the gospel age.

**(John 17:20-21; I Corinthians 1:10)**



John 17:20-21 - **"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;**

**21 "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.**

I Corinthians 1:10 - **Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.**

# 2

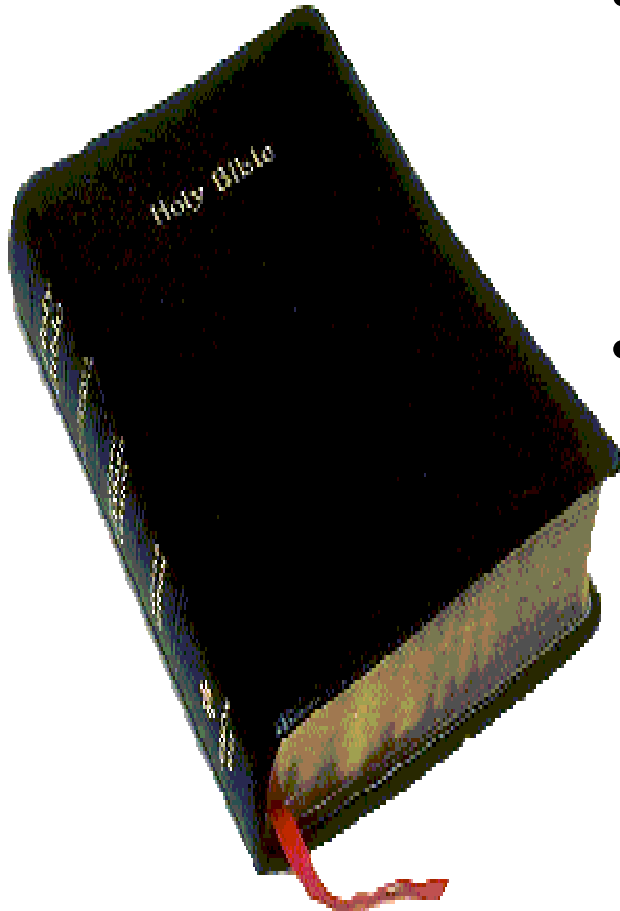
## The Bible was written to unite the followers of Christ in truth.

- The New Testament is the only standard for the gospel age.

**(John 17:20-21; I Corinthians 1:10)**

- The Old Testament is given to the gospel age for learning.

**(I Corinthians 10:1-11; Romans 15:4)**



1 Corinthians 10:1-11 - Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,

2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

6 **Now these things became our examples,** to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.



7 And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play."

8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell;

9 nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents;

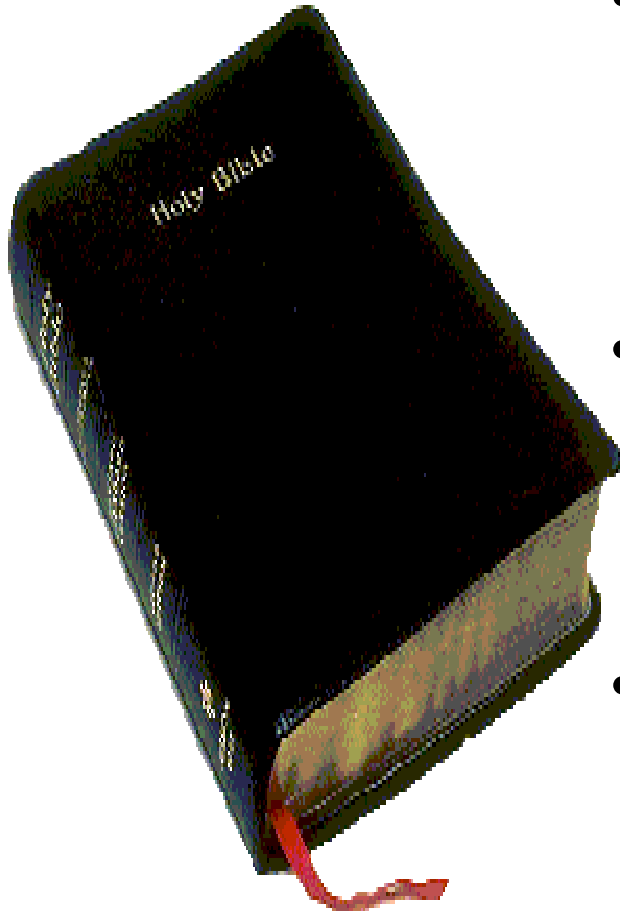
10 nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

**11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.**

Romans 15:4 - For **whatever things were written before were written for our learning**, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

# 2

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**(John 17:20-21; I Corinthians 1:10)**

- The Old Testament is given to the gospel age for learning.

**(I Corinthians 10:1-11; Romans 15:4)**

- The New Testament is what unites Gods people together in the truth.

**(II John 9; Ephesians 4:1-6)**

II John 9 - **Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.**

Ephesians 4:1-6 - I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to **walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,**

2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

3 **endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

4 There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling;

5 **one Lord, one faith, one baptism;**

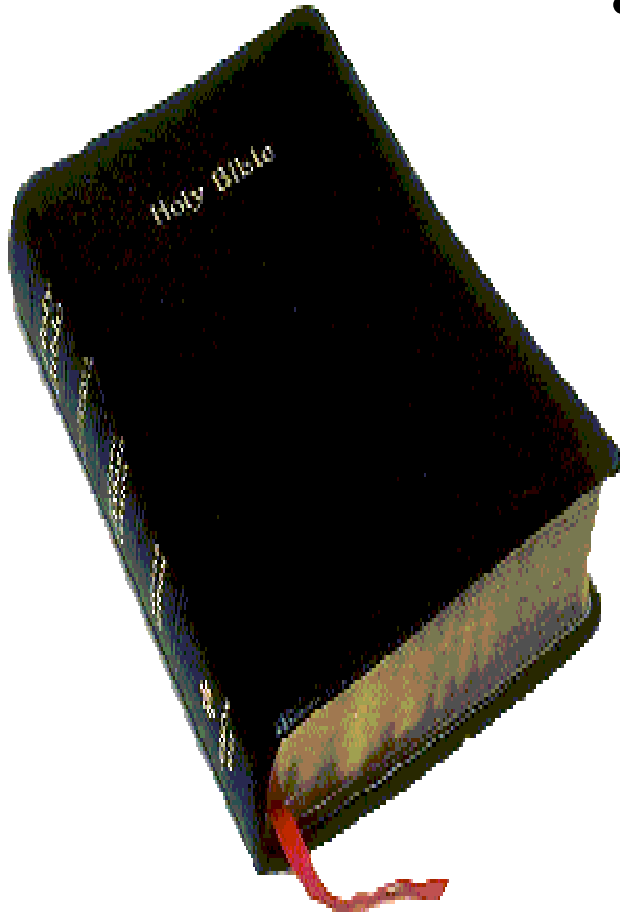
6 **one God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

# 3

## Why is it that so many people do not understand the Bible alike?

- Because many people fail to study the Bible correctly.

**(II Timothy 2:15; II Peter 3:15-16)**



II Timothy 2:15 - **Be diligent to present yourself approved to God,** a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

II Peter 3:15-16 - and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation--as also our beloved brother **Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,**

16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which **untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.**



# 3

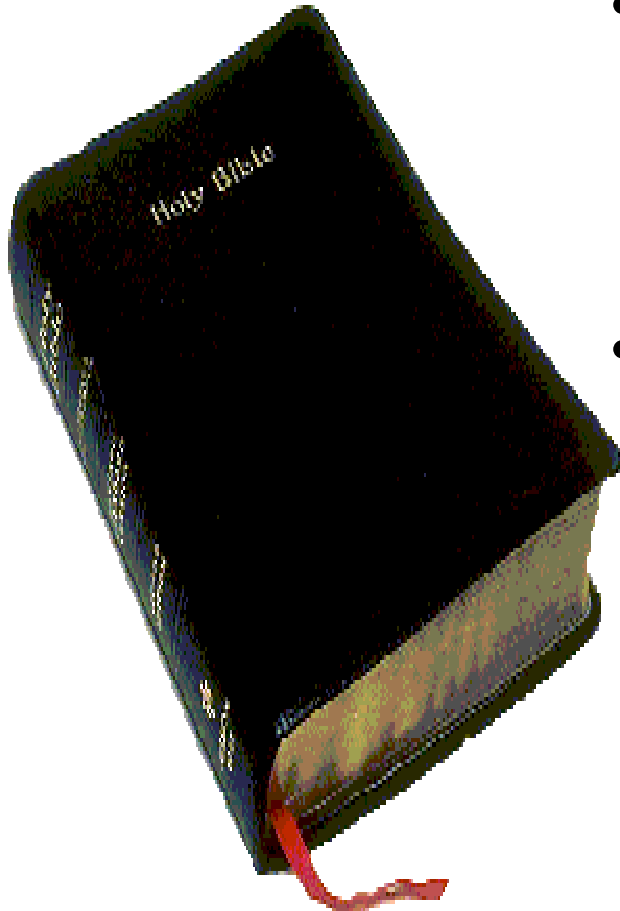
## Why is it that so many people do not understand the Bible alike?

- Because many people fail to study the Bible correctly.

**(II Timothy 2:15; II Peter 3:15-16)**

- Because many people blindly follow false doctrine / teachers.

**(Matthew 15:1-9; Galatians 1:6-9)**



Matthew 15:1-9 - Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying,

2 "Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread."

3 He answered and said to them, "**Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?**

4 "For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.'

5 "But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, 'Whatever profit you might have received from me is a gift to God' --

6 'then he need not honor his father or mother.' Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition.

7 "Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying:

8 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.

9 And **in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."**

Galatians 1:6-9 - **I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,**

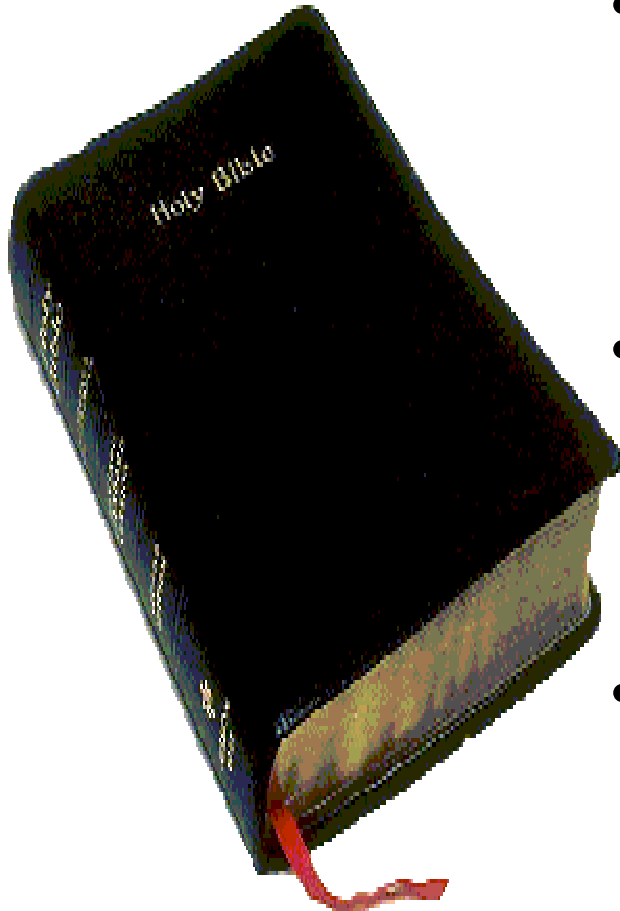
**7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.**

8 But even **if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel** to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again, **if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.**

# 3

## Why is it that so many people do not understand the Bible alike?



- Because many people fail to study the Bible correctly.

**(II Timothy 2:15; II Peter 3:15-16)**

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**(Matthew 15:1-9; Galatians 1:6-9)**

- Because many people are not honest with the Bible (truth).

**(John 3:19-21; Matthew 13:13-16)**

John 3:19-21 - "And this is the condemnation, that the **light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light**, because their deeds were evil.

20 "For **everyone practicing evil hates the light** and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

21 "But **he who does the truth comes to the light**, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

Matthew 13:13-16 - "Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing **they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.**

14 "And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive;

15 **For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed,** Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'

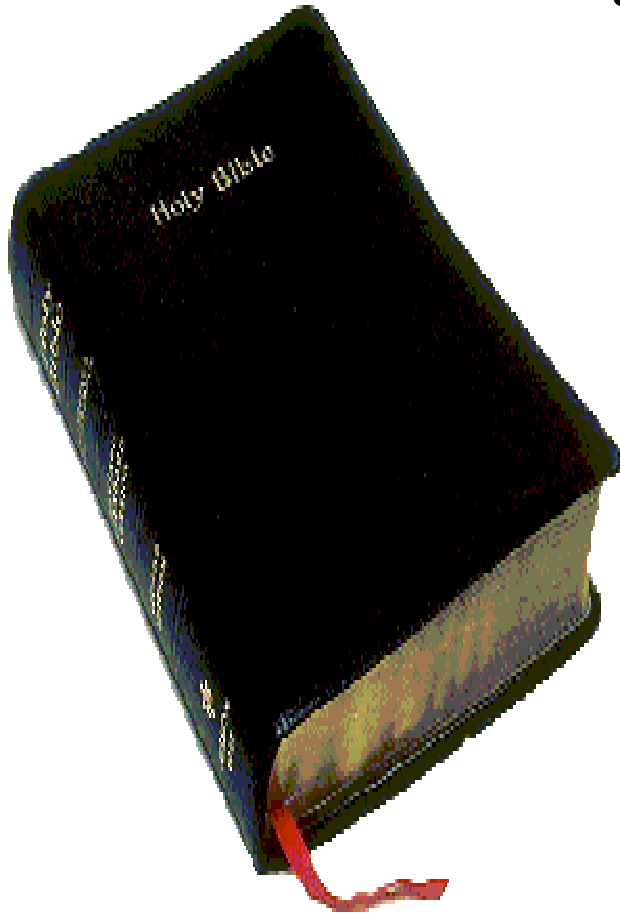
16 "But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear;

# 4

## What are you going to do with the one truth of the Bible?

- The Bible teaches that you are free to make your own choice.

**(Romans 6:16-18; John 6:66-69)**





Romans 6:16-18 - Do you not know **that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey,** whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet **you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.**

18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

John 6:66-69 - **From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.**

67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, **"Do you also want to go away?"**

68 But Simon Peter answered Him, **"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

69 **"Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."**

# 4

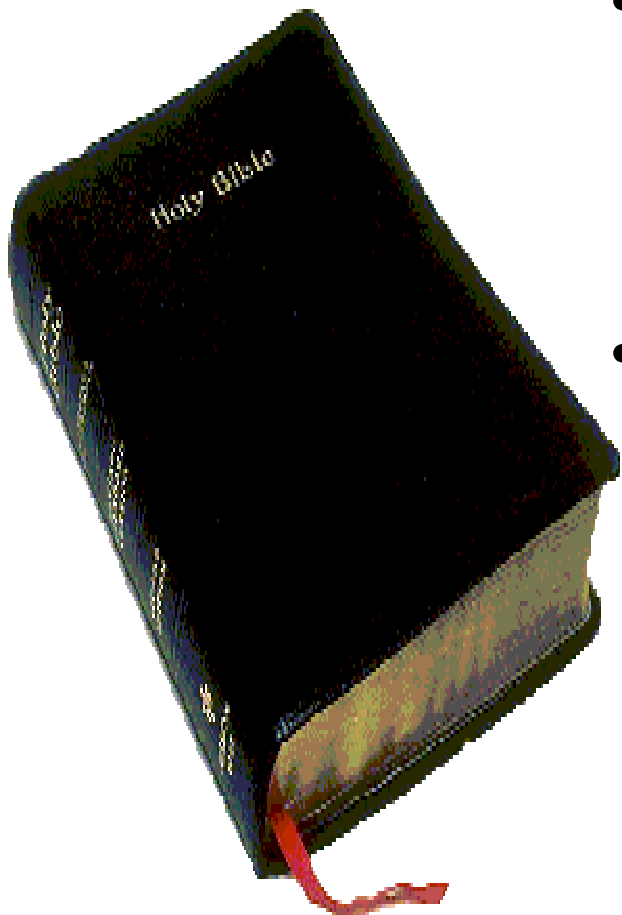
## What are you going to do with the one truth of the Bible?

- The Bible teaches that you are free to make your own choice.

**(Romans 6:16-18; John 6:66-69)**

- The Bible teaches you must consider your choice carefully.

**(Luke 14:28-33; Matthew 10:34-38)**



Luke 14:28-33 - "For **which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it –**

29 "lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,

30 "saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

31 "Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

32 "Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.

33 "**So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.**

Matthew 10:34-38 - **"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.**

35 **"For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law';**

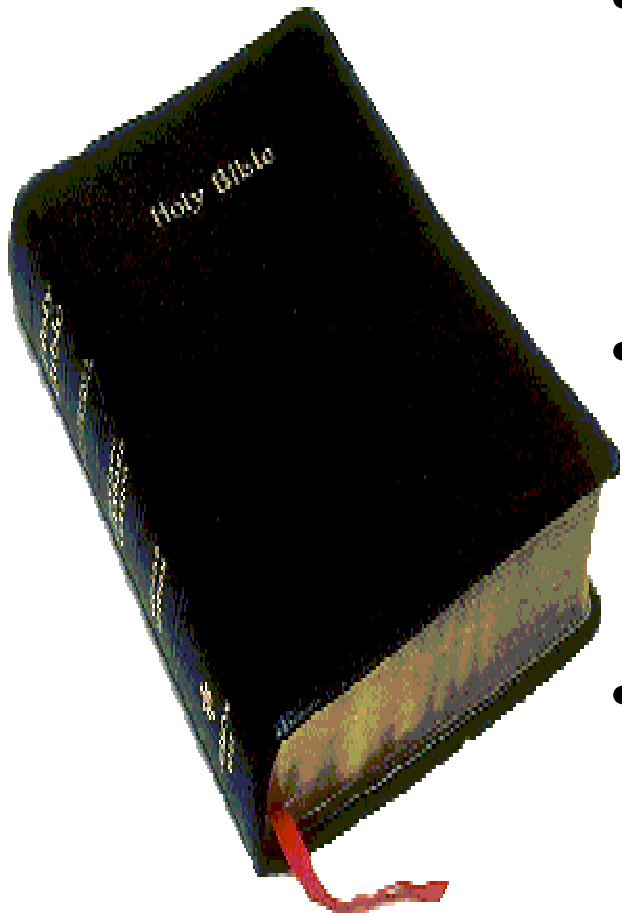
36 **"and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.'**

37 **"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.**

38 **"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.**

# 4

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**(Romans 6:16-18; John 6:66-69)**

- The Bible teaches you must consider your choice carefully.

**(Luke 14:28-33; Matthew 10:34-38)**

- The Bible teaches that you will give account for your choice.

**(Galatians 6:7-8; II Corinthians 5:10)**

Galatians 6:7-8 - **Do not be deceived**, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.**

8 For **he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption**, but **he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.**

II Corinthians 5:10 - For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.**



# Can We Understand The Bible Alike?

This question has been raised many times, but the **“TRUTH”** is very clear... **YES!**

The Bible does not reveal multiple truths. **ONLY ONE!**

The Bible will be understood alike by every one who **HONESTLY** seeks to know it!



**Obey The Gospel!**

Believe, John 8:24  
Repent, Luke 13:3  
Confess, Matthew 10:32  
Baptized, Mark 16:16