A man with a beard and glasses is sitting at a wooden table, reading an open Bible. The room is dimly lit, with a warm, golden light source in the background creating a bokeh effect. The man is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt. The Bible is open on the table, and his hands are visible as he reads.

# Why Study the Bible?

## Part 2

35 And they built the high places of Baa which are in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire to Molech, which I did not command them, nor did it come into My mind that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin!

36 Now therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, 'It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword by the famine, and by the pesti-

Ezek. 37:26 Deut. 31:6, 8; [Ezek. 39:29; Jer. 31:33]  
41 Deut. 30:9; Is. 62:5; 65:19; Zeph. 3:17  
Jer. 24:6; 31:28; Amos 9:15 truly

42 Jer. 31:28; Zech. 8:14, 15  
43 Jer. 33:10  
44 Jer. 17:26 Jer. 33:7, 11 Heb. shephelah Heb. Negev

the prison saying, 2 Thus says the LORD who made it, the LORD who formed it to establish it (the LORD is His name): 3 Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.

4 For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city and the houses of the kings of Judah, which have been pulled down to fortify against the siege mounds and the sword: 5 They come to fight with the Chaldeans, but only to fill their places with the dead.

Before knowing the “how” of study, we must understand the “why”!

after them. 40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; (but) I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me. 41 Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will assuredly plant them in this land, with all My heart and with all My soul.

21:4-7; 32:5  
6 Jer. 30:17; Hos. 6:1  
7 Ps. 85:1; Jer. 30:3; 32:44; Amos 9:14  
Is. 1:26; Jer. 24:6; 30:20; 31:4, 28; 42:10; Amos 9:14, 15  
8 Ps. 51:2; Is. 44:22; Jer. 50:20; Ezek. 36:25, 33; Mic. 7:18,

iniquity by which they have sinned against Me, and I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned and by which they have transgressed against Me. 9 Then it shall be to Me a name of joy, a praise, and an honor before all nations of the earth,

19; Zech. 13:1; [Heb. 9:11-14] 9 Is. 62:7; Jer. 13:11

32:36-41 However, one day God will restore Israel to the Land and eternal salvation along with their return to the ancient land (cf. 33:8, 9, and Ezek. 36:26)

Correct action,  
*flows from*  
correct thinking.

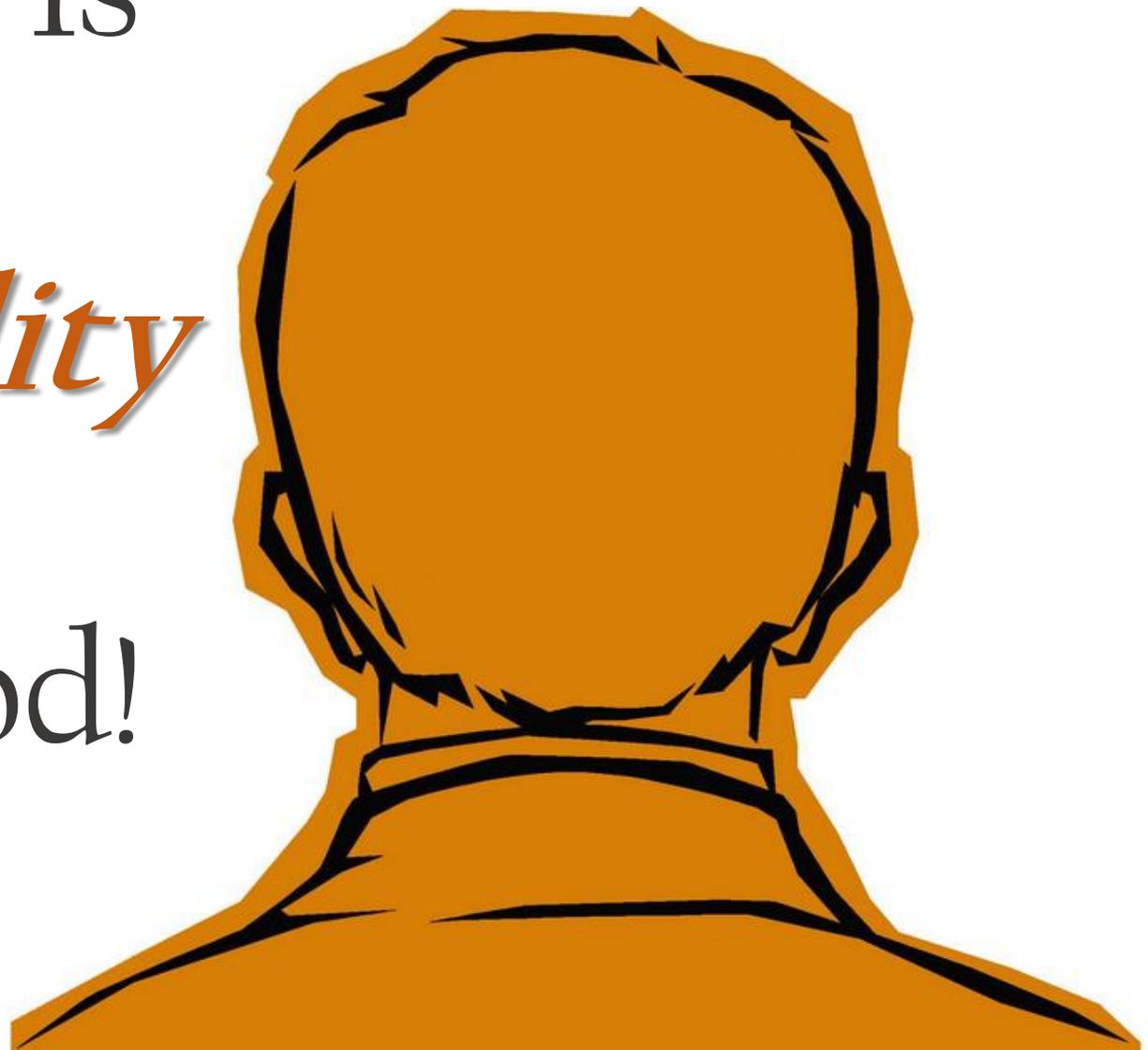
Many Christians today are *frustrated* with their lack of follow through and success in personal Bible Study.



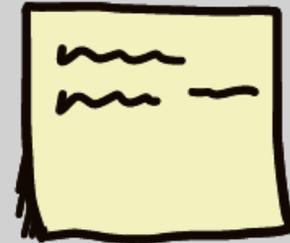
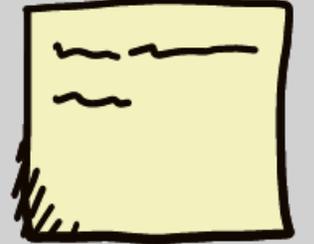
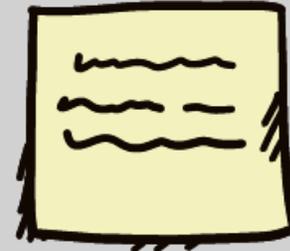
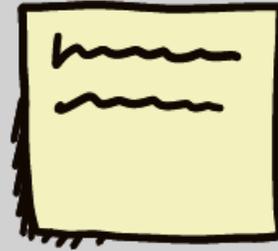
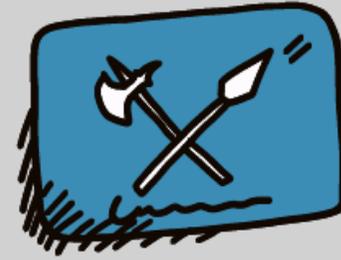
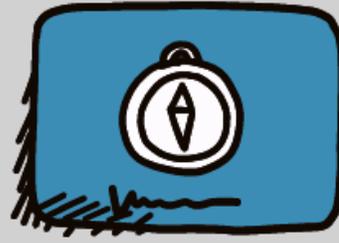
As a result,  
many Christians  
are always  
looking for  
a new *method*  
for studying...



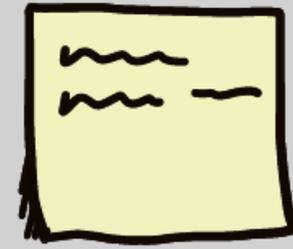
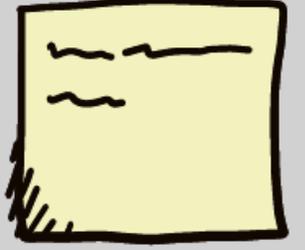
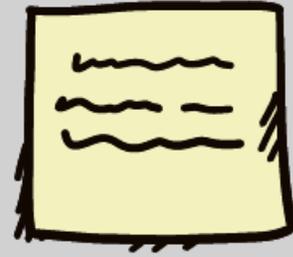
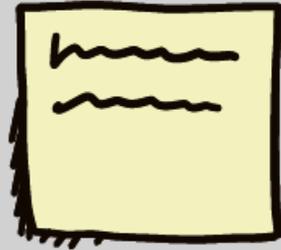
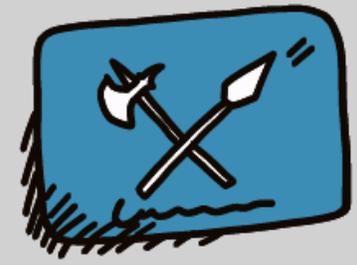
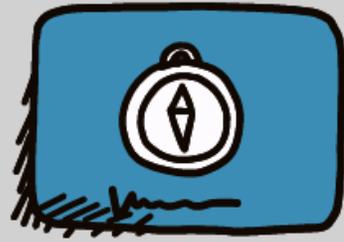
However, what is  
really needed  
is a new *mentality*  
towards  
the Word of God!



Any method  
will likely  
work well if  
the mentality  
is *correct*.



And even the best methods will likely fail if the mentality is *incorrect.*



The main reason 'why'  
many Christians aren't  
*actively* studying  
the Word of God...  
is because they aren't  
thinking *accurately*  
about the Word of God.

**Correct reasons**  
for studying the Word of God;





It is my  
creator's direct  
**communication**  
to me.



It is the way I can  
know the mind of  
God himself.



It is the only source  
of **ultimate truth**.



It will help me avoid  
the pitfalls in life.



It will show me what  
is of eternal value.



It will show me how  
to make my life  
**count.**



It is  
for my **ultimate,**  
**good** and **eternal**  
**joy.**

The true and lasting motive  
for *obeying* God, *serving* God,  
*studying* the Word of God...

**is because those actions are in your  
and my best interest. They are for  
our ultimate good and eternal joy.**

John 15:8-11

**When you produce much fruit,**  
you are my true disciples. This  
**brings great glory to my Father.**

“I have loved you even as the  
Father has loved me.

Remain in my love.

John 15:8-11

**When you obey my commandments,** you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that **you will be filled with my joy.** Yes, **your joy will overflow!**

On what basis did Jesus make his appeal for the disciples to obey?

I have told you these things so that  
**you will be filled with my joy.**

Yes, **your joy will overflow!**

God is most glorified in  
us when we are most  
satisfied in Him.

John Piper.

It is not wrong to seek

***your best interest &***

***your ultimate good & eternal joy...***

when you are seeking to find the  
solution to those needs in GOD!

In fact it is very

**God honoring, God pleasing  
and God glorifying...**

because we are admitting that  
he is the source of our highest  
joy and greatest self good!!

Is this concept;  
**“earnestly seeking our greatest  
good”** in the instruction of and  
**in obedience to God**  
anywhere else in scripture?

## Deuteronomy 4:40

Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, *so that* it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long in the land the LORD your God gives you for all time.

## Deuteronomy 5:32-33

So be careful to do what the **LORD** your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. Walk in obedience to all that the **LORD** your God has commanded you, *so that* it may go well with you and prolong your **days** in the land that you will possess.

## Deuteronomy 5:16

Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, *so that* your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the LORD your God gives you.

## Deuteronomy 12:28

Be careful to obey all these regulations I am giving you, **so that it may always go well with you and your children after you**, because you will be doing what is good and right in the eyes of the LORD your God.

## Hebrew 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. **He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.** He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, **because he was looking ahead to his reward.**

## Hebrew 11:32-35

I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies...

## Hebrew 11:32-35

Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released *so that they* *might gain an even better resurrection.*

## Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, *since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.*

## Matthew 6:2-4

Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others.

Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. **And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.**

# 1 Corinthians 9:25

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, **but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.**

## Luke 12:33

Sell your possessions and give to the poor.

*Provide purses for yourselves* that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

## Matthew 6:19-20

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. **But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,** where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

# Matthew 19:21

Jesus told him, "If you want to be perfect,  
go, sell your possessions and give to the  
poor, **and you will have treasure in heaven.**  
Then come, follow Me."

## Mark 10:29-30

“Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel **will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.**”

## Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who *for the joy that was set before him* endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

God will be most  
glorified, honored and  
pleased by my  
Bible Study...

When my Bible Study  
becomes of great  
value, worth, satisfaction,  
or reward to me.

My Bible Study  
becomes of great  
value, worth, or reward  
to me...

When I see my Bible  
Study as the way I can  
have ultimate joy &  
satisfaction.

Because it is through my  
Bible Study that I can  
know the mind of God...

...And I was created to  
take ultimate joy,  
satisfaction & pleasure  
in God.

Therefore I love the Word  
of God and can't help but  
go to it enthusiastically  
because it is for my  
eternal joy.

David found this to  
be true...

**You make known to me the path**  
of life; you will fill me with joy  
in your presence, with eternal  
pleasures at your right hand.

Psalm 16:11

The path that God makes known  
is the instruction & guidance in  
the word of God.



You make known to me the path of  
life; **you will fill me with joy**  
in your presence, **with eternal**  
**pleasures** at your right hand.

Psalm 16:11

The promised reward of following the path is true joy and eternal pleasure/satisfaction.



You make known to me the path of  
life; you will fill me with joy  
**in your presence**, with eternal  
pleasures **at your right hand**.

Psalm 16:11

The promised source of this reward is the very presence of God and fellowship with Him.



David spoke about  
this all over...

I rejoice in following your **statutes** as  
one rejoices in great riches. I meditate  
on your **precepts** and consider your  
**ways**. I delight in your **decrees**;  
I will not neglect your **word**.

Psalm 119:14-16

David says that he rejoices in  
God's word in the same way  
that one rejoices in great riches.

And that God's word has  
become these riches to him.

Why would someone  
rejoice in great riches?

Because of all the things that riches are perceived as being able to do for you... providing **pleasure, joy, happiness, security** etc.



David perceives that God's  
is able to provide true &  
lasting **pleasure, joy,**  
**happiness, security** etc.

My soul is consumed with  
*longing* for your *laws* at all times.

Your *statutes* are *my delight*,  
they are my counselors.

Psalm 119:20-24

Teach me, LORD, the way of your **decrees**,  
that I may follow it to the end. Give me  
understanding, so that I may keep your  
**law** and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of your  
**commands**, for *there I find delight*.

Psalm 119:33-35

Your **laws** endure to this day,  
for all things serve you. If your **law**  
had not been *my delight*, I would  
have perished in my affliction. I will  
never forget your **precepts**, for by  
them you have preserved my life.

Psalm 119:91-93

Oh, how *I love* your **law**! I meditate on it all day long. Your **commands** are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your **statutes**. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your **precepts**. Psalm 119:97-100

How sweet are your **words** to my taste,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth! Your  
**statutes** are my heritage forever;  
*they are the joy of my heart.* Your  
**statutes are wonderful**, therefore I obey  
them. Psalm 119:103, 111, 129

*I rejoice in* your **promises**

like one who finds great spoil.

Great peace have those who love your

**law**, and nothing can make them

stumble. Psalm 119:162, 165

You can clearly see David's motivation for going to God's Word...it was so that he could experience more and more of what God promises to be for us!

David didn't go to God's  
Word out of duty...  
but rather out of delight!

David didn't go to God's  
Word in order to be  
*pleasing* to God...

David went to God's  
Word in order to find the  
*pleasures* his heart was  
longing for.

When God becomes our ultimate pleasure/treasure/ joy...God is most glorified in us. And when God is glorified in our lives, we have more joy/satisfaction!



David spoke about  
this all over...

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, *my lips will glorify you*. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. *I will be fully satisfied* as with the richest of foods. Psalm 63:1-5

When God's Word becomes the path on  
which we can find our ultimate  
pleasure/treasure/joy...

Not only is God glorified, but our study  
will actually be desirable and sustainable.

