

Session 2

Joshua: A Leader in Making

Joshua Before He Became a Leader

1. Joshua - In the battle with Amalakites (Exodus 17: 8-16; Deuteronomy 25: 17-18)
2. Joshua - At the Mount Sinai, waiting for Moses (Exodus 24:13)
3. Joshua - A young man not departing the Tent of Meeting (Exodus 33:11)
4. Joshua - Standing with Moses (Numbers 11:28-30)
5. Joshua - Searching the Land of Canaan, along with other spies (Numbers 13:16)
6. Joshua - God testifying about him (Numbers 14: 6, 30, 38; Numbers 32:8, 12)
7. Joshua - A leader (Numbers 27:18-23; Deuteronomy 1:38; 3: 21, 28; 31: 3, 7, 14; 34: 9; Joshua 1:16)

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Attending Church



Joshua Commissioned as a Leader

God's three-fold encouragement to Joshua:

1. God promised His presence - Joshua 1:5
2. God encouraged Joshua to be strong and courageous (Joshua 1:6,7,9; Deuteronomy 31:8)
3. God's command to Joshua to observe the Law of Moses (Joshua 1: 7-8)
 1. Turn not from it to right hand or to the left (Joshua 1:7) - Make the Word a guide for life
 2. It should not depart from his mouth (Joshua 1:8) - Memorise the Word
 3. Meditate day and night (Joshua 1:8) - Read and Ponder on the Word
 4. Observe it (Joshua 1:8) - Do the Word

FAITH, COURAGE, GOD'S WORD

God's Word - The Holy Bible

1. How can I trust that the Bible is true?
2. Which Translation (Version) to follow?
3. How to study the Holy Bible?

How can I trust that the Holy Bible is True?

1. Consistency and Coherence

- Unified Message: The Bible was written over 1,500 years by about 40 authors from different backgrounds (kings, shepherds, fishermen, prophets) in different locations. Despite this, it has a consistent message of God's redemption and love (and message about God, man, and salvation).
- Consistent Themes: Recurring themes like God's moral law, humanity's rebellion, and God's plan of redemption are consistent throughout the Old and New Testaments.

Bible supports or defends it self

How can I trust that the Holy Bible is True?

2. Testified by Jesus Christ

- Jesus Christ, who lived on this Earth testified that the Scriptures is the Word of God (John 5:39; Luke 24: 27, 44; Revelation 1:2):
 - Testified the creative work of God Matthew 19:4-6
 - Testified God, the Father
 - Testified about the lives of Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Jonah...
- Faithful sayings (Proved) - proverbs 12:6; Psalm 18:30
- Timeless truths (enduring Word) - Psalms 119:160; Matthew 5:18; Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:25; John 17:17 and Revelation 22:6)

How can I trust that the Holy Bible is True?

3. Fulfilled prophecies

The Holy Bible is the book of the prophecies, contains many prophecies. There are nearly 1817 prophecies. Almost all of them are fulfilled:

- Nearly 300 prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (His birth, life and death) are fulfilled:
 - The probability of fulfilment of 8 prophecies 1 in 10^{16} chances;
 - The probability of for the fulfilment 48 prophecies 1 in 10^{157} ;
 - The probability of 300 prophecies!)
- Prophecies of Daniel (About 4 Kingdoms) fulfilled
- Prophecies of Nahum (Nahum 12) - The prophecies in the Book of Nahum, particularly concerning the destruction of Nineveh, are considered fulfilled, as historical records and archaeological evidence confirm the city's fall in 612 BC, marking the end of the Assyrian Empire.

How can I trust that the Holy Bible is True?

4. Historical and Archeological Evidence:

Archaeological Evidence

- The Tel Dan Stele (9th century BC): Mentions the “House of David”, evidence for King David.
- The Mesha Stele (Moabite Stone): Refers to Israel and its kings (biblical accounts in 2 Kings).
- Hezekiah’s Tunnel and Siloam Inscription: Built to bring water into Jerusalem (2 Kings 20:20)
- The Babylonian Chronicles: The fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC (2 Kings and Jeremiah).

Historical Figures and Records

- King Nebuchadnezzar II: Mentioned in the Bible and well-documented in Babylonian sources.
- Pontius Pilate: The Roman governor who sentenced Jesus, confirmed by a stone inscription (the “Pilate Stone”) and mentioned by Roman historians like Tacitus.
- Herod the Great: Known from both the New Testament and from extensive records by Josephus and Roman historians.

How can I trust that the Holy Bible is True?

4. Historical and Archeological Evidence (Continued):

Ancient Manuscripts

- The Dead Sea Scrolls: Ancient Jewish texts from the 300 BC to the 100 AD
- Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus: The oldest complete manuscripts of the Bible (400 AD).
- Septuagint: A Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible from the 3rd–2nd century BC, used by early Christians and helpful in textual comparisons.

External Writings

- Josephus (1st century Jewish historian): Wrote about Jewish history and mentions figures like Jesus, James (Jesus' brother), John the Baptist, and Herod.
- Tacitus and Suetonius: Roman historians who mention early Christians and Christ's execution under Pontius Pilate.

Cultural & Linguistic Evidence

- Customs, place names, and legal codes in the Bible match what is known about ancient Near Eastern societies.
- Ancient treaties, laws, and cultural practices align with those described in Deuteronomy and Leviticus.

How can I trust that the Holy Bible is True?

5. Transformed lives (Its power to change lives):

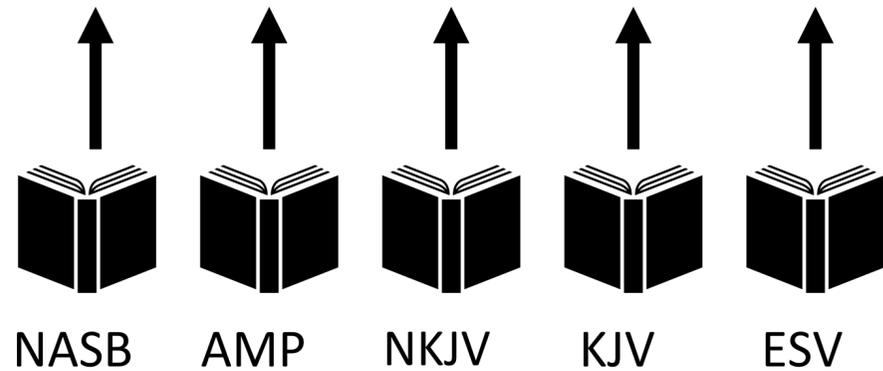
The Holy Bible is the Word of God which has life and power in it.

- It can convert a person (Psalms 19: 7-9)
- The power of the message of Cross changed many people (1 Corinthians 1:18)
- It regenerates (1 Peter 1:23; 2 Corinthians 4:4)
- It reveals errors / sin in our lives (Psalms 19:12; Hebrews 4:12)
- It gives life (John 5:39)

Thought the history, many people's lives (murderers, drug addicts...) were changed when they read or heard the word of God.

Which Translation to follow?

WORD FOR WORD TRANSLATION



NASB - NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE

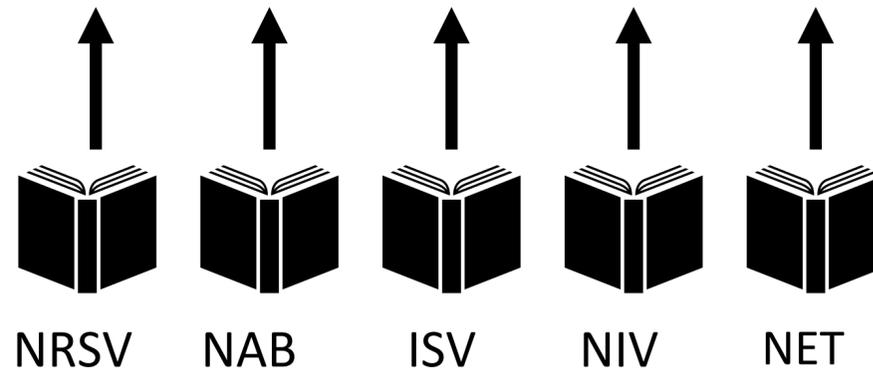
AMP - AMPLIFIED BIBLE

NKJV - NEW KING JAMES VERSION

KJV - KING JAMES VERSION

ESV - ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

THOUGHT FOR THOUGHT



NRSV - NEW REVISED VERSION

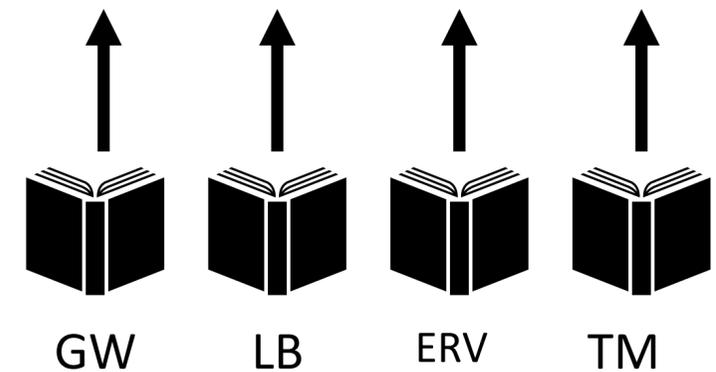
NAB - NEW AMERICAN BIBLE

ISV - INTERNATIONAL STANDARD VERSION

NIV - NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

NET - NEW ENGLISH TRANSLATION

PARAPHRASE



GW - GOD'S WORD

LB - LIVING BIBLE

ERV - EASY TO READ VERSION

TM - THE MESSAGE

How to Study the Holy Bible?

1. Hear: When some one teaches / preaches you.

2. Read: Bible gives you an overall picture of God's Word.

3. Studying of the Scriptures leads you into personal discoveries of God's truths. Writing down these truths in a notebook helps you to remember them.

4. Memorise: God's Word enables you to use word as the Sword of the Spirit to overcome Satan and temptations.

5. Meditation: As you meditate on God's Word (understanding of its meaning and application to your life) you will discover its transforming power for you.



How to Study the Holy Bible?

- S** **SCRIPTURES**
Read a portion from the Bible
- O** **OBSERVATION**
Write down the key words and phrases
- A** **APPLICATION**
Write down truths in the passage that are applicable to you.
- P** **PRAAYER OF COMMITMENT**
Pray to the Lord asking that the Lord may help you to apply the truth on daily basis

- R** **READING THE SCRIPTURE**
Reading a passage in the Bible
(Read the Bible systematically)
- E** **ENGAGE**
Engaging with the passage of the Bible
(Meditate to know the intended meaning).
- A** **APPLICATION**
Applying the intended meaning to you daily
(Note down the truth applicable to you).
- D** **DEMONSTRATE**
Demonstrate the Word in daily life.
(Seek the Lord's help in prayer to live out the applicable truth).

God's Word - Commandment and Promise



Holy Bible is not only the Book of Commandments
But it is the Book of Promises also!

Questions for the Counselling Session -2

1. Which is harder for you: to obey God's commandments or to trust in His promises?
2. What is the specific command from God that you need to keep today?
3. What is the specific promise from God that can strengthen and encourage you? How can you claim it?
4. In what way you are similar or dissimilar to Joshua? How can you make sure that you love the House of God?