Holy Habits – Trust Your Reading #2

Let's celebrate Jehovah Jireh today, he is the God who sees and the God who provides.

This year, 2025, is the year we Engage with God and Engage our Faith. We are going after the detached, the drifted, and those who Don't Know!

Hebrews 1:3 “**3**He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, *and he upholds the universe by the Word of his power.*

Hebrews 4:12 **“**For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

The Bible is the only Book that was:

1. Written over 1500 year time span.

2. Written by more than 40 authors from every walk of life, including kings, military leaders, peasants, philosophers, fishermen, tax collectors, poets, musicians, statesmen, scholars, and shepherds.

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| Author/ Book | Date Written | Earliest Copies | Time Gap | No. of Copies | Percent Accuracy |
| New Testament | A.D. 50-100  | c. 114 (fragment)c. 200 (books)c. 250 (most of N.T.)c. 325 (complete N.T.) | ±50 yrs.  100yrs.150 yrs.225 yrs. | 5366 | 99.5% |

Matthew 5:18 KJV -**18**For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Matthew 5:18 ESV - **18**For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Matthew 5:18 NASB - For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

The jot or *iota* was the smallest letter in the Greek alphabet. In the Hebrew alphabet, it was the letter yod. The Greek word *kepaia* referred to a small extension distinguishing the Hebrew letter beth from the word kahf. Or, *kepaia* could also refer to an ornamental stroke added to a letter.



II Peter 1:16-21

**16***For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,* but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. **17**For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” **18**we ourselves heard this very *voice borne from heaven*, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

**19***And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed*, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, **20**knowing this first of all, *that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.****21****For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

Use a Reading Plan

Utilizing a reading plan can provide direction and aid in comprehensive study. The early Church was devoted to teaching (Acts 2:42), setting a precedent for consistent learning. A plan allows you to explore themes and books systematically, enhancing your understanding.

Joshua was instructed to meditate regularly on God's law, illustrating the benefits of consistent engagement with Scripture.

Joshua 1:8 “**8**This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”

Take Notes or Journal

Capturing your thoughts during Bible study aids retention and reflection.

The Apostle Paul used letters not only to instruct but also to document personal experiences and growth,

As you read Romans, you can see Paul's personal growth.

Recording revelations fosters a deeper connection with God's Word.

Habakkuk was encouraged to write down his visions, emphasizing the impact of capturing God’s insights in your life.

Habakkuk 2:2 “And the Lord answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

Exercise: Write down three key takeaways or reflections on how a passage applies to your life. Revisiting these notes over time can illustrate your spiritual journey.

Engage with the Text

Asking questions while reading Scripture invites deeper engagement. Consider the context, author, audience, and relevance to your life. This practice aligns with biblical hermeneutics, the interpretation methods that reveal profound truths.

Approach the text like a detective piecing together a case. The more questions you ask, the more precise and clear the truth becomes.

In Mark 8:27, Jesus prompts His disciples to consider His identity, encouraging them to reflect on what they truly believe. This sets an example for your own engagement with Scripture.

Exercise**:**  How does this apply to me today, and how do I put it into practice?

II Timothy 3:16-17

**16***All Scripture is breathed out by God* and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **17**that the man of Godmay be complete, equipped for every good work.

*All Scripture is breathed out by God* – pneō – to breathe, blow: of the wind.

Acts 2:14

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.***2****And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.* **3**And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and restedon each one of them. **4**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Genesis 2:7

**7**"Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and *breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,* and the man became a living creature."

Three things were related to the prophesying: the wind, the breath, and the Spirit. Although these are three words in English, in Hebrew, they are only one word, ruach.

II Corinthians 5:1-5

For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**2**For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, **3**if indeed by putting it onwe may not be found naked. **4**For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ***5****He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.*

If you are not convinced of the validity of the Word, you will never have an assurance of your salvation.

When sin came into the world, it brought immediate death to our spiritual being, the real us. We were born dead, with breathing air as a form of existence. But when you receive Christ, God once again breathes into you, and the wind of God resides in you as His Spirit, the life-giving Spirit.

God gives us His Spirit, which is now our guarantee.