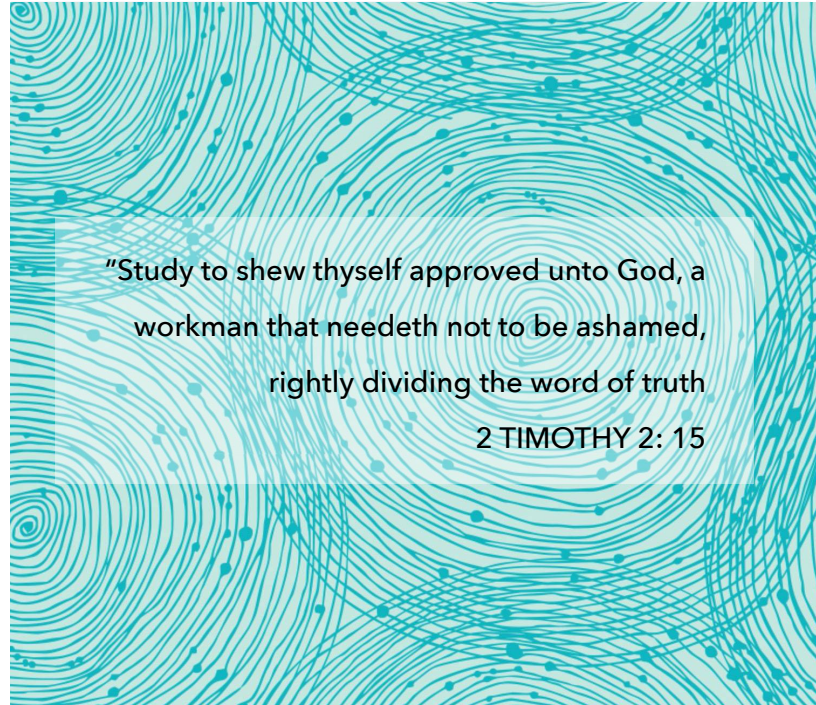




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"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a  
workman that needeth not to be ashamed,  
rightly dividing the word of truth  
2 TIMOTHY 2: 15

# THE BIBLE

WRITTEN BY: EVELYN C. POINTER, ELDER

The bible is God's word. Without his word we have no truth. It is from his word that we come to know God, who he is and how to obey him. "Then said I, Lo I come: in the volume of a book it is written of me", Psalms 40:7. And it says in Isaiah 34:16, "Seek ye out the book of the Lord, and read". The bible is the book of the Lord. The bible was written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit. The men who wrote the bible died, but God's word did not pass away. Matt 24:35 "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away". In fact, the bible has been translated and read throughout history, to all people in every language. Jesus told his apostles that they would be a witness to him to the uttermost parts of the earth. How was this possible? It was through their words that were written in the bible and read through the ages. It is their testimony that even today bears witness to the wonderful works of Jesus and the promise of salvation. The bible is our guide book, teaching us how to be saved. We are required to read it in order to understand the truth. The children of Israel were instructed to write out the law, keep it close to them, study it daily, and to teach it to their children. Jesus Christ, the author of our salvation when he walked the earth, picked up the bible and read from it, teaching the people in the synagogue, and teaching all of us by example, that we must also read the bible. The bible is God's word, it is truth and light. It is from his law, written in the bible that we are judged and saved. It was necessary therefore that the word of God would be preserved for his children.





Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

**HEBREWS 10: 7**

Whenever an invading army would come into Israel they would burn the books of the law in order to establish their own government and religion. Many of the prophets would take the holy books and hide them in caves in order to preserve the word. Often these prophets themselves were martyred. Throughout the ages the bible has been debated, doubted, cast aside and even burnt, yet it remains the most published book of all time. Many people say man wrote the bible, not God, and seek to try to prove that the bible is not the truth. They are "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth", II Timothy 3:7. But we know that God who is powerful enough to create all of us in our distinctiveness, with the wonders of our minds and bodies that no one fully understands, and who created the earth and the heavens, is certainly powerful enough to preserve his word. Not evil men, or evil armies, or all of the powers of darkness could prevent the word of God, or the promise of salvation from reaching God's children. God used many men through the ages to preserve his word and to ensure that his word was available for his children. One of these was King James who translated the bible. The authorized King James Version of the bible including the Apocrypha was published in 1611. We use the King James Version in all of our services and in private use. Other versions written later are paraphrased according to the knowledge and belief system of the writer and often time the meaning is perverted. It is the Holy Spirit that will help you to understand the bible. We encourage everyone to read their bible daily, to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth", II Timothy 2:15.