

Our Attitude Toward the Word of God **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

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1. The Bible is a book that over the years has provoked a lot of different opinions.
2. I don't want to suggest that affirming that the Bible as God's word means that we all must become Bible trivia experts. There are people who know the Bible well but seem to have no clue as to what it is about.
3. I want to suggest five basic beliefs regarding the Word of God on which we take our stand.
 - I. The Bible is Inspired. 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
 - A. There are several different ideas about the inspiration of the Bible.
 1. 2 Peter 1:20-21
 - B. Although the Bible was written by men, they were not its author.
 1. 1 Thessalonians 2:13
 - C. But if this really is God's Word, then we have a responsibility to do what it says.
 - II. The Bible is Infallible.
 - A. That is to say that everything that it affirms is absolutely true.
 - B. Everything the Bible says historically is true.
 - III. The Bible is Sufficient. 2 Timothy 3:14-15, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."
 - A. Paul says the scriptures are able to make you wise for salvation.
 - B. There's an interesting situation described by Jesus in Luke 16.
 - IV. The Bible is Authoritative. Isaiah 1:2, "Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth! For the LORD has spoken:"
 - A. That is to say that when God speaks we are to listen.
 - B. The ministry of Jeremiah was to speak against the leaders who had misled the people.
 - V. The Bible is Effective. Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."
 - A. The Bible is powerful. It changes lives.
 - B. Look once again at 1 Thessalonians 2:13.