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Pre-Flight Instructions

"What is the Holy Bible?"

Destination First-Things-First

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Version of 1611

Scripture reference is the King James Version

Pre-Flight Instructions

The Holy Bible

Mankind's desire is to be a partaker of a divine nature and to know and understand the goodness of God. We can all agree to this statement no matter what one's belief system is. Hence, our desire and purpose for creating this document are simply to be a help to those that seek a more perfect way.

In the introduction session of the First-Things-First, we will cover these specific things about the Holy Bible. First, we will discover the books that make up the Bible are writings of prophets and apostles. Through the stories told in these books, they reveal how God keeps his promises to those that trust the word of the Lord to them, by creating a new way of thinking and new state of mind. Second, we will cover why the writings of the Bible are hard to understand. Third, we will review how the Spirit gave the scriptures to the writers. Fourth, we will then look into the language of the Spirit. Fifth, we will review the various samples of the application of interpretation of the Bible. And last, we will cover the relationship of wisdom being the principal part to the written scriptures and how the wisdom from above is also the application of spiritual interpretation; discerning of thoughts and intent of the heart.

At the end of this session is the timeline of the writings and translations of the Bible to provide you with additional understanding of how the old manuscripts were translated into the English versions we enjoy today.

PART 1

Assembly of Books

The Holy Bible is actually a compilation of many books (ancient manuscripts) of people's spiritual educational experiences. These scriptures are primarily used in Judaism and Christianity religion. The Muslim religion also believes the books are inspired by God but the books are not their primary reference. Most of the books that make up the Bible are named after the one writing it. Men like Moses, Jeremiah and John were instructed to write down those things they saw and heard as they witnessed and experienced the Word of the Lord to them.

Note:

The apostle Peter proclaims they received a sure word of prophecy.

- 2 Peter chapter 1 (verses 19-21):
- 19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
- 20. Knowing this first that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
- 21. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

Moses:

Exodus 17:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this *for* a memorial in a book, and rehearse *it* in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

Jeremiah:

Jeremiah chapter 30 (verses 1,2):

- 1. The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
- 2. Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book

John:

Revelation chapter 1 (verses 10, 11, 19):

- 10. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,
- 11. Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send *it* unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.
- 19. Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.

Now let us look closer at where all these stories came from; the stories in Genesis to the Revelation of Jesus Christ. According to the books of the prophets and apostles these writings of the bible are:

- Truth
- The testimony of Jesus
- Scriptures of the prophets
 - Learning the holy scriptures is what makes the heart-wise
 - Scriptures are divinely inspired
- The Word of God
- Books are written for our example and admonition

As we progress into what the prophets and apostles say in the writings of the Bible, we will better understand what the books of the Bible actually are. So, let us look at each of the subject matters from these writings.

<u>Truth – All the Works of the Lord are Done in Truth</u>

Although there are many works of the Spirit, all are done in truth. The scripture references will give a clearer understanding of what truth is when we see how truth is being applied. In Psalms and in the book of John they confirm that word of the Lord is truth for when two spiritual authors give the same answer, it is established as a truth.

Psalms chapter 33 (verses 1-4):

- 1. Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright.
- 2. Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.
- 3. Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise.
- 4. For the word of the LORD is right, and all his works are done in truth.

John records the prayer of Jesus for his disciples before being received into heaven.

John chapter 17 (verses 17-21):

- 17. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.
- 18. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so, have I also sent them into the world.
- 19. And for their sakes, I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.
- 20. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;
- 21. That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Here are a few examples of the application and implementation of truth; the testimony of Elijah when he is sent to a poor widow's house in the First Book Kings, the prophet Daniel, and the writings of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Elijah [Hebrew word אַליהוּ ('Eliyyahu) meaning "my God is YAHWEH" – the Lord is my God]

1 Kings chapter 17 (verses 17-24):

- 17. And it came to pass after these things, *that* the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.
- 18. And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?
- 19. And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom and carried him up into a loft, where he abode and laid him upon his own bed.
- 20. And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?
- 21. And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.
- 22. And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah, and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.
- 23. And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth.
- 24. And the woman said to Elijah, "Now by this, I know that thou *art* a man of God *and* that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth".

According to the story told here in Kings, what is truth? Truth is the word of the LORD in the mouth of Elijah (a man of God).

A woman's son is brought back to life after she heard and received the word of the Lord when Elijah spoke what the Spirit gave him to speak, so we compare another event by the prophet Daniel.

The prophet Daniel [Hebrew word דְנֵיֵאל (Daniyyel) meaning "God is my judge"]:

Daniel chapter 7:

- 15. I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of *my* body, and the visions of my head troubled me.
- 16. I came near unto one of them that stood by and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made me know the interpretation of the things (the visions).

Daniel asked God for the interpretation of his visions because he didn't know their meanings. So when he gets the interpretation, this is another aspect of truth. Daniel proclaims that he asked the truth of his visions and interpretation was given.

Now let's look at a third example; the writings of Paul to the Thessalonians.

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

~ 1 Thessalonians 2:13 ~

Apostle Paul is instructing to the church of the Thessalonians, that truth is the word of God spoken by the sent men of God (the apostles).

So what is truth, according to the listed references? The word of God (or the word of the LORD) spoken by sent prophets, apostles or appearance of an angel to give an interpretation of a dream.

The Testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy

An angel tells John in dream and vision found in the book of Revelation, the brethren who bear the testimony of Jesus is speaking prophecy. John's gospel also records that searching the scriptures will testify (give testimony) of Jesus. The visions of John revealed the testimony of Jesus Christ and those who read this testimony will have the opportunity of hearing the words of this prophecy.

Revelation chapter 1 (verses 1-3):

- 1. The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servant's things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:
- 2. Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.
- 3. Blessed *is* he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time *is* at hand.

Revelation chapter 19 (verses 9-13):

- 9. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.
- 10. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See *thou do it* not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- 11. And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse, and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness, he doth judge and make war.
- 12. His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.
- 13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

Scriptures bear the testimony of Jesus

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. \sim John 5:39 \sim

The scriptures are testifying of the way, the truth, and the life.

Scriptures of the Prophets

A couple of things to make note of here. Matthew and Paul reference the scriptures as being "of the prophets" meaning, the books are prophetic words as God revealed his will and desire to men of old.

Then, because the prophet was obedient and spoke what God said, their word of the Lord (the scriptures) came to pass in the gospels:

Matthew chapter 26:

- 55. In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me.
- 56. But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him and fled.

Romans chapter 16 (verses 25-27):

- 25. Now to him, that is of power to stablish (new English is 'establish') you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus
- Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, 26. But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets according to the commandment
- of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:
- 27. To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever.

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. \sim John 5:39 \sim

Searching the scriptures makes the heart-wise because the scriptures are inspired of God. Here are a couple of key points concerning the scriptures of the prophet:

• Learning the Holy Scriptures is what makes the heart wise. In his letter to his son in the faith, Timothy, the apostle Paul gives him instructions that the scriptures which enable him to be wise, will bring him to salvation:

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ~ 2 Timothy 3:15 ~

• Scriptures are divinely inspired.

Apostle Paul here again tells Timothy that all the scriptures are given by the Spirit of God and explains in more detail what the scriptures will do for him:

2 Timothy chapter 3 (verses 16, 17):

- 16. All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- 17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

The Word of God - God's Thoughts

In the writings of the prophet Isaiah and the apostle John, they bring us more understanding of what the Word of God is. By the angel of the Lord visiting them and opening their eyes of understanding, they, in turn, wrote down their record of heaven which shows us that the thoughts and ways of God are God's Word.

The Word was in the beginning with God and the Word was God, according to the apostle John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

~ John 1:1 ~

Isaiah chapter 55: (vs 8-13):

- 8. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
- 9. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- 10. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
- 11. So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.
- 12. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.
- 13. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign *that* shall not be cut off.

According to the vision the Spirit brought John into, the angel told John what he was hearing and seeing are the true (truth) sayings of God as written in the ninth chapter of the book of Revelation. John then experienced seeing heaven open and saw the faithful and true witness in an image called the Word of God.

Revelation chapter 19 (verses 9-13):

- 9. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.
- 10. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See *thou do it* not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- 11. And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse, and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness, he doth judge and make war.
- 12. His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.
- 13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

For Our Examples and Admonition

The apostles James and Paul give additional importance to the scriptures of the prophets. James writes that the prophets are examples of suffering, affliction, and patience. Paul's letter to the Corinthians affirms that all the experiences of the prophets and the children of Israel are for our examples and for our admonition.

Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

~ James 5:10 ~

Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world have come.

~ 1st Corinthians 10:11 ~

Note: A short summary list of what the *Writings are Not*:

- Not Man's Wisdom (from apostle Paul):
- 1 Corinthians chapter 2 (verses 4,5,13):
- 4. And my speech and my preaching were not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
- 5. That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.
- 13. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
- Not Fables (stories from man's imagination; as apostle Peter declares):

For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

~ 2nd Peter 1:16 ~

• Not of Private (by one's own) Interpretation (as apostle Peter again declares):

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

 $\sim 2^{\rm nd}$ Peter 1:20 \sim

PART 2

The Reason the Bible Seems Hard to Understand

In Part One, we reviewed what makes up the compilation of the books of the Bible. In Part 2 we will look more closely why the Bible seems hard to understand.

According to its own writings, it is a sealed book; a mystery. Meaning the interpretation of the allegory images, metaphors and the parable stories are hidden in a mystery (the wisdom of God). Here we start with the writings of the prophet Isaiah stating the vision becomes like the words of a book.

A vision becomes like the words of a book

In Isaiah chapter 29 (verses 11-12):

- 11. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which *men* deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it *is* sealed:
- 12. And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.

Apostles speak the wisdom of God in a mystery

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory.

~ 1st Corinthians 2:7 ~

Apostle John's vision- was told to seal up what he heard

Revelation chapter 10 (verses 1-4):

- 1. And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:
- 2. And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth,
- 3. And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.
- 4. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I (John) was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

Revelation chapter 22 (verses 8-10):

- 8. And I John saw these things and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.
- 9. Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it* not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.
- 10. And he saith unto me, Seal up the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

In the book of Daniel we find;

Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

The writings are hard to understand because it's a mystery and they're in a dream or vision that is not understood. So the meanings are sealed, including prophecy. However, that the Holy Spirit does reveal and open up the sealed books; which can teach and speak the interpretation (the prophets and apostles) and therefore the writings become unsealed.

In Part 3, we look closer in how these books all came about.

PART 3

How the Writers Received the Books of the Bible

In Part 3 we analyze how the writers received the books of the Bible. The writers received revelation by prophecy, dreams, and visions. The prophet or apostle books are the spoken words of God to them by dreams and visions. Here are three examples of Moses, Jeremiah, and Matthew, found in the books of Numbers, Jeremiah and Matthew.

By Prophecy

In 2nd Peter chapter 1 (verses 16-21):

- 16. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
- 17. For he received from God the Father honor and glory when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory; This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
- 18. And this voice which came from heaven we heard when we were with him in the holy mount.
- 19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
- 20. Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
- 21. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

By Dreams

As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

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~ Daniel 1:17 ~
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And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

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~ Joel 2:28 ~
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Acts chapter 2 (verses 16-18):

- 16. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
- 17. And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
- 18. And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit, and they shall prophesy;

Matthew tells us how the Spirit spoke to Joseph as concerning the promised birth of Jesus.

Matthew chapter 1 (verses 18-23):

- 18. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.
- 19. Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a *public* example, was minded to put her away privily.
- 20. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.
- 21. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
- 22. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
- 23. Behold, a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is God with us.

By Visions

And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, *I* the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, *and* will speak unto him in a dream.

~ Numbers 12:6 ~

Job chapter 33 (verses 14-30):

- 14. For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not.
- 15. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed;
- 16. Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction,
- 17. That he may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man.
- 18. He keepeth back his soul from the pit and his life from perishing by the sword.
- 19. He is chastened also with pain upon his bed, and the multitude of his bones with strong pain:
- 20. So that his life abhorreth bread, and his soul dainty meat.
- 21. His flesh is consumed away, that it cannot be seen; and his bones that were not seen stick out.
- 22. Yea, his soul draweth near unto the grave, and his life to the destroyers.
- 23. If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness:
- 24. Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom
- 25. His flesh shall be fresher than a child's: he shall return to the days of his youth:
- 26. He shall pray unto God, and he will be favorable unto him: and he shall see his face with joy: for he will render unto man his righteousness.
- 27. He looketh upon men, and *if any* say, I have sinned, and perverted *that which was* right, and it profited me not;
- 28. He will deliver his soul from going into the pit, and his life shall see the light.
- 29. Lo, all these *things* worketh God oftentimes with man,
- 30. To bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living.

So, we have discovered the Lord spoke his word and will, by dreams or visions (or angels seen in dream or vision) to the men and women of the Bible. But, let's not stop here; let's go into the Spirits language and purposes of why the Lord speaks this way, as Part 4 will demonstrate.

PART 4

The Language of the Spirit

The language of the Spirit comes by proverbs and parables, which are stories metaphorically speaking. In parables and proverbs is how the Spirit brings the word of truth unto the world, God so loved the world. To learn more about Spirit language, we have taken inserts from John, Matthew, Psalms, and Mark.

Jesus speaks and teaches in parables

John chapter 16 (verses 25-29):

- 25. These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.
- 26. At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:
- 27. For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.
- 28. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.
- 29. His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb.

Note: Even though the first words that the disciples heard Jesus speak were "follow me"; from that point on they heard nothing but proverbs and parables taught to them. The proverb he spoke here in John chapter 16, we have to go back up to verse 21;

"A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow because her hour has come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world".

Now look again at verse 25, where he gives them the interpretation (the understanding);

"These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father".

God Opens his Mouth In a Parable

Matthew chapter 13 (verses 33-35):

- 33. Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.
- 34. All these things spake Jesus unto the multitudes in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them:
- 35. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

Verse thirty-five (35) of Matthew listed above, is a direct quote from Psalms 78. When the Lords' mouth is being referenced, then a parable is being spoken.

Psalms chapter 78: Maschil of Asaph (verses 1-4):

- 1. Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:
- 3. Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- 4. We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

Psalms' provides a reference to a parable; as to "uttering dark sayings of old".

Mark chapter 4 (verses 33,34):

- 33. And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear it.
- 34. But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded 'all things' to his disciples.

In the parable comes the word of truth to us. Here in Mark, Jesus expounded (interpreted) the parable ("all things") to the disciples, but not to the multitude.

Note: "All things" is a phrase, a short sentence. "All things" mean all the works and words of God revealed by the Christ of the prophets and apostles.

(John 14:26) But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you 'all things', and bring 'all things' to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Through the parables, the Lord is revealing the condition and state of mind of the heart. The word of the Lord is hidden within the parable story. Although the parable is not understood, there is still a true word from heaven within it. The Lord speaks to us through parables because there is misperception working in the thought realm. The desire of God is to bring the heart out of a dark place of wrong perceptions and thoughts that bring mental torment and frustrates the grace of God.

God's desire is to bring the heart to a place of peace and understanding. This word in the parable is referred to as the doctrine of Christ, as we see here in the gospel of Mark.

Parables are Jesus Doctrine

Mark chapter 4 (verses 1-3):

- 1. And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.
- 2. And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his doctrine,
- 3. Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow.

Note: The Spirit (of truth) speaks in symbolic language to the world. The images and symbols never change in meaning (what it represents, its metaphor).

The sower is the Son of man; the seed is the word of God, so the pattern of whom the sower is and what the seed is, never change when Spirit speaks. The seed is the word of God if the message is 'Now the parable is'.

(Matthew 13:37) He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man.

(Luke 8:11) Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

PART 5

Interpretation; the Application of the Parable

In Part four we covered that the Spirit language to the world is in the parable and in the proverb. In Part Five we will cover why interpretation is so important and how the interpretation is revealed. Interpretation is needed to understand what the meaning of a parable is. Interpretation becomes the application of the proverb, the knowledge of what to do, or what to believe in (or what to stop believing and trusting in). Interpretation reveals what thought or perception one is in so that the heart can call out to God for help and guidance.

Interpretation; the parable is explained and understanding comes

If the parable is explained, then the heart would have an understanding and the parable story application would be revealed. Consider how interpretation works within the scriptures. We know the interpretation of allegory words like heaven and earth because the scriptures of the prophets give us the right answer. The prophets Isaiah and Moses of Deuteronomy and the apostles Mark and John offer us more insight into the interpretation of metaphoric words and phrases.

Isaiah chapter 55 (verses 8, 9):

- 8. For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
- 9. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

What is the definition of <u>heaven</u>, according to the prophet Isaiah? <u>The thoughts and ways of God</u>. What is the definition of earth, according to the prophet of Isaiah? <u>The thoughts and ways of man</u>.

Let's review the complete parable here in Isaiah 55, for it will explain by allegory and parable speech how the thoughts and ways of God descend to the earth (to the thoughts and ways of man). Gods thoughts and ways are like rain from the clouds and like snow (the rain and snow from heaven), which in turn, waters the earth, so the earth now can produce seed for the sower and bread to the eater.

The rain and the snow is the parable language of words coming out of the mouth of God. The rain according to the book of Deuteronomy is doctrine (recall Mark 4:2 - Jesus parables are his doctrine).

Deuteronomy chapter 32 (verses 1-4):

- 1. Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear O earth, the words of my mouth.
- 2. My doctrine shall drop as the rain; my speech shall distill as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:
- 3. Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.
- 4. *He is* the Rock, his work *is* perfect: for all his ways *are* judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right *is* he.

Through the parable stories, the Lord reveals the condition and state of mind of our hearts (the thoughts and intents of the mind). So, in the parable, an understanding, a word of the Lord is being given. This word or understanding is referred to as the doctrine of Christ as we see here by the apostles Mark and John:

Mark chapter 4 (verses 1,2):

- 1. And he (Jesus) began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.
- 2. And he taught them many things by parables and said unto them in his doctrine.

And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

 $\sim 1^{st}$ John 5:20 \sim

Parable – Sower of the Seed

Here in Matthew, Jesus speaks the parable of the sower of the seed. After he speaks the parable, he takes his disciples aside and gives them the interpretation. Interpretations are made known only to his disciples and not to the multitude.

Think about the sower of the seed parable in Matthew.

Matthew chapter 13 (verses 3-8):

- 3. And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;
- 4. And when he sowed, some *seeds* fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
- 5. Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
- 6. And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
- 7. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprung up and choked them:
- 8. But other fell into good ground and brought forth fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.

The Parable of the Sower of the Seed – Jesus Interprets

Jesus speaks the parable of the sower of the seed to all that came to hear him. After Jesus spoke this parable, he then turned and explained to his disciples that they alone and not the multitudes were to be given the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven. Matthew records the parable of the sower of the seed.

Matthew chapter 13 (verses 18-23):

- 18. Hear ye, therefore, the parable of the sower.
- 19. When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth *it* not, then cometh the wicked *one*, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.
- 20. But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;
- 21. Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
- 22. He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.
- 23. But he that received seed into the good (and honest) ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth *it*; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

In the book of Luke we find this:

Luke chapter 8 (verses 9-11):

- 9. And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be (mean)?
- 10. And he said, Unto you, it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.
- 11. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

Wrong Interpretation-Speech from the old world

Beware! False spirits (prophets) have gone into the world. Please notice that the true record shows that only Jesus or the prophets sent of God, give the true interpretation of parables, dreams or vision. If a false prophet speaks who will provide a wrong interpretation of Gods message, it causes "my people" to go into error. This will slander the truth in the heart of man.

1st John chapter 4 (verses 1-6):

- 1. Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
- 2. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:
- 3. And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *spirit* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.
- 4. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.
- 5. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.
- 6. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know us the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

False Christ produces false Signs and Wonders

A false apostle, a false Christ, or a false prophet gives interpretation it will produce false signs and wonders according to the apostles' doctrine:

2 Corinthians chapter 11(verses 13-15):

- 13. For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ
- 14. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
- 15. Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Mark chapter 13 (verses 21-27):

- 21. And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not:
- 22. For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if *it were* possible, even the elect.
- 23. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.
- 24. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,
- 25. And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.
- 26. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.
- 27. And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.

In summary, we have we learned how that interpretation is the application of the proverbs and parables. In Part 6 we'll cover how that the Wisdom of God is the principal thing, in guiding us into all truth.

PART 6

The Wisdom of God; The Principal Thing

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. ~ Proverbs 4:7 ~

In Part 5, we learned that interpretation is the application of the proverb. In this section, let's learn how true ancient wisdom is the principal thing. This principal is not like a corporation's core value system. This principal, the wisdom of God, is a teacher and a guide which gives sequential insights, as one insight opens first before another insight opens but works in Spirit and in Truth.

In this section, we will look closer to the importance of receiving interpretation with wisdom and understanding. The "principal" thing; wisdom from above (heaven), is what gives the mind a right order, the pattern of thought that will set up and establish a pure state of mind. Wisdom, in the proverb, is in the female gender. Recall that Jesus is birthed through a virtuous woman; a mother named Mary, who is a virgin representing the wisdom of God.

Introduction of Wisdom

The book of Proverbs speaks of wisdom as the application of truth and understanding.

A. This section found in chapter four of Proverbs and is providing instruction as a father advising his son; letting him know the importance of embracing and loving her, the wisdom of heaven.

Proverbs chapter 4 (verses 1-9):

- 1. Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.
- 2. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye, not my law.
- 3. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.
- 4. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments and live.
- 5. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget *it* not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.
- 6. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.
- 7. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.
- 8. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honor when thou dost embrace her.
- 9. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

B. In chapter eight of Proverbs, wisdom is the one speaking the message. Wisdom is a woman, for the first verse states 'her' voice is doing the speaking. Her message is to the son of man and her mouth speaks truth and her words are a message from the Lord.

Proverbs chapter 8:

- 1. Doth not wisdom cry? And understanding put forth her voice?
- 2. She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.
- 3. She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors.
 - C. Wisdom speaks in the first person and says she is counsel and understanding. She gives strength; she provides and gives the message to the son of man.
- 4. Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.
- 5. O ye simple understand wisdom: and, ye fools be ye of an understanding heart.
- 6. Hear; for I will speak of excellent things, and the opening of my lips shall be right things.
- 7. For my mouth shall speak truth, and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
- 8. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.
- 9. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.
- 10. Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.
- 11. For wisdom *is* better than rubies, and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.
- 12. I wisdom dwell with prudence and find out knowledge of witty inventions.
- 13. The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth do I hate.
- 14. Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.
- 15. By me kings' reign, and princes decree justice.
- 16. By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.
- 17. I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me.
- 18. Riches and honor *are* with me; *yea*, durable riches, and righteousness.
- 19. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver.
- 20. I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment:
- 21. That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.
 - D. Wisdom proclaims she was manifested from the beginning and before there was an earth. She was with the LORD when he prepared the heavens and established the clouds.
- 22. The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.
- 23. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.
- 24. When *there were* no depths, I was brought forth; when *there were* no fountains abounding with water.
- 25. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills were I brought forth:
- 26. While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.
- 27. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth:
- 28. When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:
- 29. When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:

- 30. Then I was by him, *as* one brought up *with him:* and I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always before him;
- 31. Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth, and my delights were with the sons of men.
 - E. She warns that if the son of man does not take heed to her voice he would be sinning against her and would be slandering his own soul. However, if the son of man hears her instructions, he will be wise, blessed, possess life, and will obtain the favor of the LORD.
- 32. Now, therefore, hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways.
- 33. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.
- 34. Blessed *is* the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.
- 35. For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the LORD.
- 36. But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

Those who possess wisdom

Ecclesiastes 8:1 Who is as the wise man? And who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? A man's wisdom maketh his face to shine, and the boldness of his face shall be changed.

...and because the preacher is wise (*has wisdom*), he can interpret and set in order the scriptures and proverbs either by the scriptures or prophesy dreams or visions.

Ecclesiastes chapter 12 (verses 9-11):

- 9. And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, *and* set in order many proverbs.
- 10. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and *that which was* written *was* upright, *even* words of truth.
- 11. The words of the wise *are* as goads, and as nails fastened *by* the masters of assemblies, *which* are given from one shepherd.

Daniel, one who worked in wisdom

In the story of Daniel, we find that because in him dwelt the spirit of wisdom, he was able to interpret the Kings open vision. In the king's open vision he saw a man's hand write on his palace wall. The king didn't know what was actually written for it was hidden from him, so he sought out wise men to give him the interpretation.

Daniel chapter 5:

- 1. Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords and drank wine before the thousand.
- 2. Belshazzar, whiles he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which *was* in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

- 3. Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which *was* at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.
- 4. They drank wine and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.
- 5. In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.
- 6. Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.
- 7. The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. *And* the king spake, and said to the wise *men* of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and *have* a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.
- 8. Then came in all the king's wise *men*: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.
- 9. Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astounded.
- 10. *Now* the queen, by reason of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house: *and* the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed:
- 11. There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom *is* the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, *I say*, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, *and* soothsayers;
- 12. Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.
- 17. Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.
- 18. O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honor:
- 19. And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.
- 20. But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:
- 21. And he was driven from the sons of men, and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling *was* with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men and *that* he appointed over it whomsoever he will.
- 22. And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;
- 23. But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven, and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath *is*, and whose *are* all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:
- 24. Then was the part of the hand sent from him, and this writing was written.
- 25. And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

- 26. This *is* the interpretation of the thing:
 - MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom and finished it.
- 27. TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.
- 28. PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

Wisdom from above is first pure

According to apostle James, the wisdom of God carries these characteristics (includes what she possesses and also, what wisdom *does not* possess):

- Pure
- Peaceable
- Gentle
- Easy to be entreated
- Full of mercy
- Full of good fruits
- Without partiality
- Without hypocrisy

But the wisdom that is from above is <u>first pure</u>, then <u>peaceable</u>, <u>gentle</u>, <u>and easy to be entreated</u>, <u>full of mercy</u> and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

~ James 3:17 ~

PART 7

The Holy Bible as a Manual



What comes to mind when you see the word "manual"?

So, did you think of 'manual labor', or even perhaps a 'user manual' for installing or step-by-step instruction for something to assemble? Either way, if you're like me, we tend to avoid such a book; it just sounds hard and complicated, doesn't. I'd rather just call the factory and talk to a live person, which could give me some simple instructions and get my project completed and move on soon as possible.

Dreams that brought Part 7 into Manifestation

As we go into the last section of this lesson series of *What is the Holy Bible*, I wanted to share my personal 'spiritual educational experience' (SEE) that brought light to this understanding.

The understanding came by two dreams that were about six weeks apart in this year in the months of June and July 2018.

The first dream revealed what was missing in the first lesson of What is the Holy Bible (for those of you that have been reading and following along, you probably noticed that we have posted up to six parts of this series and had ended the series at part six).

[Note: Credit for the Lords Supper image goes to our Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church of Mesa AZ. The photocopy of the quilted frame of the Lords Supper, as it was hanging in the Narthex when this picture was taken].

1st dream:

The dream opened up by showing me a moving line in a tube...like we see with our YouTube videos, so as the video plays we can watch the timeline bar as it measures the time of play. However, in the first quarter area, it skipped a small area, going blank for a bit, then it picked back up and kept going as it heads toward the end (So, I then knew some content was missing but didn't know the reference of what and where content was missing).

Now, I am looking at the first page of my own bible that I used and carried when I was a youth. So the top center of the page was stated 'Holy Bible', but as I scanned down the page a strange word was there as well. It was near the bottom center and it was the word 'Manual'.

So now I understood the missing content was in our 'What is the Holy Bible' and it had to do with being a Manual. But, I still didn't know what the bible being a manual actually meant, so I couldn't apply this to the writings until the next dream came.

2nd dream:

I'm in my former house (where I used to live), and I'm standing in the dining area, looking towards the family area and seeing the fireplace. But I saw my own mother, seemly doing some remodeling work near and around the fireplace. Since I wasn't close enough to tell what she was doing, I took some steps toward her to get a closer look.

I could not see at first, that she was trying to re-create the image of the Lord's Supper, like a painting that was hanging above the fireplace. It looked like the Lords Supper picture that opens this part seven on page one. Except, in the dream, the table was not complete, just the top half showed and the bottom was like cut off and blocked out.

This painting was reflecting itself on the popcorn ceiling. My mother had a partial puzzle completed of this same image on the floor and was putting in each piece of the puzzle, so carefully and one piece at a time. Thankfully, the puzzle pieces were quite large and easy to handle. However, she couldn't see the real picture that was hanging over the fireplace. She had discovered, however, that its image was reflecting is full picture image on the ceiling, so she was using the ceiling image to help her duplicate that image with the scattered puzzle pieces that had been created from the original Lords supper.

Her frustration was in three parts:

First, the real image was hidden to her.

Secondly, she is seeing the reflected image as a mirror reflecting from wall unto the ceiling, so it was upside down to her.



Thirdly, she had to scrape the popcorn ceiling away to see the image of the Lords Supper. It was only reflecting on the non-popcorn area of the ceiling, where she was able to scrape off the popcorn.

So, if she wanted to see another area of this reflected painting to find and match the correct puzzle piece, she had to apply manual labor to scrape off the popcorn.

Why do you think our imagination post the word "Manual" on the front cover of our Bibles? Is it perhaps for the same reason of a product manual, which we'd rather "figure out on our own" how to build or install an electronic device?

Perhaps you were instructed to start reading after you became a believer, by a loved one or by someone in ministry or church authority.

Good advice, truly. However, doesn't it just seem that instruction is like telling a 12-year-old how to build a house, or to assemble a motor vehicle, or fly a plane?

Apostle Philip Provides Instruction to a Eunuch

The book of Acts reports an example story of a eunuch that was in his 'manual'. This manual is his state of mind of the scriptures, which is called and known as being earthly and a natural image. He was reading in Isaiah (now known as chapter 53 verse 7) when the Spirit said to Philip to go to him and walk by his side (join and meet him where his motive and understanding is). Let's pick up the story in verse 26 of Acts chapter 8:

- 26. And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.
- 27. And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

- 28. Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias (*Isaiah*) the prophet.
- 29. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.
- 30. And Philip ran thither to *him*, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?
- 31. And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.
- 32. The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he, not his mouth:
- 33. In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep, before her shearers are dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

~ Isaiah 53: 7, 8 ~

- 34. And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?
- 35. Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him, Jesus.
- 36. And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?
- 37. And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- 38. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.
- 39. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he (*the eunuch*) went on his way rejoicing.

Notice that even though there were many scripture verses ahead of where this Eunuch was reading, the apostle started at the same scripture verse where the Eunuch was thinking upon. So, note here that Philip didn't begin where Eunuch was not, but began where he was.

Apostle Works by Visitation:

Observe Philip, after that he had joined with Eunuch that he waited until he was invited to set down beside him. The ministry of the word, from one person to another, works by invitation to one that has understanding, one who had already been brought into an apostleship send.

Apostle Works because of an Inquiry:

We also have another example of an apostle sent to a believer. It's the testimony of Cornelius. His scriptures were only still a Manual to him. But because of his searching the truth and right answers, by an *honesty of heart, God heard his prayer and answered by sending apostle Peter.

*Honesty is considered an attribute of the good ground per Luke 8:15 "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep *it*, and bring forth fruit with patience".

Apostle Peter and Cornelius (a believer that lacked understanding)

Acts chapter 10

- 1. There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian *band*,
- 2. A devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.
- 3. He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming into him and saying unto him, Cornelius.
- 4. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.
- 5. And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter:
- 6. He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.
- 7. And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;
- 8. And when he had declared all *these* things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

The angel of the Lord gives Cornelius instruction to whom to seek for. So Cornelius goes after the apostle to inquire of him at his house in obedience as the angel instructed.

Apostle Paul – Macedonia Call

The apostle Paul was sent to a man, but first, he witnessed seeing this man in a vision appearing to him and inviting him to come and see him.

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

~ Acts 16:9, 10 ~

When a person calls out to God for help and it comes from an honesty of heart, then one who works in apostleship will witness of seeing (*by dream or vision*) this persons prayer and will be sent to that individual (or those in the same body of a belief system) to help bring the soul from the earthly to heavenly understanding. Is it possible and reasonable that we first perceive the scriptures as a Manual, a natural understanding? And if this is true, then wouldn't also be true for the need of an apostle for God to be sent to us?

Natural and Spiritual Understanding

1st Corinthians chapter 15: (vs 44-49):

- 44. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a *natural body*, and there is a *spiritual body*.
- 45. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.
- 46. Howbeit that *was* not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.
- 47. The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.
- 48. As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.
- 49. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Notice how apostle Paul compares the first Adam to a natural body (living soul), an earthly understanding to the second Adam as a spiritual body, a quickening spirit, a heavenly image (understanding).

Is our understanding of the Bible, upside down or right side up?

A manual understanding wouldn't that be, seeing upside down, as the dream shown how that my own understanding (my mother) as seeing the Lord's Supper upside down, and needed to be turned right side up? Indeed and truly, truly.

But the *natural man* receiveth, not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

~ I Corinthians 2:14 ~

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory.

~ I Corinthians 2:7 ~

The wisdom of God is spoken in a mystery. Would this bring some light of why men without spiritual understanding say, accusingly when the apostles speak the truth that their message is upside down as stated here in Acts chapter 17?

And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These (Paul and Silas) that have *turned the world upside down* are come hither also; whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, *one* Jesus.

~ Acts 17:6,7 ~

Once our consciousness knows that the scriptures are spoken in a hidden mystery, because what we have learned by experience, is that our natural and earthly man cannot understand (being in the first Adam); it's only then that we can be on our way of being 'in the beginning'.

It's coming to the honesty towards God, that we ask for God's help and power (the spirit of wisdom), to open our eyes to see and open our ears to ear.

Summarization - What is the Holy Bible

As an overview, the Holy Bible is a compilation of many books consisting of prophets and apostles' spiritual educational experiences as they wrote down what they received by the works of the Holy Spirit. Going into the books of the Bible we have discovered the writers tell us what the writings consist of.

The scriptures of the prophets were written in a mystery given the reason why the writings of the Bible are hard to understand. The stories told in the Bible are mysteries because they are told with allegory images, metaphors, proverbs and in parables, so the meanings and interpretation are hidden.

The writings have taught us that the Spirit gave the scriptures to the writers by prophecy, the voice of the LORD from heaven, and by dreams and visions. The LORD reveals himself to the prophets in visions and he speaks to the prophets in dreams.

The language of the Spirit is proverbs and parables. The parables are also called dark sayings and hard sentences. Parables and proverbs are spoken to the multitudes, but interpretations are given to the disciples of Christ. This is God's way of opening his mouth, in the parables and dark saying of old.

For the application of interpretation, samples were taken from Daniel, Isaiah, Moses, and Jesus. Interpretation is needed to understand what the meaning of a parable is. The interpretation was broken out from the parable of the sower of the seed which was spoken by Jesus.

Jesus gives his disciples the interpretation of what the 'seed fell' means, which teaches them it is when the heart hears the word of God. Interpretation becomes the application of the proverb, the knowledge of what to do, or what to believe in or not to believe in. Interpretation reveals what thought or perception one is in so that the heart can call out to God for help and guidance.

The Bible also demonstrates the relationship of the spirit of wisdom to being the principal thing of the written scriptures. In addition, the spirit of wisdom knows the interpretation of prophetic dreams and visions, as shown in the example of the prophet Daniel. God's wisdom is the application of spiritual interpretation, the discerning of thoughts and intent of the heart.

The Holy Bible is first handled as a Manual. It's through our own understanding that comes first and brings forth the first Adam, a living soul. But without the first, there can be no second Adam, Jesus Christ, a quickening and ministering spirit.

In closing, we trust that this report has given you some insight in answering the question, "What is the Holy Bible?" More information on this subject matter will be made available in a seminar series providing more in-depth understanding. We look forward to meeting your acquaintance at one of our upcoming seminars or webinars. Schedules will be posted on our website: www.truthbydreams.org.

Also, please feel free to "Subscribe" when on our website. This way you will be immediately notified by email, of any and all of our updates.

2 Timothy chapter 3: (vs 15-17):

- 15. And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- 16. All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- 17. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Appendix - A

Key Words/Phrases covered:

Tree of Life = Wisdom and Understanding

Heavens = thoughts and ways of God

Earth = thoughts and ways of man

Rain = Doctrine

Small rain = Gods speech upon the tender herb

The showers = Gods speech upon the grass

Grass (not green) = the glory of man (man's own wisdom and understanding)

Doctrine = Jesus teaching the multitude by parables

Brethren = the prophets, fellow servants

Parable = Uttering dark sayings of old

The Parable of Sower of Seed:

- Sower = Son of man
- The Seed = now the parable is this, the seed is the word of God
- the seed falls = the heart receives a word from heaven; the heart hears the word of the kingdom of heaven
- By the way side = hears, does not understand the word.
- Stony places = hears the word, receives it with joy, but because of tribulation and persecution and lacks root (truth in-self), will go into offense against the truth.
- Among Thorns = hears the word and begins to bear fruit. However, due to cares of this life, the fruit does not go into perfection
- Good Ground= hears the word and understands it and bears fruit unto perfection.

The History of the Timeline of Bible Translation

1,400 BC: The first written Word of God: The Ten Commandments delivered to Moses.

500 BC: Completion of All Original Hebrew Manuscripts which make up The 39 Books of the Old Testament.

200 BC: Completion of the Septuagint Greek Manuscripts which contain The 39 Old Testament Books AND 14 Apocrypha Books.

1st Century AD: Completion of All Original Greek Manuscripts which make up The 27 Books of the New Testament.

315 AD: Athenasius, the Bishop of Alexandria, identifies the 27 books of the New Testament which are today recognized as the canon of scripture.

382 AD: Jerome's Latin Vulgate Manuscripts Produced which contain All 80 Books (39 Old Test. + 14 Apocrypha + 27 New Test).

500 AD: Scriptures have been Translated into Over 500 Languages.

600 AD: LATIN was the Only Language Allowed for Scripture.

995 AD: Anglo-Saxon (Early Roots of English Language) Translations of The New Testament Produced.

1384 AD: Wycliffe is the First Person to Produce a (Hand-Written) manuscript Copy of the Complete Bible; All 80 Books.

1455 AD: Gutenberg Invents the Printing Press; Books May Now be mass-Produced Instead of Individually Hand-Written. The First Book Ever Printed is Gutenberg's

1516 AD: Erasmus Produces a Greek/Latin Parallel New Testament.

1522 AD: Martin Luther's German New Testament.

1526 AD: William Tyndale's New Testament; The First New Testament printed in the English Language.

1535 AD: Myles Coverdale's Bible; The First Complete Bible printed in the English Language (80 Books: O.T. & N.T. & Apocrypha).

1537 AD: Tyndale-Matthews Bible; The Second Complete Bible printed in English. Done by John "Thomas Matthew" Rogers (80 Books).

1539 AD: The "Great Bible" Printed; The First English Language Bible Authorized for Public Use (80 Books).

1560 AD: The Geneva Bible Printed; The First English Language Bible to add Numbered Verses to Each Chapter (80 Books).

1568 AD: The Bishops Bible Printed; The Bible of which the King James was a Revision (80 Books).

1609 AD: The Douay Old Testament is added to the Rheims New Testament (of 1582) Making the First Complete English Catholic Bible; Translated from the Latin Vulgate (80 Books).

1611 AD: The King James Bible Printed; Originally with All 80 Books. The Apocrypha was Officially Removed in 1885 Leaving Only 66 Books.

1782 AD: Robert Aitken's Bible; The First English Language Bible (KJV) Printed in America.

1791 AD: Isaac Collins and Isaiah Thomas Respectively Produce the First Family Bible and First Illustrated Bible

Printed in America. Both were King James Versions, with All 80 Books.

1808 AD: Jane Aitken's Bible (Daughter of Robert Aitken); The First Bible to be Printed by a Woman.

1833 AD: Noah Webster's Bible; After Producing his Famous Dictionary, Webster Printed his Own Revision of the King James Bible.

1841 AD: English Hexapla New Testament; an Early Textual Comparison showing the Greek and 6 Famous English Translations in Parallel Columns.

1846 AD: The Illuminated Bible; The Most Lavishly Illustrated Bible printed in America. A King James Version, with All 80 Books.

1885 AD: The "English Revised Version" Bible; The First Major English Revision of the KJV.

1901 AD: The "American Standard Version"; The First Major American Revision of the KJV.

1971 AD: The "New American Standard Bible" (NASB) is Published as a "Modern and Accurate Word for Word English Translation" of the Bible.

1973 AD: The "New International Version" (NIV) is Published as a "Modern and Accurate Phrase for Phrase English Translation" of the Bible.

1982 AD: The "New King James Version" (NKJV) is Published as a "Modern English Version Maintaining the Original Style of the King James."

2002 AD: The English Standard Version (ESV) is Published as a translation to bridge the gap between the accuracy of the NASB and the readability of the NIV.

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Appendix - C

Ancient manuscripts discovered confirm that the spiritual books we are presently handing are truly from the Spirit of Truth.

The following "Origin of the Bible" was extracted from web page www.allabouttruth.org.

Origin of the Bible - The Truth about Translations

To many, the origin of the Bible can be summed up as follows: "A mere translation of a translation of an interpretation of an oral tradition" - and therefore, a book with no credibility or connection to the original texts. Actually, the foregoing statement is a common misunderstanding. Translations such as the King James Version are derived from existing copies of ancient manuscripts such as the Hebrew Masoretic Text (Old Testament) and the Greek Textus Receptus (New Testament) and are not translations of texts translated from other interpretations. The primary differences between today's Bible translations are merely related to how translators interpret a word or sentence from the original language of the text source (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek).

Origin of the Bible - The Reliability of Ancient Manuscripts

Another challenge against the origin of the Bible is the reliability of the manuscripts from which today's Bibles are translated. Remarkably, there is widespread evidence of absolute reliability. There are more than 14,000 existing Old Testament manuscripts and fragments copied throughout the Middle East, Mediterranean and European regions that agree dramatically with each other. In addition, these texts agree with the Septuagint version of the Old Testament, which was translated from Hebrew to Greek sometime during the 3rd century BC. The Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in Israel in the 1940s and '50s, also provide phenomenal evidence for the reliability of the ancient transmission of the Jewish Scriptures (Old Testament). The Hebrew scribes who copied the Jewish Scriptures dedicated their lives to preserving the accuracy of the holy books. These scribes went to phenomenal lengths to ensure manuscript reliability. They were highly trained and meticulously observed, counting every letter, word, and paragraph against master scrolls. A single error would require the immediate destruction of the entire text.

The manuscript evidence for the <u>New Testament</u> is also dramatic, with over 5,300 known copies and fragments in the original Greek, nearly 800 of which were copied before 1000 AD. Some manuscript texts date to the early second and third centuries, with the time between the original autographs and our earliest existing copies being a remarkably short 60 years.

Appendix – D The oldest Greek text of the book of John



P⁵² is the oldest known manuscript fragment of the New Testament.
This photo is of the *recto* (front side).

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Library of Manchester.

DESCRIPTION			
Language:	Greek		
Medium:	papyrus		
Size:	3.5 inches long 2.5 inches wide		
Length:	7 lines on each side		
Approximate Date:	c. 125–150 CE		
Place of Discovery:	Egypt		
Date of Discovery/ Acquisition:	1920		
Acquirer:	Bernard P. Grenfell		
Current Location:	John Rylands Library Manchester, England		
Inventory Number:	Rylands Greek Papyrus 457		
Manuscript Number:	P^{52}		
Manuscript Family:	Alexandrian		

• Greek text found in 125-150 AD of the book of John 8:31-33

Appendix - E

Although the writings known as the Apocrypha are often not included in Protestant Bibles, due to the fact that these ancient texts came to us in Greek (like the New Testament) and later Latin but not in Scriptural Hebrew. Their rank in terms of authority is thus *deuterocanonical*, or second level. The fact is, while Anglo-American fundamentalists today reject their canonicity, they were translated and included in the original King James Bible of 1611 and is sometimes overviewed in Bible College or Seminary classes for historical background value. Having said this, we offer them here in faithfulness to the 1611 original.

Apocrypha: King James Bible

- Additions to Daniel
- <u>Judith</u>
- Esdras
- Additions to Esther
- Susanna
- 2 Maccabees
- 4 Ezra
- Prayer of Manassheh
- Sirach
- Wisdom of Solomon
- Baruch (included Epistle of Jeremiah)
- 1 Maccabees
- Tobit
- <u>Bel</u>

Appendix - F

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Directory of books as looked in the original Authorized King James Version of 1611.

{BOOKS and Quantity of Chapters}

Genesis hath Chapters	50	Ecclesiastes hath Chapters	12
Exodus	40	The song of Solomon	8
<u>Leuiticus</u>	27	<u>Isaiah</u>	66
<u>Numbers</u>	36	<u>Ieremiah</u>	52
<u>Deuteronomie</u>	34	Lamentations	5
<u>Ioshua</u>	24	<u>Ezekiel</u>	48
<u>Iudges</u>	21	<u>Daniel</u>	12
Ruth	4	<u>Hosea</u>	14
1. Samuel	31	<u>Ioel</u>	3
2. Samuel	24	Amos	9
1. Kings	22	<u>Obadiah</u>	1
2. Kings	25	<u>Ionah</u>	4
1. Chronicles	29	Micah	7
2. Chronicles	36	<u>Nahum</u>	5
<u>Ezrah</u>	10	<u>Habakkuk</u>	3
<u>Nehemiah</u>	13	<u>Zephaniah</u>	3
<u>Ester</u>	10	<u>Haggai</u>	2
<u>Iob</u>	42	<u>Zechariah</u>	14
<u>Psalmes</u>	150	<u>Malachi</u>	4
Prouerbs	31		

The Bookes called Apocrypha.

1. ESdras hath Chapters	9	Baruch with the Epistle of Ieremiah	6
2. Esdras	16	The song of the three children.	
<u>Tobit</u>	14	The story of Susanna.	
<u>Iudeth</u>	16	The idole Bel and the Dragon.	
The rest of Esther	6		
<u>Wisedome</u>	19	The prayer of Manasseh.	
Ecclesiasticus	51	1. Maccabees	16
		2. Maccabees	15

The Bookes of the New Testament.

MAtthew hath Chapters	28	2. Thessalonians hath Chapters	3
<u>Marke</u>	16	1. Timotheus	6
<u>Luke</u>	24	2. Timotheus	4
<u>Iohn</u>	21	<u>Titus</u>	3
The Actes	26	<u>Philemon</u>	1
The Epistle to the Romanes	16	To the Hebrewes	13
1. Corinthians	16	The Epistle of Iames	5
2. Corinthians	13	<u>1. Peter</u>	5
Galatians	6	2. Peter	3
Ephesians	6	<u>1. Iohn</u>	5
<u>Philippians</u>	4	<u>2. Iohn</u>	1
Colossians	4	<u>3. Iohn</u>	1
1. Thessalonians	5	<u>Iude</u>	1
		Reuelation	22