

Who Is Your Hero?

Who do you imitate and look up to? Who do you identify with? Who is your hero?

For some it is a fictitious character like Luke Skywalker. For others it is a sports figure like Tom Brady, a music star like Lady Gaga, or a famous actor like Morgan Freeman. Identifying who your heroes are is important because it tells you something about yourself.

Your hero reveals your understanding of greatness, whether it be in power, riches, or serving others (Matthew 9:20; 20:25-28; Mark 9:35; Luke 14:7-11). Your hero reveals your understanding of character, whether it be centered in evil, or in good (John 1:47; Romans 5:4; Philippians 2:3-4, 19-22; 4:8; 2 Peter 1:5).

Your hero reveals your direction in life and your priorities, whether it be you and the earth first, or God and heaven first (Matthew 6:33; Colossians 3:1-2; Hebrews 12:1-2). Finally, your hero reveals your own lifestyle (dress, talk, thoughts, actions, mannerisms), whether it be worldly, or godly (Romans 12:1-2; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17).

With all the godly men and women mentioned in the Bible, why not pick a Bible character to be your hero? We are told in the Bible to follow men like Job who was patient (James 5:11), Old Testament men and women who were faithful (Hebrews 6:12; 11:4ff), Jesus who was committed (1 Thessalonians 1:6; 1 Peter 2:21; Hebrews 12:1-2), Paul who was righteous (1 Corinthians 4:16; 11:1; Philippians 4:9), and God who is forgiving (Ephesians 5:1).

Worldly heroes are just that, worldly! You and I will fair much better with a Bible character as our hero. So, who is *your* hero? - Chris Reeves

Up-Coming Events

- We are studying 2 Corinthians in February. We have great Bible classes. Come check them out!
- Next Sunday's Sermons: Why Be A Christian? (AM) and Why Are We Losing Our Young People? (PM)

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Can We Understand the Bible Alike? - Part I

Many people are convinced that they cannot understand the Bible, especially understand it alike. When you talk with them they say that we are hopelessly divided in the religious world and it is because we cannot understand the Bible alike.

I can think of at least three dangerous consequences that result from believing that we cannot understand the Bible alike. First, people will remain ignorant of God's word, will not obey the gospel, and thereby will be lost (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8). Second, people who know some of God's word, but not all of it, will be vulnerable to false teaching. They will follow after the error that is being taught in the world today (1 John 2:26; 4:1-3; 2 John 7). Third, division in the religious community will be promoted and propagated.

Can we understand the Bible, or not? The answer is a resounding "Yes"! And, here is why we can understand the Bible and understand it alike.

We can understand the Bible alike because of the **NATURE OF GOD**. God is perfect and he can reveal his word in the Bible in a way that is always understandable. Consider these Bible passages about the nature of God:

"As for God, his way is perfect: The word of Jehovah is tried; He is a shield unto all them that take refuge in him" (Psalm 18:30).

"for God is not a God of confusion, but of peace" (1 Corinthians 14:33).

We can understand the Bible alike because of the **NATURE OF SCRIPTURE**. The Bible itself is perfect in every way, without error, and understandable. Consider these passages about the nature of scripture:

"The law of Jehovah is perfect, restoring the soul: The testimony of Jehovah is sure, making wise the simple" (Psalm 19:7).

"Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).

We can understand the Bible alike because of the **NATURE OF MANKIND**. All men and women are created in God's image with the ability to communicate, hear, reason, and understand language that is written or spoken. Consider these Bible passages about the nature of mankind:

"And the common people heard him gladly" (Mark 12:37).

"And he read therein ... in the presence of the men and the women, and of those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law" (Nehemiah 8:3).

"Give me understanding according to thy word" (Psalm 119:105, 130, 169).

"And he that was sown upon the good ground, this is he that heareth the word, and under-

standeth it; who verily beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty" (Matthew 13:23).

"Hear, and understand" (Matthew 5:10).

"...let him that readeth understand" (Matthew 24:15).

"For we write no other things unto you, than what ye read and understand, and I hope ye will understand unto the end" (2 Corinthians 1:13).

"How that by revelation was made known unto me the mystery, as I wrote before in few words, whereby, when ye read, ye can perceive my understanding in the mystery of Christ" (Ephesians 3:3-4).

"Wherefore be ye not foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:17).

When you look at the nature of God, the nature of the Bible, and the nature of mankind, it is clear that a person can understand the Bible. That person simply needs a will or a desire to do God's word (John 7:17), to hear all of it (Acts 3:22), to be guided (Acts 8:30-31), to have a readiness of mind (Acts 17:11), to have a diligent attention (1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 2:15), and to add to his knowledge of God's word (Hebrew 5:14; 2 Peter 1:5).

Yes, we can understand the Bible and understand it alike! God expects us to understand his word alike in order to be saved and united in Jesus. - Chris Reeves