BIBLE STUDY

Intro: What shall we do with the Bible? Many different attitudes and actions have been taken in times past.

1. Those who have actively tried to destroy it.
   a. The Roman government of the first century.
   b. The Nazis government under Hitler.
   c. The Atheist of today.
2. Those who have tried to destroy its power.
   a. The higher and lower critic.
      (1) Higher criticism investigates the books (who wrote it, when it was written, etc.)
      (2) Lower criticism tries to determine the actual text of the Bible.
   b. The “liberal” of our day.
3. Those who have tried to destroy its influence.
   a. Roman Catholicism.
   b. Pentecostalism.
   c. Those who fail to study the word.
4. God’s desire.
   a. Deu. 6:6-9 “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.”
   b. John 5:39 “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.”
   c. Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”
   d. 2 Tim. 2:15 “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
   e. Do we have time.
      1. On the average, Americans spend:
         a. Watching TV - 4-5 hours each day.
         b. Reading the newspaper - 1/2 hour each day.
      2. It takes less than 15 minutes a day to read the Bible through in a year (reading at 1/2 the 8th grade reading level.)
      3. We do what we want to do.

I. WITHOUT GOD’S WORD AND A KNOWLEDGE OF IT.

   A. Man becomes lost.
      1. Pro. 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”
      2. Isa. 53:6 “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
      3. Jer. 10:23 “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”

   B. Man is destroyed.
      1. Isa. 5:13 “Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.”
2. Hos. 4:6 “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.”

3. 2 Th. 1:8 “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

II. WITH A KNOWLEDGE OF THE SCRIPTURES JESUS:

A. Overcame temptation.
1. Stones made bread; Mat. 4:1-4
2. Cast yourself down from pinnacle of temple; Mat. 4:5-7
3. Fall down and worship me (Satan); Mat. 5:8-11

B. Instructed Luke 24:27, 44 “And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.... 44And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.”

C. Put to flight those who wrest the Scriptures.
1. Mat. 22: (esp. vs. 29, 31 “Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.... 31But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying,?”
2. John 10:33-35 “The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God. 35If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and in the scriptures cannot be broken;”

III. BLESSINGS A KNOWLEDGE OF GOD’S WORD BRINGS.

A. Psa. 1:2 “But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”

B. David shows what God’s word can do for us in Psalm 119.
1. Cleanse; vs. 9 “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.”
2. Quicken; vs. 25 “My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.”
3. Strengthen; vs. 28 “My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.”
4. Confirm; vs. 38 “Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear.”
5. Defend; vs. 42 “So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.”
6. Comfort; vs. 50 “This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.”
7. Instruct; vs. 98-99 “Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. 99I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.”
8. Enlighten; vs. 105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”
9. Assure; vs. 114 “Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.”
10. Uphold; vs. 116 “Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.”
11. Give peace; vs. 165 “Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.”
12. Deliver; vs. 170 “Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.”

C. As seen in 1 John
1. Joy; 1 John 1:4 “And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.”
2. Sin not; 1 John 2:1 “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:”
3. Know we have eternal life; 1 John 5:13 “These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”
   a. This brings:
   b. Joy
   c. Peace

Conclusion: What will you do with God’s word? Your need is to delight yourself in that word by studying it.