

New Hebron Missionary

Baptist Church

newhebronlr.org

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Bible Study

“...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation...”

(2 Tim. 3:15)



The Importance of Scripture

{James 1:19,20}

v.19) *“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:”*

- Context matters when understanding this verse. To properly interpret this passage it must be read in light of the previous and later verses. {Jas. 1:16-18; Jas. 1:21-23}
- “beloved” – [Grk.] agapetos: dear to me, very much loved; someone you are deeply devoted to. {Matt. 3:17}
- Used only of Christians as united with God or with each other in love.
- “brethren” – a term to refer to fellow believers; describes the unity and relationship that Christians should have with one another. {Ps. 84:1-3}
- “let every man be...” – the interesting part about this portion of scripture is that it is written in the *present tense* in the Greek language. That means it is a continual action to be performed.
- The command that James is about to give he is calling for it to be the habitual practice of every Christian.
- Because scripture is important and authoritative we are thereby commanded to be obedient when God speaks.
- “swift to hear, slow to speak” – swift to hear what? As explained, this passage in context is referring to the Word of God. So when the Word is taught, preached or in any way presented we are commanded to give it full attention. {1 Thess. 5:20-22}
- Listening was extremely important in the 1st century because books were rare, especially the written Scriptures. It was an oral culture and those who did not listen would miss out on spiritual truth.

