

OUR MISUNDERSTOOD BIBLE

Text: Acts 8:30

INTRO: The Bible is the world's most popular, precious and most influential book, yet it is also the world's most misunderstood book. Philip asked the Ethiopian, "Do you understand what you are reading?" or literally, "Are you 'reading' what you are reading?"

I. MANY MISUNDERSTAND ITS SOURCE.

2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:21; Heb 1:1-2

II. MANY MISUNDERSTAND ITS PURPOSE.

ouji board, etc. 2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:3; JN 20:31

III. MANY MISUNDERSTAND ITS INDESTRUCTIBILITY.

Jehoiachim, Jer 36:23-32; MT 24:35

Have killed apostles & prophets.

Crucified the Son of God.

Have burned Bibles by the thousands.

Have banned the Bible from public schools & libraries.

But the Bible is still the best selling, best loved book year after year after year.

IV. MANY MISUNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE O.T. AND THE N.T.--OR MAKE NO DISTINCTION AT ALL. Heb 1:1-2; MT 17:5

A. O.T. books were intended as a tutor to prepare folks for Christ. READ GALATIANS 3:23-27.

B. The books usually referred to as the 4 gospels were written to produce faith in Jesus as God's Son. JN 20:31

C. The book of Acts is the book of conversions to which we may go for proper examples of God's plan of salvation at work.

D. The letters to individuals & churches give us instructions on how to live as Christians.

E. The book of Revelation is a look into the struggle between the forces of God & the forces of Satan, & the ultimate victory of God & the saints.

V. MANY MISUNDERSTAND THE KJV OR AUTHORIZED VERSION.

The O.T. was originally written in Hebrew, the N.T. in Greek. The KJV was "authorized" by King James of England over 1500 years this side of the original writings, but it is still one of the very best translations in the English language.

VI. MANY MISUNDERSTAND THE CHAPTERS & VERSES OF THE BIBLE.

These study tools were first used in 1557. The "chapters" are not always divided where the thought changes.

Many expect to find the whole plan of salvation in one verse. Not correct. Not even logical.

VII. GOD WANTS US TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE.
READ EPHESIANS 5:17, 3:3-5

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim 2:15).

Jonestown, TX, June 9, 1968
Springhill, LA, October 15, 1972
KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, March 4, 1973
La Porte, TX, January 2, 1977
Bible Camp, Sabinal, TX, June 12, 1979
Exton, PA, September 29, 1985
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, August 23, 1992
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, June 20, 1999