

## WHY I LOVE THE BIBLE

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John 10:35

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I love the Bible. I love the Bible because of what Jesus said about it. And I love the Bible because of what it is.

Not everyone loves the Bible though.

### ***The World***

The world, and by that, I mean the culture and powers that are not submitted to God—the world, doesn't love the Bible. The world calls the Bible outdated and irrelevant.

I love the Bible though. And I will explain why. But first I need to admit something.

### ***The Flesh***

In the flesh, I avoid reading the Bible.

On top of all this, as Christians, we have an enemy who hates the Bible, and he especially hates us.

### ***The Devil***

The devil is an enemy of Jesus. He's an enemy of you. And he's an enemy of the Bible.

But despite my flesh, and in opposition to the pressures of the world and the lies of the devil, I love the Bible!

I love the Bible because of what Jesus said about the Bible and because of what it is.

### ***What did Jesus say about the Bible?***

Jesus on God's Word:

#### **John 10:35 (NASB 1995)**

"Scripture cannot be broken."

#### **John 17:17**

<sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

### ***What is the Bible?***

The Bible is from God. It's God's word.

Inspired—the words are guided and guarded by God. The Holy Spirit is the primary author of the Bible.

#### **2 Timothy 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

Inerrant—there are no errors in the Bible.

Again, Jesus said:

#### **John 10:35 (NASB 1995)**

“Scripture cannot be broken.”

Infallible—incapable of error, the Bible is from God who cannot lie.

### **Hebrews 6:18**

<sup>18</sup> God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged.

NDCC/CCCB College Partnership

CCCB is committed to the inerrancy of Scripture. This is the basis for their education, and our partnership with them.

CCCB affirmation:

Scripture is inspired, wholly without error in the original manuscripts, and the sole authority for the Christian’s faith and practice.

NDCC Faith Statement

We believe in the Bible, God’s Holy Word. We believe God inspired the autographs (original writings) of the Scripture and those autographs were consequently without error.

I love the Bible because of what it is: the inspired, infallible, inerrant word of God.

William Tyndale was persecuted, and eventually killed, for putting his faith and linguistic skills into practice when he translated the Bible about 5 centuries ago. In October of 1536, when Tyndale was in his early 40’s (about my age!) he was executed on charges of heresy, charges based largely on his decision to give the English people God’s Word in their own

language so that they could understand it. I am thankful that people like Tyndale sacrificed so that I could read and understand God's Word, the Bible.

What should we do to properly acknowledge our thanks to God for the Bible?

## 1. Study the Bible.

### 2 Timothy 2:15

<sup>15</sup> Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

God calls pastors and teachers to "accurately handle the word of truth." This is the obvious direct application. But God also expects all those who teach in any capacity to do the same.

### James 3:1

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Whether teaching the church, the youth, or our own kids, we are called to study so that we can "accurately handle the word of truth."

I know that teaching is largely the job of the pastor and his preaching team, but it is also the job of all of those who teach others, even if it's just our own kids.

Study the Bible, but also make time just to read it!

## 2. Read the Bible—lots of it.

### 1 Timothy 4:13

<sup>13</sup> Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

Timothy's job was to publicly read the Scripture.

The job for all of us, as Christians, is to read the Bible and lots of it.

Prayerfully read the Bible, rely on the Holy Spirit, and you will find strength to stand against Satan's lies and keep reading God's word even when it's uncomfortable at first.

We have asked our interns to read the Bible, pray, and worship God for 30 minutes every day. They get credit towards their hours for time spent in God's Word.

When you see one of our interns, please encourage them in their personal walk with the Lord.

Please help us hold them accountable and open doors to ensure they have time to spend reading the Bible—large chunks of Scripture.

And please read the Bible yourself!

There's something else that Jesus said about the Bible. It really shows why we need to be devoted to reading the Bible.

**John 5:39**

**<sup>39</sup> You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me.**

Thank God for the Bible. It tells us most importantly about Jesus. He died to pay for our sins, and he was raised from the dead to give us life. There is life in the Scriptures because there we read about Jesus, the Savior and life-giver!

I love the Bible!

I think you will too.