



## Unlocking Scripture: The Key to Understanding the Bible

Ephesians 1:16-17(NIV): "I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.<sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

"God is always just in taking the life of anyone he chooses, whether in old age or childhood. He gives and he takes away." John Piper— Providence

"The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser." Richard Dawkins— The God Delusion

People rejected Jesus because they understood Him. Today, people reject Jesus because they misunderstand Him.

We don't believe things because they're true; we believe them because we want them to be true.

"There is no significant example in history, before Christ, of a society successfully maintaining moral life without the aid of religion." William Durant

"The idea that all humans are equal is a biblical legacy, not a natural truth. Nature does not recognize equality." Yuval Noah Harari

Exodus 31:2,3(NIV): "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills."

The ABC's of Biblical Interpretation

A - Approach with Caution and Humility

- "Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God." — Ecclesiastes 5:1,2(NIV)

B - Be Curious: Keep Seeking, Asking, and Knocking

Matthew 7:7(NLT): "Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you."

Psalms 1:2(NIV): "... delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night."

Jeremiah 29:13(NIV): "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

If it's too simple, it's probably not the Bible.

C - Context Is King: Let the Bible Interpret the Bible

2 Timothy 2:15(AMPC): "Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved, a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing rightly handling and skillfully teaching the Word of Truth."

2 Peter 1:20(ERV): "Most important of all, you must understand this: No prophecy in the Scriptures comes from the prophet's own understanding."

The Bible isn't a list of easy answers—it's a masterpiece of metaphors, paradoxes, subtle nuances, and intertextual wisdom.

QR Code for Everyday Bible Podcast

Monday at 8pm.

If God knew you would love God, you?

1 Kings 17:1-4(NIV): "Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, 'As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.'<sup>2</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah: <sup>3</sup> 'Leave here, turn eastward, and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. <sup>4</sup> You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there."

1 Kings 18:1,18,19(NIV): "After a long time, in the third year, the word of the Lord came to Elijah: 'Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land'... 'You have abandoned the Lord's commands and have followed the Baals. <sup>19</sup> Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

*All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.*