

Six Reasons Why You Should Study And Apply The Word Of God In The Bible

By

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Introduction

Each generation has its own troubles. The biggest trouble of our generation is godlessness. The worldly systems encourage Evolution, ungodly tolerance, relativism and many other ungodly concepts. As a result, many people in our generation live under a curse – they're left to pursue the lusts of the flesh. The world has neither clearly understood nor defined truth. Therefore, many people neither get answers to their questions nor understand the purpose of life. The situation worsens as people continually seek answers from wrong sources. These six points on why we should study and obey Biblical revelations will help keep sincere inquirers on the right track. As you go through these words, may the Good Lord give you wisdom in Jesus Name!

Reason One

God is the Author of the Bible

How the Bible came into existence is still a mystery to many people including some professing Christians. Instead of objectively researching to understand the mystery, many speculate, neglect and plunge into unbelief amidst the integrity of many pieces of evidence, witnesses and truth surrounding Biblical revelations. The notion that God wrote the Bible is far from settling down in the hearts of many people who mostly rely on natural wisdom. Did God actually write the Bible with His hands? How is it possible that an invisible God wrote the Book? People ask.

Contrary to Islamists, who claim to have revelations completely independent of any human involvement, Christians advocate that God is the Author of the Bible because He inspired it. In the process of inspiring the Bible, God used men

to write down His revelations. Christians rely on the premise that the Bible is capable of defending itself – meaning that the Spirit of God behind His own writings is able to clearly speak for Himself and defend every sentence recorded in the Bible. Paul states ‘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).

Charles Spurgeon once wrote: *"Scripture is like a lion. Whoever heard of defending a lion? Just turn it loose; it will defend itself."* (C.H. Spurgeon: 1834 – 1892). The ability of the Bible to defend itself doesn't mean that it is impossible to scientifically establish its origin. It's a pity that many a philosopher who claim that the Bible is a human invention never took time to really explore its origin and preservation over the generations.

Many people assume that the Book (Bible) Christians claim was totally inspired by God Almighty Himself should be physically supernatural and miraculous to an extent that everyone will easily and obviously recognize its superiority and authority. These people want to see a spectacular display of Biblical revelations in a fallen world without endeavouring to humbly inquire or scientifically test the validity of Biblical claims. Unfortunately for these worldly sceptical minds, God's Words are only real to those who truly inquire, embrace, believe, practice and depend on them for life. As a matter of fact, no one who sincerely inquired failed to see God and miracles in the process.

Although the Bible is indeed logical and outstanding in its wisdom and explanation of human experiences or anything else, its truths cannot be captured by just anyone under any

condition. Sincere humility and determination to embrace the truth are necessary to be successful in the inquiry process.

God is not a God of generalities as some people assume. He is interested in building special relationships with His people. The Bible is not an idea that people have to agree on and then vote whether to adopt it or not. It is a book that contains the ultimate foundational truth on which to build in any of life's endeavours. Those who make up their hearts to enquire on who God is will indeed find Him and meet Him face-to-face. The Psalmist encourages the inquirer when he says 'Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!' (Psalm 27:14).

God is, therefore, willing to make Himself known to the world but He will not contradict His interaction and communication protocols with mankind. Since God is motivated to reveal Himself to mankind, He inspired the Bible, which records

sufficient truths about Himself. However, God has a special purpose and plan for every human being. Given His purpose and plans for individuals and His desire to fulfil those plans, He desires to build personal relationships with everyone. Love fuels God's motivation to build relationships with His creation, and this love led to a restoration plan. The broken bond between Himself and mankind caused by sin was restored in Jesus. No other worldview or religion in this world has a solution for sin except what has been revealed in the Bible.

Prophet Isaiah noted that 'All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all' (Isaiah 53:6). David by the help of the Holy Spirit stated that 'The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. They have all turned aside. They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one' (Psalm 14:2-3).

The Bible is, therefore, the result of a process that started from the Garden of Eden where God works to restore the fellowship between mankind and Himself. However, in the Bible, we can also learn about God's infiniteness and supernaturalism. We should be careful to note that although God has sufficiently revealed Himself to us through the Bible, some things that belong only to God are hidden from us (Deuteronomy 29:29). We do not need to seek to know these hidden things as we have gone nowhere in terms of understanding what He has already revealed.

The Bible is simply the record of words spoken by God himself and words inspired by His Spirit through some Human beings known as prophets, men of God and eyewitnesses. In the Bible, we find narrations of stories of the past that are relevant to us today, the history of certain nations, habits, poetry, parables and many other recordings. The Bible is a diverse book written

in various ways. One important thing to note about the Bible is that it was written over a period of about 1500 years. God used about 66 people to write everything he wanted us to know during this period. We can also see that although these human writers God used lived in different places and time periods, the message of the Bible is pointing to one direction – that of Jesus; such a thing couldn't happen without God Himself being in control.

In fact, humans had been going their own way after the fall in Genesis. It is not possible, therefore, that humans could have cooperated or perfectly agree to produce a book over such a number of years that is so diverse, yet united in theme and content. Jesus is the main theme of the Bible. History reveals that the Jews had been under oppression for many years under the Roman Empire. The promise of a king and redeemer sounded to them like someone who will come and deliver them from the Roman oppression so that they would become the

rulers of this world. This idea was far from what was in God's mind. Instead, God was preparing something better and more meaningful than an earthly king. God was solving the problem of sin and eternal separation between Himself and humans and provided the way for humans to rekindle their fellowship with Him in Jesus.

The death of the Messiah which was probably a taboo to most of the Jews of those days and many today was the victorious means God used to redeem mankind. Jesus was to live in humility, suffer on earth and be killed for the remission of our sins. God resurrected Him from the dead after three days. His blood serves as payment for the sins of mankind. The curse of the law no longer holds mankind accountable if people would believe in Jesus by faith and repent. Remember that people are cursed because they follow the desires of their own hearts at the expense of God's rules and regulations. The promise, birth, testimony, death and resurrection of Jesus is the greatest event

that can ever be told. The entire course of History and events all point to Jesus. Jesus is, therefore, alive and is knocking at the doors of humans hearts to deliver them from their sins.

It was God's will to involve humans in writing and preserving His revelations. For many years, efforts were made by humans of perverse minds to get rid of the Bible and to distort its content. However, by using the Godfathers and Scribes, the message of the Bible was preserved for generations by God. Today, the Bible has been translated into many languages. The attempt to destroy its content and to discredit its divine nature is still continuing among cultists, irrationals, radicals and other liberal Christian, who compromise the truth in favour of their personal and selfish views and agendas.

Nevertheless, the opposition to Biblical revelations sharpened the Christians over the years not only in understanding the content of the Bible but also in presenting the Good News to

the unsaved. The opposition has helped the Christian apologists to grow in wisdom and knowledge of God and to hold strongly to the Bible as the true Word of God for a fulfilled life on earth. Christian scholars have studied the Bible from many angles; historically, archaeologically, and other scientific and logical ways. Thousands of ancient manuscripts discovered by archaeologists have enabled Christian scholars to clearly and evidentially expose sufficient and outstanding knowledge and truths about Biblical claims and the importance of the Word of God to mankind.

In applying its content, people have been blessed magnificently. Countless testimonies are being recorded all over the world as a result of the hidden treasures in the Bible. With this level of understanding, the consecutive Christian's heart is established in the word of God as the message from God concerning his life and every other undertaking on earth. Christians are sure that God is the author of the Bible because

of the conviction of the Holy Spirit and underlying pieces of evidence.

'In its influence on man, the Bible transcends all other agencies ever employed for his benefit. The Bible has hallowed homes, sanctified hearts, soothed away sorrows, dried up tears, cheered the sick, strengthened the weak, upheld the faithful, inspired devotion, re-kindled hope, conquered fears, induced joys, inspired songs, comforted the dying, and given victory over death for a thousand generations that have believed its truth and trusted its promises. Its promises have been proven to be true by the experiences of faithful generations that lived in its glorious light and died in the faith that it proclaims. Millions upon million love the sacred Book' – (Stanford E. Murrell - 2012).

Therefore, the first reason why you should study the Bible is that it is God's true message to us concerning everything in

life. It's wisdom lays the standards by which all knowledge should be compared.

Reason Two

The Word of God is Truth

When we talk about a root source we mean a place where something originates from. In the world of reason, we understand that the ideas we conceive in our minds all have the possibility of resulting in real actions if all conditions for an action to be taken are met. The wonderful inventions of mankind today all started as ideas in the minds and brains of people, who over the years united the conditions for actions in order to transform those ideas into visible realities. However, it does not end there; existing scientific inventions or ideas are constantly updated, improved and made better as additional realities are discovered and taken into account. It follows that certain inventions are named after the people who are said to be root inspirers of those ideas. For instance, Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur, were the ones who first came up with the idea of building an aeroplane that can fly with human beings

in 1903. This idea has been revolutionized and refined over the years and today, humans can fly from one end of the globe to the other in the belly of planes.

One thing that renders the Bible so controversial concerning its claims is the unchanging nature of its knowledge and revelations. This controversy can be understood as worldly people are used to changing, improving and innovating ideas. The natural mind, therefore, believes that everything is subject to change with time. It fails to make the distinction between a foundational, absolute or axiomatic truth from God and a scientific experimental enquiry, speculation or suggestion. God has reserved and allows many areas of knowledge and understanding for humans to explore and discover. However, He has not allowed His Word to be modified. His Word stands for all generations and can never change.

Christians are hated and persecuted for believing and practising the claims of the Bible. The Bible claims to be the source of all truth and since everything points to Him, Jesus is the foundational truth we should all first seek to know in order that we understand any other thing in the world. This means understanding Jesus as the source of all other truths is the best and only reliable way to keep ‘truth’ balance in any aspect. This Christian position looks completely irrational and judgemental to the unbelievers, who feel that through scientific research and natural observation, humans can understand all things. A lie that has kept humanity struggling for so many generations in search of answers they cannot find. These worldly minds are trying to obtain sufficient, objective, and logical answers from incomplete sources and sometimes, using irrational approaches.

There is a limit to natural truth – it can never lead to sufficient understanding and a balanced brain.

The Christian relies on Biblical revelations and objective scientific reasoning to arrive at a stable standard of truth in any aspect. Contrary to relying on scientific research alone which always changes with time, Biblical revelations are a solid foundation for further exploration. God does not reveal anything in the Bible today and improve or modify that revelation with time. Although His revelations allow endless room for exploration, they are lasting foundational truths that cannot be changed.

Over the generations, human notions keep changing but what the Bible has revealed will stand forever. For instance, while humanity contemplated on whether the world is flat or round, the Bible had already mentioned that the earth is round many years before the discovery (Isaiah 40:22). If humanity would adhere to recorded Biblical claims, life on earth would be much easier. The worldly systems, however, adhere to

different and erroneous concepts. Worldly people believe that they have enough strength and wisdom to create their own foundations and have no need for an absolute foundation builder.

The Christian, however, believes the Bible in depth. The Bible is not only the source of truth but also the source of ‘all’ truths. Jesus made this clear when He said “*Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth..*” (John 17:17). From the Bible, one can invent machines, derive equations, understand history, see into the future and live a holy lifestyle. The Christian is sure about these things because God has promised He cannot lie. The Bible is the only book that Jesus quoted. It is the only book where you find ultimate truth that is without blemish and truth that is recorded with an objective. There is no other book that was inspired by God with records of objective truths that God wants for the societies other than the Bible. For this reason, God uses the Bible to teach His children all that they need to

know about life (Tit 1:2, Heb 6:18, Num 23:19, 2Tim 3:16, Jn 17:17, 2Tim 2:15).

The Christian understands that studying the Bible is not a formality but a pleasant and inspiring exercise. It is an exercise which is full of exploration, discovery and blessings. Since they study its content objectively, the Bible is a constant source of inspiration to Christians. The Bible is the source of ultimate truth and is far from being an ordinary book or novel which someone reads and is disinterested after a couple of years. A novel may be interesting today but after we have read it, we know the story and the desire to read it again dies down. Even if the novel was so interesting, and we decide to read it over and over again, the time will come when we will not need it anymore. We may even think of giving it away to someone else to profit the person if we have truly benefited from the novel's contents.

The Bible, however, is different. Its passages are filled with endless inspiring and hidden treasures of knowledge. Each time we read the Bible, we come up with new ideas that are true and that sprout from the foundational truth doctrines in it. Each sentence in the Bible is capable of generating a countless number of new objective and rational ideas that never contradict the foundational doctrines. The truth foundations of the Bible are so solid and strong to an extent that the unbelievers can simply not stand them. The reason why unbelievers persecute Christians is due to their inability to measure up to the standard truths recorded in the Bible and their unwillingness to engage in sincere inquiry.

Therefore, the Bible was inspired by God and is the source of lasting truth. If we want to know more about anything and make meaning out of our endeavours on earth, we should consult and rely on Biblical revelations as our unchanging foundations.

Our societies are morally depreciating because they have neglected the crucial truths recorded in the Bible. Our political leaders are confused because their systems are not built on biblical concepts, principles and doctrines. Our children are not behaving well because parents are not obeying God's command to teach them Biblical principles. Many people are lost and confused in purpose because they have favoured human wisdom over Biblical revelations. May the Lord help us not to be wise in our own eyes but to open our Bibles to read, understand and practice its revelations in Jesus Name.

Reason Three

The Word of God is Alive

The Christian does not hesitate to consult the Bible because it is the source of all truths in all his undertakings on earth. He understands that God cannot lie. He knows that God can be trusted beyond every doubt. Unlike pure human principles and wisdom, God's principles are lasting truths that never change no matter the claims of modernity. This leads us to ask a very important question:

How can the unchanging revelations, truths and wisdom revealed in the Bible positively affect all generations?

If you noticed already, many ancient books are not even consulted by people today. Of all the ancient books that exist, the Bible is the book with the most number of copies and translations. It is also the book that is most widely used today

by people from all classes of life. What makes this ancient Book have such an impact amidst the critics of new agers and liberal Christians who advocate that the Bible's knowledge is old, corrupt and needs to be changed?

The answer is very simple. The word of God in the Bible is alive. It is capable of making things actually happen.

The liberals and atheists will argue that they are also able to develop great ideas and inspire their generations. They claim that they have also developed arguments that affect the lives of many human beings all over the world. There's no doubt that God created man in His own image – such that, human beings are naturally able to exhibit few Godly characteristics especially when it comes to creativity.

However, to equate oneself to God or trying to take His position is madness of the highest degree.

On the one hand, there are certain areas of life that God has allowed for humans to explore and discover as already mentioned. These areas are open to both believers and unbelievers. It is possible for a believer as well as an unbeliever to invent machines, discover useful mathematical equations, discover new species of plant or animal, etc. Many of these areas of human exploration are low levels of objective truths that are opened for exploitation, both to the natural and the regenerated humans.

On the other hand, there is absolute or ultimate objective truth that is achievable only to those who know God or sincerely inquire about Him. This ultimate knowledge and wisdom involve making meaning out of life and all human endeavours. Only God's revelations will help in this regard. For instance, how a society should behave, the right way to God, the purpose of life, etc., have consistent and logically solid and sufficient

explanations defined by God in His word. Therefore, to be complete in wisdom requires a balanced combination of reason and revelation.

The weakness of depending on purely natural wisdom is made evident by the fact that the natural minds have never been able to develop their own distinct laws. All laws that have been adopted in worldly cycles are either copies or modifications of God's original laws in the Bible. Besides, humans have never been able to obey all the laws they have created for themselves. There're some who claim to be above the law.

The atheists and liberals may argue that there is no God in the first place and that they find no obligation to obey God's rules and regulations. A simple observation of the struggles of humanity reveals that human minds have not been able to invent better rules for themselves than what God established in the Bible. As a matter of fact, what people call relativism,

liberal thinking, unlimited tolerance, atheism and all other ungodly worldviews are simply a distortion of God's principles. The worldviews of these unbelievers have no unique foundational beliefs of their own. Adherents are experts in misinterpretation, addition and omission to God's word. Their foundation is sinking sand. Contrary to the unchanging Christian foundational principles and doctrines that inspire and strengthen the believer, the views of unbelievers keep changing and evolving with time. The views of the unbelievers are like those of the fashion industry, that need to be updated on a constant basis to suit the demands and nature of the disobedient generations.

The word of God stands strong because it is alive. This life is enabled by God Himself. When a believer reads, understands and applies the Word, he or she is transformed. The Word of God is able to grow in the person's life to produce surpassing eternal blessings that nothing in this world can produce. In

Hebrews 4:12, the writer notes ‘For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart’.

The word of God has that capability to confront a situation and make tangible changes to that situation in accordance with the will of God. There would be no amount of disk space or paper in the world to record all the miracles performed by God in the lives of believers who apply His Word. When studied deeply and meditatively and applied to life’s situations, the word of God is limitless and can stand up to anything at any given time in the life of a human.

God is so great that we can never understand everything about Him while on earth. In fact, we can only limit ourselves to what God has revealed in His word. When Christians die and go to

see God face-to-face, their eyes will be completely opened to all the realities surrounding our Great and Mighty God.

Why do many human beings decide to trust in other sources of knowledge when the ultimate source is right in front of their eyes?

Well, it follows that since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, humans decided to trust in themselves and not God; and as a result, humans have developed their own theories and concepts. Their ways have been diverted from the original plan of God for them. God confirms this through His prophet Isaiah when he says:

‘Yes, they are greedy dogs
Which never have enough.
And they are shepherds
Who cannot understand;

They all look to their own way,
Every one for his own gain,
From his own territory' (Isaiah 56:11).

As a result, the natural man spends all his time on earth searching, but not really finding anything. All his findings are like melting wax before a God who created the whole universe and understands every little atom and molecule that holds it in place. God confirms His level of superiority and understanding of schemes in the universe when He speaks through the Psalmist saying 'He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name. Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite' (Psalm 147:4-5). Such a great God is worthy of all honour and adoration, He is worthy of our praise and worship; but most importantly, His word to us today is the greatest material and spiritual gift we can ever have. The Bible is indeed, a gift that contains life because it embeds in itself the message of salvation and the doom of the ungodly.

Where then are the philosophers of our times and their imaginations? As simple as the concepts of the Bible might look, nothing can stand the purity and holiness of the scriptures. We have been blessed with a heritage that nothing invented of humans can distort. When rightly handled, the knowledge of the Bible keeps all other worldviews crawling. The Psalmist speaks well of this when he says ‘Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble’ (Psalms 119:165). The life embedded in the word of God has the capability of reviving the whole body, spirit and soul of the one who believes. In those days, when the word of God came forth, it is recorded in the Book of Luke ‘And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”’ (Lk 24:32).

The word of God is very powerful and forces a response when correctly handled. Hence, the Christian spends many hours meditating on Scriptures and applying them in his life. He studies the Word of God because it is alive and will grow to produce positive results and bear spiritual fruits that are necessary to enable a victorious life on earth. The Word of God is God Himself. Everything else we can think of in this world will pass away, but the Word of God will endure forever. It is my prayer that worldly minds will sincerely inquire and embrace the Word of Life in the Bible in Jesus Name!

Reason Four

The Word of God Provides Direction

Many people in the world especially the young generations have many unanswered questions. Most attempts to obtain answers to their questions have remained fruitless because most trust wrong sources of information. Many people who trust and rely on the wrong sources of information are those who have been enticed to pursue their own selfish desires and pleasures. It is a deception to think that only unbelievers struggle with unanswered questions in life. Christians also need answers to their challenges. The challenges we obtain in life come for different reasons requiring satisfactory answers. The Christian also has work to do in terms of understanding which direction to take at any given point in time in his/her journey on earth.

In certain African traditions, there are certain trends that are considered crucial to the survival of moral values in future generations. For instance, many tribes in Cameroon believe that the woman has a crucial role to play in the family. Apart from bearing children, she is believed to have been blessed with special skills to maintain a peaceful and healthy family. Her ability to endure hardship and to be patient even when her husband misbehaves makes her a woman of virtue. The husband is considered blessed when he finds such a woman who does not inquire much about how much he earns or what his life outside the matrimonial home entails. Rather, that she be content with what she has and does all her best to manage the family to maintain peace and love. Usually, in these cultures and systems, problems arise only when the woman's basic needs are not met by the husband. From one generation to another, many so-called good mothers, who have a good past record of maintaining peace in their homes through such concepts try to teach these qualities to the younger girls in their

families. These younger girls are forced to learn how to cook for their future husbands, accept the bad sexual habits of their husbands and become semi-slaves to the families in which they are married.

There are many problems with this and many other traditional methods of guidance in our worldly societies. Not only are they unholy, they are also ineffective. If we consider the typical tradition above, it is not holy in that men are encouraged to have many wives or to prostitute themselves. Furthermore, most men in those cultures care less about what is happening in their homes in the pretext that their role is to provide for the home and not to assist with household activities. Women and children are being marginalized by men. Children, especially the girls, are therefore forced to overwork to support their moms at home. In some tribes, the girls barely have time to revise their school lessons.

Earlier, we saw that purely human laws and systems are not able to guide adherents to peace and stability. There are constant modifications and violations of laws and in some situations, laws are used to oppress others. In this world, we often see rich nations oppressing and invading poor nations to steal their resources in order to make their economies better. Many laws of the worldly system are in favour of the rich and developed nations, while the developing nations are left to struggle for survival. A simple example can be seen on currency discrimination. Rich nations have strong currencies and fix the world market prices. They also place embargoes on many evolving nations and destabilize poor nations with the most natural resources so that they can continue to exploit and steal from them. With the help of mind manipulation tools such as the media, rich nations have succeeded in indoctrinating their citizens into believing that other nations are poor and need help from them.

For instance, the DRC, Central African Republic and Sierra Leon, just to name a few, are amongst the richest countries in the world in terms of natural reserves and mineral resources. Despite their riches, however, these countries have been struggling with wars for more than thirty years. One can notice that most of the aid organizations in the world are concentrated in these destabilized economies in the name of charity. The rich nations spend very little to purchase much needed and valuable resources from poor nations to strengthen their already powerful economies.

The chaos that is happening in individual lives, families, societies, nations and the world is because humans have failed to seek guidance from the right source (God). God is very specific when it comes to direction and guidance.

Let's consider just two examples from the Bible - we learn that God spoke to Abraham and asked him to move to a land that

He will show him (Genesis 12:1). We also learn that Abraham obeyed God's call. Many other things happen along the way to this promised land but the conclusion of Abraham's story is that he obeyed God and he is now known as a father of many nations (Hebrews 11:8-10, Romans 4:17-18).

The Israelites are people whom God took out of bondage in Egypt where they had become slaves to the Egyptians. God promised to deliver them and bring them to a land flowing with milk and honey, where certain evil people were living. In those days when God delivered these people from the hands of the king of Egypt, the Bible says 'And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night' (Ex 13:21). We can see that the nation of Israel did not have to fear anything, neither did they have to be lost in direction. The Lord was with them and was their guide all along until the

moment when they started trusting other sources of guidance rather than God.

The point to note in this section is that God is the creator of the universe and everything that is in the world including human beings. Our lives are in His hands and He is always willing to lead us to all truths if we would trust Him. The Bible states:

‘Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path’ (Ps119:105).

From this verse, we can see that the word of God is a lamp. The lamp represents *‘The totality of God’s written Word (Logos) that ‘speaks’ to all equally; the source of light for my feet. Our source of principles and rules that we can all apply wherever our ‘feet’ go on life’s path. Principles include finances, sowing and reaping, healing, relationships, words, prayer, etc. These keep us safe & centred on our path. The*

Logos gives knowledge of God and we study to obtain this knowledge (2Tim 2:15, Lk 6:47-49, Pr 4:20-24)’ (Pastor Mike).

We, therefore, need to study the Bible to understand the principles that govern life, and how to live in this world in an effective and efficient way. The confusion in the world arises from the fact that, God’s principles have been neglected in favour of purely human means of guidance. For instance, worldly minds can rely on what God says about peace instead of trusting the unending UN regulations – this will lead to a more stable world. If we would consult the Bible to understand how to love, we would never want to hurt or steal from one another.

In Psalm 119:105, God’s word is a light. The light represents *‘Word spoken to me in my spirit (light on my path). Rhema Word can be a passage in the Logos lighting up my spirit by*

the inner witness. We call this guidance, and I meditate the word to obtain this guidance. (Josh 1:8, Ps 1:2-3. Pr 20:27)'
(Pastor Mike).

Hence we can see that God is willing not only to give us a general form of guidance in our societies in general through the Bible but also specific instructions in our individual lives through specific Rhema words that apply to us and our individual situations. And as a general rule, the Rhema word never contradict the Logos word – in other words, God will not lead us individually in ways that contradict His recorded word in the Bible.

It is, therefore, time to understand the importance of the Rhema and Logos Word of God in our lives and the weaknesses of current worldly systems in protecting and leading us. Our societies will not get any better if we continue to neglect God's principles. We can never find the right

direction in our worldly endeavours if we don't give God His rightful place. The Bible should, therefore, be our foundational guide. The believer will not hesitate to consult it to find the right way in every undertaking on earth. May the Lord help us to study more of His word and help us to find direction and guidance from Him in Jesus Name!

Reason Five

The Word of God is our Faith Producer

In the world, there are many famous people who are said to be inspiring. Lately, we watched a little of the finals of the French Open. Novak Djokovic beat Andy Murray in a fierce battle between top tennis champion players. According to news reports, Djokovic finally added the French Open title to his recurring (and recent) successes at the Australian Open, Wimbledon and the US Open to complete his career grand slam. Fans, family members and the entire world of tennis describe Djokovic's career and achievements as inspiring and an example to emulate.

Unicef has gone one step further in exploiting these superstars by calling them 'Unicef Goodwill Ambassadors and Advocates' due to their heavy donations to the multi-billion-dollar aid organization. Top profiles among Unicef goodwill

ambassadors and advocates include many superstars in the world of sports, music, movie and fashion industries.

There is no doubt that people will praise us for all our remarkable worldly achievements, but there is no guarantee that our achievements can serve as a strong foundational inspiration factor to motivate others to do lasting exploits. This assertion does not disrespect and disregard the donations of some of these superstars and many other individuals who truly give out of goodwill. However, the fact remains that there is no guarantee that a superstar is a true inspiration to emulate in a society or nation. It is a complete misguidance to conclude that others should follow or depend on their achievements and lifestyle for their own spiritual and physical prosperity.

Experience has shown that in the quest to become famous like their superstar idols, many youths plunge into illicit and unholy actions such as drug addiction, love of money, worldly

pleasures, jealousy, negative competition, cheating, lies, occultism, mysticism and other bad behaviours. All these things can only make a society worse, no matter how much money and material things people are able to achieve for themselves.

God, on the other hand, tells us that there is something He calls faith that can truly stir us up for good works and keep us focused on our godly mission on earth. The Bible defines faith as ‘...the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen’ (Heb11:1). In essence, what this verse is saying is that we can truly see things happening in our lives even before we see them happening; and that we have to hold on to what we have believed in our hearts until those things come to pass. A question arises as to whether an unbeliever can have faith. The answer is yes and no.

Yes, on the one hand, because there is a natural faith which everyone exhibits. Many of us have faith in our loved ones. We did not have to learn to trust them from somewhere. We have faith that if we sit on this chair, for instance, it will support our weight and will not let us down. We do not require special abilities to have this type of faith. Unbelievers and believers alike have this type of faith. Natural faith may be good or bad. It is open to all possibilities. Someone may have faith that he will become a powerful and intelligent thief and succeed in doing so. Adolf Hitler, for instance, believed that if you repeat a lie again and again for a long time, people will eventually come to believe the lie as truth. Today, this is the most widely used technique by mind manipulators. False information is repeated again and again until people become used to it, and finally believe it.

No, on the other hand, because true and godly faith can only come from the Bible. The Bible says ‘...faith comes by

hearing, and hearing by the word of God' (Rom10:17). Contrary to spiritual faith, natural faith has its limits in that it cannot move mountains. We need true and godly faith to become overcomers in life. This type of faith is limited to believers who study and put the Word of God into practice. The good news is that the Bible is able to produce all the faith that is necessary for life. The inquirer will notice that with all his money, Simon could not buy spiritual gifts with money (Acts 8:20)

The word of God is alive, active and embeds in itself certain potentials to produce specific Godly results. The Bible describes the Word of God as seeds that can be planted. Like the farmer's seeds, the Word of God is able to grow to produce certain supernatural fruits in the life of the person who sows it. The Bible is therefore said to be a store of many different kinds of seed that believers can plant in the situations of life.

When we hear the Word of God and meditate on it, we understand what it means and do what it says. The growth power in the type of word we heard and meditated upon is released into the situation for which we prayed. What happens is that the Word of God produces faith in our hearts. We are able to understand God's will concerning the situation, as well as what we are supposed to do. In other words, we have faith because of the Word of God and not because of anything else. It, therefore, means that true and godly faith anchors on the Word of God, and without the Word of God, there is no possibility for spiritual faith. It should also be noted that no matter how much faith is produced in our hearts from studying the Word of God, we must act on this faith to obtain the intended results (Eph 2:8, Rom 10:9, Mk 11:23, 24, Heb 11:6, Mk 9:23, Rom 10:9-10, Rom 1:16, Heb 4:12).

True godly faith is, therefore, necessary for an unbeliever to be saved but also for everything else we do in life and this faith

can only come from the Bible. It will be ridiculous to put our trust in temporary human achievements or depend on human beings for our inspiration when we have the perfect Word of God to help us obtain all our godly desires for life. These present generations are falling deep into distress because they have forsaken the true source of inspiration. The Bible is available to individuals, societies and nations, to trust and use its content to obtain the faith that is necessary to bring Godly results in all their endeavours. There are many men and women in the Bible who are said to be people of faith that can serve as true examples such as Abraham, David, Isaiah, Paul, Esther, Jesus, etc. The Nation of Israel is also a good example of how a nation or group of people can trust or distrust God's revelations. We can also see from this nation the consequences of trusting and disobeying God.

Some have argued that there are other books that can help to generate faith and stir up people to great achievements. The

author is not trying to discredit all other small sources of faith and inspiration. There are many men and women of God whose lifestyles or writings are inspiring and worthy to emulate to an extent. James exhorts us to check the lives of the prophets as examples of suffering, affliction and patience (James5:10). Paul exhorts Timothy to be a true example to those under his ministry (1Ti4:12). Paul also told believers to follow his example in many other verses (2Thess3:7, 9).

We should, however, remember that all these prophets, men and women of God had weaknesses and also depended on God through the same faith generated from God. There is no problem reading and getting inspired by a good Christian book written by a Christian author. Just as there is no problem reading a good business or science book – God is not against genuine business and scientific knowledge. He has left many areas of knowledge for humans to explore and exploit. However, we should remember that there is a lot of foul play

in many human activities, even when those who promote them are said to be Christians. Many people are working only for their own interests and not for God. We should remember also that we have a supreme source of knowledge and faith which is the Word of God. The authenticity and accuracy of all other minor sources of information should be checked against the scriptures. Nothing should replace the Word of God in the Bible in the life of a believer. Therefore, the Word of God in the Bible produces spiritual faith. Believers can study the Bible to obtain this solid spiritual faith and apply the faith in their endeavours to produce tangible results. May the Lord help us in Jesus name!

Reason Six

The Word of God is the Christian's Weapon

In an online article the future South Korean combatant will be equipped as follows: ...a multifunction helmet (made up of a visual image display, video camera and a voice recognition microphone), a backpack (including a personal command and control system, friends-or-foes identification system and a personal global positioning system), a camouflage battle dress uniform (with personal cooling and heating system, protection from laser and missile attacks and detection of mines and chemical weapon) and a multifunction machine gun (composed of a mini missile system, Laser-guided target, assessment system and high explosive projectile) and much more (Wikipedia).

At the war front, the soldier is expected to be a dangerous entity, capable of neutralizing the enemy from a far distance.

The South Koreans are not the only ones equipping their national combatants with sophisticated equipment. The US and many other EU nations are doing the same. The sad reality, however, is that no matter how much complexity is involved in preparing these future fighters and defenders of national borders and interests, they can still be killed by the enemy.

On June 5, 2016, the Independent reported that ‘.... *At least one US special forces soldier has reportedly been killed and others were wounded in Afghanistan - before the medical helicopter sent to rescue them came under fire.*

NBC initially reported that the helicopter flying to pick up the wounded American soldiers had gone down after being hit....’ (The Independent, 2016).

Several other reports note the loss of well-trained fighters and sophisticated military equipment in Iraq, Afghanistan and many other parts of the world. Despite the number of years

invested in training the military, testing and manufacturing this sophisticated equipment, there are still losses in human life and material resources. Is it, therefore, worth continuing such research and training programmes? Well, since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, Humans have been fighting wars to protect their interests. The nation of Israel was led by God to fight many wars against bad nations in the past. Today, many nations have grown in military capacity and have invented weapons that are capable of destroying all life on this planet in a day. We learn from the scriptures that if not of God's hand and presence in the lives of believers to accomplish his plans, wickedness will render the planet desolate. Although worldly people continue to fight wars, Jesus introduced a new commandment of love. We are to love one another as Jesus loved us. Wars and selfish motives should have no place in our lives today. However, worldly minds are in control of many worldly institutions and industries which encourages the propagation of evil plans and actions.

After observing the things that were happening in his days, the Ecclesiast arrived at a very interesting conclusion when he said ‘Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many schemes.’ (Eccl 7:29). God created man in His own image, cloth him with wisdom and gave him authority over everything on earth. Unfortunately, humans are using this wisdom in a negative way. Many inventions of our days are worse and a hundred times more dangerous than those in the days of the ecclesiast. Humanity has grown in greed, wickedness and mercilessness. At the core of this fierce battle is the devil, whose wisdom and level of intelligence is far greater than that of the natural humans.

Satan fights and targets the believers - the children of God. He attacks them from many angles and uses diverse strategies. He has developed a team (Satan himself, the Antichrists and false prophets) to propagate his plans. They all work together to

control the world. Their main aim is to control minds, deceive mankind and to lead people astray. Although many battles appear in the physical realm, the real fight is defined in the spiritual; at the level of the spirit and mental. What we see in this world with our eyes is just the results of what has already taken place in the spirit. Also, Satan has done a good job to keep the eyes of the worldly people blind to spiritual realities. Most worldly minds have no idea of the spiritual origin of worldly events.

In the midst of all the chaos in the world, God has given the believers supernatural wisdom and mightier weapons of welfare. The believer is not supposed to be ignorant of these weapons in any way. The Korean, US or any other combatant can in no way be compared to the Christian. Haven believed in the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross, the believer is in the position to dismantle every attack of Satan and his agents. This ability of the believer to fight efficiently comes from the

fact that he is able to fight on both spiritual and physical fronts using Godly approaches and tactics.

The believer has a store of the most uncommon supernatural missiles that can ever be mentioned. Their range and capacity are limitless to any forms of attack. Unlike the worldly military weapons, the Christian's weapons transcend all realms (spiritual, mental and physical). A Christian writer once said that *'We (Christians) are confident of our enduring intellectual dominance, not because of our inherent superiority, but because the intellectual opposition against Christianity is, in reality, a struggle against the mind and the wisdom of God'* (Vincent Cheung - 2014).

The believer is the most equipped fighter in the world. When completely armed with his armour, nothing can touch him or withstand his attacks. Unfortunately, many Christians are not aware of these powers and superiority over Satan and His

agents. They continue to walk in fear and doubt, thereby becoming the slaves of the enemy. Some have no idea of the existence of the believer's weapons. Others know about the weapons but lack knowledge and training on how to operate them to gain grounds.

'The greatest need of the world today is not more scientific research, although facts thus brought to light are valuable; the world needs a true philosophy to enable it to make a correct interpretation of facts already known and to guide it in the acquirement of new knowledge. A new revelation is not needed, but faith to accept the one already given' (Harold Willard Clark – 1940).

This true revelation is the Word of God in the Bible. Unlike the military amours, the Christian's amour is spiritual as described in Ephesians 6:10-18;

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age,[c] against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints

Our most important protection is from spiritual death and is provided by our salvation armour consisting of the helmet of salvation (knowing you are saved) and the breastplate of righteousness (knowing you have right standing and fellowship with God through repentance – (1Jn 1:9, Mt 4:1-11, Heb 4:12). Our helmet of salvation and breastplate of righteousness symbolically protect spiritual lives, ensuring that we never receive the fatal spiritual wound, which can eternally separate us from God.

Unfortunately, some believers spend their whole lives in the helmet and breastplate of righteousness state. All they know is that they are saved. They never take up the shield of faith or sword of the spirit and as a consequence, they live the Christian life exhausted, stressed and defeated by the enemy. They see little victories and yield unproductive fruits in their lives.

God provided the sword and shield to enable a stand-off distance from the enemy, confront his tactics and defeat him in the battle both in the spiritual and physical. We are not meant to be fully defensive; rather, we have been called to be conquerors through Christ. By the Word of God which is the Sword of the Spirit, we are able to launch decisive godly attacks in the camp of the enemy and dismantle his plans. This does not mean that we have to engage in all battles, but we need to use our spiritual bulldozer and weapons of mass destruction to level the mountains that are standing before us and preventing us from achieving successes in life. As conquerors in Christ, we have been called to destroy and crush the enemy and occupy the rightful positions determined by the Lord in our lives. Keep this in mind – the believer is a warrior and fighter for Christ.

Conclusion

We have seen some of the reasons why we should study the Word of God in the Bible. These are far from being all the reasons. There are many other reasons why we should study the Word of God and these mentioned here are foundational to your spiritual growth. We have seen that God is the true author of the Bible and that all Scriptures are true and are the foundational sources of truths that should guide in any field of human research. Atheists, irrational minds and evolutionists may continue to argue against the Bible's content, but they can never take away its power, authority and authenticity. We have also seen that the Word of God is alive and is our foundational source of guidance in this temporary and confused world. Propagandists may use the media to manipulate minds, but the true sheep hear the voice of the Lord and follow Him to everlasting peace. Finally, through the Word of God, we are able to obtain the faith that is necessary to overcome the

challenges of life and to defeat the enemy in an efficient and effective way. Seeing we have all these amazing blessings and much more in the Word of God, why would you want to depend on someone or something other than God? It is my prayer that these words have enlightened the eyes of the sincere inquirer and provided a solid foundation on which to build in life in terms of studying and applying the Word of God. May the Lord bless you abundantly as you trust Him. All glory to God in Jesus Name!

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