

## Reading The Bible

The very first words in the Bible tells us there is a God. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1.1). In verse three we read, "Then God said". The rest of the creation consists of God speaking and it being so. He has always used words to communicate His thoughts. By looking at creation we know there is a God but only reading the Bible, can we know how to serve Him.

The Bible is not just any book, it is an "inspired book". "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17) Inspired means God breathed or God gave life to the scriptures. One can only speak by breathing in and then out. When God spoke, His words were recorded for our learning.

The Apostle Paul pointed out the importance of reading the Scriptures in Ephesians 3.3-6, "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 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." Reading causes thinking; to concentrate on what we are reading. We can re-read if we need to. Through reading we gain knowledge and weigh the evidence being presented to us so as to make informed conclusions. Reading is a powerful device in learning about God. There is a Latin proverb: *Littera scripta manet*, which means, "The written letter remains."

We also have the ability to listen. Again, to think about what is being said and decide what is true, or important. Fortunately, God gave us the Bible. A compilation of 66 Books written by 40 different men over a 4,000-year time frame. Yet it contains the very words of God.

By looking at nature we know God exist but by reading His Bible we know who God is, His great and marvelous works, the plan of salvation that began in the Garden of Eden and continued until the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, and was completed when the Christ died on the cross for our sins. The Bible tells us how to be saved. It is worth the time and effort to listen to and read through the Word of God.

It is our hope that providing this link on our web page, you will find it beneficial to follow the reading schedule and listen to brother Jerry Fite read through the Bible using the King James Bible. It is our hope to add different translations in the future. You will be enlightened and blessed if you obey God's word.–  
Dennis Tucker