

Misconceptions - Cont.

get the point. There are many Bible misconceptions that people propagate today. Knowing this, what can you do to keep from believing and teaching various Bible misconceptions? What can you do to keep from “twisting the scriptures to your own destruction” (2 Peter 3:16)? Let me suggest a few things.

First, spend more time reading your own Bible rather than relying on what others say about the Bible (Matthew 22:29; 1 Timothy 4:13).

Second, read your Bible to understand each word and not simply to say that you’ve read it (Acts 8:34).

Third, read your Bible carefully (Gen. 7:2; 1 Tim. 6:10), in its own context (2 Peter 3:16), and in its own setting (2 Tim. 2:15).

Finally, don’t close your mind with prejudice before hearing the truth word (John 5:39). Don’t accept any teaching of man without searching the scriptures first to see if it is so (Acts 17:11). Don’t accept a teaching without first questioning it and testing it with God’s word (1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 John 4:1). - *Chris Reeves*

Sentence Sermons

- We must translate our words into deeds.
- A lot of people have ability, but they lack stability.
- It is better to have clean hands and a pure heart than to have clever hands and a smooth tongue.
- It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy that makes happiness.
- Let love be without hypocrisy.

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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 -

Bible Misconceptions And How to Avoid Them

In a recent George Gallop poll, we are told that less than 50% of adults surveyed knew that Genesis was the first book in the Bible. In this same poll, teenagers could name only about three or four of the 10 Commandments, over 75% of the adults were unable to name a single prophet in the OT, only 34% of the adults knew who preached the Sermon on the Mount, and only three adults out of ten could name the four gospel accounts of the life of Christ.

When you consider how little of the Bible people know, it is no wonder why crime rates go up. It is no wonder why religious confusion and division abounds all around the world. It is no wonder why more immorality is sanctioned by our government year after year. Many people simply do not read their Bible ... and it shows!

The Bible is not hard to read and only some things in the Bible are hard to be understood (2 Peter 3:16). Even those hard things, with study, can be understood in time (Ephesians 5:17).

When people do not read their

Bible they have all kinds of misconceptions about Bible matters. They go by what they have heard about the Bible, not by what they have actually read in the Bible. Let us consider some Bible misconceptions and learn how to avoid them.

Some people believe that Adam and Eve ate an apple when in fact we are not



told what kind of fruit they ate (Genesis 3:6). Some people have said that the wife of Noah was named Joan of Arc when we are not told her name (Genesis 6:13).

Other people assume that three wise men came to visit Jesus when in fact we are not told the number of them (Matthew 2:1). Some say that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute when the Bible doesn't say that (Luke 8:2).

Here are some more modern-day Bible misconceptions that you will find in various religions. Some say that we inherit Adam's sin when the Bible doesn't teach that (Romans 5:12). Some teach that the Sabbath is still binding today when the Bible doesn't teach that (Colossians 2:16). Some teach "faith alone" saves when the Bible doesn't teach that (James 2:24-26).

More misconceptions include the following: one church is as good as another (Matthew 16:18), infants were baptized (Acts 16:15), Christians are required to tithe (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), women should not cut their hair (1 Corinthians 11:15), Peter was the first Pope of Rome (Matthew 16:16), each person has a guardian angel (Acts 12:15), Mary remained a virgin (Matthew 13:55-56), baptism is not for remission of sins (Acts 2:38), you cannot fall from grace (Galatians 5:4), there will be a secret rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:17), paradise (heaven) will be on earth (2 Peter 3:10), and Jesus will reign on the earth for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:1-6).

We could go on and on, but you